



Annual Report 2017 - 2018



Contents

Strategic Directions Statement	4
From the CEO	5
From the President	6
Our people	7
Community stories	11
Projects	13
Campaigns	15
Referrals	16
Sector capacity and achievements	19
Community events	22
Sponsors and partners	24
Our fundraising events	27
Website and social media	29
Media and newsletters	30

The 2017 - 2018 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 to 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



"2018 marks an important occasion, 30 years of service to our community, 30 years of connecting young people and all those who support them with drug, alcohol and health advice, information and support".

This year has been no exception in maintaining how proud I am to lead the Youth Solutions team in service to our community. I am particularly motivated by all those connected with the service and our one vision to positively impact the lives of our young people, their supports and for them to be safe, healthy and well. As we celebrate our 30-year milestone, we reflect on our strong history of backing young people to design and deliver their own campaigns.

We celebrate our 30 years of delivering health education in a fun, interactive and non-judgemental way. We celebrate that our history and culture has been built on always reaching for the best. We know that young people armed with the right skills, experiences and support can be the best advocates for their own health, safety and wellness.

2017 – 2018 has been another great year for Youth Solutions. This year, we engaged with 1182 young people in our health education programs (PEEP, DAIR and ARTucation) with a further 980 young people through other workshops and presentations. 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 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 safer celebrations campaign over 2017 – 2018, titled 'Party Safe. Home Safe' was again deemed a huge success. This campaign, which was delivered in partnership with Campbelltown Catholic Club, has truly become a pinnacle on our calendar. The campaign reach continues to climb, where young people, and the wider community are encouraged and supported 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 Partners McDonald's in Macarthur and BTIG. 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.

From the President

Rebecca Whitford, Youth Solutions President

I am incredibly proud to be the President of the Youth Solutions Board and grateful for my long association with the service.

Youth Solutions works tirelessly to improve the health and wellness of young people in this community and at its core has a passion for preventing harm and promoting the health of our young people.



The work of Youth Solutions continues to make a huge impact in our community and a large part of this is made possible because of the dedication and commitment of its people. The young people who take part in Youth Solutions programs report greater knowledge about the consequences of drug and alcohol use and report better coping strategies, help-seeking abilities and safer decision making. We are committed to ensuring that the young people we work with are able to walk a brighter path, with a reduced risk of harm.

"The work of Youth Solutions continues to make a huge impact in our community. A large part of this is made possible because of the dedication and commitment of its people".

In 2017 – 2018, Youth Solutions was again accredited at the Certificate level of Australian Services Excellence Standards and secured a three-year funding agreement. This is a huge achievement and will ensure that our staff and volunteers can continue to engage with young people to deliver important education and resilience building programs that have a positive influence in the lives of our young people.

In 2017 – 2018, Youth Solutions' commitment to quality improvement and professionalism has also been clear. Staff are continually encouraged and supported to take part in external training to ensure programs and activities are evidence-based and reflect good practices.

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 protective factors of young people, so that they are better equipped to handle life and avoid drug and alcohol-related issues.

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 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 and team for their passion, dedication and perseverance over the past year. I would like to thank the CEO, Geraldine Dean, in particular for 15 years of service and devotion to Youth Solutions and its people.

Thank you 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 our community.

I would also like to thank all the businesses, organisations, community members and elected representatives who support Youth Solutions. We all look forward to another great year, working together to deliver outcomes for young people and our community.

Our people

THE BOARD



President
Rebecca Whitford

Vice President
Tony Ross

Treasurer
Peter Campbell

Board Members

Kate Angelucci

Jodie Banasik

Geoff Ellis

Emma Macfarlane

Damon May

Dean Williamson

THE STAFF



Chief Executive Officer
Geraldine Dean

Research & Design Coordinator
Emily Deans

Communications Coordinator
Amanda Dillon

Community Relations & Communications Coordinator
Brooke Manzione

Finance & Operations Coordinator
Shannon McEwan

Health Promotion Coordinator
Sam Young

Youth & Community Development Coordinator
Karen Yuen

Program Support Officer
Rachel Kershaw

Health Promotion Officer
Miriam Deshayes

VOLUNTEERS – FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

In 2017 – 2018, 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!



