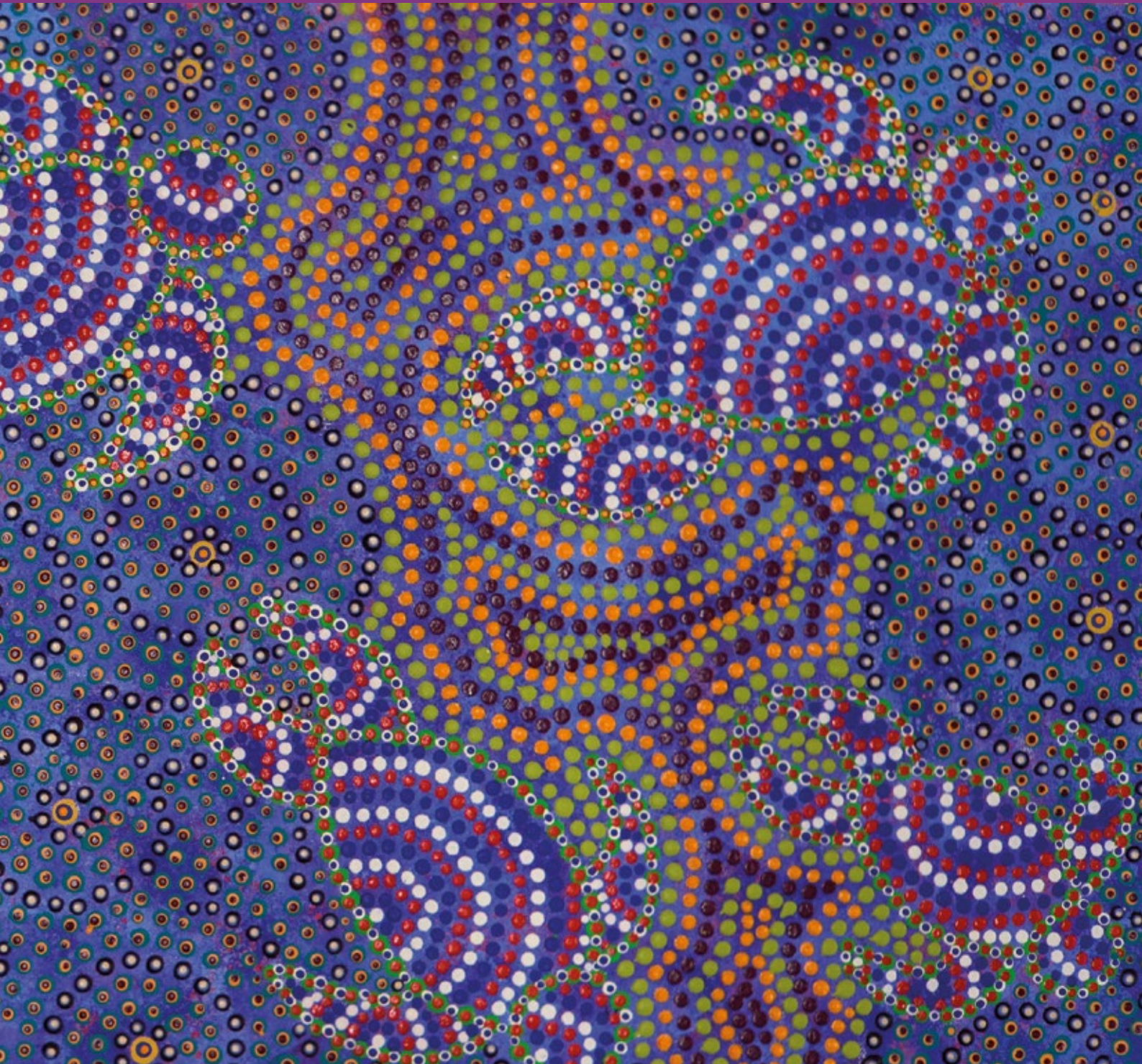




Women Up North



Annual Report 2016-17

ABOUT WUNH



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Women Up North Housing operates in the Northern Rivers area of NSW, across the local government areas of Byron, Ballina, Lismore, Kyogle and Clarence Valley. We acknowledge the Bundjalung nation and the Aboriginal elders and people who are the traditional custodians of the land that we work and walk on.

