



# VMIAAC ANNUAL REPORT

**2017-2018**

VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL  
03 9380 3900  
1/22 AINTREE STREET  
BRUNSWICK EAST  
VICTORIA  
[WWW.VMIAC.ORG.AU](http://WWW.VMIAC.ORG.AU)

"Life is like a lemon in a tree  
As soon as you let yourself go, you fall to the ground  
You are either used or deteriorate  
But if you hold on, in life...  
You are simply admired."

Newbegin

We all became quite fond of our lemon tree in the backyard at 23 Weston Street. But we also understood that the name stood for an owning of the 'lemon-ness' of mental illness by the project – an explicit, almost defiant, acceptance of the stigma of mental illness in the general community where it is regarded as something unfortunate, shameful. A lemon with which to be saddled (to mix metaphors).

The metaphor extends by suggesting that in coming to appreciate the taste of the lemon juice (the experience of mental illness as communicated by consumers) -recognising and acknowledging its own distinct bitterness and sourness - there comes an awareness of the zest and unique qualities the juice of the lemon (consumer experience) brings to 'compound' it is 'mixed' with.

## About VMIAC

VMIAC is the peak Victorian non-government organisation for people with direct lived experience of mental health issues or emotional distress.

VMIAC's membership comprises individuals and groups of people with direct lived experience. Associate members (non-consumers) may also belong to the organisation if they support the aims of VMIAC.

VMIAC engages in a number of activities including:

- Information provision
- Support
- Consumer perspective education and training
- Individual, group and systemic advocacy
- Research

VMIAC receives recurrent funding from both the Commonwealth and Victorian State Governments. The State Department of Health and Human Services provides the bulk of our funding to enable us to undertake most of our work. The Commonwealth Department of Social Services provides funding to deliver an advocacy service to people who live in rural and regional Victoria.

## OUR VISION

A world where all mental health consumers stand proud, live a life with choices honoured, rights upheld and these principles are embedded in all aspects of society.

VMIAC aims to achieve our vision by:

1. Honouring mental health consumer diversity
2. Providing advocacy for mental health consumers
3. Advancing mental health consumer workforce and leadership
4. Delivering information and training to the community
5. Enabling mental health consumer driven education and research
6. Developing strategic partnerships

## OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

VMIAC's work is premised on the following beliefs:

- People's experiences are respected and valued
- People are experts in their own lives
- People have a right to self determination
- People have capacity to make genuine choices, free from coercion
- People should be safe, respected, valued and informed
- People's diversity is embraced

## Highlights of the Year

- Collaborative work with Melbourne University through the Melbourne Social Equity Institute
- Hosted a talk by Daniel Fisher (ECPR)
- Hosted a talk by Eleanor Longden
- Active participation on the Mental Health 10 Year Plan Taskforce
- Active participation on the following 10 year Mental Health reference groups
  - Lived Experience Reference Group (co chair)
  - Workforce Reference Group
  - Innovation Reference Group
- Active participation on NDIS Taskforce
- NDIS Musical performed at Department of Health and Human Services
- NDIS Musical performed at TheMHS Conference in Sydney
- Supported 14 consumers to attend TheMHS in Sydney
- NDIS Musical performed at National NDIS Conference
- VMIAC 'Our People, Our Voice' Conference
- Completed NDIS education rural and metro sessions
- Completed APSU and VMIAC rural road shows
- Attended ECT Hearing at Melbourne Magistrates Court
- Commenced Human Rights groups
- Commenced Consumer Register
- Partnered with Melbourne Polytech to co-produce Certificate IV in Peer Work
- Facilitated a Midsumma stall
- Developed consumer perspective supervision project
- Assisted Mental Health Tribunal Community Participation selection
- Guest speaker to Ministerial Youth Advisory Group
- Participated in Indigenous Cultural Training with Vacca



## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Members of the Committee of Management for the 2017-2018 year were:

- **Chairperson** Vrinda Edan
- **Deputy Chairperson** James Horton
- **Secretary** Liz Carr
- **Treasurer** Sal Di Giovanni

Ordinary members:

- Ali Pain
- Xenia Girdler
- Tricia Szirom
- Alison Hall
- Erandathie Jayakody
- Philip Kanalidis

