



Annual Review  
2013-14

# SECOND CHANCE at childhood

making a difference to kids' lives, with your help

# Act for Kids annual review 2013–14

## About Act for Kids

Act for Kids is an Australian charity providing free professional therapy and support services to prevent and treat child abuse and neglect in Australia.

Through prevention, treatment, research, education and advocacy, we are committed to supporting thousands of children, young people and their families.

## Vision

All kids have a safe and happy childhood, free from abuse and neglect.

## Mission

To prevent and treat child abuse and neglect.

## Values

We are a respectful, ethical team that is caring, courageous and collaborative.

### Board of Directors

<b>Chairman</b>	Ms Lesley-Anne Houghton
<b>Deputy Chairman</b>	Mr John Manning
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ms Justine Best
<b>Secretary</b>	Mr Emmanuel Pappas
	Ms Susan Davis
	Mr Simon Harrison
	Ms Madonna King
	Dr Stephen Stathis
	Ms Maria Rampa
	Mr Nigel Harris
	Mr Berkeley Cox
	Ms Zoe Newbury
<b>Retired during 2012–13</b>	Mr Denis Loaney OAM

### Executive Team

<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>	Dr Neil Carrington
<b>Chief Financial Officer</b>	Ms Leanne Dreves
<b>Executive Director of Programs, Research and Education</b>	Dr Katrina Lines
<b>Executive Director of Marketing, Communications and Fundraising</b>	Mr Rob Williamson
<b>Director of Human Resources</b>	Mrs Koni Hanlon

### Patrons and Ambassadors

<b>Patron</b>	His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland
<b>Ambassadors</b>	Ms Kay McGrath
	Councillor Paul Pisasale
	Ms Joanne Desmond
	Mr Andrew Griffiths
	Mr Greg Hamblin
	Mr Gene Farrelly



# CEO and Chairman report

Many of the children we support have experienced great difficulties and challenges in their lives. As the financial year drew to a close, it is encouraging to see that we have helped 6,845 Australian children overcome their experiences from abuse and neglect. Seeing them blossom and achieve their full potential once given appropriate support is truly uplifting. That is why we believe in giving every child the best possible support and resources.

Perhaps one of our biggest achievements was opening our first dedicated Child and Family Centre of Excellence in Townsville. The flagship facility will lead the way in national child protection by providing evidence-based therapy and interventions that help support abused and neglected children, and their families. A special thank you to Auto & General Insurance, Subway Australia and many other supporters for generously contributing \$170,000 towards completing the facility.

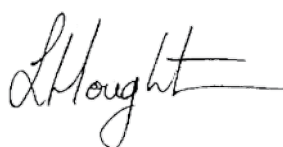
Seeing year-on-year consistent growth reinforces our belief in the enormous potential of our services to make a difference to the lives of abused and neglected kids. Through the goodwill of the community we continue to expand our services nationally so we can reach out to more children in need. We are proud to announce that we have started to deliver our therapy services in New South Wales and South Australia.

Our incredibly committed Board of Directors have farewelled our longstanding Chairman, Mr Denis Loaney OAM, and welcomed new volunteer Directors. The Board also recently ratified our strategic plan which has some ambitious goals to expand our service delivery and further strengthen our systems, profile and financial sustainability.

Everything reflected in these pages is a result of a passionate community who are dedicated to preventing and treating child abuse and neglect. We would like to say a special thank you to our long-term supporters for their ongoing support; Queensland Government, Channel Seven, Seven Queensland, Publicis Mojo, Talbot Family Foundation, Bryan Foundation, Subway Australia, Mercedes-Benz Brisbane and Auto & General

Insurance, and the many other supporters who would like to remain anonymous.

We are truly grateful for the many thousands of caring Australians who support the important work we do for kids and families in need. We would also like to acknowledge all those who continue to support us, listed on pages 8–9.



