

Annual Report

2017–2018



CHANGING LIVES. REDUCING CRIME
ESTABLISHED 1951

www.crcnsw.org.au

Annual Report

2017-2018

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The Community Restorative Centre would like to acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional custodians of the land on which our offices stand, Elders past and present, and all Aboriginal peoples within these boundaries.

Our Locations

HEAD OFFICE – CANTERBURY

251 Canterbury Road
Canterbury NSW 2193
PO Box 258
Canterbury NSW 2193

With respect to the Bediagal Peoples

Phone: 02 9288 8700
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Email: info@crcnsw.org.au
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BROKEN HILL AND WILCANNIA

PO Box 319
Broken Hill NSW 2880
Phone: 08 8088 1617
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*With respect to the Wiljkali
and Baarkintji Peoples*

In addition, CRC has staff co-located with others in the following regions:

PENRITH/NEPEAN

In partnership with Wentworth
Community Housing

*With respect to the Darug
and Wiradjuri Peoples*

SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY AND LIVERPOOL

In partnership with Women's Housing
Company and in partnership with South
West Sydney Area Health Service

*With respect to the Tharawal,
Gundungurra and Darug Peoples*

NEWTOWN

In partnership with Newtown
Neighbourhood Centre

With respect to the Gadigal Peoples



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Strategic Plan

CRC's (2014-2018) strategic plan was developed at a time when government policy, funding, and service procurement practices were undergoing significant change. As CRC nears the end of the Strategic Planning process, we are pleased to report that we have achieved each of the five strategic ambitions of the plan as noted below:

- 1 Establish an Advocacy, Research and Policy Unit;
- 2 Document and improve our model of support and explain why it works;
- 3 Extend CRC's target client groups, and services offered along the service pathway;
- 4 Diversify and expand our funding to decrease reliance on government and increase sustainability; *and*
- 5 Strengthen CRC's organisational and governance foundation to support the new strategy.

Funding Partners

CRC is grateful to the following Government funding partners who provided support during 2017/18:

NSW Justice (Corrective Services NSW, Crime Prevention)

Legal Aid NSW

NSW FACS (Women NSW, ADHC)

NSW Health (NGO Program, Sydney Local Health District, Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services)

Federal Department of Health (NGOTGP)

Central Eastern Sydney PHN

WentWest PHN

Prime Minister and Cabinet (Indigenous Advancement Strategy)

City of Sydney

Broken Hill City Council

CRC receives funding through partner NGOs, to operate specialist services to people exiting custody as part of the FACS funded Going Home Staying Home (GSH) projects. CRC's GSH partners in 2017/18 are:

B Miles Women's Foundation

Newtown Neighbourhood Centre

Wentworth Community Housing

Women's Housing Company

Our Mission

CRC aims to change lives positively by supporting people affected by the criminal justice system. We aim to improve our clients' quality of life by providing a range of practical and emotional support, as well as assisting people to build sustainable pathways out of the criminal justice system and into the community.

History and Founding Principles

CRC was founded in 1951. The principles underpinning its establishment still form the foundations for much of CRC's service delivery.



People released from prison have paid their debt to society and have the right to re-establish their lives in the community without stigma, stereotyping or discrimination. They should be offered support that eases their transition back into the community, improves their life options and assists them to build pathways out of the criminal justice system.



Families of prisoners should not be punished or suffer from discrimination by the justice system. They should be entitled to support to minimise the effects of having a relative or loved one imprisoned.



This support should help sustain their relationships with their relatives in prison, and enable the re-establishment of family upon release of the prisoner, if in the best interest of all parties.



People should leave prisons in a better physical, emotional and educational state than when they entered. They should be given a sense of personal dignity and worth and real chances to obtain employment or other forms of community connection and re-establish themselves in the community.



Many prisoners are people who have experienced significant social and economic disadvantages that underpin their offending and re-offending. People require support to move out of this cycle.

All clients of CRC have the right to support that is non-judgmental and preserves their confidentiality and dignity.

CRC would also like to acknowledge the significant philanthropic and independent donor contributions which have been fundamental to the operations of the services of CRC this year. CRC would particularly like to thank the following foundations and individuals, whose generosity and commitment to social justice has enabled the delivery of significant social and community programs to men and women at risk of criminal justice system involvement.

Thyne Reid Foundation

Richard Southan Memorial Trust

Berg Family Foundation

Judith Neilson

Lara Goodridge

Seidler Architectural Foundation

Acknowledgements

CRC would like to acknowledge the staff, volunteers, members, partners and funding bodies that have made our work possible during 2017/18.

Staff

At CRC, our staff are at the heart of what we do. Our skilled, diverse and dedicated team deliver safe and proven effective services for our clients. At 30 June 2018 there were 56 staff employed.

Clients

The Board of Management and staff would like to acknowledge the clients we work with on a daily basis – the men and women coming out of prison, and their families - who continue to inspire us with their capacity to overcome enormous obstacles, and their ability to change, even in the most difficult circumstances.

Our Members

CRC would like to acknowledge the individuals and organisations that silently support the work of our organisation through their membership.

Volunteers

Volunteers provide a crucial role in the delivery of services within CRC, and we are grateful for their commitment and dedication. Our remarkable and skilled Court Support Volunteers have supported over 61, 300 attendees this year. The team of volunteers at the Miranda Hub have also made a significant contribution to the delivery of the unique, specialist services for women at risk of criminal justice system involvement. CRC would like to thank all of our volunteers for working so tirelessly to support some of the most vulnerable in our community.

Students

Thank you to all the amazing students who did placements at CRC over the course of the year; Cassandra Harris, Peta Daley, Rachael Thompson, Sonia Poli and Christine Cole. Your work, interest, and engagement with the work of CRC has been greatly appreciated.

Partnerships

CRC has strong formal and informal partnerships with multiple stakeholders across NSW. We would like to thank all our partners for working so hard, in often difficult circumstances, to achieve better outcomes for men and women on release from prison and their families.

External Consultants

CRC's Board of Management and staff would like to thank and acknowledge our external consultants for their support and expertise during the past twelve months. We would like to particularly acknowledge Peter Cranko, from PSC partners, who has been instrumental in guiding CRC through the Strategic Planning Process over the last four years. Peter's skill in facilitating and implementing plans against the backdrop of community sector uncertainty, as well as his deep understanding of the ethos and principles driving the work of CRC, has enabled CRC to consolidate our direction and commitment to the social justice and human rights principles underpinning our service delivery.

Condolences

CRC would like to recognise those clients who passed away in the previous year and pass our sincere condolences to their friends and families.



The AOD transition team won the Excellence in Treatment award at the NADA awards.

The Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs (partnership between B Miles, CRC and Detour House) won the Excellence in Ending Homelessness (Diverse Groups) award.

Awards

Multiple CRC services were formally recognised this year via two different industry awards.

CRC is delighted to have the incredible work of our teams recognised in this way, and extends congratulations to all award recipients



The Boarding House Outreach Project (partnership between CRC and Newtown Neighbourhood Centre) won the Excellence in Ending Homelessness (Adults) award.

And CRC's Lara Samway won the leading practitioner award for her work supporting people on release from custody in boarding houses.

CRC Programs

CRC's current programs are aligned with its 2014–2018 Strategic Plan.

The plan outlines CRC's programmatic aims as follows:

- Improve the quality of life for individuals, families and friends affected by the criminal justice system
- Create ease of access to support services for individuals, families and friends during all stages of criminal justice system involvement
- Increase opportunities for individuals, families and friends affected by the criminal justice system to participate in the wider community
- Reduce stigma and judgment towards individuals, families and friends affected by the criminal justice system
- Support individuals to effectively transition to life after prison
- Maintain connections for individuals during and post prison
- Reduce rates of reoffending



CRC's model of transitional and reintegration support

Over the last 5 years, CRC has significantly refined the model of transitional and reintegration support it offers, and is regularly called upon to deliver expert advice on best practice in reintegration. The principles below (as outlined in multiple publications and conference papers, (including in detail in Program Director, Mindy Sotiri's, Churchill Report, 2016) underpin the transitional and reintegration programs offered by CRC. These principles are themselves based on extensive research and evaluation of both internal CRC programs, external 'best practice' examples, and international 'what works' literature.

1

Reintegration framed outside of the lens of rehabilitation. There is a need to create and facilitate pathways for people leaving prison that are not explicitly focused on addressing offending behaviour, but rather focused on the creation of an identity outside of the criminal justice system.

2

Service delivery incorporating systemic advocacy. Service delivery must include a significant advocacy component that addresses structural barriers for individuals (such as access to housing, employment, education, health and social security benefits), and advocates systemically for change when this is required (for instance in the case of discriminatory employment practices).

3

Pre-release engagement. Meeting and working with people prior to release is necessary with respect to building the engagement necessary to sustain the case-work relationship, building trust between someone in prison and the community organisation on the outside, and practically planning for re-entry into the community with complex needs populations.

4

Holistic, relational and long-term casework models. People with long histories of trauma in combination with the 'referral fatigue' widely experienced by this group, require long-term support in order to build engagement and trust. Long-term support also allows people the opportunity to develop the skills required to navigate frequently hostile or unwieldy service systems.

5

Community based outreach. Services that work with people with long histories of criminal justice system involvement need to operate outside of the criminal justice system, and in the communities in which people are living.

6

Housing first approaches (and in some jurisdictions, employment first approaches). Safe, stable and affordable housing is critical for people looking to make the changes required in their lives in order to stay out of custody. It is too regularly the missing piece of the puzzle with regard to service provision.

7

Genuine collaboration and work with people with lived experience of incarceration at all levels of program delivery. The expertise of people who have themselves been to prison is critical in both the design and the delivery of community based reintegration services.

Patron's Foreword

In every society, a proportion of those sentenced to custodial punishment are found, in a very short time, back behind bars. This is upsetting to law abiding citizens. Often, urged on by some media commentators, they denounce the judges for imposing inadequate sentences that obviously were not high enough to deter repeat offending. Or they may denounce politicians for failing to provide increased punishments or failing to reduce access to parole or bail. Occasionally (rarely) politicians who know the real facts about the causes of criminality suspend the

Islander population, and their repeated return to custodial institutions after their release, is recognised as an extremely serious and embarrassing national failure. Taken separately, the rate of incarceration of Australia's Indigenous people makes them amongst the highest population group per capita imprisoned in the world. That statistic caused the then Federal Attorney-General (Senator George Brandis QC) to secure a report from the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC).¹ The Commission concluded that no solution to this propulsive dynamic would be found until all the governments of Australia established an independent

Another propulsive cause of the revolving door phenomenon in Australia's custodial institutions was referred to by me in an earlier Foreword for CRC.² This picked up the common feature of a very large proportion of all of Australia's prison population (like prisoners in most countries overseas) to suffer from high levels of mental disability and illness. Specifically, mention was made of the phenomenon of "acquired brain injury" which contributes substantially to repeat offending and reimprisonment. In turn, this condition is a consequence of domestic and other violence, alcohol related injuries and violence encountered from authorities: sometimes frustrated and disrespectful in their dealings with recidivism.

Yet probably the greatest causative factor of the revolving door is one that has long been identified by the CRC. It applies to indigenous prisoners; but also to other prisoners beyond that group. It applies to prisoners with mental and physical disabilities, but beyond that group as well. It applies to a very large proportion of prisoners who simply have nowhere safe and supportive to go upon their discharge from custody. Setting them 'free' without effective arrangements for their maintenance, at least during transition, is not a rational policy. The very fact of imprisonment compounds the problem of quickly securing a job. Changing employment needs multiplies that problem. The resources to tide the newly freed prisoner over the transition are all too frequently missing from the equation.

The CRC in New South Wales has an annual budget of \$5.4 million. This comparatively modest sum is gathered up from 17 different funding sources. Its focus is specifically targeted on transitional, post-release and family supportive projects across five sites selected in New South Wales. By its help to prisoners and their families, it is a practical contributor to the reduction of crime and recidivism. It is committed to breaking the entrenched cycle of criminal justice system involvement. But the challenge of responding to times of transition from prison to the community has actually been increasing rather than reducing in recent years.

As a consequence of federal legislation³, the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) was designed to deal with the problem of people, including ex-prisoners, needing disability support. The absence of suitable accommodation post release is the greatest single challenge faced by CRC and its clients in the transition and reintegration of former prisoners into society. Transitioning released prisoners to the NDIS has been fraught with difficulties. Following the shutting down of long-standing accommodation support services, and their replacement with inadequate, insufficiently serviced and administered NDIS 'packages' has proved a huge challenge for the CRC. Even more so for the ex-prisoners, their families and dependants.

