



MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



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# Our Purpose:

Our Purpose is that all young people that engage with MYST get the help they need.

# Our Object:

The object for which the Association is established is to provide aid and assistance to young people in the Blue Mountains who are experiencing disadvantage including but not limited to:

- (a) planning, promoting, implementing and evaluating long and short-term support programs and services for disadvantaged young people;
- (b) developing, facilitating and providing personalised programs and courses for the disadvantaged young people needing the Association's help;
- (c) providing appropriate referrals to other appropriate service providers to help disadvantaged young people;
- (d) to act as trustee and to perform and discharge the duties and functions incidental thereto where this is incidental or conducive to the attainment of these objects; and
- (e) to do such things as are incidental or ancillary to the attainment of these objects, including provision of information and resources for the disadvantaged young people.

# Our Mission:

- 1. Young People are always the priority
- 2. As a team, we focus on our strengths
- 3. As a team, we practice self-care and maintain boundaries

# Our Values:

- 1. Working together as a team
- 2. All roles at MYST are valued and everyone has a voice
- 3. MYST is a safe environment to respectfully challenge ideas/reflective practice
- 4. Transparency and honesty
- 5. Flexibility and autonomy
- 6. Building connections
- 7. Cooperative and collaborative
- 8. Supportive
- 9. Guidance
- 10. Being realistic about what we and what young people can achieve

# A message from the Chair

## Andrew Francis:

Never before has MYST experienced a year like 2020, starting with Bushfires and Floods and closing with the pandemic (COVID-19) and we have endured, thanks to the resilience of our people working together to ensure that we continue to deliver on our promise to young people to support them in getting the help that they need.

I think that Albert Bandura's reflection, a pioneer of social cognitive theory, echoes the path that we have walked in 2020 and the strength of MYST; "In order to succeed, people need a sense of self-efficacy, to struggle together with resilience to meet the inevitable obstacles and inequities of life."

In many organisations' words like 'innovation', 'teamwork' and 'agility' are buzz words that are put on posters and talked about and yet not always seen in action. In 2020 these words epitomised the way that the MYST team embraced the reality of the year and responded. In week 1 of the pandemic lockdown these are some of the things that the MYST team implemented to ensure continuity of our services to young people:

- Development of a digital program online and the sharing of a digital calendar to keep young people connected,
- Establishing structured self-care and support processes, arising from an awareness of the impact on mental health for young people and for our staff, ensuing from the immediate social isolation and dislocation;
- Establishing new procedures, tools and ways of working as we moved from office to home-based working.

The changes that the team implemented around digital engagement and an increase in mental health first aid / management, are opportunities that have been developed and enhanced arising from all of the challenges experienced across the year. I want to thank the MYST team for the way that they embraced the challenge of the year and supported each other, as they continue what they do best, to ensure that all young people that contact MYST get the help they need. The year was swamped by the pandemic and much will be written about this time in the months and years to come, as we all navigate a new and different future. It is at times like this that organisations such as MYST step forward to embrace this new reality. Finding our way in 2020 would have been impossible were it not for the choices that we made and implemented in 2019. I want to thank board members Marilyn Kenney, Stuart Miller (who are stepping down) and Joy Cusack for their energy and dedication as we worked together with the MYST staff to refocus MYST on our 2020 journey.

MYST has also endured in 2020 due to the continued generosity of our donors and support of our funding partners and the Mountains community. MYST signed a new 5-year funding agreement with the Department of Communities and Justice, which is testament to the vitality of the organisation. I would like to thank our staff and my fellow board members who continue to strive for better outcomes for young people.

# A Message from the Manager

## Kim Scanlon:



This was a very challenging year for all of us with bushfires in Jan & Feb 2020, followed by floods which affected our music room and then COVID-19 from March but I feel very proud to say that the team stepped up big time and showed their incredible flexibility and resilience in adapting to a digital space over the period of a week, once we were not able to continue our face to face. MYST was very quick off the mark to develop a digital calendar of daily activities to engage young people including Twitch gaming, Instagram Live, Virtual Drop-In, Skribbl.io, Q&A with a local doctor, Youtube Drops and more.

This incredible team showed versatility, creativity, resilience and an absolute commitment to be there for young people.

The team also made and delivered hot meals to young people and their families every Friday night throughout the pandemic and also dropped off Care Packs , Memory Boxes and craft activity kits to engage and support young people. MYST did not see a drop in services or activities during COVID but in fact we had an increase in referrals as young people grappled with the changes enforced on them. MYST is lucky to have such an amazing team of youth workers, case managers and counsellors who always put young people first. The team rose to every challenge, going above and beyond, delivering services beyond the scope of our funding simply because it was necessary. We intensively supported a young couple experiencing homelessness throughout the pandemic and the initiative shown by the team is simply beyond incredible.

MYST was able to secure a 5 year contract with our funders, the Department of Communities & Justice starting 1st July 2020. MYST was also able to gain support from the local community who rallied and helped us to move our music room to a more flood secure space within the Youth Centre and a special thanks to Stuart Cam from Future State Studios for this support. Willem Henrickson and Upper Blue Mountains Sunrise Rotary Club were also generous with their support to ensure a music and recording space is available for free for young musicians in the Blue Mountains.

The challenges remain as we have seen a 50% increase in complex mental health issues as young people grapple with what the future holds for them and supporting the team to manage their own vicarious trauma has been a priority with increased clinical supervision, mental health supports such as RAW Mind and regular increased internal supervision from our amazing team leaders.

I would also like to thank our Board of Directors for their incredible support through these challenging times and welcome our new Board Members to the MYST family.

# What we do:

## Youth Centres:

MYST has 2 dedicated Youth Centres located in Katoomba and Springwood providing a safe space for young people to Drop-In and socialise with other young people, as well as connect with Youth Workers.

## Personal Development Programs:

MYST has developed Specific Personal development Programs which are delivered in all local public schools across the Blue Mountains. These MYST programs include Stress-less, STEPS and Step-Up. MYST also delivers sexual health programs and workers are trained to deliver evidence-based programs such as RAGE, Love Bites, Rock & Water and Teen Mental Health First Aid.

## Case Management:

MYST provides Early Intervention case management for young people experiencing complex issues. MYST also provides Working Development Orders to help young people reduce fine debt with the State Debt Authority.

## Adolescent & Family Counselling:

MYST provides free specialist counselling support to young people and their families. Our Adolescent & Family Counselling Team bring additional skills in Art Therapy and Enneagram expertise to help support young people and their families.

## Outdoor Explore:

Based on Bush Adventure Therapy, this intensive, specialist program involves taking groups of 8 young people into a bush setting over an 8 week period, one day a week. Young people build confidence, team building, work through emotional and psychological challenges while learning how to canyon, abseil, kayak, mountain bike and hike.

