



The Healing Foundation

Annual Report 2020–2021

CONTENTS

Message from the Chair

Message from the CEO

Supporting Stolen Generations

Make Healing Happen: it's time to act

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Stolen Generations:
updated analyses for 2018–19

Better access to and preservation of Stolen Generations records

Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations

Coalition of Peaks

Policy submissions and Parliamentary Committee hearings

CATSINaM conference series

Stolen Generations Reference Group

3 **Creating intergenerational healing** **24**

5 Youth Reference Group 25

Stolen Generations Resource Kit for Teachers and Students 26

Social and Emotional Wellbeing for First Nations Children 28

7 Healing Our Way podcast 29

8 Bourke High School and Brewarrina Central School 30

Community healing **31**

Collective healing projects 32

Community healing forums 34

COVID-19 Resilience Project 36

Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm 37

Supporting the workforce – WorkUP Queensland 38

Media activity 39

Financial statements **41**

Directors' information **52**

Message from the Chair



There has been much to celebrate at The Healing Foundation, as the organisation transitions into its second decade of operation. This comes despite the challenging conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has put a halt on a lot of our work in communities across the country.

While we do our best work walking alongside Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants, this year we saw a number of key events on The Healing Foundation calendar postponed or cancelled. This meant that those important gatherings, healing forums, knowledge circles, and get-togethers could not go ahead as planned. It's worth acknowledging that our workforce and the communities that we support were able to embrace the change – using new technologies for staying connected and working remotely to ensure the work continued.

While COVID-19 continued on into the first half of 2021, we were able to focus on the redesign of the organisation's structure, leading to the appointment of new staff to key management positions, along with the shoring up of our teams and their staff to further strengthen our post-pandemic operations on the ground.

The Healing Foundation Board of Directors has been bolstered with the addition of two new members in Ian Hamm and Nigel Browne. Both bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the organisation and will help sustain momentum as we continue to prioritise the health and wellbeing of Stolen Generations survivors, their families, and communities.

During the pandemic, The Healing Foundation also promoted *Make Healing Happen* to provide an in-depth insight into the experiences of Stolen Generations survivors and the extent and complexity of their contemporary needs as they grow older. The *Make Healing Happen* report presents demographic data about where Stolen Generations survivors and their families live, and it considers the impacts of forced removal on descendants.

The launch of the Make Healing Happen report in June at the National Press Club in Canberra was another highlight worthy of celebration. It detailed new demographic data from the AIHW that saw an increase in the number of Stolen Generations survivors to 33,600, and more than 142,000 descendants. This opportunity also put the voices of survivors and their descendants to the nation, as the event was broadcast live on the ABC and generated national media coverage.

Another milestone for The Healing Foundation was February's Apology Anniversary, when members of our Stolen Generations and Youth Reference groups met with Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Minister for Indigenous Australians

Message from the Chair

Ken Wyatt at Parliament House in Canberra. This meeting was a chance to share stories and lived experience with the highest office of government, and to express the ongoing and urgent needs of survivors and their descendants to policymakers.

The Healing Foundation introduced a balanced policy imperative, aligning its current priority of addressing intergenerational trauma in parallel with a commitment to intergenerational healing. As we do this, it's important that we recognise the views of our young and developing leaders as key contributors. To this end, a Youth Reference Group was established, to help guide intergenerational healing from a youth perspective. Similarly, contributions from members of our Stolen Generations Reference Group will continue to be critically important.

We did the majority of this work against the backdrop of the pandemic so, of course, we had to ensure our survivors and communities were safe. The Healing Foundation partnered with the Marumali Program to conduct COVID-19 research that shows that the lockdowns in Australia retriggered trauma for some Stolen Generations survivors.

The research suggests an increased and heightened sense of vulnerability; significant disconnection from family, community, and country; and significant impacts on mental health and wellbeing among our survivors. The Healing Foundation will continue to advocate the findings of this research to ensure governments and authorities build on Australia's world-leading public health efforts in future pandemic planning to ensure Stolen Generation survivors, their families, and indeed all Indigenous communities are protected.

Despite lockdowns across the country, The Healing Foundation was able to facilitate a series of healing forums in the Torres Strait and across northern New South Wales. The Torres Strait Island communities of Kerriri, Dauan, and Saibai hosted healing forums in September, coordinated by The Healing Foundation and our partners, Mura Kosker Sorority, who have been working with local women and children locally on the ground.

The forums gave communities a chance to sit down and work through their healing needs, a process that is leading their own healing by addressing the trauma, distress, and long-term impacts caused by colonisation.

Working with Primary Health Networks (PHNs), The Healing Foundation also held forums in NSW, with details in this report. The forums were designed to empower the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to identify local, culturally relevant approaches to meeting the healing and wellbeing needs of their community, with the goal of PHNs supporting locally driven healing approaches that address mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual needs, as well as connection to family, culture, and land.

The Healing Foundation has been working closely with Coota Girls Aboriginal Corporation to assist with a transition from the current auspice arrangement in place with The Healing Foundation towards self-determination as an independent organisation.

The Healing Foundation is working closely with the Coota Girls Directors to support strong and robust governance structures, business operations including

financial and risk management, independent Human Resources and Information Technology services, business continuity planning, and strategic planning.

As with other Stolen Generations organisations impacted by COVID-19, Coota Girls have continued to provide social and emotional wellbeing support for survivors and descendants during the past year, while adapting and remaining flexible about key projects and events. This has included sending food vouchers and care packages, along with activity and craft packages.

It was a challenging but rewarding year. On behalf of my fellow directors, I am proud of our many accomplishments achieved in the past 12 months. We'd like to take the opportunity to thank our outgoing Board member Noelene Lopes, as well as Lorraine Peeters and Florence Onus who have finished up with The Healing Foundation's Stolen Generations Reference Group after many years of valued service.

I thank my fellow Board members, our Chief Executive Officer and her Senior Executive Team, our Sub-Committees, members of our Stolen Generations and Youth Reference groups, and all of our staff across the country for their commitment and significant contributions to the work of The Healing Foundation. Finally, I acknowledge the support we receive from NIAA and the Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt, our funding and stakeholder partners, and donors whose support is never taken for granted and always greatly appreciated.

Professor Steve Larkin
The Healing Foundation Chair

Message from the CEO

“Healing will restore dignity for those who have suffered and ease a burden they had no say in having to carry. It recognises the centrality of self-determination and the strengths of our cultures in always being able to keep us safe and well.”

The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth – Speech to the National Press Club of Australia

The COVID-19 challenge – the work goes on

All Australians endured a full calendar year of COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns and changes to everyday life throughout 2020–21 but battled on through it all. And so it was with The Healing Foundation – there was work to do, and we worked as a team on behalf of Stolen Generations survivors and their families and communities to get it done. What a year.

The year started with moving through an important period of internal restructure and re-energising. New Directors were appointed, new operational systems introduced, and we set ourselves new challenges. But one thing stayed the same – our commitment to continue to walk alongside survivors and their families towards more healing experiences.

At the core of our commitment was our action plan for healing project, with core findings and outcomes developing and transforming into our *Make Healing Happen* campaign, which would guide and influence much of our activity and engagement for the year.

On the public policy front, we produced submissions for various Federal Parliament Committees, the most notable being on redress and preventive health. We made multiple submissions on redress and made multiple appearances before the Joint Select Committee on the National Redress for survivors of child abuse. Similarly, we made strong representations on the special prevention priorities of First Nations people and communities.

A major piece of work was our COVID-19 Resilience Project research report, which drew responses directly from local communities to help inform the national political and health responses to the effects of COVID-19 on First Nations communities. This report achieved significant national media coverage and had political impact – helping to bring a much-needed focus to the critical health needs of Stolen Generations survivors in the pandemic.

Amid the COVID-19 difficulties, there was a shining beacon of light around Christmas when we could make an all-staff get-together at headquarters in Canberra. A combination of business, bonding, belief, and even beach



Message from the CEO

walking, this event provided much-needed reflection and collaboration for The Healing Foundation team. We had guest speakers, presentations, and a precious opportunity to reflect on the rich life and valued contribution of our colleague, Mikey Galluzzo, who we miss each day since his passing in late 2020.

After our gathering and some well-earned time off, The Healing Foundation commenced 2021 at some pace on the back of our pre-budget Submission, which generated a lot of media interest and sparked political responses. As well as flagging our agenda for the *Make Healing Happen* campaign, the submission asked for a doubling of The Healing Foundation's core funding grant and the establishment of a National First Nations Memorial and Healing Centre in Canberra.

This activity led to an unprecedented delegation of Stolen Generations survivors having a private meeting with Prime Minister Scott Morrison at Parliament House to mark the Anniversary of the National Apology. Our survivor delegates spoke freely and frankly about their experiences and the experiences of their communities, and the hearts and minds in that room were genuinely affected by the power of the stories.

In June, The Healing Foundation was on the national stage at the National Press Club in Canberra to launch our *Make Healing Happen* report and promote the latest Stolen Generations statistical report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

I was joined on stage by Ian Hamm from The Healing Foundation's Stolen Generations Reference Group, and Youth Reference Group Co-Chair Harry Williams to represent and project the voices of survivors. It was a privilege and an honour for me to share the knowledge we are entrusted with before such a wide and influential national audience.

The Healing Foundation has been building on the momentum of that launch ever since.

We have had a very promising year.

