



Annual Report

2016 - 2017



Promoting health. Preventing harm.

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The 2016 - 2017 Financial Statements for Youth Solutions are a separate insert to this report. For a copy of the financial statements, please contact Youth Solutions.

Strategic Directions Statement

Youth Solutions is a youth alcohol and other drug prevention and health promotion charity working with young people aged 12 - 25 years in the Macarthur and Wingecarribee regions. Youth Solutions also works with the wider community, including educators, parents, community leaders and corporate partners.

VISION

To improve the health, wellbeing and resilience of our young people and community.

MISSION

To provide leadership in alcohol and other drug prevention and health promotion.

VALUES

Empowerment
Professionalism and integrity
Inclusion
Community development

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Community
Excellence
Capacity

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Prevention and early intervention
Harm minimisation
Health promotion
Social marketing
Youth participation

YOUTH SOLUTIONS IS FUNDED BY NSW HEALTH AND SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT

From the CEO



Geraldine Dean, Youth Solutions Chief Executive Officer

"Armed with the successes we witness, the impact young people tell us we make and the positive influence of our programs, we continue to strive forward and look towards another successful year of making a difference in the lives of young people."

2016 – 2017 has been another great year for Youth Solutions.

This year, we had over 1,650 young people engaged in our programs and workshops. As you read on, you will see the fantastic results these programs have achieved. Through our thorough evaluation processes, these young people and their support workers have attested to the positive impact Youth Solutions and its programs have had on their lives.

In addition to the 1,650 young people engaged in our programs, we connected with thousands of others through: community development work and engagement stalls; providing information, brief advice and referral; and implementing our own community health promotion campaigns.

Our #whychoose campaign, led by our volunteer Youth Advisory Group, tackled the issue of tobacco smoking; challenging young people to reflect on the decisions they make in relation to smoking, whilst opening up pathways for providing information about quitting smoking and accessing appropriate support services. The success of the campaign has also fuelled the drive for a new tobacco cessation program. The groundwork and development of program occurred this year and we hope to roll out the first pilot sessions in 2017 – 2018.

Our Safer Celebrations project hit new heights in 2016 – 2017, with the Celebrate Safe and Well campaign, which was delivered in partnership with Campbelltown Catholic Club. The campaign engaged with over 11,000 people and encouraged young people, and the wider community, to adopt safe partying practices and reduce excessive consumption of alcohol. A very special thank you to our Major Corporate Partner, Campbelltown Catholic Club, for their support of this campaign.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many members of the Youth Solutions family for their hard work and support over the past year. Our Board continues to provide leadership and unwavering support for our Service and its important work, whilst our Fundraising Committee works hard to raise the funds necessary for us to continue and expand our programs. Our Youth Advisory Group, Peer Educators and volunteers continue to play an important role in our Service and we are also privileged to have a passionate and hardworking team that believes not only in the work we do, but also believes in the young people in our community.

And lastly, we must thank our many sponsors, donors and supporters, including our Major Corporate Partner Campbelltown Catholic Club and Corporate Partner McDonald's in Macarthur. Your support helps us to prevent more young people from drug and alcohol related harm and is key to ensuring a strong and resilient community.

Prevention and health promotion work remains challenged by short term funding cycles and the ability to measure positive health and social outcomes over a much longer term. But armed with the successes we witness, the impact young people tell us we make and the positive influence of our programs, we continue to strive forward and look towards another successful year of making a difference in the lives of young people.

From the President



Peter Campbell, Youth Solutions President

"The key to the success of Youth Solutions lies in the passion and dedication of its people and the quality of its evidence-based programs and activities."

After another successful year, I remain incredibly proud to be President of the Youth Solutions Board.

In January, our Youth Advisory Group was named *Community Group of the Year* at the Camden Council Australia Day Awards, acknowledging the hard work and dedication of the youth volunteers who influence and drive our

Service's important work.

Our staff took part in leadership programs which honour their valuable expertise and one of our programs, DAIR (Drug and Alcohol Information and Resilience Skills), was named as a ZEST Award finalist for *Exceptional Project within a Not for Profit Organisation*.

In 2016 – 2017, Youth Solutions engaged with more young people than ever before, delivering important education and resilience building programs which continue to make a positive impact in our community.

The key to the success of Youth Solutions lies in the passion and dedication of its people and the quality of its evidence-based programs and activities.

