

2018

Life Education Queensland ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Empowering our children and young people to make safer and healthier choices through education

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Our Patrons



The Honourable Robert Borbidge AO

The Honourable Robert Borbidge AO was the 35th Premier of Queensland and served in the State Parliament as Member for Surfers Paradise for more than 20 years.

During this time, he held several senior positions including senior ministries, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Leader of the Opposition and Premier.

Since his resignation from parliament in 2001, he has held numerous board positions in both private and publicly-listed companies.

In 2006 Mr Borbidge was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia and awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Griffith University.

He is currently Chair of the Board of Advice for the Institute for Glycomics at Griffith University; a member of the Council of Griffith University; and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Friends of Griffith University (incorporated in the USA).

Mr Borbidge is Chairman of Life Flight Australia – one of the world's largest not-for-profit aero-medical and rescue providers servicing 75 percent of Queensland's population with a fleet of 13 helicopters and three jets, operating from eight bases across the state. He is also Chair of the Legacy Committee for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games; Chair of Study Gold Coast, a collaborative venture between the region's major universities and education providers and Senior Counsel for Government advisory services group GovStrat.

Mr Borbidge also served on the Independent Distribution Committee for the public appeal for victims of the 2016 Dreamworld tragedy.



The Honourable Dr Anthony Lynham

The Honourable Dr Anthony Lynham is the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. Before entering parliament as the Member for Brisbane seat of Stafford in 2014, Dr Lynham worked as a maxillofacial surgeon. As a surgeon who continuously dealt with the aftermath of violence, Dr Lynham was a prominent advocate of policies to minimise alcohol-fuelled violence, prior to entering parliament.

Dr Lynham graduated in medicine from the University of Newcastle and completed his maxillofacial surgery training in Queensland. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. Dr Lynham spent most of his medical career at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and is part of a research team at Prince Charles Hospital. He has also served in the Australian Army.

Dr Lynham is an Adjunct Professor at QUT and an Associate Professor at the University of Queensland's (UQ) School of Medicine.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



After 32 years of making a difference in Queensland, and 40 years nationally, Life Education continues to evolve from strength to strength.

In the past year, 229,611 Queensland children have accessed our health and education resources and of those, 201,036 children were directly engaged with Life Education's face-to-face health education program through our innovative mobile learning classrooms. This reach is testament to the vision and strategy of our CEO and Board, and the dedication of our amazing team of educators, management, staff and volunteers across the state. I'd also like to acknowledge the tireless efforts of our local committees in Toowoomba, Bundaberg, Central Queensland, Townsville and the Moreton Region.

Life Education's exceptional community impact was made possible because of our many supporters.

To parents, school principals, teachers, donors, the Queensland Government, the Primary Health Network, Communities for Children, Teachers Mutual Bank and our many other partners, I extend a heart-felt thank you.

As Queensland's largest children's charity providing health education to students across the state, from prep to high school, Life Education has a clear mission – to empower children and young people to make safe and healthy choices for life. Through the support of the community, we are putting this belief into action every day in schools across the length and breadth of Queensland.

Put simply, our work is made possible because there is a community of people

who believe in the power of preventative education ... who believe that every child is unique and precious ... and that every child deserves the best possible start in life.

Our educators and our mobile learning centres could never hope to reach the most remote regions of our great state without a team of people who make that possible. Through education, we're helping to instil in the minds of young people, many of the protective behaviours they need to grow up safe and healthy. From sun safety, to healthy eating and safety with medicines, to online safety, healthy relationships and the avoidance of harm from smoking, alcohol and illegal drugs - we are a team that's empowering young people with the knowledge and vital skills and strategies to keep them safe from harm.

So, I want to thank you most sincerely for being part of our team. As you read through this annual report, I hope you will be truly inspired by the difference we're making in the lives of children and young people, and I hope you'll continue this journey with us.

In order to continue to make a difference in young lives, preventative education must be constantly reinforced. Each year, a fresh cohort of tens of thousands of young Queenslanders start school, and it is our goal, that Healthy Harold and Life Education will always be there, along with teachers and parents, to support, guide and empower them to make positive choices and live happy and healthy lives.

Peter Morgan Chairman Life Education Queensland

CEO'S REPORT

In 1979, the Wayside Crisis Centre in Kings Cross was a place where many young people sought refuge, help and understanding in their struggle with poverty, homelessness and addiction to alcohol and other drugs.

The centre was the vision of the late Ted Noffs, a remarkable Australian whose work to rehabilitate and re-build the lives of young Australians led him to a deep appreciation of the importance of prevention. Ted saw how challenging it was to rescue lives when so much damage was already done. He saw the unique potential within each human being and how often a poor decision at an early age could lead to that potential never being realised.

As a result, Ted founded Life Education 40 years ago, as an organisation dedicated to enhancing children's health and wellbeing. Our vision is generations of healthy young Australians living to their full potential.

Ted's passion for improving health outcomes for young Australians led to the Life Education program commencing in Queensland just eight years later in 1987. Since that time, more than 1.5 million Queenslanders have experienced Life Education's work and our program is stronger than ever.

In 2018, a total of 229,611 Queensland students received important health education resources through our partnership with 9,538 classroom teachers. Of these, 201,036 young people received face-to-face health education via Life Education educators working in more than 850 Queensland schools and pre-schools. This is a remarkable turn-around from 2013, barely five years ago, when our educators were able to reach only 107,000 Queensland children, with Life Education unable to fund services in many regional and remote areas of the state, resulting in many schools missing out on this important program.

Today, thanks to the support of successive state Governments through Queensland Health, the Life Education program now stretches from Coolangatta to the Cape and from Cunnamulla to Camooweal. There is not a community in Queensland that Life Education doesn't have the capability to reach, making our health education program accessible to any school and community that needs our support.

In addition, Life Education now has a database of more than 29,000 parents, teachers and donors in Queensland who are active partners in our work, extending our reach from the classroom into the home. As we move into the future, Life Education will play an increasing part in supporting parents in their critical role of raising healthy and resilient children.

Today, our young people are facing challenges that were unforeseen 40 years ago. Whilst their physical health remains a priority in the face of rising rates of overweight children and childhood obesity, as well as the dangers associated with alcohol and other drugs, the social and emotional wellbeing of children is also paramount and inextricably linked to physical health. To quote the World Health Organisation, "health is a state of



complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."

Life Education's program embraces and emphasises this holistic approach, and we look forward to continuing to work with the Queensland government, teachers, parents and the wider community to ensure that young Queenslanders receive the best possible start in life.

Michael Fawsitt CEO Life Education Queensland

LIFE EDUCATION

is Queensland's largest provider of health and drug education to children and young people.