## Street Art Murals Australia:

MYST supports young Street Artists in the Blue Mountains to get employment doing their craft. MYST is also invested in supporting the legitimising of this art form and supporting young people to learn more about how to harness their creative energy in constructive ways. SAMA also supports the ongoing curating of the Street Art Walk space in Waaratah St, Katoomba.

# Board of Directors

Andrew Francis  
Chairperson



Joy Cusack  
Director



Desmond Chin  
Treasurer



Ruth Goldsmith  
Director



A huge thanks to our exiting members, **Marilyn Kinney** and **Stuart Miller** for their contribution to the Board over many years



Kim Scanlon has been a Board member filling a casual vacancy since Jan 2020 but will step down at the AGM



# The MYST Team:

## Executive Managers:

Manager:

Kim Scanlon

Financial Controller:

Marelize Donaldson

## Team Leaders:

Maddy Forwood:

Senior Specialist Youth Worker

Amba Lewis-Rosman:

Adolescent & Family Counsellor/Art Therapist

Greg Watson:

Outdoor Explore Manager

## Youth Workers:

Skye Flemming

Paige Thurlow -Want

Jim Wood

Justin Hopper

## Early Intervention Case Managers:

Leah Hutton

Sara Dynes

## Casuals:

Nikolai Byczkov

Giselle Griffiths

Jared Gynn

Lauren Wilson

Luke Robbins

Aiden Payer

Tahlia Nelson

Lauren Storaker

## SAMA & OE Coordinator:

Roman Hofmann

## Adolescent & Family Counsellor/Enneagram Facilitator:

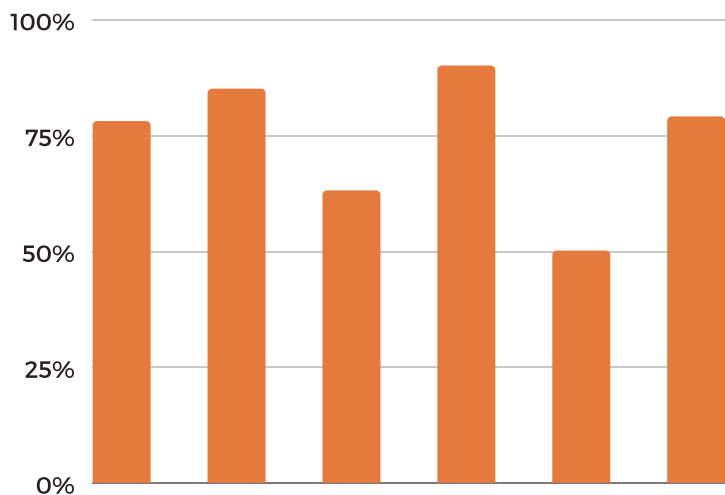
Sue Huehn





# Some Statistics:

THE IMPACT OF OUR SERVICE IN SUPPORTING POSITIVE CHANGE IN YOUNG PEOPLE'S LIVES IS CAPTURED USING A TOOL CALLED THE PERSONAL WELLBEING INDEX.

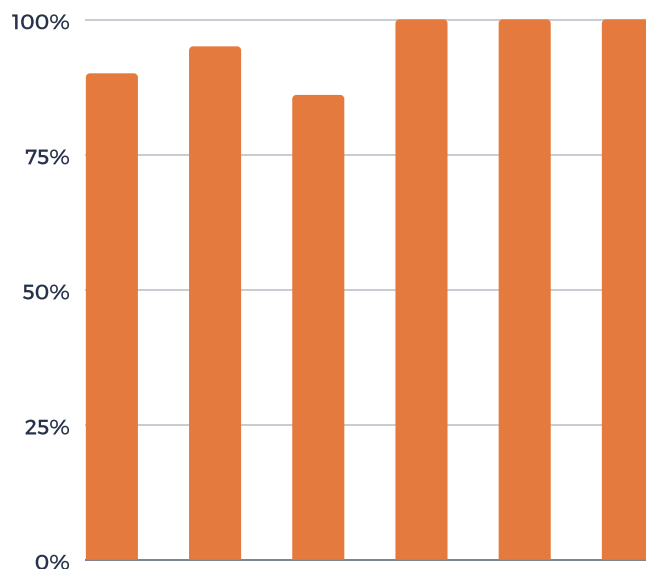


## INCREASED CONFIDENCE:

Percentage of young people receiving a service who when surveyed say that they feel more confident in their daily life because of the help they received from MYST

## YOUNG PEOPLE GET THE HELP THEY NEEDED:

Percentage of young people receiving a service who when surveyed say they got the help they needed at MYST.



148

Young people were supported by our Adolescent & Family counsellors

294

Young people attended our face to face Drop-In service

462

Young people were supported through face to face case management and/or individual support

*March to May's*

**NUMBERS & STATISTICS FOR DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT DURING COVID LOCKDOWN**

Between March 13th-May 31st, we ceased running face to face groups and put together a digital calendar which was distributed fortnightly. During this period we ran many events and these statistics highlight the uptake:

**Katoomba Youth Centre:**

- 9 instagram posts
- 1 "highlight" reel on instagram
- 125 instagram stories
- 68 instagram engagements
- 41 Facebook posts
- 81 Facebook engagements
- 5 Zoom engagements
- 31 Text engagements
- 9 Phone call engagements

**Senior Youth Work Specialist:**

- 1 Resource developed
- 11 Views on Q&A with Dr Miriam Session 1 (COVID)
- 43 View on Q&A with Dr Miriam Session 2 (Sexual Health)
- 14 Views on Instagram Live Art session 1 with 6 engagements
- 6 Views on Instagram Live Art session 2 with 5 engagements
- 11 Views on Youtube Video
- 30 engagements with Instagram posts
- 40 Facebook engagements
- 28 Facebook Posts

**Springwood Youth Centre**

- Online gaming with clients - 4 times with 7 young people
- Zoom Drop In- 11 times with 8 young people
- 4 Youtube videos
- 113 Youtube Views
- 15 young people over 10 times food drop off in lockdown
- 77 Facebook posts
- 15 young people engaged with facebook
- 50 young people engaged via text
- daily phone call engagements-56
- 9 Easter Pack drop offs
- 5 young people received homeless support during lockdown

**655**  
*young people engaged digitally*

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**307**  
*digital engagement opportunities created*

On 13th March 2020 when we began lockdown, all group sessions went straight to digital. A digital calendar and COVID-19 Policy was created day 1 of lockdown so engagement with young people remained constant. Digital calendars were created fortnightly until June 2020. Zoom licences and Working From Home Agreements were created and distributed by 23rd March. Face to face continued with counselling and individual support adhering to the new policies and procedures written by management regarding food handling, handling goods and shared spaces but these supports too moved to digital on 30th March. On 2nd April a Business Continuity Plan was created for DCJ and management put in place RAW Mind Mental Health supports for staff as well as increased clinical supervision to help support the team with vicarious trauma. On 22nd April all team members completed Infection Control Training. On 17th May, management developed a permission to travel letter as there were 2 young people experiencing homelessness and at high risk who we continued to support face to face.

