

Annual Report 2020-2021



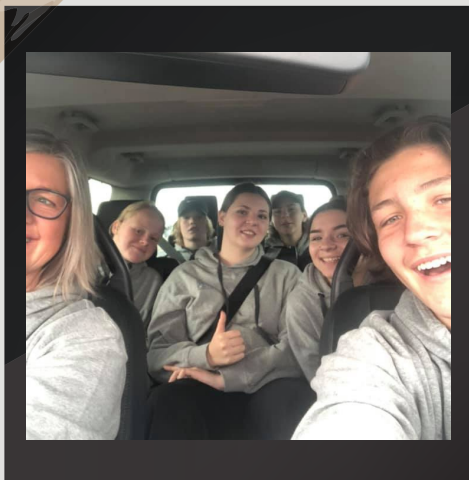
Blackwood Youth Action Inc.



Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of a deepening relationship, BYA acknowledge the Bibbulmun peoples of the Noongar Nation as the original custodians of the land on which we live and work. We acknowledge the traditional owners of this beautiful land and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to elders past, present and emerging.

Welcome to the BYA 2020-2021 Annual Report



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“The health and wellbeing of young people is a critical measure of a society for two reasons: in moral terms, how well a society cares for its weak and vulnerable is a measure of how civilised it is; in more pragmatic terms, a society that fails to cherish its youth, fails. It’s as simple as that.” (Eckersley 2004)

BYA Chair Report

The increase in mental illness and distress due to the COVID-19 pandemic has been well documented. Increased rates of interpersonal violence, alcohol and other drug use, financial stress and uncertainty about the future have all impacted directly on our young people. Whilst we, in South West WA, have been relatively protected from the direct impacts of COVID-19, those of us working in mental health have been shocked by the escalating need. Across health, education and community services, the number of young people and families needing support is beyond our current capacity. We have seen unprecedented levels of stress, anxiety, depression, non-suicidal self injury, suicide risk and school avoidance in our young people.

Blackwood Youth Action has responded vigorously to the escalating need with an increase in support to the youth of our communities. BYA has provided more social groups for young people who are struggling to engage in school; BYA is liaising with the education department to support those young people in interest-led learning and a return to mainstream education; BYA has commenced case management to ensure those young people who are struggling with family, financial or social needs have these addressed; BYA has lobbied the State government rigorously for funding to support a multi-tiered mental health intervention through The Pyramid Project; BYA continues to advocate for the provision of support and services to young people at-risk.

Blackwood Youth Action has responded vigorously to the escalating need with an increase in support to the youth of our communities.

BYA's responsiveness is made possible through the support of our community. The Rotary Club of Bridgetown, through the Tour of the Blackwood cycle ride, continues to fund vital psychological services across the Warren Blackwood. In addition, this year the Club has provide funding towards case management for at-risk youth. Talison Lithium continues to support BYA in many ways. A Perth accounting firm, Stirling Partners, is assisting with our accounting processes. Our volunteers continue to provide countless hours of service across many aspects of the organisation – from the Youth Advisory Group (YAG), to the YEOp Shop, youth outreach and mentoring, administrative services, grant writing support and the youth space redevelopment project. I must acknowledge the generosity of our community who donate to and support the YEOp Shop. This enterprise ensures BYA's independence and sustainability. The generosity of our community never ceases to amaze me.

From our Chair Cont

BYA was thrilled to be successful in two grant applications to Lotterywest this year. The first was to strengthen our organisation's governance and build our capacity for further growth. The second was to redevelop the youth space in central Bridgetown. We have also been given a grant to establish a young driver support program through Jane Kelsbie, Member for Warren Blackwood. We are immensely appreciative of the State government's support and hope to build further on this relationship. Dr Ross Field, BYA's newly appointed Government Relations Liaison Person, has been providing invaluable assistance in strengthening BYA's connection to government. It is encouraging that the Commonwealth Government has committed additional funds to mental health services, and we hope that the upcoming State budget will see an increase in funding to support our young people.