Women Up North Housing Inc. (WUN) is a nationally registered social housing provider. We assist women and their children who have experienced either domestic or family violence, or abuse, in Lismore and surrounding districts. WUN supports women and their children to access and maintain private and social housing, and recover from the impacts of domestic and family violence. We also support these women through accommodation in ten transitional housing properties, and Bugalma Bihyn Aboriginal women's refuge.

WUN aims to raise awareness of the impact of family violence; empowering women and their families who have experienced domestic violence to create positive changes and opportunities in their lives, live in safety, and have healthy relationships. We use strengths-based programs, person-centred case management, group work, and counselling. WUN accesses a state-wide network, to ensure our clients have a range of services available that will meet their needs.

The WUN Specialist Homelessness Services program is a member of the 3SA managed Northern NSW SHS Alliance consortium. This alliance provides 'Domestic and family violence' and 'Aboriginal homelessness' programs, from Tweed to Grafton.

WUN is also in partnership with organisations within and outside of the Northern Rivers to deliver programs such as 'Love Bites' for High School students, the 'Second Bite' food program for disadvantaged people, the 'Healthy Minds' counselling program, and the State Debt Recovery Office Working Development Order programs. Our thankyou page provides a list of some of our key partners, grants and donors.

For more information about Women Up North Housing Inc. visit our website at www.wunh.org.au. To keep up to date with Women Up North Housing, like us on Facebook.

Chairperson's Report

WUN Annual Report 2016-17

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I wish to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land where we live and work. I wish to pay my respects to the Bundjalung people, to their unique and diverse culture, and to the Elders past, present and future.

Wow, Women Up North has been helping women in the Northern Rivers escape domestic violence for the past 30 years. What a remarkable milestone for this small not-for-profit organisation! So much has changed in the world over this time, but our reason for operating has not. Domestic violence is still happening to women and children in our community.

Technology has come a long way in the last 30 years. Where we once used fax machines, we now use texts and emails and our documents are stored in the cloud. Throughout the changing technology, the team at Women Up North have taken it all in their stride, and they continue to do a wonderful job of helping our clients.

And what do you know, another year and another flood! For the second year in a row, the group room flooded. This time, in what proved a stroke of good fortune, the flood hit Women Up North a day in advance of the major flooding that continues to devastate Lismore. From her prior experiences, our Executive Officer Jillian Knight-Smith prepared the back room for inundation, but the severity of this flood was such that her efforts were in vain; the water was too high and we are left to rebuild yet again.

We are saddened to have farewelled a former Board member this year. Bronwyn Stephens retired from our board in late 2016 and passed away in early 2017. Bronny made an enduring contribution to our board; never afraid to ask the tough questions and remind us of our duty to the women we served. We convey our sincerest condolences to her loved ones; she is sorely missed.

On more positive news, we welcomed Linda Bristow to our board this year. Linda has recently relocated to the Northern Rivers, bringing with her very sound experiences in the building and construction industries, and a Masters of Business Administration. Welcome Linda!

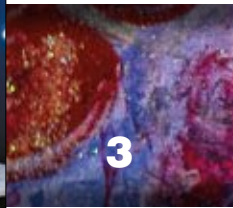
I wish to express my thanks to Amanda Meade, who has taken up the position of Board Secretary (Acting) following the loss of Bronny. The board appreciates you stepping up for us Amanda.

Britt Huxtable has had a busy year as Treasurer, working closely with Jillian to negotiate a new funding contract. The new contract will see Women Up North operating in partnership with Third Sector Australia Ltd and On Track Community Programs for at least another three years.

Rev. Dorothy Harris-Gordon continues to contribute to our organisation as Bundjalung Elder and Mentor. Aunty Dorry makes routine visits to our Aboriginal Women's refuge to perform a cultural clearing and blessing, and speak with clients and workers. We are privileged to have Aunty Dorry as a member of our board and as an Aboriginal mentor. It is very moving to hear her welcome us to country in her native tongue at the commencement of each board meeting. The ceremony serves as an important reminder of why we operate and whom we seek to serve.

We are blessed to also have Nena Carroll as Aboriginal Representative on our board. Nena works closely with Aboriginal youth, educating them in Aboriginal culture and tradition. Nena provides our board with valuable insights into Aboriginal culture and community.