On 1st June, we started back with face to face individual support and moved quickly to controlled group work with 2 new COVIDSafe plans (for each Centre) adhering to the 4sqm rule. When we started back face to face we began noticing significant increases in complex mental health issues as a result of lockdown and COVID with young people fearing for the future.

# Music Space:

MYST identified anecdotally that there was a need for young people to have a space to rehearse and record music, preferably with instruments available to use. This assertion was supported by the Stronger Family Alliance survey of 2000 young people in local high schools that identified "a place to gather that is our space" to be there number one priority, followed by "having the skills to support friends with mental health issues".



MYST partnered with Project manager Willem Hendrickson to create a music project with the support of Blue Mountains City Council, Stuart Cam from Future State Studios, Upper Mountains Sunrise Rotary Club and Katoomba Music to upgrade a space at Katoomba music Centre and provide an opportunity for a local band to receive mentoring to record and release a single at Junction 142, a local all ages venue in Katoomba. The project was a huge success and the band, Safire Palms are now about to launch their first EP. Other bands and musicians have been using the space and Katoomba music has repaired some instruments for us at no cost.



Unfortunately the floods this year put a spanner in the works but Stuart Cam from Future State Studios stepped up and helped us raise the funds to move the music space to an alternative room at Katoomba Youth Centre. This project will commence with the approval by Council of the changes to the space.



# Outdoor Explore Program

Greg, Roman, Luke, Lauren W,  
Lauren S, Nikolai, Skye & Paige

2019-2020 has been an interesting year. Terms 3 & 4 of 2019 were busy with 5 programs running in term 3 and 7 programs in term 4. We started 2020 with a bang and had 6 programs running before COVID19 shut us down in mid March.



## A Positive Outcome...

We have had some past clients that finished year 12 at the end of 2019. These clients have reached out to us for help navigating the next steps in their journey. The experience of this program, based on bush adventure therapy as it builds deep connections, trust and skills in young people.



## Overcoming Challenges....

Time management has been the biggest challenge over the last 12 months. With so many programs running it has become difficult to keep on top of coordinating all the programs and staff. Having Roman come on board to help with the admin and coordination has made my role much more manageable.



## Looking Forward...

I'm excited for the next 12 months as we grow the Outdoor Explore program and look at what we can provide in a commercial space in the Mountains and great Sydney area.

## Final Thoughts....

It has been a good year to examine our programs and make sure that we are doing the best we can in the Bush Adventure Therapy industry. The pandemic has given us a rare opportunity to focus on our policies & procedures to ensure that we are up to date with "Best Practice" and continue to strive for excellence with all that we do. We appreciate the support of our local partners in the Outdoor Recreation industry especially during these challenging times.



## Quote from a parent:

"All I know is that my child always looks forward to Tuesdays... 'Outdoor Explore' day. He academically keeps up with his peers but it is initiatives like this that cement social interaction. and other worthy skills that are absolutely precious to us and is very rewarding (which he needs and sometimes traditional school environment may lack emphasis). When I go to pick him up from school on Outdoor Explore days, it's always a positive pick up. No bullying, no issues, just smiles and he cannot wait to disclose the days activities. It is chalk and cheese compared to the other days of the week. Whatever you guys are doing, keep doing it! I am a qualified counsellor (non practicing) and can see the good work you are all doing. It's an invaluable service you are providing and you are hitting the mark perfectly. Thank you for all your hard work, this parent really appreciates it."

# Adolescent & Family Counselling

## Amba & Sue:

It has been a challenging year, from adapting from the restructure, new reporting systems – DEX Data exchange and the COVID 19 pandemic. The counselling team has shown new growth and development around flexibility and autonomy within the organisation. The collaborative and cohesive approach from all MYST employees has led to a successful outcome during this past difficult year.

## A Positive outcome...

A young person from counselling let us know that they were successful in becoming a Lorna Earl and William Woodberry Scholar through Aurora Education Foundation.

Words from the young person:

"I would like to thank you and all the staff at Mountains Youth Services Team for all your support you have given to me to achieve my HSC, overcome my anxiety and successfully break the incredible barrier of getting into Sydney Law School. Once again thank you for all the work you do to support young people go above and beyond the limitations of anxiety and depression."



## Looking forward...

Sue had the support of our volunteer Tim Griffiths, this year, he advertised The Enneagram Personality Type workshops on Eventbrite and HSNet, as well as BM Community Interagency eBulletin. This was another technical learning curve that will not only support Sue, but all of us in the future.

Amba will continue to enhance her leadership and managing skills with the completion of Cert IV in Leadership and Management course. Also extending her therapy skills into being trained in a new evidence base area of EFT- Emotional Freedom Technique – Tapping, as in merges quite well, for example with CBT- Cognitive Behavioural therapy and other therapies for anxiety and trauma.

## Overcoming Challenges...

Through the COVID 19 pandemic, the importance of adapting to change and providing best practice, with new online system to ensure privacy requirements for clients, made it imperative to keep up training in the field of counselling for online sessions/Telehealth through PACFA (Psychotherapist and Counselling Federation of Australia) and PESI (Psychotherapy Australia). Sue continued further training in Schema Therapy, which marries well with her past training models and The Enneagram program Sue continues to improve for Young People, parents and workers. Amba managing both her leadership role and own client case load, which was highlighted with the COVID 19 pandemic, as pass clients and paused clients reaching out for support, was challenging with time management skills and role responsibilities.

## Final Thoughts...

Both Amba and Sue are looking forward to a smoother journey for next year, as most strategies and systems will be in place, such as DEX with only a few kinks to address. These changes will ensure a consistency and more efficient future with counselling with the same degree of professional care from the past. Focusing on our core values of supporting young people and less on administration/system training and implementing of new systems. A final thought from Aristotle. "The ideal men bears the accidents of life with dignity and grace, making the best of circumstances."

# Early Intervention Case Management

## Leah & Sara:

This year marked the dissolution of the Glue partnership between MYST and Platform, which held changes in record keeping. The challenge of the pandemic in particular impacted our service in terms of support and service delivery, but we feel as though this allowed the space for workers to demonstrate skills and thinking outside the box that benefited our clients and re-addressed how we can further support them in the future. This also has created a more cohesive and connected MYST team.

