



Aboriginal Family Support Services Annual Report 2019 – 2020

Together with the community





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Our Aspiration

We aspire to

Build strong futures for Aboriginal children and young people in South Australia

Sustain safe, supportive and resilient Aboriginal communities

Be a courageous, knowledgeable, effective, professional, hardworking and respected organisation that is strengthened and nourished through culture

Our Values

*Our values guide our behaviour –
this is what we all believe in and will stand up for*

People

We believe Aboriginal children have the right to be raised in a safe and healthy environment, preferably within their own community

We believe everyone should be treated with dignity and respect

We believe everyone has a right to be heard

Culture

Our culture gives us strength, stability, wisdom and power

We have an obligation to share our culture within our communities and with others

Integrity

We are truthful and honourable in everything we do

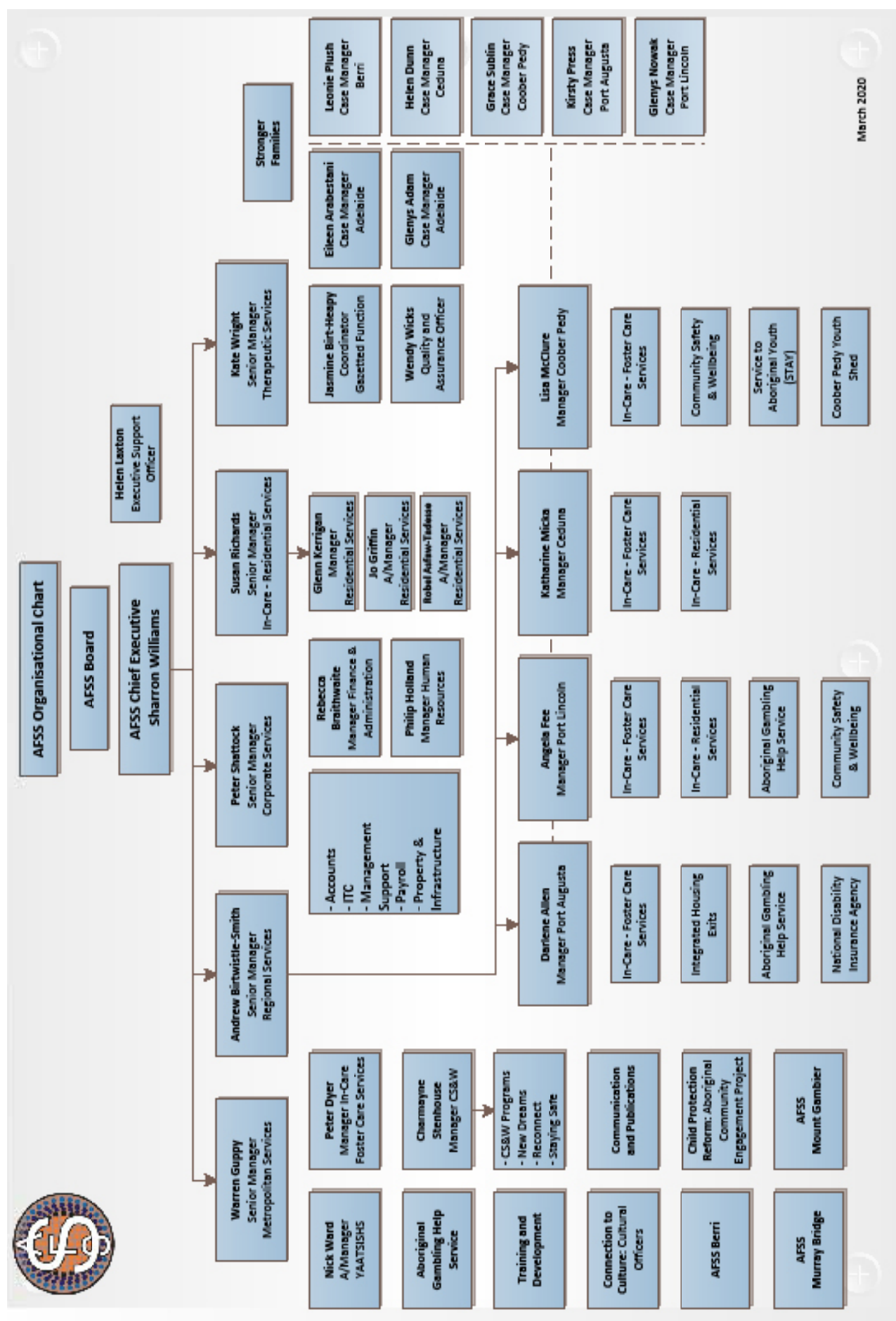
We are accountable/responsible for our actions and decisions

Sustainability

We are committed to achieving lasting, positive change

We believe we are creating our future through our current actions and decisions

Organisational Chart



The AFSS Board



*Donna Henry
Chairperson*



*Deputy Chairperson/
Treasurer Ivan
Copley, JP OAM*



*Wayne Rigney
Secretary*



*Margaret Nelson
Executive Member*



*Greg Sinclair
Executive Member*



*Dennis Rigney
Executive Member*



*Sharron Williams
Public Officer*

Chairperson's message



As the Chairperson for 2019-20 and on behalf of the Board, I acknowledge the Chief Executive, AFSS staff and Foster Carers for the fantastic work they have done throughout the last 12 months.

It has been a year of many challenges and yet AFSS has maintained a high level of support to the young people and the Aboriginal community.

Everyone has had to deal with many changes – at the Board level, in service delivery and in our day-to-day lives due to COVID-19. What I have found is how each and every one of you has stayed strong and made the best of these difficult times. This I see has really stood out within AFSS as the organisation continues to work tirelessly to ensure all of AFSS business is available to those who need the support.

The Board has been limited and unable to be out and about in community at this time, although we have continued to meet regularly throughout the year both via phone link and, over the past few months, in person.

The Board continues to work alongside the CE, Sharron Williams and other AFSS staff to review and update policies and procedures. We have also been working with Dana Shen, DS Consultancy and Think Human to review different AFSS policies.

I believe that we are expanding our services to include more programs that will empower Aboriginal families, to give them the confidence and skills they need in their lives. With all of these great programs we are very hopeful that this will help to ensure children are kept safe, connected to culture and at home with their families.

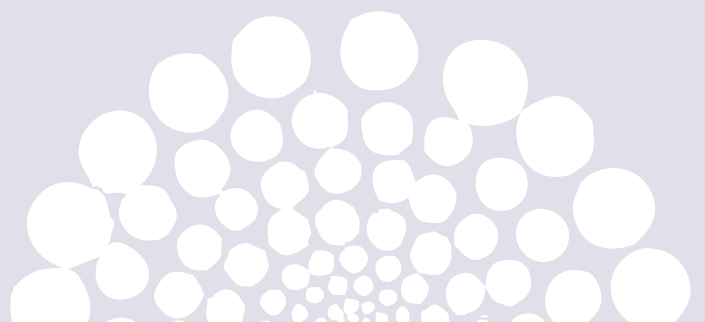
The programs are also designed to support Aboriginal children in staying connected to their culture and community when they are unable to remain at home. In all that we do we hope that the number of Aboriginal children being removed will decrease.

Working in the area of Child Protection in South Australia can be very challenging and at times very difficult, so please take care of yourself and those around you.

In closing, I would once again like to thank you all. Throughout this Annual Report you will see all the great work being done by the AFSS services.

Stay safe and take care of each other.

Donna Henry
AFSS Chairperson



From the Chief Executive



I am pleased to present to you my report for the year 2019-2020. And what a year it has been!

AFSS has risen capably to the challenges presented by our exponential growth over the past 12 months and also dealt with the enormous challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic during the second half of the financial year.

Add to this the expansion of our current programs and the addition of the range of programs we are able offer to support Aboriginal families and children, and you can see that it has been a busy year!

AFSS is in the process of becoming a registered provider for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Our focus through NDIS is on providing culturally safe supports – the AFSS way – to the community. We are aware that there is an area of unmet need and a lot of people looking to find a service which can provide them with supports in a way that they feel comfortable with.

As well as undertaking the NDIS provider registration process AFSS received a grant to support the The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Community Engagement Project. You will find more information on this project within these pages.