As well as the Committee of Management meetings, Committee members and general members have also sat on sub committees that form part of the VMIAC Governance structure

- Finance Audit and Risk Management sub committee
- Human Rights and Ethics committee
- Governance sub committee

## VMIAC TEAM

The VMIAC TEAM have undergone a number of changes. In the last year we have said goodbye to:

Simone Allen  
David Barclay  
Jo Berto  
Susan Borg  
Ella Kingsley  
Vaanie Krishnan

We have welcomed to our team:

Daniela Davis-Murray	NDIS Appeals and Reviews
Beck Curry	NDIS Appeals and Reviews
Jenny Bretnall	NDIS Education
Cherie Windsor	Community Engagement Project Officer
Jopay Stephenson	Reception
Indigo Daya	Human Rights Advisor

Continuing their work within the team:

Maggie Toko	CEO
Liz Leveridge	PA to the CEO
Neil Turton-Lane	NDIS Manager
Deb Carlon	External Relations Manager
Narelle Fousketakis	Finance and Quality Assurance
Frankie Freeman	Consumer Engagement Manager
Bill Moon	Information and Telephone Advocate
Dominic Troughton	Information and Telephone Advocate

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – VRINDA EDAN

This has been an exciting year for VMIAC. You will see from the reports by staff that we have continued to grow and expand our work: responding to issues with the NDIS, increasing our focus on human rights, for the first time developing an election strategy and developing a program to respond to consumers' experiences of being unsafe on inpatient units.

The NDIS team has grown and continued to work in both community education and direct advocacy. It has been wonderful to share some of the successes of this advocacy with the team and to be able to take some of the issues faced by consumers trying to access an NDIS package to government. We will continue to have a focus on this area as more people attempt to access support and we gain better understanding of the barriers and problems with the current scheme.

The Committee made a commitment last year to grow our involvement in supporting human rights and improving awareness of human rights for consumers. We were very pleased to be able to employ a Human Rights Advisor and have been impressed with the great work the team has done to support her and the work we have been able to do. Central to this has been developing a strategy for VMIAC to take a stand in the state election, both with and for consumers across Victoria.

The membership of VMIAC has, for a long time, been vocal about the issues of sexual violence on inpatient units and over the years there have been a number of projects, both within VMIAC and undertaken by other agencies, that specifically highlight the experiences of sexual violence in units and other residential services. This year the Mental Health Complaints Commissioner issued a report on this issue, following a major investigation into 90 consumer complaints. VMIAC provided the Department of Health and Human Services with an initial written response to the report, in particular highlighting an additional need to address the experience of historical survivors of sexual assault in hospitals. We submitted a proposal for peer-run service to support these people to disclose their experiences in a supportive and safe space and receive support to access justice or further supportive services. VMIAC was pleased to receive funding to pilot this service, which will launch in the next financial year.

On behalf of the Committee of Management, I would like to thank Maggie and the senior leadership team at VMIAC who have worked so hard to steer us through the last year. Finally, I would like to thank everyone on the VMIAC Team who have dedicated themselves to the important work of ensuring that the experiences of consumers and our members is at the forefront of what we do.

Vrinda Edan

Chair Committee of Management

## ACTING TREASURER'S REPORT – LIZ CARR

The period 2017/18 has recorded significant financial growth for VMIAC. We received more funding during this time period and as such have expanded our ever-growing workforce. VMIAC continues to manage funds and complete outcome requirements within the guidelines of our funding agreements.

- Expenditures have been well managed in line with increased grant funding.
- Wages and salary costs have generally improved proportionately to the increased grants received compared to last year.

VMIAC will carry a surplus through the 2017/18 year. This surplus will be expended in 2018/19 on budgeted programs.

Liz Carr

Acting Treasurer, Committee of Management





## CEO REPORT – MAGGIE TOKO

Kia Ora everyone,

It has been an amazing year—VMIAC has had celebrations and tribulations in the past 12 months. We started July 2017 with the end of the financial year bringing in more funding for essential work that we do. It was a very prosperous period and as such we were able to employ three new staff with focus on educating and upskilling consumers on the NDIS, someone to lead our joint partnership CALD program with Tandem Carers and finally our Human Rights Advisor. All three positions have gone on to challenge the status quo in each area of their work with some outstanding benefits of which they will highlight in our report.

