



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020





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# 2019-2020 MANAGEMENT

## 2019-2020 Management

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson	Maria Quaggan
Vice Chairperson	Anna Agnew
Secretary	Kasey Lewis / Laura Thompson
Treasurer	Tracy Pearson
Committee members	Ann Gerlach Jacinta Rebola-Thompson Helen Redmond Veronica Kilrain Kym Maloney Rosie Miller

### STAFF TEAM

Manager	Samantha Williams
Children's Services	Joanne McGillivray
Community Dev	Lora Bikic
Finance/Admin	Julie Taylor
Educational Leader	Robyn Oliver
Educators	Deanne Bartlett
Support Educators	Salma Al Saliby Elena Crump Taylah Casserly Sarah Zamanzadeh Debbie White
Cleaner	Charmaine Fatin

*The Yangebup Family Centre is a not for profit organisation that promotes connection and wellbeing in the local community. The Centre is a cultural hub where children, families, individuals and seniors can embrace diversity and belonging.*

### MAJOR PARTNERS

Department of Communities  
Department of Education and Training  
City of Cockburn  
Linkwest  
Connecting Community for Kids

### COMMUNITY GROUPS

Allegro Choir  
Child & Adolescent Community Health  
Crafternoon Tea  
Jesus Reigns Ministry  
Perth Performing Arts Academy  
Sewciables  
Social Sewing  
Yangebup Leisure Group  
Yangebup Progress Association  
Yoga Seashells

### MEMBERSHIPS

Australian Childcare Alliance WA  
Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association  
Connecting Communities for Kids  
Linkwest

# CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME



## Chairperson's Welcome

*Financial year 2020 will be remembered for the pandemic that stopped countries, supply chains, economies and health systems worldwide. Despite this, Yangebup Family Centre has a lot to celebrate and be grateful for this year.*

Whilst COVID-19 change many aspects of our lives in the latter half of the financial year, I would like to acknowledge some highlights from the first part of the year.

The Empowering Communities program commenced on July 1st, providing much sought after funding and support, enabling YFC to continue the great work and develop new programs.

Yangebup Family Centre were nominated and received the honour of Finalist in the Linkwest Carmen Lawrence Award for Community Building which recognised centres and individuals that demonstrated effective community development practices, to contribute meaningfully to a stronger, healthier, more inclusive local community.

Long-term board member, volunteer and advocate for the Yangebup Family Centre, Ann Gerlach was named Inspirational Volunteer of the Year by the City of Cockburn. Ann was described as helping to shape an award-winning cultural hub where people can embrace diversity and belonging. We sincerely appreciate the contribution that Ann has and continues to make.

Members, volunteers, guests and local MP's came together to celebrate the official launch of the new kitchen. Thanks to Sam and her teams' tireless pursuit of additional funding streams to make improvements, the upgrade kick started growth in one of the most successful programs this year.

The way that YFC was able to respond to the global pandemic, including social restrictions was outstanding. The team developed innovative new ways to maintain inclusion, deliver programs and engage with the community. Through social media the team helped to minimise isolation and provide information that was both essential and compelling to assist our members through this difficult time. From the regular phone calls and buddy systems put in place to keep contact with the senior groups, to the YouTube videos for the Playgroup members, the dedication of the staff and volunteers in the new world was incredible to see. In particular the WhatsApp and Facebook groups created robust online communities, connecting people who share, respect and empower each other.

It is with great pride that today we see the centre thriving and the community stronger than ever thanks to the tenacity, creativity and level of care demonstrated by Sam, her team and the volunteers at YFC.

Fulfilling our vision to inspire, grow and strengthen community has undoubtedly been a challenge this year but by living our shared values of Connection, Integrity, Respect, Caring, Learning and Empowering we can wholeheartedly say that we have achieved those goals.

Maria Quaggan

**Chairperson, Yangebup Family Centre 2019-2020**



# TREASURER'S STATEMENT



## Treasurer's Statement

*It is my pleasure to present the Treasurers report for the financial year ending 30 June 2020. Financially The Centre is in an amazing position, finishing with a surplus result of \$172,437.*

This result is largely due the unprecedented times in which we found ourselves in March 2020, with the advent of the Corona virus (COVID-19) pandemic. The related government stimulus, including the Jobkeeper scheme, free childcare and various cash boosts designed to support businesses during the lockdown period have left us with a greater than expected surplus. In a not-for-profit environment this represents a missed opportunity in the current period, but these funds will be carried over and represents increased opportunities for the coming years to 2024. The 1 July 2019 marked the commencement of five years of state government under the Empowering Communities Program. This funding continued to be paid to us through the lockdown period, although we were unable to run our Community based programs in a face-to-face capacity.

The cash reserves held by the Centre have increased by twenty seven percent (27%) in comparison to the previous year. A seventeen percent (17%) increase in wages and salaries equating to \$72,016 is partly the result of the ongoing commitment to remunerate staff under the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Award (SCHADS) but predominantly the result of the Jobkeeper scheme. Administration and consumables costs have remained steady, owing to the strong focus on limiting expenditure by the management team. Increased income in the areas of fees, the state government grant and other income has helped to offset the wage increase and resulted in a \$142,670 increased surplus, compared to the previous financial year.

Overall, the Centre is in a very strong financial position and will enter the new financial year with adequate cash reserves to meet its future obligations. In accordance with our Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission (ACNC) obligations, the 2020 Financial Statements have been fully audited. Our auditors, William Buck, have reported that the statements fairly reflect the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of the Centre, and comply with relevant Australian Accounting Standards. Further to this, no major internal control issues were identified which is a credit to the strong financial management skills demonstrated by the Centre.

This is my third year as Treasurer. It continues to be a rewarding experience to be involved with the management team this year as we've navigated these unprecedented times. We have been incredibly lucky here in Western Australia that we were able to move towards a business as usual approach as early as July 2020.

Thank you to all of the staff for their tireless work in making the Centre a welcoming place for everyone and ensuring its smooth running, especially during a very uncertain time in March-June 2020. Thank you also to the Committee for the value they bring, their support and continued dedication to the success of the Centre.

Tracy Pearson

**Treasurer, Yangebup Family Centre 2019-2020**

# TREASURER'S STATEMENT

## The Yangebup Family Centre Inc.

### Independent auditor's report to members

## Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of The Yangebup Family Centre Inc. (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the income and expenditure statement, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Committee's Declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2020, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial 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.

### Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's financial reporting responsibilities under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

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

The Committee of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) Act 2012* and the needs of the members. The Committee's responsibility also includes such internal control that they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

The Committee are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

# TREASURER'S STATEMENT

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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 the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of these financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

[http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf)

This description forms part of our independent auditor's report.