In excess of **1.5 million** students have participated in our program over the past 32 years.

Our Vision

Generations of healthy young Australians living to their full potential

Our Mission

Moreton Bay District

To empower our children and young people to make safer and healthier choices through education



ABOUT LIFE EDUCATION

Life Education is Queensland's largest children's charity providing health and drug education to students right across the state, from prep to high school. Our studentfocused, interactive and fun education program covers everything from nutrition, exercise, drugs and alcohol, to bullying, cybersafety, sexual health and respectful relationships.

Through his work at the Wayside Crisis Centre in Kings Cross in Sydney, Life Education founder the late Ted Noffs witnessed first-hand how drugs and alcohol addiction was impacting on the lives of young Australians. While committed to providing crisis relief and rehabilitation, he wanted to also reach out to young people before they were in crisis, seeing an urgent need for a greater focus on prevention through health education. His vision, and belief that each child is unique and could be empowered through education to make better choices, led to the formation of Life Education.

Remarkably, Life Education has now reached a 40-year milestone in preventative health education, with more than six million Australians experiencing our annual program nationally and more than 700,000 children from preschool through to high school taking part each year. Experienced educators, innovative 3-D technology and our friendly iconic mascot, Healthy Harold the giraffe, help us to engage with children and deliver our message with impact.

Life Education Queensland is an affiliate of Life Education Australia. In 2018, we delivered our program to more than 201,000 Queensland children in partnership with roughly 850 schools and pre-schools, through our team of specialist educators.

With childhood obesity on the rise - and growing concerns about the harms of drugs and alcohol, bullying, cybersafety and social and emotional wellbeing - Life Education's work is more relevant than ever.

Throughout our history, Life Education has continued to adapt its programs, adding new initiatives to meet the needs of classroom teachers and presenting the most relevant information on key health, wellbeing and community issues.

In recent years, we have continued to innovate Life Education's program with the launch of *bCyberwise* in 2013 to help students stay safe online, and Talk About It which was introduced in 2014 to teach children about puberty, relationships and identity. Between 2014 and 2017, our pre-school and junior primary school program modules continued to be upgraded to contain the most relevant content, and 2018 saw the introduction of Relate, Respect, Connect, a unique, contemporary learning experience that explores building positive, safe and respectful relationships face to face and online.

Our approach to education is innovative and engaging. We use a combination of specialist educators, state-of-theart Mobile Learning Centres, and a range of student and teacher resources.

We have a vision to see generations of healthy young Australians living life to their full potential. Each session is designed to motivate, encourage and empower children to exercise informed, healthy lifestyle choices. We achieve this by providing children with:

- Age appropriate health knowledge
- Skills and strategies to counter peer and social pressures
- An understanding of how values and attitudes can influence lifestyle choices and behaviour.

From the early years to secondary school, the Life Education program is highly relevant to the needs of children as they make everyday choices that can impact upon their health and wellbeing.

Tobacco

Early Childhood

Body knowledge Personal safety Healthy lifestyle Social skills

Primary

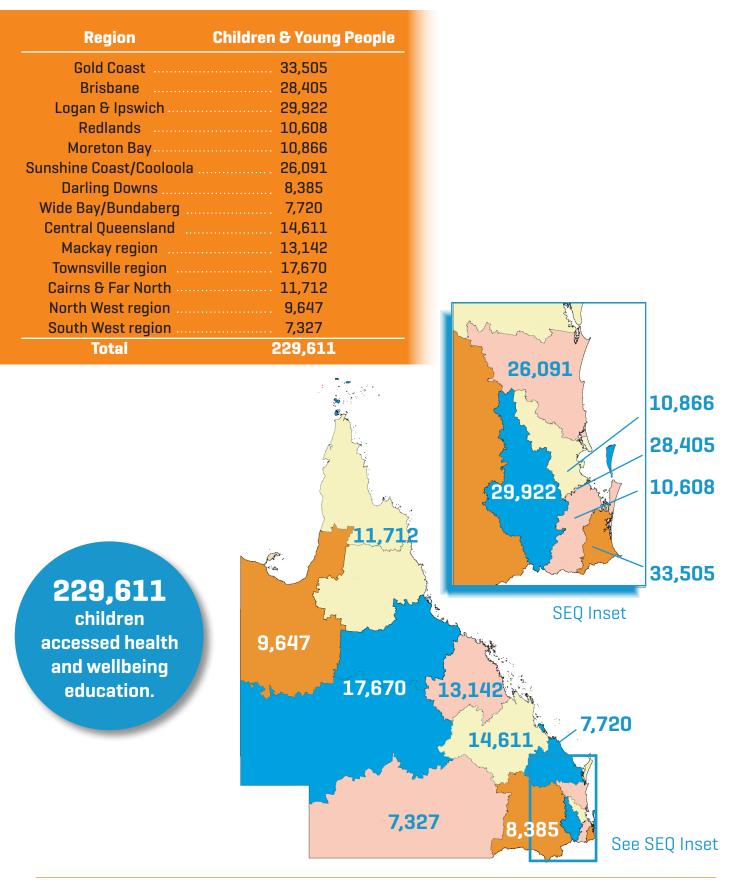
Body knowledge Safety Nutrition Physical activity Pubertv **Respectful relationships** Medicines Cybersafety **Decision** making Tobacco Alcohol

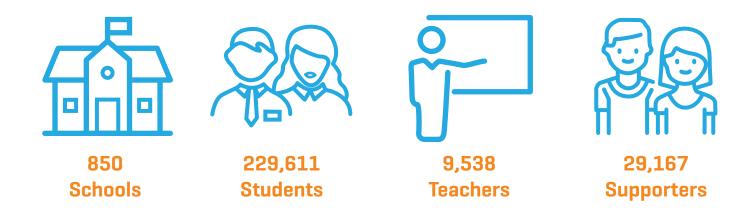
Secondary

Peer pressure Alcohol Decision making Cannabis Sexual health Other drugs

OUR REACH IN 2018

In 2018, total of 229,611 Queensland children and young people accessed vital health and wellbeing education.





If the number of Queensland children who benefited from Life Education's work last year were to stand hand-in-hand, the line would stretch from Coolangatta to Nambour!

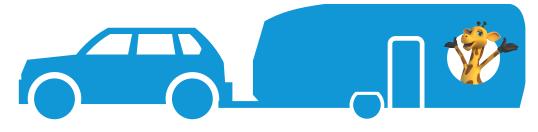


Of the 229,611 children who benefited from our work, 201,036 children received face-to-face health and wellbeing education via our team of community-based health educators.