Each day, the Youth Solutions team and volunteers work hard to provide young people with accurate information about drugs and alcohol, facilitating a safe place for discussion, education and support.

The team focuses on developing the skills, knowledge and resilience of young people, so that they are better equipped to handle life and avoid drug and alcohol-related issues. At the core of Youth Solutions' programs is a focus on safety with an inherent emphasis on safer decision making, minimising risk and preventing young people from drug and alcohol-related harm.

Whether it be teaching young people what to do in an emergency or how to keep safe on a night out, through to ensuring young people have the skills and knowledge to access help and support, Youth Solutions continues to play an important role in the lives of our young people.

The team and volunteers also play an important leadership role in our community, as positive role models who care about and believe in our future generations.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the Youth Solutions Board, CEO and team for their passion, dedication and hard work over the past year.

Thank you also to the Fundraising Committee and our many volunteers who lend a hand to improve our Service and the reach and impact we can have in this community.

Youth Solutions is also privileged to have the support of many businesses, organisations, community members and elected representatives and we would like to thank them for their invaluable support.

Please read on to see a full list of Youth Solutions sponsors for 2016 – 2017.

We all look forward to another great year, working together to deliver outcomes for young people and our community.

Our people

THE BOARD



President/Treasurer
Peter Campbell

Vice President
Rebecca Whitford

Executive Member
Tony Ross

Board Members
Kate Angelucci
Jodie Banasik
Geoff Ellis
Emma MacFarlane
Damon May

THE STAFF



Chief Executive Officer
Geraldine Dean

Finance and Administration Officer
Shannon McEwan

Communications Coordinator
Amanda Dillon

Youth Development Coordinator
Karen Yuen

Program Coordinator
Eden Wheatley

Health Promotion Officer
Miriam Deshayes

Program Support Officer
Rachel Kershaw

VOLUNTEERS – FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

In 2016 – 2017, the volunteer Youth Solutions Fundraising Committee assisted Youth Solutions to identify and coordinate fundraising opportunities to support the Service’s work and programs. Thank you to the Committee Members for their generous support!



Nicole Ellis



Rebekah Gates



Natalie Herd



**Sue-Lei
Hunt-Mingay**



Cassandra May



Sharon Moyle



Margaret Ross



Geraldine Dean



Amanda Dillon

VOLUNTEERS AND YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

In 2016 – 2017, Youth Solutions was greatly assisted by a number of volunteers, many of whom are young people who are members of our Youth Advisory Group or have come on board as Peer Educators. Thank you to our many volunteers who help support our work in the community.

Riordan Anderson
Khalid Almalki
Robert Barrie
Rhiannon Berki
Ebony Boothe
Karralene Boudaher-Cox
Jessica Brown
Mitchell Davis

Laura Dwyer
Joel Escarte Joya
Blaine Horne
Danielle Kahn
Kassee Loomes
Samantha McAuley
Rashad Moussa
Johnny Nguyen

Tristan O’Dowd
Lauren Payne
Taylor Pearce
Rachel Scott
Cameron Snell
Praween Senanayake
Gopi Subramaniam
Sue Willoughby



STUDENT PLACEMENTS

In 2016 – 2017, Youth Solutions offered placements to six students from the Australian College of Physical Education, OTEN TAFE, University of Wollongong and Western Sydney University, including the university's Medicine in Context program. Students assisted with a range of research and service delivery tasks. Thank you to the following students for their hard work in 2016 – 2017:

Khalid Almalki
Lulu Dawson



Tara Hartnett
Jayne Muscat



Xi Yu (Ceci)
Sarah Zarembo

Thank you for your support!

Community stories

KHALID ALMALKI

Khalid, aged 22, is a Youth Solutions YAG member and student placement, a Macarthur Heights resident and a Western Sydney University Bachelor of Health Science student.

"Youth Solutions does such important work with young people in our community, preventing young people from drug and alcohol issues and harm and helping young people to manage risks they are faced with."



I heard about Youth Solutions from Health Promotion Officer Miriam Deshayes, when she contacted me to be involved in a video project Youth Solutions was working on. Miriam had previously taught me at Western Sydney University.

Right away, I liked how Youth Solutions promoted health and did prevention work around drugs and alcohol with young people and the community and I wanted to contribute. I wanted to be part of it and wanted to get involved. I signed up to be part of the YAG and I also came on board as a student placement at Youth Solutions.