*William Buck*

William Buck Audit (WA) Pty Ltd  
ABN 67 125 012 134

*CM*

Conley Manifis  
Director

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020

**THE YANGETUP FAMILY CENTRE INC**  
**ABN: 11 263 561 438**

## Committee's Declaration

Per section 60.15 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013

The Committee declares that in its opinion:

- (i) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- (ii) the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013.

*M Quagga*

Maria Quagga

Chair

Dated this 16 day of October 2020



# TREASURER'S STATEMENT

THE YANGETUP FAMILY CENTRE INC  
ABN: 11 263 561 438

## Income and Expenditure Statement For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Income</b>			
Fee income		308,214	274,460
State Government recurrent grant		112,727	64,974
Commonwealth Govt recurrent grant		35,440	26,267
Other Grants	2(a)	37,321	37,786
Other income	2(b)	206,683	72,572
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>700,385</b>	<b>476,059</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Wages and Salaries	2(c)	(432,489)	(360,473)
Consumables		(11,514)	(13,894)
Administration expenses	2(c)	(76,458)	(64,404)
Depreciation expense		(7,487)	(7,521)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>(527,948)</b>	<b>(446,292)</b>
<b>Net current year surplus/(deficit)</b>		<b>172,437</b>	<b>29,767</b>

# TREASURER'S STATEMENT

## Statement of Financial Position As at 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3	382,531	278,471
Trade and Other Receivables	4	9,391	6,224
Accrued Income		39,000	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>430,922</b>	<b>284,694</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	57,364	62,866
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>57,364</b>	<b>62,866</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>488,286</b>	<b>347,561</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	6	24,903	35,504
Income received in advance	7	-	29,912
Employee Provisions	8	19,337	16,489
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>44,240</b>	<b>81,905</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Employee Provisions	8	21,865	15,911
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>21,865</b>	<b>15,911</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>66,105</b>	<b>97,817</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>422,181</b>	<b>249,744</b>
<b>Members' Funds</b>			
Retained Surplus		422,181	249,744
<b>Total Members' Funds</b>		<b>422,181</b>	<b>249,744</b>

## Want more detail?

The full audited financial statement can be found on our website:  
[www.yangebupfamilyCentre.org/meetings](http://www.yangebupfamilyCentre.org/meetings)

## MANAGER'S STATEMENT



### Manager's Statement

*We commenced the year with a NAIDOC Week celebration and the unveiling of the community artwork created with local elder Neta Knapp who also presented a beautifully painted message stick to the centre.*

We welcomed the Hon Pierre Yang MLC, Mayor Logan Howlett and his wife Pat, and Ms Katharine Longley representing Josh Wilson MP, together with partners, supporters, community group representatives, volunteers, staff and committee to celebrate the commencement of the Empowering Communities Program (ECP) and the official launch of the new kitchen in August 2019.

Through the joint support of Mr Josh Wilson and the Department of Communities we were able to upgrade our kitchen facilities. The new facilities will help us to support our community and provide programs that build capacity. The kitchen has already been put to excellent use with the introduction of the Cultural Cooking Program with volunteer chefs.

Since opening our doors in 1992 we have touched the lives of over 12 000 families with the financial support of the State Government. With the commencement of the ECP funding on the 1 July we will continue to provide opportunities for social connection and community building into the future.

Through the ECP we will provide a sense of place, encourage people to have strong social networks and to connect with their community. This helps to keep them healthy, it reduces social isolation and domestic violence, and it enables people to have that sense of purpose in their community, to roll up their sleeves and make a contribution.

Our centre, management and staff adapted quickly and responded, with our community, during the pandemic. We found new ways to engage and connect including a Cockburn Cultural Cooking Facebook group which was launched in April 2020 and now has over 500 members.

Our Centre has been well supported by Linkwest, the City of Cockburn, Connecting Community for Kids initiative and government representatives Josh Wilson MP, Fran Logan MLA, Pierre Yang MLC, Mayor Logan Howlett, Cr Philip Eva and Cr Chontelle Stone.

Thank you to our management committee for volunteering your time and providing your expertise to assist in the development of the Centre. We are very fortunate to have an amazing staff team who do a great job to ensure the smooth running of the Centre programs and I would like to thank our staff for all their hard work.

Our regular community groups are a very important part of the Centre and I would like to acknowledge their support and the great work they do in providing for the community. The Jesus Reigns Ministry who have been at the centre for many years have found their own venue and we wish them the best of luck.

Finally, I would like to thank our members who provide valuable support to the Centre every day.

Samantha Williams

**Manager, Yangebup Family Centre 2019-2020**

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES STATEMENT



## Children's Services Statement

*Thank you to our amazing staff team. During COVID-19 our staff have shown continuous commitment and resilience during a pandemic that stopped the world.*

We welcomed Robyn Oliver to the team in July 2019 as our Early Childhood Teacher and Educational Leader. She has come in with fresh ideas and has been an inspiration to staff with her approach to children and teaching.

Taylah Casserly joined Robyn in the Pre-Kindy room on a permanent-part time contract. Taylah is currently studying her Diploma in Early Education and Care. She has taken on the role in leading the centre in environmental sustainability.

Staff have been working individually and collaboratively on reflective practices which help guide our teaching and ensure best practice for the children in our care. Particular attention to National Quality Area 2 (Children's Health and Safety) has been a big part of this years' focus.

We were fortunate to have Kylie Young volunteer at the centre for 12 months. She was a fantastic addition to the staff team and supported staff where needed.

During COVID-19 when the centre was at its quietest, staff got the opportunity to catch up on professional development and also start new courses, including food safety, COVID-19 infection control training and child protection training.

We received a visit on the 21 October from the Education and Care Regulatory Unit (ECRU) regarding our assessment and rating. We were informed during this visit that our assessment could be any time from 6 months to a year away after the visit. They provided us with an opportunity to ask questions about the changes to the Framework and receive feedback on the Quality Improvement plan (Q.I.P).

Feedback from the visit has allowed us to be in a better place than ever before. We have been working collaboratively on the Q.I.P. and concentrating on areas of improvements and working on our strengths and exceeding themes through regular team meetings and ongoing reflective practice.

The second half of this financial year was a challenging one due to COVID-19. The staff were supportive and accepting of the changes to hours and days that were made. Fortunately, the centre continued to stay open with the financial support from the Government and all staff continued to work and receive Jobkeeper payments.