AFSS was also selected as one of three agencies chosen to deliver an Aboriginal Kinship Care pilot, funded by the Department for Child Protection (DCP). The program will provide support to kinship carers to help them keep the Aboriginal children and young people in their care safe, healthy and connected to culture. The program is set to commence in the new financial year.

Reconnect is now underway. This community-based early intervention program for youth aged 12-18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, is focused on strengthening family relationships and encouraging young people to participate in education or employment opportunities.

New Dreams provides support for Aboriginal women and their children who have already escaped from family violence. The program was transferred from the South Australian Housing Authority (SAHA) to AFSS on 1 July 2019.

As well as developing these new programs, the number of AFSS' residential accommodation sites has risen to 14 homes across South Australia. The work that this has entailed has been enormous, from the purchase and fitting out of properties to the recruitment of youth workers to swell the ranks of our dedicated team who so ably nurture and support the Aboriginal children and young people who are entrusted to our care.

I cannot complete this report without reference to COVID-19 and the impact it has had, both on AFSS as an organisation and on us all as individuals, as we have worked tirelessly through these difficult and challenging times to provide services of excellence to the Aboriginal communities, individuals, families, children and young people of South Australia.

I extend my sincere thanks to our funding bodies and other agencies and individuals with whom we have built solid relationships, for the roles they have played in working with and supporting AFSS.

Finally, I thank the AFSS Board of Management, the Senior Management Team, and all managers and staff for their untiring commitment and dedication to the task. To say that I am proud of the AFSS family that I lead is an understatement.

I look forward to the end of these uncertain times and to working with you all as we move into the future.

Sharron Williams
Chief Executive

Treasurer's Report



I have pleasure in submitting the Treasurer's report for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2020. The full year result was a surplus of \$971,002.86.

This is an increase on the previous year, but there have been a number of changes to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) which we are required to follow that reflect in this year's financial statements, as well as an increase in the official valuation of the building in Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

Total revenue increased by 19.7%, which includes \$1.12m in contract revenue from fee-for-service programs, rather than the usual contract block funding. This is an area of revenue that will continue to increase as more contracts arrangements are being structured this way for several specific services.

Expenses increased by 16.1%, reflecting in part some of the effect of the revised IFRS adjustments but also the reduced level of activities and program delivery that occurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This meant that there was much less public activity, travel and spending in general.

AFSS qualified for some of the Australian Government's financial support for businesses, but we were fortunate that we were able to maintain staffing in all programs. This meant that our organisation did not qualify for (or need) the JobKeeper benefits.

The purchase of additional Residential Services properties during the year contributed to an increase of 48% in these assets, with the Bank loans to finance them increasing by 73%.

As at the end of this reporting period, AFSS now owns 17 properties for Residential Services as well as the 4 regional offices and the Head Office building. A contract has been entered into for purchase of an office building in the northern suburbs, which is subject to a Development Application (DA) to the Salisbury Council for a change of use to our requirements. Should the DA be approved, AFSS will progress to purchasing this property.

In all cases, the loan repayments for purchase of these properties are funded by the programs based at the respective location, ensuring that our cash flow is not impacted.

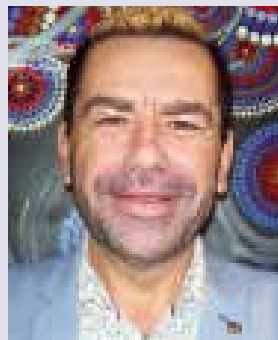
On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the Chief Executive and staff of AFSS for their efforts. I am happy to advise that AFSS has maintained its strong financial position and is well placed for further business opportunities and services to our communities.

*Ivan Copley, JP OAM
Treasurer*

Meet the Senior Management Team



*Warren Guppy
Senior Manager
Metropolitan Services*



*Andrew Birtwistle-Smith
Senior Manager
Regional Services*



*Susan Richards
Senior Manager
Residential Services*



*Peter Shattock
Senior Manager
Corporate Services*



*Kate Wright
Senior Manager
Therapeutic Services*



AFSS Funding Bodies and Partners 2019 - 2020

Department for Child Protection

- Foster Care Services
- Connection to Culture
- Gazetted Function (Cultural Consultancy)
- Residential Services
- Reunification

Department of Human Services

- Aboriginal Gambling Help Service (Office for Problem Gambling)
- Family Preservation
- Targeted Intervention Service
- STAY (Services to Aboriginal Youth)

Department of Social Services (Services Australia)

- Emergency Relief
- Reconnect

National Indigenous Australians Agency

- Community Safety and Wellbeing
- New Dreams
- Staying Safe
- Youth Shed

National Disability Insurance Agency

- NDIA - Information, Linkages and Capacity Building

Sidney Myer Foundation

- Child Protection Reform – Aboriginal Community Engagement Project

South Australian Housing Authority

- Youth Accommodation Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Specific Homelessness Service

Sponsors and Donors

- Zonta International
- Eoin and Denise Loftus – Aboriginal Children's Fund
- Backpacks 4 SA Kids

Aboriginal Gambling Help Service

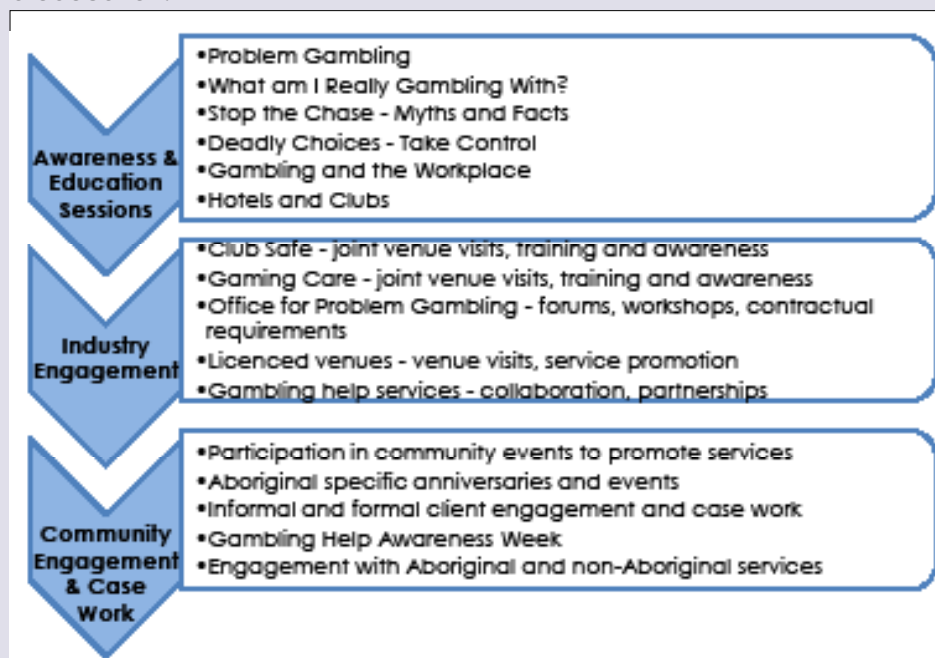
The Aboriginal Gambling Help Service (AGHS) is an education, awareness and support program for Aboriginal people and their families who are exposed to the harmful effects of gambling. Gambling Support Workers provide education, awareness and case work services and work closely with community and the gaming industry.

Services are provided in Berri, Murray Bridge, Port Augusta and Port Lincoln, and often in surrounding communities and towns. The framework for delivery of the AGHS is building resilience, promoting connectedness, and awareness and education.

The program has three distinct focuses:

- Education and awareness
- Engagement with the gaming industry
- Community engagement and case work.

Two new education and awareness programs, Online Gambling and Youth Gambling, were developed by AFSS Gambling Support Workers and the AFSS Training Officer to address the high number of young people engaging in gambling and also to respond to the high number of people of all ages participating in online gambling platforms.



It is hoped that Gambling Support Workers will be invited to schools across AFSS service areas to deliver these workshops to school-aged children.