Keda Ley rounds out our board, guiding us with her knowledge in the areas of law, finance and domestic violence support services.



Jasmine Knight-Smith has generously donated her time throughout the year as minute-taker for the board. Thank you for volunteering your time with us Jasmine; it's been a pleasure to have you with us.

To our wonderful staff, headed up by the much-loved Jillian Knight-Smith, each and every one of you is a valued member of our team. The organisation is privileged to have you work with us, and our clients are blessed to receive your support. The board sincerely thanks you for your hard work, your dedication and for always going that extra mile. There are countless women and children who lead better lives as a result of the work you do.

To each volunteer, your time and gifts given to Women Up North is appreciated; our clients and our organisation are enriched by your generosity.

I would like to acknowledge all of our quiet, behind-the-scenes partners, without whose help we Women Up North would not be able to provide the many needs of our clients. I thank you on their behalf and look forward to your ongoing support.

Thanks go also to our funding partners, On Track Community Programs (operating as 3SA) for your support over the last contract period. We look forward to continuing in this partnership over the years to come.

To our Executive Officer Jillian; wow, another exceptional year of hard work and complete dedication to Women Up North. You always exceed our expectations and it is yet another privilege to work with you.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone who has supported Women Up North in the past year. It is a team effort to keep delivering great services to our particular clients, to help them on their path to a better life. It is a privilege for me to chair this tight-knit organisation comprising dedicated and hard-working women.

Louise Lancett
Chairperson

2016-17 Board Skills Matrix

Chairperson	Treasurer	Acting Secretary	Member	Aboriginal Elder member & Mentor	Aboriginal member	Member	Board support non-voting member
Louise Lancett 2017	Britt Huxtable 2017	Amanda Meade 2017	Keda Ley 2017	Rev Dorothy Gordon Harris 2017	Nena Carroll 2017	Linda Bristow 2017	Jasmine Knight Smith 2017
SKILLS	SKILLS	SKILLS	SKILLS	SKILLS	SKILLS	SKILLS	SKILLS
Large Boards experience Lifeline Counsellor Experience in funds and donation raising	Study Masters Finance. Housing and Finance manager	Solicitor	Solicitor Study Finance	Community Elder Community minister	Aboriginal family worker	Finance	Para legal

Executive Officer Report

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Firstly I would like to acknowledge the *Widjabal Wiyabal* people of the Bundjalung nation, on whose land the WUN programs are delivered. I would like to pay my respects to Elders past and present, and the Aboriginal people with whom we work and live... *Always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land.*

2017 is a year of milestones for Women Up North Housing Inc. (WUN). WUN celebrates 30 years of service to the community this year. We are looking forward to drawing on our community to help us plan some exciting events in 2018 to commemorate this achievement. Please look to our new website launch for opportunities to help us to share and tell the stories of the women and the journeys that have created WUN.

It is with great pleasure that I am able to advise that our *Specialist Homelessness Services* (SHS) provider contract with the 3SA/OTCP consortium has now been extended to 2020. We are also pleased to note that the complimentary after hours services (DVRE) have been extended until 2018. Thanks to all the staff at WUN, Board members and OTCP/ 3SA partners, whose tireless work has made this happen.

Another milestone for WUN was our successful 2017 compliance for our ongoing registration with the National Regulator of Social/Community Housing (NRSCH). We are also pleased to note the completion of all tasks for our upcoming FACS accreditation.

In 2016-17, WUN provided case management and support through the WUN Wyrallah Rd office, the Aboriginal Refuge *Bugalma Bihyn*¹, outreach in Casino, Nimbin and Kyogle, and transitional housing. These services went out to 634 women and children experiencing Homelessness and Domestic and family violence (DFV).

The WUN Healthy Minds program provider, Judith Long, provided 375 counselling sessions in 2016-2017. Healthy Minds is funded until February 2018, at which time we hope to implement a new strategy that will enable us to continue to deliver this much needed service.

Counselling Sessions provided at WUNH



WUN are auspice of the local 'Love Bites' program. Love Bites is soon launching a wonderful calendar compiled from the creativity of some of the approximately 600 local High School students that attend the Healthy Relationships workshops it produces each year. We would like to acknowledge the work of Anna Tonkin and the Love Bites team that created this project, and look forward to the calendar launch! Thank you to our sponsors Lismore City Council and NRCF (Northern Rivers Community Foundation) for enabling us to continue providing and growing Love Bites.