The Committee was saddened to lose Sergeant Phil Nation when he was transferred to Busselton earlier this year, but I look forward to working with the new Officer in Charge, Dave White. I am sorry to farewell Tania Evans from her position as Treasurer. Tania has done a remarkable job in calmly managing our increasingly complex finances as BYA has grown over the past few years. My personal thanks and acknowledgement to the whole BYA Committee. The group's rigor, honesty and integrity are powerful qualities that I am so grateful for. BYA is in very good hands.

There has arguably never been a greater need for groups like Blackwood Youth Action. BYA provides a space for dialogue, collaboration and strategic planning between agencies, government at all levels, and the wider community. We provide essential services and support to at-risk and marginalised young people. And we bear witness to the needs of our young people, and advocate on their behalf. Despite the challenges of meeting the increasing needs of our youth, we have many examples of hope...and many opportunities in which we can collectively make a difference. Let's continue to make small and significant steps towards supporting our young people to 'be the best they can be'.

There has arguably never been a greater need for groups like Blackwood Youth Action.

Thank you, everyone, for all you do to support our young people.



Sarah Youngson
Chair

BYA 2020 – 2021 a year in review



647

Young people connecting through BYA Mental Health



802

Sessions completed with young people by BYA Psychologist and Case Manager *



1845

Meaningful connections with young people through activities, programs, outreach.