During this time, we supported our families and staff through social media platforms. WhatsApp and Friends of Yangebup Facebook groups were set up to keep connection with our families. May packs were posted out to our families and staff care packs were made up and delivered to staff.

Finally, I would like to thank all our staff and committee members for the support and commitment to the centre.

Joanne McGillivray

**Children's Services Co-ordinator, Yangebup Family Centre 2019-2020**

# RECOGNITION

## Recognition

### FINALIST IN THE 2019 LINKWEST AWARDS



The Yangebup Family Centre was recognised for its community development efforts as a finalist in the 2019 Linkwest Awards. The awards honour the work undertaken by Linkwest member Centres and the positive difference they have made within their communities over the past 24 months.

The inaugural **Carmen Lawrence Award for Community Building** is for the Centre that has demonstrated effective community development practices, to contribute meaningfully to a stronger, healthier, more inclusive local community.



### ANN GERLACH INSPIRATIONAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Ann Gerlach who received the **Mayor's Award for over 10 years of volunteering in the City of Cockburn** and was also the **winner of the Overall Inspirational Volunteer of the Year Award** at the City of Cockburn Volunteer Awards.

Ann Gerlach has been an active volunteer at the Yangebup Family Centre (YFC) for the past ten years and has made an outstanding contribution to volunteering at the centre and in the Cockburn community in a wide variety of roles over the past 15 years. She currently works as a desert survival instructor and venomous snake trainer. When she isn't working, she regularly volunteers her time in the community.

Ann has been the only member of the committee who has remained a member for the past 10 years providing consistency, knowledge and stability for the organisation. Over this time, she has helped shape the strategic direction of the centre to become a cultural hub where everyone can embrace diversity and belonging. The YFC has developed over the last 10 years to become a leader in the Neighbourhood House network. The centre has increased programs offered, engagement with community, CaLD membership and overall membership.



## RECOGNITION

In addition to her role on the management committee she has also provided weekly paper craft classes for the past 10 years. These classes provide an opportunity for local members of the community to develop social connections while enjoying craft activities. Ann has organised for over 2000 combat cards to be created and sent to Australian troops serving overseas so that they can write messages and post them to loved ones at home. She has also helped support other events like 'Hearts for Christchurch' and she provided 180 crochet poppies for the RSL display at Kings Park.

Ann has provided a series of workshops to promote Plastic Free July at the centre. Through these workshops she has shared her experiences and passion for sustainability. More than 250 Boomerang Bags have been created for the community. These are used to collect bread from the centre which is available every Tuesday and then go on to be reused by community members, replacing plastic bags. Ann has inspired others to volunteer their time to create community led initiative such as Social Sewing.

Ann is a community champion who uses her skills, knowledge and interests to volunteer in the community and to inspire others to be connected and more involved in the City of Cockburn.

Congratulations Ann, you are a very deserving winner!



# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## Strategic Priorities

STRATEGIC AREA	OUTCOMES	KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2019-2020
<b>Sustainability</b>	Ensure effective governance and the development of strategic partnerships for ongoing sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop new Strategic Plan for 2019-2024</li> <li>• Review and update key governance documents</li> <li>• Build and maintain relationships with key partners</li> <li>• Development of Centre Values</li> </ul>
<b>Inclusion</b>	Provide opportunities for community collaboration and place-based services to support individuals and families in our community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community collaboration through activities like cultural cooking, social sewing, community eats and May packs</li> <li>• Implementation of Active Ageing Program</li> <li>• Completion of Return to Work Program</li> <li>• Build relationships with families through Kaya Time program</li> </ul>
<b>Environment</b>	Create a welcoming centre promoting environmental responsibility and sustainable use of resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote environmentally sound practices through workshops, boomerang bags</li> <li>• Introduction of Community Share Cart</li> <li>• Successful in receiving funding for LED lighting, PV Solar panels and community project</li> </ul>



In the 19/20 financial year...

**1800+** people participated in **68+** initiatives run by the Centre

**86** people volunteered to help the community

**1400 FB likes** = 1400 amazing members of our community

# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

## Empowering Communities Program

The YFC was successful in receiving support through the Empowering Communities Program from the State Government through the **Department of Communities**. The funding is for 5 years commencing on the 1 July 2019. We are looking forward to continuing to provide place-based initiatives that promote connection and build capacity in our community.

### *Vision*

Communities are connected and inclusive places where people feel they belong, are valued and contribute

### *Aims*

- Empower Local People
- Strengthen Social Connections
- Foster Collaboration

### *Outcomes*

Outcome 1 – People have social connections in their community

Outcome 2 - People participate in their local communities

Outcome 3 - People are learning new skills and knowledge

Outcome 4 - People contribute to their communities

Outcome 5 – People feel safe in their communities



Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 3	Outcome 4	Outcome 5
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*In 2019-2020 we provided 375 sessions with over 15 400 participant interactions.*

# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

## CONVERSATIONS AND CONNECTIONS

### *The unique opportunities of Centre-based community engagement*



As guest presenter for a Linkwest 'ABCD of Community Engagement' training session, Manager Sam Williams had the opportunity to discuss what Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) looks like in a place-based centre. As part of the conversation we identified that it looks different to what is often presented at conferences by practitioners.

### *Enabling individuals to contribute to the whole*

Asset Based Community-Led Development (ABCD) is a strengths-based practice. It emphasises building and nurturing relationships, on identifying people's strengths, and connecting people around what they care about. It sees organisations and communities as full of the gifts and treasures that everyone carries. In this worldview, the role of ABCD practitioners is to be part of enabling those gifts to be contributed to the whole - be it a team, an organisation, or a whole community. This strengthens the 'whole' and enables individuals to contribute in ways that feel great and to grow a sense of belonging and interconnection.

As a place-based organisation embedded in our community we are part of ongoing relationships and daily connectedness. Through this process we have identified that we were already 'doing ABCD' in so many ways. Becoming aware and using aspects of the framework meant that we have been able to bring more purpose and focus to our community building work.

Sometimes this has involved doing structured community engagement processes, such as building in community input processes at a night market with over 300 people, or embarking on a 'formal' codesign process to engage the community in the creation of a nature-based playground.





# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

## *Nurturing Relationships and Connections*

At other times, however, it is more about the ongoing, daily and weekly work of chatting with people as they arrive for activities, getting to know what interests people, what they might like to share. And then connecting them with other people and projects that might grow from their involvement and contribution. In other words, ABCD is also about nurturing relationships with other community organisations, developing relationships in the wider local government and networks, and being creative about connecting these programs and projects in ways that involve community members.