Youth Solutions’ Fundraising Committee

Tristan Betts

Geraldine Dean

Amanda Dillion

Rebekah Gates

Natalie Herd

Sue-Lei Hunt-Mingay

Brooke Manzione

Cassandra May

Sharon Moyle

Lyn Nonnenmacher

Margaret Ross

Louise Sparkes-Howarth

VOLUNTEERS AND YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

In 2017 – 2018, 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
Ebony Boothe
Jessica Brown
Mitchell Davis
Amy Hocking
Teneisha May
Thomas Campbell

Laura Dwyer
Joel Escarte Joya
Blaine Horne
Kassee Loomes
Samantha McAuley
Johnny Nguyen
Brodee Tapp
Quynh Le

Lauren Payne
Rachel Scott
Cameron Snell
Praween Senanayake
Sue Willoughby
Rachel Abdel-Nour
Jacklene Majdalawi
Kristie Evans



STUDENT PLACEMENTS

In 2017 – 2018, Youth Solutions offered placements to five students from OTEN TAFE, University of Wollongong and Western Sydney University. Students assisted with a range of research and service delivery tasks. Thank you to the following students for their hard work:

Isabella Mazarno
Peter Anthony Sofos
Nadia Miah
Quynh Le
Rachel Abdel-Nour



Community Stories

SAMANTHA MCAULEY

Samantha, aka Sam, has been part of Youth Solutions' YAG for over two years and is currently Youth Solutions' Student Placement from the University of Wollongong. Sam is in her third year of a Bachelor of Social Sciences degree majoring in Health Promotion and is passionate about the power of prevention and helping families and communities live healthier lives.



"Youth Solutions is there to be a support system for young people in a non-judgemental way. The team is friendly and approachable and make it easy for young people to talk if they need help with a particular issue".

"I found out about Youth Solutions through a newspaper article and my friend Lauren and I decided to sign up together. I'm studying Health Promotion at Wollongong University and I really wanted to get involved in volunteering but I didn't know where to go. At our first YAG meeting I knew it would be a positive environment. I liked the sound of what Youth Solutions offered and I thought it would increase my skills in presenting.

"I have been part of YAG for over two years now and I have been given many opportunities. I have helped run the six week DAIR program, I helped the team at special needs schools and at Youth Solutions' community stalls. I have been able to contribute to program planning and implementation which is why I chose Youth Solutions as my student placement for Uni. I knew with Youth Solutions they would give me opportunities. The team has helped me build my confidence and someone is always there if you need help. I learnt about health promotion in theory at Uni and at Youth Solutions I have had the opportunity to put theory into practice.

"I'm passionate about helping people and promoting health. If we can prevent a health behaviour that is causing issues and stop it in the first instance, we can help the health system but also help people to live a healthier and happier life.

"I like that Youth Solutions takes a harm minimisation approach, they try to get the word out about how to be safe around drugs and alcohol. Youth Solutions is there to be a support system for young people in a non-judgemental way. When we are out at schools and programs, the team are friendly and easy to approach which is good because it helps young people to feel like they can talk if they need help with a particular issue".

Thank you to Sam for her valuable contribution to Youth Solutions over the last two years.

BARRIE GRIMES, GRIMES FINANCE & MORTGAGES

Grimes Finance and Mortgages has made a valuable contribution to Youth Solutions since it began sponsoring the Service at its very first Annual Charity Event in 2001. Over the last two decades Youth Solutions has enjoyed a strong partnership with Grimes Finance and Mortgages led by Owner Barrie Grimes. Barrie is a passionate local who supports many charities and donates his time to serve his community in many capacities. He is a member and previous president of the Rotary Club of Narellan and believes in supporting young people in Macarthur to keep them safe.

Youth Solutions' Community Relations & Communications Coordinator, Brooke Manzione, caught up with Barrie to learn more about the family-owned business and his hopes for young people in Macarthur.



"There are a lot of great charities that we support and if our involvement in Youth Solutions can keep one young person from using drugs — just one young person, then it's worth it".

"We are involved in finance with mainly trucks, motor vehicles, shop fit outs and we also own an ANZ Bank Franchise. I had 30 years with the ANZ bank and basically I had the choice of moving to Melbourne in a senior management position or do my own thing. So I decided to do my own thing here in the local community. I am a local person through and through.

"I am involved with a lot of charities in the area, including Camp Quality, Lifeline, Rotary and Youth Solutions, and that's built on respect for the work these organisations do. It has improved my life being involved in volunteer work, the friendships, the personalities, it's a great feeling. My involvement now with charities just emphasises and shows me how wonderful the people of this area are, the people in this area give and the community digs deep.

"We have been involved with Youth Solutions since the first Charity Ball and haven't missed a Youth Solutions Ball since. There are a lot of great charities and if our involvement in Youth Solutions can keep one young person from going on drugs - just one person, then it's worth it. We hope that in the next five years Youth Solutions can spread their tentacles into more schools and communities, keeping on and getting involved with more and more young people. "

Thank you to Barrie Grimes, his team Natalie and Colin and the whole Grimes Finance and Mortgages team for their unwavering support of Youth Solutions over the last 17 years.