Child Protection Reform – Aboriginal Community Engagement Project

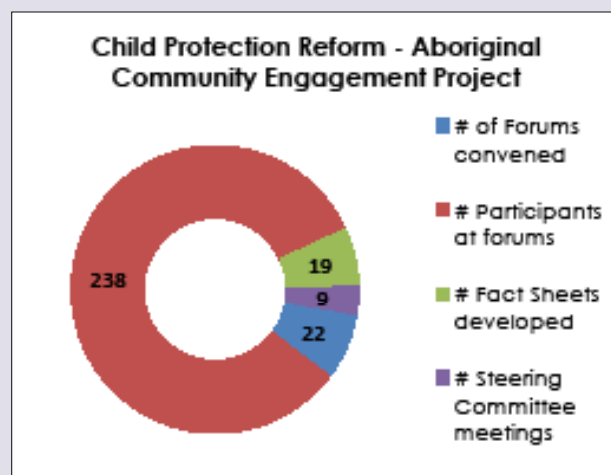
The AFSS Child Protection Reform project provides community education and awareness to Aboriginal families and communities (through one-on-one, small group meetings, forums and through support agencies) about the significant changes taking place in child protection in South Australia.

Funded by the Sidney Myer Foundation, the two-year project has convened a number of community forums to engage directly with Aboriginal people and agencies across South Australia in relation to significant child protection changes and how they impact upon Aboriginal families and communities.

The Project has been guided by a Steering Committee with representatives from AFSS, the Office of the Guardian for Children and Young People, the Department for Child Protection (DCP), the Australian Centre for Child Protection, Family Matters and community representatives.

To complement the education and awareness component of the project, a series of fact sheets

was developed in an easy-to-read format, also providing contact numbers where additional support or advice or emergency services are required. This process culminated in the development of an Aboriginal Child Protection Resource Kit, made available to Aboriginal communities across South Australia.





Above: AFSS Children's Day activities were enjoyed by all, including these lovely young people learning an Aboriginal dance with some of the wonderful performers.

Below: Gambling Support Worker Bronte Warneke and Stacey Jamieson, CSW Program Facilitator spread the message about AFSS services during NAIDOC Week celebrations in Murray Bridge.



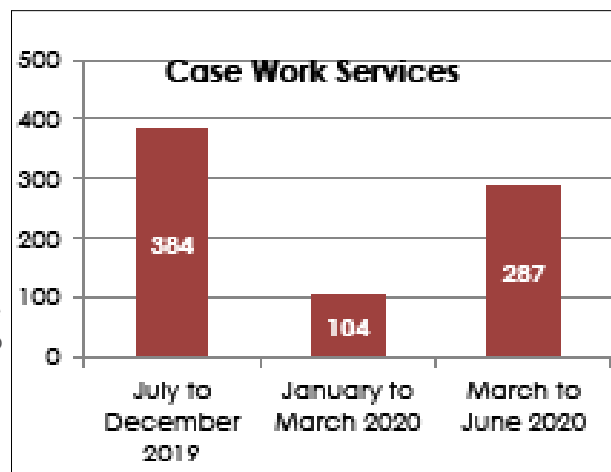
Aboriginal Gambling Help Service

Community Safety and Wellbeing

Community Safety and Wellbeing programs equip families with the skills and knowledge they need to deal with life's challenges. Structured programs are delivered by skilled Facilitators with a focus on grief and loss, connection to culture, nutrition, health, wellbeing, routines and rules and parenting.

The Community Safety and Wellbeing suite of programs is offered across greater metropolitan Adelaide, Berri, Ceduna, Coober Pedy, Port Augusta, Port Lincoln, Whyalla, Mount Gambier and Murray Bridge. Each of the programs has a minimum of four sessions – some have up to nine – and include:

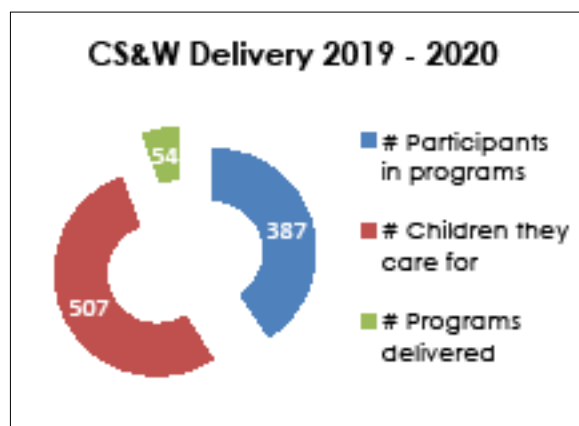
- Circle of Security-Parenting
- Healthy Homes, Resilient Families - Growing up Healthy
- Healthy Homes, Resilient Families - Routines and Rules
- Respect Sista Girls 2
- Seasons for Healing (Grief and Loss)



Community Safety and Wellbeing also provides general case work services that reflect a “no wrong door” approach. There was a significant increase in higher level case work from March - June 2020, reflecting a higher demand for more complex case work services in response to COVID-19.

The Aboriginal Women's Choice for Learning Project was completed during this reporting period with 91 Aboriginal women participating in forums held in Adelaide, Ceduna, Mount Gambier, Port Augusta, Port Lincoln and Port Pirie. Strong and consistent feedback from participants indicated that alcohol and other drugs and family violence continue to significantly impact on the health, safety and wellbeing of Aboriginal families and their children. Participants also identified these areas as gaps in service delivery for Aboriginal families and communities. In response, AFSS has developed new programs that address these concerns for delivery to Aboriginal communities in 2020-2021.

In summary, the impact of COVID-19 presented a huge increase in higher complex case work services, with higher incidences of family violence and a concerning increase in the number of Aboriginal children being removed from families by DCP.



Community Safety and Wellbeing clients painted some beautiful artworks representing their personal learnings from the Seasons for Healing, Circle of Security and Healthy Homes, Resilient Families programs. Pictured below, program facilitators and clients proudly display the art.



Connection to Culture

AFSS Cultural Officers provide cultural services across AFSS, including cultural awareness training for carers and employees, cultural plans for Aboriginal children, assisting with carer assessments, cultural resources and organising cultural events and activities for children and young people and their carers and families.

Cultural Officers have continued to review and refine the development of cultural plans for Aboriginal children and young people in care. This has included liaising with the Department for



Child Protection's Principal Aboriginal Consultants, Social Workers and the Department's Scoping Unit, to develop individual cultural plans that reflect a young person's own language, culture and community.

Highlights for the 2019-2020 period included participation and presentations at the SNAICC Conference held at the Adelaide Convention Centre in September 2019.

Cultural Officer Isaya McKenzie noted:

"SNAICC 2019, cultural connection for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children is as important as ever, as it has always been and forever will be. The conference was very insightful and surprisingly concerning when you see the statistics of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in care.

"This to me highlights the importance of my position at AFSS being a Cultural Officer and working to the best of my ability to provide the children and families with as much information and practical activities about their culture, giving them a sense of belonging and pride."

Another significant highlight was AFSS' annual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day - Connection to Culture event convened by Cultural Officer Barb Falla. It was a very well organised and well attended event, attended by over 500 parents and carers and the children and young people they care for.

Left: Young participants in the AFSS Children's Day eagerly learning all about culture.

Cultural Consultancy

The Recognised Organisation Cultural Consultancy program received a total of 433 referrals for placement consultation over the 2019-2020 period. AFSS continues to work to support the implementation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle into Department for Child Protection (DCP) practice, recommending that DCP continues to work alongside families to identify kinship care options, or utilise their own skilled and knowledgeable Aboriginal Family Scoping Team to assist where immediate family options are not available or known.

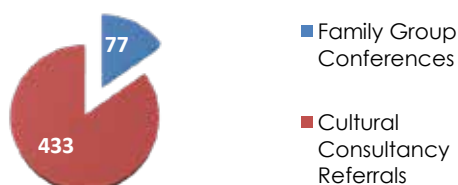
The Cultural Consultants make recommendations to DCP in a number of areas including referrals for families to culturally responsive services, ensuring

all children are able to identify what nation(s) they are connected to, and have strong cultural identity plans to promote and protect their connection to their culture. AFSS feels it is vital that all aspects of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle are applied at all levels of intervention – Prevention, Partnership, Participation, Connection – not just Placement.

Like many services the Cultural Consultancy program has had to adapt with the impact of COVID-19.