It is a pity that Franz Kafka is not around today to paint a compelling novel or play about the realities of dealing with discharged prisoners in contemporary Australian society. Apart from the human toll that the insufficiencies of NDIS present to discharged prisoners with disabilities, there is an obvious economic toll as well. Returning ex-prisoners with disabilities to the familiar custodial accommodation, of custodial services, inevitably imposes a large financial cost on society. Repeated estimates point out that accommodation with 24-hour available attention and services is necessarily as costly per person per night as a three star hotel and possibly sometimes one could add a star or two.

The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG*

A problem of great importance to prisoners, their dependants, society and the Community Restorative Centre (CRC) is that of the 'revolving door' of reoffending.



electoral competition for harsher laws and ever-increasing prison populations and facilities. Normally, however, the debate in society avoids the perplexing realities that need to be addressed if the 'revolving door' of repeat imprisonment is to be dealt with effectively.

One causative factor that keeps the 'revolving door' turning is, or should be, well known to the Australian population by now. I refer to the status of Indigenous ethnicity. The imprisonment levels of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait

justice reinvestment body to tackle the root causes of reoffending by Indigenous peoples. No one suggests that anti-social behaviour, when serious, should be ignored or that offenders should only be lightly tapped with a feather as a viable social response to offences especially those involving crimes of violence. But the problem is so widespread and endemic in Australia that the recommendations of the ALRC need urgent attention. Fulfilling them will require the expenditure of quite a lot of money, as well as major steps of law reform.

* Justice of the High Court of Australia (1996-2009); Patron of the Community Restorative Centre (2012-).

¹ ALRC, Pathways to Justice — An Inquiry into the Incarceration Rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Final Report, (ALRC 133) (December 2017).

² Later reproduced as M.D. Kirby, "Effectiveness and Proportionality in Australia's Custodial Punishment" (2017) 41 Criminal Law Journal, 181.

³ National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013 (Cth).

Fortunately, informed parliamentarians are generally aware of this problem. An inquiry by the Legislative Council of New South Wales attracted a detailed submission from the CRC.⁴ Practical concerns addressed in that submission included:

- The failure to identify people with cognitive impairment and intellectual disability within our prison settings;
- Even where such prisoners are identified, the failure to establish comprehensive mechanisms to support such prisoners on discharge and, in particular, to provide sufficient support beds especially outside the main metropolitan regions;
- The inadequate NDIS packages that are available to people with disabilities and complex needs mean that holistic support for people released from existing custodial settings are inadequate to the needs of those discharged;
- Although planning for release is supposed to occur six months prior to discharge of someone in custody, this does not appear to be happening on the ground;
- There is still a lack of clarity, in terms of official responsibility, for people with disabilities emanating from justice settings. Buck passing is all too often the solution of hard-pressed officials limited by inadequate federal funding and staff limitations as well as State incapacity;
- There is no systematic approach from NDIS when it comes to identifying and working with people with disabilities when they are still inside custodial institutions; and
- There are enormous inconsistencies affecting access to services and NDIS planning across the State and across Australia so that what happens in one jurisdiction does not necessarily happen in others.

The CRC and its heroic staff and supporters do the best they can with the complex problems they face.⁵ I pay a tribute to them. I also express thanks and respects to the parliamentarians and officials who understand the challenges and appreciate the efforts of CRC. A growing number of individuals who were formerly CRC clients have lately gone from 24-hour support in accommodation services under State control to NDIS packages of less than 2 hours support a week under federal control. These are the realities facing people who are at risk of the ‘revolving door’ syndrome.

If compassion and rational policy making do not persuade our law-makers and the officials who advise them about the needs of law reform and policy integration, we must hope that economic arguments and cost benefit analysis will have a greater impact than they have had to date.

For the work of CRC and the support that it gives, I express an informed citizen’s grateful thanks. Kafka, where are you when we need you to convey these complex problems to decision-makers with the power of decision?



⁴ Community Restorative Centre submission to the Inquiry of the Legislative Council of NSW into the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme and Disability Services in NSW (2018).

⁵ Community Restorative Centre and Social Ventures Australia: Submission to NSW Government’s request for social impact investment proposal targeting homelessness, with special reference to persons released from adult correctional centres 2017/18.

CEO Annual Report

Writing my Annual Report each year enables me to stop and reflect on the incredible work of the Community Restorative Centre. This year is no exception. The challenges relating to funding and annual budgetary constraints have meant once again the organisation has been forced to adapt to new ways of delivering support to enable people to create positive futures for themselves and contribute to stronger communities. The clients of CRC are the people who receive little public or political support. Despite this, I continue to be inspired by the incredible work carried out by CRC directors, staff, volunteers and students and above all the people we work to assist.

Reports this year from our Patron, the Hon Michael Kirby, CRC Chair, Dr Ruth McCausland, and our Director of Advocacy Research and Policy, Dr Mindy Sotiri, highlight the many challenges and issues organisations like CRC are facing and working hard to overcome.

This year, as CEO, I would like to focus on the incredible achievements of our paid and unpaid staff.

During the past 12 months CRC’s Transition programs have provided targeted support to 785 people. Our transition teams strive to address the systemic issues that place people on pathways to imprisonment and cycles of reoffending. They provide a holistic approach to reducing offending, identifying and addressing many of the underlying social causes of crime.



Securing safe affordable housing sits at the centre of our work, providing a foundation from which people can begin to create meaningful connections to the community. Responding to place and culture is an integral aspect of individualised support. Whilst utilising the principles underpinning CRC’s model of post release support, our programs are responsive to the diverse needs of communities in different parts of the State, from the Inner City and Penrith, to Broken Hill and Wilcannia.

In June 2018 CRC’s Alcohol and Other Drugs Transition Programs were recognised for their outstanding work at the Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (NADA) Annual Conference with an Award for ‘Excellence in Treatment’.

The Miranda Program has continued to develop its services for women exiting prison or court who are at risk of returning to situations of domestic and family violence. The model of creating a one-stop hub for women will be enhanced by our planned co-location with Penrith Women’s Health Centre. We look forward to reporting on this initiative, a first of its kind in NSW, which closely reflects the successful model of support provided by Women’s Centres in the UK.

CRC provides a range of services along the criminal justice continuum. Last year our Court Support Scheme provided support to 61,303 people across 16 local courts. Our Family Support service assisted 1,182 family members to negotiate the NSW correctional system, find support in the community and stay connected to family and friends on the inside. CRC's Telephone Intake and Referral Service responded to nearly 900 calls providing information and referral support across a diverse range of issues that impact individuals, families, organisations and communities when supporting people connected to the criminal justice system.

Jailbreak continues to offer a one-of-a-kind service, airing the voices of incarcerated people via Koori Radio and 2SER on a weekly basis. With health and wellbeing placed at the centre of its work, the programs provide vital connections between people on the inside and out.

Support to create non-criminal identities outside of prison environments underpins a lot of our work. The past year has seen the further development of programs that contribute to the development of skills and opportunities in the arts. Our Music and Arts program has assisted people in and out of prison to develop song writing skills, find their voices through song, record their music and develop expressive pieces of artwork. In addition to operating in the Greater Sydney Metropolitan Regions, the Music program has found a place in both Broken Hill and Wilcannia, each area adapting to the interests of the local community.

Long-term disadvantage and contact with the criminal justice system deprives people of key opportunities. Employment is one of these. Over the forthcoming year CRC will continue to develop its Employments Pathways Program assisting people transitioning from prison to the community in identifying areas of interests and developing job seeking and job retention skills.

All our work is underpinned by our policy and influencing work, based on the input and direct experiences of our services and the people we support. In response to this CRC has continued its work via the Advocacy, Research and Policy Unit.

Whilst service delivery is and should be the focus of our organisation's work, there has been much work undertaken behind the scenes ensuring we remain robust and compliant. Since my last report CRC has transitioned from being an incorporated association to a company limited by guarantee. The new corporate structure provides a more robust regulatory framework for an organisation of our size.

At the time of writing this report we are in the process of reviewing our 2014 - 2018 Strategic Plan, which will set the strategic direction of the organisation for the next four years. We have embarked on a whole-of-organisation quality assurance process, the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan and have relocated offices after 17 years from Broadway to Canterbury. Without the incredible (and tireless) support of our IT, Human Resource, Administration and Finance Team, the high quality, adaptability and integrity of our work would not be possible.

Our work is supported by a range of formal and informal state and inter-state partners, and I would like to acknowledge them all and thank them for their ongoing commitment to the work we do. I acknowledge our funders, both government and private donors, for enabling our work.

I would like to acknowledge our Board of Directors whose commitment to strong governance ensures the organisation is robust and sustainable. Finally, I would like to offer my thanks to all our staff; paid and unpaid; for their experience, dedication, values, ethical practice and sense of humour; without you CRC would not be the special place it is today.

CRC's Directors during 2017/2018 included

Ruth McCausland
Stuart Loveday
Ian Farmer
Gary Gahan



Peta MacGillivray
Michael Levy
Nicole Lojczyk
John Paget



Dr Ruth McCausland:
CRC BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Reducing reoffending is a NSW Government State Priority for 2016-2020. An unprecedented investment of \$237 million has been allocated to Justice and Corrective Services with the aim of reducing the annual rate of adult reoffending by five percentage points by 2019. The six areas of what the government refers to as 'evidence-based reform' include targeting high risk offenders, changes to community-based sentencing and parole, enhanced supervision of offenders in the community, expanded and improved offender behaviour change programs, and improved custodial case management.

Yet NSW's prison population is at its highest-ever recorded level and rising. NSW incarcerates more people than any other Australian state or territory; around 30% of all Australian prisoners are in NSW gaols. In March this year the NSW prison population was recorded as 13,494 people, up 4.2% in the previous 12 months. Director of the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, Dr Don Weatherburn, has said he expects this to increase to almost 14,000 people by March 2019. And these are just the people recorded in custody on one particular date. Many more flow in and out of NSW prisons on short sentences and remand each year.

So what explains this apparent contradiction? What do we know about who is going to prison?

Australian Bureau of Statistics data indicate that the largest increases have been amongst people on remand, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and women. A third of the entire prison population is now made up of people on remand – those charged and not granted bail who are awaiting their court appearance or trial. Around a half will be released once they get to court because they are given a community order, have already served their time, or are found not guilty. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are grossly over-represented in our prisons, making up 28% of the prison population. While governments over many years have acknowledged and committed to addressing this, the Indigenous imprisonment rate has continued to increase at a greater rate than the overall imprisonment rate over the past decade. And although women generally still make up a small proportion of people in prison overall, from 2011-2017, there was a 50% increase in the number of women in prison in NSW, with Indigenous women disproportionately represented in this increase. In fact, Indigenous women are the fastest growing group in prison, with the majority being on remand or serving short sentences for minor offences.

Research I have been part of at UNSW has pointed to the role of systemic disadvantage and discrimination in the over-representation of particular groups in custody, including Aboriginal women and men with mental health issues and cognitive disability from disadvantaged backgrounds. The vast majority are not in prison for committing serious offences. Rather, they are people who have ended up in the criminal justice system after the failure of community and disability services and the education and health systems to provide appropriate early intervention and support.

These are people referred to as having 'complex needs'. They are the people who experienced early trauma and abuse, who didn't get a diagnosis of a learning disability at school but were just considered 'badly behaved', who had early and frequent contact with police, who have never experienced stable long-term housing. They are people who can't access mental health services because they have a drug or alcohol addiction, or who can't get into rehab because they have a cognitive

impairment. Complex needs are in effect created by entrenched disadvantage and inadequate service systems.

More investment is certainly needed to support people at risk of going to prison, including in research and evaluation to inform better policy. But there is also a great deal of knowledge and expertise that already exists that is not sufficiently recognised or integrated in policy and program development.

What is already known is that people in NSW prisons largely come from certain postcodes. We know there is widespread unmet need relating to drug and alcohol addiction, mental health and cognitive disability. We know that many people flowing in and out of our prisons often experienced out of home care as children, report backgrounds of poverty, inadequate education, violence and homelessness.

In fact, we can talk about the social determinants of justice in the same way we talk about the social determinants of health. Just as people's health is affected by social, economic, political

and environmental factors, so too are experiences and outcomes in the criminal justice system. While individual choices play a role, a social determinants lens highlights a social gradient between people that is the product of unequal distribution of power, income and services. With Eileen Baldry, I have been writing about the social determinants of justice as a way of emphasising just how much people's likelihood of going to prison is determined by broader social factors beyond individual offending behaviour.

NSW is not unique. Prisons elsewhere in Australia and internationally are full of people from backgrounds of systemic disadvantage. Yet NSW appears particularly preoccupied with a punitive approach to law and order and building new prisons at the expense of its commitment to reduce reoffending.