Being a student placement, I have been given the opportunity to help with research in relation to the programs Youth Solutions runs, analysing relevant research. With both YAG and the Student Placement Program I have also been able to go out to workshops with Youth Solutions staff, watching and assisting them with delivering activities with young people.

Through YAG I have also been able to receive training, be involved in planning a health promotion campaign and have had the opportunity to work with my peers.

By being part of YAG, I hoped to build up my confidence. I'm half way there and feel that being part of YAG and doing my student placement at Youth Solutions has helped me to make progress with that.

Apart from the confidence I have gained, I have also learned a lot about how to work with young people, strategies in health promotion and the kinds of activities you can run with young people to make a difference.

It's also a great feeling to be helping to deliver the message of Youth Solutions and its health promotion programs to the community and helping to run workshops with young people in schools has been my favourite part of being involved with Youth Solutions.

I also hope the experience will help me with my next step in my career.

I would definitely recommend Youth Solutions to other young people if they need help, support or education around drugs and alcohol.

I would also recommend the YAG to other young people. You're really missing out if you don't join YAG. As part of YAG you learn much more about health promotion, you learn a lot about local issues, you have a lot of fun and you play an important role in helping the community.

Youth Solutions does such important work with young people in our community, preventing young people from drug and alcohol issues and harm and helping young people to manage risks they are faced with. Their programs help to prevent drug and alcohol issues before they happen or escalate.

TONY AND MARGARET ROSS

Tony is a Youth Solutions Board Member and Margaret is a Fundraising Committee Member. Their business, Serenity Financial Professionals, is a long-term supporter of Youth Solutions.

"Youth Solutions empowers young people to make safer choices, the right choices, to overcome peer pressure, . . . to develop the life skills to cope with stresses."

We began our involvement 11 years ago when Tony started as the Rotary Club of Narellan representative on the Youth Solutions Board. We have been involved ever since, holding positions on the Board including President and Executive Member. Margaret also joined the Youth Solutions Fundraising Committee to volunteer her time to assist with planning the charity's fundraising events.

It has been a great 11 years, discovering an organisation we really believe in. Our business is involved in supporting Youth Solutions events and fundraising efforts, but we also volunteer a lot of our time to the organisation. We believe the best contribution we can make is to volunteer our time.



Serenity Financial Professionals is a financial planning and services organisation. In a nutshell our job is to help people focus on their financial future, identify what they want to achieve and put in place strategies to get them to achieve those dreams and goals.

From a business perspective, our business tends to deal with older people. But keeping in touch with younger people through Youth Solutions, such as the opportunity to connect with the Youth Advisory Group or other young people, has kept us aware and more attuned to the way young people think, the issues they face and what is important to them. It is connecting us with a future generation of clients.

For us it is not about the recognition or superficial things. We consider ourselves to be pretty fortunate in life, so with our good fortune it is our responsibility to do something to give back to the community. Small business owners have that opportunity to put something back into the community they live in and volunteering is our way of giving something back.

Also, having a teenage child, the mission of Youth Solutions resonates well with both of us. Learning about what young people can go through and how to deal with the issues and pressures they are facing helps us to better understand the issues our own child might face. It helps us to be able to talk with our son and his friends about drugs and alcohol and how to avoid issues in relation to this.

Youth Solutions works with our next generation of leaders in the community and those young people are facing greater than ever exposure to drugs and alcohol. Youth Solutions' work helps tremendously in that area. Their work centres around that word 'empowerment'. Being a prevention service, Youth Solutions is getting to young people before a potential problem sets in, giving those young people the capacity to be able to look at particular issues around alcohol or drugs and make a better decision, with a better understanding of the consequences. Youth Solutions empowers young people to make safer choices, the right choices, to overcome peer pressure. The programs help young people to develop the life skills to cope with stresses and difficult situations.

We actively encourage people to get behind Youth Solutions and we regularly share the service within our network. And it comes back to our belief in the organisation and what it is about. We talk with other parents about the issues young people face and the way that Youth Solutions empowers and can help.

We also share Youth Solutions with the young people in our life; whether it be as simple as connecting them with the social media message and networks of Youth Solutions to be able to link them to the important information Youth Solutions provides. Sometimes people don't know where to turn and we know they can turn to Youth Solutions for that information or support.