We have had meetings with many politicians and government officials to convey the strong messages of *Make Healing Happen*.

We are strongly engaged with the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) and with other Commonwealth agencies, and we meet regularly.

We enjoy a partnership with all signatories of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, and as a member of the Coalition of Peaks. And we continue to participate on key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership groups.

Our success is due to the leadership and guidance of the Board, the Stolen Generations Reference Group, the Youth Reference Group, and Stolen Generations organisations.

It is magnified hugely by our partners and collaborators – and I thank you all.

It is also due to our dedicated staff in offices (and home offices) around the country. Their strength, support, and good humour make it easy to lead.

There is much more to do but we continue to build a nation of many nations, ready to understand healing priorities – and to how to take action.

The Healing Foundation continues to be powered by the collective commitment to make healing happen.

Fiona Cornforth

CEO

The Healing Foundation

Supporting Stolen Generations

Make Healing Happen: it's time to act



The Healing Foundation staff at the *Make Healing Happen* launch.

"We know how long and tirelessly our communities have been working towards having their voices heard ... this is evidence that if we walk alongside Stolen Generations survivors there is hope for a healed nation."

The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth

On 2 June, The Healing Foundation launched the *Make Healing Happen: It's time to act* report at the National Press Club of Australia. It provides contemporary evidence of the 'gap within the gap', signalling the urgent need for policy responses from all Australian governments to assist the healing process for Stolen Generations survivors, their families, and communities.

Make Healing Happen was launched in conjunction with a new report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare that estimates the number of Stolen Generations survivors has increased from 17,150 in 2014-15 to 33,600 in 2018-19.

Stolen Generations survivors have endured a lifetime of trauma, grief, and loss, and as a result they carry a significant burden of health, wellbeing, social, and economic disadvantage. They are growing older, and many live with disabilities and complex health problems, including poor mental health. They are worried about the future of their families.

Make Healing Happen provides an in-depth insight into the experiences of Stolen Generations survivors and the extent and complexity of their contemporary needs.

The report tells policymakers how to restore dignity for those who have suffered. It recognises the centrality of self-determination and the strengths of First Nations cultures in healing historical trauma and driving an intergenerational healing movement.

Make Healing Happen: it's time to act

National Press Club Australia – Launch of *Make Healing Happen* report (video)



Youth Reference Group Co-Chair Harry Williams, The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth, and Stolen Generations Reference Group Chair Ian Hamm.



Misha Schubert (left) from the National Press Club hosting the *Make Healing Happen* launch.

Make Healing Happen: it's time to act



“When you lose an Elder, and they’re full of knowledge and stories ... that’s like a book or library of thousands and thousands of years of knowledge creation, stories, lore, men’s and women’s business, ways of thinking and doing ... gone. You can never get it back, and I have to find a way to still learn about my culture, my language, while moving forward with the rest of the world.”

*Stolen Generations descendant
and Co-Chair of The Healing
Foundation Youth Reference Group
Harry Williams*



It identifies priorities for action that will achieve real and lasting healing, including:

Healing for Stolen Generations survivors

1. Culturally appropriate redress for Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants – to address the financial burden and data about economic distress.
2. Services for aging Stolen Generations survivors – because priority health care and trauma-aware, healing-informed service provision is required.
3. Records access and management – to enable reconnection and the restoration of belonging and identity.

A national intergenerational healing strategy

4. Intergenerational healing solutions, established and developed with Stolen Generations survivors and descendants – to end the cycle of intergenerational trauma.
5. Sustainable and robust monitoring and accountability – to monitor and report progress towards achieving better outcomes for Stolen Generations and their descendants.
6. A national accountability framework – because we need to track whether the healing needs of Stolen Generations survivors, their families, and communities are being met.

This work was the culmination of the Action Plan for Healing project commissioned by the Australian Government in response to *Bringing Them Home 20 years on report*.

The Healing Foundation will continue to work with Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants to make healing happen.

Make Healing Happen: it's time to act



“Walking in the footsteps of the people who came before you. Not just your mother and your father, but the thousands of generations whose blood is integrated into this land, whose footprints are still buried beneath the surface.”

*The Healing Foundation Stolen Generations Reference Group Chair
Ian Hamm*



Guests at the National Press Club.



The Healing Foundation Board member Stephanie Harvey, Louise Villanova, and Ngambri-Ngunnawal Elder Aunty Matilda House.



The Healing Foundation Deputy CEO Donna Burns with Stolen Generations Reference Group members Yvonne Mills and Ian Hamm.



Lou Turner with Stolen Generations Reference Group member Aunty Maise Austin.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Stolen Generations: updated analyses for 2018–19

The report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) released in conjunction with the *Make Healing Happen* report at the National Press Club in June provides contemporary evidence of the ‘gap within the gap’ for Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants.

The AIHW’s *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Stolen Generations aged 50 and over: updated analyses for 2018–19* shows that Stolen Generations survivors aged 50 and over are more likely to be worse off than other First Nations Australians of the same age on a range of health and socioeconomic outcomes.

The report estimates the number of Stolen Generations survivors has increased from 17,150 in 2014–15 to 33,600 in 2018–19. It tells us that a third of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults are descended from Stolen Generations survivors. In some States and Territories, descendants make up more than half of the First Nations population.

All Stolen Generations survivors will be aged 50 and over in 2023, and eligible for aged care. Without a trauma-aware, healing-informed approach, residential aged care poses a significant risk of re-traumatisation.

While the new data uncovered by the AIHW represents significant challenges for governments to address the growing needs in health, aged care, education, social justice, and equity, it also represents a unique opportunity to unite the nation to make healing happen for Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants.

“Aged care is a big thing. Mum and Dad were institutionalised in the dormitory system, then us being removed ... we became Mum’s carers. My biggest regret is that we had to put her in full-time care because we didn’t have the resources to keep her out of an institution.” Stolen Generations descendant

“It’s hard to put her back in an institution because she started in an institution and will die in an institution.” Stolen Generations descendant



Better access to and preservation of Stolen Generations records

“When we were born, we were given a spirit and a soul by the creator, but they turned around and dismantled that, flogged that out of us ... Never ever had that feeling of home and being allowed to be home again. I’m waiting for that day to come.”

Stolen Generations survivor Uncle Michael Welsh

The Healing Foundation, in collaboration with the Australian Society of Archivists, has developed an [online education package](#) to highlight the vital importance of records access for Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants and provide practical guidance to people who work with survivors.

The Better Access to Stolen Generations Records learning module has been designed to assist archivists, information and support workers, new and existing professionals, and students seeking to build specialised skills to support survivors and their families.

The resources will help the sector to better understand Stolen Generations history, including information relating to forced removal policies, intergenerational trauma, and the ongoing impacts of child removal on First Nations communities today.

The role of [records](#) in healing, redress, and reparations for Stolen Generations survivors, particularly in relation to truth telling and reconciliation, cannot be understated. The

resources help service providers to understand the context of how these records were created and continuing impacts on individuals and families of not having access to these records now.

The 1997 *Bringing Them Home* report showed that access to individual and family records was fundamental to locating and reunifying families.

Although records may contain confronting or incorrect information and may not always tell the full story, they are an important resource to help survivors find out about and reconnect with family, culture, and country. Finding family records is at the core of truth telling and healing, allowing survivors to strengthen their belonging and reunite with biological family – parents, siblings, aunts and uncles, cousins, and community. Ultimately, they are a catalyst for healing.

Specific training is essential to ensure that Stolen Generations records are accessible and usable to reconnect with lost family, and to ensure that the process of accessing records does not cause further harm.

[Ian Hamm speaks about the importance of access to records \(video\)](#)

Designed around trauma-aware, healing-informed principles, the resources are a part of The Healing Foundation’s [Make Healing Happen](#) initiative, which sets out a clear plan of action. This includes the ongoing activity of The Healing Foundation’s Historical Records Taskforce, to further the original recommendations of the [Bringing Them Home](#) report and to advise government on improving access to historical records.

The Healing Foundation will continue supporting priority actions on records access, through the Historical Records Taskforce and [Make Healing Happen](#).

Better access to and preservation of Stolen Generations records

“Better understanding of both the history and ongoing impact of trauma on survivors means archivists can provide these vital records, including deeply important information around family, identity and experience, in a respectful and safe way.”

Australian Society of Archivists’ President Nicola Laurent

Kirsten Thorpe – Better access to Stolen Generations records



Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations

The **Anniversary** of the National Apology to Stolen Generations survivors was an especially significant time for The Healing Foundation this year, as it amplified the voices and needs of survivors in very high places.

Aunty Julie Black, a 64-year-old Barkindji woman, attended a powerful gathering in Taree and for the first time wanted to share her journey with not just her community but the world. The Healing Foundation shared Aunty Julie's story to mark the anniversary of the National Apology.

Her story is heartbreaking and courageous and reminds us that behind forced removal policies there are people, families, and descendants who continue to be affected by trauma.

Aunty Julie's story was shared nationally and internationally via numerous mainstream and social media channels. The response was overwhelming, with viewers writing letters and sharing their hopes for a healed nation.



"When you're with your own mob, that's what heals your Aboriginal soul."

Stolen Generations survivor Aunty Julie Black

Aunty Julie Black shares her story

Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations

The Healing Foundation continues to elevate the voices and lived experience of Stolen Generations survivors at local, state, and national levels, to ensure the anniversary is a reminder of the work that remains.