**Ms Lesley-Anne Houghton**  
Chairman



**Dr Neil Carrington**  
CEO



**FACT** IN JUST **1YR**

**40,571 CHILDREN WERE  
ABUSED OR NEGLECTED**

 **HOWEVER, AT ACT FOR KIDS, THROUGH OUR DONORS  
AND HARD WORKING STAFF, WE ARE DETERMINED TO PUT A  
SIZEABLE DENT IN THOSE HORRIFIC NUMBERS ABOVE !**

.....

**THIS YEAR WE HELPED  
14,500 AUSTRALIANS**

 **24% INCREASE** FROM  
2012-2013

**SERVICING 14 COMMUNITIES AND ALMOST  
200 STAFF | 14**

**HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICES TO  
CHILDREN/FAMILIES | 80,000**

**CHILDREN RECEIVED THERAPY  
SERVICES | 6,845**

**ADULTS RECEIVED  
SUPPORT | 3,903**

A 29%  
INCREASE

FROM 2010-11

ONE CHILD EVERY  
13 MINS IN 2010-11 IT WAS ONE  
CHILD EVERY 17 MINUTES.



2,600 CHILDREN PARTICIPATED IN OUR PROTECTIVE  
BEHAVIOURS PROGRAM (LEARN TO BE SAFE WITH EMMY™)

1,240 | PEOPLE WERE PROVIDED WITH INFORMATION  
AND ADVICE

118 | INDIGENOUS CHILDREN STAYED AT  
OUR SAFE HOUSES

OPENED | OUR FIRST DEDICATED CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE  
OF EXCELLENCE IN TOWNSVILLE

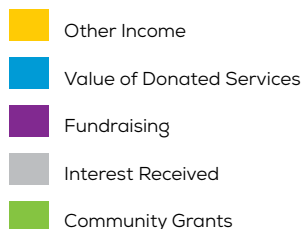
2 | INTERSTATE SERVICES WERE OPENED  
IN BOTH NSW AND SA



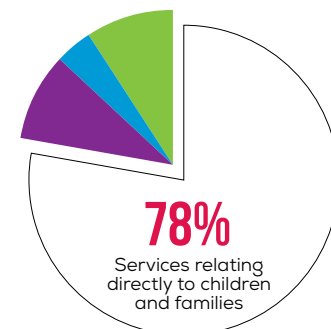
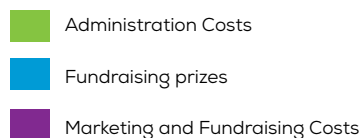
## HIGHLIGHTS - FINANCIAL STATS

- 78% SPENT DIRECTLY ON SERVICES RELATING TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.
- OVER \$1M IN PRO-BONO SUPPORT, 70% INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR.

REVENUE 2014  
\$17,942,728



EXPENDITURE 2014



# Our work

## Gold Coast and Kempsey

4,710 Kids received services

2,920 Adults received services

### Highlights:

- Our Learn to BE SAFE with Emmy™ protective behaviours program has been extended for two years, funded by Newell. The Australian Research Council is currently conducting a longitudinal study working with Griffith University, James Cook University and Queensland University of Technology to assess the long-term impact of the program.
- Completed the expansion and refurbishment of our northern Gold Coast office, funded by a \$254,000 capital grant from the Non School Organisations Program, Department of Education, Training and Employment.
- In the interests of sharing knowledge and improving practice across the sector, we again organised the Gold Coast Infant Mental Health Conference. The 14th annual conference was well attended and attracted a high calibre of speakers.
- With funding support from the Durri Aboriginal Corporation Medical Service we opened our first interstate service in Kempsey, New South Wales. The Kempsey service is supported by the Gold Coast team.