### A positive outcome...

A young person previously sought assistance with homelessness and achieved finding accommodation so ended service, during the previous period of support the YP began caring for young sibling as a kinship carer. This YP sought support again this year as there was a complaint made against the young person by other family. Support was needed while the young person was investigated – the young person was cleared of any wrongdoing and continues to care for her young sibling.

### Overcoming challenges...

At the beginning of this financial year, the shift from an established data recording program with Glue (CIMS) to transitioning to DEX which is an ongoing process. A continuing challenge is that of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We stopped doing face to face with our clients, which for some of our clients put another barrier in the way of accessing support. Now we must continue to be mindful of the potentiality of positive cases which impedes on some service options such as providing transport.

### Client Feedback...

"I would highly recommend (MYST), yes, I was supplied so much support when I was under Myst. The help gave me a new perspective on life. I second guess myself a lot but with what Myst has taught me, it has helped my confidence in my abilities. I am really grateful for all the hard work supplied by the Myst team over the years. What she had taught me (in Outdoor Explore) has helped me greatly in life. Through outreach (Outdoor Explore - sic) I was introduced to Leah, who became a rock and mentor to me for now 7 years. In those 7 years I came to know Leah and she has always kept the relationship at stable working friendship. It has been a rough 7 years helping me have ground to walk on again but I wouldn't be here without Leahs devoted time and help. I find it hard to correlate the words of gratitude I have for Leah and Myst, as my thanks is bountiful and endless." Young Person

### Final thoughts...

This year has been full of great changes which we as workers have had to face in terms of personal and professional challenges. We have endeavoured to support our clients to the best of our ability, even in great adversity and have thankfully been supported ourselves to do so with the help, compassion, kindness and support of the MYST service and management, which has been a supportive foundation in these tumultuous times so as workers we can best support and meet the needs of our vulnerable clients.



### Looking forward...

Leah is going on maternity leave, this position is being filled by one of MYST's social work students who is going to benefit significantly from having experience in the field. Sara is also excited at the prospect of starting her Cert IV in Training and Assessment which will benefit MYST through the delivery of programs and client support. We are also looking forward to utilising our newly refurbished spaces once they're all set up and ready for client use.

# Springwood Youth Centre

Paige & Justin

This year has been like a community cyclone from bush fires to floods to Corona to amazing positive outcomes, we have worked through every obstacle thrown at us we have put our hands together to join and push forward for our community always being here to support and help the YP with their daily struggles and challenges supporting them to come out the other end thriving.

## A positive outcome....

This year saw a client who went through a lot of barriers in her path from a possible criminal charge to being homeless, disengaged from school and family, coming into dangerous situations then back homeless living in a tent at the start of winter. Over the year with many reports being made lots of advocacy and collaboration with this client from us, services started coming together to advocate for this young person and collaborate together with the rewarding feeling of having this young person have a safe place to live in, a warm bed and food, access to a washing machine and all the facilities she needs to be able to not worry about trying to find somewhere to go. To also have the extra support wrapped around her and to start to be able to focus on her goals and needs getting back into school in the coming term.



## Overcoming challenges....

Having a 15 year old client stuck in the situation of being homeless during a pandemic and struggling to find services to assist us to support her due to her age and various funding and legal requirements and conditions of different services which required us to go above and beyond our funding brief to help keep her safe. This situation caused immense anxiety for the young person and the team as we navigated a pathway for her to safety. She is now safely supported in housing so the story has a happy ending.



## Looking forward...

Mental health month with the Skate comp and Youth gig happening, working with clients to be able to get to where they want to be in their life supporting them in finding their strength within them to move forward. Facilitating new programs such as RAGE and the YMHFA.

# Katoomba Youth Centre

## Skye & Justin

Katoomba youth centre and its clientele have experienced plenty of obstacles over the past twelve months. We have had work placement students build rapport with clients and add value to the centre before leaving for their next step of their career. We've endured lethal bushfires, destructive floods and of course the ill-famed pandemic. Despite this, as a community, we overcome these circumstances and continue to move forward.

### A positive outcome....

Mid last year we had a young person come in for their first time, they were encouraged by Amba - who they had just started counselling with - to come check out the space. This young person was extremely timid and anxious about being in a new space but worked up the courage to come anyway. She would mostly attend only on days that she had counselling, she would sit quietly on the floor drawing in her notebook, not talking to anyone except for the rare occasion she would ask to make a tea. Throughout the past twelve months we have truly seen her come out of her shell, you would not recognise her as the same person who came in that first day. Over time she has brought in her friends, made new friends at the centre, she will jump around and sing at the top of her lungs! It's been so heartwarming to witness this beautiful transformation in confidence.

### Overcoming challenges....

Returning to face to face support with clients after having such a long and unexpected period of closure has been the biggest challenge. On one hand we are being filled with hope, as we are able to offer more practical support for young people, connecting with those who weren't able to access the internet or just didn't benefit from the virtual side of support. On the other hand, we're seeing the detrimental effect of the past 5 months coming to light. Many young people's situations have only grown more challenging and I'm sure the coming months will continue to reflect that.

### Looking forward...

.Looking forward, I am most excited about the Teen Mental Health First Aid facilitator training that is only just around the corner, following that we will \*hopefully\* be able to start offering the workshop to schools and other services. I think it is so important for young people to know the basics when assisting a friend in need. I am eager for my opportunity to take the lead with sourcing and organising when and where we will be delivering this program.



### Final Thoughts...

This year has been gruelling for everyone, the only way forward is together.



# Outreach Worker

Jim

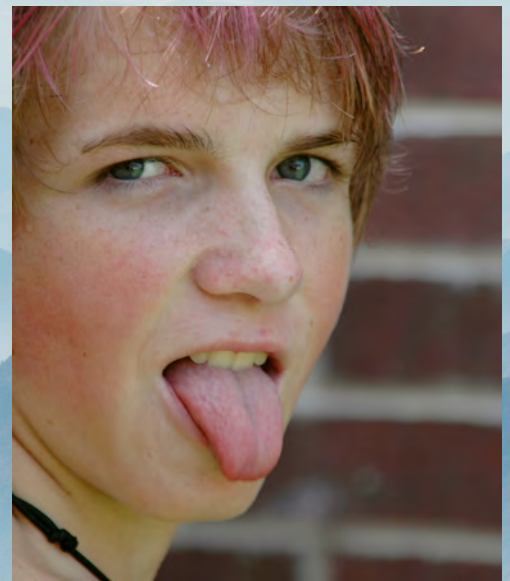
This year has been in two parts. First, as usual, a busy time with the constant needs from Young People, that we were able to respond to in the best way we could by providing ongoing individual support as well as developing a cooking program and working towards a solution around Young People hanging out in Katoomba Library precinct. Then the second part of the year turned upside (like it did for everyone else) and we had to socially distance while trying to provide a service and learn new ways to engage Young People through digital means along the way and stop providing some services temporarily.