WUN's work delivering services to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women who are homeless and in Domestic Violence has been further enabled by the introduction of the Safety Action meetings into our local area. These meetings are convened by the Local Richmond Area Command and are attended by key government providers and NGOs to ensure that women at risk receive services to keep them and their children safe. WUN celebrate this important new commitment by the NSW government to the victims of domestic and family violence. This service will hopefully reduce the numbers of offences and deter reoffending.

¹ Bugalma Bihyn is Bundjalung for Safe Place



Amara Bartlett and Anna Tonkin accepting the Love Bites NRCF grant.

The stats in our report show that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are 35 times more likely to be hospitalised, and twice as likely to die as an outcome of family violence, compared to other Australian women. Aboriginal children are also nine times more likely to be in 'out of home' care. The cultural competence of our organisation is the key to meeting the needs of these women. In order to do this we draw on the strength of local community and our Aboriginal staff.

Bundjalung elder Reverend Dorothy Harris Gordon (Aunty Dorothy) is mentor to the Board and *Bugalma Bihyn*. Rev Dorothy and Nena Carroll are an inspiration to us all, as they work alongside our Board and Aboriginal caseworkers to manage the responsibility of servicing the community in an appropriate and culturally sensitive way.

Our Bugalma Bihyn team has had some changes, with new Aboriginal workers Tanietta and Peta joining the team and elder Irene Greene retiring. We miss you Irene, thanks for your great work at Bugalma Bihyn!



Thank you to the quiet achievers of the WUN 2016-17 team: Peta Walker, Lorraine Williams, Tanietta de Launey, Amara Bartlett, Brooke Cotten, Jenny Warrington and bookkeeper Rosalie Savins. Thank you all, for your exceptional loyalty and professionalism. WUN is lucky to have you! Thanks also to our 2016-17 casual team: Crystal, Jenny D. and Stacy and to our volunteers/students: Madeline, Kelly and Joy; and Board support person and talented photographer Jasmine.

WUN is committed to collaborative work. This year we continued in our role as Secretary for the Lismore Domestic Violence Liaison Committee. On their behalf we acquired funding and convened the Lismore DVLC stall at the Lismore Square, and created a postcard campaign "DV Hurts Kids too". Thanks to all the stalwart committee members who helped make it happen on the day, such as Interrelate, Family Support, Aboriginal Health, LBH, OTCP and Womens Health. Thanks also to Ruth, our DV coordinator for Northern Region NSW Police, who drove up with cut out props Edwina and Edward to put a finishing touch to the stall.

Our Board is an exceptionally committed and strong team, with Chair Louise Lancett, Treasurer Britt Huxtable, Secretary Amanda Meade, Aboriginal Mentor Dorothy Gordon, Aboriginal member Nena Carroll and members Keda Ley and Linda Bristow. I feel very fortunate to work alongside such talented and capable women.

WUN is committed to the principles of practice that inform learning. In 2016 –17 our internal practices and external relationships with learning institutions and organisations enabled us to develop our teams, build strength in the sector, develop and learn from our student placements, colleagues and volunteers, model the learning continuum to our clients, and support clients as they re-established safety in their lives and homes and were able to enter into new projects, work and learning.

It is with great excitement that we feature the success of a previous client and powerful artist Ninarae Wally. Ninarae is a strong Aboriginal woman who has allowed us to purchase and display two of her inspiring works. They are featured in our website and in our report. We are hoping this is just the beginning!

Thank you to our many donors and supporters. You have made an important difference to the lives of countless women and children. It is with immense pleasure that I sign off on a highly successful year for Women Up North, and look forward to the challenges and opportunities that we will face over the coming year. I hope you enjoy all the wonderful work we have had the opportunity to showcase through this report, our website and the new Love Bites calendar.

Warm regards to all,
Jillian Knight-Smith
Executive Officer for Women Up North Housing Inc.

WUNH Thank You Page



Louise Tozeland WUN and Manager Alstonville Coles with the WUNH Christmas tree at the Alstonville Coles store. WUN is very grateful to the community and Coles for their support.