Projects

PROJECT: PEER ENRICHMENT AND EMPOWERMENT PROJECT (PEEP)



13 project collaborators

28 young people trained as peer educators

374 volunteer hours from peer educators

547 young people over 29 seminars

seminars delivered as Party SAFE and Drive SAFE

PARTY SAFE

of the participants in peer-led Party SAFE seminars:



INCREASED THEIR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND THEIR EFFECTS

94%

increased knowledge on how to be safe around alcohol

96%

increased knowledge on what to do in an emergency

94%

increased knowledge of support services and how to access them

DRIVE SAFE

of the participants in peer-led Drive SAFE seminars:



INCREASED THEIR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND THEIR EFFECTS

100%

increased knowledge on safety strategies & consequences of choices

100%

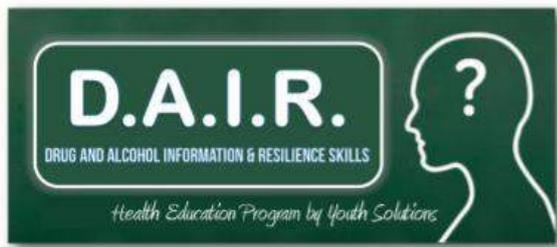
increased knowledge on what to do in an emergency

99%

increased knowledge of support services and how to access them

100% OF SUPPORT STAFF AT THE SEMINARS BELIEVE THE PROGRAMS WILL HELP THEIR YOUNG PEOPLE TO MAKE SAFER CHOICES AROUND ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

PROJECT: DRUG AND ALCOHOL INFORMATION AND RESILIENCE SKILLS (DAIR)



12 project collaborators

310 young people in 22 groups

program delivered as a series of workshops over 4-6 weeks

8% of participants are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

28% of participants speak another language at home

97%

increased knowledge about types and effects of alcohol and drugs

95%

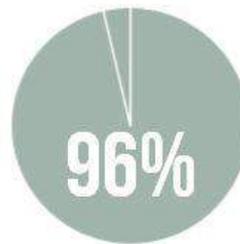
increased knowledge on what to do in an emergency

96%

increased knowledge on helpful ways to deal with stress

93%

would recommend the DAIR program to a friend



INCREASED THEIR KNOWLEDGE ON HOW TO BE SAFE AROUND ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

100% of support staff at the workshops believe the program will help their young people to make safer choices around alcohol and other drugs, deal with stress, handle an emergency, access support services and achieve positive health outcomes.

PROJECT: ARTUCATION



11 project collaborators

171 young people

program delivered as a series of workshops over 4-6 weeks

46% of participants are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

10% of participants speak another language at home

96%

increased knowledge about the effects of alcohol

97%

increased knowledge about the effects of smoking

87%

increased knowledge on helpful ways to deal with stress

94%

would recommend the ARTUCATION program to a friend



INCREASED THEIR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION

100% of support staff at the workshops believe the program will help their young people to make safer choices around alcohol, deal with stress & access support services. 100% increased their knowledge of drugs and alcohol & developed effective support strategies.

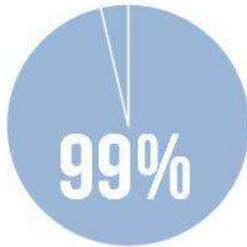
SECTOR TRAINING PROJECT: AOD LINK



10 sector training presentations

89 participants

- Topics included:
- synthetic substances
 - celebrating and online safety
 - drugs, alcohol and young people
 - drug and alcohol basics



99% OF PARTICIPANTS INCREASED THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN WORKING WITH CLIENTS IN A DRUG AND ALCOHOL PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION CONTEXT

Campaigns

#WHYICHOOSE ENGAGEMENTS



Led by Youth Solutions' Youth Advisory Group

Supported by media partner South West Voice

Funding from Camden Council for Camden outreach activities

480

engagements with the speech bubble and Smokerlyzer activities & research poll

6

community engagement stalls held at five different locations

969

campaign promotional products distributed

92

volunteer hours devoted to the campaign by the Youth Advisory Group

254 PARTICIPANTS IN THE RESEARCH POLL

73.3% WERE NON-SMOKERS | 26.3% WERE SMOKERS | AMONG SMOKERS, 45.6% WISHED TO QUIT

SAFER CELEBRATIONS – ENGAGEMENTS



Delivered in partnership with **Campbelltown Catholic Club**
 Supported by media partners **C91.3FM** and **Macarthur Advertisers**
 Campaign reached approximately **11,000 people**