## A Positive Outcome...

We started a new group to respond to socially isolated Young Men but who also had reasonably stable accommodation but were living on their own. They needed to be able to support themselves while working and/or studying. We were able to fund a local caterer to co run the group with the young men to teach cooking skills and also to meet other Young Men. We provided the opportunity to discuss how life was going for them while we all enjoyed eating what we had cooked. Everyone learnt to cook 6 meals and also learn some tips on how to budget and produce nutritious food for minimal cost. They also got to connect with two adult males and discuss making your way in the world.

## Overcoming Challenges...

A major challenge involved supporting Young People at a time of increased need due to the pandemic and its effects on society ,e.g. mental health, employment etc. Also learning new ways to engage with Young People is both challenging and rewarding. We continue to operate in a time of high need from Young People with limited resources. Not being able to build on the success of our cooking group was disappointing. We had hoped to run another group and maybe invite some of the participants from the first group to act in a mentoring type role. That was disappointing for us as well as the young men.



## Looking Forward...

Working with a committed team of Youth Workers that put the welfare of Young People as a priority is both supportive and inspiring. As a colleague reminded me the other day it is a privilege to be invited into a Young Person's life and be able to offer support. We also have begun some consultations with young people who regularly use the Katoomba library (but were interrupted by Covid). This sometimes presents issues for other uses of the service. We have built a good network with the library staff and hope to build on that to improve both relations between Young People and the library and also provide some alternative recreation options.. Plus a Covid free world would be great.

## Final Thoughts...

It has been a challenging time and the future, while unknown, looks like it could be even more demanding. So there will be no shortage of need for our services and probably a real limit on what we are able to do but in the true spirit of Youth Work we will continue to provide the best service possible and be very creative and responsive to the challenges ahead. Hopefully we will be to pick up our Library planning and run some more cooking groups. I continue to hold out hope the in the many changes Australian society has embraced in the last 8 months that Young People will figure predominantly everyone's thinking and planning.

# Senior Special Youth Worker

Maddy

A year of ongoing crisis, with our community experiencing months of bushfire threat and smoke, flooding, and now, COVID19. Times of rest have been minimal, with an increase of crisis support needed plainly evidenced. It has been a hard year on our community. MYST rose to the occasion, as it does, to ensure service provision for our young people, but COVID19 has highlighted more than ever that there are groups of incredibly vulnerable young people without access to resources and connection to the outside world, especially in times like these.

## A Positive Outcome....

Parents are often left flummoxed and highly agitated by the bureaucratic churn of the system, with differing and repetitive information and no real support systems to guide them through very difficult transition periods with their young people. A few times this year I have been able to provide a level of support for parents, with great collaborative outcomes for the young person involved, and a working relationship to meet outcomes for the young person.

## Overcoming Challenges....

It would be remiss for us as a service and for the sector to not forward plan 18 months – 5 years, when we expect to see critical emergence of mental health issues and great job uncertainty for young people due to COVID 19. This is hard to do whilst still in the midst of an unfolding pandemic but forward thinking will allow for better prepared services and opportunities for strengthened collaboration and networks.

## Looking Forward....

I look forward to continue to bring frontline workers together at the Blue Mountains youth interagency, a network that is necessary for fruitful collaboration and information sharing.

## Final Thoughts....

The world may be a changed landscape, temporarily or permanently, but MYST will continue to adapt and change to best meet the needs of young people within the community.



# Street Art Murals Australia

## Roman

I started Coordinating SAMA this year and learning as much as possible. Organising the Street Art Walk and facing some unexpected challenges such as an unauthorised mural that went up overnight and created some media sensation but I had great support from our co-curators of the space at council and also great support from our Manager Kim Scanlon. Kim's support has been really awesome!

### A Positive Outcome..

I have spent time refining procedures and putting in place systems to make things more efficient, ie. Inquiries, quotes, application processes etc. This has helped a lot with our efficiency.

### Overcoming Challenges...

Keeping everyone happy.  
Providing transparency for the Artist's and Customers. Finding a balance between urgent tasks and less urgent ones.

### Looking Forward...

I am looking forward to everything!! Getting more amazing murals painted for Australia. Supporting Artist & the Community. More School Based Workshops & Cultural Influence.

## New Murals that went up in the Street Art Walk this year...



Artist: Scott Nagy, Mural went up 25.1.2020



Artist: Ziller Creative, Mural went up 28.05.2020



Artist: Michael Black, Mural went up 23.06.2020



Artist: Daniel Cydes. Mural went up 29.1.2020



Artist: Nastia Gladushenko, Mural went up 21.07.2019



Artist: OtiH2, Mural went up 29.1.2020

## Final Thoughts...

It would be great to create a base of artist that work within the Community on a range of different and diverse projects that include building education and awareness around street art and its many possibilities

# One Young Person's Journey

**This is the story of a young woman who through a series of circumstances and system failures from June 2019 to June 2020, became homeless and at great risk. Through the support of key workers at MYST, she found a home and is rebuilding her life.**

The young woman who initially attended our Drop-In service at a youth centre, started the financial year off with some problems at home. She began to disengage from school and was evicted from the family home and entered the criminal justice system. Her experiences with law enforcement system was incredibly traumatic. Her relationship with her family suffered and she went to stay with a friend.

Her closest supportive relationship was with a MYST youth worker who accompanied her to court; advocated for her; negotiated with her family and support network; and helped her to obtain appropriate ID to register with Centrelink and obtain a Bank and Medicare card. Ongoing support from a MYST counsellor was also arranged.

Being a minor presented with many obstacles. She could not find accommodation in a refuge as placement at the refuge was aimed at family restoration. As this was not possible or appropriate she could not access this important service. For a time she was able to remain at her friends family home. The young person could not receive Centrelink payments due to her age and resorted to going through garbage bins at school for food and engaging in risk taking behaviours to be able to support herself. MYST provided practical supports including clothes to wear at court and obtaining brokerage from Marist to purchase a replacement musical instrument so she could continue to explore her creativity.

As the increased risk to this young person became apparent, external services became involved and the youth worker continued to support the young person, collaborating with different services, and advocating with Centrelink and others to ensure that the young person could access her own Centrelink payments directly. This was a difficult process; but was eventually successful and the young person began to have some autonomy over her finances.

The MYST youth worker developed a resume with the young person to enable her to look for a part time job and provided her with a school bag with supplies to help her schooling.

After the Court matter was resolved, the temporary accommodation option broke down; and the young person was unable to return to her family home; she became homeless and completely disengaged from school.