We celebrated TheMHS in Sydney and we took fourteen people to the conference—some of whom were scholarship recipients and the cast of our Musical. In fact, we closed the conference with the VMIAC NDIS the Musical – you literally could not stop the stomping and clapping at the end. The stage had been set for the next big event which was the VMIAC Conference – held in November we workshopped 250 people over two days at the Northcote Town Hall. It was an impressive show of VMIAC Consumer Pride.

Turning the corner of November we headed into December and our traditional end-of-year celebration with our VMIAC members. Eighty consumers, family and friends attended the VMIAC feast and we celebrated well into the afternoon.

The new year brought a new paradigm for me on a personal level as I took an extended period of time off work due to ill health and left VMIAC in the capable hands of the VMIAC Team. During my absence VMIAC was privileged to host Eleanor Longden who generously offered her time on a Saturday afternoon to share her insights and research with forty-five consumers. VMIAC turned out once more at the Midsumma festival where we stood out and proud about mental health.

On my return to work I was greeted by a series of successful NDIS videos which had been produced by our NDIS educator, Jenny. VMIAC had also been successful in seeking funding to respond to the Mental Health Complaints Commission Report on sexual safety in hospitals. All in all, it has been a productive year, VMIAC's partnerships have consolidated and grown reflecting our commitment to diversity. VMIAC continues to strive for strong consumer leadership—I think anything is possible with Team VMIAC.

Maggie Toko  
CEO

## THEMHS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

VMIAC continued to offer scholarship opportunities for consumers to attend THEMHS. The aim is to provide an opportunity for a breadth of consumers to apply to attend the conference. Applications were sort from participants who identified with one or more of the following categories:

- LGBTIQ
- Culturally and Linguistically diverse
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- Youth
- Consumer workers
- Those who had not previously attended

In 2017 VMIAC awarded six scholarships. Here are some of the participants commenting on their experience:

### **Darby –**

“I have been in the consumer workforce for 18 months and consider myself a tadpole peer support worker/consultant. The opportunity to attend this conference so early in my career has played an integral part in developing my skills, knowledge and confidence. It was so inspiring to rub shoulders with so many consumers throughout the entire conference but especially on the Consumer centric Tuesday. It began with an electrifying speech by Flick Grey that certainly raised the bar for the rest of the conference. As a young, queer person it was also really valuable to have my demographic represented at the Identity and Mental health discussion later in the day.”

### **Daniel –**

“Firstly, I would like to express a huge thank you to VMIAC for making this scholarship possible, accessible, a friendly and an easy experience to be a part of. Preconceived expectations drawn from past experience gave me good insight as to what I might see and hear at this conference, all were met instantly in a mix of both satisfaction and disappointment. Many of the discussion topics were quite confronting as so many people shared their life experiences.

VMIAC has done a great credit to pushing things along; this was evident in the other scholarship members drawn from across Victoria full of passion and personal interest within the field. Bringing together people with both skills and experience is a very encouraging prospect indeed.”

### Bronwyn –

"I am so grateful for VMIAC giving me the opportunity to attend TheMHS in Sydney this year. The focus on lived experience reminded me that my own lived experience as a service user has taught me invaluable life skills which now allow me to practice more authenticity when working with my clients in the mental health sector.

The conference had so many inspiring talks and I was blessed with the opportunity to meet a diverse range like-minded of service professionals to share this experience with. Thank you VMIAC for a truly special experience."

### Rick –

"I was fortunate enough to attend the recent TheMHS conference held in Sydney with my attendance sponsored by VMIAC. I was hoping to attend presentations that were relevant to my current employment, focusing mainly on the NDIS and its changing landscape. The conference provided me with ample opportunities to do this as well as attending other workshops which took my interest.

All the staff were extremely accommodating to all those sponsored to attend, with the highlight of the accommodation being the buffet breakfast. And being an early bird, it was fantastic to share ideas with Maggie Toko first thing in the mornings."

## CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT MANAGERS REPORT – FRANKIE FREEMAN

I've been fortunate to take over the reigns as Community Engagement Manager role in the past year, managing key forward-facing programs for our consumer communities including our advocacy program. It's been an absolute pleasure and I would like to take this opportunity to thank my team for all their hard work over the past 12 months.

### Advocacy

In terms of our advocacy, it certainly has been yet another busy year, with the team of Susan, Simone, Bill, Dom and myself working hard to provide assistance to consumers across Victoria. We've had a number of successes in terms of working across the state: we've continued to have advocates in PARCs, in-patient units, secure extended care units and are seeking to expand our reach in these areas over the coming year.

Over the 2017-2018 period we've had 116 new consumer advocacies and have continued to work with a number of consumers on their longer-term goals. In relation to these new advocacies, we have seen a significant increase in request for assistance in relation to the navigation of the NDIS space and have been working with our NDIS team to ensure that consumers from across the state are able to have their needs met.

Other issues that have been prominent for us over the period are:

- Assistance with Mental Health Complaints Commissioner complaints
- State Trustee and VCAT support
- Freedom of Information request support
- Consumer access to services

### Consumer Engagement

We would like to welcome aboard Cherie Windsor to our team in the role of Community Engagement Project Officer. Cherie has been working tirelessly to bring a warm, VMIAC feel to our recent events and we look forward to her ongoing contributions to our team.

Speaking of events with the VMIAC feel—the 2017 Our People, Our Voice conference was a resounding success, with over 250 people were engaged over two days and 43 workshops, we were lucky enough to see some really special things coming to fruition in the consumer community and enjoyed the opportunity to come together and celebrate the evolution of the consumer workforce. Our guest speakers Faye Jackson, Indigo Daya, Keir Saltmarsh and Cath Roper were particularly well received, one attendee said: "This is the best conference I've been to... the guest speakers were phenomenal!".

As well as the conference, VMIAC had many other opportunities throughout the year to engage with the community including: the Midsumma Carnival, the CALD forum, the APSU-VMIAC Roadshows, and various consultations throughout the year.

The other exciting aspect of my role has been the development of the VMIAC Consumer Register—a vehicle in which consumers are trained and supported to provide input and leadership into issues that affect the broader consumer community. We have been lucky enough to have had our first cohort trained up throughout this period and look forward to the expansion of the program in the coming year.

Overall it's been an absolute pleasure to be a part of VMIAC at a time of such tremendous growth and I look forward to seeing our service go from strength to strength in the future.



## OUR PEOPLE, OUR VOICE CONFERENCE

VMIAC's Our People, Our Voice Conference took place at the Northcote Town Hall, from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2017. More than 250 people attended over the two days, with 68% of attendees being provided with bursary places.

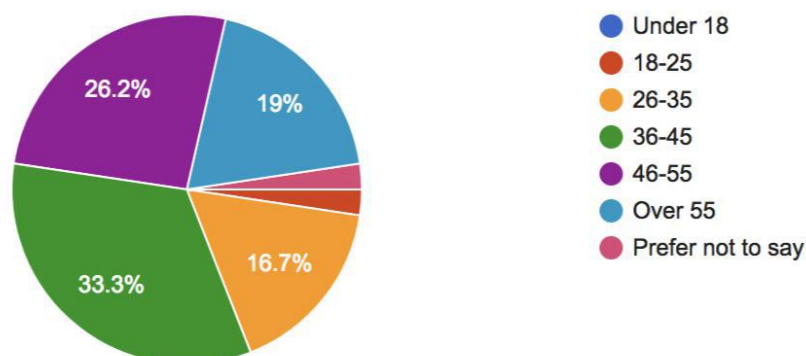
There were four general sessions each day, with each session having multiple presentations and/or workshops running concurrently. Over the two days 85 presenters contributed to 44 presentations and workshops on a variety of themes; with co-production, lived-experience leadership, and the exploration of power dynamics being key points of discussion across a number of the sessions.

All but two of the presentations or workshops had one or more declared lived-experience presenter/s, with the majority of sessions being made up of lived-experience presenters only. There was also a diversity in how experienced each presenter was, with four first-time presenters, right up to those that have over 20 years of experience.