30 Educators

Our 30 Educators travelled a collective 124,381 kilometres across Queensland to deliver our health and wellbeing program.



20 Mobile Learning Centres

Our iconic mobile learning centres travelled from Coolangatta to the Cape and from Cunnamulla to Camooweal.

201,036 children received face-to-face health and wellbeing education.





EDUCATOR PROFILES

Fulfilling Life Education Queensland's mission would not be possible without our team of passionate and devoted frontline educators. Formally known as the Health Promotion team, they are the 29 men and women who deliver Life Education's drug and health education program, via our mobile classrooms, to schools throughout Queensland - connecting with children, inspiring imaginations, sharing vital health and wellbeing knowledge and empowering young people to make safe and healthy choices for life.

The team is led by Education Manager Sharon Lansley, with three Area Coordinators: Amanda Bennett, Jennifer Hall and Vicki Bombardieri, each supporting a group of 8 – 9 educators, by providing training, relief when team members are ill, organisational and administrative assistance, and the valuable link with the Broadbeach office.

The educator role goes beyond module delivery, with pre visits to schools; resource development; relationship building and administrative tasks all part of the busy job of being a Life Education educator. Positive feedback from school surveys reflects the outstanding quality of work presented by the educators, and the growing number of annual bookings by hundreds of schools are testament to the valuable work they perform.

Educators took part in professional development across two state conferences held in January and July. Covering topics that included updates on illegal drugs, cyberbullying, inclusion strategies and secondary school sexual health, along with presentations from peers showcasing their experiences and learnings, educators were able to increase their skills and knowledge and further develop resources providing them with added inspiration and expertise to incorporate into their sessions.

Two educators were recognised for the service they had given over a number of years. They are:

- Jennifer Rousset (5 years)
- Michele Tabrett (5 years)

Our sincere thanks to our wonderful educators for a highly successful year, and, also to the office staff who provided the ongoing support needed to enable the efficient running of Life Education Queensland.

We asked some of our educators to reflect on their most memorable moments from 2018 and share what they love most about working for Life Education Queensland.

Janet Connolly Educator Gold Coast North

"I have the best job working as a health and drug educator. It's an absolute pleasure and privilege to deliver the Life Ed programs to all the fabulous students and school staff on the northern end of the Gold Coast. I have been working for Life Ed for 15 years and still love the job as educator. I have built up great relationships in the community over the years with all my school families and my Life Ed colleagues. The northern end of the Gold Coast has the best professional teachers and fabulous students."



"My most memorable moment from 2018 was visiting Doomadgee State School - my first time visiting a remote indigenous community. It was a heart-warming experience being able to work with children from a disadvantaged area and it was visible that it was a truly unique experience for them which resulted in many smiles around the school. Working with Life Education provides me with the opportunity to make positive changes in children's lives."

> Brittany Hinz Early Learning Educator Central Queensland



"2018 was the beginning of my work with Life Education and it was a fantastic first year! I don't think I will ever get tired of seeing the excitement and joy on children's faces when they meet Harold for the first time in our Early Learning Program. It is truly magical."



"It is such a wonderful feeling knowing that what I do every day is making a difference in the lives of children in my area. Seeing the look of excitement and wonder on their faces when they enter the MLC is so rewarding."

Emily Trundle Educator Ipswich

"My most memorable moment of 2018 was being nominated for the Mission Australia Communities for Children Ipswich and Inala Child Friendly Excellence awards and being awarded a Highly Commended Individual award. To have my work with Life Education recognised by Communities for Children and to stand beside others who devote their lives to improving the lives of children in Ipswich and Inala was a wonderful experience."



"Certainly, the most rewarding part of my role as Area Coordinator is having the opportunity to deliver such important health education to children across Queensland. Travelling to remote communities where this education is so vital and seeing first-hand the joy that Harold brings the students is something that brings me joy, also."



and Relationships Educator



"My favourite moment from 2018, and every year I run programs, is answering the 'Is this normal?' question and watching a group of young burgeoning adolescents breathe a collective sigh of relief. I love our sexual health educator team: their support, their experience and their humour. We tackle a difficult topic, with political and social obstacles, but our focus - the kids makes everything worth it. I wouldn't do any other job."



"What I love about working with Life Education is working with others who care about achieving better health outcomes for students in Queensland. My most memorable moment from last year was when students told me that they really enjoyed the sessions and that the puberty session was far better than they thought it would be."



"As an educator, we often talk to students about nutrition and the foods we should be eating. However, it is sometimes difficult for those in our remote communities to access fresh meat, fruit and vegetables like we can in metro areas. A visit to the local supermarket allowed me the opportunity to reflect upon my teaching and adjust my lessons to cater to the needs of these students. In the short time we were there, I noticed students making better choices based on our teachings."



"One moment at the forefront for me was having a class of students, all with different learning needs, visit the van for their very first excursion/incursion. The class teacher was grateful their needs had been catered for, and pleasantly surprised when all students enjoyed meeting Harold and engaged well with the health messages and learning. Seeing the faces of the many students we are privileged to visit light up with enthusiasm is both rewarding and motivating."



"I am over the moon to have begun working with Life Education Queensland this year. I distinctly remember Harold coming to visit my school when I was younger and am so honoured to be able to be a part of what is such a memorable learning experience for many young people. I am thrilled to bring to Life Education Queensland the knowledge and skills I have gained through my prior experience as both a primary school teacher and a youth worker, and apply them to Life Education's modules, as I believe strongly in the importance of children having the knowledge and skills to live a safe and healthy life."

Our Early Learning Program

Educating our youngest Queenslanders on safety, healthy eating, physical activity and emotional wellbeing continues to be the focus of Life Education's tailored Early Learning program known as Healthy Harold, Healthy Me. Last year, the Early Learning program continued to be well received throughout Queensland reaching more than 5000 children aged three to five years. The program, linked to the Early Years Learning Framework, consists of three stand-alone modules each with different health focus:

Harold's Summer Holiday: Staying safe incorporating road, sun, water and medications.

Healthy Play Day: Healthy life concepts including eating, physical activity, hygiene and rest.

Thankful Heart: Exploring emotions and gratitude.

Pre and post activities accompany each module to provide support and further learning opportunities for this age group. Complementing this, and extending beyond the classroom, the 'Healthy Harold, Healthy Me' app provides fun activities that are age appropriate, interactive and promote problem solving skills. Comprising six games and featuring Healthy Harold, the free educational app is a terrific resource for children and parents to utilise. The delivery of Healthy Harold, Healthy Me throughout the state was made possible by our primary health and drug educators, when they were able to fit it into their very busy schedules.