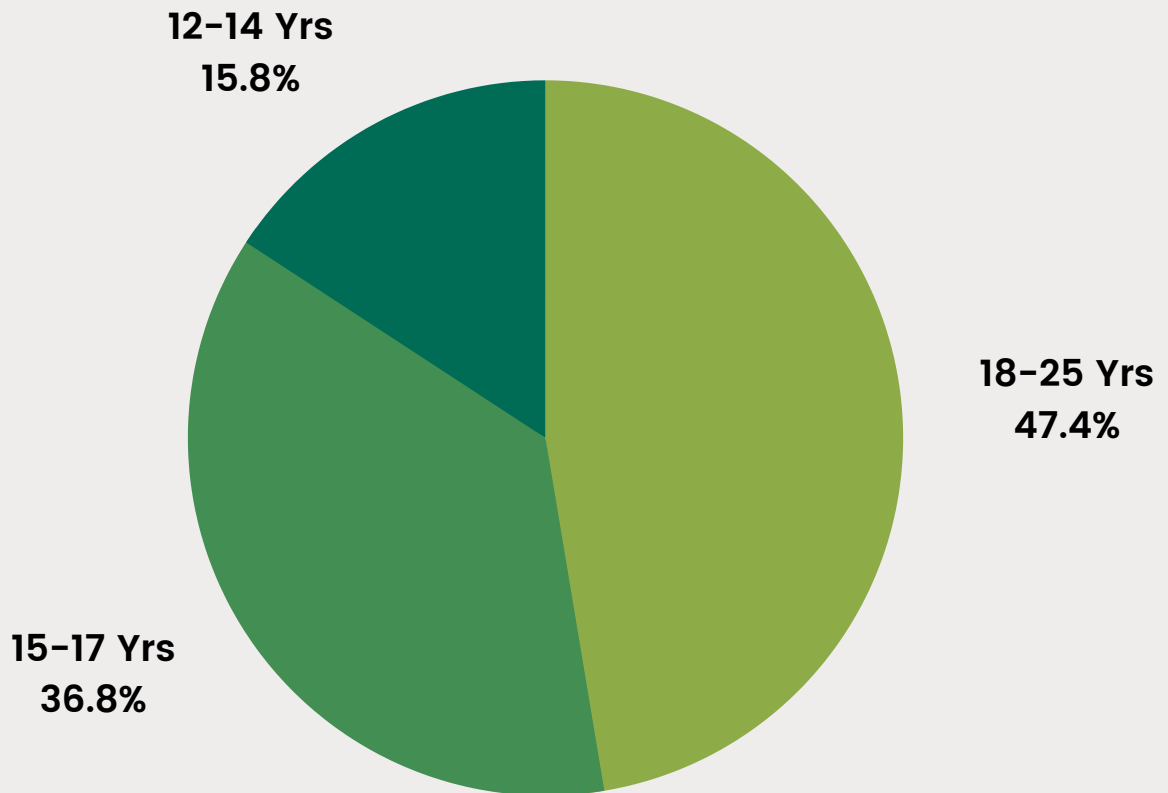
2647

Total connections made through BYA Mental Health and BYA Youth Services

*Case Management commenced April 2021 - 94 sessions completed to 30th June, 2021

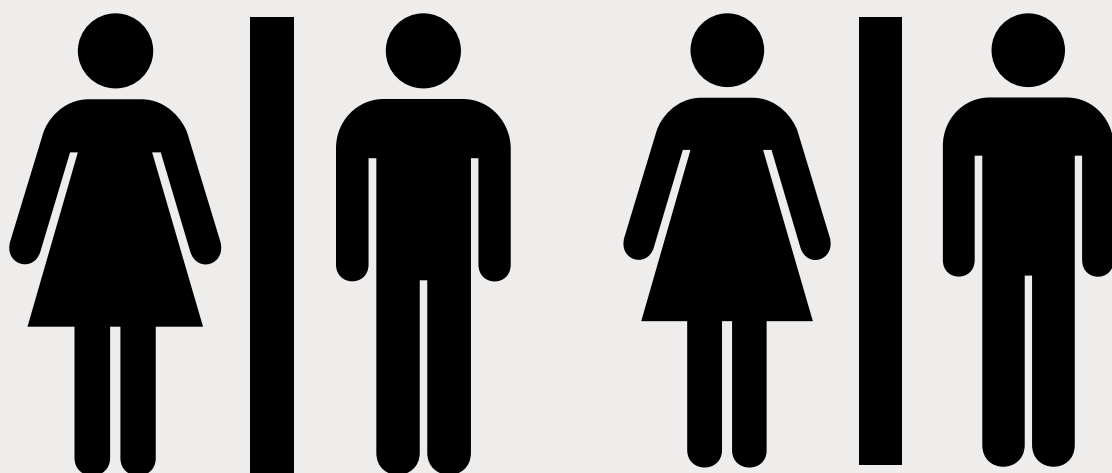
Age group accessing BYA Psychologist and Case Manager *

January - June 2021



Identifying group accessing BYA Psychologist and Case Manager

January - June 2021



Female 180

Male 54

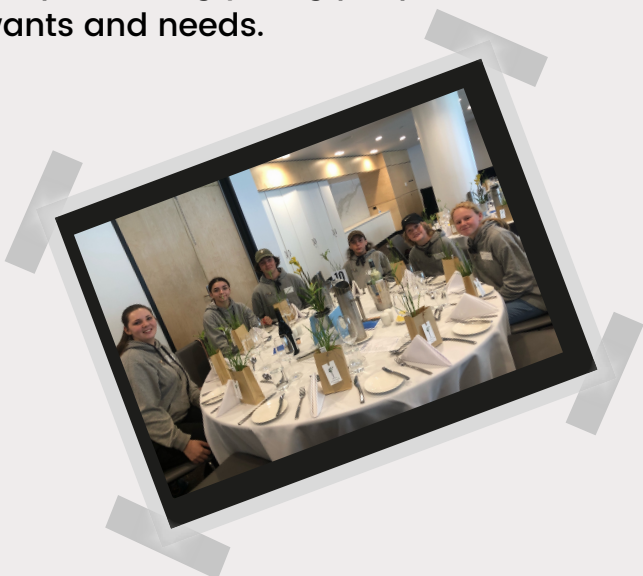
Other 13

Youth Services Coordinator Report

It is my absolute pleasure and privilege to report on the most incredible year. Whilst 20/21 has seen so many young people struggle in the midst of extraordinary challenges, I am so proud to have been part of a team that continued to grow and adapt to ensure our services supported our most vulnerable young people to be the best they could be.