Family Group Conferences were facilitated via teleconference from late March until the end of June 2020. The Recognised Organisation was not negatively impacted by this and remained able to participate in a total number of 77 Family Group Conferences scheduled within the financial year.

Cultural Consultancy 2019 to 2020



Above opposite page: AFSS Port Augusta team was well represented in the local Christmas Pageant.

Below opposite page: Finn Hazelton-Hammond and Nartiea Morgan, Program Facilitators at Smithfield, promoting AFSS services at the NAIDOC Family Fun Day.



Foster Care Services

Foster Care Services are provided across South Australia through AFSS Adelaide, Ceduna, Coober Pedy, Murray Bridge, Port Augusta and Port Lincoln offices.

From 1 July 2019, AFSS entered into new Service Agreements with the Department for Child Protection (DCP) for the provision of Foster Care Services in these locations. In addition, AFSS' geographical coverage for foster carer services now extends right across South Australia, with the exception of Kangaroo Island and the APY Lands.

Service Agreements are for an initial two-year period, with the option of extension for a further two years taking us through until June 2023. Funding is based on unit costing, where AFSS is provided with a set amount of funding for each child and young person in a foster care placement.

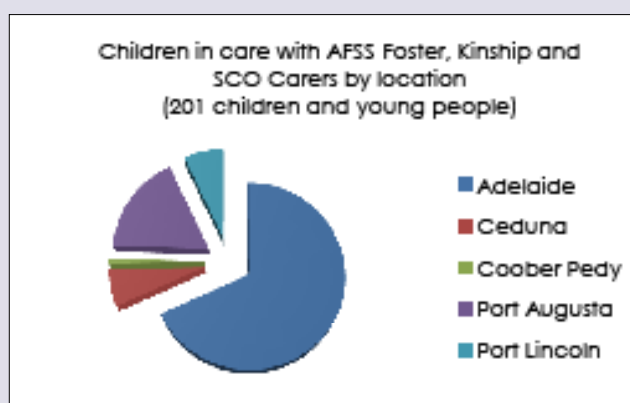
New Foster, Kinship and Specific Child Only (SCO) Procedures were completed to reflect the diversity and type of care now being provided and to reflect significant changes in the child protection sector in response to the *Children and*

Young People (Safety) Act 2017 and associated Regulations.

AFSS supports 143 carer households across South Australia, who between them care for 201 Aboriginal children and young people. In addition to an increase in carer households, AFSS also completed a significant number of SCO assessments that were referred to AFSS from DCP's Kinship Care Team.

Sadly, the implementation of the *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017* and the Regulations, has corresponded with a noticeable increase in the number of Aboriginal children and young people being removed from families and requiring foster, kinship and SCO placements.

While a number of projects by DCP and the Department for Human Services (DHS) aimed at early intervention and prevention are in their infancy, AFSS is concerned that despite the new legislation, significantly higher numbers of Aboriginal children and young people are being removed from their families, communities and cultures.



Below: Chris Presage and Latoya Saunders enjoyed the Port Lincoln Foster Carers' lunch held at the Boston Bay Winery.



Below: The Adelaide Metro AFSS Foster Care Team (pictured) ensured that carers were shown how much they are valued and appreciated at the Foster Carers' Lunch.



National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)

AFSS NDIA ILC Iron Triangle Project provided community education and awareness to Aboriginal families within the Iron Triangle Region - Port Augusta, Port Pirie and Whyalla. The outcomes of the project were to ensure that Aboriginal people with a disability, or their carers, have a greater awareness of the NDIS through access to resources in their language and in a format that will improve community access to Local Area Coordinators.

Funded by the National Disability Insurance Agency, ILC (Information, Linkages and Capacity Building), the two-year project convened a number of community forums to engage directly with Aboriginal communities and service providers to build better linkages and raise awareness of services and supports available.

Throughout this period, AFSS project staff worked with many agencies and service providers across the three locations, including the Local Area Coordinators in Baptcare and Mission Australia. AFSS also engaged with the Child Early Intervention provider Kudos. AFSS' project team facilitated community events and participated in service expos in all three locations, building relationships and connections.



Above: Charles Jackson (NDIA Coordinator) and Emily Nistico (NDIA Project Officer), display some of the great resources designed for the project.

In collaboration with Menzies School of Medical Research, AFSS produced resources that were based on employee observations gained throughout community engagement events, forums and participant interviews. Resources were

also developed based on Aboriginal community needs within these locations, taking into account language barriers for community members where English is their second language.

A total of 29 resources were developed and included:

- 15 video resources (some translated into Pitjantjatjara)
- 5 brochures
- Care Plan Tool
- 6 Fact Sheets
- Cultural competence training package for NDIA service providers specifically for the Iron Triangle region.

All resources have been distributed across the region with some being used nationally by the National Disability Insurance Agency.



New Dreams

New Dreams provides Aboriginal women and their children who have already escaped from family violence with an opportunity for a fresh start and support as they move towards stable housing, education, training and employment, whilst supporting their efforts to ensure their children are fully participating in school.

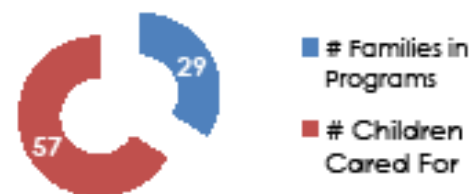
New Dreams was transferred from the South Australian Housing Authority (SAHA) to AFSS on 1 July 2019. Three existing clients transferred to AFSS with the program and by December 2019, the New Dreams teams were working with 16 Aboriginal families and their children. At the end of June 2020, there were 29 families being supported to secure (or maintain) housing, schooling, education and employment outcomes.

One of the key challenges has been to secure housing for clients who enter the program. The South Australian Housing Authority has demonstrated ongoing support for the program since its transfer to AFSS and assists New Dreams clients to secure housing when they can. Many of the families who are referred to the service are couch surfing or have unsafe accommodation. New Dreams' priority is to secure housing through

the SAHA, Anglicare SA, other housing providers or through the private rental market.

Once housed, there is a strong focus on supporting clients to participate in training and education and work towards financial independence. There is also a strong focus on encouraging and supporting clients to send their children to school, and to have good attendance at school. Clients and their children have also been referred to counselling services for past and present experiences, both internally to other AFSS services and to external service providers who specialise in family violence services.

New Dreams Clients - 2019 to 2020



Reconnect

Reconnect's Youth Workers engage with young Aboriginal people aged 12-18 who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. Youth Workers engage with young people and their families to strengthen relationships, improve the wellbeing of children and young people and strengthen family, community and cultural relationships. The program operates within the Adelaide metropolitan area.

The Reconnect program was rolled out in early 2020. Since the program started, Youth Workers have been supporting 28 young people and their families. This support ranges from re-engagement in education, family relationships, culturally appropriate counselling and connection to culture, or transitioning to independent living.

Young Aboriginal people involved in the program are case-managed and supported to access other services including:

- HeadSpace
- Centacare Youth Program
- Nunkuwarrin Yunti
- Sporting and recreation services
- TAFE SA (re-engagement in education)
- Tauondi College (re-engagement in education)
- White Lion Flexible Learning Options
- Rosemary Wanganeen (grief and loss counselling)
- Two Worlds Consultancy (counselling).

Below: Through Reconnect young Aboriginal people will be able to attend arts and crafts classes at Marra Dreaming.