Committees also contributed to early

learning delivery with Central Queensland employing Brittany Hinz as a specialist early learning educator, whilst health and drug educators in Townsville (Tim McKean) and Bundaberg (Kathy Bayliss), incorporated a number of sessions.

In a bid to increase our reach and ability to meet the growing popularity and demand for the program, further training is planned in 2019 for educators that are not currently delivering early learning, to enable them to do so when their schedules permit.



Our Primary Health and Drug Program

Throughout 2018, educators were focused on consolidating and continuing to provide their excellent service delivery of our Primary Health and Drug programs to more than 167,000 Queensland students.

Our dedicated team delivered 12 health modules including: staying safe, nutrition, physical activity, medicines, cybersafety and drugs, with particular focus on alcohol and tobacco. Continued funding from Queensland Health, in addition to supporting the delivery of nutrition and alcohol education, has also enabled us to deliver the tobacco module On the Case free of charge to children in regional and remote Queensland.

To showcase the modules and the wonderful work of our educators, numerous representatives from government and funding bodies visited their local mobile learning classroom. Thanks go to those educators from throughout Queensland who facilitated these sessions.

The area coordinators, Amanda Bennett and Jennifer Hall shared teaching out of van 20, and, along with Brad Scarrabelotti, were able to take the program to Western Cape College in Weipa and Doomadgee State School for the third consecutive year.

During the April school holiday, we hosted secondary students from Doomadgee in our purpose-built education centre in Broadbeach. The visit was made possible by Sergeant Melissa Gilbert, branch manager of the PCYC Doomadgee, previously from the Gold Coast, who was able to secure financial support from the Alcohol and Drug Foundation and PCYC Queensland's Indigenous Program. The students, aged between 12 and 17 years, attended a customised session exploring the decision-making process, examining choices, consequences, responsibilities, facts and influences in relation to drugs and alcohol.

We welcomed Sue Osmond, Megan Stacey and Ellen Patane in the Gold Coast, Logan and Gladstone regions respectively, all passionate educators, adding skills and value to our amazing health and drug team. Matt Dowling came on board as our nutrition officer to further strengthen our expertise and module content as well as working in special projects and providing ongoing professional development for our educators.

Across the year, we farewelled Janelle Clancy, Vashti Wilson and at the end of term four, Danielle Cox. Danielle spent nine years with Life Education and was valued as a dedicated, passionate educator. We wish her well with her move and future. The wonderful Claire Dickson, our North West educator, also said farewell to the LEQ family in December, leaving us to start her own family!

We continued our relationship with Nutrition Australia Queensland distributing resources to areas of greatest need while expanding our existing collaboration with Nature Play Queensland, promoting fun outdoor activities for children in the lower primary school through Nature Play Passports.

Our continued partnerships with Mission Australia, Uniting Care, and The Smith Family are also supporting many thousands of children in lower socio-economic communities to access the Life Education program. We are incredibly grateful for this support.



Our Secondary School Program

In 2018, Life Education reached 805 secondary school students with its program *Talk About It* which focuses on healthy relationships and sexual health.

Whilst Life Education now delivers sexual health and relationships education to more than 30,000 Queensland young people, the vast majority of these are in primary school, where the focus is predominantly on puberty. Our experience tells us that the delivery of sexual health education by teachers in both primary and secondary schools is sporadic, and greater support is needed by NGOs to ensure that Queensland young people are empowered to make safe and healthy decisions.

According to Queensland Health, in 2017, there were 34,111 notifications for communicable diseases and related conditions for young Queenslanders, with the leading cause being a sexually transmitted infection (STI) chlamydia which accounted for 53% or 17,969 notifications.

Through our experience, Life Education believes that the issues of drug education, sexual health education and resilience [social and emotional wellbeing] education are intertwined and should be delivered through a more integrated approach, rather than seeing each as separate. Building the resilience skills for effective decision making as well as the skills to create and maintain healthy, respectful relationships, should go hand in hand with drug and sexual health education.

Life Education is well placed to grow into this space, given the very strong awareness of, and respect for our work, among parents, children and teachers. Continuing our education program into secondary schools, building upon what we teach in the primary school years, is an obvious next step that is only constrained by funding.

Life Education has a vision for the secondary school space which encompasses not only educating high school students about their own health and wellbeing but empowering them to act against bullying and cyber bullying, against alcoholrelated violence, sexual violence and domestic violence, and to act against the harms of illicit drugs. Through vital education in this space, we could play a leading role in empowering our young people to stand up and be a positive voice for change in their schools and their communities. That's an exciting vision where Life Education can play a significant role in the future.

Our Sexual Health Program

In the past year, 35,561 children received sexual health education across three modules, *Puberty, Identity* and *Healthy Relationships.* Such was the demand for the program, that all our Talk About It (TAI) educators were fully booked in semester two. Life Education is proud to be able to provide factual, inclusive education that is age appropriate and presented in a non-threatening environment by a passionate group of experienced, professional educators.

During the state conference held in January, educators were trained in *Relate, Respect, Connect*, the new relationships module which covers respectful relationships and sex education including how it applies to the use of technology. The module was then introduced and delivered throughout the year, proving extremely popular with schools right across southeast Queensland.

The *Talk About It* program reach was further expanded as a result of increased funding from the North Queensland Primary Health Network allowing for an educator to be trained and begin delivery three days per week in both Mackay and Cairns.

We welcomed Megan Stanton (Cairns), Megan Humphreys (Mackay) and Natalie Nunan (Brisbane), with the inclusion of all three bringing added experience and expertise to the team. We farewelled Sarah Abraham, who has been an asset to the sexual health team and the organisation over several years. Vicki Bombardieri (North Queensland) took up the position of North Queensland Regional Co-ordinator, overseeing service delivery of educators across the region while continuing her TAI program delivery in Townsville and surrounding areas. While adding an extra layer of support and cohesion to educators in general, this has been particularly beneficial to the implementation of the two new positions in both Cairns and Mackay especially during the training phase. Lane Norman continues to have a strong following on the Sunshine Coast and has forged valuable relationships with schools in her region.

Life Education Victoria expressed interest in implementing the *Talk About It* program and have approved a pilot delivery to three schools in term one, 2019. Vicki Bombardieri will travel to Victoria to deliver this pilot and to provide further professional development and training in the TAI program to the Victorian educator group. We are excited to see the program expand into another state and look forward to working with Life Education Victoria during this phase of implementation.



OUR FUNDRAISING

Without our supporters, who share our vision, we would not be able to continue to reach so many children with our program and therefore make a real difference in the lives of so many young people. Our ongoing fundraising strategies enable us to connect with incredible individuals, organisations and community partners whose contributions are invaluable to Life Education.