## Brisbane and Fraser Coast

455 Kids received services

278 Adults received services

### Highlights:

- This year we have provided training requested by Queensland Health, Education Queensland and a range of other organisations and we continued to provide placements for tertiary students seeking experience in our specialist area.
- The Royal Children's Hospital School won the 'Showcase Award for Excellence in Inclusive Education' for the program, Empowering Kids to Fly, an initiative of Act for Kids' Early Education Program. Children in our Early Education Program receive ongoing therapeutic support combined with early education to ensure they are set up for a successful transition to school.
- Our family support service in Maryborough has been operating since April 2013 and has helped more than 100 families since opening. Evaluation of the outcomes showed that interventions have helped improve family functioning and wellbeing.
- The Maryborough team have been instrumental in revitalising the child and family services network on the Fraser Coast by working in partnership with Playgroup Queensland to reconnect parents and offer support on early childhood development.







## North Queensland

**245 Kids received services**

**124 Adults received services**

### Highlights:

- In May, Mrs Tarnya Smith, Assistant Minister for Child Safety and Mr John Hathaway, Member for Townsville, officially opened the Act for Kids Child and Family Centre of Excellence. The centre will positively impact on the lives of children and families in the Townsville and North West Queensland region by providing evidence-based therapy and support services that will dramatically improve the outcomes and future for local children, and lead the way in national child protection.
- We helped 254 children who experienced abuse or neglect by providing therapeutic support services to help them overcome their experiences. Service delivery has increased by 20% in the last year and we hope to reach out to more children in North Queensland.
- Our Learn to BE SAFE with Emmy™ protective behaviours program has been generously funded by Glencore Xstrata. The program has helped educate 600 primary school children and we aim to deliver the program to 900 children in 2015.
- In partnership with James Cook University we have increased student placements, offering seven this year. This ensures graduates are learning current best-practice support services and are better equipped for specialist work in the child protection sector.

## Far North Queensland

**1,426 Kids received services**

**581 Adults received services**

### Highlights:

- We reflected on the achievements and ongoing development of the SafeKIDS program over the past five years at the 2014 SafeKIDS conference held in Cairns. The conference was a rare opportunity to collaborate with Traditional Owners, Reference Group Members and Department of Child Safety stakeholders. Attendees highlighted that the SafeKIDS program increases the ability of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to stay safely in community and maintain their connection to their family, culture and country.
- We again celebrated the graduation of three Indigenous cadets with a Certificate III in Community Services Work through our Workforce and Education Initiatives for Indigenous People and Allan Slaight Scholarship program.
- Our SafeKIDS team in Napranum, Aurukun and Doomadgee completed their studies. All 21 graduated with a Certificate III in Community Services Work, complementing their extensive on-the-job experience working with local children and families.
- The Kowanyama and Pormpuraaw safe houses have undergone a refurbishment, creating a more homely environment for the children living temporarily away from home.
- The Cairns Referral for Active Intervention Service has undertaken a number of changes in the past 12 months with a focus on increasing practice performance and positioning the Cairns services for future growth and expansion in light of the Carmody Inquiry.

## Adelaide

### Highlights:

- We have recently opened an integrated therapy service in Adelaide, with support from Time for Kids. Operating with an active caseload, the team will soon expand to include other multidisciplinary therapists skilled at using an integrated approach to support the emotional and developmental needs of children and young people.
- We are building collaborative relationships with key service providers and participating in community-based activities and events to increase awareness about the support services available to children and families.

# Thanks to our volunteers

The contribution of volunteers in both economic and social terms can't be underestimated. We would like acknowledge our dedicated team of corporate, Board and individual volunteers who supported us this year.