1. ZONTA
2. Lismore DVLC
3. Country women's association
4. Knitting for the needy
5. Salvation Army
6. NRCF
7. Lismore City Council
8. Rize Up
9. Uniting
10. Anglican Church
11. Baptist Church
12. Rotary
13. NSW Domestic and Family Violence
14. Coles
15. 3SA /OTCP
16. Helping Hands
17. Lismore women and children's refuge
18. Tweed Valley women and children's refuge
19. Clarence River women and children's refuge
20. Helping Hands /Lismore Community Gateway
21. Casino Neighbourhood Centre.
22. Jali Land Council Ballina
23. Boolangle Land Council Casino
24. Gurehlgam Clarence
25. Federation of Housing
26. Homelessness NSW
27. DVNSW
28. Immigration Access Resource Centre.
29. Healthy Minds
30. FACS NSW Housing
31. NSW Health
32. FACS NSW Community Services
33. State Debt Recovery
34. North Coast Institute of TAFE
35. Community Training Australia
36. ACE
37. Jarjum
38. AMS
39. Rekindling
40. Bunjum
41. YWCA
42. Koori Mail
43. Griffith University
44. IARC
45. WESNET
46. WDVCAS
47. NSW Health
48. FACS
49. OTEN
50. The Allanha Madeline Foundation
51. Homelessness NSW
52. The NSW Federation of Housing
53. Jasmine Knight-Smith for photos
54. Lismore Ladies Benevolent Society-Kaye Johnson
55. Samaritans Purse
56. Coles Goonellabah
57. Coles Alstonville

Case Management

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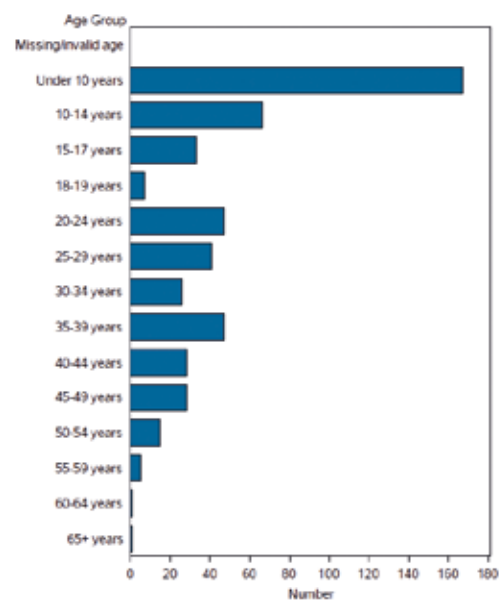
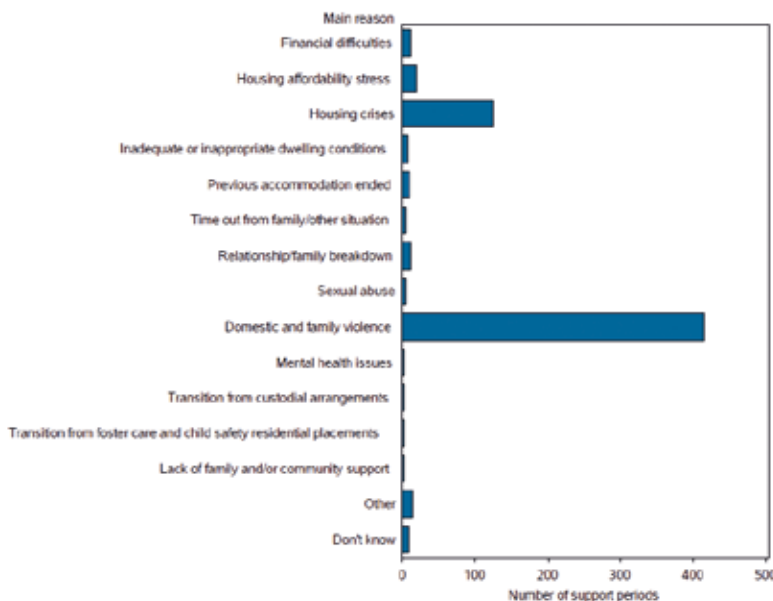
In 2016-17 WUNH provided case management to approximately 634 women and children in the Lismore, Casino, Kyogle and Nimbin region. Our programs support women and children housed in private rentals, transitional and social housing properties, and *Bugalma Bihyn* Aboriginal women's refuge.