3200

promotional products distributed, including 1055 Safer Celebrations Guides

9

campaign community engagement stalls + a campaign launch

242

campaign surveys collected, up 44% on the previous year

65

people signed up for the sober driver free soft drink initiative

SAFER CELEBRATIONS – SURVEY FINDINGS



75% “always” or “mostly always” stay with their mates on a night out

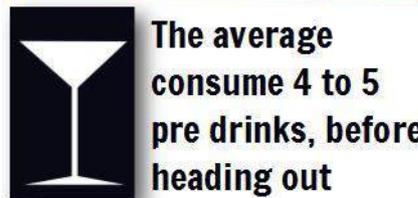
53% always tell their family our housemates where they are going
 26.65% do this mostly always, 12.45% do this often



23% HAVE LEFT WITH SOMEONE THEY DON'T KNOW
 DOWN FROM 31% IN 2015 - 2016

33% HAVE BEEN IN A FIGHT OR ARGUMENT WHEN OUT CELEBRATING

OF THOSE SURVEYED
16% DON'T DRINK ALCOHOL



68% OF THOSE WHO DO DRINK, **BINGE DRINK**
 DOWN FROM 79% IN 2015 - 2016

8-9 THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DRINKS CONSUMED WHEN OUT



49% are certain they would call emergency services if something went wrong
 19% would most likely call
 15% would likely call

Information and referral

625 REFERRALS IN 2016 - 2017

252 direct referrals via phone, online or face-to-face
373 referrals at community events

Referrals

Providing people with information, support, brief advice and links to other services who can help meet their needs

Of the direct referrals via phone, online or face to face:



58% were via phone



24% were face to face



18 were via email or social media

46%

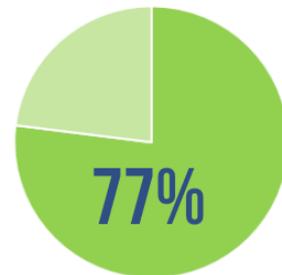
were requesting information, support or referrals for themselves

54%

were requesting information, support or referrals for a someone else

16%

were aged under 25 years; the rest were over 25 or age wasn't specified



WERE FEMALE

Mental health and welfare, alcohol and cannabis remain among the top referral issues, with increasing requests for information and support around the misuse of medications and performance and image enhancing drugs.

Referral locations:

54% from Campbelltown | 10% from Camden
4% from Wingecarribee | 2% from Wollondilly
36% from other parts of NSW or interstate

Sector capacity and community events

R U OK? DAY

The Youth Solutions Youth Advisory Group, with support from the Youth Solutions staff, hosted an R U OK? Day stall at Macarthur Square on Thursday 8 September 2016.

The event supported R U OK? Day's goal of raising awareness about looking after the mental health and wellbeing of yourself and those around you. The stall included interactive activities and giveaways.

Thank you to Macarthur Square for its support of the R U OK? Day stall.



DO YOU KNOW WHO CARES? COMMUNITY SERVICES EXPO



On Thursday 29 September 2016, Youth Solutions hosted a stall at the Do You Know Who Cares? Community Services Expo at Bowral Memorial Hall.

The event, held just before the launch of Mental Health Month, aimed to provide community members with a fun and interactive display of local services that can provide support, programs and activities for people in the region.

Youth Solutions' stall targeted young people, parents / carers and other services, providing information about the programs and services it offers for young people.

Attendees took part in Youth Solutions' mental health life-decisions Jenga and bowling away the stigma activities and also made Mental Health Month pledges.

WELLWAYS BEING CONNECTED EVENT

On Friday 21 October 2016, Youth Solutions joined the Wellways team at Bradbury Oval for a "Being Connected" outdoor Mental Health Month event.

The event aimed to bring together clients of Wellways, along with their supporters and other community members, to learn more about the support services and programs available in the local community.

Youth Solutions facilitated a number of interactive activities at the event, including a Mental Health Month positive note exchange. The team also had the opportunity to share information about its programs and support services.



CELEBRATION OF PARTNERSHIP



On Wednesday 30 November 2016, the Youth Solutions team joined the Professional Development and Partnership Celebration Event hosted by the South Western Sydney Drug & Alcohol Services and Drug Health Steering Committee and Interagency.

The event, which was held at Campbelltown Golf Club, brought together local drug and alcohol services for a day of team building, celebration and learning. The event included guest speakers, interactive activities and networking.