Blackwood Youth Action made just shy of 3000 connections with young people aged between 12 and 25 in the towns of Manjimup, Pemberton, Northcliffe, Nannup, Bridgetown, Greenbushes, Boyup Brook and Balingup. These connections were made up of events, activities, mental health services, programs, and support groups, outreach, after school programs, education, training, employment, volunteering support, pathway creation and Youth Advisory Group (YAG) meetings.

Highlights for the year include having our Youth Advisory Group nominated and become finalists in the Tidy Towns Young Legends Award. Our YAG travelled to Perth, attended the awards with other fabulous finalists and were inspired to continue the work they do in our regions – representing young people and their wants and needs.



The Rotary Club of Bridgetown through the Rotary Tour of the Blackwood has provided funds for BYA to deliver a case management service. This service works with young people to engage with community, connect to required recreational and psychological services, support in creating future employment and training pathways, and counselling. Since it's inception in April 2021 the program has delivered 94 sessions.

To support the outcomes of our case management program, and provide interest led learning for young people, BYA has accessed the incredible resource that is our Youth Enterprise Opportunity Shop (YEOp Shop). Young people are supported and encouraged to establish and refine skills in finance, retail, customer service, marketing and promotion, event management, merchandising, as well as interior design, fashion, and social media marketing. Outcomes include work placement, increased mental health and wellbeing, increased confidence, communication skills, local mentoring connections ensuring lasting supportive relationships, and a very funky and vibrant shop. BYA is incredibly grateful to the army of volunteers, past and present, for creating and growing such a safe, inclusive, encouraging space.

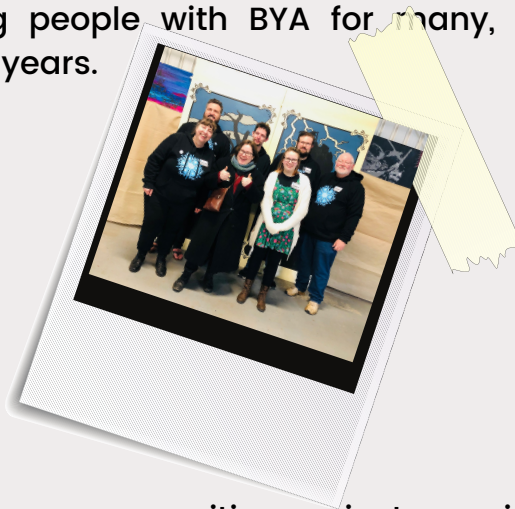
Youth Services Coordinator Report cont

BYA, in collaboration with The Education Department of WA via local high schools, delivered an extremely successful mental health expo targeting 270 year 9 students from all the high schools in the Warren Blackwood. YARN about Mental Health explored issues relating to mental health and wellbeing, how to identify them in self and others and who to access for assistance. Talented local artist, Tracey Barnett shared her mental health journey through her music and by sharing her story. It was exceptionally powerful and relatable to many, given she grew up in the area. Youth Focus Hawaiian Ride for Youth participants stopped in, with one of their riders sharing their experience of mental health distress. Many local mental health services, and those in surrounding areas attended to supply students with information and support with what is an overwhelming need in our community.

Our team continues to grow. I am excited and honoured to work with such an inspiring, dedicated and seemingly tireless group of people to address the needs of our at-risk and marginalised young people.

I am so proud to have been part of a team that continued to grow and adapt to ensure our services supported our most vulnerable young people to be the best they could be.