What is unique to NSW is this extraordinary organisation that has been operating for more than 65 years to support and advocate for people affected by the criminal justice system in NSW. CRC's work is guided by core principles and values that infuse all aspects of its work to break entrenched cycles of disadvantage, offending and imprisonment. CRC operates within a human rights framework, grounding the belief that all people are entitled to dignity, equality and mutual respect to be enabled to make genuine choices in and have control over their own lives. It has developed a model of transitional support over decades that takes a strengths-based approach to support people to address the underlying causes of their contact with the criminal justice system, while advocating for broader systemic policy change.



Reoffending rates are unlikely to be significantly reduced while policy and programs focus on individual behaviour change at the expense of the underlying social determinants that contribute to people ending up in prison. And reoffending rates are unlikely to be significantly reduced while people continue to be dehumanised and criminalised as 'offenders', and resources continue to be allocated to justice and corrections agencies rather than to the health, housing, disability and community sectors. We could, however, see real systemic change in reducing the massive economic and social costs of imprisonment in NSW if governments paid more attention to the knowledge and expertise of CRC staff and clients.

It is a great honour and privilege for us as Board members to serve CRC. We pay tribute to our wonderful CEO, Alison Churchill, and CRC's exceptional management team and staff whose skill and dedication are second to none. We congratulate CRC clients for their strength and resilience. We also thank our patron, the Honourable Michael Kirby AC, CMG, and our eminent advisory panel. This year we farewell Board member Valda Ruis and thank her for her contribution. As Chair I thank our strong and committed Board of Governance.

Mindy Sotiri:

ADVOCACY, POLICY AND RESEARCH REPORT

The establishment of the CRC Advocacy, Policy and Research Unit has enabled CRC to consolidate our position as an expert voice and advocate in the criminal justice space. The community sector has a critical role to play in reintegration, reducing prisoner populations, and addressing the structural predictors of recidivism and over-incarceration.

The APR unit at CRC is committed to ensuring that the voices of people who have expertise in both the delivery of services on the ground, and the voices of people who have themselves experienced incarceration are front and centre of research, policy and program design. The unit contributes regularly to publications, conferences and provides high level expert advice to both the government and the non-government sector. The unit also is able to respond quickly to social issues and policies which impact on people who have had adverse experiences as a consequence of their criminal justice system involvement, and is regularly called upon to contribute to media stories pertaining to prison, post-release and reintegration. In addition, the unit is responsible for writing submissions for grants and tenders, and securing funding to support service delivery.

The focus of the unit in 2017/2018 has been in the following advocacy areas:

- Housing and Homelessness Post-Release. We have focused on an analysis of the absence of specialist housing support for people leaving prison, and ongoing discrimination in the housing sector for people with criminal records.



- NDIS and the depleted service landscape for people with disabilities in the criminal justice system. Our research in this space has been directed to the drafting of a report to be published in 2018/2019 exploring the first year of the NDIS.

Over the course of the last year the unit has presented at eight conferences, participated on three multi-agency roundtables, prepared and provided submissions to three upper-house inquiries, published three articles in industry publications, and contributed to fifteen media pieces exploring reintegration. The unit has also been responsible for the preparation of all tenders and grants over this period.

In 2017/2018 CRC was fortunate to employ Sophie Russell as the units Research Assistant. Sophie has been leading the unit in the development of a comprehensive critique of the criminogenic needs literature, and has also led the unit in the development of the NDIS report. CRC would like to extend warm thanks and appreciation for the amazingly hard work Sophie conducted during her time at CRC, and wishes her well in the next phase of her exciting research and work in Boston.

Current Projects

Service delivery and practice overview

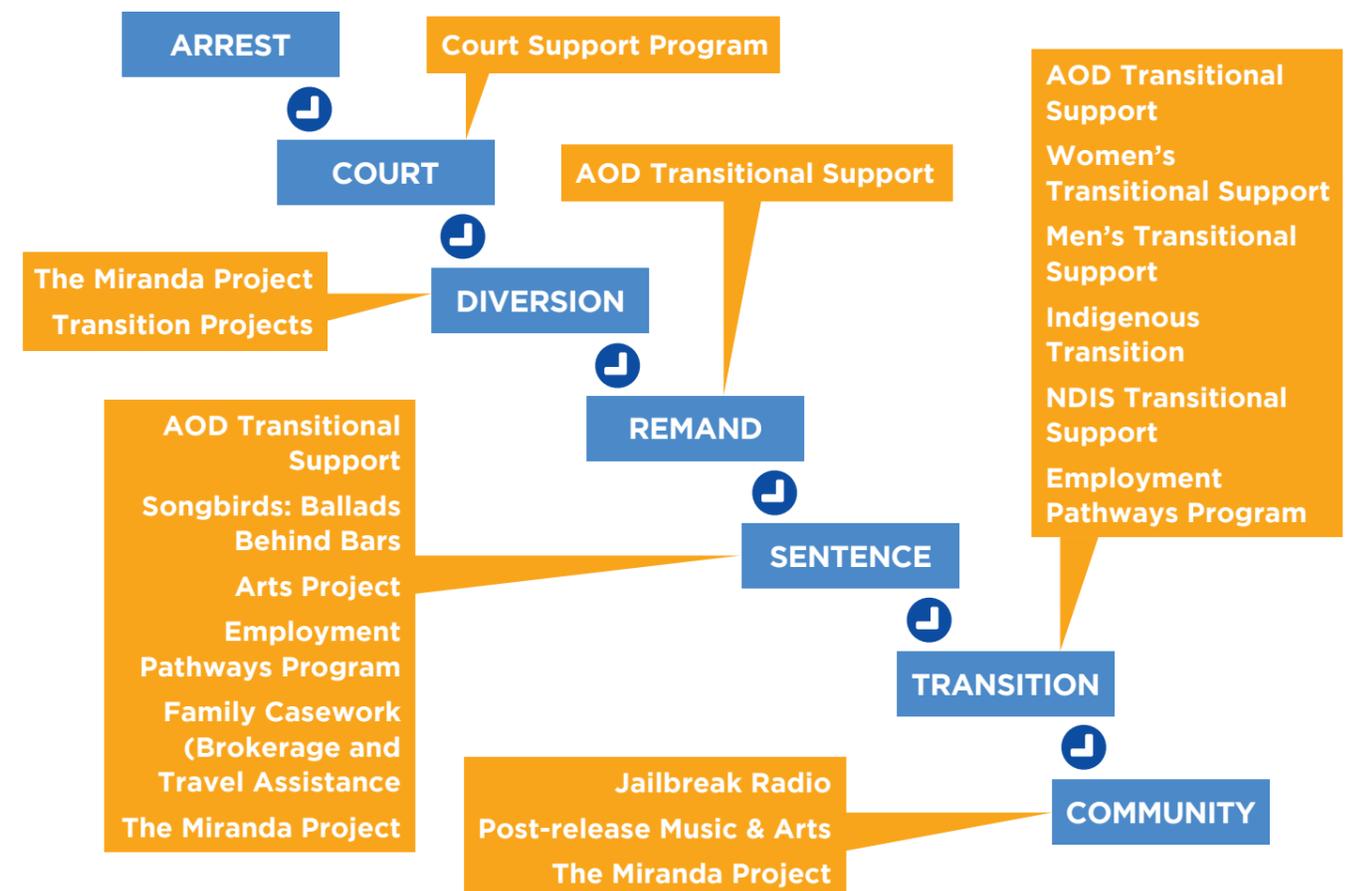
In 2017/2018 CRC delivered a range of services across five sites in NSW.

CRC provides targeted support to people transitioning from prison into the community, support to families of people in prison, assistance to people attending court, health promotion, arts and music programs, cultural engagement, and the provision of information and support to the communities with high rates of incarceration.

All CRC programs seek to build pathways outside of the criminal justice system, support people who are adversely impacted by the justice system, and in doing so addresses explicitly the systemic and structural factors that drive the over-incarceration and over-supervision of disadvantaged populations in NSW.

CRC recognises that prison populations around the world are characterised by multiple and complex disadvantage, in combination with inadequate access to social services and limited opportunity for civic participation. CRC also recognises that reducing incarceration and recidivism requires an approach that directly addresses the social causes of crime and imprisonment.

To this end, CRC provides services along the criminal justice continuum. From the Court Support project at the front end, to the long-term reintegration programs for people who have experienced incarceration and are leaving prison, all CRC projects aim to support diverse populations who are involved with the criminal justice system.



The following section of the annual report outlines all the CRC programs. Please note that the case-studies outlined in this report have all been de-identified.

Telephone, Information and Referral Service (TIRS)

The TIRS service provides information and referrals to anyone impacted by the criminal justice system, including families, people in prison and people on release from prison. The service is also available for any service provider or individual seeking information relating to imprisonment, release, or the broader criminal justice system.

Family members face multiple practical and emotional difficulties when they have a loved one involved in the criminal justice system. Finding information about prison operating procedures can be confusing and difficult. For example, knowing how to book a visit or finding where someone is being held can be stressful and complicated. The TIRS service, via the provision of specialist knowledge of the criminal justice system and prison procedures, aims to alleviate this burden.

“ Thank you so much for your reply. After days of receiving little to no help from anyone in the system ... it's refreshing to hear a sincere response from someone... Thank you again! You have no idea how much just getting a genuine response has helped me today.

The TIRS service receives calls about a diverse range of issues in relation to correctional centres, services and assistance for those being released, along with issues about the broader criminal justice system. Post-release accommodation remains a common query, with many callers being concerned about people being released into homelessness or very unstable and short-term crisis accommodation. There are also regular calls from people seeking referral to CRC's services and other sources of post-release support. Many callers require assistance with issues related to drug and alcohol, mental health and trauma. In 2017/2018 the TIRS service noted an increase in calls with regard to people with cognitive disability who are struggling to find support services for their NDIS package.



892 individuals were assisted via TIRS in the 2017/2018 year.

Of these, **430** were family members of people in custody.

111 were people who were either currently incarcerated or had recently been released.

276 were service providers (including Corrections NSW, Health NSW, Centrelink, FACS and multiple NGO providers also).

75 (Other requests).



Carl called to talk about his concerns around how his criminal record might affect the job he is about to commence. He had been offered a position, signed a contract with his new employer, left his previous role, and was then asked to submit to a criminal record check. The TIRS Worker discussed with Carl the offence and its relevance to the job. To help Carl understand his rights and responsibilities, he was also given information about the legal parameters around discrimination on the grounds of a criminal record. TIRS referred him to Marrickville Community Legal Centre for legal advice specific to his case.



John presented as highly distressed and tearful during the initial call about his partner Tanya, who had been in custody for five months. Tanya had been calling him every day but calls had ceased and he had not heard from her for three weeks. John spoke at length about his history of mental illness, homelessness and other difficulties, saying that Tanya was the only support in his life. The TIRS Worker undertook to call the prison to see if she could find out anything and call John back. The TIRS Worker also encouraged John to engage with other community supports given his level of distress. He was initially resistant, insisting that only Tanya could support him. The TIRS Worker spoke to a Services and Programs Officer (SAPO) at the prison who was able to pass on that Tanya had used most of her \$15 custody unemployment allowance on buy-ups rather than phone credits. The SAPO said she would ask Tanya to call John as soon as possible when her allowance was next paid. When the TIRS Worker called John back and explained this, John was relieved Tanya was okay but was also disappointed and upset to have not heard from her. The TIRS Worker empathised and explained how important buy-ups can be for people in custody. The worker also explained Tanya may have had to spend her allowance on essential items and encouraged John to not make any judgments until he had spoken to her. The TIRS Worker again raised the possibility of John receiving some support in his local community. Although John remained reluctant, he eventually accepted a referral to a counsellor at a small local community centre and said that he understood a little better why Tanya had spent her allowance on things other than phone credits.



Paul is the father of an inmate. Paul has a pacemaker and carries a card to indicate this at places with security such as airports. When Paul went to visit his son, he showed the officer the pacemaker card and told him that his specialist had advised that he is not to pass through security scanners. On his first visit to see his son he was permitted to enter without needing to go through the scanner and was instead checked using a hand-held scanner. On his second visit, the officer told him to go through the scanner anyway or he would not be permitted entry. Paul did not want to risk entering the scanner so he missed the visit to his son. Paul tried to speak to the Manager of Security at the correctional centre but was not successful in explaining his situation to any effect. The TIRS Worker contacted an officer at Corrective Services Executive Services department, and facilitated communication to the Correctional Centre in this way. The Governor was able to clarify that if the visitor has a legitimate medical reason that prevents him from being scanned via walkthrough metal detector, the Centre will need to use the hand wand detector. The TIRS client was also advised that a supporting medical certificate from his doctor would also assist staff in processing his visit. The Governor advised the Manager of Security to ensure staff on visits are aware of the policy so that Paul was able to stay connected to his son. Paul also raised the issue of the distress that his nine year old granddaughter suffered when visiting the prison. The TIRS worker discussed counselling her through the Shine for Kids program and made a referral. The TIRS worker also connected Paul with the family project at CRC in case he himself required any further support.