Youth Solutions CEO Geraldine Dean was part of the planning committee for the event.

RECONCILIATION DAY EVENT



On Tuesday 30 May 2017, Youth Solutions joined the Reconciliation Day celebrations hosted by Youth Off the Streets' Koch Centre at Macquarie Fields.

The event allowed Youth Solutions to showcase some of its signature activities from its Aboriginal-specific ARTucation program; including fatal vision goggles and life-decisions giant Jenga, as well as key activities from the #whyichoose campaign.

It also gave Youth Solutions the opportunity to chat with local young people and share important health promotion information and details about its programs and services for young people.

CDAT FORUM

Youth Solutions was part of the organising committee for the Campbelltown CDAT's (Community Drug Action Team) Community Forum which was held Rosemeadow Community Hall on Wednesday 7 June 2017.

Youth Solutions is the auspice agency for the Campbelltown CDAT, which brings together local drug and alcohol services to tackle local issues. The forum included guest speakers and information displays from local services, including Youth Solutions.

The forum aimed to provide community members with information about local drug and alcohol services, as well as advice on accessing support and help. Additional forums are planned for 2017 – 2018.



During 2016 – 2017, Youth Solutions also hosted community engagement stalls and activities at a number of other community events including Fisher's Gig, Wingecarribee Youth Forum, Christmas in Narellan, Camden Show, local NAIDOC Week and Youth Week celebrations. Youth Solutions also hosted stalls and events at Western Sydney University and TAFE Campbelltown.

NETWORKS

Networking is a valuable tool for Youth Solutions to discuss key strategic issues for the community services sector, provide and receive support from other local services, develop strong collaborations for service delivery and secure corporate support.

In 2016 – 2017, Youth Solutions was an active member of a number of networks, including:

- **Campbelltown Chamber of Commerce**
- **Campbelltown Community Drug Action Team (CDAT)**
- **Charity Links Macarthur**
- **Dharawal Regional Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG)**
- **headspace Campbelltown Consortium**
- **headspace Campbelltown Schools Working Party**
- **Highlands Child and Wingecarribee Youth Interagency**
- **Macarthur Youth Services Network**
- **NADA Youth AOD Services Network**
- **Sector Connect Managers Network**
- **SWSLHD Drug and Alcohol Interagency**
- **SWSLHD Drug and Alcohol Steering Committee**
- **The Greater Narellan Chamber of Commerce**

Key awards and achievements

COMMUNITY GROUP OF THE YEAR



In January 2017 the Youth Solutions Youth Advisory Group was named the *Community Group of the Year* at the Camden Council Australia Day Awards.

The award recognises the Youth Advisory Group's hard work and leadership in Macarthur, particularly in the Camden region.

The Youth Solutions Youth Advisory Group represents local young people, meeting regularly to identify and address issues facing local young people, run community engagement and development activities and implement community health promotion campaigns.

FINALIST FOR EXCEPTIONAL PROJECT

In 2017, Youth Solutions' DAIR (Drug and Alcohol Information and Resilience Skills) program reached finalist status at the ZEST Awards.

The project was nominated in the *Exceptional Project within a Not for Profit Organisation* category.

Targeting young people aged 14 – 16, the DAIR program is delivered across 4-6 weeks as a series of workshops, aiming to improve the drug and alcohol knowledge and resilience of participants in order to prevent them from drug and alcohol related harm.



LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

In 2017, Youth Solutions' Health Promotion Officer Miriam Deshayes took part in the leadership development program Max Potential, as a community coach.

The program offers 22 weeks of personal leadership development to young leaders to help them maximise their potential during the final years at school and beyond. It also encouraged the young people to focus on the local community and ways that they can work to improve it.

Miriam's mentee, Porotesano, of Airs High School, is working on a community project titled back to my roots, which aims to celebrate Pacific Islander culture within his school, encouraging students to connect with and be proud of their culture.

A showcase to celebrate the completion of the project will be held in 2017 – 2018.

Sponsors and partners

CAMPBELLTOWN CATHOLIC CLUB



CAMPBELLTOWN CATHOLIC CLUB
KING OF CLUBS



Youth Solutions has continued its strong partnership with Campbelltown Catholic Club throughout 2016 – 2017.

The club has been a long-term supporter of Youth Solutions and remains the Major Corporate Partner in 2016 – 2017, generously donating \$50,000 annually to Youth Solutions, including funding to implement the Safer Celebrations project each year.