“This week we are reminded of the urgent need for policy responses from all governments, for workforces to be trauma-aware and healing-informed, to better the health and welfare outcomes and make healing happen for a growing number of Stolen Generations survivors and descendants.”

The Healing Foundation Chair Professor Steve Larkin

The Healing Foundation was supported by Stolen Generations survivors who were invited to meet with Prime Minister Scott Morrison at Parliament House in Canberra and took a delegation of key people, led by Board member Stephanie Harvey and including Stolen Generations Reference Group members Aunty Maisie Austin and David Wragge, and Youth Reference Group Co-Chair Harry Williams.

The group spent an hour with the Prime Minister and his advisers prior to official Apology proceedings in the House of Representatives. They shared stories of lived experience, hopes for improvements in redress, aged care, and what the Government can do to contribute to healing.

The Healing Foundation delegates met with other prominent politicians, including Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt, and MPs Linda Burney and Warren Snowdon, and Senators Malarndirri McCarthy and Pat Dodson. Other prominent First Nations leaders there on the day included Professor Marcia Langton and Mick Gooda.



Youth Reference Group Co-Chair Harry Williams, CEO Fiona Cornforth, Board member Stephanie Harvey, Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt, Stolen Generations Reference Group member David Wragge, Prime Minister Scott Morrison, and Stolen Generations Reference Group member Maisie Austin.

The visit to Parliament House was an opportunity for the Prime Minister to hear directly from Stolen Generations survivors and descendants. The meeting was crucial for progressing conversations about redress in Commonwealth Territories and represented an acknowledgement from government of its responsibility to survivors in the NT, ACT, and Jervis Bay.

Coalition of Peaks



“The Coalition of Peaks fought hard to put Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations at the centre of the new National Agreement on Closing the Gap. They deliver better services for our people, get better outcomes, protect our cultures and employ more First Nations people in their home communities.”

Coalition of Peaks Lead Convenor Pat Turner

“The cost of inaction is incalculable. Think of all the failed initiatives that weren’t backed by a trauma-aware, healing-informed approach. This is the last chance to do something substantial for remaining Stolen Generations survivors in their lifetimes – many having already passed away.”

The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth

The Healing Foundation is an active member of the [Coalition of Peaks](#), a representative body made up of more than 50 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled peak organisations who have come together as an act of self-determination to be formal partners with Australian governments.

The historic initiative is the first time a national agreement has been designed and negotiated by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, committing all governments to fundamentally change the way they work with First Nations Australians.

The Coalition works with governments at national, state, and regional levels to ensure shared decision making drives the new National Agreement on Closing the Gap, which came into effect on 27 July 2020.

The National Agreement sets out how governments and the Coalition will work together to improve the lives of First Nations peoples. It is strongly based on, and underpinned by, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ priorities, to ensure that First Nations people have

a meaningful say on policies and programs that impact them.

The Healing Foundation has been successful in positioning healing within Closing the Gap negotiations and planning as a representative for the policy partnerships under the National Agreement for social and emotional wellbeing. Continuing work is needed to ensure investment and actions on trauma-aware healing-informed responses that promote intergenerational healing are committed to in all state and territory implementation plans.

[Coalition of Peaks – Who are we \(video\)](#)

Policy submissions and Parliamentary Committee hearings

During the 2020–2021 financial year, The Healing Foundation made two major policy submissions to government – on preventive health, and the implementation of the National Redress Scheme. These led to several appearances by The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth at various Federal Parliamentary Committees to discuss the ongoing and urgent needs of Stolen Generations survivors and the importance of delivering redress and services in a trauma-aware and healing-informed way.



The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth with ACT MLA Dr Marisa Paterson (left) and Greens Senator Lidia Thorpe (right).

National Preventive Health Strategy

“Healing is not just a strategy but also a process that enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to overcome trauma, decide their own story for the future, bring about long-term generational change, and restore wellbeing, on their terms.”

The Healing Foundation Chair Professor Steve Larkin

In response to the draft National Preventive Health Strategy, The Healing Foundation submitted a series of recommendations to the National Preventive Health Taskforce to ensure that the impacts of intergenerational trauma are recognised and addressed across all parts of the health system.



The Healing Foundation recommended:

- The specific needs of target groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, be addressed in the Framework for Action, and structurally identified throughout the Strategy.
- A greater focus on the early years, and the role of early childhood education, in prevention and building resilience for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and communities, driven by dedicated programs and approaches.
- A recognition of the intergenerational impacts of colonisation on Stolen Generations survivors and their descendants, and on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities more broadly, beyond the mental health space.
- More innovation in the designated focus areas, including an initiative for social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, that builds on trauma-aware, healing-informed program approaches.
- Partnerships and collaborations to include specific self-determination models of service delivery for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including survivors and descendants.
- Measures and reporting associated with health equity targets be disaggregated by Indigenous status, and the national prevention monitoring and reporting framework include reporting on target populations.

Policy submissions and Parliamentary Committee hearings

National Redress Scheme

The Healing Foundation has continued to advise government on critical reforms needed to ensure Stolen Generations survivors accessing redress are supported to do so in a culturally safe way that reduces the risk of retriggering trauma.

In its submission to the Joint Select Committee on the Implementation of the National Redress Scheme for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse, The Healing Foundation highlighted how the scheme is currently falling short of delivering trauma-aware, healing-informed responses.

Because the majority of submissions published by the committee reflect the views of non-Indigenous survivors or the interests of institutions, more must be done to ensure the experiences of First Nations survivors are considered as part of the review.

The National Redress Scheme is a fundamental part of the healing journey for survivors. However, unless trauma is actively addressed at every point of contact in the redress response, there is a significant risk that survivors of institutional abuse will not be allowed to heal.

The Healing Foundation's submission to government highlighted key weaknesses and areas for improvement in the Scheme's administration, including the response First Nations survivors often receive when engaging with formal agencies such as Centrelink. Survivors often report discrimination and alienation during the application processes, which can contribute to ongoing trauma and create barriers to accessing redress.

After being forcibly removed from family, community, and country, survivors did not know where to go to seek support. They no longer belonged to a community, held no memories of belonging to one, and were not able to draw on the strengths of a community to help them. The Healing Foundation will continue engaging with government to ensure that the voices and experiences of survivors are the touchstone that is returned to when reviewing implementation of the National Redress Scheme.

"Aboriginal children who were forcibly removed from their families and raised in non-Indigenous settings did not end up healthier, better educated or more likely to get jobs than those who were raised in Aboriginal communities. Rather, forced removal led to a cycle of poverty, ill-health, discrimination, and incarceration. As a result, the Stolen Generations are one of the most disadvantaged groups within the broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population."

Coota Girls Corporation cited in NSW PLC 2016:131

"A man was waiting there for my brother, from Kinchela Boys Home. I said, 'Where are you going?' And I was pulling at him, trying to pull him back. Here I am on the station, a little eight year old, screaming and crying because they were taking my brother away."

Stolen Generations survivor Doreen Webster

Policy submissions and Parliamentary Committee hearings

'Healing the Nation' Pre-Budget Submission 2021-22

"My father ... fought for this country and they took his kids ... my parents came up to the homes a couple of times, but they wouldn't let them in to see us."

Stolen Generations survivor Faye Clayton

In its pre-budget submission, titled 'Healing the Nation', The Healing Foundation outlined a number of key priorities and practical solutions to make healing happen for Stolen Generations survivors, their families, and communities, and the nation more broadly.

Laying the groundwork for the *Make Healing Happen* campaign, launched in June 2021 at the National Press Club of Australia, the submission proposed a range of initiatives to progress healing – including reparations; tailored trauma-aware and healing-informed support for ageing Stolen Generations survivors; better access to historical records; and a National Healing Strategy to address the impacts of intergenerational trauma.

The Healing Foundation also submitted a plan for a long overdue National Memorial and Healing Centre for First Nations peoples, to be established in Canberra's Parliamentary Triangle.



The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth and Minister for Indigenous Affairs Ken Wyatt.

Policy submissions and Parliamentary Committee hearings

A National Memorial and Healing Centre would send a strong message to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples – and all Australians – that the Federal Government is serious about reconciliation and righting past wrongs.

By prioritising truth telling, a national memorial would honour Stolen Generations survivors' stories, grief, and loss. It would be a 'living memorial' that salutes the past, present, and the shared future of all Australians as one, incorporating elements of a museum, gallery, centre of education and learning, and a hub for healing and reconciliation. It would celebrate and honour the true history, languages, culture, art, music, customs, and traditions of First Nations peoples.

In addition to a National Memorial and Healing Centre, The Healing Foundation's pre-budget submission called for doubling of the core Commonwealth Grant that funds work to support Stolen Generations survivors, their families, and communities.

We promote and advocate for actions that result in impactful change and create a space for intergenerational healing to occur. Our influence on national policy and programs was pronounced during this period and our ongoing participation is aimed at ensuring that systems, organisations, and workforces can deliver on their policy intent – to improve outcome for First Nations peoples.

The submission received extensive media coverage, including a prominent article and editorial in *The Canberra Times*, talkback on ABC radio, and featuring prominently in First Nations media.

More importantly, it was the catalyst for a face-to-face meeting with Minister Ken Wyatt in his office at Parliament House, as part of ongoing close engagement with Government, including with the Prime Minister, to discuss urgent needs of Stolen Generations survivors, their families, and communities.