This ongoing, place-based practice represents one of the unique gifts of Centre-based ABCD. Centres have always brought together people based on what they have to share and contribute. Building on a basic invitation of welcome and inclusion for all, and using the creativity and contributions of all, Centres offer programs and projects which:

- build on existing partnerships and relationships - with Centre users, with former Centre users, with wider community members, and with other organisations in the community and beyond
- develop and expand these partnerships and relationships
- are based on discovering what people care about, what they are good at or would like to share with others, and then finding ways to connect people around these 'strengths' and gifts, and further finding ways for them to share them more widely in the Centre and beyond.
- in working in these ways, build a culture of enthusiastic community contribution (and at the same time create a rich culture of participation and volunteering in Centre activities)
- enable people to connect with others through sharing their gifts and feeling 'useful'
- through all of these things, to support physical and mental wellbeing through social connection and community contribution/community building
- build capacity in team members and in volunteers and the community as a whole, for community-led and strengths-based development - a culture of 'passing forward' the gifts of welcome and belonging-through-contribution





# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

## *Having Conversations and Making Connections*

The Linkwest Co-Design for Thriving Communities project has helped to identify how Centres are engaged in this vital work of small and slow relationship-building. As Sam said during this process of co-discovery about how ABCD really does work at Centres ... “I get it! It doesn’t end anywhere ... it just keeps going. We’re doing it every day in pretty much everything we do!”

Over time this understanding crystallised into the phrase “...we have conversations and make connections...” as a way of describing the actual practice of ABCD in the context of a family centre. Engaging with the people in their communities on a daily and weekly basis, and developing relationships over months and years and decades...



## *“... We have conversations and make connections ...”*

While sounding simple, this way of working involves multiple skills and knowledges and experience that are often well developed in Centre teams. These ‘small’ everyday practices can also seem invisible and be overlooked, can be taken-for-granted, and don’t often appear in you-tube videos! These practices contribute directly to the weaving of the social fabric of communities. This kind of community building can lead to extraordinary results for people in communities, enabling a sense of belonging, of purposeful contribution, of meaning and inter-connection. It is a recipe for community well-being and is a direct antidote to and remedy for the ills of social isolation and disconnection.



# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM



## RETURN TO WORK PROGRAM

We identified the opportunity to **empower local women** by providing access to a free employment program to assist them in finding work.

We provided a program to assist women who may be experiencing one or more of the current challenges in our community. Our program sought to empower women by providing an eight week workshop focussing on social connection, self-care, resilience and preparing for employment.

The workshops were held at the Yangebup Family Centre in early 2020. Each workshop ran for 2 hours and a crèche was provided for those with young children.

The workshops were facilitated by **Leisa Antonio from Lady Language Consultancy.**

The workshops were very successful with 14 participants attending, five attendees were Aboriginal and six were from a CALD background. There were 10 children who attended the crèche and had the opportunity to spend time in a childcare environment.

We were able to provide four of the participants with volunteer opportunities and three have been offered casual paid work in the childcare. A Facebook group was created to assist with networking and sharing job opportunities. The final session was delivered via zoom.

Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 3
The attendees were able to increase their participation in community activities as a result of their involvement	The participants were able to build on their knowledge, confidence and skills to effectively manage their own lives	The participants had the opportunity to develop employment skills and documents

## EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM



### PLAYCLUB

Playclub is a stepping stone between playgroup and pre-kindy. Children are encouraged to follow a pre-kindy routine with the support of their parents. This creates a fun-filled environment for both child and parent. There is a strong emphasis on parent/child interaction and connection and providing parenting resources and role-modelling behaviours.

People attending make new friendships and connections with people who live in their neighbourhood. Attending the group provides an opportunity to build the capacity of those attending. Through the connections made at the centre people will recognise familiar faces within their neighbourhood and feel safer and more confident when walking within the community.

In 2017 we commenced an outreach Playclub program at the **South Coogee Primary School**. The partnership success is based on mutual respect and a common value of improving outcomes for children. Through this partnership we support children and families to transition to school by reducing barriers and parental isolation.

*Each year we invite our prospective Kindergarten students to attend this program to help the children to become familiar with a school environment. Families have voiced how much their children have enjoyed the program, and how they have appreciated the opportunity for them to experience a school setting.*

*Amy Dawson  
Associate Principal  
South Coogee Primary School*



# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

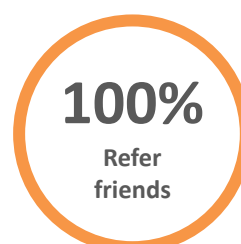
Due to the COVID-19 restrictions sessions were cancelled from March-July 2020. WhatsApp groups were created to ensure we had connection with the families during lockdown.

The social media platform was used to ensure we had connections with our families during isolation. We were supporting parents with ideas to keep their children engaged through children's craft ideas and pre-recorded stories read by their facilitator. In return parents would post the children's messages to us and their activities. The parents would share their ideas with each other and on a few occasions, parents would post "how they missed the sessions and couldn't wait to meet up again".

Once the restrictions were lifted to 20 people, we met up in the local park. The park meet up was very well received. The parents enjoyed a coffee and chat while the children enjoyed seeing their friends, playing with bubbles, listening to stories and running around together.



Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 5
<p>Having increased quantity and quality of local relationships may assist people to feel that they belong and are a valued member of the community.</p> <p>Families have been forming friendships through social media and are continuing to meet up after COVID in addition to the day they attend Playclub.</p>	<p>People will attend the weekly sessions. Parents with young children are particularly isolated in this community and were targeted specifically to encourage connection. Many of the participants are from a CaLD background.</p> <p>Through these sessions and conversations, families participate in volunteering eg. Bread pick up from the local bakery and deliver it to the centre for the community to get free bread once a week. They get a chance to continue with the soup kitchens, either cooking or engaging and supporting the community who attends. We provided a sharing trolley for families to contribute towards those who were in times of need.</p>	<p>People attending make new friendships and connections with people who live in their neighbourhood. Attending the group will provide an opportunity to build the capacity of those attending. Through the connections made at the centre people will recognise familiar faces within their neighbourhood and feel safer and more confident when walking within the community.</p> <p>During covid- neighbourhood connection became stronger, families were walking, cycling in the area so become familiar with those in the neighbourhood. Parents would feel safer allowing their children to play outside the fronts of their homes.</p>



# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM



## SENIORS

The **Yangebup Leisure Group** is a long-established group with many of the participants having lived in the area for over 50 years. The group meets weekly and organises their own activities based on the interests and assets within the group. The group provides them with social support and keeps them active and mentally healthy. Most recently they have commenced knitting woollen sleeves to help patients with dementia. We have assisted them to source funding from the **City of Cockburn** so that they can make more sleeves.

Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 5
People attending make new friendships and connections with people who live in their neighbourhood. Having increased quantity and quality of local relationships will assist people to feel that they belong and are a valued member of the community.	People will attend the weekly sessions. Seniors are particularly isolated in this community and were targeted specifically to encourage connection for older people.	Attending the group will provide an opportunity to share strengths, knowledge, skills and capacities. Through the connections made at the centre people will recognise familiar faces within their neighbourhood and feel safer and more confident when walking within the community.





# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM



## ACTIVE AGEING

There were older people attending the HEAL program who were keen to continue participating in physical activity. We piloted **group fitness and chair yoga sessions** at the Intergenerational Event held in November 2018. We identified funding to help support a physical program for older people. We linked the activities to commence following the completion of the next HEAL program. Due to COVID we were unable to continue with programs at the centre. We introduced an **Active Ageing Facebook group** to support seniors while at home. We recommenced Social Walking activities when it was safe to do so.

Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 5
People attending make new friendships and connections with people who live in their neighbourhood. Having increased quantity and quality of local relationships will assist people to feel that they belong and are a valued member of the community	People will attend the weekly sessions. Seniors are particularly isolated in this community and were targeted specifically to encourage connection for older people.	Attending the group will provide an opportunity to share strengths, knowledge, skills and capacities. Through the connections made at the centre people will recognise familiar faces within their neighbourhood and feel safer and more confident when walking within the community.

# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

## SOCIAL TOY BOX

We had a conversation with playgroup members who said there were lots of playgrounds where the equipment was not suitable for their youngest child. When the **City of Cockburn** (CoC) promoted the Cockburn Creates project looking for community ideas, we created a connection and formed a group of community members to create the project. The Social Toy Box initiative was successful in receiving funding.

The Social Toy Box aims to bring community together by providing a box of sand pit toys for children to use at their local



park. The toys will provide children and adults with the opportunity to meet new people and create new friendships within their local neighbourhood. The STB will be located in parks throughout the CoC and filled with sand toys to encourage greater community engagement by providing a non-formal, free, easy to access, outdoor recreational meeting space in the local area. The positive outcomes for this proposal include the encouragement of free and imaginative play for children who are too young to use the existing play equipment, opportunities for multigenerational informal socialisation, reduction in social isolation, sedentary behaviours, increased community connectedness and greater utilisation of local parks which will provide more opportunities to get to know neighbours.

We formed a group of 5 community members who support the Social Toy Box initiative and meet regularly to discuss the initiative. We set up a Facebook group for Social Toy Box which now has over 100 members. We identified additional community volunteers to host toy boxes. A flyer was printed and 5000 copies were distributed through local schools, community groups, businesses and letter box drops. The Social Toy Box launch events were held between May and October 2019 in 7 different locations. We partnered with local organisations to promote and provide further opportunities on the day including Connecting Community for Kids, Beeliar Community Voice and Nurseprac Australia.

Over 300 people have attended the launch events and many, many more have enjoyed the toys and will continue to visit the social toy boxes and have opportunities to engage with others in their neighbourhood. We have purchased additional toys with the remaining funding so that our volunteers can continue to top up the boxes as required.

# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 3	Outcome 4	Outcome 5
People attending make new friendships and connections with people who live in their neighbourhood.	People can attend whenever they like and as often as they like. People can share their experiences on the Social Toy Box facebook group	The volunteers who have supported the Social Toy Box initiative have learnt new skills including grant writing, event planning, how to run a meeting and building garden boxes.	The volunteers are responsible for checking that the Social Toy Box at their local park is well maintained and contribute to the group facebook page.	Through the connections made at the playground people will recognise familiar faces within their neighbourhood and feel safer and more confident when walking within the community

## Anna's Story

*Anna has been a member of the YFC since the beginning of 2015 when she first joined playgroup with her 1 year old son. They live in Yangebup, just over the road from the centre and she was keen to meet local families and for her son to interact with other children. Originally from the UK Anna had only been in Perth a year before having her son and with no family support, apart from her husband, she was looking to make connections with families in similar situations.*

*Anna has been an active volunteer at the Centre for the past 5 years and has made an outstanding contribution to volunteering at the centre and in the Cockburn community. Anna joined the management committee in October 2015 and has been Vice-Chairperson since October 2018.*

*Having gained an understanding of the importance of the centre in the community she was keen to join the Connecting Community for Kids (CCK) initiative. Through her involvement in the centre Anna has gained the confidence to express her opinions on matters that affect local families. In 2018 Anna was selected as a community member for the Joint Leadership Team where she provided a community voice for families.*

*Anna helped to organise a series of Plastic Free July workshops where some participants were keen to continue sewing together. From this workshop some of the participants were keen to continue sewing together. Anna has inspired others to volunteer their time to create the Social Sewing group. In January this year Anna organised a charity sewing day for animals injured in bush fires.*

*With the support of the YFC Anna applied for the Cockburn Creates initiative to provide Social Toy Boxes in playgrounds to encourage more people to engage in their local community and meet their neighbours.*

# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM



## SOCIAL SEWING

The Social Sewing group was established by the community with the support of the Yangebup Family Centre in September 2018 to allow members of the Cockburn community to come together and sew in a welcoming and safe environment. Through engaging with the local community, a Facebook group was set up (which has grown to over 70 members) and we have established regular attendance to the twice monthly sessions of approximately 20 people. In September 2019 the group celebrated their 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday with a session at the centre.

### *Sewing Basics Workshops*

With funding from the **City of Cockburn** we have purchased sewing machines, an overlocker, haberdashery and supplies. We have provided two Sewing Basics workshops facilitated by **Jacinta Rebola-Thompson**, with assistance from community volunteers, one of the original contributors to the initiative.

Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 3	Outcome 4
People attending make new friendships and connections with people who live in their neighbourhood.	People can attend sessions and participate in the facebook group.	The volunteers who have supported the Social Sewing have learnt new skills. Participants who have attended the Sewing Basics Workshops have developed new skills.	The volunteers who have supported the Social Sewing have contributed to the community. Seeking to assist others and identifying opportunities.



# WORKING TOGETHER WITH FAMILIES

## Working Together with Families

The YFC were successful in receiving three years funding from the Federal Government through the Community Child Care Fund (CCCF) commencing 1 July 2018.