Projects

PROJECT: PEER ENRICHMENT AND EMPOWERMENT PROJECT (PEEP)

The Peer Enrichment and Empowerment Project (PEEP), involves young people from our Youth Advisory Group (YAG) and other youth volunteers in planning, implementing and evaluating Youth Solutions' services and activities.

Through PEEP, the youth volunteers and YAG members receive training to become Peer Educators. Peer Educators assist Youth Solutions to deliver the SAFE series seminars and the #whychoose campaign.



15 YAG MEMBERS | 8 PEER EDUCATORS

167 VOLUNTEER HOURS
30 PEER EDUCATION PRESENTATIONS
670 PARTICIPANTS IN PEER LED PRESENTATIONS

PEEP 2017- 2018 TRAINING TOPICS:

- TEAMWORK AND COMMUNICATION
- RESUME WRITING AND JOB APPLICATIONS
 - CYBER AWARENESS
- DRUG CLASSIFICATIONS AND EFFECTS
- HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAM EVALUATION
- NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES

95.7%

YAG members reported increased knowledge of the topics presented

95.7%

YAG members reported increased skills to deliver information to peers on the topics presented

95.7%

YAG members reported increased confidence to deliver a peer education activity



WITH PEER EDUCATORS

355 YOUNG PEOPLE
16 SESSIONS



100%

Reported increased knowledge about the types and effects of alcohol and other drugs