As the Refuge continued not to be an option due to the restoration conditions attached, the young person stayed at various friends' homes. Her MYST youth worker had given her the link2home number which would support her to find accommodation if she had nowhere to go. The youth worker discovered that the young person was sleeping on the streets on occasion. As a mandatory reporter the Youth Worker continued to make regular reports to the DCJ helpline and police so they could do welfare checks. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic many services were in lockdown. MYST is not funded to support homelessness but did support the young person during this time with blankets, food and showers. By this time MYST youth worker was making daily reports of the young person's unsafe living arrangements to the police and DCJ when she was sleeping in the bush or the street.

The young person went through a series of unsafe accommodation options which resulted in a violent incident by another resident of the home she was staying at. By this stage she felt completely disempowered and refused all offers of accommodation, feeling like the conditions attached to housing were not allowing her the autonomy to feel safe and maintain control over her life. She was sleeping in the bush.

Throughout this entire journey, she maintained a positive relationship with her MYST youth worker who both met her mandatory obligations; but also supported the young person to be safe within her autonomous accommodation choices by continuing to provide blankets, a tent, food and showers. A referral was made to Platform Youth Services for clothes washing and any other support and the youth worker supported the young person to consider options for winter approaching and help her develop a plan for the coming months.

The MYST youth worker who was liaising daily with the young person, attempted to connect her with many different support services, but the young person was concerned about 'losing control of her situation' and refused most of these options.

Through the maintenance of the relationship with the young person, the MYST youth worker was able to support the young person to re-engage with counselling and get a placement in a program called "A Place to Go" where she could make decisions and sign forms for herself, which has resulted in stable housing.

She has since re-engaged with school; is starting to get back into her extra curricular activities in which she excels and is completing her year 10 RoSA this year.

With the collaboration of services in the community with the support of food, essentials and advocacy and the consistent support and creativity of her MYST youth worker, this young person has grown in strength and believes in herself again. She is starting to thrive again and is using her new techniques in reflection and insight to think about her own values and beliefs, and to plan her future.

To quote this young person:

**"There is no point complaining about something if you have the potential to change it"**



# We acknowledge the support of our important Partnerships:

Blue Mountains Adventure Company

Youth Hope program-Wesley Mission-Outdoor Explore

Able2; including Outdoor Explore, HangOut & Autsim for Girls group

Planet Youth Australia-MYST is the main organiser with BM City Council

Blue Mountains City Council

Youth Mental Illness & Substance Abuse Intergency

Stronger Families Alliance

Bushfire Recovery & Resilience Interagency

Mission Australia-YESS Program

All local public High Schools including Springwood High, Katoomba High, Winmalee High, Blaxland High & Blacktown Youth College, Lawson Campus

PINK Mountains-support for LGBTIQ young people

Platform Youth Services

Youth Justice

NOFFS D & A

# Donations

**Blue Mountains City Council donated \$3000 to support young people** with mobile data packs (\$1,000), Care Packs (\$1,000) & hot meals delivered in lockdown (\$1,000)

**Funds earmarked to complete our Music Recording Studio at Katoomba Youth Centre which was delayed due to COVID-19:**

## **Donations:**

Stuart Cam donated \$1,875

Benevity donated: \$3640

Paul Sanwald donated \$100

Doug Nelson donated \$100

**Funds used to pay a worker to support young people at Blacktown Youth College, Lawson campus, (an alternative learning school for year 9 and 10 students only), with an Outdoor Explore Program and a RAGE program for emotional regulation, as well as general weekly support to build connection and relationship:**

Links for Life donated \$3000

David Taylor donated \$1000

Alex Maitland donated \$500

Matthew Macleau donated \$500

Lucy Keady donated \$500

Kyle McGarrigle donated \$200

Anthea Hammon donated \$100

Joy Cusack donated \$50

"Local Bloke" donated \$50

Blue Mountains Adventure Company donated \$42.45

Michael Macken donated \$30

Mark Hambley donated \$25

**Total Cash Donations: \$14,712.45**

**In Kind Donations:**

Blue Mountains Adventure Company: \$2,980 in equipment use

Tony Glynn: free use of his property to store our Outdoor Explore equipment

**MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES  
TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473**

Financial Statements  
For the year ended 30 June 2020



# MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473

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# **MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473**

## **Committee's Report**

**For the year ended 30 June 2020**

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Your committee members submit the financial accounts of the MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. for the financial year ended 30 June 2020.

### **Committee Members**

The names of committee members during the year and at the date of this report are:

Andrew Francis, Chairperson

Desmond Chin, Treasurer (appointed 24th June 2020)

Joy Cusack

Ruth Goldsmith (appointed 24th June 2020)

Kim Scanlon (appointed 22nd October 2019)

Stuart Miller (resigned 30th April 2020)

Marilyn Kenney (resigned 14th April 2020)

### **Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: provision of youth services.

### **Significant Changes**

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

However, during the 2020 financial year the association experienced changes to the provision of client services and internal operations due to the impact of the coronavirus ("COVID-19") pandemic. The impact of COVID-19 is unprecedented and has a profound impact on charities and Not-for-profit organisations both financially and operationally. The first confirmed case in Australia of COVID-19 was identified in January 2020 and resulted in induced lockdown in NSW in March 2020 due to public health orders.

The lockdowns impacted group activities which ceased in Term 1 including Drop-in, School Programs and Outdoor Explore. However, where possible client services continued remotely via an online interface.

The association renewed its agreement for funding of services with the Department of Communities & Justice (previously known as Family & Community Services) on 22nd May 2020 for a five year term from 1st July 2020 until 30 June 2025.

The association received \$50,000 of Commonwealth Government support by way of a Cash Flow Boost incentive included in operating profit.

The association also approved a revised Constitution effective 20 November 2019.

During the 2019 financial year the Board and management commenced a restructure of MYST. Refer Note 5 to the financial statements for further information.

**MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473**

**Committee's Report**

**For the year ended 30 June 2020**

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**Operating Result**

The profit from ordinary activities amounted to

Year ended	Year ended
30 June 2020	30 June 2019
\$ 86,403	\$ 11,775

**Auditor's Independence Declaration**

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 has been included.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on:

*Andrew Francis*

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Andrew Francis

*Joy Cusack*

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Joy Cusack

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The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473**

**Auditors' Independence Declaration**

**For the year ended 30 June 2020**

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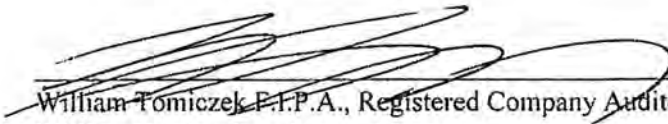
**Auditor's Independence Declaration**

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, I am pleased to provide the following declaration of independence to the Directors of Mountains Youth Services Team Inc..