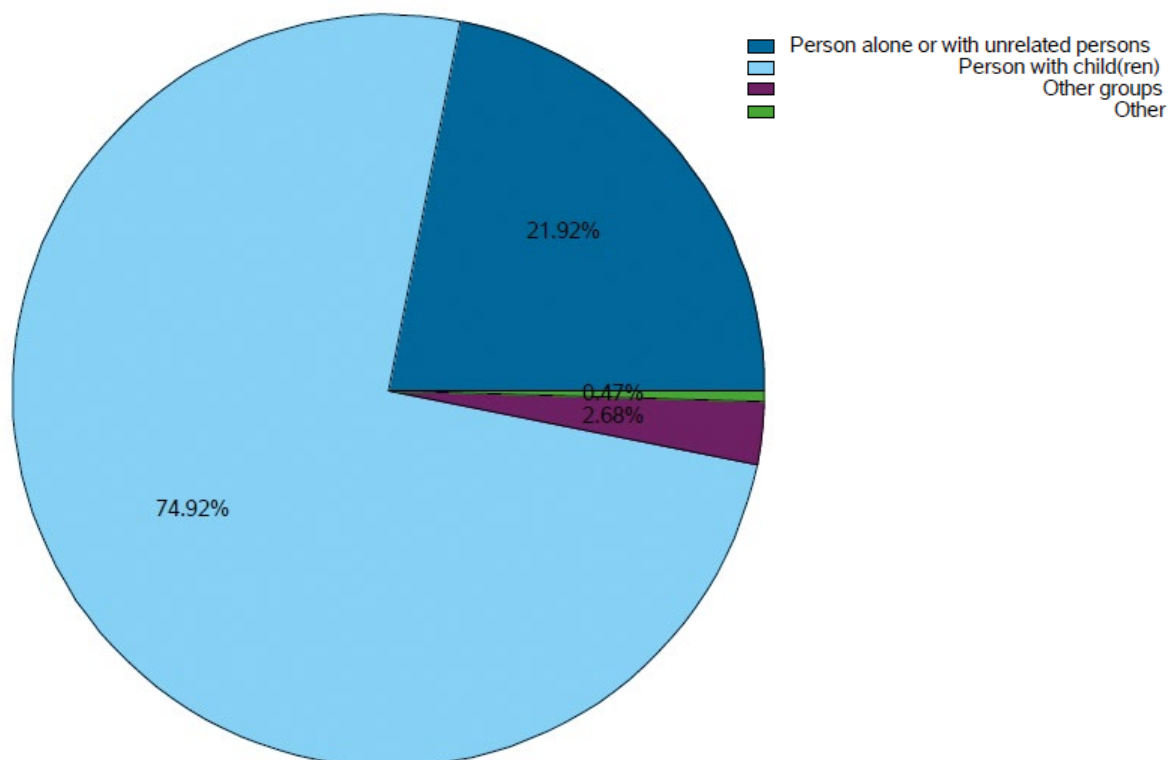
WUN provides intensive case management to support women who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, and who have experienced domestic and family violence. We have been supporting women to sustain their tenancies and prevent homelessness, through advocacy, brokerage, budgeting support and safety strategies. We provide integrated, wrap around service delivery, trauma informed care and strengths-based case management, with the aim of empowering the women and encouraging them to keep themselves and their children safe and well. WUN supports clients with FACS Housing NSW applications, and to access other products, such as 'Start Safely' rental subsidies and Tenancy Guarantees. WUN works with the private rental market and performs Tenancy Information checks.

WUN provides advocacy with real estate agents and assists clients to have a personalised rental pack. The 'Dress for Success' program assists WUN clients to look their best when attending interviews and work, applying for rentals or negotiating with bureaucracies.

WUN also support clients to pay off their fines. As NSW Work and Development Order managers we are able to enable our clients to pay off fines through genuine activities such as, WUN case management and volunteer work, counselling and study.

WUN advocates for our clients and supports them to access government and non-government services that they may require. These include: Government services, Learning institutions, Health providers, Victims Services, other family services, financial services and counselling, support groups and legal services.





Many WUN supported women and children have limited resources, due to Domestic Violence and homelessness. Generous donors, locally and throughout the state, enable WUN to give children and mums care packs, essential items to set up a new home, and Christmas gift packs.

We are pleased to note successes for many clients, who have managed to break the cycle of Domestic Violence, build their wellness, and create safe and productive lives.