99%

Reported increased knowledge about being safe around alcohol

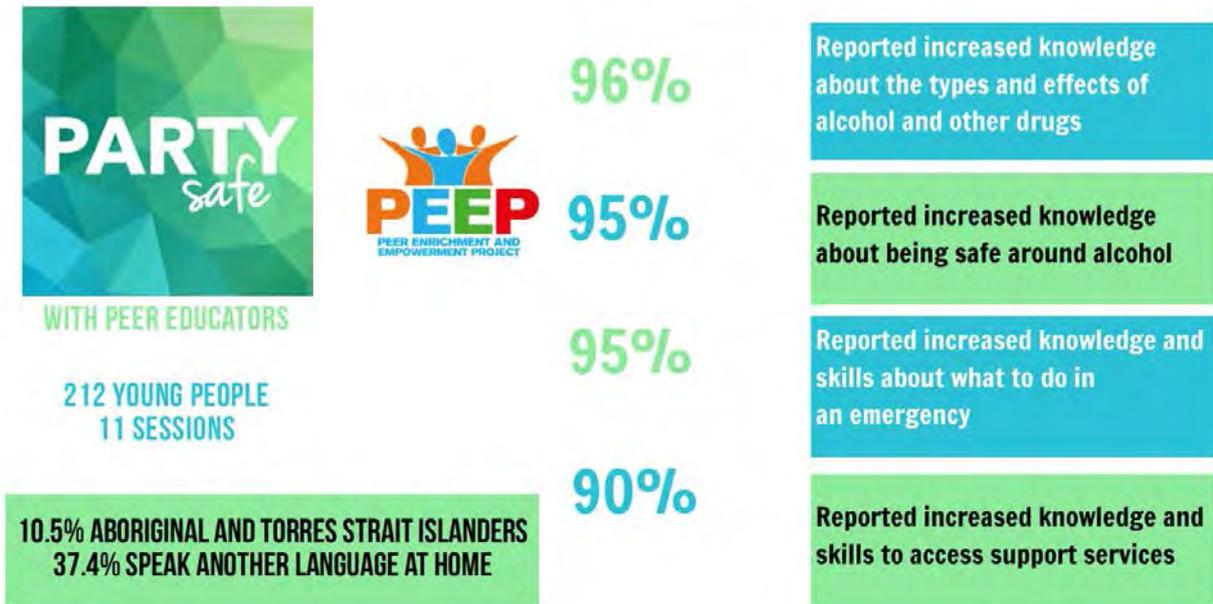
98%

Reported increased knowledge and skills about what to do in an emergency

99%

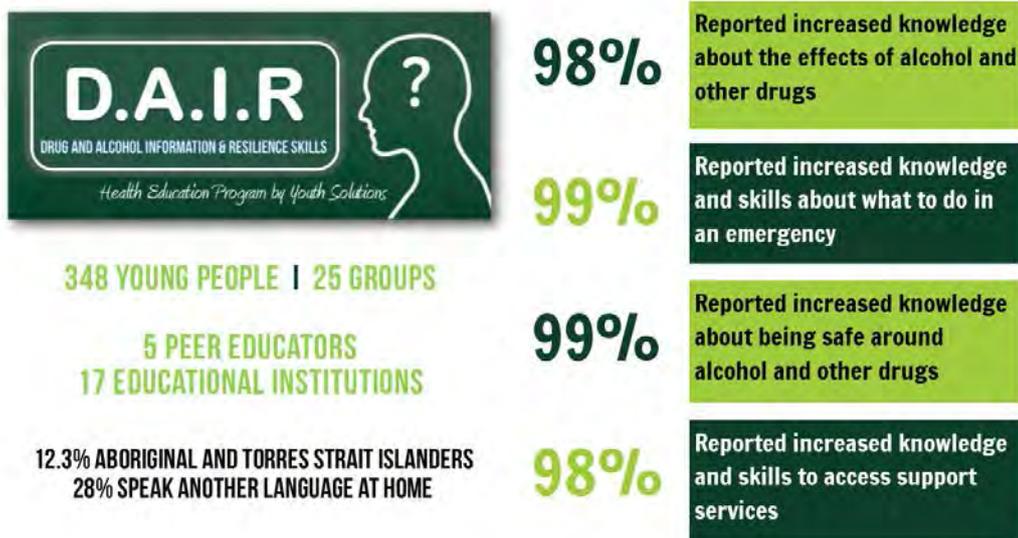
Reported increased knowledge about the consequences of unsafe choices

3.7% ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS
22.6% SPEAK ANOTHER LANGUAGE AT HOME



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

Goal: to increase knowledge of alcohol and other drugs and skills in health behaviours for young people aged 14 – 16 through a series of 4 – 6 workshops that cover the following topics: effects of alcohol and other drugs, drugs and the law, standard drinks, coping with stress and anxiety, effective communication, consequences of unsafe choices and responding to an emergency.



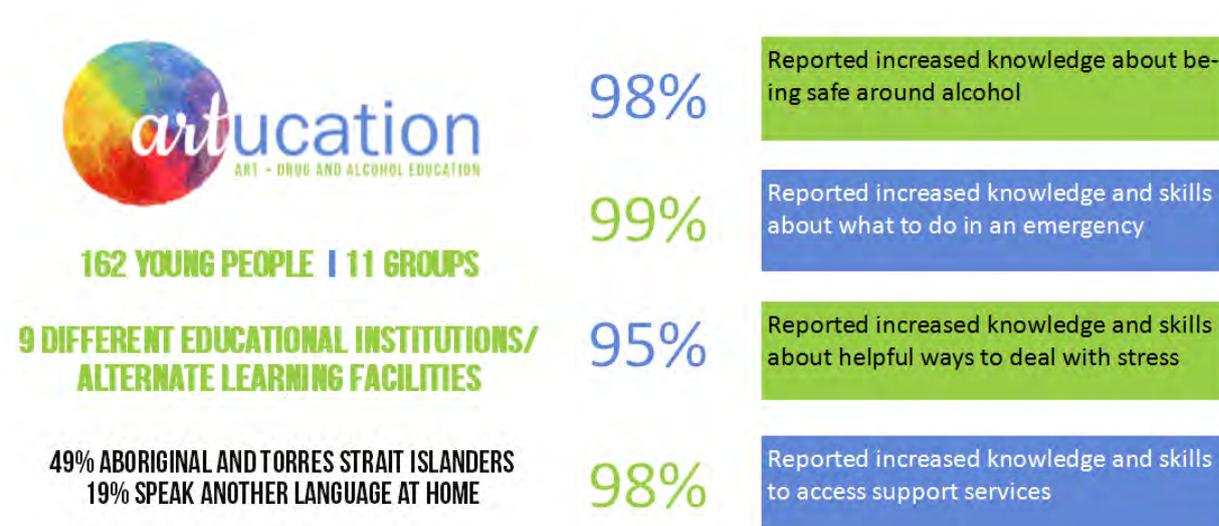
95% OF RESPONDENTS SAID THEY WOULD RECOMMEND DAIR TO A FRIEND!

PROJECT: ARTUCATION

Goal: to increase the knowledge of alcohol and other drugs and skills in healthy behaviours for young people 12 – 16 years through a series of 4 – 6 workshops.

ARTucation is a creative arts and alcohol and other drug prevention program for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples that is designed to:

1. increase participants' knowledge of tobacco and alcohol and related harms;
2. increase participants' skills in resilience, healthy expression and safe decision making; and
3. increase participants' connection with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.



97% OF RESPONDENTS SAID THEY WOULD RECOMMEND ARTUCATION TO A FRIEND!