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (a) No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- (b) No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Signed on this 24 day of October 2020

  
William Tomiczek F.I.P.A., Registered Company Auditor 1425  
William Tomiczek & Associates  
66 Emu Plains Road, Mount Riverview NSW 2774

**Profit and Loss**  
**Mountains Youth Services Team Inc**  
**For the 12 months ended 30 June 2020**

	30-Jun-20	30-Jun-19
	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>		
Administration Income	791	-
Cash Flow Boost Income (govt.)	50,000	-
Comm Builders Funding	509,139	497,492
CYFS Funding	637,750	623,373
Disability - NDIS fee income	-	252,471
Interest Received	-	1,936
MYST - Misc. Income	397	43,938
Outdoor Explore fee income	124,800	271,154
Other Restricted Grants & Donations	15,551	15,273
RAW - Service Fees	-	28,000
SAMA - Mural Sales	5,050	12,448
Unrestricted Grants & Donations	13,716	21,408
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,357,194</b>	<b>1,767,492</b>
<b>Less Operating Expenses</b>		
Advertising & Promotion	-	894
Audit & Accounting Fees	10,455	44,230
Bad debts	3,651	15,429
Bank & Interest Charges	302	2,721
Cleaning	7,599	10,303
Computer Software & IT expenses	10,835	4,601
Computer software write off	-	7,237
Consultants	-	11,091
Depreciation	40,476	23,775
Electricity & gas	5,628	7,634
Equipment <\$20,000	2,716	307
Expenses - Direct programs	36,989	65,356
Expenses - MYST Central	-	59,521
General & misc expenses	113	351
Individual client support	7,987	1,277
Insurance	32,325	45,419
Leave Liability	21,316	88,029
Legal Fees	12,992	-
Motor Vehicle expenses	35,905	36,543
OE expenses	16,519	16,167
Personal development programs	-	825
Printing & Stationery	9,137	9,867
Professional supervision	9,730	7,581
Rent	-	31,492
Repairs & Maintenance	8,034	7,109
SAMA costs	-	9,028
School holiday programs	1,591	1,854
Staff Amenities & ancillary costs	-	155
Subscriptions & Memberships	3,528	1,515
Superannuation	82,626	112,653
Telephone expenses	9,326	9,027
Training & Meetings	19,017	10,512
Travel	46	2,241
Utilities	-	1,798
Wages	881,147	1,285,935
Water	802	-
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1,270,791</b>	<b>1,755,717</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>86,403</b>	<b>11,775</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

**Balance Sheet**  
Mountains Youth Services Team Inc  
As at 30 June 2020

	30 Jun 2020	30 Jun 2019
	\$	\$
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Bank</b>		
AUD PayPal	96	1,022
CBA 10276041 Savings	229,242	172,522
CBA 1043 9891 Disability	1	1
CBA 28009953 Chq	10,683	20,922
CBA Card payments account	5,026	4,962
PC - Kim 1889	3,000	0
Term Deposit - 8 months 2701	100,000	0
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>348,048</b>	<b>199,428</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Accounts Receivable	20,020	61,098
Prepayments	7,851	6,963
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>27,871</b>	<b>68,062</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Equipment - Outdoor Explore	4,645	4,645
Equipment - Outdoor Explore Accumulated Depreciation	-2,617	-1,688
Leasehold Improvements KYC	30,374	25,192
Leasehold Improvements KYC Accumulated Dep'n	-26,811	-19,110
Motor Vehicles	53,798	53,798
Motor Vehicles Accumulated Dep'n	-53,707	-42,947
Office Fixtures - KYC	4,939	4,939
Office Fixtures - KYC Accumulated Dep'n	-2,763	-1,775
Office Furniture & Equip SYC	56,561	56,561
Office Furniture & Equipment SYC Accumulated Dep'n	-54,721	-54,066
Personal Computers	27,168	11,918
Personal Computers Depreciation	-24,119	-4,675
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>12,749</b>	<b>32,793</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>		
Advance Staff loans	5,400	5,400
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>5,400</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>393,867</b>	<b>305,683</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	15,376	10,562
Accruals	19,626	58,684
Annual Leave Provision	111,368	98,283
GST	18,312	20,698
Invoicing in Advance	18,220	6,700
Music Mentoring Project	6,510	0
PAYG Withholding	21,768	18,014
Provision for future expenses	9,177	0
TIL Payable Provision	1,889	4,878
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>222,246</b>	<b>217,799</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Provision - Bad & Doubtful Debts	0	13,886
Provision - Building Maintenance	3,864	3,864
Provision - Long Service Leave	50,667	39,446
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>54,531</b>	<b>57,196</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>276,777</b>	<b>274,995</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>117,091</b>	<b>30,688</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Current Year Earnings	86,403	11,775
Retained Earnings - Prior Years	30,688	18,913
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>117,091</b>	<b>30,688</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473****Statement of Cash Flows****For the year ended 30 June 2020**

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>Cash Flow From Operating Activities</b>		
Receipts from funding bodies and other sources of income	1,426,945	1,797,918
Payments to Suppliers and employees	(1,257,893)	(1,934,219)
Interest received		1,936
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities (note 3)	<u>169,052</u>	<u>(134,365)</u>
<b>Cash Flow From Investing Activities</b>		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(20,432)	(10,925)
(Payment)/return of rental bonds		<u>7,100</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>(20,432)</u>	<u>(3,825)</u>
<b>Cash Flow From Financing Activities</b>		
Provision of staff loans (net)		(400)
Proceeds received for repayment of PIC loan		<u>23,637</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		<u>23,237</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	148,620	(114,953)
Cash at the beginning of the year	<u>199,428</u>	<u>314,381</u>
Cash at the end of the year (note 2)	<u><u>348,048</u></u>	<u><u>199,428</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Statement of Changes in Equity

Mountains Youth Services Team Inc

For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<hr/>		
<b>Equity</b>		
<hr/>		
Profit from ordinary activities	86,403	11,775
Retained Earnings - Prior Years	30,688	18,913
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>117,091</b>	<b>30,688</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements



# MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2020

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### Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act of New South Wales and the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity as it is unlikely there are users of these financial statements who are not in a position to require the preparation of reports tailored to their information needs. The association is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 and the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the Committee have determined are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The special purpose financial statements do not comply with all the recognition and measurement requirements in Australian Accounting Standards.

The recognition and measurement requirements that have not been complied with are those specified by (i) AASB15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers as in accounting for income, recognition of donation income of \$5,020 has been deferred until the related expenses are incurred without assessing whether there are enforceable performance obligations to transfer a good or service to a third party, (ii) AASB1058 Income of Not-for-profit Entities as recognition of the second instalment of the government Cash Flow Boost income of \$50,000 has been deferred until related expenses are incurred and (iii) Employee Benefits as long-term provision recognised for long service leave has been measured on the undiscounted basis which does not comply with AASB 119 Employee Benefits.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

#### (a) Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

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# MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2020

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The carrying amount of an item of PPE shall be derecognised on disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of PPE shall be included in profit or loss when the item is derecognised.