Last year, with the help of our community, we experienced solid growth, which enabled us to continue to deliver our message to children in the most remote regions of the state. A big thank you to our supporters. You are making a real difference in the lives of children and that impact will be felt for generations to come.

Fundraising highlights:

- Gambling Community Benefit Fund provided funds to mobile learning centres
- Bundaberg Regional Council provided funding to assist the delivery of our programs in Bundaberg
- Gold Coast City Council supplied funding for our bCyberwise program on the Gold Coast
- Commonwealth Bank supplied funding for work books
- Gin Gin Community bank supplied funding to cover service delivery in 13 local schools
- Mazda Foundation provided funds for the service delivery of the bCyberwise program in Queensland

Jaeda Wollington State Manager QLD & NT Teachers Mutual Bank

"Teachers Mutual Bank is delighted to support Life Education Queensland and the teachers of Queensland in educating young people so they can make informed choices about their health and safety. We understand that teachers are time poor in an already crowded curriculum, so the additional resources provided by Life Education, in conjunction with Life Education's specialist educators in the mobile learning centres, ensure that teachers are supported in cementing the students' learning in the classroom. We believe teachers do one of the most important jobs in the world and by supporting Life Education in their important work we are not only supporting Queensland teachers but whole generations of Queensland students."



OUR FUNDRAISING

Kids Protect

The "Kids' Protect Team" is our regular giving program, where supporters make a monthly donation that helps us continue our work.

This program is vital because it provides us with the financial stability to plan our delivery of vital drug, health and safety programs throughout Queensland.

Our vision is a society in which every child gets the opportunity to learn vital skills and to attend the Life Education program. We want young people to have the resilience, the confidence and the knowledge to make good choices so they can grow up and achieve their full potential.

Our regular giving program has been helping us to fund our programs since 2014. In 2018, we received 85,795 donations from our supporters. With these monthly donations, our supporters are helping children learn to stay safe at home, at school and online. Our supporters help us bring our unique mobile classrooms and educators to Queensland schools, and ensure that no child must deal with adult-size problems alone.

Healthy Harold the giraffe has been helping young Aussies grow up safe for 40 years. Every year Life Education delivers our programs to more than 200,000 Queensland kids. Our skilled educators travel around the state to big cities and rural communities in state-of-the-art, interactive mobile classrooms with Healthy Harold.

But all of this is only possible with the support of our "Kids' Protect Team" monthly donors. By joining our regular giving program; supporters will play a vital part in helping us build a safe and healthier future for Queensland children.

\$20 a month can help a class of children stay safe from bullying



a month can educate a class of teenagers about the dangers of drugs



a month can take Healthy Harold to a school of outback kids

To sign up just go to www.lifeeducationqld.org.au or call us on 07 5572 0166 and ask for Harold.

OUR FUNDRAISING

Ocsober

In 2008, Life Education launched Ocsober - a key national fundraising campaign urging Australians to 'lose the booze' for the month of October and raise funds by encouraging work colleagues, friends and family members to sponsor them.

Over more than a decade, significant media exposure and partnerships with high-profile ambassadors have allowed Ocsober to generate widespread community awareness about the dangers of binge drinking and given participants the opportunity to reflect on their own health behaviours.

Ocsober participants who gave up alcohol, even for a month, cited the benefits of feeling fitter, experiencing more energy and even weight loss. Most importantly, they have set a great example to young Australians.

Although Ocsober will be rested for 2019 as we focus on other fundraising initiatives, the success of the Ocsober campaign, over many years, has enabled Life Education to visit more schools and empower more Australian children to make better choices to lead healthier and safer lives.

Last year, we were joined by valued supporters who helped reach substantial campaign milestones.

Our 2018 National Ocsober Ambassadors were:

Andy Trieu Claudia Karvan Khanh Ong Scott Gooding Zoe Bingley-Pullin

Drive Host, Dave "Davo" Holleran – The Rebel FM Radio Network across QLD and NSW

"In recent years, I've hopped "on the wagon" full time and understand the vital importance of Ocsober and Life Education programs. A life working in music and media means a life surrounded by alcohol, but saying no to the booze doesn't mean saying no to fun! It can be quite easy to get caught up in the hindset: "I must drink to be sociable," but that's an old-fashioned idea hat fails our modern world and teaches the wrong things to our kids. In the words of Alice Cooper: "I got sick and tired of feeling sick and tired." During Ocsober, alongside traditional fundraising, I hosted a "dry lunch" to show that good times with friends and colleagues don't need "social lubrication". Staying off the booze is easy, once you think about what's possible – feeling healthy and happy. For me, it means more energy to play sports, more time to spend with family and a greater clarity of mind, body and spirit."

2018 Queensland ambassadors

Dave Holleran Jimmy Morrison Lulu & Wormie 97.1 Sweet FM

Thank you to all our ambassadors and especially the wonderful Queenslanders who raised \$89,882 of the national total of \$321,373. What an incredible achievement.





STORIES & IMPACT

Annabel's Story

Annabel Catt was 20 years old when she went to a music festival with friends – something so commonplace that you might not think twice. Annabel's parents, Peter and Alison, thought she would have fun, especially since she loved music and was going to be a dance teacher.

Sadly, the next time Peter and Alison saw Annabel was in hospital. Annabel and her friends had bought drugs from someone they thought they could trust. They thought it would be safe and fun. What they didn't know was that some of those drugs were laced with fatal dosages of PMA – an illegal and highly toxic methamphetamine.

A few hours after Annabel took the capsule, she had a temperature and was struggling to breathe. Her friends called an ambulance and she was taken to hospital where doctors tried everything to save her life. But they were fighting a losing battle. PMA had destroyed Annabel's body from the inside out and she passed away soon after.

"Just a couple of capsules - that was all it took. The drug threat facing our young people is not a static one. It is continually changing as new drugs become available. The situation demands that we all stay vigilant, communicate openly with our kids, and keep informed."

Peter and Alison did something incredibly brave. They used their heartache to make a positive difference and try to spare other families the pain they endured. They became ambassadors for Life Education.*

"We don't want other parents to go through the agony of losing a child this way. It can happen so easily, so quickly. We can't be complacent about the dangers facing young Australians. Lives are at risk."

*Sadly, Annabel's father Peter passed away only a couple of years ago. His passion for, and contribution to, the work of Life Education will always be remembered and deeply appreciated.