### *Project Outcomes*

- To work together with other local organisations to identify barriers to childcare participation and increase utilisation of the Occasional Care service
- To create partnerships and build relationships with vulnerable and disadvantaged families with children who currently don't use childcare
- To create a welcoming and culturally appropriate environment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) families and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) families
- To develop a community stakeholder engagement plan to increase awareness and participation in the Occasional Care Service

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In July 2019 staff had the opportunity to learn more about local Aboriginal culture from artist and elder **Neta Knapp**.

Neta shared information about her culture and traditions.

Throughout the year staff have attended a variety of presentations, guided tours and participated in cultural activities to increase cultural awareness.

New resources have been selected to help create a **welcoming and culturally appropriate environment** at the centre.





## WORKING TOGETHER WITH FAMILIES



### NAIDOC WEEK – COMMUNITY ARTWORK

An uplifting occasion celebrating the theme of **2019 NAIDOC “Voice. Treaty. Truth.”** took place on 11 July at YFC. The ‘Welcome to Country’ was expressed by Neta Knapp, acknowledging Whadjuk Noongar people; Neta also presented message sticks to YFC Manager, Samantha Williams and City of Cockburn Mayor Logan Howlett.

The **community artwork was unveiled**, created in November 2018 at our Intergenerational Open Day, with Neta Knapp and community members. It was a joyful moment and celebrated by Madjitil Moorna and the Koorlong team, a group of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people who sing in language to build understanding, hope and joy. The choir sang beautifully and presented some interactive activities where children were encouraged to sing along and play a range of small percussion instruments. All who attended enjoyed a variety of bush tucker inspired food.

## WORKING TOGETHER WITH FAMILIES

### KAYA TIME

Kaya Time is an aboriginal playgroup for families that commenced in May 2019 and was held monthly until November 2019. We started with one family and had 7 families regularly attending by the end of the year.

The first Kaya Time session for 2020 was held on 17 February. Families have enrolled in Occasional Care and two of the mothers have attended the Return to Work program.

The **Earbus Foundation WA** attended the March session, providing free ear health checks. **Cockburn Youth Centre** staff provided information about a driving lessons program. We had eight families attend with ten children.

The program involves families to identify barriers and seek opportunities to collaborate with local organisations to find solutions.



With COVID-19 fast approaching, the group relied on an already established Messenger group to continue with communication. The families, where also encouraged to participate within other media outlets such as Facebook groups of Yangebup Family Centre. Kaya Time members organised a social gathering, as restrictions lifted to 20 people, in a local park allowing parents a down time and a chat and children an area to run around in with their friends whom they very much missed. **Reconciliation Week** was celebrated in a local skate park with collaboration by Connecting Communities for Kids.





## WORKING TOGETHER WITH FAMILIES



### CULTURAL COOKING

Members of our community were encouraged to share their culture by providing cooking sessions for other members of the community. We offered four Cultural Cooking sessions with two **volunteer chefs** demonstrating a dish from their culture at each session. The first monthly session was held on the 25 July 2019 with 18 volunteers and participants involved. We celebrated the volunteer community chefs at our Empowering Communities Program Launch event on 26 August 2019 with certificates presented to the volunteers by **Hon. Pierre Yang MLC**.

We held an event to celebrate the end of the program with a **Multicultural Feast** on the 28 November. Participants, community members and partners were invited to bring a dish from their culture to share.

The volunteer chefs have made social connections through the program including a What's App group with 12 people who regularly share and contribute. Members of the group have also attended other events in the community including the CCK Long Table lunch events.

People attended the sessions and shared in the culture of the volunteers and this encouraged greater connection and tolerance of other cultures.

Volunteers had the opportunity to celebrate their skills and culture. Community volunteers shared their knowledge about their culture and gained confidence as cultural mentors. Through cooking we are promoting cultural diversity, friendship, learning about other cultures and encouraging volunteers to be involved in the community.

## WORKING TOGETHER WITH FAMILIES

Cultural Cooking was scheduled to recommence in April 2020 with guest presenter, **Marissa Verma from Bindi Bindi Cooking**, providing an Aboriginal cooking demonstration. Unfortunately, this was unable to go ahead due to COVID. Members expressed their disappointment that the group was unable to go ahead. We expanded our What's App Cultural Cooking group and promoted this via our enews. As the Whats App group grew we decided to set up a facebook group called YFC Cultural Cooking. The facebook group commenced on the 6 April and was launched with Marissa doing a live cooking demonstration from her home on the 7 April. The group has grown organically especially over the COVID period people were excited to share their meals and their culture with others. At the end of June the group had over 500 members who share cultural dishes. The group was renamed Cockburn Cultural Cooking through collaboration with other local groups and City of Cockburn council.

The community have made social connections through the **Cultural Cooking facebook group with over 500 members** and a What's App group for those without facebook with 30 people who regularly share and contribute. People learned new cooking skills and a better understanding of other cultures through social media.



### *Mauro's Story*

*Mauro Altamura came to the Centre to attend HEAL, Healthy Eating Activity Lifestyle program. The centre is one of the many facilities in Cockburn where the program is offered. Mauro, 81 years young, was scheduled to attend but arrived on the wrong day when the Food Sensations workshop was being offered and attended this program instead.*

*This very charming gentleman was then invited to attend the Cultural Cooking program. He replied 'why not? I am after all from Italy and I love all different food'. This was the beginning of Mauro becoming part of the Cockburn Cultural Cooking family. He is still charming, always kind and reveals that the biggest secret in life for staying young is to continue keeping social and active. He is dear to all of us at YFC and we always look forward to seeing his happy face.*

*Lora, our Community Development Officer, kept in contact with Mauro with phone calls during COVID. We are looking forward to Mauro joining our Active Ageing program.*



# EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

## Early Childhood Programs

The Centre prioritises **Early Years Education**. There is strong evidence that what happens in the first three to four years of a child's life is critical, and that if we get it right in the early years, children will most likely thrive throughout school and into their adult lives. The quality of a child's earliest environments and the availability of appropriate experiences at the right stages of development are crucial determinants of the way each child's brain architecture develops (AEDC, 2015).

Our programs are based on the **Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)**. They offer fun, educational activities that are developmentally appropriate in a semi-structured form and provide emotional, physical and intellectual development as well as social awareness and interaction skills.

**Pre-Kindy** is our Early Childhood Program where children attend one day a week, we run over three days supporting 60 children and their families within the one-week period.

**Occasional Care (OCC)** is our Early Childhood Program which offers more flexibility, available three days a week with the availability of short notice bookings, OCC support up to 19 children and their families each day.