**(b) Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying values 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 costs to sell and 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.

**(c) Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

**(d) Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the association 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 reasonably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

**(e) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

**(f) Leases**

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the period in which they are incurred.

For leases that have significantly below-market terms and conditions principally to enable the association to further its objectives (commonly known as peppercorn/concessionary leases), the association has adopted the temporary relief under AASB2018-8 and measures the right of use assets at cost on initial recognition.

**(g) 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 Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the assets and liabilities statement are shown inclusive of GST.

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# MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2020

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### (h) 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 association 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.

### (i) Revenue and Other Income

Revenue includes income received for services provided in relation grant income, outdoor explore programs, donations, government COVID-19 cash flow boost instalments and other income.

Revenue is measured at the value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

Interest revenue is recognised upon receipt.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

### (j) Income Tax

The Association is a registered charity and is exempt from income tax in accordance with Section 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. The Association is a public benevolent institution and holds deductible gift recipient status.

### (k) Key estimates and judgments

Plant and equipment - as indicated in Note 1(a), the association reviews the useful life of plant and equipment on annual basis.

Employee entitlements - as indicated at Note 1(c), employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The association exercises judgment in the classification of employment arrangements in order to assess any obligation for employee entitlements.

Going concern - the COVID-19 pandemic has detrimentally effected the worldwide economy. The association has assessed its ability to continue as a going concern and there is no known material uncertainty as at the date of signing the financial report that would effect the ability of the association to continue as a going concern. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared as a going concern.

### (l) Economic Dependence

The Association is dependent on the Department of Communities & Justice (previously known as Family & Community Services) ("the Department") for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. On 22nd May 2020 the Association renewed its agreement for funding services with the Department for a five year term commencing 1st July 2020. At the date of this report the Committee has no reason to believe the Department will not continue to support the Association.

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**MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**For the year ended 30 June 2020**

2020

2019

**Note 2. Reconciliation Of Cash**

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:

Cash At Bank	248,048	199,428
CBA Term Deposit	100,000	
	<u>348,048</u>	<u>199,428</u>

**Note 3. Reconciliation Of Net Cash Provided By/Used In Operating Activities To Net Profit**

Operating profit	86,403	11,775
Non-cash balances:		
Depreciation expense	40,476	23,775
Provision for bad and doubtful debts	(13,886)	13,886
ATO Cash Flow Boost	(50,000)	
Computer software write-off		7,237
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in trade and term debtors	41,078	48,314
(Increase) decrease in other debtors		7,326
(Increase) decrease in prepayments	(688)	(4,002)
Increase (decrease) in trade creditors and accruals	20,843	(17,212)
Increase (decrease) in other creditors	4,814	(115,289)
Increase (decrease) in grants in advance	11,520	
Increase (decrease) in employee entitlements	28,492	(110,175)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<u><b>169,052</b></u>	<u><b>(134,365)</b></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2020

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### **Note 4: Capital and Leasing Commitments**

As part of the restructuring during the year, MYST no longer required lease premises for its NDIS operations. Consequently, the lease for Level 1/206-208 Macquarie Road, Springwood expired on 30th April 2019 and was not renewed.

MYST does not have any contracted lease expenditure for any of its other leased premises.

### **Note 5: Comparative Information in relation to the 2019 Financial Year**

During the 2019 financial year the Board and management commenced a restructure of MYST to enable MYST to improve the quality of its youth programs and their service delivery. This restructure led to MYST ceasing provision of NDIS disability services from January 2019. Clients and the NDIA were given notice as per service agreements and relevant staff given notice as per their employment contracts. Accordingly, computer software previously recognised within the Detailed Balance Sheet used to provide NDIS related services was derecognised and written off to the Profit and Loss Statement in the 19FY.

### **Note 6: Contingent Liabilities**

A landmark judgement in May 2020 by the Full Court of the Federal Court on the Workpac Pty Ltd vs Rossato (WorkPac vs Rossato) case, ruled that an employee previously considered by the employer as "casual" who worked regular and predictable shifts was entitled to additional paid leave. The higher pay rate received (casual loading) could not be used to offset leave entitlement obligations. Post 30 June 2020, WorkPac applied to the High Court for special leave to appeal the Full Federal Court's decision that Rossato was a casual employee. At the date of signing of the financial report, the High Court has not made a decision on the application.

MYST employs casual staff and does not recognise paid leave entitlements for casual staff. No leave entitlements have been recognised in the 30 June 2020 financial statements. The entity has assessed there may be a possible obligation at 30 June 2020, however, the estimate of the financial effect is unknown.

### **Note 7: Related parties**

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Transactions with Director related entities:

- On 27th March 2020, MYST signed an agreement to terminate a Members Agreement (dated 24th February 2016) to work collaboratively with the Professional Individualised Care Limited (PIC) in the establishment phase of the PIC activities. PIC is a related entity of Stuart Miller, Director (resigned 30th April 2020).
- Kim Scanlon is a staff representative appointed to the Committee to fill a casual vacancy on 22/10/19 and is also an employee of the association. Due to confidentiality her remuneration is not disclosed separately in this Note.

### **Identification of Related Parties**

- Stuart Miller, Director (resigned 30th April 2020)
  - Kim Scanlon (appointed 22nd October 2019)
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**MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. ABN 19 942 569 473**

**Statement by Members of the Committee**

**For the year ended 30 June 2020**

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The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Committee the Income and Expenditure Statement, Statement of Financial Position, and Notes to the Financial Statements:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. as at 30 June 2020 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 association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
3. the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013 on behalf of the Committee by:



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Andrew Francis  
Chairperson



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Joy Cusack

## **Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of MOUNTAINS YOUTH SERVICES TEAM INC. (the association), which comprises the Statement by Members of the Committee, Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2020, statement of cash flows, a summary of significant accounting policies and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2020 and [of] its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and division 60 of 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 association 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 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.

### **Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting**

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### **Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report**

The committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act) and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

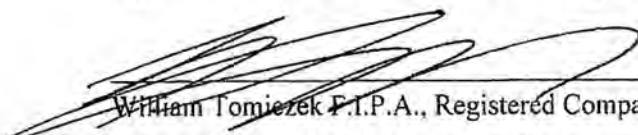
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that 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 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 association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's 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 association'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 association 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 committee 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.

Signed on : *2nd October 2020*

  
William Tomiejek F.I.P.A., Registered Company Auditor 1425

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