SUPPORTERS

Jack Ray – Deputy Chair | Life Education Board

Jack Ray is the deputy chair of Life Education's management committee and the son of Life Education Queensland cofounder, the late property developer Brian Ray. With such a close personal legacy to the organisation, Jack is a passionate and valued supporter of Life Education's work, including numerous Ocsober fundraising drives.

We asked Jack to share some of his personal highlights from last year's Ocsober fundraising challenge and reveal what drives him to reach such impressive targets.

What event did you hold last year that helped raise funds for Ocsober?

We held a golf day at Top Golf on the Gold Coast with about 200 local young businessmen. The Gold Coast Lads' Lunch is a regular circuit of fundraising lunches held a few times a year and is organised by Dan Marino of Hickey Lawyers.

Dan was kind enough to accept my request to make Life Education Queensland and the Ocsober campaign the beneficiary charity for the Top Golf event in 2018.

It was a great day that enabled us to raise awareness about the wonderful work Life Education Queensland does and familiarise some local prominent young business and community leaders with LEQ's work. The day raised \$20,000 which exceeded our expectations of a \$10 – 15,000 target.

Were there any other events you held for Ocsober?

I participated in the Ocsober challenge last year. I ran a personal fundraising campaign with my family, friends and colleagues. I pledged the first \$10,000 to my campaign again in 2018 with a target of \$20,000 funds raised. With the help and generosity of my friends and colleagues, I managed to raise \$19,000 for Ocsober 2018.

I am very proud to have been a part of Ocsober and to have raised close to \$40,000 in two years with being involved in such an important and rewarding campaign.

As a father yourself, why do you believe Life Education's work is important?

As a father to my 6-year-old daughter Olivia, nothing scares me more than the thought of her making a wrong life choice around drugs or alcohol that could change or end her life in a split second.

I strongly believe, that as parents, we have a duty to our children to arm them in the best way possible to empower them to make the right choices around these life-threatening possibilities.

To me, the Life Education programs my daughter participates in prepare her in the best possible way for the risks that lie ahead in her life, and I'm proud to have supported for many years the vital work Life Education does for our kids, and will continue to do so into the future.

> Jack Ray, with daughter Olivia & wife Natalie

(courtesy of The Courier Mail)

OUR COMMITTEES

Life Education has four main regional committees plus a volunteer support group based in Bundaberg which work tirelessly in the key regions across the state: Toowoomba / Central Queensland / Townsville and the Moreton Region.

Our committees are run by local community volunteers who bring vast experience, passion and dedication to their committee roles, supporting Life Education's mission to engage with children across the state. Life Education Queensland is indebted to both the committee members and our committee educators for their ongoing commitment and professionalism.

Each year we shine the spotlight on an integral committee volunteer and profile the inspiring educators in each region to find out what they find so rewarding about working with Life Education and how they give back to their respective communities.

Bundaberg Volunteer Support Group

Barbara Wenham is one of six enthusiastic volunteers who make up the Bundaberg Volunteer Support Group, selling Healthy Harold merchandise and assisting with promotional events including the popular Healthy Harold Yellow Day which encourages Bundaberg school children to dress in yellow and make a gold coin donation to Life Education.

Why did you become involved with Life Education as a volunteer?

I had lost my job and am now retired so I went to the Volunteer Agency and they put me in touch with Life Education because I wanted to help in an admin role. I liked it so much that I stayed on.

What has been a highlight from the past year and what do you love about your involvement with Life Education?

The thing I find most rewarding is the support of the community and the businesses in the region. I love being involved in Healthy Harold Yellow Day and the council-run family days. It's just so heart-warming and uplifting to be involved with this organisation.

Kathy Bayliss Educator -Bundaberg

I'm proud to reach my 23rd year working with Life Education Bundaberg. Since the restructure in our region, I'm looking forward to servicing some different regions now, including Maryborough and Harvey Bay. After all these years, I still believe it is a huge privilege to be working with the concepts

that we teach and lead in holistic health, and Life Education gives us the opportunity to present physical, social, emotional and developmental health to young people. I still get a real buzz out of seeing students completely

engaged in their learning. I meet teachers that I taught the program to when they were children! The number of people that genuinely say that Life Education was the absolute highlight of their primary school life is incredible. It proves to me that a one-off visit can have an amazing impact.

ze/ lu/ zois Dear Harold Thank you for letting us in the van. I like you Harold. I like you, you're the best! Harold you are the best. You say nice things to us. The van was amazing. I like the activities.

20 LIFE EDUCATION QUEENSLAND Annual Report 2018

26/11/2018 Dear Harold

I liked it when you were on the screen. I liked the stars. I had fun. From Isobel



Central Queensland

An invaluable role model in her local community, **Jo-Anne Shephard** is not only a busy principal of Byfield State School north of Yeppoon, she's been president of Life Education's Central Queensland Committee for four years.

When did your affiliation with Life Education begin and what has been the highlight of 2018?

After the previous president retired, our educator Liz took the search to schools asking if anyone was interested in becoming involved and continuing the long history of the CQ Life Education committee. With grandchildren including a granddaughter now in Prep, carrying on the health messages of Life Education in Central Queensland is very important to me, so I grabbed the opportunity. One of the high points of the year for me was receiving a grant to allow our mobile learning classroom to have wheelchair access so that every child, no matter their disability, has access to our MLC in a safe and courteous manner. Another highlight was Harold participating in the Rockhampton Christmas parade in an open soft-topped yellow Volkswagen!

As an educator, why do you think the work of Life Education is so important?

My job is as a teaching principal in a small school is always very busy. I continually witness the health issues of children today, and as an educator, part of my role is to help children to grow and become self-sufficient in managing their health. I believe it is imperative that every child in every Central Queensland School and preschool that is under our committee area is visited by Harold and our educators every year. As the adage goes: 'Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.' Life Education is so valued in central Queensland schools by both students and teachers.

Liz Hills Educator -Central Queensland

One major highlight for me in 2018 was helping to establish the Healthy Harold's Growing Good Friends Community Garden at The Hall State School in Rockhampton. The school was one of only 10 successful applicants from around the country to win a Growing Good Friends Garden Grant from Life Education and Yates Gardening. The community garden has already sprouted new friendships between the school and neighbouring St Luke's Parish, with staff, students and parishioners working together to plant the first seeds and seedlings that will soon grow into delicious fruit, herbs and vegetables. The school is relatively new to Life Education and now they have a wonderful community garden and a strong connection with our program.



26/11/2018 Dear Harold

Thank you for letting us come. I really liked it when you got the bag out. I liked it when you asked Mrs Stephan in. I liked it when you did the questions and when the stars came on. I liked the little videos. Thank you for the activity book and the stickers. I liked the alien on the video, it was furny.