"A memorial alongside other institutions on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin would be a focus and a catalyst for healing the nation. It's important that we as a nation provide a safe environment for Stolen Generations survivors and their families to speak for themselves, tell their own stories, as all Australians are moved to act in a way that best supports urgent healing work now."

The Healing Foundation Chair Professor Steve Larkin



Photo courtesy, The Canberra Times

CATSINaM conference series

“Trauma diverts a person’s energy to managing its physical and emotional impacts. The flight, fight or freeze response limits opportunities, and when people are stuck there, it limits their ability to see possibilities. Understanding the impacts of trauma allows healthcare professionals to better deliver their care, reduce harm, and support healing. Every warm interaction matters.”

The Healing Foundation Deputy CEO Donna Burns

The Healing Foundation was invited to join the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM) National Conference series in Sydney, Melbourne, Cairns, Adelaide, Darwin, and Perth. The series incorporates celebrations of culture, First Nations knowledges, as well as the invaluable Indigenous contribution to the health system.

Led by The Healing Foundation Deputy CEO Donna Burns, who was a keynote speaker at the events, the conferences were a great opportunity to share ideas around trauma-aware and healing-informed practice.

The Healing Foundation’s Wellbeing Team was on hand at the events to provide a healing space for conference attendees, along with resources, information, and merchandise.

The conference series was the perfect opportunity to present trauma-aware and healing-informed practice to health professionals for the first time and create ongoing collaboration with staff and leadership within the hospital and health sectors.



Tanja Hirvonen, Aunty Gracelyn Smallwood AM, and Talia Collins

Stolen Generations Reference Group

The Healing Foundation's Stolen Generations Reference Group is an essential part of the organisation, ensuring the work effectively meets the unique healing needs of survivors, their families, and communities.

The group brings together Stolen Generations survivors from across Australia, who walk alongside The Healing Foundation's Youth Reference Group, Board, and staff to highlight priorities for healing, and further opportunities to support communities.

In 2020-2021 the Stolen Generations Reference Group contributed to events including the *Make Healing Happen: it's time to act* report launch at the National Press Club of Australia, key resources and projects, such as the COVID-19 Resilience Project and the Stolen Generations Resource Kit for Teachers and Students.

We would like to acknowledge the work of the Stolen Generations Reference Group over the past year, as an essential voice for healing and sustainable change for Stolen Generations survivors, their families, and communities, as well as the nation more broadly.

"Culture is the very centre of who we are as a people. We're attached to our traditional lands. But if you don't know you're on your traditional country or if you don't know where it is, that very centrepiece of who you are, it's not there. You've got a vacuum that you try and form a life around."

The Healing Foundation Stolen Generations Reference Group Chair Ian Hamm

Creating intergenerational healing



Youth Reference Group

Working alongside the Stolen Generations Reference Group, the Youth Reference Group plays an essential role in The Healing Foundation's work, ensuring it meets the unique healing needs of Stolen Generations descendants, families, and communities.

The group brings together young First Nations leaders from around Australia who provide insight, lived experience, and guidance on key healing projects and resources to support young people to lead intergenerational healing.

This year, the Youth Reference Group continued work on the popular Healing Our Way podcast series. Although COVID-19 disrupted production on further episodes, the group worked behind the scenes, contributing to the direction and production of future episodes.



"...the solutions are within those young people. If it's done right by the right people, and the right support anything can be done."

The Healing Foundation Youth Reference Group Co-Chair Harry Williams

Top row: Georgia Durmush, Amanda Fotheringham, Co-Chair Harry Williams. Bottom row: Ellen Karimanovic, Anna Murphy, Blake Tatafu, and Co-Chair Meagan Gerrard.



In May 2021, the Youth Reference Group was represented alongside the Stolen Generations Reference Group to meet with Minister for Indigenous Affairs Ken Wyatt and Prime Minister Scott Morrison at Parliament House, in advance of the *Make Healing Happen* launch.

Discussions focused on the need for Stolen Generations reparations, a national intergenerational trauma strategy, a place to heal and acknowledge the work yet to be done to support healing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

In June, Youth Reference Group Co-Chair Harry Williams accompanied Stolen Generations Reference Group Chair Ian Hamm and The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth at the National Press Club in Canberra to launch the *Make Healing Happen* report.

Young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are a crucial part of the conversation about how communities can continue to heal, and The Healing Foundation would like to acknowledge the work of the Youth Reference Group over the past year.

Stolen Generations Resource Kit for Teachers and Students

Although affected by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, work on the Stolen Generations Resource Kit for Teachers and Students has continued, with a focus on resources for senior school students and their teachers.

The resource kit was created to help provide young people with a full understanding of Australia's history, including the impacts of Stolen Generations policies. It makes it easy for school communities to start the conversation using facts, real examples, and stories.

Lesson plans focus heavily on the stories, music, poetry, dance, art, and writing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who are survivors or descendants of the Stolen Generations. The emphasis in each year level has been to show that while the impacts of colonisation are still being felt, they are also being overcome, and that First Nations peoples and cultures are strong and enduring.



Dimitri Trudgett, Stolen Generations Reference Group members Ian Hamm and Florence Onus, Jess Skinner.

"To be able to see my son in particular ... learn about the Stolen Generation, it not only empowers him as an Aboriginal person, but also makes him feel like he's accepted, he's acknowledged, that he is an Australian."

Teacher and parent Jess Skinner

[Story of the Stolen Generations Resource Kit \(video\)](#)

Stolen Generations Resource Kit for Teachers and Students

In 2020-2021, staff from The Healing Foundation travelled to Western Australia to share the kit at educational exhibitions. There was a lot of interest shown and the kit continues to be one of The Healing Foundation's most popular resources.

New lesson plans for Years 10 to 12 are being developed and tested, with cultural consultation and guidance from Stolen Generations survivors at the heart of the process.

The Healing Foundation has worked closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous teachers, parents, early childhood specialists, and curriculum writers to develop the new resources.

'I asked her if she was happy to see me. She said of course but she didn't recognise me because I was taken as a little girl and came back as an adult. All of us children taken at that time were clean, healthy, happy. Why did it happen? I still don't really know.'

Stolen Generations survivor Eileen Cummings



Ian Hamm and Florence Onus with students from Trangie Central School.



Social and Emotional Wellbeing for First Nations Children

Improving the social and emotional wellbeing of First Nations children (video)

The Healing Foundation, in partnership with Emerging Minds, has developed new resources to improve social and emotional wellbeing outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Developed through a co-design process, the resources help families and children to reconnect to the knowledge and protective factors that have kept First Nations peoples healthy and strong.

This is the first time a holistic approach has brought together best-practice child development theory and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures to better understand parenting through a trauma-aware, healing-informed lens.

We know that strong connections to culture, family, community, country, and spirit are central to healing for First Nations peoples, and that children grow up strong and healthy when



they are well supported from an early age. Creating early intervention practices that reclaim Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural and ecological connections, kinship structures, songs, dance, language, and stories from ancestors is essential for the social and emotional wellbeing of First Nations children.

Culturally appropriate training materials will help service providers to understand the impacts of intergenerational trauma, so they can create

a new narrative – one that is strengths-based, hope-inspired, and that leads the way towards intergenerational healing.

This partnership demonstrates the commitment from a non-First Nations organisation to champion healing for Stolen Generations survivors and descendants, and First Nations children more broadly.

Artwork by Elaine Chambers-Hegarty.

Healing Our Way podcast

“We as people didn’t wake up one day with a good dose of trauma and grief and loss, and drug and alcohol, family violence, child protection issues. It didn’t just happen. There was a journey, from invasion and colonisation, we got to where we’re at.”

Episode three: Confronting perceptions

This year, work has continued on the popular Healing Our Way podcast series. Created in close consultation with The Healing Foundation’s Youth Reference Group, the podcast explores topics relating to intergenerational trauma, racism, identity, culture, and healing. The series features Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices and experiences to promote truth telling and inspire listeners to learn more about the Stolen Generations.

The series explores the relationship between identities, culture, and healing, and what identity means to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander wellbeing. Guests delve deep into the topics of confronting negative perceptions and stereotypes, and how racism continues to affect First Nations peoples today.

It is crucial that young people are a key part of the conversation about how we can continue to heal as a strong community and nation. The podcasts have created a space for young people to learn about and participate in discussions about the Stolen Generations and intergenerational healing.



Intergenerational Trauma
Healing Our Way (podcast)

Bourke High School and Brewarrina Central School

“Strong spirit is taking care of others”

“Strong spirit is loving yourself and others”

“Strong people never give up”

Bourke students

The Healing Foundation has continued its close and ongoing work with Bourke High and Brewarrina Central to develop healing strategies within the schools and progress truth telling and intergenerational healing.

In April, NRL superstars Cody Walker and Latrell Mitchell accompanied The Healing Foundation to Bourke High School to run healing activities with students. These included whole-community events, games, and yarning circles to discuss what is essential for building strong spirit, strong culture, and strong people.

These events were examples of the importance of maintaining strong community spirit, especially during a time when continued COVID-19 lockdowns have increased isolation and loneliness for many.

Cody and Latrell led students in a game of touch football, before opening up the event to the whole community. There was a positive response from the community, with more than 300 people taking part.

Jaylene Chevalier, Bo de la Cruz, Latrell Mitchell, and Cody Walker, on their visit to Bourke and Brewarrina schools.