Family Service

Family Casework

The Family Service provides non-judgmental support, information, referral, counselling, advice and advocacy for families of people in prison in NSW. Family Caseworkers support family members through the stressful period of incarceration, and also assist in the planning of release and family reintegration following a period of imprisonment.

When a person goes to prison their family can be left feeling scared, anxious, angry or embarrassed, as well as trying to understand a system they know little about. They may also feel socially isolated yet reluctant to seek support because of the stigma attached. CRC's Family Caseworkers support families through the stressful process of incarceration and assist in planning for release and family reintegration following a period of imprisonment. By providing support and information, this service allows families to focus their energy on the important tasks they face, such as caring for children and preparing for visits.

Travel assistance and brokerage

Keeping in touch with someone in prison can be costly, both financially and emotionally. For those having to travel long distances the impact can be even greater. This project provides financial assistance to families experiencing financial hardship who are travelling long distances to visit a family member or kinship relative in a NSW prison. This can include reimbursement for petrol, public transport fares, taxis, and in some circumstances, overnight accommodation.

CRC provides this service in recognition of the importance of maintaining family ties and connection during a period of imprisonment.

Video Prison Visits

The Family Casework Project also facilitates video visits for family members who are unable to travel to visit loved ones.

CRC is an approved venue for facilitation of video visits for people who are unable to travel to visit family members and friends in remote prisons. The costs for families and friends visiting prison can be high – physically, emotionally and financially. Many are unable to make regular visits due to time, distance or poor health and children may miss out on other activities if weekends are taken up by constant travel. By giving families the opportunity to keep in touch via video visits, CRC can provide a positive alternative for those who cannot always make the journey to a prison.

The family case-work and brokerage service supported **1181** people over 2017-18



262 of these were children



500 prison visits facilitated (via brokerage support and video)



Emma is in her forties and got in contact with the family service because she was having a very difficult time as a consequence of her son's incarceration at the Metropolitan Reception and Remand Centre. Her son has an intellectual disability and language delays, meaning communication is difficult for him. Emma had sought help to manage his behaviour since her son was 10 years old, but was unable to receive the support she required. He spent his teenage years cycling in and out of out of home care and was frequently incarcerated. He has continued to move in and out of custody as an adult.

Emma manages this alone, as her son's father has chosen not to be involved and she feels her current husband doesn't understand the complexity of her son's situation. She says she has no-one around her to offer her compassion or support and that she is the only person advocating for her son. She feels like she can't talk to her friends and family about her worries as they don't understand and will judge her.

When Emma came to CRC, she was frustrated and fatigued at years of trying to support her son alone. His experience of custody has been made more difficult by his disability and he has experienced threats and violence from others. He has been segregated due to behavioural issues and sometimes has problems with staff. On occasion when she visits him he has visible injuries and this is deeply upsetting for her.



CRC has helped Emma by offering her emotional support and helping her access practical information about the system. Helping Emma to navigate the system so that she can advocate for her son and ensure his medical needs are being met and he is safe makes her feel less isolated and stressed. Emma no longer feels so alone in trying to support her son.

Court Support Scheme

CRC's Court Support Scheme (CSS) was established in 1982 and operates in 16 local courts across the Sydney metropolitan area, Central Coast, Newcastle and Wollongong. Funded by Legal Aid NSW, CSS is available for defendants, witnesses, victims of crime, as well as the many friends and families of those attending court.

The CSS is made up of over 50 volunteers who give freely of their time to help people navigate the court system. For those facing the stress of their first court appearance, or multiple adjournments, or having a family member in custody, being assisted in a friendly manner can make a real difference. Court support volunteers provide information on court protocol, sources of legal assistance, emotional support and referrals to other services. CSS volunteers do not offer legal advice and there is no referral or fee required for its service. Over 60,000 court attendees were offered assistance in the past financial year. This volunteering initiative delivers an outstanding commitment to improving access to justice for many, especially to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our community.

Local Courts Serviced: Bankstown, Blacktown, Burwood, Downing Centre, Gosford, Hornsby, Manly, Mount Druitt, Newcastle, Newtown, Parramatta, Penrith, Sutherland, Waverley, Wollongong, Wyong.

IN 2017/ 2018: **52** volunteers  assisted in **16** local courts , and supported **61,303** court attendees .

Highlights for the program include:

- the re-establishing of the Court Support service at Bankstown Local Court in November 2017, with new volunteers settling into the role well.
- The first anniversary of the Wollongong Court Support service in November of 2017 with 4 volunteers over 3 days.
- National Volunteer Week celebrations, bringing the volunteers together to thank them for their invaluable contributions.



The strength of the program lies in the dedication and commitment of the volunteers, many who have been in the role for several years. This year Dorothy Hoyer, currently our longest serving volunteer, celebrated 17 years of volunteering at the Downing Centre.



 Throughout the year CRC receives feedback from court staff and users about the fantastic assistance they received from the Court Support volunteers across all courts. One such report came from John, who attended Hornsby Court with his son Mike. Mike was facing a driving charge. John described how going to court was a very nerve-racking experience for Mike who has some mental health issues. John was really concerned that Mike would not be able to wait for his matter to be heard and would leave the court because he was so stressed. They were both greatly relieved to be approached by our Wednesday volunteer, Briden, who gave much needed reassurance, patience and guidance to enable Mike to not just attend court – but also to stay calm, and present on the day of his matter.

Jailbreak Health Project

The Jailbreak Health Project focuses on reducing the risk of transmission of HIV, Hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections for populations involved in the criminal justice system. At the heart of the project is the Jailbreak radio show; a weekly half hour radio program for people in prison, their families and their supporters. Jailbreak seeks to raise community awareness about prison as well as providing support and referrals for those affected by prison, and providing a platform for the voices of people inside. It is produced at 2SER 107.3FM, and broadcasts in and around Sydney every Sunday night at 9.30pm on 2SER 107.3FM, and every Monday and Sunday night at 10pm on Koori Radio 93.7FM.

Jailbreak is a vital link for people and families isolated by incarceration and aims to raise public awareness about the issues they face. Jailbreak provides information on the justice system, prison and health issues as well as connecting prisoners to the community through their views, music and poetry. At the heart of the radio program is the music, much of it written and performed by the people who listen in, and who courageously tell their stories about prison both inside and outside of the prison walls. A critical role of Jailbreak is health promotion and harm reduction in exposure to blood-borne viruses. Jailbreak is funded by NSW Health.

Lisa wanted to be able to share her story with other people who were facing the same challenges she had faced. She believed that if she told her story on Jailbreak Radio, it would be heard by the people that needed to hear it the most. Jailbreak Radio is a unique service that gives a voice to people in prison, helping to nurture hope and create community amongst people who would otherwise be marginalised and silenced.



Lisa says:

“I chose to tell my story on radio because when I was using and in prison, I really needed to hear hope. That’s what really kept me going; seeing and hearing people just like me who were living productive lives.

My mother was a heroin addict, so I grew up with people taking drugs all around me. I saw my mother using. Our house was chaotic and not like other kid’s homes. I felt I wasn’t like other kids. I couldn’t relate to them, my life and my home was so different. I didn’t fit in at school. I felt lonely and that no one understood what it was like for me. I hated heroin and the effect it had on my mother.

I fell pregnant to my boyfriend aged 17 and this became my reason to leave and escape home. I was so happy and excited to be having my baby and I wanted to fulfill my dream of having a perfect family. But it didn’t work out and our relationship ended. I moved back in with Mum. We didn’t get along. I tried to be the best mother I could. I bought him the best clothes. I didn’t have a great role model.

My next partner was a dealer and introduced me to drugs. Somehow, I felt smoking drugs wasn’t ‘as bad’ as injecting them as my mother did. Soon I began injecting. I used with my mother. Things became really messy for me, although at the time I thought I was fine. My son’s school reported me to welfare and my child was taken away from me.

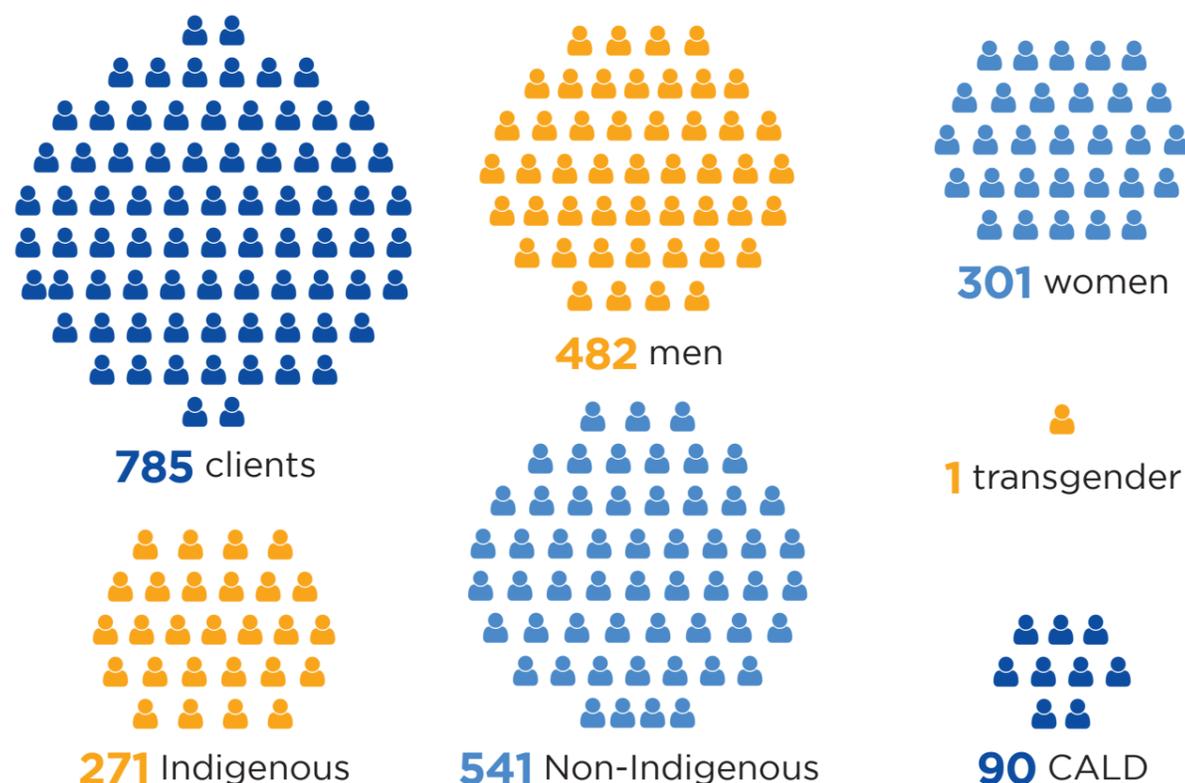
Despair and grief catapulted me to another level of using to cope and soon I was in and out of prison, doing small sentences for petty crime and shoplifting. I could not come to terms with the pain and the injustice of losing my child. I had tried so hard to be a good Mum. Why couldn't they see that? Couldn't they give me just one more chance? It was so unfair, I didn't know how to be a good Mum. One day I kidnapped him and headed to the north coast to see my Dad. It wasn't long before the police were at the door. The brutality and trauma of the system that day I will never forget and perhaps was the catalyst for my recovery. I was back in jail, being strip searched, having just had my child ripped off me, crying for his Mum."

When Lisa was released she really wanted to put something back and reach out to people who felt alone, unheard, stigmatised and misunderstood by telling the story of her own experiences. Jailbreak radio was her opportunity to be heard and offer the story of her successful recovery to people still inside.

“ The fact I haven't put a substance into my body for 4 years is a bloody miracle **”**

Client support overview

During 17/18 CRC worked intensively in our transitional and reintegration projects with 785* clients.



* This number includes clients who engaged in medium or long-term case-work. It does not include clients engaged for one-off assistance or short term support.

Alcohol and Other Drugs Transitional Support, Sydney

The Transitional Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Project is an outreach-based holistic counselling service for men and women with a history of involvement in the criminal justice system and complex AOD issues. It provides pre-release and outreach AOD support to people exiting NSW Correctional Centres across the Greater Sydney Metropolitan region, including people on remand. The project is focused on working with people who have complex needs including mental illness and/or cognitive impairment. The AOD project also has a targeted Indigenous program, working specifically with Indigenous people who would like assistance with their relationship to drugs and alcohol after prison.