SECTOR TRAINING PROJECT: AOD LINK



9 sector training presentations

103 participants



100% OF PARTICIPANTS INCREASED THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN WORKING WITH CLIENTS IN A DRUG AND ALCOHOL PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION CONTEXT

Topics included:

- drugs, alcohol and young people
- supporting young people with substance issues
- health across the lifespan

Campaigns

#WHYICHOOSE ENGAGEMENTS



#whyichoose

As part of the campaign, Youth Solutions ran a poll on current tobacco smoking habits of young people in the Macarthur and Wingecarribee area

467 people participated in the poll

78.2% are non-smokers

21.8% are current smokers

Among smokers...

6.9% wish to quit

Of the 467 research poll participants..

186 people engaged in further conversation or participated in other campaign activities

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

2800

promotional products distributed, including 1055 Safer Celebrations Guides

9

campaign community engagement stalls + a campaign launch

352

campaign surveys collected, 110 more than last year

8066

people were reached during the campaign period through engagement online

SAFER CELEBRATIONS – SURVEY FINDINGS



Party Home. Safe Home. Campaign Survey Results 2017–2018

352 campaign surveys

65% female | 30% male | 5% non-specific

56%

ALWAYS plan a safe way home
33% do it mostly always or often

75%

ALWAYS or MOSTLY ALWAYS stay with their mates on a night out

58%

ALWAYS or OFTEN post on social media about their night out

11%

Have left with someone they don't know
Down from 34% in 2016 -2017

8%

Have been in a fight or argument when out celebrating

85%

Correctly identified that you need to wait at least 1hr, if not more, after a standard drink, before being able to drive again

41%

Are certain they would call emergency services if something went wrong

Referrals

642 REFERRALS IN 2017- 2018

248 direct referrals via phone, online or face-to-face

394 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:



31% were via phone



19% were face to face



122 were via email or social media

37%

were requesting information, support or referrals for themselves

63%

were requesting information, support or referrals for someone else

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 | 7% from Camden
6% from Wingecarribee | 4% from Wollondilly
29% from other parts of NSW or interstate

Sector capacity & Achievements

NADA QUALITY IMPROVEMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM



In June 2018, Youth Solutions attended the Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (NADA) conference 'Exploring Therapeutic Interventions'. The conference was held over two days and staff had the opportunity to hear from several key note speakers including: Emeritus Professor Judy Atkinson, Researcher, Writer & Patron of the We Ai-li Trust, Dr Manuel Cardoso, Deputy General-Director, General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies (SICAD) and Professor Leanne Hides, NHMRC Senior Research Fellow, among others.

Youth Solutions presented a poster on the NADA Quality Improvement (QI) Incentive Program at the Conference. An important outcome of the QI Incentive Program was the formation of Youth Solutions' Academic Advisory Group which has been designed to help Youth Solutions' develop research capacity and enhance evaluation methodology.

ACCREDITATION

In June 2018, Youth Solutions was again accredited at the Certificate level of Australian Services Excellence Standards. Staff and volunteers were commended on their 'can do' attitude and ongoing commitment to improvement.



"Youth Solutions is a quality organisation putting drug and alcohol health promotions at the centre of everything they do and is arguably punching above its weight in terms of service reach".

The service as a whole was commended on showing great flexibility and creativity in responding to potential changes in its government funding model and for demonstrating an exceptional capacity for carrying out its purpose. The Youth Solutions service model was said to be 'well-articulated and evidence-based' and included messages of hope and help seeking.

Thank you to the Board, staff and volunteers who participated in the on site assessment, who were collectively applauded on their collaborative and positive teamwork across all roles in the organisation.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS – THE STORY OF YOUTH SOLUTIONS

In 2017 – 2018 Youth Solutions celebrated 30 years of service – an appropriate time to reflect on the history of the organisation from the very beginning.

Youth Solutions was founded in 1988, as a non-government youth drug and alcohol prevention and health promotion service working with young people aged 12 – 25 years and all those who play an important role in the lives of young people.

The service was driven by the Macarthur Drug and Alcohol Youth Project (MDAYP), grass roots initiative which began in May 1986 after a group of concerned community members recognised the need for a response to the growing level of drug and alcohol related harms experienced by young people. At the time, there were no services providing a specialised resource for youth drug and alcohol prevention in South Western Sydney and MDAYP sought to fill this gap.

MDAYP was established with three clear goals in mind:

1. To examine the needs of Macarthur's youth in relation to drug and alcohol issues;
2. To consult with other relevant groups and organisations as to the development of drug and alcohol services for youth in Macarthur; and
3. To apply to relevant government bodies for funding of appropriate community-based drug and alcohol youth services.