Community healing



Collective healing projects

“Being able to provide care packages to our Stolen Generations clients, along with regular telephone calls from our Bringing Them Home Counsellors, team leaders, and case workers, ensured we were able to provide ongoing care, whilst monitoring the social and emotional wellbeing of our clients.”

Yorgum Healing Services

The Healing Foundation has continued working with Stolen Generations survivor organisations to support collective healing projects that address the unique healing needs of survivors living with the ongoing impacts of removal from family, culture, and community.

Collective healing projects are designed with an understanding of the complex healing needs of survivors, their families, and communities. They involve long-term support to address trauma at its root cause rather than its symptoms.

In 2020–2021, 14 healing activities were funded across the Northern Territory, New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia, and Queensland. These included events to commemorate the anniversary of the National Apology, support for organisations working with Stolen Generations survivors on redress, and counselling activities under the COVID-19 Resilience Project.

Informed by evidence that shows the importance of connection to culture, country, and community for Stolen Generations survivors, these activities provided survivors with opportunities to connect with each other and provide support through a difficult year.



The Healing Foundation Wellbeing space.



Knowledge Circle workshop.

Collective healing projects

More than 500 people participated in the Western Australia Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation (WASGAC)/Yokai Stolen Generations COVID-19 Relief Program. This provided access to food and consumables, connected Elders and at-risk families to health, mental health, social and educational supports, and emergency accommodation, while upskilling workers.

In another example, Yorgum Healing Services used grant funding from The Healing Foundation to deliver 382 wellbeing packages to more than 270 Stolen Generations survivors across Perth, South Hedland, the Pilbara, Kalgoorlie, and the Goldfields. This funding ensured survivors had access to essential items at critical times during COVID-19 lockdowns.

Thank you to the Stolen Generations Reference Group, who play an essential role in The Healing Foundation's collective healing projects, reviewing outcomes and lending insight for future project planning, funding, and priorities.

The next financial year will include a review of collective healing grant guidelines to revise program governance, evaluate impact, improve equitable distribution of funds, and increase eligible activities. This will be led by Stolen Generations organisations and Link-Ups.



Jaylene Chevalier

“The best part of healing is being with other people that went through the same thing and the same trauma you went through ... You don’t have to tell or explain your story to anybody. We just know what each other has gone through ... The girls that I grew up with, they’re my family, they’re my sisters and we stick together.”

Stolen Generations survivor Aunty Lorraine Peeters

Stolen Generations - Collective Healing (video)

Community healing forums

Community-led healing in the Torres Strait

The Healing Foundation's role as a backbone organisation will focus on building upon the partnership with Mura Kosker Sorority, a trusted healing champion organisation that will lead future phases of work in Torres Strait region.

In September, the Kerriri, Dauan, and Saibai communities came together to take the lead in their own healing, identifying priority solutions and strategies, and creating a roadmap that will make healing happen.

Dialogues took place at three healing forums facilitated by The Healing Foundation and Mura Kosker Sorority. A diverse range of stakeholders – including community members, leaders, Elders, and representatives from service providers, government, and non-government agencies – spoke about the ongoing impacts of colonisation, and the importance of prioritising cultural ways of healing.

“We need to raise our children out of our Indigenous lore rather than our colonial past.”

Saibai healing forum

Forums focused on important issues that communities would like to address, including housing and infrastructure, education and employment, the ongoing effects of

intergenerational trauma, Native Title, the impacts of climate change, and the COVID-19 vaccine rollout.

Community members discussed solutions for improving health and wellbeing, protecting family wellbeing, strengthening culture and identity, prioritising intergenerational healing, and how service providers can help.

The forums are an example of self-determination in action in First Nations communities, where strong leadership results in locally focused solutions that are already having an impact and contributing to healing for individuals and families.

Each forum began with the Sibwanan/Omar ceremony – a traditional cultural ceremony that was extinguished by colonisation but reinstated by the community after healing forums in the Torres Strait in 2018. This was a critical element in creating a culturally safe space for yarning and conversations to take place, and an example of how crucial it is to celebrate the important times that also need to be acknowledged as part of healing for First Nations peoples.

Reports that contain the testimony from the forums, key findings, and the priority actions or healing solutions determined by each community will be launched and given back to community next year.

The Healing Foundation recognises and honours the strength and self-determination of all three communities in working together to promote self-determination and healing solutions.

“Government can act in ways that cause trauma and disempower us, or they can act in ways that help us to heal and empower us. They can either tell us what they are going to do, or listen and ask us how they can support the things we want to do.”

Kerriri healing forum

“Healing the past, we have to heal today and begin the journey ... from intergenerational trauma to intergenerational healing.”

Dauan healing forum

“Because we have looked after this land for thousands of years, it's appropriate we take our island back. We have to hold the island for our children and make sure this is a healing place.”

Saibai healing forum

Community healing forums

Taree Community Healing Forum

The Taree Community Healing Forum was one of a series of forums that were delivered across New South Wales in 2020 and 2021 through a partnership between The Healing Foundation and Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network (HNECC PHN). Initially planned for 2020, the forum was delayed due to New South Wales Government COVID-19 safety restrictions, taking place instead in February 2021.

Co-designed by local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members, The Healing Foundation, and the HNECC PHN, the forum was an opportunity for First Nations peoples to identify and design local, culturally relevant approaches to improving the healing and wellbeing needs of different communities.

Participants discussed options for resourcing localised approaches to healing that address mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual needs, as well as connection to culture, family, and land.

Opportunities to integrate community healing programs with existing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health clinical services – including both Aboriginal community-controlled and mainstream services – were also discussed and recorded in the [Taree Community Healing Forum report](#).

The healing forum promoted community development and meaningful partnerships to ensure services holistically meet the clinical and cultural healing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Taree Community Healing Forum participants



“Yarning circles highlighted the importance of culture and country in ongoing work to support and strengthen families and community. There was also recognition of the resilience of the broader community of Taree, with service providers observing how well the community has come together to keep everyone safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

[Taree Community Healing Forum report](#)

COVID-19 Resilience Project

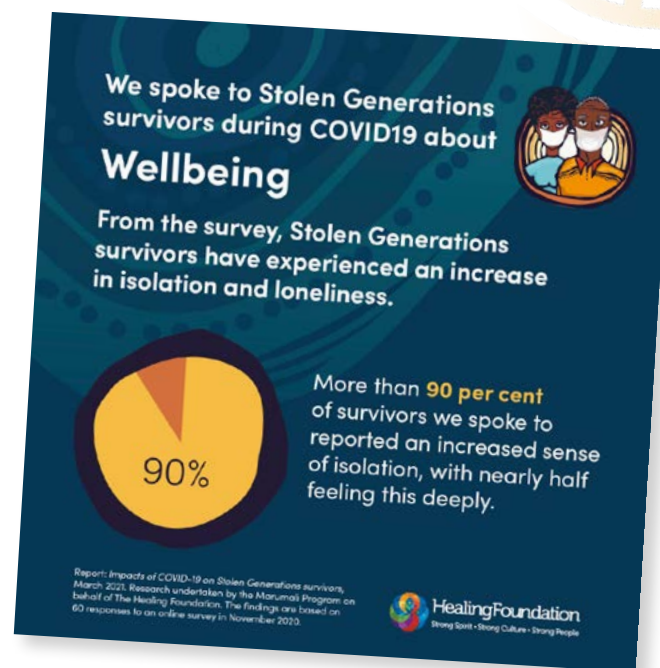
As COVID-19 extended into 2021, The Healing Foundation continued to support Stolen Generations survivors to stay connected, access essential goods and services, and continue supporting each other through the pandemic.

The Healing Foundation funded 18 Stolen Generations organisations through the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) to deliver COVID-19 resilience projects. Organisations used the funding to support urgent, practical needs, such as delivering care packages containing necessities like food, hand sanitisers, tissues, and toilet paper, all of which had become scarce across metropolitan, regional, and remote locations. Tablet computers were provided to some communities to allow Stolen Generations survivors to stay connected while in isolation.

There were also a range of innovative and creative projects to connect survivors and counteract isolation and loneliness, including online cultural activities like basket weaving, storytelling, music jams, bush tucker classes, bingo, and book clubs, along with virtual yarnning circles, meditation in language, and using the time to gather digital stories from survivors.

Funding was made available for counselling support for staff working for Stolen Generations organisations, and it will be ongoing with the continued impacts of COVID-19 into 2022.

Research into the long-term impacts of COVID-19 on First Nations communities was launched in April 2021. It suggests an increased and



heightened sense of vulnerability among Stolen Generations survivors, significant disconnection from family, community, and country, and significant impacts on mental health and wellbeing. Many Stolen Generations survivors also reported increased family and cultural responsibilities that weigh heavily on them and increase the stress of social restrictions.



The research provides a starting point for service providers and governments to understand the impacts of restrictions on Stolen Generations survivors who have experienced institutionalisation. It raises important questions to ensure survivors and their descendants are supported during future emergencies.

Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm

The Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm provides a place of healing, where First Nations peoples can feel safe and supported to make ongoing and meaningful changes in their lives.

Championed by the United Ngunnawal Elders Council (UNEC), the farm is a safe environment to explore social and emotional wellbeing using a therapeutic community approach, traditional healing concepts, cultural programs, and life skills training.

Made up of representatives nominated by each of the Ngunnawal family groups, the UNEC is a community-controlled body that works with the ACT Government to provide guidance on matters related to the Ngunnawal people, such as heritage and land issues.