The Safer Celebrations project hit new heights in 2016 – 2017 with the Celebrate Safe and Well campaign. The campaign engaged with more people than ever before, sharing important health promotion messages about safer celebrating with young people in the local community, including patrons of Campbelltown Catholic Club.

The success of the campaign can be attributed to the great support given to the campaign, and Youth Solutions, by Campbelltown Catholic Club.

Youth Solutions extends a heartfelt thank you to Campbelltown Catholic Club; especially to the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer Michael Lavorato and Chief Marketing Officer Graeme Derrig. Thank you for your support of Youth Solutions and in turn, the young people in Macarthur and Wingecarribee.

BTIG AUSTRALIA

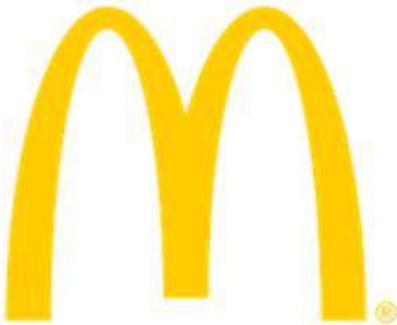


On Tuesday, 2 May 2017, BTIG Australia held its annual Charity Day, with Youth Solutions selected as one of the initiative's charity beneficiaries.

The Charity Day sees the traders donate their commission and after a successful day of trading, BTIG donated an incredible \$9,000 to Youth Solutions!

Thank you to team at BTIG Australia for their wonderful support and generous contribution.

MCDONALD'S IN MACARTHUR



Long-term supporter and Corporate Partner, McDonald's in Macarthur continued its support of Youth Solutions in 2016 – 2017, selecting the Service to be the charity partner for its Helping Hands and McHappy Time initiatives.

The July 2016 Helping Hands initiative raised an incredible \$11,866 for Youth Solutions. McDonald's in Macarthur then selected Youth Solutions for the June 2017 McHappy Time initiative, which raised an amazing \$28,476 for Youth Solutions.

Throughout the McHappy Time initiative, McDonald's in Macarthur customers were offered the chance to purchase the \$2 McHappy Time token across 10 days in June, with all proceeds being donated to Youth Solutions. The 2017 McHappy Time initiative culminated with an in-store fun day on Saturday 24 June, which continued the fundraising, celebrated the partnership and gave Youth Solutions' staff and volunteers the opportunity to chat with customers and raise greater awareness about its services and its programs.

Youth Solutions would like to extend a big thank you to McDonald's in Macarthur, especially Peter Meadows, Katie Nicholson and Emma Grinham, for their incredible support of Youth Solutions and its important work with young people.

ROTARY CLUB OF NARELLAN



The Rotary Club of Narellan has been a major supporter of Youth Solutions for 11 years.

In 2016 – 2017 alone, the Rotary Club of Narellan generously donated \$15,000 in support of Youth Solutions' projects and activities.

Youth Solutions would like to extend its sincere thanks to Immediate Past President Peter Roberts, President Phil Dowd and all the Narellan Rotarians for their continued support.

2016 – 2017 SPONSORS



- **Absolutely Fabulous Event Decorations**
- **ANZ Banking Group**
- **Bella Arts**
- **Bradcorp**
- **C91.3FM**
- **Country Comfort Hunts Liverpool**
- **DJMate - Danielle Mate Sullivan**
- **Elegance Nail Spa and Beauty Salon**
- **Event Cinemas Campbelltown**
- **Fab Industrial**
- **Family Focus Legal**
- **Grace Information and Records Management**
- **Kelly+Partners Chartered Accountants**
- **Macarthur Chronicle**
- **Macarthur Square**
- **Marsdens Law Group**
- **Office Products Depot Macarthur**
- **Panarotti's Macarthur Square**
- **Parto's Plumbing and Drainage**
- **Pereira Realty Group**
- **Rooster's Traffic Control**
- **Snap Campbelltown and Ingleburn**
- **Start Fresh Accounting**
- **The Greater Narellan Chamber of Commerce**
- **TLD Logistics**
- **Townsend Signs NSW**
- **Tree Solutions**

2016 – 2017 FINANCIAL DONORS

- **Finite IT Recruitment Solutions**
- **GMC Fire Services**
- **Graham and Heather Campbell**
- **Madelyn Blackley**
- **Peter Campbell**
- **Sharon Wilson**
- **The Dillon Family**
- **Thomas Campbell**

Our fundraising events

CHARITY EVENT 2016 – MYSTERY AND MARVEL



Mystery and Marvel swept the Macarthur region on Saturday 30 July 2016, as Youth Solutions hosted its Annual Charity Event at The Cube, Campbelltown Catholic Club.