There was also two keynote addresses each day: Indigo Daya and Fay Jackson on the 1<sup>st</sup> day and Keir Saltmarsh and Cath Roper on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day. Those attending the conference also came from a variety of spheres, including: clinicians and clinical service workers, community mental health peer workers, consumers from care units, and CEOs.

Demographically, 78% of our evaluation respondents identified as "consumers" and 52% also identified as "a carer or loved one of someone with a mental illness and/or emotional issues". The majority of participants identified as female: 59% compared to 39% male, 2% other/no answer and 1% non-binary. There was a range of ages as demonstrated below:

AGE of survey respondents



We also had significant CALD presence at the conference with 29% of respondents identifying as part of the culturally and/or linguistically diverse community. 3% of respondents identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

## Feedback

The majority of feedback was that people were satisfied with the event and would like to attend again in the future. Formally, 92% of survey respondents said they thought the conference was relevant and helpful to their work and/or life.

Evaluation Quotes:

*"I was inspired and humbled as a manager working in the mental health setting. Reinforced the vital role of peer work in our sector and challenged me to fight the conservatism and power imbalance in the services I run. Hugely grateful for the opportunity to attend."*

*"I really enjoyed taking part and it give me great insight and motivation to keep pursuing a career as a consumer worker."*

*"This event allowed me to re-engage with the lived experience workforce and feel supported after a very dark period in my life. It means a lot to me."*

*"Great consumer-led topics explored well. A chance for consumer leadership to shine and be shared with others. A time for networking and friendship, as essential elements in building and sustaining a movement. Inspirational new thinking. Mentoring in an open and generous way "*



## NDIS MANAGERS REPORT– NEIL TURTON–LANE

The past 12 months have seen a lot of dedicated and hard work undertaken by our incredibly talented and passionate NDIS team who have excelled at supporting consumers to better understand and stand up for their rights around their access and use of the NDIS.

During this time, the NDIS team has developed a range of innovative and creative resources that help unpack and explain how the NDIS operates as well as going in to bat for numerous consumers whose access to the NDIS has been declined or who are experiencing difficulties with the NDIS plan that they have been given.

At a systemic level VMIAC has been active and influential in its advocacy work, across all levels of government and the mental health sector. We have participated in a range of important State Government NDIS Implementation Taskforce Working Groups and numerous other working groups and collaborations. In all the work that our NDIS team does we are informed and motivated by the people who we encounter, who share their experiences and stories around seeking support and assistance from the NDIS and the community mental health sector. There is still much of great concern around the NDIS's implementation that needs addressing.

### NDIS Appeals and Reviews

It has been a busy time for the NDIS Appeals and Reviews Team. As of June 30, we have seven consumers at the AAT appealing NDIA decisions. Of the 7 consumers at the AAT one is listed for hearing, and the others are still at case conference or settlement stage. We have also supported 30-40 other consumers through Internal Review and/or a review of supporting evidence for access requests to the NDIS over the last six months. Numerous enquiries have also been taken. Enquiries have been from psychiatrists in the clinical sector, support workers in the community mental health sector, GPs and consumers and carers generally about how to write for and gather evidence for the NDIA.

The NDIS Appeals and Reviews Team has also forged working partnerships with the Victorian Disability Advocacy Network and other disability advocacy services including Leadership Plus, RIAC, VALID, Tandem and Disability Justice Advocacy. Assistance has been given to VicDan writing and editing letters to the NDIA as well as drafting and editing two conference papers.

### NDIS Education

As the National Disability Insurance Scheme has continued to roll-out in Victoria, so too has VMIAC's NDIS educational information sessions and resources.

In the past six months alone, the VMIAC NDIS Educator has presented information sessions to just under 1000 people within five different roll-out areas; Brimbank, West Melbourne, Inner East, Bayside and Southern Melbourne. Whilst speaking engagements have predominately been provided for consumers, their families and support people, service providers and practitioners have also been requesting specific information sessions. Orygen, Youth Network Port Phillip,

Valid, Outdoors Inc, Neami, Mind, Reach, Sacred Heart City Mission, EMHSCA, Launch Housing and Cohealth have all requested VMIAC NDIS information sessions.