Residential Services

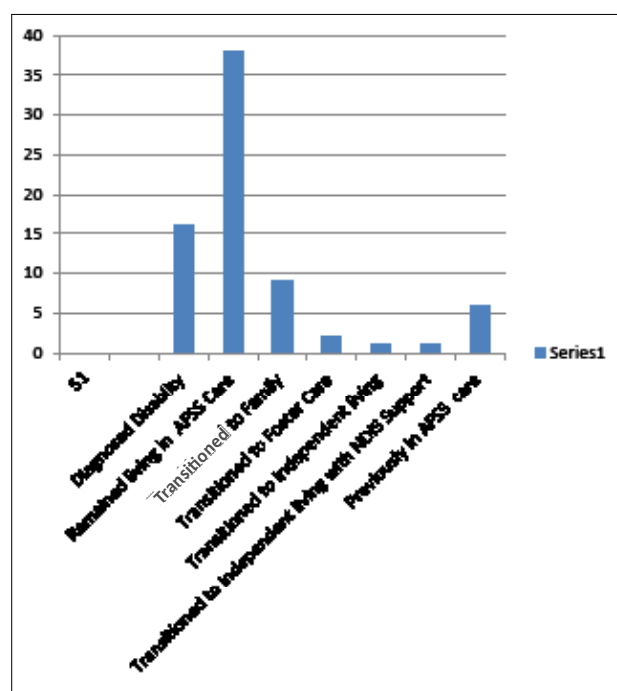
AFSS Residential Services are culturally responsive and therapeutically informed, and support Aboriginal children and young people up to the age of 18 who are unable to live with family or foster carers. AFSS aims to provide care that emulates a stable family home by providing a homelike environment and a consistent care team who are well trained in trauma informed practice. Through this environment the children and young people are best placed to start and continue their healing journeys and transition into adulthood as strong, confident people.

During 2019-2020 AFSS has seen an increase in the number of young people we have cared for to meet the needs of children coming into care through either placement breakdowns or who are unable to live at home. In response AFSS purchased and opened an additional three properties, two in the Adelaide metropolitan area and one in Port Lincoln. AFSS has also provided trained care teams for three metropolitan placements in DCP houses. AFSS now has a total of 14 houses, two in Port Lincoln, one in Ceduna and 11 in Adelaide.

AFSS has the capacity to accommodate 34 young people in the metropolitan houses and nine in the regional houses at any one time.

AFSS continued to be approached by DCP to open additional specialist residential care houses to accommodate the needs of vulnerable young people under the Guardianship of the Chief Executive (DCP).

With the increase in Residential Services across the non-government sector DCP has introduced

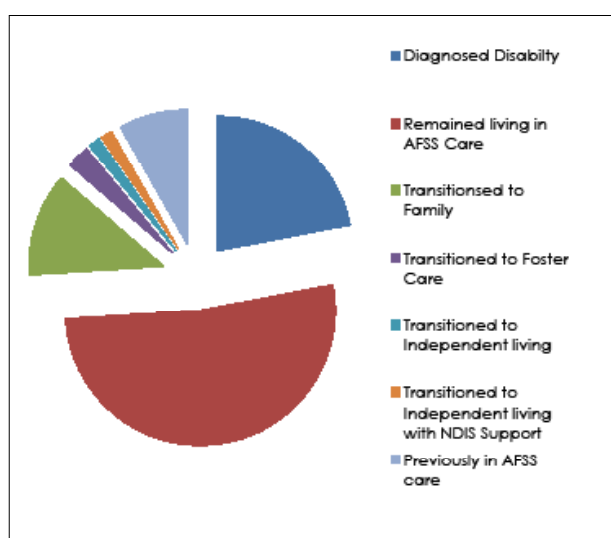


a new set of licensing standards for agencies to comply with. Licensing visits are now five hours each year and cover work health and safety responsibilities, practice, employee wellbeing and quality of services. These additional requirements have meant additional cost pressures on individual house budgets. AFSS has regular quality audits which ensure we are constantly well placed to meet licensing standards at any time.

With COVID-19 moving into South Australia in mid-March AFSS developed a business continuity plan which included a number of contingencies to manage the young people and staffing requirements should Adelaide become a COVID-19 hot spot.

In addition to the infection control practices already in place AFSS employees are now well versed in social distancing and vigilant hand washing and cleaning. We were fortunate that the spread was capped and we did not need to enact our whole contingency plan but we have learnt to work in this new world and have become Zoom experts!

During this time we have been working with Return to Work SA around AFSS Culture of Care and employee wellbeing. Reviews have been done on how we support Residential Services employees in general and during COVID-19. We also reviewed and revised supports around employees' self-care plans, supervisions, incident debriefing and AFSS' robust training schedule.



Total no. of children in AFSS residential houses during 2019-20	Diagnosed disability	Remained living in AFSS care	Transitioned to Family	Transitioned to Foster Care	Transitioned to independent living	Transitioned to independent living with NDIS support	Previously in AFSS Residential Care Returned due to Family or Foster Care breakdown
51	16	38	9	2	1	1	6

Service to Aboriginal Youth (STAY)

The Service to Aboriginal Youth (STAY) program engages with young Aboriginal people in Coober Pedy who are aged between 10 and 25. The program helps to develop skills (through one-on-one and group activities) and includes education, employment and training, personal and social development, life skills development, accessing and maintaining accommodation options, health and wellbeing and cultural connectedness.

The program aims to create positive relationships that assist young people who are at risk of, or experiencing homelessness, at risk of, or involved in the youth justice or child protection system, youth living with disabilities and youth who may be disconnected from their families, community and culture.

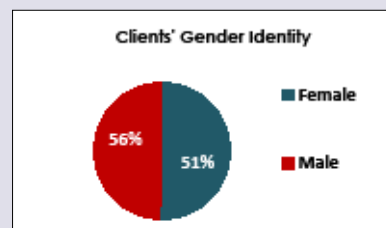
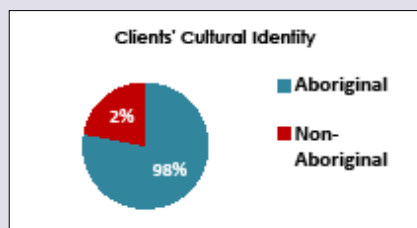
The total number of active case-managed clients between July and December 2019 was 40 while from January-June there were 54 clients (with a part of the increase in numbers being previous clients re-engaging with the service). Clients reflected 98% young Aboriginal people and 2% non-Aboriginal youth. Non-Aboriginal clients were involved in the youth justice system and were engaged through the STAY program due to no other services being available for these young people in Coober Pedy.

Clients who engaged through individual and group programs have been assisted to develop and maintain strategies to attend school, develop training and skill opportunities, develop confidence and self esteem, connect with their families, community and culture and

develop relationships with peers. Some clients have completed Certificate II in Horticulture through TAFE and attendance at school has increased with the extra work young people have put in to develop their skills.

Referrals are predominantly self-referrals, youth justice and the Coober Pedy Area School. During the reporting period there has been an increase in exposure of clients to domestic and family violence, alcohol and substance misuse and mental health and wellbeing.

COVID-19 has impacted greatly on the program with restrictions on group activities and lockdowns in place. During this time, the STAY team has kept in touch with young people through phone and social media contact and through the delivery of activity packs: painting materials, activities they can do at home, wellbeing exercises and mindfulness programs, books and comics and ideas of sites that they can access on line, and reading books as well as sporting equipment which was donated by Oz Minerals.



Staying Safe

Staying Safe supports families in Adelaide experiencing, or having previously experienced, family violence. There is an early focus on a Safety Plan and working with clients and their children to keep them safe from harm in order to reduce the likelihood of all forms of abuse and violence.

New clients are encouraged and supported to have in place a unique code that they can activate via their mobile, when they are at risk. Once

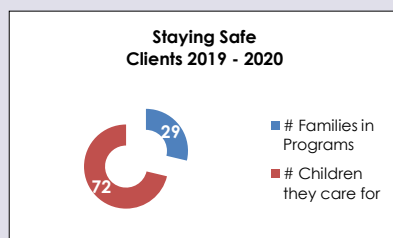
activated, AFSS and other key nominated contacts are alerted to potential threats and are able to respond. This simple but effective process provides a measure of security for Aboriginal women and their children who are often the target of family violence.

While travel restrictions and alternative communication mechanisms were implemented in mid-March 2020, to respond to the impact of COVID-19, Staying Safe business has been steady. A concerning statistic of COVID-19 has shown increased violence in the home environment.

Also concerning is the number of Aboriginal children being removed from their families, particularly between January

and June 2020, where 12 children were removed from six different families who were working with the Staying Safe program. While there is no clear evidence to show a correlation between COVID-19 and increased alcohol and drug use (and increased family violence), this has been highlighted as a rationale for the removal of Aboriginal children from the family home.

It is also noted that some of the referrals during this period came through to AFSS Staying Safe service only after Aboriginal children had been removed by DCP from the family home. Early intervention with some of the families involved may have prevented the removal of Aboriginal children from the family home.