The event is Youth Solutions' major annual fundraiser, raising the funds needed for Youth Solutions to continue and expand its important drug and alcohol prevention and health promotion work with young people in Macarthur and Wingecarribee.

The 2016 event brought together over 360 Youth Solutions supporters for a night of fun and fundraising to raise over \$26,000 for Youth Solutions.

Sponsors, supporters, businesses, organisations, elected representatives and community members were treated to an awe-inspiring show from illusionist Brendan Mon Tanner, before dancing the night away to the sounds of party band Planet Groove.

Thank you to the event sponsors, donors, guests and all those who supported the event. A full list of supporters for this event can be found on the Annual Charity Event 2016 page of the Youth Solutions website.

TRIVIA NIGHT 2016

Community members popped on their thinking caps and dug deep at the Youth Solutions Trivia Night held at Narellan Child Family and Community Centre on Friday 28 October 2016.

Returning for a third year, the event attracted over 90 people for gruelling trivia rounds, Olympic-inspired games and plenty of fundraising activities, raising \$2,600 for Youth Solutions.

A special thank you to the event sponsor Office Products Depot Macarthur and everyone who attended or donated prizes in support of the event. A full list of supporters for this event can be found on the Trivia Night 2016 page of the Youth Solutions website.



LADIES HIGH TEA



On Saturday 25 February 2017, Youth Solutions hosted its first Ladies High Tea fundraiser.

The sell-out event raised \$2,500 for Youth Solutions, drawing together ladies from across the region for a relaxed and enjoyable afternoon at Rydges Campbelltown.

A special thank you to the event sponsor Elegance Nail Spa and Beauty Salon, and everyone who attended or donated prizes in support of the event. A full list of supporters for this event can be found on the Ladies High Tea 2017 page of the Youth Solutions website.

LADIES MOVIE NIGHT 2017

Youth Solutions hosted its third, sold-out Ladies Movie Night on Monday 15 May 2017 at Event Cinemas Campbelltown.

Over 130 attendees packed out the cinema to watch a special screening of *Snatched* while digging deep to help raise funds for Youth Solutions' programs. Boasting lucky door prizes and a raffle, the event raised \$3,500 for Youth Solutions.

A special thank you to the event sponsor Start Fresh Accounting, and everyone who attended or donated prizes in support of the event. A full list of supporters for this event can be found on the Ladies Movie Night 2017 page of the Youth Solutions website.



GOLF DAY 2017



The sell-out Youth Solutions Golf Day was held at Campbelltown Golf Club on Friday 19 May 2017, after the initial date in March was rained out.

Golfers enjoyed a day on the green, trying their hand at some signature Youth Solutions activities and digging deep to raise \$5,300 for Youth Solutions,

A special thank you to the Golf Day hole sponsors and players for their incredible support of the event, as well as all of those who donated prizes in support of the event. A full list of supporters for this event can be found on the Golf

Day 2017 page of the Youth Solutions website.

Website and social media



23,840 UNIQUE VISITORS TO THE SITE

www.youthsolutions.com.au

5970 social media engagements on core profiles

Youth solutions Instagram, Twitter, Facebook main page

27% increase on previous year



1345 LIKES BY 30 JUNE 2017

facebook.com/youthsolutionsNSW/

11% increase on previous year

429 FOLLOWERS BY 30 JUNE 2017



instagram.com/youth_solutions/

45% increase on previous year



587 FOLLOWERS BY 30 JUNE 2017

twitter.com/YouthSolutions

14% increase on previous year

4133 VIEWS BY 30 JUNE 2017



youtube.com/YouthSolutionsNSW

52% increase on previous year

Media and newsletters



Office

Suite 13 Level 4
Macarthur Square Shopping Centre
200 Gilchrist Drive
Campbelltown NSW 2560

Post

P0 Box 112
Macarthur Square NSW 2560

Contact us

02 4628 2319
info@youthsolutions.com.au

YOUTHSOLUTIONS.COM.AU

WHYICHOOSE.COM.AU



YouthSolutionsNSW



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