At the end of 1986, the Constitution was established and a committee was elected. MDAYP received a small grant from the NSW Drug and Alcohol Authority to become an incorporated organisation and to work towards the three above listed goals.

In 1988, MDAYP was successful in gaining further funding from the NSW Government Department of Health and South Western Sydney Area Health Service (SSWAHS) to develop and disseminate drug education resources and training programs and advocate on behalf of young people in the Camden, Campbelltown and Wollondilly local government areas (LGAs).

From 1988 – 1998 MDAYP was involved in:

- alcohol prevention programs
- tobacco prevention programs
- driver safety programs
- youth suicide prevention programs
- youth forums
- community events
- state-wide professional councils and networks
- strategy reviews
- training of NSW Department of Education and Training's Drug Education Consultant

In 1999, MDAYP received \$262,000 in triennial funding from the NSW Department of Health and South Western Sydney Area Health Service as well as \$103,000 in Federal Government grants, which allowed MDAYP to implement a wider range of high quality services and programs for young people.

By 2002, MDAYP experienced significant growth, expanding its service delivery to include the Wingecarribee LGA. In 2003, MDAYP was rebranded as Youth Solutions. Continuing its work in drug and alcohol prevention, Youth Solutions is increasingly providing an advocacy role to establish good practice for youth drug and alcohol prevention and harm reduction.

To this day, Youth Solutions reflects a service that listened to the needs of the community, networks with other agencies to develop quality prevention project and harm reduction strategies, and continues to seek funding support from the Philanthropic, Government and Research Sectors.

CELEBRATION OF PARTNERSHIP

On Wednesday 8 November 2017, 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.

DAMON MAY – THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE



Damon is a Youth Solutions Board Member, and his business MayTek IT Solutions, is a long-term supporter of Youth Solutions. The Youth Solutions Board, Staff and Volunteers would like to thank Damon for 10 years of service and devotion to Youth Solutions and its people. At the Youth Solutions Annual General Meeting, Damon was presented with a certificate in honour of 10 years of service to Youth Solutions.

Thank you Damon for your unwavering support, passion and dedication to Youth Solutions and the region's young people.

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 2017 – 2018, 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 Business Chamber**

Community events

WESTS TIGERS HOME GAME STALL



On 25 August 2017, Youth Solutions hosted a stall at the West Tigers Home Game at Campbelltown Stadium. The Youth Solutions stall targeted young people, parents and carers and other services, providing information about the programs and activities Youth Solutions offers to young people and the broader community.

Attendees took part in Youth Solutions' Giant Jenga and standard drink pouring activities, with an aim to raise awareness about safe drinking behaviours.

PATHWAYS TO PARTNERSHIP FORUM

In August 2017, Youth Solutions attended the Pathways to Partnership Forum, which included an impressive display of services for young people.

The forum was aimed at teachers and others who work with young people in the Macarthur region. The forum provided information about local services available to support young people and opportunities for accessing these services.

The forum was run by the Macarthur Youth Services Network and attracted over 80 people. Youth Solutions was proud to be part of the forum's working committee.



FISHERS GIG COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN STALL



On the 4 November, Youth Solutions and YAG members attended Fisher's Gig which was held at Bradbury Oval. Fisher's Gig is Campbelltown's annual youth music festival which has been part of the annual Festival of Fisher's Ghost celebrations since 1998. Staff and volunteers roamed the crowd providing information and educational resources to music-festival attendees about drugs and alcohol, and help and support.

The community stall was part of Youth Solutions' *Party Safe. Home Safe. Safer Celebrations Campaign*, which was also an important opportunity for Youth Solutions to collect information about the drug and alcohol health needs of young people in the community.

Party Safe. Home Safe. Campaign stalls were also held at the Campbelltown Catholic Club, Western Sydney University, the TAFE, and at the Christmas in Narellan event.

Community events

CLAYMORE COMMUNITY EXPO



Youth Solutions was pleased to attend the 2017 Claymore Community Expo, hosted by the South Western Sydney Local Health District and Campbelltown Community Drug Action Team. The Youth Solutions stall proved popular at the event, with plenty of interactive and educational activities, health promotion and drug and alcohol information, and free resources for young people and other community members.

CAMDEN OUTREACH STALL

Youth Solutions, along with YAG members hosted a stall for young people at Camden Library on Thursday 19 October 2017. The stall was part of an outreach project supported by Camden Council. Young people at the event were encouraged to participate in the Camden Young Person Survey, and received Youth Solutions help and support resources and information about how to stay safe around drugs and alcohol.



Sponsors and partners

CAMPBELLTOWN CATHOLIC CLUB



CAMPBELLTOWN CATHOLIC CLUB
KING OF CLUBS



Youth Solutions has continued its strong partnership with Campbelltown Catholic Club throughout 2017 – 2018.