Stronger Families

Stronger Families has continued to grow and develop as a strong, culturally safe program. Stronger Families consists of three elements, Targeted Intervention Service (TIS), Family Preservation (FP) and Reunification (R). Funding for the TIS service moved from the Department for Education in 2018 to the Department for Human Services (DHS) in 2019 and in this financial year Family Preservation funding moved from the Department for Child Protection (DCP) to DHS.

The Department for Human Services invited AFSS to be part of their system review and co-design process, which also included leaders in the sector, family members, Aboriginal Elders as well as families who have experienced the child protection system first-hand. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Design Criteria has been developed with three key design aspirations, which are:

- A system that supports Aboriginal identified and led approaches
- A system that supports a deep listening to Aboriginal voices, meaning and story-telling
- A system that supports building an evidence base led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.¹

The final qualitative report has been received and we look forward to integrating this learning into our services moving forward and working with DHS to develop and build the early help and support services available to families.

AFSS Stronger Families Case Work Model

In 2019-2020 DCP decided to move away from the Solution Based Casework model which had been fully adopted and implemented by the AFSS Stronger Families team in 2015. As a result, a new more culturally safe model was developed and implemented by all of the Stronger Families team.

Reunification Tools

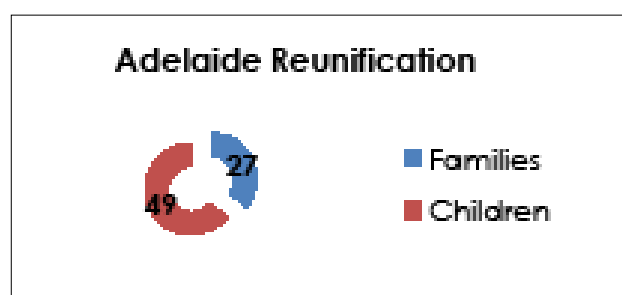
The AFSS Reunification process has continued to see many families doing the work to have their children returned to their safe care. The Case Manager, Adelaide has developed a "Meaningful Engagement" process which enables families to have purposeful and meaningful access times with their children. This is an educative process which provides families with the tools for experiential learning, feedback and skills development.

In addition, in response to parents often not understanding the child protection concerns, AFSS Adelaide has introduced the "Therapeutic Tree Mapping" (TTM). This tool provides parents with a therapeutic format and visual tool so that

¹ Co-designing the Child and Family Support System: Final qualitative report, Prepared by DS consultancy & Think Human for the South Australian Department of Human Services, 2020

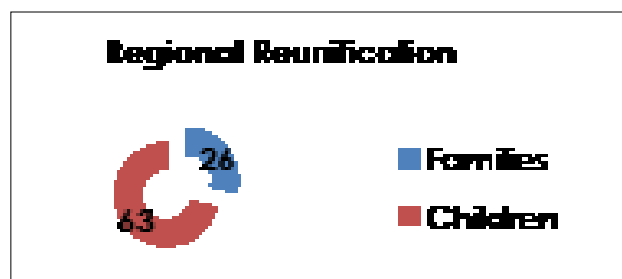
they can see and understand the patterns of past behaviours and their effects on themselves and their family. Therapeutic questioning and connection to the past, present and future, captures a family's journey, including their strengths and worries. The development of the TTM continues throughout a family's engagement where it continues to capture strengths and changes in behaviours. Families take their TTM to Reunification Court where it assists them in articulating to the Judge their strengths and challenges, past experiences, reflections and changes made to create safety for their children. (See examples on page 26.)

Adelaide – Reunification



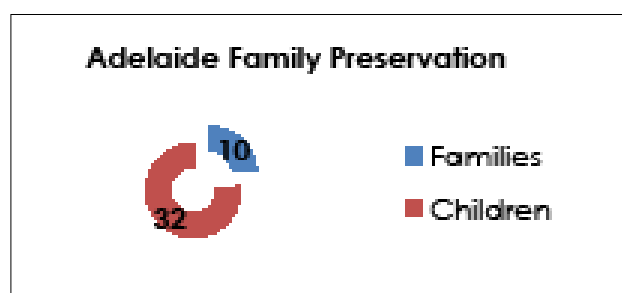
This year 81% of families who were part of the reunification program either had children successfully reunified or are continuing to work toward reunification. This program has supported 49 children this year from 27 families.

Regional – Reunification



The regional Reunification teams, found in Port Augusta, Whyalla, Port Lincoln, Ceduna and Coober Pedy, supported 26 families, and 63 children. 68% of these children have either already returned home, or their families are continuing to work toward reunification.

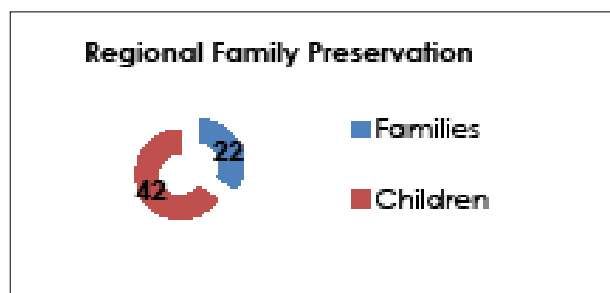
Adelaide – Family Preservation





In Adelaide there were 10 families referred to the program with a total of 32 children. Unfortunately due to waitlists and other factors, four of these families and their 18 children did not commence work with AFSS. The six remaining families with their 14 children are continuing to engage with the team.

Regional – Family Preservation

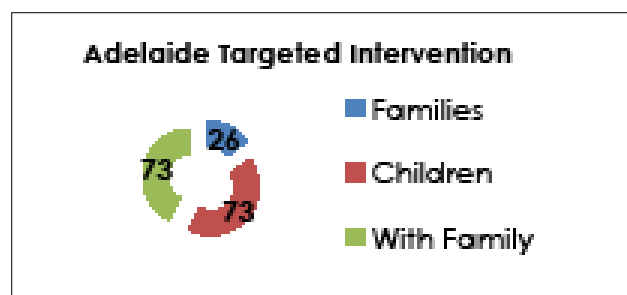


The Regional Family Preservation team supported 22 families with 42 children over the course of this year. Sadly 23% of these families moved away, preventing us from continuing to work with them.



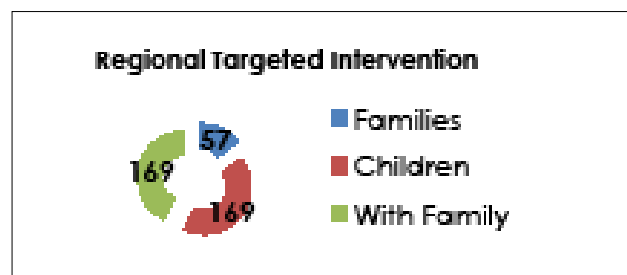
However, 42% of these families either still had the children in the home, or in kinship care at the time of exiting the program.

Adelaide – Targeted Intervention Service



In Adelaide TIS, 26 families and 73 children were supported during this year. All of these children remained with their families while the TIS program was engaged.

Regional – Targeted Intervention Service



In Regional TIS there were 169 children from 57 families supported, all of whom remained with their families.

Above: AFSS has helped this beautiful family secure housing. They are pictured just before they travelled to their new home in Port Lincoln.

Left: AFSS team members were thrilled to join in the first birthday celebrations of little Liahra, from Port Lincoln.

Stronger Families Feedback

Below is a small sample of the feedback we have received from families engaged in the Stronger Families service.

"Thank you for your support. You gave me the strength to stand up for myself. I'm so grateful, and always will be."

"Thanks for everything – your support has been invaluable to me. I'm so thankful you were both in our lives when you were. You gave me the support and strength I need. Thank you."

"I feel more supported now by having you guys here."

"I always feel better after we talk to you about things."

"A" said he would like to thank AFSS for all the support they gave to him and his family. When he was at his lowest and felt like giving up AFSS gave him the motivation to keep moving and to be there for his children. "A" said that he is managing his house on a daily basis and making sure the children's basic needs are being met. He said he is now able to make quick decisions without becoming stressed and he has also learnt that it is ok to ask for help instead of letting the stress build up.

"B" said she still feels she requires ongoing counselling for past experiences and is happy to have now been referred to the health service.