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-------|------------|----------------|------|
| 323 | MEN | WOMEN | INDIGENOUS | NON-INDIGENOUS | CALD |
| | 272 | 51 | 88 | 235 | 65 |

Keith was 44 years old and remanded at the MRRC when he contacted CRC via the WentWest program. He had been a regular heroin user since the age of 14 and although he was on a treatment program he still smoked ice and injected heroin regularly. He also suffered from anxiety and depression, for which he was medicated. Before being locked up Keith often felt too anxious and depressed to leave his house.

Keith had committed some offences in the late 90's that meant he was on an Extended Supervision Order. He was released from custody in 2013 but deemed unsuitable for all residential rehabilitation facilities because of his history of offending. Keith regularly breached his order as a consequence of his ongoing drug use.

It was clear in talking to Keith that without support to help him with his addiction to heroin and ice, there was no way he would be able to stay out of prison. So many programs were closed to him, and despite the court ordering him to be assessed for assistance in terms of his drug use, there had never been any support available to help him because of the type of offences he had committed historically.

Having a CRC AOD worker helping Keith meant that there was someone else negotiating the system on his behalf. CRC worked with the officers involved in the Extended Supervision Order to try and find Keith housing when he was released. Having Keith in stable housing would make it easier to link him to local services. Eventually a bed was found for Keith in a facility run by Community Corrections on a temporary basis.

Once Keith had a place to live, it made it possible to seek support for him through local programs. With the support of CRC, Keith was put in touch with a service run by St Vincent De Paul. During the first few weeks that Keith was out of prison, all three services worked very closely with Keith to make sure he was kept engaged and focused so that it would be easier for him to stop using drugs.

CRC continues to seek a rehab place for Keith and to work closely with him. Keith knows that someone is helping him and for the first time he has assistance in recovering from his addiction. He feels much more positive and hopeful that now that he has support he will be able to stay out of prison.

Men's Transition

INNER CITY TRANSITION AND REINTEGRATION

The Inner City Men's Transitional Service is an outreach case management, transitional and reintegration service for men exiting NSW Correctional Centres who experienced multiple and complex disadvantage. It provides long-term support to men who are looking to live in the City, Eastern Suburbs, Inner West and Southern Areas of Sydney. This project works closely with the AOD transition team to support men who are at risk of homelessness, ongoing criminal justice system involvement, and related drug and alcohol use.

|  25 | MEN | WOMEN | INDIGENOUS | NON-INDIGENOUS | CALD |
|--|-----|-------|------------|----------------|------|
| | 25 | | 5 | 20 | 1 |

 Tim is a 27-year-old man who came into contact with the Men's Transition team prior to his release from custody at OMMPPC in September 2017.

Tim attributes his mental health conditions which include depression, social anxiety, social phobia and dissociative identity disorder, to his family upbringing. Tim experienced multiple traumas going up, including his father passing away, his younger brother being taken into care and being physically abused as a child.

Tim was introduced to drugs by a family member at a young age and was exposed to intravenous drug use at home. By the age of 10, Tim was using drugs regularly. He moved schools several times due to his drug use and the behaviour associated with it. He was sent to behavioural school but by the time he left school he was using ice and no longer had stable accommodation.

Tim approached the team because he wanted to live independently and re-enter the workforce. He wanted to be able to visit his brother who was still in care and he wanted to be able to travel on public transport on his own. He had also not used drugs for nearly two years, the longest period he could remember being drug free, and wanted support to maintain this.

Although Tim listed his mother and his uncles as significant social supports, he had no other networks in the community.

When he was initially released, Tim faced many barriers due to his poor mental health. Social anxiety and daily panic attacks meant that he was unable to use public transport. Without case worker support the only way he could attend appointments was if he walked. This made it almost impossible to find accommodation. Tim would have appointments with Housing NSW and find he would either be unable to attend or would experience a panic attack and need to leave abruptly. Tim had said he would rather couch surf than be put through all the anxiety of trying to navigate housing services.

With help from the Men's Transition Team, Tim was able to fulfil the conditions of his six month parole period. This included attending Community Corrections on a weekly basis, participating in AOD intervention and accessing trauma counselling. As part of the program, Tim received holistic and dedicated support from a Case Manager and an AOD Counsellor. Tim connected with his AOD counsellor on a weekly basis and his Case Manager up to three times a week. Tim was also connected to multiple services including Centrelink, a neuro-psychologist, massage and physiotherapy, medical

services, outreach services, and services to help him with food and other household items. He also had Legal Aid for ongoing court matters. His case manager has helped him meet with Housing NSW and helped him make applications for permanent housing. As a result, he has recently been able to move to his own apartment.

Tim has achieved a significant amount since his release. He has been able to connect regularly with counselling and other services, establish healthy boundaries with his mother, and for the first time complete his parole period without being incarcerated again. Tim has been able to stay drug free. For the first time in his adult life Tim is now living in a safe, stable environment, is looking to the future with plans to engage in study to re-enter the work force.

 Malcolm is a 46-year-old indigenous man who had completed a rehab program while incarcerated at Long Bay. He was coming to the end of a ten-year sentence and wanted support in retaining the progress that he had made. A CRC transition worker met with Malcolm eight weeks prior to his release and they worked together to make sure he would be supported once he was back in the community. His transition worker found him a bed in a men's transition program and made sure he had access to a case worker. Without someone to help him do this, Malcolm's only option was homelessness. Malcolm has a great relationship with his CRC transition worker, who is supporting him with his methadone reduction. His ultimate goal is to move from maintenance to abstinence.

While Malcolm was in jail he completed a degree in social science with a major in psychology. He wanted to be able to advocate for people affected by the criminal justice system. His aim is to continue his studies so that he can help disadvantaged people who need support in the community, just like he did.

 Daniel is a 61-year-old Indigenous man. He has been in prison for a total of 27 years of his life. He was released from custody in November 2017 after serving 22 years. Daniel experiences anxiety and social phobia and recognised that he needed support in order to cope while living in the community.

Daniel expressed that he would like to work but had years of unaddressed injury in his ankle and back. He also needed dental work as his teeth had been neglected from years of inadequate dental treatment. His teeth had made it difficult to eat and he was underweight as a result. Daniel also wanted to learn how to use public transport, and needed assistance learning to use current technology (such as a smart phone) that would help him be independent in the community.

Daniel was referred to CRC to get help in transitioning from custody. A CRC worker accompanied him to his initial appointments for physio. Once he had been shown how to use public transport and helped to use his smart phone, he was able to go to other appointments on his own. He is continuing to see the physio on his own and in doing so, is achieving his goal to be more independent in the community.

After release, Daniel had struggled to eat due to the pain caused by the condition of his teeth and lost a significant amount of weight as a result. CRC helped him make an appointment to see a dentist near his home and then assisted him to attend the appointment. He has reported that his teeth are slowly feeling better and having someone to go with him to appointments has helped him feel less anxious. Daniel continues to work slowly towards his goals of good health and employment. He reports that connecting with this CRC worker and being able to obtain support for the practical parts of life in the community that he is unfamiliar with, has been really important in terms of building a life outside of the criminal justice system.

Women's Transitional and Reintegration Service

INNER CITY AND SOUTH WEST SYDNEY

The Women's Transitional and Reintegration Services are outreach case management, transitional and reintegration services for women exiting NSW Correctional Centres who have experienced multiple and complex disadvantage and are at risk of homelessness and ongoing criminal justice system involvement

The Inner-City Women's Transitional Service supports women who will return to the Inner City and surrounding suburbs. It is part of the Inner-City Service for Women with Complex Needs and operates in partnership with specialist services B Miles and Detour House. The South Western Sydney Women's Transitional Service supports women who will be residing in Bankstown, Fairfield, Liverpool or Campbelltown. It operates in partnership with Women's Housing Company. Both projects are part of the FACS funded GSH partnerships.

INNER CITY SERVICE FOR WOMEN

| | MEN | WOMEN | INDIGENOUS | NON-INDIGENOUS | CALD |
|-----------|-----|-----------|------------|----------------|----------|
| 55 | | 55 | 35 | 20 | 3 |

SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY SERVICE FOR WOMEN

| | MEN | WOMEN | INDIGENOUS | NON-INDIGENOUS | CALD |
|-----------|-----|-----------|------------|----------------|----------|
| 62 | | 62 | 15 | 47 | 8 |

 Georgia is a 26 year old Gomerioi woman who has been in and out of the criminal justice system since the age of 15. She said she had behavioural issues as a child, becoming frustrated when she was unable to understand what she was reading. She is partly deaf in her right ear and now wonders if this may have affected her learning. She experienced sudden and traumatic loss following the deaths of her father and grandmother, two prominent family members. Georgia says her mother lives with mental illness and she has never fully recovered since their deaths.

Georgia began to use drugs as a means of coping with her grief and loss. She formed a relationship at 14 and experienced ongoing verbal, emotional and physical abuse. Her son was born in 2010 and was

removed by FACS due to substance use and domestic violence. Georgia continued to cycle through the criminal justice system, spending short periods of time in the community. In late 2016, Georgia was given an opportunity when she was granted strict conditional bail.

Georgia knew she needed help to make her bail work so she came to CRC seeking support. She was really determined to change and she has excelled. With the help of her CRC worker, she was selected for Drug Court and completed a residential AOD program. Her efforts were recognised and she quickly reached stage 2 of the Drug Court program. Georgia received an offer of social housing in the final weeks of the residential AOD program and now has stable, long term accommodation.

Once she was housed Georgia was able to complete the Job Ready program at Redfern's NCIE and has since been offered full-time employment. She is now in the process of re-establishing contact with her eight year old son. Georgia was generous in sharing her story with the Jailbreak Health Project and continues to inspire other women within the system that change is possible. She has left those prison greens behind her.

 Tara has a long history of incarceration, dating back to 1986. Over the past 32 years Tara has cycled in and out of prison and her longest period in the community throughout this time has been three years. Tara's most recent custodial sentence came after the passing of her only son, mother and partner within a short period.

Whilst in Emu Plains Correctional Centre, Tara began engaging with the South West Sydney Women's service as she had always lived in the Liverpool area. After her release Tara lived in shared transitional accommodation. This was the first time that Tara had sought case management support. Within three months, Tara received an offer of permanent housing with Housing NSW and went on to establish a stable base and home at an over 55's complex.

Tara suffers significant physical health and mobility issues due to a severe back injury. Moving to the Liverpool area and having a stable base has allowed her



to reconnect and reengage with health services in the area. She now frequents a pain management clinic and is the process of undergoing scans and testing for further treatment.

Tara's involvement in the criminal justice system over the years caused significant strain on her relationships with extended family. She says she has struggled to connect with her family in the past, but since her release from custody has formed meaningful relationships with her sisters, nieces and nephews who are all supportive of her achievements. Tara now also has regular access to her grandchildren who she looks after on a weekly basis.

Upon her release from custody, Tara also struggled with substantial debt and financial strain. CRC helped Tara link with both legal and financial counselling services and she has since been able to organise and even clear some debt.

Due to her progress and stability, Tara is finally able to address unresolved issues around her childhood, AOD misuse and grief. She has begun seeing a counsellor and a psychologist.

After nine months in the program, Tara has completed all the goals included in her case plan, has completed her parole period, and is engaging with numerous services in the community. As Tara prepares to exit the service, she reports feeling happier and more content with her life than she has ever done in the past.



Penrith / Nepean / Blue Mountains Transitional and Reintegration Service

The Penrith/Nepean/Blue Mountains project works with men and women on release from prison who have experienced multiple and/or complex disadvantage, who are risk of both homelessness and ongoing criminal justice system involvement. This project is focused on people who want to reside after custody in the Nepean, Penrith or Blue Mountains region. Transitional workers offer pre-release support and planning, and short, medium and long term intensive holistic case management (including assistance with housing).

| | MEN | WOMEN | INDIGENOUS | NON-INDIGENOUS | CALD |
|--|-----|-------|------------|----------------|------|
|  66 | 27 | 39 | 16 | 50 | 3 |

 Susie's parents split up when she was a baby, and her mother was murdered by her new partner when Susie was just three years old. Susie's father had mental health and issues with alcohol and drugs, so by the time Susie was 12, she was regularly running away and living on the streets. At 16 she was pregnant and heavily reliant on drugs. She gave birth to her son and relinquished his care to his paternal grandparents.

As an adult, Susie found herself homeless and addicted to ice. She had no support in the community. She ended up in prison and her family severed ties with her. She felt tremendous guilt and shame about the way her life had turned out.

Susie was referred to CRC's Nepean Transition Service from Emu Plains. A worker picked her up on the day of her release, but the property that she was supposed to move into had been damaged by squatters so it was not available. Susie had to use emergency accommodation, which she was very unsure and nervous about. CRC was able to offer her the reassurance that there was someone there for her, doing everything in their power to find her safe and permanent housing.