Our clients are inspiring. Despite setbacks, trauma and sorry business, they manage to support their children to attend and enjoy early childhood learning and school. They start new projects; they attend adult education, gain employment and many have been successful in getting their car licence.

Despite limited housing resources and a shortage of affordable housing options, our clients display resilience and perseverance in achieving housing outcomes. We are also proud to note the number of women who are achieving commendations on their high standard of property care. We hope all the Estate agents out there are taking note!

We are all very honoured to be walking beside them on their journeys. We look forward to supporting them to be safe 2018.

Amara Bartlett
Specialist Homelessness Services Domestic Violence Case Worker

Artists

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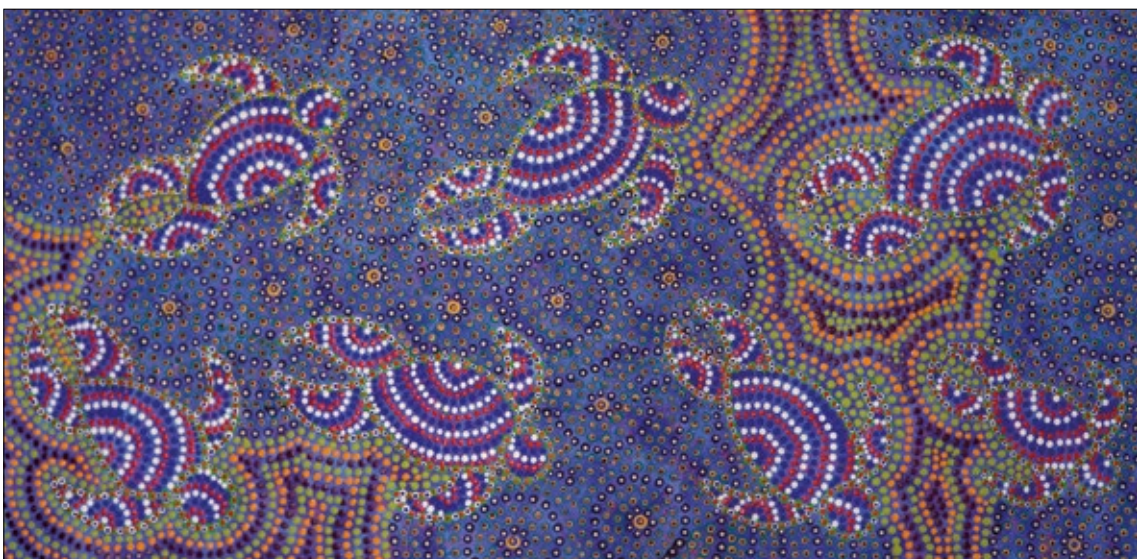
“Thank you Women Up North” Artist Anonymous Banner throughout the Report

WUNH client who needs to remain anonymous provided this painting as a thank you to the team.



Salt water turtles *By Ninrae Wally*

Back in the old days, families would go hunting for saltwater turtles; they would walk for a few hours to the salt water, go hunting, and bring the food home for everyone to share. In this painting Purple, red, white and green represent the turtle and the dark purple, aqua and blue represent the salt water this is to show how sometimes the water can be cloudy and murky. The light green, orange and maroon red represent the rocks.





Marthundia land Family ways

By Ninarae Wally

This painting tells the story about Ninarae's people the Marthundia people. Back in the days of her great grandparents, when people lived off the land they would go hunting for food and stop at the waterholes to have fresh water. Ninarae's people would then walk another hour and a half to the salt water to get fish and turtle, and they would stay and swim. After, they would walk back to their Bower sheds made out of wood and leaf from the gum trees. They would put out their food and share it with everyone.

This painting shows that journey. The centre section represents the palm trees which grew around the water holes; they are green and the water holes are creamy and orange. The land is red dots with white.

Ninarae was supported by Women Up North when she and her family travelled to Northern NSW for safety. We hope her work inspires all women.

About the Artist: Ninarae Wally

Born 12/04/1984 in Port Hedland now a resident of Northern NSW.

Tribe/Skin Yindjibarndi

Language Yindjibarndi

Ninarae was first taught to paint by her grandfather. She then studied art in mid 2001 as part of a course in Cossak. Ninarae's talent was evident and she became a full time artist at BAC Studios in Cossak WA.