"J" said he felt that AFSS helped get baby back into their care and he was very grateful. "J" said he has been unable to find a counsellor that has been able to assist him but liked having AFSS' Case Manager to talk to and listen to what he had to say. "J" said often people treat him like he isn't important but the AFSS Case Manager didn't do that.



Therapeutic Tree Mapping provides parents with a therapeutic format and visual tool so that they can see and understand the patterns of past behaviours and their effects on themselves and their family.

Youth Accommodation Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Specialist Homeless Service

The Youth Accommodation Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Specialist Homeless Service (YAATSISHS) provides supported accommodation and services to help young Aboriginal people, aged between 15 and 25, in the Adelaide area who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness, achieve self reliance and independence. The service aims to equip young people with the capacity to live independently of specialist homelessness services.

AFSS Olga Fudge Lodge and Narungga House have been at capacity over the last 12 months with a few short periods of under-occupancy. There has again been a significant focus on fine-tuning the referral and intake process, service delivery and an increased focus on ensuring the correct recording of client data on the Homeless to Home (H2H) system to reflect the actual work completed by Youth Support Workers.

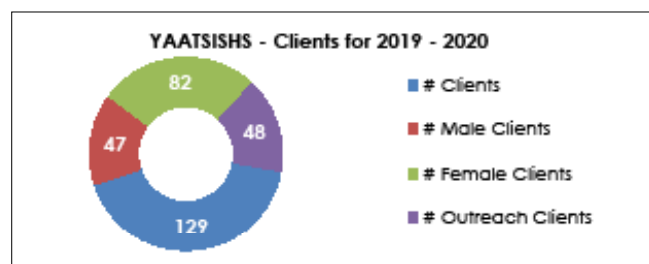
Homelessness for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is complex but reflects an ongoing need to engage Aboriginal people about their specific housing needs. In a tight private rental market Aboriginal families can be excluded from the process and previous rental arrears, property damage and an inability to secure housing references because of past tenancy issues, can limit housing options.

Western housing models do not embrace Aboriginal family requirements including larger

families and extended families' requirements for more flexible living and sleeping arrangements and adequate open air and outdoor areas. Cultural obligations and the financial costs associated with additional household members to share income and resources also impact on the household's ability to cover costs and can lead to increased debt and poverty.

Family violence and the requirement to move locations quickly to escape from family violence, intergenerational trauma and mental health issues arising from child removal, family breakdowns, loss of connection to culture or language, transient lifestyles all have an impact on housing stability for Aboriginal people.

AFSS welcomes the current reforms in the homelessness sector and encourages full participation by Aboriginal communities and the Aboriginal agencies that provide services to Aboriginal people who are homeless or at risk of being homeless.



Below from Left: Susie Crisa (Training Officer) Glenn Kerrigan (Manager Residential Services) Susan Richards (Senior Manager Residential Services) Sophie Trabilis (Lead Support Worker, Residential Services) Isaya McKenzie (Cultural Officer, Connection to Culture) Nick Ward (Manager Residential Services) and Olivia King (Manager Residential Services).



Youth Shed

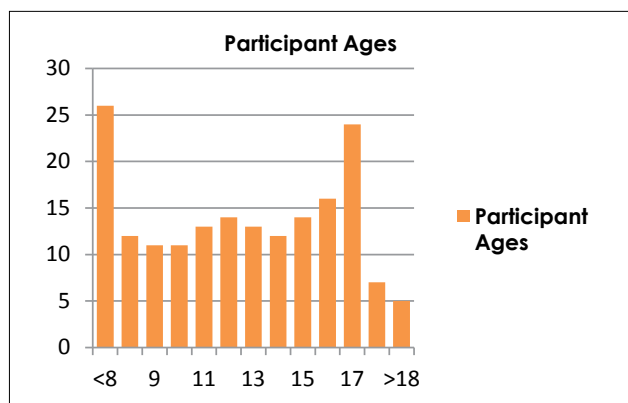
The Youth Shed provides a safe place where all young people in Coober Pedy can be engaged in recreational, wellbeing and diversionary programs. It provides young people with the opportunity to build connections with peers, community and other service providers in Coober Pedy.

During 2019-2020 AFSS was not able to access the Youth Shed to run programs but was able to negotiate space at the Coober Pedy Area School gymnasium. A total of 178 young people participated with a summary of demographics provided in this article.

Young people engaged in a number of activities including basketball competitions held on Wednesdays after school with assistance from Umoona Tjutjagku Health Service and the Aboriginal Health Council of SA - Puyu Blasters; swimming pool activities including competitions; coaching for success – personal learning plans at school delivered to Year 9 and Year 10 students and also in the Alternative Learning Centre at Coober Pedy Area School; school holiday programs including gardening, painting, singing and songwriting, sports and cooking; gym activities and other programs such as visiting guests - Outback Ocean Clean Ups discussion about looking after the environment and the importance of “reduce, reuse, recycle, repurpose”.

Overall young people have engaged extremely well across all program areas and are constantly discussing what they want in the program and how they want to drive youth programs in the community. Young people have commented:

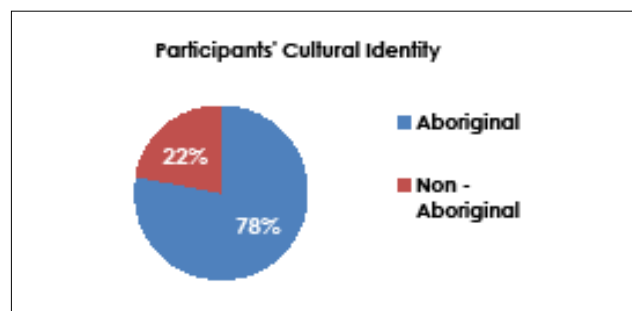
- “finally we get to do some fun activities”
- “I have really enjoyed developing my personal goals for the future”
- “my mum says I’m much happier now that basketball is back on”



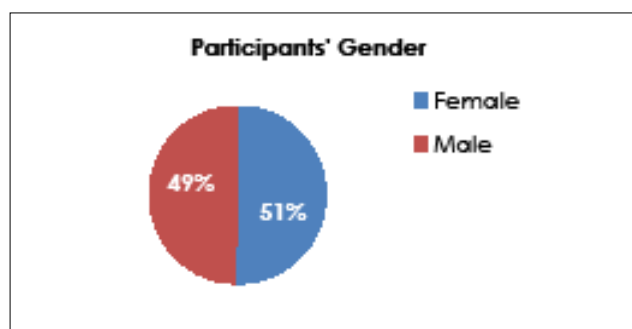
A number of parents have also commented on the attitudinal changes in their children, also noted by the Coober Pedy Area School. Parents and caregivers, families and communities have been very vocal and supportive of AFSS getting access to the Youth Shed for the benefit of young people in Coober Pedy.

AFSS Coober Pedy actively engages with Umoona Tjutjagku Health Service, Drug and Alcohol Service, Coober Pedy Area School, Aboriginal Health Council of SA - Puyu Blasters, Outback Oceans Clean Up, Operation Flinders, Oz Minerals, Uniting Country SA, Remote School Attendance Service, Complete Personnel, Red Cross, Department for Child Protection, District Council of Coober Pedy (Pool Instructors) SAPOL and the Youth Court. We encourage sustainable, collaborative partnerships that will benefit Coober Pedy youth, their families and community.

COVID-19 has impacted greatly on the program with restrictions on group activities and lockdowns in place.



During this time we have ensured we keep in touch with the young people who take part in the program and have visited them and dropped off activity packs – painting materials, activities they can do at home, at home wellbeing exercises and mindfulness programs, books and comics and ideas of sites that they can access online.



Pictured right: The Youth Shed in Coober Pedy has been a great place for young people to get together and take part in a wide range of activities.



Corporate Services

Corporate Services incorporates the following areas:

- Administrative Support
- Human Resources
- Accounts Payable/Receivable
- Payroll
- Information Technology (IT)
- Finance & Reporting
- Records Management
- Property & Infrastructure

As AFSS has continued to grow; so too the business handled within the Corporate Services team has increased significantly. Some of the highlights are detailed below.