From February 2020 our focus was supporting our Pre-Kindy and Occasional Care families during situational changes and evolving circumstances due to COVID-19, this meant being innovative with how our programs were delivered and how we offered a variety of support to suit individual families. Families were supported through the disruptions of COVID-19 by offering consistency with their care and Early Education for their children, this included consistent routines within the environments and consistency with staff, offering minimal disruption for children therefore reassuring those families who still required care and were still required to attend work during the restrictions. Families were kept updated with any changes within the learning environments which were required due to government advice. These changes were corresponded through OWINA our communication tool for families.

For those families who preferred to keep their children at home during this time we offered support in other ways, home learning ideas to run alongside our current curriculum were offered throughout the week on both OWINA and the '**Friends of Yangebup Family Centre**' **facebook group** to encourage people to have social connections within their community, and to participate in their local communities. Families were encouraged to share their home learning experiences with photos in our facebook group.

Each Family who attended the centre was also sent home a posted **May Pack** containing Mother's Day activities and cards to craft, these were put together through our creative volunteers, and photos of these were also shared on the 'Friends of Yangebup Family' page. These cards included envelopes and stamps to



## EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

repost on to distant family members who they were unable to spend time with due to restrictions.

Additional support was provided to families who were struggling with the uncertainty of COVID. This generally involved taking some time out to have a conversation and share a cuppa and providing reassurance during a time of high anxiety.

Based on the health advice we have been encouraging the children to take responsibility for their own health and hygiene, this has included frequent hand washing, using magic soap, coughing and sneezing into elbows. Following **National Quality Area 2- Health and Safety** it was also important that we made some changes to the way we set up the environments. Sensory play is starting to be reintroduced, however still differently, playdough is being disposed of at the end of each day and sensory items are being sanitised throughout the day and thrown away when appropriate.

The children have all developed an understanding of the requirements we need to meet, including keeping the resources clean, this has provided lots of learning opportunities as the children help to wash toys and collect toys to throw into the warm soapy water bucket. This has provided opportunities of discussion as we discuss how we spread germs and how we prevent germs.



We have continued to offer whole group mat sessions, we feel these are important to our daily rhythm and bring a sense of grounding to the day during busy periods. The children have all used spot markers to sit on, although this took some adjusting to, this has actually started to teach the children about social boundaries.

Another change to our environment has been the markers on the floor leading into the bathroom, two children are sent to wash hands and three children to line up on the different coloured markers, although this again took some adjusting this is working really well and something we are keen to continue with as it ensures children are spending less time lining up and less time being asked to wait in a queue, this has prevented conflict between children.

We have also changed our morning tea arrangements and now sit at tables for both meal times in pre-kindy and for lunch time in OCC, the educators seem to prefer this as is it more hygienic, children seem to have more space whilst eating and it seems to provide a calming environment.

As we continued to support the learning and development of our children, ourselves as a team have also been developing our own knowledge, through professional development during staff meetings, recently learning about the **theorist Maslow** and the hierarchy of needs. This professional development has formed part of our critical reflection, a key part of our planning cycle meeting **National Quality Area 1**.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

**Critical reflection** leads to new experiences and environments within the rooms. Our educators reflect deeply on why they have implemented experiences, considering the meaning behind it. Exploring where an experience arose from helps to create an authentic meaningful experience, there is a purpose behind it and a goal or outcome which is focused on through its implementation, we reflect on what curriculum outcomes this experience has met, (EYLF and NQS) which helps educators planning forward when trying to explore and cover a wide



range of outcomes, exposing children to a variety of experiences. Educators are supported through their critical reflection by being offered fortnightly feedback by the educational leader, ideas of meaningful extensions are also offered to the educators to offer a different insight, educators do not have to implement these suggestions but it does offer guidance to help understand what a meaningful extension might be. Ideas are also regularly shared to the what's app group, encouraging intentional teaching and reflection about our calendar of events and community.

Over the past 12 months our Pre-Kindy and Occasional Care programs have provided education and care to **164 children from 142 families**. These services bring more families into the Centre who often participate in other programs at the Centre and we can promote other community resources and opportunities.

Creche is provided so that families can attend activities while their children are cared for in a safe environment nearby. In 2019-2020 we provided creche for over **120 children**. Our crèche program is supported by the **City of Cockburn** through their donation program.



*Kylie Young volunteered at the centre from August 2019-July 2020 completing a Return to Work program supported by Rehabilitation Services*

# PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

## Partnerships and Collaborations

### CITY OF COCKBURN

We have a strong relationship with the City of Cockburn and work closely together to provide opportunities relevant to our community. The CoC engage with us and our community when they are seeking input for their strategic planning. We work together to provide a range of short-term programs such as Food Sensations and we have also been part of a new collaboration in 2019 for **Community Eats** with other local organisations. We received a **donation of \$13 125** in November 2019 to support our creche program and a **grant of \$4000 for LED Lighting and Community Energy Project** in June 2020.



### LINKWEST

Linkwest provide opportunities for the YFC to develop new skills and access training to ensure that we provide best practise community programs. We have been invited to be involved in numerous Linkwest events and activities to share our journey and expertise. Centre Manager, Samantha Williams, was invited to be a co-presenter on the 29 August 2019 for the next phase of the **Linkwest Co-Design project**. The session was on ABCD training and action learning sessions. We were also involved in **the Co-Design Project Digital Storytelling** mini-project which produced a podcast of the Cultural Cooking program.

Linkwest have produced a website [www.abcdofthrivingcommunities.com](http://www.abcdofthrivingcommunities.com). We have contributed to the development of this site and we have been learning along the way. The blog 'Conversations, connections and creating opportunities for success' [www.abcdofthrivingcommunities.com/post/conversations-connections-and-creating-opportunities-for-success](http://www.abcdofthrivingcommunities.com/post/conversations-connections-and-creating-opportunities-for-success) highlights some of our learnings. We were also recognised as a finalist in the Linkwest Awards for the **Carmen Lawrence Community Building award**.

Over the past 6 months we have had the opportunity to be part of the **design team for ABCD Community of Practice**. This has provided opportunities to network with other centres and develop new ways of providing ABCD training to other centres. These meetings were all held over zoom and training sessions were provided to the Linkwest network via zoom. Sam Williams, Manager of YFC helped facilitate one of these sessions.



## PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

### AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION



As a member of Linkwest we are also affiliated with the ANHCA. We were successful in receiving funding for the Supporting Stronger Communities Grant to provide the **Strengthening Women Program \$8,465**

This program delivered seven workshops to support women who are disadvantaged to develop self-esteem, self-care, resilience and employment skills. Following the conclusion of the workshops we held individual meetings with participants to identify strengths and opportunities to volunteer or gain work experience in the community.