A transition property became available for Susie to move into. She was able to develop trust and rapport with the CRC transition worker who assisted her to not only achieve key practical outcomes, but also to work to address her traumatic past. Susie could not remember her mother and only had a newspaper photo of her. Her transition worker helped her locate her mother's grave and supported her in visiting the grave site.

Susie is now residing in a new apartment she can call her own, with a house full of furniture CRC helped her collect and source. She is studying as an apprentice chef and her transition worker was able to help her find work in a local café, where she is held in high esteem. Her parole has now been suspended due to her diligence and hard work, and Susie is incredibly proud of her efforts to remain drug free. She has a savings account and is saving to purchase a small car. Susie has also repaired relationships with her family, particularly her son. She regularly has meals and outings with her family, and is supported by them in her new life.

Transitional Boarding House Support, Inner Western Sydney

The CRC/Boarding House Project works with men and women on release from prison who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, and who are seeking to live in a boarding house in the Inner Western Sydney region. The CRC transitional worker offers pre-release support and planning, and short, medium and long-term intensive holistic case management.

| | MEN | WOMEN | TRANSGENDER | INDIGENOUS | NON-INDIGENOUS | CALD |
|--|-----|-------|-------------|------------|----------------|------|
|  54 | 45 | 8 | 1 | 12 | 42 | 4 |

 Ivan is 55-years-old and for most of his adult life he has been in out of jail, often serving very short sentences. He has a history of drug use and complex trauma including childhood sexual abuse. Ivan contacted CRC in August 2017, having used our services over a decade earlier. He was very keen to make a change and knew he needed support. At first he only made contact over the phone and was often heavily intoxicated. He was subject to parole conditions and very fearful he would go back to prison. He was struggling to cope with life in the community and was using heroin daily. When Ivan first called, he had no other professional support and a limited social support network. He was also homeless because of relationship difficulties with his partner. CRC helped Ivan to access a detox unit by helping him to make the referral calls and driving him there once he was accepted. Unfortunately, Ivan was asked to leave the unit as it was believed he was using. He lost his mobile and we were unable to stay in touch. Ivan visited a FACS office after he left detox because he was homeless. He became frustrated and upset and was asked to leave and not return to the office. Ivan again contacted CRC to ask for support.

A CRC worker contacted FACS and was asked to come with Ivan to another appointment. Having a worker with him helped Ivan remain calm, even when only temporary accommodation was available to him. CRC continued to accompany Ivan to further appointments to make sure he didn't become homeless.

CRC was able to put Ivan in touch with the CRC Boarding House Outreach worker (BHOS) who was able to help Ivan to move into a local boarding house. Alongside casework support, CRC provided weekly AOD counselling sessions and supported him in accessing a buprenorphine prescription to help him manage his drug use.

In June 2018, Ivan was offered NSW Housing in the area he had applied for. He had managed to maintain his tenancy at the boarding house for six months, despite significant challenges in relation to shared living there. Moving out of the boarding house meant the end of his work with his BHOS Case Manager but CRC have continued to help Ivan, which he says he still really needs and appreciates.

Ivan is hoping to return to studying and to focus on his writing. He says that he cannot remember a time when he has had so much stability in his life and this is the longest period he has been out of prison in the past decade. He said that he feels stronger than ever and is more confident about maintaining the positive changes that he has made.

Extended Reintegration Service (ERS), South Western Sydney

This project works with men and women on release from prison who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, have a Corrective Service's risk assessment of high to medium high (utilising the LSI-R tool), and have a mental illness and/or intellectual disability. ERS is a partnership with NSW Corrective Services, South Western Sydney Area Health Service and NSW Housing. CRC transitional workers offer pre-release support and planning, and intensive holistic case management for up to 9 months post release.

| | MEN | WOMEN | INDIGENOUS | NON-INDIGENOUS | CALD |
|--|-----|-------|------------|----------------|------|
|  15 | 14 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 5 |

 Eric is a 26-year-old male who was referred to CRC by the MRRC parole unit. He lives with chronic persistent symptoms of schizophrenia. He has acknowledged that his mental health has often been exacerbated by an inconsistent engagement with community mental health services. Eric was homeless for around 10 years and before that his experience in housing has only lasted two months. Due to his unpredictable living circumstances and the financial demands to meet his day to day needs, he was unable to keep up with his medication and his mental health suffered.

At the time of his referral to CRC he had breached parole and incurred further charges for which he had served six months of a custodial sentence. He was referred to the ERS program for transitional support for the remainder of his 12-month parole order.

Eric has a caring and supportive relationship with his mother although the relationship had recently been strained because of his risk-taking behaviour and disruptive nature of his mental health. Through the ERS program Eric was able to obtain secure affordable housing and had been linked to the local area mental health service for clinical case management. He has now had a nine month tenancy without incident for

which he keeps up-to-date rental payments and maintains to Housing NSW satisfaction. ERS has been able to arrange for the local pharmacy to dispense his medication on an account that his family helps him service. Since this was set he never goes without his medication. He has had no police contact in six months, no mental health inpatient admissions in the past four months and attends his mental health and parole appointments regularly with ERS support and independently. His relationship with family has improved. He receives regular visits every fortnight and speaks to his mum often for emotional and social support.

Near the end of Eric's nine month service period, a planning meeting was arranged bringing together services engaged in providing housing, mental health and correctional support. Community Mental Health hosted a meeting to map out a transition plan for Eric that would involve a move to a mainstream service offering open-ended case management support. The plan looked at how respective services would continue to engage with Eric including drug health, Mental Health, Housing and Community Corrections. The completed transition plan was circulated to relevant service partners and once again community

mental health, in tandem with ERS, took a lead role in making a referral to Neami for a supported housing arrangement.

ERS staff liaised with the Community Mental Health caseworker and made sure Eric's mum was kept informed of the plans. Eric was encouraged to take ownership of the plan and both Eric and his mum attended the final transition meeting where the newly assembled team of Neami, drug and alcohol support and the Aboriginal specialist worker were introduced to Eric and his family. The

family also attended a family conference with a psychiatrist so that they had a chance to meet the treating doctor to become better acquainted with issues surrounding Eric's treatment.

A comprehensive handover was provided to Neami containing all support needs and relevant service providers, effectively marking the end of Eric's time with the ERS program. Both he and his mother were unreservedly grateful for the support received and spoke highly of their experience of the program.

The Miranda Project

The Miranda Project is an innovative, gender specific approach to assisting vulnerable women attending court, on community orders or exiting prison. Miranda aims to halt the increase in the women's prison population through the provision of genuine support and the development of alternative pathways within the community.

Run by women, for women, the Miranda Project was funded in 2017 by Women NSW. Working on both sides of prison walls, Miranda has two specialist workers and provides holistic support including; casework, group activities, access to victims counselling and connections with other key services. The heart of this project is helping women live lives free from the criminal justice system, and free from domestic and family violence

| | MEN | WOMEN | INDIGENOUS | NON-INDIGENOUS | CALD |
|--|-----|-------|------------|----------------|------|
|  40 | | 40 | 10 | 30 | 1 |

 Caitlin is an Aboriginal woman with 3 adult children. She lives by herself in a block of flats where she feels alone and scared of her neighbours. Caitlin has been diagnosed with an acquired brain injury due to her prolonged history of drug use which means she struggles with remembering appointments, times and managing impulsivity. In addition to this, Caitlin has Leukemia and is currently undergoing plasma treatment.

In late 2017 Caitlin was charged with stealing a phone. Sadly, this was an impulsive act and once she realised what she had done she experienced intense remorse. The police recovered the phone the same night and it was given back

Caitlin missed her Community Corrections reporting date by one day. She attended thinking that she had the right day but was told to leave. She went to the local court to explain the situation to a court administrator

but was told that she had breached. Caitlin became very distressed and approached a CRC court support worker and an appointment was made for Caitlin to go to Miranda Place the following day.

With the help of her Miranda Place case worker, Caitlin has now applied for NDIS so that she can start to receive much needed mental health and disability supports. Her CRC worker helped Caitlin to submit a transfer for housing closer to the hospital where she currently has plasma transfusions, and she will receive counselling with Victims Services at Miranda Place in the next month.

When Caitlin attended court regarding the stolen phone, Miranda Place provided a letter of support for court indicating that Caitlin was engaged with the Miranda Program and explaining the difficulties she faced. Sue also attended court as an emotional support for Caitlin and the magistrate noted that the support letter from Miranda Place was a significant factor in Caitlin not receiving custodial sentence.

Caitlin was given a three year good behaviour bond and must report to police weekly. We continue to work with Caitlin to help her to access much needed support.

 Cathy had been homeless and couch surfing for two years when she heard about Miranda Place through Jailbreak Radio. Although she was heavily pregnant



she had to carry all her belongings with her in a small suitcase, not knowing where she would be staying from one day to the next. Anxious and exhausted, Cathy came to Miranda and received help in applying for housing, ensuring her Centrelink payments continued and accessing toiletries, food and supplies. Miranda Place was also a much needed safe space where she could relax, have a cup of tea or some lunch, and talk to someone who could offer her practical and emotional support.

One day Cathy came into Miranda to follow up another call with housing and she was told there was a property for her and she needed to inspect it that day. She burst into tears, not believing that her days of dragging a bag around and living in fear might be over.

With the help of other programs at CRC, Cathy was supported to view the property that day and signed the lease the very next day. The next hurdle was that while she had a property it was completely empty- no furniture or household items. Again, with the support of a range of CRC workers, donations and referrals to services the efforts to furnish this empty space began. Cathy's home was furnished and she was set up just in time for her baby to arrive.

Cathy says she now feels safe having a place to sleep where she doesn't need to be afraid anymore, and is looking forward to starting a fresh new life with her baby.



Broken Hill and Wilcannia Transitional and Reintegration Service

This project works with men and women on release from prison into the Broken Hill and/or Wilcannia Regions who are Indigenous, have experienced multiple and complex disadvantage and are at risk of ongoing criminal justice system involvement. CRC transitional workers offer pre-release support and planning along with short, medium and long-term intensive holistic case management. Clients of CRC talked with staff in 2017/2018 in preparation for the CRC submission to the Upper House Inquiry into the need for rehabilitation services in regional and remote settings in NSW. These stories go some way in illustrating the challenges of the provision of support for people with complex needs when support services are not available.

BROKEN HILL

| | MEN | WOMEN | INDIGENOUS | NON-INDIGENOUS | CALD |
|---|-----|-------|------------|----------------|------|
|  118 | 83 | 35 | 116 | 2 | |

WILCANNIA

| | MEN | WOMEN | INDIGENOUS | NON-INDIGENOUS | CALD |
|--|-----|-------|------------|----------------|------|
|  27 | 16 | 11 | 27 | | |

 "I was eight years old when my father first used me to assist him with break and enters by putting me into open windows so that I could unlock the back door for him. Dad sold or traded the stuff we stole to buy drugs for him and his mates. I was twelve years old when I first started using drugs. I used drugs to forget about the things I had done and things that were done to me. My mother was also an addict and Mum and Dad were constantly fighting. My father would bash my mother, end up in jail and then come out and do the same thing over and over. I am now aged 20. I sat in jail for five months waiting for an opportunity to have a bed available in a rehab. A bail application could not be considered until I had a bed. Eventually I was bailed to attend rehab at Foot Steps in Port Augusta — some four hours away

from my family. I have a younger brother aged 11 and I was in constant fear that the things that happened to me were happening to him. Being four hours away made it difficult to communicate with my brother and other family. During my stay I found it very difficult and due to distance, my family were unable to visit"

 "I was molested, bashed, I suffered a childhood of every type of abuse. Mum ran around with all her different boyfriends, gambled all her money away, was constantly high on drugs and I was left looking after my ten half siblings. By 11 years old I had attempted suicide and by 12, I was using hard drugs. The only time I feel good is when I use drugs – it takes my pain away. Every partner I've had as an adult has abused me, fed my drug habit, aided in my criminal record. I didn't know what support was until I met

my case manager, she supported me onto methadone, although I still use sometimes, supports me with court, introduced me to a psychologist, MERIT and saved my housing being terminated. When I get better I want to study counselling so I can help people like me too. I would go to rehab if there was one in town, but I need to see my children, they are all I live for, even though they were taken”.