The expansion of the range of services and the size of our team in our current Anderson Walk, Smithfield office required us to consider larger premises. We negotiated the purchase of what was previously a Child Care Centre in Paralowie, subject to a successful Development Application to the Salisbury Council seeking approval for a change of use. This is due to be finalised in September and if successful, will enable us to create a larger base to deliver even more services in the northern suburbs and further afield.

The demand for short-term and longer-term culturally-appropriate, trauma-informed, therapeutic-based Residential Services during the year necessitated the acquisition of one further property in Port Lincoln and seven additional properties in the Adelaide Metropolitan area. Further acquisitions will be required in the coming year to accommodate this demand.

This year has also seen an increase in the number of fee-for-service programs being undertaken

for the Department for Child Protection (DCP), as opposed to the more “traditional” funding-in-advance contracts. This will continue to grow with the expansion of the Placement and Support Packages (PaSP) program, which links back to the comments above regarding the growing demand for Residential Services.

Plans are underway in the next financial year to adopt an online Risk Management system that will provide greater flexibility for reporting, recording and analysing data related to our incidents and risks. This will provide us with greater management of our risks and an improved ability to identify trends and patterns for and within our services.

With the increasing global threats and dangers regarding the breach of security of IT systems and data, we strengthened our protection during the year to ensure we have strong protection against hacking threats and similar risks. We have a system that is constantly reviewing access to external websites and limits anything extraordinary, which complements our email spam and virus blocking systems.

An undertaking completed during the year was to arrange for all existing workers in any of our Children’s Residential Facilities to undergo a Psychological Suitability Assessment, to meet the requirements of the new Children and Young People (Safety) Act. This was a large task but we were pleased to have this completed several months before the April deadline.

Once again, we thank the Corporate Services team which manages a wide range of tasks and processes that support our client-facing services and keep the back-office functions on track.

Below: In February this year, two of AFSS’ Aboriginal female staff members from Corporate Services were invited to participate in the inaugural Gladys Elphick Sisterhood Foundation Leadership and Personal Development program. Pictured below left, Kym Appelby, Payroll Coordinator and right, Lizzie Wright, Receptionist/Admin, proudly receive their Graduation Certificates from Danielle James, Chairperson of the Gladys Elphick Sisterhood Foundation.





AFSS Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

The following pages provide an abridged version of the Financial Statements. The full report is available from AFSS upon request.

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED ABN : 82 853 278 164

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenue and other income	2	24,559,178	20,555,883
Employee benefits expenses		(19,891,112)	(16,913,466)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	6,7	(822,675)	(227,155)
Finance costs		(124,854)	(91,444)
Repairs, maintenance and vehicle running expense		(1,320,375)	(1,129,681)
Fuel, light and power expense		(161,350)	(153,508)
Rental expense		(109,068)	(103,238)
Training expense		(199,334)	(246,675)
Audit, legal and consultancy expense		(199,226)	(158,050)
Administration expense		(795,376)	(736,648)
Fundraising expense		(106,700)	(27,045)
Program service expense		(184,548)	(610,331)
Current year surplus (deficit) before income tax		644,560	158,631
Income tax expense		-	-
Net Current year surplus (deficit)		644,560	158,631
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be classified subsequently to profit or loss			
Fair value gains on land and buildings at fair value through other comprehensive income, net of tax		326,443	-
Total other comprehensive income for the year		326,443	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the company		971,003	158,631

The above Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN : 82 853 278 184

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	1,641,913	3,328,439
Accounts receivable and other debtors	4	1,033,871	40,578
Other current assets	5	31,580	60,218
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>2,707,364</u>	<u>3,429,235</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	6	9,859,560	6,384,243
Right of use assets	7	635,158	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>10,294,738</u>	<u>6,384,243</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>13,002,102</u>	<u>9,813,478</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and other payables	8	1,290,321	1,361,599
Borrowings	9	285,171	166,301
Contract Liabilities		1,430,153	1,660,309
Lease liabilities		344,670	-
Employee provisions	10	1,387,978	968,108
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>4,738,201</u>	<u>4,156,317</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	9	3,017,146	1,808,464
Lease Liabilities		300,147	-
Employee provisions	10	265,151	158,332
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>3,602,444</u>	<u>1,966,796</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>8,340,735</u>	<u>6,123,113</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>4,661,368</u>	<u>3,690,365</u>
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		1,598,832	1,593,974
Reserves	11	3,064,536	2,096,391
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>4,661,368</u>	<u>3,690,365</u>

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN : 82 853 278 164

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Retained Surplus	Asset Revaluation Surplus	Strategic Funds Reserve	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2018	1,745,090	1,402,806	383,838	3,531,734
Comprehensive income				
Net surplus (deficit) for the year	158,631	-	-	158,631
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity for the year	158,631	-	-	158,631
Transfer to Reserve	(309,747)	-	309,747	-
Balance at 30 June 2019	<u>1,593,974</u>	<u>1,402,806</u>	<u>693,585</u>	<u>3,690,365</u>
Balance at 1 July 2019	1,593,974	1,402,806	693,585	3,690,365
Comprehensive income				
Net surplus (deficit) for the year	644,560	-	-	644,560
Other comprehensive income for the year				
Fair value gains on land and buildings at fair value through other comprehensive income, net of tax	-	326,443	-	326,443
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity for the year	644,560	326,443	-	971,003
Transfer to Reserve	(641,702)	-	641,702	-
Balance at 30 June 2020	<u>1,596,832</u>	<u>1,729,249</u>	<u>1,335,287</u>	<u>4,661,368</u>

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN : 82 883 278 164

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from members and funding bodies		23,514,852	20,488,307
Payments to suppliers and employees		(22,692,636)	(20,626,052)
Interest received		41,398	48,814
Interest paid		(124,853)	(31,444)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		738,761	(200,375)
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment		(3,208,999)	(232,351)
Payments for property, plant and equipment		9,536	1,151
Net cash used in investing activities		(3,197,353)	(231,200)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayment of lease liabilities		(555,475)	-
Proceeds from Borrowings (net of repayments)		1,327,552	(25,330)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		772,077	(25,330)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD		(1,686,525)	(458,905)
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		3,328,438	3,785,344
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	3	1,641,914	3,326,439

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED

ABN : 82 853 278 184

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

The directors of Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited declare that, in the directors' opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 1 to 18, 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
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position of as at 30 June 2020 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. 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 signed in accordance with subs 60,15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

.....*Georgina Nelson*.....
Director

.....*Danna Henry*.....
Director

Dated this 26 day of October 2020

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited ("the entity") which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the 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 report of the Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited is in accordance with Div 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards—Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ACNC Act, auditor independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* ("the Code") that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our 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.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards—Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is 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 management either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

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

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

We also provide the those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T Basso'.

Trevor Basso - Director
Basso Newman Audit Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants
286 Flinders Street, Adelaide
Dated this 26th day of October 2020

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED

**AUDITORS INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER S 307C OF THE
CORPORATIONS ACT 2001 AND SECTION 60-40 AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND
NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012
TO THE DIRECTORS OF
ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED**



To the board of Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2020, there have been no contraventions of:

- the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T A Basso'.

**T A Basso - Director
Basso Newman Audit Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants
286 Flinders Street, Adelaide
Dated this 26th day of October 2020**

Where to find us

Adelaide

📍 134 Waymouth Street
Adelaide SA 5000
☎ 8205 1500

Smithfield

📍 39a Anderson Walk
Smithfield SA 5114
☎ 8254 1077

Berri

📍 23 Denny Street
Berri SA 5343
☎ 8582 3192

Murray Bridge

📍 4a 17-19 Adelaide Road
Murray Bridge SA 5253
☎ 8532 1790

Ceduna

📍 28 Poynton Street
Ceduna SA 5690
☎ 8625 3466

Port Augusta

📍 8 -10 Victoria Parade
Port Augusta SA 5700
☎ 8641 0907

Coober Pedy

📍 Lot 1991 Aylett Street
Coober Pedy SA 5723
☎ 8672 3066

Port Lincoln

📍 21 Washington Street
Port Lincoln SA 5606
☎ 8683 1909

Mount Gambier

Pangula Mannamurna
📍 191 Commercial Street West
Mt Gambier SA 5290
☎ 0499 889 729