### CONNECTING COMMUNITY FOR KIDS

Connecting Community for Kids (CCK) is a collective impact initiative developed to empower parents, children and professionals to improve childhood outcomes in the communities of Cockburn and Kwinana. We have been a part of the Joint Leadership Team with CCK since 2015 and have actively encouraged community members to develop their skills and confidence to volunteer on the Cockburn Action Teams. We have also had two members of our community become Community Representatives on the JLT. The CCK Initiative currently has five action teams which are adopting different strategies to improve outcomes for children. The YFC is involved in many of these initiatives that fit with the Community Themes identified by our community including Dads Strengthening Dads, Celebrate Culture and Community Mothers.

### COCKBURN INTEGRATED HEALTH

We have partnered with Cockburn Integrated Health to provide a range of workshops including Healthy Eating Active Lifestyle (HEAL) program, Food Sensations in partnership with Foodbank and a range of nutrition workshops.

### SOUTH COOGEE PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have partnered with South Coogee Primary School to provide a playclub program for families that will be enrolling in the school for kindy the following year to provide school readiness activities.

### MUSCULOSKELETAL AUSTRALIA

We have identified opportunities for additional services for Seniors. We were successful in receiving funding for the **Active Neighbourhoods for Older Australians** provided by Musculoskeletal Australia. We held an introductory 5 week Chair Yoga program in November 2019. Our Active Ageing program has been included in our program for 2020 and includes Chair Yoga, Group Fitness and Social Walking.

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS



### *Huey's Story*

*Huey Teoh has been attending programs at the centre since 2012 and has been an active volunteer at the Yangebup Family Centre (YFC) since 2017. She has been very involved through sharing her culture with the community.*

*Huey originally attended the Women of the World group at the centre with her mum and has also attended programs with her son. Over this time, she has helped the centre to become a cultural hub where everyone can embrace diversity and belonging.*

*Huey has helped to plan, organise and run a community Chinese New Year event held at the centre annually since 2018 with over 100 people attending each year. Huey has volunteered her time, knowledge and connections to assist the YFC in providing an annual Chinese New Year event. She has been a community member of the Connecting Community for Kids (CCK) Cultural Action Team and also the CCK Joint Leadership Team representing the City of Cockburn community.*

*Through Huey's support she has helped the centre to establish a Cultural Cooking program that commenced in 2019 and was very successful. She has volunteered her time to support the YFC in providing the Cultural Cooking program. She has volunteered as a community chef sharing her culture through food and assisting others to share their culture.*

*Huey is a community champion who uses her skills, knowledge and interests to promote her culture in the community and to inspire others to be connected and more involved in the City of Cockburn.*

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

### COCKBURN CHINESE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Cockburn Chinese Community Association have supported the centre in providing cultural opportunities including performances at the **Chinese New Year celebration** and members have participated in the Cultural Cooking program.



### YANGEBUP PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

The Yangebup Progress Association meet monthly at the Centre. We are working together to promote local information by sharing Facebook news and promoting activities through our networks. We have worked together to promote community clean up days, planting days and local events.

### OASIS CHURCH

Oasis Church engaged with the Yangebup Family Centre a couple of years ago. They provide Christmas cheer to families identified by the centre. They gift families with presents for the children and food hampers. The Centre has partnered with Oasis Church to provide community engagement opportunities to enhance the centre including providing volunteers to clean up the backyard and sourcing and planting a new tree in the pre-kindy playground.

### ATTENDING EVENTS

We attended numerous events in our local community to promote our services, to support our partners and to create new opportunities.



*Connecting Community for  
Kids Celebrate Culuture Action  
Team meeting in the park*

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

The Centre participated in programs promoted by other organisations such as;

- International Women's Day
- Harmony Week
- National Families Week with Families Australia
- Neighbourhood House Week with Linkwest
- National Volunteer Week
- Reconciliation Week
- National Sorry Day
- NAIDOC week
- Red Nose Day
- ATSI Children's Week
- 16 Days in WA – Domestic Violence Awareness
- Seniors Week
- Volunteer Day
- Disability Awareness Week
- Cooby Cares Christmas Hamper and Children's Present Drive

These events raise awareness about others and provide support pathways to individuals and families.



*Staff and Committee attended International Women's Day event held at the City of Cockburn.*



*Yangebup Leisure Group supporting 16 Days in WA*



# OUR TEAM

## Our Team



### COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION

We are very fortunate to have a **strong management team** with a wide variety of skills and experience to support the strategic direction of the Centre. A huge thank you to our committee members for providing your enthusiasm and support. The committee is chaired by Maria Quaggan who has helped to build the capacity of the committee and the Centre.

Over the course of the year we welcomed new board members who bring great ideas and skills that augment the Management Committee's capabilities.

The global pandemic saw us rapidly revisit our business model to ensure we continued to provide valuable services and opportunities for connection to the community and our members. I wish to thank our whole team for acting so quickly.

By May the centre had developed a comprehensive recovery roadmap. Plans were in place to keep all visitor and participants safe as the centre progressively reopened its doors to programs, workshops and courses that would help lead the community out of lock down.



## OUR TEAM



### OUR STAFF

We have a wonderful staff team, many of whom have been with the centre for many years, providing consistency of care. We welcomed Robyn Oliver in July 2019 and she has provided strong leadership and a commitment to improving our standard of care.

Sanja Tesic, a parent of twin girls who uses our occasional care service, is a life coach and has been leading our project on identifying centre values, reviewing personal and centre philosophy and creating a team charter. The project was designed as a 12 month process. Due to COVID-19 this may take longer than anticipated. Individual meetings were held with staff and Sanja, this provided staff with the opportunity to reflect on personal values and how they align with the centre values.

Professional development is an important value identified as ongoing and lifelong learning.





# PARTNERS

## Partners

We are proudly supported by the following partners;

The Yangebup Family Centre is funded by the State Government through the Department of Communities



**Australian Government**

**Department of Education and Training**



Connecting  
Community for



## Yangebup Family Centre Inc

ABN: 11263561438

Visit: 11 Dunraven Drive, Yangebup

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

Postal: P.O. Box 3039, Success WA 6964

Phone: (08) 9417 9995

E-mail: [info@yangebupfamilyCentre.org](mailto:info@yangebupfamilyCentre.org)

Web: [yangebupfamilyCentre.org](http://yangebupfamilyCentre.org)

FB: [facebook.com/YangebupFamilyCentre](https://facebook.com/YangebupFamilyCentre)