VMIAC has worked in partnership with many local councils, Tandem, YDAS and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and provided information sessions to specialist areas such as youth, hard to reach and homeless people.

NDIS resources have been developed to assist consumers navigate the ever-changing landscape of the NDIS and are readily accessible on the VMIAC website. Videos including a six-part series giving people an insight into the NDIS process for psychosocial disability and another focusing on The Annual Plan Review have been published onto VMIAC's YouTube Channel. A pamphlet with a supplementary guide aimed at informing health professionals on NDIS requirements has assisted consumers in requesting their specific health team provide evidence for the NDIS. The Appeals and Review Guide and Scheduled Plan Review Guide provide practical explanation and steps for people wanting specific information on these processes.

It's been a big year in the VMIAC NDIS education sphere; keeping informed of the many changes within the NDIS and the NDIA's interpretation of the NDIS Act, raising awareness regarding the gaps and inequities of the NDIS regarding psychosocial disabilities with government bodies, forging many partnerships and building positive networks and disseminating information.

## HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORS REPORT – INDIGO DAYA

The Human Rights Advisor is a new role for VMIAC, commencing from January 2018. This role has a particular focus on systemic advocacy, compared to most other roles at VMIAC which focus much more on individual advocacy and support. The role also helps VMIAC to maintain focus on its vision, which is deeply grounded in human rights.

Indigo Daya was appointed to the Human Rights Advisor role in January 2018. Key achievements during this time have included:

### **Committees and advisory group memberships:**

- Chief Psychiatrist's Statutory Committee on ECT
- Victoria Police Mental Health Portfolio Reference Group
- Chief Psychiatrist project advisory group: Promoting Human Rights Project

### **Groups and consumer consultations:**

- Established VMIAC's new Human Rights Group: Open to all consumers, held twice a month
- Held a consumer consultation on sexual violence in hospitals
- Conducted a consumer survey on advance statements and nominated persons

### **Public talks and conferences:**

- 'Is trauma-informed practice really possible in mental health services?' Keynote address, TheMHS Summer Forum, Sydney
- Panel member at 'The Right to be Safe' Forum, Mental Health Complaints Commissioner
- 'Trauma Informed Practice,' Lecture to Occupational Therapy students, ACU
- 'Fish out of water: Tackling the challenges of lived experience work.' Workshop delivered at DHHS Expanding post discharge support peer worker forum, Melbourne.
- 'Consumer perspectives on risk assessment', talk delivered at Chief Psychiatrist Quality and Safety forum

### **Media interviews:**

- 'Trauma, Memory and Mental Health', All in the Mind, ABC Radio National.
- 'Stuck in the ED for days, hospitals are harming mental health patients', The Age.
- 'Mental health patients waiting too long in emergency departments', The World Today, ABC Radio National



### Reports:

- Submission to DHHS: Initial response to Mental Health Complaints Commissioner report, 'The Right to be Safe'
- Consumer survey report: Advance statements and nominated persons

### Strategy:

- Developed strategic plan for VMIAC election platform
- Developed strategic approach to VMIAC social media communications
- Developed a register of human rights issues experienced by mental health consumers

### Grants:

- Funding proposal for VMIAC's new peer support program for survivors of sexual violence in hospital
- Funding proposal for research seed funding grant at Melbourne Social Equity Institute
- Application for Community Fellowship at Melbourne Social Equity Institute

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**VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL**  
**ABN 28 642 080 520**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2018**

**VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL**  
**ABN 28 642 080 520**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2018**

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**VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL**  
**ABN 28 642 080 520**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2018**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2018</b> \$	<b>2017</b> \$
Revenue from ordinary activities	2	2,066,746	1,315,012
Employee benefits expense		(1,072,689)	(895,356)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(14,947)	(15,836)
Loss on sale of assets		-	(2,798)
Consultants fees		(10,020)	(1,756)
Direct program expenses		(535,523)	(159,372)
Rent and rates		(39,885)	(40,733)
Other expenses from ordinary activities		<u>(169,021)</u>	<u>(201,765)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before income tax expense		224,661	(2,604)
Income tax expense		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense		<u><u>224,661</u></u>	<u><u>(2,604)</u></u>



**VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL**  
**ABN 28 642 080 520**

**ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT**  
**AS AT**  
**30 JUNE 2018**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2018</b> <b>\$</b>	<b>2017</b> <b>\$</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	1,518,512	1,423,408
Trade and other receivables	4	44,133	62,154
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>1,562,645</u>	<u>1,485,562</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	5	49,586	59,649
Intangible assets	6	-	78
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>49,586</u>	<u>59,727</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>1,612,231</u>	<u>1,545,289</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	7	116,575	123,423
Income in advance	8	795,086	937,802
Provisions	9	76,611	87,843
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>988,272</u>	<u>1,149,068</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Income in advance	8	139,781	136,704
Provisions	9	-	-
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>139,781</u>	<u>136,704</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>1,128,053</u>	<u>1,285,772</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>484,178</u>	<u>259,517</u>
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Retained Surplus		484,178	259,517
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		<u>484,178</u>	<u>259,517</u>

**VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL**  
**ABN 28 642 080 520**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2018**

	<b>Retained Earnings \$</b>	<b>Total \$</b>
<b>Balance at 1 July 2016</b>	262,121	262,121
Surplus attributable to the entity	(2,604)	(2,604)
Other comprehensive income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2017</b>	259,517	259,517
Surplus attributable to the entity	224,661	224,661
Other comprehensive income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2018</b>	<u><u>484,178</u></u>	<u><u>484,178</u></u>

**VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL**  
**ABN 28 642 080 520**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2018**

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from government and sponsors		1,725,446	1,993,640
Other grants, donations and sundry income received		182,068	173,470
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,811,796)	(1,525,073)
Interest received		4,192	4,523
		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	10	<u>99,910</u>	<u>646,560</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payments for purchase of plant and equipment		(4,806)	(32,073)
Proceeds on sale of assets		-	8,510
		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>(4,806)</u>	<u>(23,563)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		95,104	622,997
Cash at the beginning of the year		<u>1,423,408</u>	<u>800,411</u>
Cash at the end of the year		<u><u>1,518,512</u></u>	<u><u>1,423,408</u></u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2018**

**Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies**

This financial report is special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. The committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity. 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 valuation of non-current assets. The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in preparation of this financial report.

**a. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

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

**b. Property, Plant and Equipment**

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

The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment 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.

**c. Employee Entitlements**

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.

Provision is made for the Association's liability for long service leave when an employee reaches 5 years of continuous employment service with the Association.

**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 reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

**e. Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the Association reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is an 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 amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30 JUNE 2018

**Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)**

**f. Revenue**

Revenue is brought to account when received and to the extent that it relates to the subsequent period it is disclosed as a liability.

***Grant Income***

Grant income received, other than for specific purposes, is brought to account over the period to which the grant relates.

***Deferred Income***

Unspent grant income received in relation to specific projects and events is not brought to account as revenue in the current year but deferred as a liability in the financial statements until spent for the purpose received.

***Interest Revenue***

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

***Donations***

Donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds which is generally at the time of receipt.

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

**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 Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

**h. Income Tax**

The Association is exempt from paying income tax by virtue of Section 50-45 of the Income Tax Assessment Act, 1997. Accordingly, tax effect accounting has not been adopted.



**VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL**  
**ABN 28 642 080 520**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2018**

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Note 2: Revenue from ordinary activities</b>		
Operating grants	1,865,085	1,152,789
Other income	197,469	157,700
Interest received	4,192	4,523
	<u>2,066,746</u>	<u>1,315,012</u>
<b>Note 3: Cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Petty cash	158	264
Cash at bank	1,280,908	1,190,318
Term deposit	97,665	96,122
Term deposit held for restricted purposes - VMIAC Awards - Estate of DJ Western	139,781	136,704
	<u>1,518,512</u>	<u>1,423,408</u>
<b>Note 4: Trade and other receivables</b>		
Trade and sundry receivables	34,194	18,793
Rental bond	5,000	5,000
Refundable deposit	-	200
Prepaid expenses	4,939	38,161
	<u>44,133</u>	<u>62,154</u>
<b>Note 5: Property, plant and equipment</b>		
Furniture and equipment - as cost	100,220	96,188
Less accumulated depreciation	(88,149)	(80,823)
	<u>12,071</u>	<u>15,365</u>
Motor vehicles - as cost	30,893	30,893
Less accumulated depreciation	(12,422)	(8,150)
	<u>18,471</u>	<u>22,743</u>
Leasehold improvements - at cost	57,705	56,932
Less accumulated depreciation	(38,661)	(35,391)
	<u>19,044</u>	<u>21,541</u>
Total property, plant and equipment	<u>49,586</u>	<u>59,649</u>
<b>Note 6: Intangibles</b>		
Website development costs	10,000	10,000
Less accumulated amortisation	(10,000)	(9,922)
	<u>-</u>	<u>78</u>

**VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL**  
**ABN 28 642 080 520**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2018**

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Note 7: Trade and other payables</b>		
<i>Current</i>		
Trade creditors and other accruals	46,788	36,120
Payroll liabilities payable	23,954	10,625
GST liability	45,833	76,678
	<u>116,575</u>	<u>123,423</u>
<b>Note 8: Income in advance</b>		
<i>Current</i>		
Unspent grant funds - Commonwealth and State	795,086	875,624
Sponsorship in advance - conference	-	24,000
The MHS funding in advance	-	38,178
	<u>795,086</u>	<u>937,802</u>
<i>Non-Current</i>		
VMIAC Awards Trust - Estate of DJ Western	<u>139,781</u>	<u>136,704</u>
<b>Note 9: Provisions</b>		
<i>Current</i>		
Employee entitlements - annual leave	48,388	60,196
Employee entitlements - time in lieu	2,464	6,508
Employee entitlements - long service leave	25,759	21,139
	<u>76,611</u>	<u>87,843</u>
<i>Non-Current</i>		
Employee entitlements - long service leave	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL**  
**ABN 28 642 080 520**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2018**

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Note 10: Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus/(deficit) ordinary activities after income tax</b>		
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense	224,661	(2,604)
Non-cash flows in surplus		
- Depreciation and amortisation	14,947	15,836
- Net (gain)/loss on disposal of plant and equipment	-	2,798
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	18,021	171
- Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(6,848)	49,824
- Increase/(decrease) in income in advance	(139,639)	623,765
- Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(11,232)	(43,230)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>99,910</u>	<u>646,560</u>

**Note 11: Operating lease commitments**

*Operating leases contracted for but not recognised in the financial statements*

Payable - minimum lease payments:		
- no later than 12 months	34,069	34,069
- between 12 months and five years	-	34,069
- greater than five years	-	-
	<u>34,069</u>	<u>68,138</u>

The property lease is a non-cancellable lease with a 5 year term. An option exists to renew the lease at the end of the 5 year term for a further term of five years. The last date to exercise the option is 10th March 2019.

**VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL**

**ABN 28 642 080 520**


**STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30 JUNE 2018**

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

In the opinion of the committee of Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Inc.:

- a) the financial statements and notes of Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Inc. are in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic) 2012* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission*
- i. giving a true and fair view of its financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- ii. complying with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013* ; and
- b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

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



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Chairperson



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Treasurer

Dated: 17/10/2018

Dated: 17/10/2018

VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL

ABN 28 642 080 520

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SECTION  
60-40 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012**

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, as auditor for the audit of Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2018, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Sean Denham

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Sean Denham & Associates

Suite 1, 707 Mt Alexander Road

Moonee Ponds VIC 3039

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF  
VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL

**Opinion**

I have audited the accompanying financial report, of Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Inc., which comprises the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2018, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows and the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and the certification by members of the committee.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report of Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Inc. has been prepared in accordance with Div 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act)* including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complies with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)* and Div 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

*Basis for Opinion*

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of my report. I am independent of the association in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)* and 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 my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my 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 for the purpose of fulfilling the association's reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

*Responsibility of the Committee for the Financial Report*

The committee of the association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 of the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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



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

My 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 my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with 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 the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I 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 my 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 responsible entities' 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 I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am 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 my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions that may cause the 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.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Sean Denham

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Suite 1, 707 Mt Alexander Road  
Moonee Ponds VIC 3039