The club is a long-term supporter of Youth Solutions and remains the Major Corporate Partner in 2017 – 2018, generously donating \$50,000 annually to Youth Solutions, including funding to implement the Safer Celebrations project each year.

The Safer Celebrations project was very well received in 2017 – 2018 with the *Party Safe. Home Safe* campaign. The campaign distributed more resources than ever before and shared 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.

A massive thank you to Campbelltown Catholic Club; especially to the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer Michael Lavorato, Chief Marketing Officer Graeme Derrig and Marketing and Communications Co-ordinators, Louise Molland and Jessica Ciccone. Thank you for your enthusiastic support of Youth Solutions and the young people in Macarthur and Wingecarribee.

MCDONALD'S IN MACARTHUR



Long-term supporter and Corporate Partner, McDonald's in Macarthur continued its support of Youth Solutions in 2017 – 2018, selecting the Service to be the charity partner for its McHappy Time initiative.

This year, McHappy Time raised a massive \$28,000 for Youth Solutions.

Throughout the McHappy Time initiative, McDonald's in Macarthur customers were offered the chance to purchase a pen or sticker with all proceeds being donated to Youth Solutions. The 2018 McHappy Time initiative culminated with an in-store launch day on Saturday 23 June, which kick started 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 for the many years of support. Thank you to Owner Operator, Peter Meadows, and his team Katie Nicholson, Matthew Nicholson and Emma Grinham and the entire McDonald's team for their incredible support of Youth Solutions and its important work with young people.

Sponsors and partners

ROTARY CLUB OF NARELLAN



The Rotary Club of Narellan has been a major supporter of Youth Solutions for 12 years.

In 2017 – 2018 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 Phil Dowd and President Marty Magro and all the Narellan Rotarians for their continued support.

BTIG AUSTRALIA



On Tuesday, 8 May 2018, 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 amazing \$9,240 to Youth Solutions!

Thank you to Sam Willis and Mark Prideaux at BTIG Australia for their wonderful support and generous contribution.

2017 – 2018 SPONSORS

- **Absolutely Fabulous Event Decorations**
- **AffordableWeb.Solutions**
- **AGL**
- **ANZ Banking Group**
- **Bella Arts**
- **Bradcorp**
- **BTIG**
- **C91.3FM**
- **Campbelltown Catholic Club**
- **Country Comfort Hunts Liverpool**
- **DJMate - Danielle Mate Sullivan**
- **Event Cinemas Campbelltown**
- **Fab Industrial**
- **Family Focus Legal**
- **Grimes Finances & Mortgages**
- **Hillross Macarthur**
- **Kelly+Partners Chartered Accountants**
- **Macarthur Chronicle**
- **Macarthur Square**
- **McDonald's in Macarthur**
- **Office Products Depot Macarthur**
- **Panarotti's Macarthur Square**
- **Parto's Plumbing and Drainage**
- **Serenity Financial Professionals**
- **Snap Campbelltown and Ingleburn**
- **Start Fresh Accounting**
- **The Greater Narellan Chamber of Commerce**
- **TLD Logistics**
- **The Rotary Club of Narellan**
- **Townsend Signs NSW**

2017 – 2018 FINANCIAL DONORS

- **Camden Council staff**
- **Collette Bower**
- **Commonwealth Bank Macarthur Square**
- **Family and friends of Bryce McLoughlin**
- **GMC Fire Services**
- **Graham and Heather Campbell**
- **Grill'd**
- **Jake Williams**
- **Kellie Boyce**
- **Martin Jess**
- **Nicole Ellis**
- **Peter Campbell**
- **Wollondilly Women in Business**

Our fundraising events

CHARITY EVENT 2017 – FIRE & FROST

Fire and Frost swept the Macarthur region on Saturday 22 July 2017, 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 2017 event brought together over 400 Youth Solutions supporters for a night of fun and fundraising to raise \$40,000 for Youth Solutions.



Sponsors, supporters, businesses, organisations, elected representatives and community members were treated to performances from fire twirlers, party band Planet Groove and The Voice 2016 winner Alfie Arcuri.

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 2017 page of the Youth Solutions website.

TRIVIA NIGHT 2017



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 27 October 2017.

Returning for a fourth year, the event raised \$2280 for Youth Solutions to support its youth drug and alcohol prevention and health promotion programs in Macarthur and Wingecarribee.

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 2017 page of the Youth Solutions website.

GOLF DAY 2018

The Youth Solutions Annual Golf Day was held at Campbelltown Golf Club on Friday 23 March 2018. Golfers enjoyed a day on the green, trying their hand at some signature Youth Solutions activities and digging deep to raise \$5000 for Youth Solutions.