Love from Johann

OUR COMMITTEES

Cooloola – Noosa

Trish Radge has been president of the Cooloola – Noosa Life Education Committee for 14 years. Along with managing a financial services business with her husband, and being a mum and grandmother, she is dedicated to Life Education's mission in the region.

What were some of the committee highlights from 2018?

It was very gratifying to take the Life Education program into Tin Can Bay for the second year running. There is a real demand in the area for our service – and thanks to funding from LEQ, the committee and parents, all children at the target school could access the program – and that was a huge success. It was also wonderful to have the financial support of Bendigo Bank, both the Noosa and Gympie branches, which allows us to keep the mobile classroom on the road. Gympie Regional Council and Noosa Shire Council continued to provide free towing of the van, which we estimate saves us about \$10,000 a year in transport costs.

What's the most rewarding thing about your involvement with Life Education?

Just knowing that the program can keep going and reach so many children in our area is gratifying. I think we're at the stage now where we are seeing second and third-generation families going through the program. My own kids have gone through the program and now I have a granddaughter who will be meeting Harold in three years' time. When parents and children can discuss healthy eating and other messages together at home, the information goes way beyond the classroom and van.

Niki Andrinopoulos Educator -

Cooloola Noosa

It's a privilege to be out there teaching the program and I'm astonished to hear

how much the children remember from the previous Life Ed visit when I return to their school. The highlight of last year was a young student hugging me and saying, 'This is my best day ever'. Recently, another little boy said to me, 'I've never been to Life Education, but I couldn't imagine it would be so fantastic'. Where else would you get feedback like that?

Toowoomba

Former banker/accountant **Brian Shackleton** has been involved with the Life Education committee for an incredible 20 years, first as treasurer, then later taking on the role of president.

How do you feel about the Life Education message after two decades as a committee volunteer?

I believe the message of empowerment and enabling children to make better decisions is still as valid as ever and is still wellreceived by the schools. I have a family of teachers and my five grandchildren have all attended the Life Education program. They've all greatly enjoyed it and benefited from the program. It gives children self-belief and the message that they can take individual responsibility for making good choices.

What has been the greatest committee achievement for 2018 within your local community?

During the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers, local exhibition gardener Val Peachey nominated Life Education as the charity recipient of all funds raised from ticket sales. As committee members, we manned the gate, welcomed visitors and raised about \$15,000, which greatly helps fund the annual running costs of the Life Ed van. We hope to match or top those proceeds at this year's 70th anniversary of the Carnival of Flowers when Val will once again display her beautiful garden and make Life Education the beneficiary of all proceeds.

Jane Jackson

Educator -Toowoomba

I've been with Life Education for nine years and I cover primary schools in Toowoomba and in the

Granite Belt. Every day brings something new; every day you get a different group of children. Even though you're teaching the same modules, you're engaging with a different group of children every single time, so the way you teach is different and the way that they respond is different, so it's like a new lesson every time. You'll never get the same class twice because they're all individual personalities. I love my job.

Townsville

Mark Purvis is the President of the Townsville Life Education Committee and has been involved with the committee since 2006.

What do you enjoy most about being involved with your committee?

We are blessed to have a strong, focused committee which shares a common purpose to deliver for children a solid path towards healthy living.

Name the greatest committee achievement/impact during 2018 within your local community?

2018 was a very busy but deeply satisfying year in which – through the great work of the educators – we were able to influence children to make life-long healthy lifestyle choices. LEQ implemented the pilot Healthy Eats program (funded by North Queensland Primary Health Network) to encourage kids in North Queensland to eat more fruit and vegetables, a program that will continue to expand and develop in 2019. We also staged a trivia night which was well received in the community and helped raise our community profile. Thanks to Claire and Vicki for their great initiative in making the night a success.

Timothy McKean Educator -

2018 was a great

year for Life Education Townsville. We increased

our engagement with our local community by putting on local fundraisers and events, as well ensuring that over 16 000 students received the Life Education program just within Townsville itself. For 2019, we are aiming to continue to deliver our program to as many students as possible, as well as finalising the production of a new mobile classroom to continue to provide the high quality of service our schools have come to expect.



OUR AMBASSADORS

Government support for Life Education continues to grow

Life Education Queensland continues to receive invaluable support from all sides of politics with our educators and CEO Michael Fawsitt playing host to numerous elected officials throughout the year.

From the southeast corner of the state, to the north, dozens of MPs and local councillors were treated to a personal tour of one of Life Education's 20 mobile learning centres in their electorate, receiving a unique appreciation plaque to remind them of their visit and commitment to supporting the vital work of Life Education across the state.

A chance meeting with HRH Prince Charles during the 2018 Commonwealth Games was a highlight for our CEO Michael Fawsitt and a wonderful reminder of our past connections with the Prince through founder Ted Noffs.

The prince first met Ted during a royal tour to Australia in the 1980s, and was so impressed with Life Education's work with Australian children, that he returned to the UK and advocated for Life Education to start up a program in England. The rest is history, with Life Education UK now delivering health education to more than half a million UK children.

Our Ambassadors in Parliament include:

Hon Dr Anthony Lynham MP – Member for Stafford - Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

Hon Leeanne Enoch MP – Member for Algester – Minister for Environment and Minister for the Arts

Hon Mark Furner MP – Member for Ferny Grove – Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries

Hon Mick de Brenni MP – Member for Springwood - Minister for Housing and Public Works, Minister for Digital Technology and Minister for Sport

Hon Shannon Fentiman MP – Member for Waterford – Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development

Mr Stephen Bennett MP – Member for Burnett – Shadow Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Shadow Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Shadow Minister for Veterans

Mr Trevor Watts MP – Member for Toowoomba North – Shadow Minister for Police and Counter Terrorism, Shadow Minister for Corrective Services

Mr David Janetzki MP – Member for Toowoomba South – Shadow Attorney-General and Shadow Minister for Justice Meaghan Scanlon MP - State Member for Gaven and Assistant Minister for Tourism Industry Development visiting Pacific Pines Primary School



Mr Don Brown MP – Member for Capalaba – Chief Government Whip

Ms Nikki Boyd MP – Member for Pine Rivers – Deputy Government Whip

Mr Linus Power MP – Member for Logan – Senior Government Whip

Ms Joan Pease MP – Member for Lytton – Senior Government Whip

Mr Steve Minnikin MP – Member for Chatsworth – Shadow Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Ms Ros Bates MP – Member for Mudgeeraba – Shadow Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, Shadow Minister for Women

Mr John-Paul Langbroek MP – Member for Surfers Paradise -Shadow Minister for Sport and Racing and Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Ms Meaghan Scanlon MP – Member for Gaven – Assistant Minister for Tourism Industry Development