The farm works with a range of partners, including health, social, community, educational, government, and non-government services, to ensure First Nations peoples can access appropriate assistance based on their individual needs.

A report was developed documenting the suggested core components of a culturally appropriate healing framework and provided to UNEC and the ACT Government to help guide future policy and program work for the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm.

“It’s really important for the Framework that Aboriginal culture and practice has to be at the heart of everything that comes out from here.”

Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm report



Supporting the workforce – WorkUP Queensland



Workforce Development Knowledge Circles.

WorkUP Queensland is the women’s health, sexual violence, domestic and family violence sector’s partner in supporting a strong and skilled workforce. It offers support and training to help meet growing demand for specialist services within the sector.

Programs bring together The Healing Foundation’s strong connection to First Nations cultures and healing, with the experience of Australia’s National Research Organisation for Women’s Safety (ANROWS) in facilitating evidence-based policy and practice.

Over 2020–2021, WorkUP Queensland has continued to develop strategies to address sector-specific challenges, including how to grow, retain, develop, support, connect, and sustain the workforce.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers from across Queensland came together for the *Our Talk* series, using online knowledge circles to explore important issues such as trauma and healing, leadership, self-care, and culturally safe services.

To support personal and professional growth across the sector, WorkUP Queensland launched its first mentoring program, *Walking Together, Learning Together*. Alongside this, 24 scholarships were provided to further support individuals working in the sector to pursue higher education qualifications.

A seven-month action learning project took place across the year, to encourage individuals and services to explore cultural safety.



Workforce Development Knowledge Circles.



Helem Yumba: Royden Fagan and Healing Place staff.

Five practice studios were held to support services to implement new evidence into day-to-day practice.

Practitioners from community-controlled and mainstream services engaged in 68 professional development events over the year to strengthen practice and service delivery.

Media activity

The Healing Foundation has continued sharing the stories, lived experience, and urgent needs of Stolen Generations, their families, and communities to Australian and international audiences.

Media coverage has grown significantly over the year, changing hearts and minds towards First Nations peoples, contributing to crucial discussions at local, state, and national levels, supporting policy submissions and meetings with government, and informing different parts of the community about what is still needed to address the unmet needs of Stolen Generations survivors. Growing interest in the stories of survivors and the importance of healing illustrate that while there is still much that needs to be done, momentum is building for healing on a national level.

This was especially evident following the release of the *Make Healing Happen* report, which was launched at the National Press Club in Canberra by The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth, alongside The Healing Foundation's Stolen Generations Reference Group Chair Ian Hamm and Youth Reference Group Co-Chair Harry Williams.



Youth Reference Group Co-Chair Harry Williams with The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth for NITV.

Media engagement for the *Make Healing Happen* launch generated an estimated potential reach of more than 3.4 million people through more than 120 separate media stories.

The Healing Foundation will continue to work closely with journalists from mainstream and First Nations media to ensure the voices of Stolen Generations survivors remain at the centre of the discussion for a healed nation.



Top to bottom: Fiona Cornforth with Hamish Macdonald, Radio National, Dan Bourchier, ABC Canberra, and Fran Kelly, ABC National.



Reach
6.6 million



Stories
412

Media activity

Highlights

ABC News

More Stolen Generations survivors are coming forward, as report calls for strategy to address disadvantage

ABC News

Victoria announces landmark truth and justice royal commission as part of Aboriginal treaty talks

ABC News Radio Melbourne

Interview with The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth and Virginia Trioli

ABC Radio Canberra Breakfast with Dan Bouchier

The Healing Foundation CEO Fiona Cornforth

ABC Radio National Breakfast with Fran Kelly

Calls for Federal Budget to include funding for Stolen Generations survivors

ABC Radio National Breakfast with Hamish MacDonald

New report paints bleak picture about the health and wellbeing of Stolen Generation survivors

Aljazeera

'Truth telling': The stories of Australia's Stolen Generations

Canberra Times

Stolen Generations health disadvantage lingers: AIHW report

The Conversation

COVID-19 restrictions have left many Stolen Generations survivors more isolated without adequate support

Croakey Health Media

Cultural determinants of health

Croakey Health Media

Make Healing Happen: It's time to act on growing toll for Stolen Generations

Global Citizen

What Are Australia's Stolen Generations and How Have They Impacted Indigenous Culture?

The Guardian

Australia's Stolen Generations survivors experienced 'retriggered trauma' during COVID lockdown

The Guardian

'Unfinished business' of Stolen Generations puts more children at risk – report

The Times (London)

Australia's Stolen Generations take fight for justice back to Mr Devil's doorstep

SBS News

Inquiry hears national redress scheme failing Stolen Generations survivors

Sydney Morning Herald 'Stronger together': Indigenous groups see donation boom amid protests

For links to more news and stories visit

www.healingfoundation.org.au/media-centre/



Financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2021

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALING FOUNDATION LTD

ABN: 92 140 312 385

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021



Auditor's Independence Declaration Under Subdivision 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 to the Directors of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2021 there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Nexia Duesburys (Audit)
Canberra, 11 October 2021

G J Murphy
Partner

Canberra Office
Level 5, 17 Moore Street
Canberra ACT 2601
GPO Box 500
Canberra ACT 2601
p +61 2 6279 5400
f +61 2 6279 5444
e mail@nexiacanberra.com.au
w nexia.com.au

Nexia Duesburys (Audit) (ABN 21 840 510 270) is a firm of Chartered Accountants. It is affiliated with, but independent from Nexia Australia Pty Ltd. Nexia Australia Pty Ltd is a member of Nexia International, a leading global network of independent accounting and consulting firms. For more information visit www.nexia.com.au/legal or contact Nexia International or Nexia Australia Pty Ltd directly to clients. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

1

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

| Note | 2021 \$ | 2020 \$ |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| REVENUE | | |
| Government funding | | |
| NIAA/PM&C/other (IAS & Coota Girls) | 7,448,106 | 8,067,110 |
| DSS (Royal commission) | 131,430 | 285,090 |
| QLD Government | 2,290,925 | 1,718,337 |
| NSW Government | - | 1,138 |
| ACT Government | 32,778 | 43,569 |
| Other | 247,325 | 153,253 |
| Other income | | |
| Donations | 549,672 | 262,559 |
| Sundry income | 217,833 | 45,927 |
| Interest Income | 6,586 | 25,749 |
| Government assistance | - | 100,000 |
| | 10,924,655 | 10,702,732 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Advertising and promotion | 323,130 | 227,305 |
| Accounting, consulting and audit fees | 73,048 | 125,204 |
| Bank fees and charges | 11,372 | 1,840 |
| Amortisation of leased assets | 148,391 | 138,844 |
| Communications | 60,128 | 81,984 |
| Consultants and contractors | 1,358,901 | 1,568,854 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 70,546 | 70,066 |
| Employee benefits expense | 5,086,337 | 4,480,614 |
| General | 230,787 | 124,568 |
| Information technology | 96,580 | 173,839 |
| Insurance | 8,191 | 8,291 |
| Interest on lease liabilities | 10,171 | 19,255 |
| Legal | 57,947 | 58,472 |
| Management fees | 188,899 | - |
| Meetings | 78,605 | 140,216 |
| Office facilities | 273,568 | 262,438 |
| Printing and stationery | 21,290 | 21,065 |
| Programs | 1,322,010 | 1,852,466 |
| Subscriptions and memberships | 33,317 | 12,567 |
| Telephone and internet | 95,011 | 81,105 |
| Travel and accommodation | 602,331 | 824,969 |
| | 10,150,560 | 10,273,962 |
| | 774,095 | 428,770 |
| | 774,095 | 428,770 |
| | 774,095 | 428,770 |
| | 774,095 | 428,770 |

Surplus/(deficit) before income tax

Income tax expense

Surplus/(deficit) for the year

Total comprehensive income for the year

1(a)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

| | Note | 2021 \$ | 2020 \$ |
|--------------------------------------|------|------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 2 | 3,477,706 | 1,803,524 |
| Trade and other receivables | 3 | 186,270 | 142,754 |
| Other assets | 4 | 521,189 | 276,954 |
| Other financial assets | 5 | 2,638,557 | 3,120,417 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | | 6,823,722 | 5,343,649 |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 6 | 78,217 | 140,653 |
| Right of use assets | 10 | 175,101 | 234,971 |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | 253,318 | 375,624 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | 7,077,040 | 5,719,273 |
| LIABILITIES | | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 7 | 1,854,253 | 1,041,604 |
| Unexpended funds | 8 | 2,357,208 | 2,679,261 |
| Employee benefits | 9 | 437,283 | 295,849 |
| Lease liabilities | 10 | 123,757 | 145,835 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | | 4,772,501 | 4,162,549 |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Employee benefits | 9 | 45,937 | 27,817 |
| Make good provision | | 62,500 | 62,500 |
| Lease liabilities | 10 | 62,617 | 107,017 |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | | 171,054 | 197,334 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | 4,943,555 | 4,359,883 |
| NET ASSETS | | 2,133,485 | 1,359,390 |
| EQUITY | | | |
| Retained earnings | | 2,133,485 | 1,359,390 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | | 2,133,485 | 1,359,390 |

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

2021

Balance at 1 July 2020

Total comprehensive income for the year

Balance at 30 June 2021

2020

Balance at 1 July 2019

Effect of adoption of AASB 16 at 1 July 2019

Balance at 1 July 2019 (restated)