 Recently CRC supported a young Barkindji woman to travel from Broken Hill to Sydney to attend rehab because of a court ordered rehabilitation. This was the first time rehab had been suggested to her – or organised for her – despite being an intravenous drug user since the age of 13. CRC provided brokerage for her flight to Sydney and clothing and bags for her stay. In the days leading up to her admission she became stressed and anxious at the thought of not seeing her children and immediate



family for three months. Her drug use spiraled as she struggled to come to terms with leaving everything she knew. She had never flown before or travelled to anywhere as big as Sydney. She was emotionally distressed when she left, as was her family. She lasted 48 hours in rehab in Sydney. The experience of being utterly disconnected from her country and family while trying to detox from ice proved just too challenging. She was highly vulnerable, and CRC assisted her to return home urgently. CRC are now in the process of trying to find another rehab for her, or she faces returning to prison again.



Employment Pathways Program

The Employment Pathways Program is an innovative crime prevention service delivery project initiated this year and focused on supporting men and women who have had adverse contact with the criminal justice system.

The project works to reduce crime, re-offending and anti-social behaviour by providing alternative pathways for people who are in custody who have the goal of obtaining employment post-release. The coordinator of the Employment Pathways Program has commenced running employment readiness workshops in select correctional centres, and also offers employment focused case-work support post-release. Although still in its early days, early signs are that the program is proving highly successful with 100% of all graduates of the workshops who have been released, finding employment. We look forward to reporting on the outcomes of the project next year.

NDIS Transitional Support

The Community Restorative Centre supports people with disabilities across all of our transitional, reintegration, housing and AOD projects.

CRC recognises that many people in the criminal justice system have disabilities and that finding the right support both inside and outside of prison can be extremely challenging. Although CRC has in the past operated accommodation and support services specifically for people with disabilities, these services are no longer operational.

CRC currently operates an NDIS pathways project which works closely with the Additional Support Unit at Long Bay, and with multiple stakeholders across the community to try and improve access to the NDIS and community-based services for people with disabilities and criminal justice system involvement.

CRC is also very involved in advocating for the rights of people with disabilities in the criminal justice system, particularly regarding the frequently reduced service provision people with disabilities are receiving under the NDIS.

 James is a 23 years old man who has an intellectual disability. He is legally deaf and has epilepsy. From a young age James was known to FACS, and his family has a history of drug and alcohol addiction, child neglect and regular involvement with the police. As a child, James was left unsupervised most of the time and didn't receive any support or intervention. He was unable to communicate and knew no sign language except pointing.

When James was charged with assault, he couldn't be given bail as there was no safe place for him to go. James had an epileptic fit on the way to prison and was handcuffed and restrained throughout. The prison was given no information about him except that he was deaf, had epilepsy and could be aggressive. Due to miscommunication, it was believed he had autism.

James was initially placed in a medical cell and later in hospital as there was nowhere safe to put him. Although not an ideal environment, it did mean his medication was managed and his epilepsy was controlled.

James met with a CRC caseworker while he was in custody and she facilitated the process of applying for the NDIS, including assisting him with his application. Because the CRC worker recognised the difficulties James had communicating, James was able to get his plan escalated. Within two weeks he received funding for 30 Auslan lessons and interpreting sessions, one on one support, and four hours a week of community access.

As a consequence of establishing support in the community, James was granted bail two days after his NDIS funding came through. He was released to a family member's address. For the first time he was able to communicate his own preferences in terms of accommodation through the Auslan interpreters CRC had organised.

CRC continues to help James find safe and supported accommodation so that he can live in the community. CRC also helps James to use the services the NDIS provides him, and advocates for James to make sure that his plan with the NDIS can change as his needs change

Post-Release Music & Arts

Songbirds: Ballads Behind Bars

The CRC Post-Release Music & Arts project provides song writing and arts workshops inside select NSW prisons and provides community-based workshops for people at risk of criminal justice system involvement.

The project engages professional songwriters and artists to support, teach and mentor people in prison, and on release, and partners with other music and arts providers to facilitate access. This service has been supported by the City of Sydney and the Thyne Reid Foundation.

The Post-Release Music and Arts project works to:

- Develop unique creative opportunities for vulnerable populations who have frequently been unable to access mainstream opportunities;
- Create meaningful community pathways after prison for people with long histories of disadvantage;
- Facilitate the development of identity and sense of belonging outside of criminal justice settings;
- Facilitate paid work opportunities in creative industries;
- Reduce social isolation and other risk factors that frequently contribute to ongoing criminal justice system involvement; and
- Make really beautiful art and music.



Andrew was one of the singer songwriters to emerge from the first Songbirds songwriting workshop at OMMPC. Andrew was 23 and had grown up in Western Sydney. He hoped that the songs he wrote would help him to reconcile with his partner, from whom he was separated, and to express his love for his children.

Working closely with facilitators for three hours a week over a month, he crafted two original songs, as well as mentoring and encouraging fellow workshop members. During the last workshop he was recorded live, singing and playing guitar on his compositions. The tracks, along with other contributions, were taken to Fuddsville Studios and enhanced, arranged and mixed by coordinator and musician, Murray Cook. Murray then returned to the facility the next week with the finished mixes on CDs which were distributed to all participants who were able to hear the songs written inside produced professionally.

The general reaction from both the course attendees and casual listeners was incredibly positive. The individual songwriters were given APRA (Australian Performing Rights Association) forms to fill out, so that their compositions could be registered. Andrew's songs were played, along with two others, on the Jailbreak radio program on Koori Radio, 2SER and community stations state-wide. Because he was registered with APRA, he received a small royalty for airplay of his songs.

Once released, Andrew was encouraged by Murray to attend some of the free courses offered by the Redfern Community Centre (RCC), and to think about pursuing a career as a singer/songwriter because of his prodigious talent. He attended a jam session at RCC where he was pleased to meet other aspiring writer/performers, one of whom turned out to be a long-lost cousin! His parents and family were very proud of the beautiful songs he wrote and sang, especially his children.

Andrew was asked to perform at the Songbirds program launch party at the RCC, which was attended by a good crowd. His songs were greeted with rapturous applause, and despite his initial nerves, he was elated. He was also paid for his performance. Since then he has performed a few shows in his local areas, and attended a few courses at RCC, with hopes to further

study music at TAFE and to write and perform an original CD. He credits music and song writing as a great way to divert his anger, and express feelings in a safe and acceptable manner, and so far has not returned to custody. He finds playing and singing as a great way to relax when he comes home from working at his construction job, and a way to meet new people.

Treasurers Report

I am pleased to report that the Community Restorative Centre Limited (CRC) is in a healthy financial position at 30 June 2018.

The deficit for 2017/18 was \$134,376, compared to a surplus of \$95,650 for the previous year. This move into deficit for the year reflects the ongoing shift in funding mix foreshadowed in last year's annual report towards more "fee for service" models. Notwithstanding this shift, the result reflects careful management of project and administration costs across all of the company's activities.

Grant funding and other operating income was \$5,421,558, a decrease of \$1,175,569 on the prior year largely as a result of a shift away from funding from NSW Family & Community Services - Ageing, Disability and Home Care projects. Costs of delivery on projects were successfully managed to budgets.

At 30 June 2018 the retained earnings were \$2,272,835, enabling CRC to face ongoing funding challenges and changes in focus with confidence. The retained earnings are invested conservatively in low risk cash deposits.

Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June 2018 were \$4,118,838, a decrease of \$1,732,301 compared to 30 June 2017 as grant income received in advance was spent on projects. Grant income received in advance or unexpended at 30 June 2018 totalled \$1,522,861, a decrease of \$1,434,001 compared to 30 June 2017.

The trend towards more "fee for service" funding models continues, and administration costs are becoming increasingly hard to fund through grant funding. CRC continues to be economically dependent on government grants and we are especially grateful to those funding bodies that continue to support the full costs of the organisation. As 2018/19 unfolds alternative funding sources will become more important and these are now being explored and pursued. CRC is committed to a sustainable and prudent cost structure to make sure that the community receives value for money in delivering improved social outcomes at a fair and transparent cost.

In relation to managing the Company's finances, regular financial reporting to the CEO and the Board has improved again this year, offering additional insightful information on which to make sound investments and decisions. I would like to thank management and staff for their efforts and hard work in continuing to deliver high quality services during the past year.

Ian Farmer

Financial Report — 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

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Director's Report

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

The Directors present the operating report of the Community Restorative Centre Limited for the year ending 30 June 2018 and report as follows:-

NAMES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The names and positions of the Directors who held office during the year were:

| Name | Position Held |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| R McCausland | Director/Chair |
| J Paget | Director/Vice Chair |
| P MacGillivray | Director/Secretary |
| I Farmer | Director |
| S Loveday | Director |
| G Gahan | Director |
| M Levy | Director |
| N Lojszczyk | Director (app. 15/11/17) |
| V Ruis | Director (res. 5/4/2018) |

The Directors were in office for the whole of the financial year unless otherwise stated.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities are detailed in the annual report provided to all members of the Company prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Community Restorative Centre Limited provides pre and post release support to prisoners ex-prisoners and their families through a range of services. These services include outreach counselling and casework services, supported accommodation, subsidised transport to rural correctional centres, a court support service, outreach to prisons, health promotion, on-site living support programs, training to other NSW services and information and advice about the criminal justice system in NSW.

There has been no significant change in the nature of the Company's principal activities from the previous year.

OPERATING RESULT

The operating result of the Company for the financial year was an operating deficit of \$134,376 (2017: Surplus \$95,650).

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN STATE OF AFFAIRS

There were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company during the financial year.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors and is signed for and on behalf of the Directors by:



R McCausland
Director



I Farmer
Director

Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307c of the Corporations Act 2001 to the Directors of Community Restorative Centre Limited

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2018 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the Auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the Audit; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Conroy Audit and Advisory

David R Conroy
Principal
Level 2, 154 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dated this 26th day of September 2018

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

| | Note | 2018 \$ | 2017 \$ |
|--------------------------------------|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Current assets | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4 | 4,118,838 | 5,851,189 |
| Trade and other receivables | 5 | 411,012 | 108,503 |
| <i>Total current assets</i> | | <u>4,529,850</u> | <u>5,959,692</u> |
| Non-current assets | | | |
| Financial assets | 6 | 2,678 | 2,129 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 7 | 44,261 | 88,675 |
| <i>Total non-current assets</i> | | <u>46,939</u> | <u>90,804</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | <u>4,576,789</u> | <u>6,050,496</u> |
| LIABILITIES | | | |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 8 | 1,845,577 | 3,322,975 |
| Provisions | 9 | 458,377 | 320,310 |
| <i>Total current liabilities</i> | | <u>2,303,954</u> | <u>3,643,285</u> |
| Non-current liabilities | | | |
| Provisions | 9 | - | - |
| <i>Total non-current liabilities</i> | | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | <u>2,303,954</u> | <u>3,643,285</u> |
| NET ASSETS | | <u>2,272,835</u> | <u>2,407,211</u> |
| EQUITY | | | |
| Retained earnings | | <u>2,272,835</u> | <u>2,407,211</u> |
| TOTAL EQUITY | | <u>2,272,835</u> | <u>2,407,211</u> |

Statement of Profit or Loss and other Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

| | Note | 2018 \$ | 2017 \$ |
|--|------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Revenue | 2 | 5,421,558 | 6,597,127 |
| Other income | 2 | 99,654 | 95,330 |
| | | <u>5,521,212</u> | <u>6,692,457</u> |
| Expenses | | | |
| Staff costs | | (3,920,857) | (3,903,066) |
| Administration expenses | | (322,856) | (463,733) |
| Depreciation | 3 | (44,414) | (280,802) |
| Motor vehicle expenses | | (205,510) | (145,078) |
| Office accommodation | | (249,654) | (194,733) |
| Other expenses | | (579,109) | (1,243,824) |
| Project expenses | | (325,531) | (336,348) |
| Repairs and maintenance | | (2,894) | (15,809) |
| Subscriptions | | (4,763) | (13,414) |
| | | <u>(5,655,588)</u> | <u>(6,596,807)</u> |
| Profit before income tax | | (134,376) | 95,650 |
| Income tax expense | | - | - |
| Profit for the year | | (134,376) | 95,650 |
| Other comprehensive income for the year | | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | | <u>(134,376)</u> | <u>95,650</u> |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

| | Retained Earnings \$ | Total \$ |
|--|----------------------------|------------------|
| Balance at 1 July 2016 | 2,311,561 | 2,311,561 |
| Comprehensive income | | |
| Profit for the year | 95,650 | 95,650 |
| Other comprehensive income | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | <u>95,650</u> | <u>95,650</u> |
| Balance at 30 June 2017 | <u>2,407,211</u> | <u>2,407,211</u> |
| Balance at 1 July 2017 | 2,407,211 | 2,407,211 |
| Comprehensive income | | |
| Profit for the year | (134,376) | (134,376) |
| Other comprehensive income | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | <u>(134,376)</u> | <u>(134,376)</u> |
| Balance at 30 June 2018 | <u>2,272,835</u> | <u>2,272,835</u> |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

| | 2018 \$ | 2017 \$ |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | |
| Receipts from customers and government | 5,827,265 | 7,256,112 |
| Payments to suppliers and employees | (7,659,163) | (6,705,600) |
| Donations received | 41,290 | 18,488 |
| Interest received | 44,857 | 66,925 |
| <i>Net cash flows from operating activities</i> | <u>(1,745,751)</u> | <u>635,925</u> |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | |
| Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment | 13,400 | 41,975 |
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment | - | (66,410) |
| <i>Net cash flows from investing activities</i> | <u>13,400</u> | <u>(24,435)</u> |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | (1,732,351) | 611,490 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year | <u>5,851,189</u> | <u>5,239,699</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year | 4 <u><u>4,118,838</u></u> | <u><u>5,851,189</u></u> |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

Note 1 - Summary of significant accounting policies

Basis of preparation

Community Restorative Centre Limited applies Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements as set out in AASB 1053: *Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards*.