Adam McGrath  
Adrianne Jones  
Aileen Shao  
Amanda Turner  
Amy Walker  
Ana Carvalho  
Andrew Nicolai  
Anissa Loades  
Anne Elliott  
Anne-Louise Bint  
Annie Sen  
Annur Abubakar  
Anthony Papp  
Ashley Blower  
Ashley Putri  
Barbara Baker  
Barbara Harris  
Bec Care  
Beck Farley  
Belinda Clews  
Ben Farnham  
Berkeley Cox  
Bernadette Kelly  
Bev McGregor  
Brendan Gibbs  
Brett Solomon  
Brittany Barte  
Bryn Rohdman  
Cameron Minto  
Candice Bolton  
Carol Bellis  
Carol Salvadori  
Charlotte Solomon  
Charmaine Foo  
Cheryl Wilson  
Christina Lennie  
Christine Williamson  
Cindy Cai  
Collette Schuster  
Cordie Nugent  
Courtney Lowe  
Danielle Clarke

Danielle Douglas  
Danyelle Kelson  
Darran Hapuarachchi  
Darren Turner  
Dave Stretton  
David Pickering  
Davina Bullimore  
Deborah Martens  
Debra Barnes  
Donna Scott  
Donna Waterhouse  
Doug Channells  
Elaine Beard  
Elle Payne  
Ellen Bolton  
Emily Chapman  
Emily Matthys  
Emma Swindles  
Emmanuel Pappas  
Erin Pool  
Fernanda Aguiar  
Rodrigues  
Gary McPhee  
Gaylene Cavanagh  
Genevieve Walsh  
Granny Hale  
Greg Hamblin  
Hayden Michelotti  
Helen Matthews  
Helen McGrory  
Helen Minto  
Isabel McLean  
Jack Clayton  
James McHugh  
Jamie Preston  
Jane Roberts  
Janelle Pool  
Janelle Walker  
Janette Bruce  
Jannette Campo  
Jasmine Robson  
Jeanne Borchert

Jelena Asmus  
Jenifer Nelson  
Jenny Hayes  
Jenny Skehan  
Jess Vu  
Jessica O'Connell  
Jill Cavanagh  
Jocelyn Gay  
Jodie Taylor  
John Manning  
Jorgen Nitteberg  
Josephine Adam  
Josephine Nix  
Justine Best  
Kacey Inu  
Kat McTaggart  
Kathryn Harrison  
Kathy Biggs  
Kathy Richardson  
Katie Mironenko  
Kattal O'Sullivan  
Kelly O'Shea  
Kerri-Leigh Manning  
Kimberley Checkley  
Kiwako Suzuki  
Larissa Paton  
Lauren Bayly  
Leah McGinlay  
Leanne Power  
Leonie Cavanagh  
Leonie Hurst  
Lesley-Anne Houghton  
Leta Threlfall  
Levi McLaren  
Lia Shea  
Lisa Butler  
Lorraine Hislop  
Luise Manning  
Lyn Michelotti  
Maddie McKenzie  
Madonna King  
Madonna Simmons

Maria Rampa  
Mark Ellard  
Mark Mansfield  
Marlene Graham  
Marnee Mahon  
Marnie Sluice  
Matthew Guillemet  
Megan Elmanzis  
Melissa Taylor  
Meredith Bond  
Michael Wilkins  
Michele Field  
Michelle Goldsmith  
Misti-Jade McClane  
Naomi Dare  
Natalie Mahoney  
Natalie Smith  
Natalie Stewart  
Natasha Darlington  
Nicole Battye  
Nicole Dawes  
Nicole Doody  
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Simone Watego  
Sofie Engelbrecht-Kerr  
Sonya Miotti  
Sophie Seaden  
Stephanie Williamson  
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Tracey Steinhardt  
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Vanda Cragnolini  
Vicki Guillemet  
Warren Best  
Wendy Blom  
Wendy Rook  
Yee Chien Ung  
Zoe Newbury





# Thanks to supporters

Our generous sponsors give us so much more than money; many also provide pro-bono services and help us spread our message far and wide. Many of their amazing staff also volunteer to help us when we need an extra set of hands.

## Official Partners



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of our sponsors  
and volunteers is  
the driving force  
behind what we can  
accomplish day to day.  
For that, we say  
thanks"











**For more information please call 1300 228 000 or visit our website [actforkids.com.au](http://actforkids.com.au)**

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