A huge thank you to the Golf Day hole sponsors and players for their incredible support of the event, as well as all those who donated prizes in support of the event. A full list of supporters for this event can be found on the Golf Day 2018 page of the Youth Solutions website.



LADIES MOVIE NIGHT 2018



Youth Solutions hosted its fourth Ladies Movie Night on Monday 14 May 2018 at Event Cinemas Campbelltown.

Close to 180 attendees packed the cinema to watch a special screening of *Life of the Party*, starring Melissa McCarthy, while digging deep to raise \$3670 for Youth Solutions alcohol and drug prevention and health promotion programs.

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 2018 page of the Youth Solutions website.

MCHAPPY TIME 2018



Youth Solutions and McDonald's in Macarthur were proud to partner for McHappy Time 2018 which launched on Saturday 23 June and extended until Friday 6 July. McDonald's in Macarthur stores sold thousands of pens and stickers to the community to raise \$28,000 and awareness for Youth Solutions. A big thank you McDonalds in Macarthur licensee Peter Meadows and all participating stores for their support of the event.

Website & Social media



18 878 UNIQUE VISITORS TO THE SITE

www.youthsolutions.com.au

4424 social media engagements on core profiles

Youth Solutions Instagram, Twitter, Facebook main page



1415 LIKES BY 30 JUNE 2018

facebook.com/youthsolutionsNSW/
5% increase on previous year

534 FOLLOWERS BY 30 JUNE 2018



instagram.com/youth_solutions/
24% increase on previous year



630 FOLLOWERS BY 30 JUNE 2018

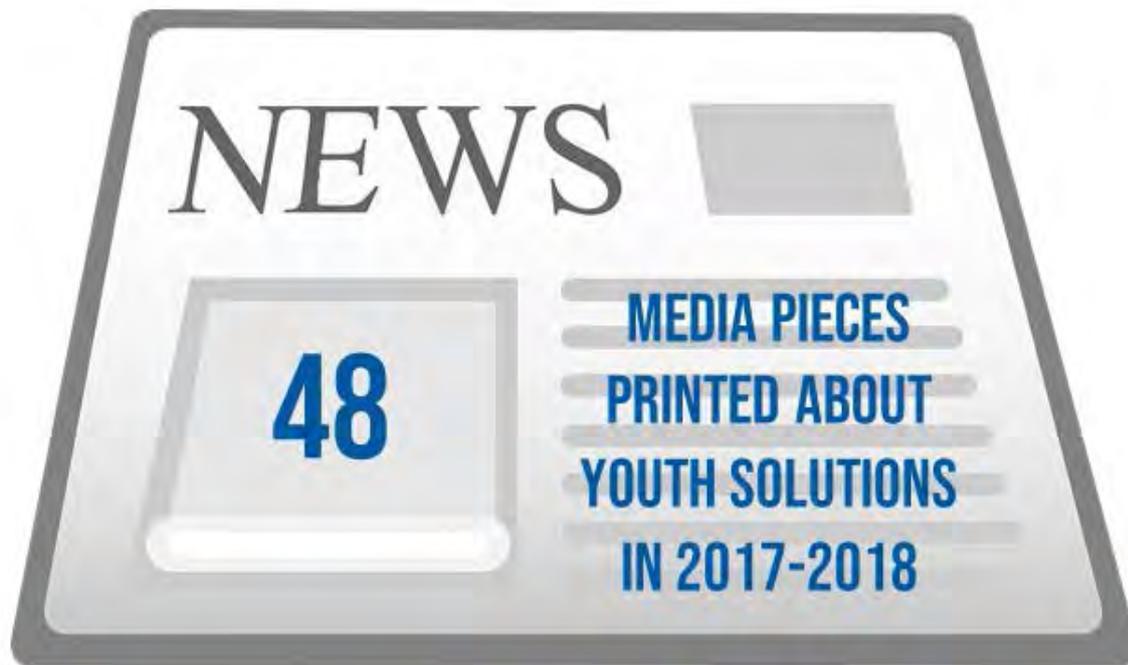
twitter.com/YouthSolutions
7% increase on previous year

5746 VIEWS BY 30 JUNE 2018



youtube.com/YouthSolutionsNSW
39% increase on previous year

Media & Newsletters



11 MEDIA RELEASES SENT

100% MEDIA RELEASE PITCH RATE

**6
E NEWSLETTERS
SENT**

**TO OVER 1200
E NEWSLETTER
RECIPIENTS**

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



YouthSolutions



youth_solutions



YouthSolutionsNSW