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*. The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australia Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

The company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity during the time that he or she is a member or within one year thereafter.

Comparatives

Where required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Income Tax

The Company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

Note 1 - Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Amounts disclosed as revenue are net of returns, trade allowances and duties and taxes including goods and services tax (GST). Revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows:

Members subscriptions

The subscription fee is paid by members of the Company and is recognised over the period of membership.

Grants (including government grants) and donations

Income arising from the contribution of an asset (including cash) is recognised when the following conditions have been satisfied:

- (a) the Company obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution;
- (b) it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the Company; and
- (c) the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably at the fair value of the consideration received.

Interest

Revenue from interest is recognised on an accruals basis.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of twelve months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and bank overdrafts.

Trade receivables

For all sources of recurrent income, trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, less a provision for impairment.

Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts, which are known to be uncollectible, are written off. A provision for impairment is established when there is objective evidence that the Company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate. The amount of the provision is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

Property, plant and equipment

Recognition and measurement

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. These are included in the statement of comprehensive income.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

Note 1 - Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight line basis over the asset's useful life to the Company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation effective life used for each class of depreciable assets is:

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Motor vehicles | 3-5 years |
| Office equipment | 5 years |

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Impairment of assets

At each reporting date, the Company reviews the carrying costs of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less the costs to sell the value-in-use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement. Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the individual asset, the Company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Impairment losses are reversed when there is an indication that the impairment loss may no longer exist and there has been a change in the estimate used to determine the recoverable amount.

Financial instruments

The Company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, accounts receivable and accounts payable.

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets this is equivalent to the date that the Company commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset.

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transactions costs except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss" in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at either fair value, amortised cost using the effective interest rate method or cost. *Fair value* represents the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

Note 1 - Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Financial instruments (continued)

Amortised cost is calculated as the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments and any reduction for impairment, and adjusted for any cumulative amortisation of the difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount calculated using the *effective interest method*.

The *effective interest method* is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying value with a consequential recognition of an income or expense in profit or loss.

Non-derivative financial assets

The Company classifies its non-derivative financial assets in the following categories: financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, held-to-maturity investments, and available-for-sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its non-derivative financial assets at initial recognition and re-evaluates this designation at each reporting date.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

This category has two sub-categories: financial assets held for trading, and those designated at fair value through profit or loss on initial recognition. A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term or if so designated by management. The policy of management is to designate a financial asset if the possibility exists that it will be sold in the short term and the asset is subject to frequent changes in fair value. Assets in this category are classified as current assets if they are either held for trading or are expected to be realised within 12 months of the end of the reporting period.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They arise when the Company provides money, goods or services directly to a debtor with no intention of selling the receivable. They are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the end of the reporting period which are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in receivables in the statement of financial position.

Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial asset with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that the Company's management has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

Note 1 - Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Financial instruments (continued)

Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets, comprising principally marketable equity securities, are non-derivatives that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories. They are included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities (excluding financial guarantees) are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Fair value estimation

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes. The nominal value less estimated credit adjustments of trade receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values. The fair value of financial liabilities for disclosure purposes is estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate that is available to the Company for similar financial instruments.

Impairment

At the end of each reporting period, the Company assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expire or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the Company no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are either discharged, cancelled or expire. The difference between the carrying value of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Company during the reporting period, which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability. The carrying amount of trade and other payables is deemed to reflect fair value.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

Note 1 - Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may not satisfy vesting requirements. Those cash outflows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The Company evaluates estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Company.

Key estimates

Impairment

The Company assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluation of conditions and events specific to the Company that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are reassessed using value-in-use calculations, which incorporate various key assumptions.

Estimation of useful lives of assets

The estimation of the useful lives of assets has been based on historical experience as well as manufacturers' warranties (for plant and equipment) and turnover policies (for motor vehicles). In addition, the condition of the assets is assessed at least once per year and considered against the remaining useful life. Adjustments to useful lives are made when considered necessary.

Australian Accounting Standards Not Effective

The Company has not yet applied any Australian Accounting Standards or interpretations that have been issued as at balance date but are not yet operative for the year ended 30 June 2018 (the "inoperative standards"). The impact of the inoperative standards has been assessed and identified as not being material. The Company only intends to adopt inoperative standards at the date which their adoption becomes mandatory.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

Note 2 - Revenue

Revenue

| | 2018 \$ | 2017 \$ |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Members subscriptions | 241 | 276 |
| B Miles Women's Foundation grant | 254,868 | 247,022 |
| Newtown Neighborhood Centre Incorporated grant | 105,988 | 85,997 |
| Womens Housing Company Ltd grant | 207,902 | 213,502 |
| Wentworth Community Housing Limited grant | 184,987 | 179,099 |
| NSW Justice, Corrective Services NSW grant | 521,487 | 683,685 |
| Department of Health grant | - | 223,802 |
| NSW Health, Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services | 283,612 | 276,064 |
| NSW Family & Community Services Ageing, Disability and Home Care Grant | 1,501,142 | 3,472,683 |
| Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet | 650,000 | 650,000 |
| Central & Eastern Sydney Primary Health Network | 645,263 | 269,461 |
| Department of Justice, Victims Services | - | 37,722 |
| The Council of the City of Sydney | 6,250 | 18,750 |
| NSW Department of Family and Community Services | 325,783 | - |
| The Richard Southan Memorial Trust Donation | 17,937 | 89,484 |
| Wentwest Limited T/As Western Sydney Primary Health Network | 115,000 | - |
| Broken Hill City Council | 11,100 | - |
| NSW Department of Justice Crime Policy | 56,818 | - |
| Other grants | 76,292 | 88,966 |
| NSW Justice, Legal Aid NSW | 53,421 | 52,791 |
| Recovery from Unexpended Funds | 384,597 | - |
| Other operating revenue | 18,870 | 7,823 |
| | <u>5,421,558</u> | <u>6,597,127</u> |

Other revenue

| | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Donations received | 41,290 | 18,488 |
| Interest income | 44,857 | 66,925 |
| Dividends | 107 | 82 |
| Net gain on the disposal of property, plant and equipment | 13,400 | 9,835 |
| <i>Total other income</i> | <u>99,654</u> | <u>95,330</u> |
| <i>Total revenue and other income</i> | <u>5,521,212</u> | <u>6,692,457</u> |

Note 3 - Expenses

Depreciation

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Office equipment | 1,522 | 1,027 |
| Motor vehicles | 42,892 | 279,775 |
| <i>Total depreciation</i> | <u>44,414</u> | <u>280,802</u> |

Rental expenses relating to operating leases

249,654 194,733

Note 4 - Cash and cash equivalents

| | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Cash at bank and on hand | 4,118,838 | 2,502,981 |
| Short term bank deposits | - | 3,348,208 |
| <i>Total cash and cash equivalents</i> | <u>4,118,838</u> | <u>5,851,189</u> |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

Note 5 - Trade and other receivables

| | 2018 \$ | 2017 \$ |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Current | | |
| Trade receivables | 249,705 | 56,161 |
| Other receivables | 133,832 | 33,488 |
| Accrued income | 2,168 | 3,104 |
| Prepayments | 25,307 | 15,750 |
| <i>Total current trade and other receivables</i> | <u>411,012</u> | <u>108,503</u> |

Note 6 - Financial assets

| | 2018 \$ | 2017 \$ |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Non-current | | |
| Available-for-sale financial assets | 2,678 | 2,129 |
| <i>Total non-current financial assets</i> | <u>2,678</u> | <u>2,129</u> |

Movements in carrying amount

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Net carrying amount at 1 July 2017 | 2,129 | 1,711 |
| Revaluation increment (decrement) | 549 | 418 |
| Net carrying amount at 30 June 2018 | <u>2,678</u> | <u>2,129</u> |

Note 7 - Property, plant and equipment

| | Office Equipment | Motor Vehicles | Total \$ |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| At 30 June 2017 | | | |
| Cost | 2,549 | 366,928 | 369,477 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (1,027) | (279,775) | (280,802) |
| <i>Net carrying amount</i> | <u>1,522</u> | <u>87,153</u> | <u>88,675</u> |
| Movements in carrying amounts | | | |
| Net carrying amount at 1 July 2017 | 1,522 | 87,153 | 88,675 |
| Additions | - | - | - |
| Disposals | - | - | - |
| Depreciation charge for the year | (1,522) | (42,892) | (44,414) |
| Net carrying amount at 30 June 2018 | <u>-</u> | <u>44,261</u> | <u>44,261</u> |

Note 8 - Trade and other payables

| | 2018 \$ | 2017 \$ |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Current | | |
| Trade payables | 47,798 | 38,647 |
| Grants received in advance | 1,096,682 | 3,422 |
| Grants unexpended | 426,179 | 2,953,440 |
| Liabilities to employees | 274,918 | 237,373 |
| Other payables | - | 90,073 |
| <i>Total current trade and other payables</i> | <u>1,845,577</u> | <u>3,322,975</u> |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018

Note 9 - Provisions

| | 2018 \$ | 2017 \$ |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Current | | |
| Office relocation | 112,712 | 43,617 |
| Employee entitlements – annual leave | 236,898 | 179,332 |
| Employee entitlements - long service leave | 108,767 | 97,361 |
| <i>Total current provisions</i> | <u>458,377</u> | <u>320,310</u> |
| Non-current | | |
| Employee entitlements - long service leave | - | - |
| <i>Total non-current provisions</i> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

Note 10 - Key management personnel

Remuneration of key management personnel

| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| The aggregate amount of compensation paid to key personnel during the year was: | <u>378,296</u> | <u>341,967</u> |
|---|----------------|----------------|

Note 11 - Commitments

Operating lease commitments

Non-cancellable operating lease commitments are as follows:

| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Within one year | 141,453 | 200,583 |
| Later than one year but not later than five years | 2,273 | 56,068 |
| | <u>143,726</u> | <u>256,651</u> |

The company has six separate property leases and each are non-cancellable leases expiring at different times. An option exists to renew the lease at the end of the term for an additional number of years. The leases allow for subletting and some are on a month to month basis. The company is also in the process of signing a new Lease at Canterbury. The company has decided to move to these premises from its Broadway office.

Note 12 - Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions that occurred in which a member of the Management Committee received or became entitled to receive a benefit, other than remunerated benefits disclosed above.

Note 13 - Economic dependency

The company considers that it is economically dependent on revenue received from the Commonwealth and State Government Departments with respect to its programs. The Directors believe that this revenue will continue to be made available to the company although, a number of funded programs will be approaching the end of their funding period at 30 June 2018 and a new tender will be required to be submitted to retain that funding. The total amount of government funding received during the financial year was \$5,402,477 (2017: \$6,589,029) and this represented 98% of total revenues (2017: 98%).

Note 14 - Contingent liabilities

At balance date the Management Committee is not aware of the existence of any contingent liability.

Note 15 - Events occurring after balance date

There were no significant events occurring after balance date.

Directors' Declaration

Community Restorative Centre Limited. ABN 75 411 263 189
Financial Report — 30 June 2018



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY RESTORATIVE CENTRE LIMITED

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion:

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Community Restorative Centre Limited which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statement of profit or loss, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Community Restorative Centre Limited is in accordance with Div 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended;
- ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 : *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2018, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance or conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of The Directors for the Financial Report

The Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The directors of the registered entity declare that, in the directors' opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:
 - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Community Restorative Centre Limited as at 30 June 2018 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Community Restorative Centre Limited will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This declaration is made in accordance with subs 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R McCausland'.

R McCausland
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Farmer'.

Ian Farmer
Director

26th September 2018

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the company to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
 - Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 company's internal control.
 - Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
 - Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
 - Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation
- We communicate with the Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David R Conroy".

David R Conroy
Principal
Level 2, 154 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dated this 26th day of September 2018



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