I'd like to make a special mention of our incredible team member, Emily Smith, who facilitates our Dungeons and Dragons support programs, twice a week, as well as our Art Club on Monday afternoons. She created, organised, and delivered the epic Blackwood D&D Winterfest event, engaging more than 200 participants from as far as Albany and Perth over an entire weekend. Emily goes above and beyond to contribute positively to the lives of everyone she meets. She provides a safe, welcoming environment for young people and ensures they feel a sense of belonging through every connection. Emily has been an integral part of the Blackwood Youth Action team for over 5 years. It is my hope that she continues to impact the lives of young people with BYA for many, many more years.



BYA has some exciting projects coming to fruition in the near future. We've successfully applied for Lotterywest funding to upgrade the old Officer in Charge house into a Youth Space with a gym, learning space, maker space, gaming room, and counselling spaces. Funding for a Driver Support Program was awarded by the State government to assist young people to obtain their licence. We'll increase our team with trainees and volunteers to continue to deliver accessible and relevant services to assist young people to be the best they can be.

YEOp Shop Report



2020/2021 has been a time of change at the YEOp Shop. After 5 years of hard work and dedication as the YEOp Manager, Rosey Logan decided to resign from her position. BYA would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Rosey for leaving the YEOp shop as an extremely viable and well-regarded premise where you can not only find a bargain but also encounter positive interactions with kind, youth focused volunteers. The YEOp shop continues to fund our Youth Co Ordinator Role which is imperative to BYA.

BYA would also like to extend gratitude and thanks to our long-term op shop volunteers that resigned alongside Rosey; Tracey Flemming, Jane Hesketh, Melvina Mitchell and Maureen Flemming.

Emma Jackson a long-term youth volunteer in the Op Shop also left this year due to her gaining full time employment in one of the local business. Congratulations Emma and thank you Rosey for supporting Emma in developing her confidence whilst volunteering in the Op Shop.

Thank you to Rossie Evans, Shirley Carey, Lyn Evans, Sheryl Edsall for your continued support as volunteers in the YEOp Shop, it is greatly appreciated.

We have been lucky enough to have some new volunteers join our team, a huge welcome to; Janine Pierre, Michelle Venditti, Cress Mitchell, Helen and John Brown, Shirley Webster, Jen Blake, Maddi Hollands, Emily Hutchinson and welcome back Dalini Lee.

With change come new ideas and goals for the future. The volunteers have been attending monthly catch ups to discuss the direction of the YEOp Shop and two key aspects have evolved.

Aiming to provide more opportunity for youth to volunteer and be mentored in the YEOp shop to build confidence and skills and to encourage the YEOp Shop to be run under a co-operative management style so all volunteers have equal responsibility and skills.

YEOp Shop Report Cont

Some of the changes that have occurred to support these goals are;

- A subcommittee consisting of Felicity Lukins, Lisa Burgess and Tracy Lansdell has been formed.
- Keypad and safe have been installed to allow volunteers rostered for the shift to open and close independently.
- Eftpos has been installed to allow flexibility of payment for customers.
- Opening hours have been extended, opening Sunday's and later Monday's and Thursdays to allow more time for youth to volunteer.
- Held a 4-day \$2 sale to move stock and create some space in the storage area for the youth space.
- Promotion of the YEOp Shop via frequent posts on Facebook
- Planning to increase shelving in the storage area to allow room for a chill out space for volunteers and youth.
- Trial a blanket pricing system to allow for faster turnover of stock.

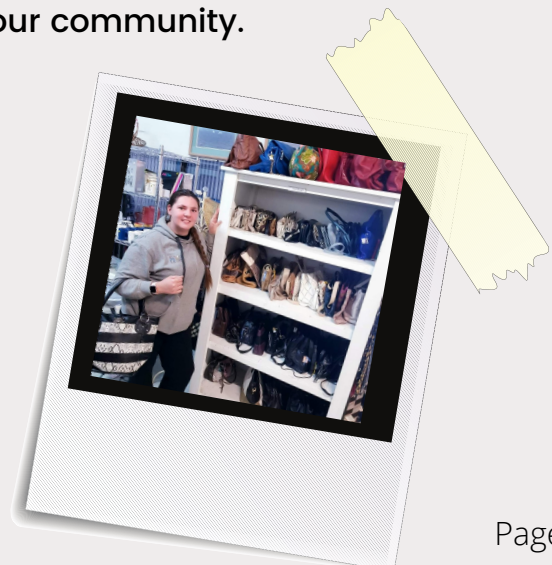
Due to covid restrictions elsewhere the YEOp Shop has noticed an increase in tourists visiting the shop in search of a bargain or two.