Total comprehensive income for the year

Balance at 30 June 2020

| Retained Earnings \$ | Total \$ |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1,359,390 | 1,359,390 |
| 774,095 | 774,095 |
| 2,133,485 | 2,133,485 |
| Retained Earnings \$ | Total \$ |
| 939,088 | 939,088 |
| (8,468) | (8,468) |
| 930,620 | 930,620 |
| 428,770 | 428,770 |
| 1,359,390 | 1,359,390 |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

| | Note | 2021 \$ | 2020 \$ |
|--|------|------------------|------------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Receipts from: | | | |
| NIAA/PM&C/other (IAS and Coota Girls) | | 8,219,403 | 8,360,470 |
| DSS (Royal Commission) | | 165,473 | 404,723 |
| ACT Government | | 44,577 | 22,289 |
| QLD Government | | 1,585,784 | 2,272,565 |
| Other | | 296,605 | 229,765 |
| Other: | | | |
| Donations | | 549,672 | 262,559 |
| Sundry income | | 215,832 | 80,445 |
| Payments to suppliers and employees | | (9,771,838) | (10,981,241) |
| Repayment of funding to NSW Government | | - | (191,746) |
| Interest received | | 10,094 | 27,639 |
| Interest payments on lease liabilities | | (10,171) | (19,255) |
| Government assistance | | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities | | 1,355,431 | 518,213 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Payments for property, plant and equipment | | (8,110) | (27,751) |
| Proceeds from term deposit investments (net) | | 481,860 | 501,614 |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities | | 473,750 | 473,863 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Principal payments of lease liabilities | | (154,999) | (129,431) |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities | | (154,999) | (129,431) |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held | | 1,674,182 | 862,645 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year | | 1,803,524 | 940,879 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year | 2 | 3,477,706 | 1,803,524 |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation Ltd ('the Company') are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

The Company is a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee, incorporated in the Australian Capital Territory under the *Corporations Act 2001*. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars which is the Company's functional and presentation currency. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar. The financial statements cover the Company as an individual entity.

A number of new or revised Australian Accounting Standards are effective for the first time in the current financial year. These standards have had no material impact on the Company.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Company in the preparation of the financial statements. Unless otherwise stated, the accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year.

Accounting policies

(a) Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the Company is exempt from income tax under Div 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(b) Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the asset.

Where a revaluation has been performed, any accumulated depreciation at the date of the revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the re-valued amount of the asset.

The carrying amount of property, plant and equipment is reviewed at the end of the reporting period by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of assets are credited to a revaluation reserve and recognised in other comprehensive income. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same asset class are charged against fair value reserves and recognised in other comprehensive income. All other decreases are charged to the profit or loss.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of the reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the profit or loss. When re-valued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets and capitalised leased assets, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the Company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

| Class of fixed asset | Depreciation rate |
|--|-------------------|
| Furniture, fixtures and fittings - at cost | 10%-20% |
| Office equipment - at cost | 10%-33% |
| Fit-out including makegood | 33% |

(c) Leases

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is considered to contain a lease if it allows the Company the right to control the use of an identified asset over a period of time in return for consideration.

Where a contract or arrangement contains a lease, the Company recognises a right-of-use asset (lease asset) and a lease liability at the commencement date of the lease.

A right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost, which is the present value of future lease payments adjusted for any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, plus any make-good obligations and initial direct costs incurred. Lease assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the shorter of their useful life and the lease term. Periodic adjustments are made for any re-measurements of the lease liabilities and for impairment losses.

Lease liabilities are initially measured at the present value of future minimum lease payments, discounted using the Company's incremental borrowing rate if the rate implicit in the lease cannot be readily determined, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate. Minimum lease payments include fixed payments, amounts expected to be paid under a residual value guarantee, the exercise price of purchase options for which the Company is reasonably certain to exercise and incorporate the Company's expectations of lease extension options.

The lease liability is remeasured when there are changes in future lease payments arising from a change in rates, index or lease terms from exercising an extension or termination option. A corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the lease assets.

Short term leases (lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets (\$10,000 or less) are recognised as an expense as incurred in the statement of comprehensive income.

(d) Financial instruments

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is the date that the entity commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (ie trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments (except for trade receivables) are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified 'at fair value through profit or loss', in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately. In most circumstances trade receivables are initially measured at the transaction price.

Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at either fair value or amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The subsequent measurement depends on the classification of the financial instrument as described below.

Fair value represents the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

The effective interest method is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period.

Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

Financial assets that meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost:

- the financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Financial assets that meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVTOCI):

- the financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is achieved by both collecting contractual cash flows and selling the financial assets; and
- the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

By default, all other financial assets are subsequently measured at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL).

Despite the above, the Company may make the following irrevocable election/designation at initial recognition of a financial asset:

- the Company may irrevocably elect to present subsequent changes in fair value of an equity instrument in other comprehensive income if certain criteria are met; and
- the Company may irrevocably designate a financial asset that meets the amortised cost or FVTOCI criteria as measured at FVTPL if doing so eliminates or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch.

Financial liabilities

All financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method or at FVTPL.

Impairment of financial assets

The Company recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on financial assets that are measured at amortised cost or at FVTOCI. No impairment loss is recognised for investments in equity instruments. The amount of expected credit losses is updated at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition of the respective financial asset.

The Company recognises lifetime expected credit losses for trade receivables. The expected credit losses on these financial assets are estimated based on the Company's historical credit loss experience adjusted for factors that are specific to the debtors, general economic conditions and an assessment of both the current as well as the future direction of conditions at the reporting date, including time value of money where appropriate.

(e) Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period, the Company reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the statement of comprehensive income.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

(f) Employee benefits

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

Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In calculating the present value of future cash flows in respect of long service leave, the probability of long service leave being taken is based upon historical data.

Contributions are made to employee superannuation funds and are charged as expenses when incurred. Superannuation contributions totalling \$404,221 were made during the financial year (2020: \$313,905).

(g) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company 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.

(h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments.

(i) Revenue

Revenue is measured at the amount which the Company expects to receive in consideration for satisfying performance obligations to a customer. A performance obligation is the distinct good or service defined within the contract with a customer. The transaction price is allocated to one or more performance obligations contained within the contract, with revenue being recognised as or when the performance obligation is satisfied.

Timing of Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised either at a point in time or over time, when (or as) the Company satisfies performance obligations by transferring the promised goods or services to its customers.

If the Company satisfies a performance obligation before it receives the consideration, the Company recognises either a contract asset or a receivable in its statement of financial position, depending on whether something other than the passage of time is required before the consideration is due.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations received that are subject to specific conditions on the use of those funds are recognised as and when the Company satisfies its performance obligations by providing goods or services under the funding agreements or in accordance with the directions of the donor. A contract liability is recognised for unspent grant funds for which a refund obligation exists in relation to the funding period. General grants and donations that do not impose specific performance obligations on the Company are recognised as income when the Company obtains control of those funds, which is usually on receipt. Grant funding may either be received up front or at the completion of milestones. Any deferred

revenue arising from grants and donations is recognised as part of the unexpended funds liability on the statement of financial position.

Interest income

Interest revenue is recognised on an accruals basis using the effective interest method.

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

(j) 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. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

Critical accounting estimates and judgments

The committee members evaluate estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Company.

The directors do not believe that there were any key estimates or key judgments used in the development of the financial statements that give rise to a significant risk of material adjustment in the future.

| | 2021 \$ | 2020 \$ |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| 2 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | | |
| Cash on hand | 780 | 899 |
| Cash at bank | 3,476,926 | 1,802,625 |
| | 3,477,706 | 1,803,524 |
| 3 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES | | |
| CURRENT | | |
| Trade and other receivables | 186,270 | 142,754 |
| 4 OTHER ASSETS | | |
| Prepayments | 40,474 | 120,075 |
| Accrued interest | 443 | 3,951 |
| Sundry receivables/ accrued income | 480,272 | 152,928 |
| | 521,189 | 276,954 |
| 5 OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS | | |
| Term deposit investments | 2,638,557 | 3,120,417 |
| Held-to-maturity investments are term deposits with original terms of between 7 days and 12 months. Interest rates at year end vary from 0.18% to 0.30% p.a. | | |
| 6 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | | |
| Furniture, fixtures and fittings - at cost | 5,755 | 5,755 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (5,557) | (5,073) |
| | 198 | 682 |
| Office equipment- at cost | 123,480 | 136,975 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (91,973) | (102,786) |
| | 31,507 | 34,189 |
| Program database - at cost | - | 78,693 |
| Accumulated depreciation | - | (78,693) |
| | - | - |
| Fit-out including makegood - at cost | 180,700 | 180,700 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (134,188) | (74,918) |
| | 46,512 | 105,782 |
| Total property, plant and equipment | 78,217 | 140,653 |

6 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)

Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

| | Furniture, fixtures & fittings | Office equipment | Fit-out including makegood | Total |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Balance at the beginning of the year | 682 | 34,189 | 105,782 | 140,653 |
| Additions | - | 8,110 | - | 8,110 |
| Depreciation | (484) | (10,792) | (59,270) | (70,546) |
| Balance at the 30 June 2020 | 198 | 31,507 | 46,512 | 78,217 |

| | 2021 \$ | 2020 \$ |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 7 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES | | |
| Trade payables | 1,446,900 | 833,268 |
| Sundry payables and accrued expenses | 407,353 | 208,336 |
| | 1,854,253 | 1,041,604 |
| 8 UNEXPENDED FUNDS | | |
| Government funding: | | |
| NIAA/PM&C (IAS) | 239,868 | 578,157 |
| Coota Girls Funding | 1,136,391 | 799,024 |
| QLD Government | 404,491 | 589,584 |
| Other | 576,458 | 712,496 |
| | 2,357,208 | 2,679,261 |
| 9 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | | |
| CURRENT | | |
| Provision for annual leave | 401,801 | 231,589 |
| Provision for long service leave | 35,482 | 64,260 |
| | 437,283 | 295,849 |
| NON-CURRENT | | |
| Provision for long service leave | 45,937 | 27,817 |

10 LEASE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

| | 2021 \$ | 2020 \$ |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Right-of-use asset - Office | | |
| At cost | 505,054 | 416,533 |
| Accumulated amortisation | (330,843) | (185,126) |
| | 174,211 | 231,407 |
| Right-of-use asset- Printer | | |
| At cost | 13,367 | 13,367 |
| Accumulated amortisation | (12,477) | (9,803) |
| | 890 | 3,564 |
| | 175,101 | 234,971 |

Movement in carrying amounts for each class of right of use assets

| | Right-of-use assets - Office \$ | Right-of-use assets - Printer \$ | Total \$ |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Year ended 30 June 2021 | | | |
| Balance as the beginning of the year | 231,407 | 3,564 | 234,971 |
| Additions | 88,521 | - | 88,521 |
| Amortisation | (145,717) | (2,674) | (148,391) |
| | 174,211 | 890 | 175,101 |

| | 2021 \$ | 2020 \$ |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Lease liabilities | | |
| Current | 123,757 | 145,835 |
| Non-current | 62,617 | 107,017 |
| | 186,374 | 252,852 |
| Movement of lease liabilities during the year | | |
| Balance at 1 July | 252,852 | - |
| Amount recognised on adoption of AASB 16 | - | 382,283 |
| Additions | 88,521 | - |
| Lease payments | (165,170) | (148,686) |
| Interest | 10,171 | 19,255 |
| | 186,374 | 252,852 |

11 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, short-term investments, and accounts receivable and payable.

The accounting policies and terms and conditions of each class of financial asset and financial liability at the end of the reporting period are consistent with those regularly adopted by businesses in Australia.

The Company is not subject to any significant credit, liquidity or interest rate risk.

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 9 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

| | | 2021 \$ | 2020 \$ |
|---|----|------------------|------------------|
| Financial Assets | | | |
| <i>Financial assets at amortised cost:</i> | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 2 | 3,477,706 | 1,803,524 |
| Trade and other receivables | 3 | 186,270 | 142,754 |
| Other assets | 4 | 480,715 | 156,879 |
| Term deposit investments | 5 | 2,638,557 | 3,120,417 |
| Total financial assets | | 6,783,248 | 5,223,574 |
| Financial Liabilities | | | |
| <i>Financial liabilities at amortised cost:</i> | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 7 | 1,854,253 | 1,041,604 |
| Lease liabilities | 10 | 185,889 | 252,852 |
| Total financial liabilities | | 2,040,142 | 1,294,456 |

12 MEMBERS' GUARANTEE

The Company is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* and is a company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$50 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2021 the number of members was 7 (2020:7).

13 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Key management personnel is defined by AASB 124 "Related Party Disclosures" as those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director of the entity.

The aggregate remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year is as follows:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Total key management personnel compensation | 637,446 | 730,851 |

In addition to the above compensation, the Company has paid insurance premiums of \$5,485 (2020: \$4,220) for Association Liability insurance which incorporates directors' and officers' liability insurance.

Other Related Parties

The following transactions with director related entities took place during the year:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|---|--------|---------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Funding provided to Winangali Marumali Pty Ltd | 36,660 | 128,469 |
| Payment for services to Regional Economic Solutions Pty Ltd | 99,126 | 341,110 |

14 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

In the opinion of the directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2021 (30 June 2020: None).

15 EVENTS AFTER THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD

The financial statements were authorised by the directors on the date of signing the attached directors' declaration.

The directors have the right to amend and re-issue the financial statements after they are issued.

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

16 ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The Company is dependent on the National Indigenous Australians Agency for the majority of its revenue used to operate the Company.

17 COMPANY DETAILS

The registered office and principal place of business of the Company is:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation Ltd
Level 2 Unit 11
11 National Circuit
BARTON ACT 2600

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

The directors of the Company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 2 to 16, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and:
 - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Company.
2. In the directors opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Director:



11 October 2021

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021



Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation Limited (the Company), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the Company are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021, but does not include the financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Canberra Office
Level 5, 17 Moore Street
Canberra ACT 2601
GPO Box 500
Canberra ACT 2601
p +61 2 6279 5400
f +61 2 6279 5444
e mail@nexia.com.au
w nexia.com.au

Nexia Duesburys (Audit) (MARN 21 841 310 270) is a firm of Chartered Accountants. It is affiliated with, but independent from Nexia Australia Pty Ltd. Nexia Australia Pty Ltd is a member of Nexia International, a leading global network of independent accounting and consulting firms. For more information visit www.nexia.com.au/legal. Neither Nexia International nor Nexia Australia Pty Ltd provides services to clients.
Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

18

Directors' responsibility for the financial statements

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at The Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Nexia Duesburys (Audit)
Canberra, 11 October 2021

G J Murphy
Partner

19

Directors' information



Professor Steven Larkin PhD

- Board Chair, The Healing Foundation
- Conjoint Professor, University of Newcastle
- Adjunct Professor, University of Southern Queensland
- Distinguished Fellow, Charles Darwin University
- Member, Reference Group, New Colombo Plan
- Member, Beyond Blue Research Committee
- Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors



Leann Wilson

- Managing Director, Regional Economic Solutions Pty Ltd
- Board Member, Queensland Government Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business and Innovation Panel
- Board Member, Aboriginal Carbon Foundation
- Board Member, Central Queensland Hospitals Health Service
- Board Member, Aboriginal Hostels Limited
- Board Member, Gallang Place
- Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors



Dr Aden Ridgeway

- Partner, Cox Inall Ridgeway, specialist Indigenous consultancy service
- Chairperson, Paradigm Resources Pty Ltd
- Principal, Aden Ridgeway Pty Ltd
- Director, Muurrbay Aboriginal Language and Culture Co-operative
- Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors



Directors' information



Stephanie Harvey

- CEO, Community First Development
- Director, Australian Regional and Rural Community Services
- Director, ProACT
- Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors
- Member, Australian Institute of Management
- Member, Indigenous Peoples Organisations



Russell Taylor AM

- Chairman, Burbangana Group
- Director, Biodiversity Conservation Trust
- Deputy Chair and Council Member, Batchelor Institute
- Director, Beyond Blue
- Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors



Noeleen Lopes

(Retired 23 October 2020)

Directors' information



Ian Hamm

- Non-Executive Director, Panel Member, Consultant, Chair, First Nations Foundation
- Chair, Connecting Home Ltd
- Chair, Koorie Heritage Trust
- Chair, Community Broadcast Foundation
- Board Member, Yarra Valley Water
- Board Member, Holmesglen TAFE
- Board Member, Aboriginal Housing Victoria
- Board Member, Killara Foundation
- Board Member, Inclusive Australia
- Board Member, National Trust of Australia (Victoria)
- Board Member, Australian Red Cross
- Board Member, Community First Development
- Panel Member, Planning Panels Victoria
- Panel Member, Australian Financial Complaints Authority
- Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors
- Member, Institute of Public Administration Australia (Victoria)



Nigel Browne

- LLB Bachelor of Law
- Chief Executive Officer, Larrakia Development Corporation
- Group Member, Northern Australia Indigenous Reference Group
- Committee Member, Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee
- Legal Officer, Royal Australian Naval Reserve
- Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors



The Healing Foundation

The Healing Foundation is a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation that provides a platform to amplify the voices and lived experience of Stolen Generations survivors and their families.

We work with communities to create a place of safety, providing an environment for Stolen Generations survivors and their families to speak for themselves, tell their own stories, and be in charge of their own healing.

We promote trauma-aware, healing-informed practice to help government, policymakers, and workforces understand their role in intergenerational healing.

By addressing unresolved trauma in First Nations communities – trauma that was caused by colonisation and actions like the forced removal of children – we are walking alongside communities on the path to healing.

We are governed by a First Nations Board and Executive and guided in our work by our Stolen Generations and Youth Reference groups.

Our work honours our First Nations ancestors to ensure our future generations continue to thrive for the next 60,000 years.

The Healing Foundation acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we live and work. We also pay our respects to the Elders and Stolen Generations survivors. We recognise the intergenerational trauma that remains and our commitment to build an Australia that can heal. We acknowledge all who will carry the healing spirit into the future.



HealingFoundation

Strong Spirit • Strong Culture • Strong People

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation

ABN 92 140 312 385

Unit 11 (Level 2), 11 National Circuit Barton ACT 2600

(02) 6272 7500

info@healingfoundation.org.au

© Copyright: This work is copyright and may not be reproduced either in whole or part without the prior written permission of The Healing Foundation unless for the purposes of The Healing Foundation.

ISBN: 978-0-6484462-9-3