Mrs Julieanne Gilbert MP – Member for Mackay – Assistant Minister for State Development

Mr Andrew Powell MP – Member for Glass House - Shadow Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning

Ms Jennifer Howard MP – Member for Ipswich – Assistant Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Assistant Minister of State

Mrs Brittany Lauga MP – Member for Keppel - Assistant Minister for Education



Mr Tim Nicholls MP – Member for Clayfield Mrs Jo-Ann Miller MP – Member for Bundamba Mr Michael Crandon MP – Member for Coomera Mr Ted Sorenson MP – Member for Hervey Bay Mr Jon Krause MP – Member for Scenic Rim Mr Duncan Pegg MP – Member for Stretton Mr Jason Costigan MP – Member for Whitsunday Dr Mark Robinson MP – Member for Oodgeroo Mr Shane King MP – Member for Kurwongbah Mr Jim Madden MP – Member for Ipswich West Mr Joe Kelly MP – Member for Greenslopes Mrs Jann Stuckey MP – Member for Currumbin

Our Ambassadors in the Gold Coast City Council include:

Pauline Young – Division 12 Rob La Castra – Division 8 Glenn Tozer – Division 9



We would also like to thank the following for their support:

Sean K Choat – Former Member for Ipswich West S A Holswich – Former Member for Pine Rivers Michael Latter – Former Member Waterford F K Ostapovitch – Former Member Stretton T J Ruthenberg – Former Member Kallangur A Shorten – Former Member Algester D E Shuttleworth – Former Member Ferny Grove Neil A Symes – Former Member Lytton Hon I B Walker – Former Member Mansfield Dr C A C Rowan – Former Member Moggill Jim Pearce – Former Member Mirani Sid Cramp – Former Member Gaven Robert Pyne – Former Member Cairns

Life Education Queensland is indebted to its ambassadors who help support our mission to empower our children and young people to make safer, healthier choices.

Our ambassadors are passionate, positive community role models for children and young people across Queensland. We value their support in helping us achieve our vision of generations of healthy young Australians living to their full potential.

HRH Prince Charles meets CEO Michael Fawsitt during Commonwealth Games

OUR PARTNERS

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE SUPPORT FROM ALL OUR PARTNERS.

Major Partner



QUEENSLAND HEALTH

We would like to acknowledge the generous support of our major partner, Queensland Health. The support of the Queensland Government has been instrumental in enabling Life Education to expand our services throughout the State, enabling tens of thousands more Queensland children to gain access to vital drug and health education.

OUR PARTNERS

Partners







Commonwealth Bank Community Grants

Courier Mail Childrens Fund









everyone's family







OUR TEAM

The Life Education Queensland team is led by Chief Executive Officer, Michael Fawsitt, who has 25 years of experience working in non-profit organisations. Michael was one of four finalists for the 2005 Queenslander of the Year Awards for his contribution to the alleviation of poverty through his work at World Vision Australia. He has been with Life Education Queensland since 2006, during which time Life Education's reach has doubled to more than 200,000 children and young people. Michael leads a committed and growing team who share a common vision to see generations of young Queenslanders living to their full potential.

STAFF

Michael Fawsitt Darryl Whatmough Sharon Lansley Uri Bookman Deanne Lugton Gemma West Maddison Gerada Ross Mansfield Peter Faulkner Korina Feretti Tracey Challenor Sandy Newson Lynn Reeves Jordan Phillips Amanda Bennett Jennifer Hall Vicki Bombardieri

CEO General Manager Supporters Health Education Manager ICT Manager HR & Compliance Manager **Communications Coordinator** Database Administrator Supporters Team Leader Supporter Services Officer Supporter Services Officer Content Writer & Editor Office Manager Schools Liaison Officer Administration Officer Area Coordinator Area Coordinator Area Coordinator

HEALTHY EATS PROJECT TEAM

Abi Badejo Di Robertson Lisa Murray Matthew Dowling Project Manager Project Coordinator Project Officer Nutrition Officer

SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATORS

Brad Scarrabelotti Lane Norman Megan Humphreys Megan Stanton Narelle Watkins Natalie Nunan

HEALTH AND DRUG EDUCATORS

Brigette Cavanagh Claire Johnson Ellen Patane Emily Trundle Gemma Ewin Donna Walker Elizabeth Hills Jane Jackson Niki Andrinopoulos Janet Connolly Jennifer Rousett Jessica Caldwell Kathy Bayliss Lisa Barber Louise Shailer Megan Stacey Michele Tabrett Sue Osmond Timothy McKean

EARLY LEARNING EDUCATOR

Brittany Hinz





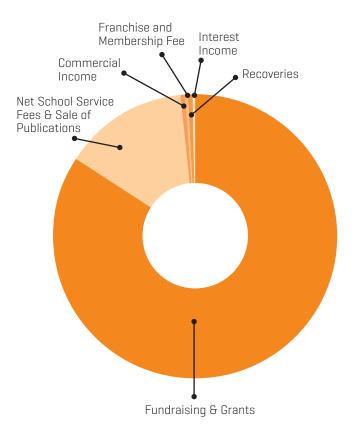
OUR FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

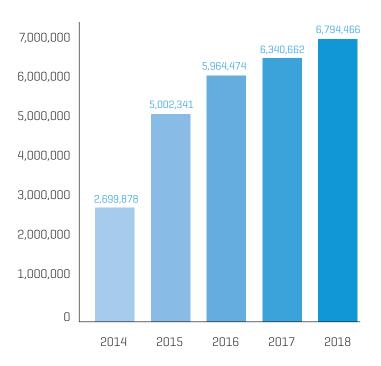
For year ended 30 June 2018

For year ended 30 June 2018	2018 \$	2017 \$
Revenue (Note 2) Expenses	6,794,466	6,370,790
Fundraising and Community Engagement Expenses	1,974,050	2,023,259
Health Promotion Expenses	3,010,082	2,891,719
General Administration Expenses	1,102,708	972,146
Depreciation and Amortisation Expense	126,865	122,403
	6,213,705	6,009,527
Total comprehensive income/(Loss) for the Year	580,761	361,263
Note 2		
Net School Service Fees and Sales of Publications	965,933	960,078
Interest Income	14,013	9,298
Fundraising & Grants	5,732,048	5,276,702
Franchise and Membership Fee	26,439	26,688
Recoveries	-	6,974
Commercial Income	30,000	91,050
Other Income	26,033	-
	6,794,466	6,370,790

SOURCE OF FUNDS: 2018



REVENUE PERFORMANCE OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS





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