On behalf of Tracy and Lisa, I would like to say thank you to the BYA committee for the ongoing support and guidance of the YEOp Shop. Everyone's efforts no matter how big or small to the YEOp Shop are greatly appreciated

It is exciting times for our YEOp Shop, building on the solid platform that has already been established in conjunction with an amazing team of passionate people striving to improve the wellbeing of marginalised youth in our community.

Felicity Lukins, Tracy Lansdell, Lisa Burgess

YEOp Shop Sub Committee



Fund Raising Committee Report

Thank you to all who contributed their time and effort to our fundraising ventures throughout 2020/2021.

We had some great discussions and efforts around the idea of the “Op Shop Ball,” and the possibility of purchasing a car for raffle. Unfortunately, these two ideas did not come to completion due to various circumstances out of BYA’s hands. However, thank you to everyone who assisted in trying to organise these events.

We had some small success with our:

1. Christmas Raffle – raffled off some donations from the “Ball”. Made a profit of \$773
2. Dungeons & Dragons Winterfest catering – made approx. \$770. Thank you to Lisa and Tash for organising the catering and many other volunteers who assisted on this very successful day.

LDAG (LOCAL DRUG ACTION GROUP) Committee Report

It has been an interesting year for LDAG Bridgetown. In January I took over as Chair from Sharon Wilkinson, Lisa Burgess became Secretary. Felicity Lukins has remained as Treasurer and we have welcomed new members, Jaye Herring and Tracy Lansdell.

Although we did not access funding through LDAG in 2020–2021 we will be pursuing Strive for funding in the next financial year to assist with events and programs.

On behalf of BYA, which LDAG Group is a sub committee of, we applied for to become an LDAT. (Local Drug Action Team) with partners being Henri’s and Bridgetown Family and Community Centre. This was for \$30,000 in funding for events and programs. Unfortunately, we weren’t successful but will be applying again in 2022.

In 2021–2022 we look forward to exploring ways to make LDAG more visible in the Bridgetown community and to take advantage of the resources available.

Kaye Davies

Treasurers Report

There have been many recent progressions within the BYA, that have enabled projects, goals and visions to come to fruition.

Our Op- Shop continues to financially support the operational functioning of the youth space, op shop costs and partial wages of the coordinator role and administration. A huge thankyou to all the valued volunteers, who give of their time and commitment to ensure this enterprise is successful.

THE OP Shop provides a place to include and encourage young people- enabling them the opportunity to learn valuable life skills in customer service, money handling, personal presentation, self-esteem and ability to work and collaborate with others. The Youth Space Redevelopment- Steere Street, has become a reality with the success of a Lotteries commission grant. A big thankyou to our Grants subcommittee for their tireless work.

Again, sincere thanks and appreciation of the Rotary Club, local businesses and our wonderful community for their continued ongoing support of the Blackwood Youth Action, either financially or donation of time and skills.

As the outgoing treasurer, I wish to acknowledge the dedication of the committee, that volunteer their valuable time to pursue this vision of the Blackwood Youth Action – Be the best you can be!

I have enjoyed the journey and challenge of maintaining the financials and wish the future financial committee positive and effective management to ensure the future vision of supporting our young people is achieved.

Financial Review

Tania Evans

BYA's has had the 2020-2021 financials audited by Hampton Partners. The audit report is available on request.

The Balance Sheet is healthy to support BYA's vision and projects moving into the next financial year. There is however, a loss is shown in the P & L report. This was due to a delay in the receipt of committed funds prior to the end of the financial year.

A very successful Rotary Tour of the Blackwood in the 2020-2021 resulted in a generous commitment of \$25,000 to BYA and an additional \$30,000 has also been promised to cover the costs of a case manager for two days per week. The proceeds of both these donations will be receipted by the end of September.

BYA is actively pursuing state government for funding of BYA Mental Health's Pyramid Project which is a tiered program. The grants committee are consistently pursuing grants and funding for numerous programs.

Balance Sheet 30th June 2021

Balance Sheet		Accrual mode
Blackwood Youth Action Inc		30 Jun 2021
PO Box 712, Bridgetown WA 6255, Australia		ABN: 35436061290
		Generated 13 Sep 2021
		Total
Asset		
Banking		
1-1000	CBA Account 1012 7519	49,872.90
1-1100	CBA Account 1013 3564	10,269.69
1-1150	CBA expenses card	126.00
1-1180	CBA YSR Account	27,566.55
1-1250	CBA-Term Deposit 6504 50067768	50,726.99
1-1300	Payroll Clearing	-236.26
Total Banking		138,325.87
Current Assets		
Total Current Assets		0.00
Fixed Assets		
1-2600	Plant & equipment	1,543.64
Total Fixed Assets		1,543.64
Total Asset		139,869.51
Liability		
Credit Card		
Total Credit Card		0.00
Current Liabilities		
2-2200	GST collected	531.30
2-2400	GST paid	-4,903.72
2-2600	PAYG withholdings payable	2,707.55
2-3200	Superannuation payable	17.23
Total Current Liabilities		-1,647.64
Long Term Liabilities		
Total Long Term Liabilities		0.00
Total Liability		-1,647.64
Net Assets		141,517.15
Equity		
Current Earnings		
3-1800	Current year earnings	-18,557.79
Total Current Earnings		-18,557.79
Retained Earnings		
3-1600	Retained earnings	52,763.21
Total Retained Earnings		52,763.21
3-9999	Historical balancing	107,311.99
Total Equity		141,517.41

Profit and Loss 30th June 2021



Profit and loss

Blackwood Youth Action Inc
PO Box 712, Bridgetown WA 6255, Australia

Accrual mode
01 Jul 2020 - 30 Jun 2021
ABN: 35436061290
Generated 13 Sep 2021

		Total
Income		
4-1210	Admin Donations Received	30,810.97
4-1215	Admin Events	1,487.80
4-1220	Admin Merchandise Sales	454.54
4-1240	Admin Refunds	250.00
4-1250	Admin Grants	9,315.00
4-2010	Op Shop Donations	420.47
4-2030	Op Shop Sales	77,491.35
4-3020	Youth Sponsorship	4,594.25
4-3050	Youth programs	950.00
Total Income		125,774.38
Less Cost of Sales		
Total Cost of Sales		0.00
Gross Profit		125,774.38
Less Expense		
6-1010	Admin Advertising & Promotion	3,414.34
6-1020	Admin Event Costs	3,232.12
6-1030	Admin Internet	226.95
6-1040	Admin Insurance	3,551.99
6-1060	Admin Consumables	637.52
6-1070	Admin Printing & Stationery	663.73
6-1080	Admin Rent	2,363.40
6-1110	Admin Sundry	117.27
6-1120	Admin Superannuation paid	3,180.60
6-1130	Admin Travel	356.73
6-1160	Admin Volunteers Costs	570.05
6-1170	Admin Wages- Youth Services Coordinator	28,856.25
6-1175	Admin Wages- Admin Officer	6,461.55
6-1180	Admin YSR Rent	550.00
6-1181	Admin YSR Supplies/Costs	2,578.88
6-1190	Admin YSR Water	235.61
6-1400	Bank charges	31.88
6-2020	Op Shop Low Cost Assets	365.65
6-2030	Op Shop Cleaning Supplies	560.94

		Total
6-2060	Op Shop Food	151.62
6-2070	Op Shop Insurance	1,394.00
6-2090	Op Shop Telephone and Internet	329.08
6-2100	Op Shop Printing & Stationery	242.36
6-2110	Op Shop Rent	6,345.84
6-2125	Op Shop Variable Outgoings	338.36
6-2140	Op Shop Supplies	473.37
6-3010	Youth Low Cost Assets	261.54
6-3030	Youth Event Costs	10,326.38
6-3040	Youth Food	1,233.07
6-3060	Youth Wages Paid- Youth Service coordinator	27,776.25
6-3061	Youth Super Paid	2,926.10
6-3080	Youth Internet	680.78
6-3085	Youth Psychology services-Bec	24,520.00
6-3090	Youth Rent	7,090.72
6-3100	Youth Repairs & Maintenance	80.00
6-3110	Youth Wages- Youth worker trainee	3,931.73
6-3120	Youth Printing & Stationery	1,014.03
6-3140	Youth Supplies	562.03
6-3150	Youth Travel Expense	560.11
6-3160	Youth Workshop Facilitation LDAG	1,876.12
6-3165	Youth Workshop Facilitation	4,540.00
6-5400	Superannuation expense	0.00
6-6200	Wages & salaries	409.20
Total Expense		155,018.15
Operating Profit		-29,243.77
Plus Other Income		
8-1200	Interest income	727.67
8-1400	Other income	144.00
8-9000	Cashflow Boost	10,000.00
Total Other Income		10,871.67
Less Other Expense		
9-1000	Other expenses	185.69
Total Other Expense		185.69
Net Profit		-18,557.79

Acknowledgements

With thanks and gratitude BYA acknowledges all the volunteers and facilitators that make up the 2020 – 2021 BYA Team.

Executive

Dr Sarah Youngson	Chair
Felicity Lukins	Deputy Chair
Tania Evans	Treasurer
Emily Royce	Secretary

Committee

Sgt Phil Nation
James Dewing
Rebecca Jones
Jacky Brody
Tracy Lansdell
Natsha Cockram

Jo Moore	Grants Sub Committee
Ross Field	Government Liason

YEOp Shop Volunteers

Rosey Logan
Dalini Lee
Janine Pierre
Michelle Venditti
Cressida Mitchell
Helen Brown
John Brown
Shirley Webster
Jen Blake
Maddi Hollands
Emily Hutchinson
Sheryl Edsall
Shirly Carey
Jayne Hesketh
Rossie Evans
Tracey Flemming
Maureen Flemming
Lynette Evans
Melvina Mitchell
Emma Kate Jackson

Outreach Volunteer Jaye Herring

Y Zone Facilitator
Emily Smith

Winterfest Champions

Music Program
Mike Kaye
Hannah Rose
Bridgetown Police
Laura Nation

Special Mention

Geoff Larkworthy
The Bridgetown Parish

Youth Space Working Party

Greg and Jackie Brody
Cr John Nicholas
Steve Schrama
Peter Vowles
Dr Sarah Youngson
Bob Howe
Rosey Logan
Sharon Wilkinson
Damon Lukins
Sgt Phil Nation

Youth Space Maintenance
Section 95 Pre-Release
Program Bunbury Regional
Prison
Rick Evans
Peter Davies

Acknowledgements Cont

The amazing YAG Group (Youth Advisory Group) 2020 -2021

Bridie Kenworthy
Lex Wright
Alicia Gluck
Vaughn Ward
Katie Davies
Kaden Gough
Elise Harrison
Mitch Paget-Stedman



To our sponsors we say thank you



Government of Western Australia
Department of Communities



Community

To the community members and businesses who reach out to BYA all through the year in so many ways BYA and the young people of our region give our sincere thanks.