Ninarae uses sticks and brushes to express her compositions and often uses preliminary drawings and ideas to base her work on. She also enjoys incorporating contour lines with dots and animal forms that come together as a structured thought out composition.

Ninarae enjoys depicting native and non-native animals and landscape in her works. She has a strong use of colour and uses traditional, Australian and non-Australian themes in her art.

Ninarae also enjoys sewing and textiles, and she makes bags and looks to learning more in this field.

The WUNH team met and supported Ninarae when she moved to NSW due to Domestic Violence. It has been a great honour to get to know Ninarae.

Ninarae's work will be displayed on the WUNH website.

Ninarae and WUNH also hope to inspire other women. We look forward to seeing others also travel this pathway and would like to enable them to display and sell their works.

Over the 30 years of our service to the community WUNH have received, purchased and participated in the production of art works through art based projects. Through our new website we hope to open more pathways for women to display their work and products.

The Organisation

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Values Statement

The following values and beliefs underpin our work with women and children, our colleagues and the larger community.

1. We value women and children's rights to respect and safety.
2. We believe all people are entitled to live in a safe environment.
3. We are committed to empowering women to be independent.
4. We work from feminist and person-centred principles.
5. We value healthy, respectful relationships.
6. We value self-determination and support women and children to reach their full potential.
7. We value the experiences of Aboriginal women and children. We celebrate cultural diversity and inclusiveness.

Strengths-Based Practice

Women Up North is a strengths-based organisation.

Strengths-based practice is a person-centred approach to client work, which assumes that individuals have strengths and resources for their own empowerment. Whilst acknowledging their difficulties, the focus is on identifying and mobilising existing strengths and potential to achieve clients' own stated goals and preferred outcomes.

Working in partnership, the caseworker's role is to assist clients in the process of identifying their needs and solutions and developing their strengths to overcome barriers and achieve lasting change.

Given the power imbalance of the relationship, great care is taken to remain client led and focussed. Clients are viewed as the experts on themselves, and respect is shown for their dignity, rights, unique capacities and cultural realities.





Learning Organisation

Women Up North Housing Inc. embraces the concept of a learning organisation:

Learning organisations are organisations where people feel safe to continually expand their capacity to create the results they truly desire, where new and expansive patterns of thinking are nurtured, where collective aspiration is set free, and where people are continually learning to see the whole together. Senge (1990).

Our Quality Healing Program

We honour and acknowledge the journey of the women and children we walk alongside and are committed to the evidence based principles of The Quality Healing Program.



Outreach 2016–17

In 2016-17 we welcomed Tanietta into our outreach team. Key districts we serviced were Lismore, Casino, Nimbin, Kyogle, Bonalbo and Tabulam districts. Thank you, Casino and Nimbin Neighbourhood Centres, for making us welcome and providing us with office space.

As SHS program workers our primary goal is to resource our clients and help to build their capacity to be safe, secure or maintain their housing, and commence their journeys of recovery from the trauma of Domestic and Family Violence.

Many of the clients we support are isolated by their experiences and distance from services. Using a person-centred casework approach, we support these women and their families to access the information, resources, advocacy and services that best suit their needs.

The outreach role has also enabled WUN to build stronger connections with other services and providers in Casino, Kyogle and outlying areas. We have had the opportunity to collaborate with organisations and case workers to respond to Domestic Violence and homelessness, as well as deliver education and case management to the community. We have enjoyed being able to strengthen WUN's connections with, and knowledge of, the unique needs of the community in our surrounding villages, towns and rural areas of our district.

We look forward to continuing to provide outreach in 2018.

Brooke Cotten
WUN Outreach caseworker

Second Bite Program

WUN and Coles Goonellabah have been part of the SecondBite program since June 2014.



In 2017 WUN delivered, a staggering: 1,080 kilos of bread at 90 kilos, a month, 180 kilos of fruit, at 15 kilos a month and 120 kilos of vegetables, at 10 kilos a month donated by Coles. This food was delivered to WUN clients in Refuge and transitional housing and was made available to drop in clients at WUN and the Northern Rivers Gateway Community Centre.

Women Up North would like to thank Coles Goonellabah and SecondBite for making this program available to our clients, and we look forward to continuing our partnership in 2018.

Brooke Cotten

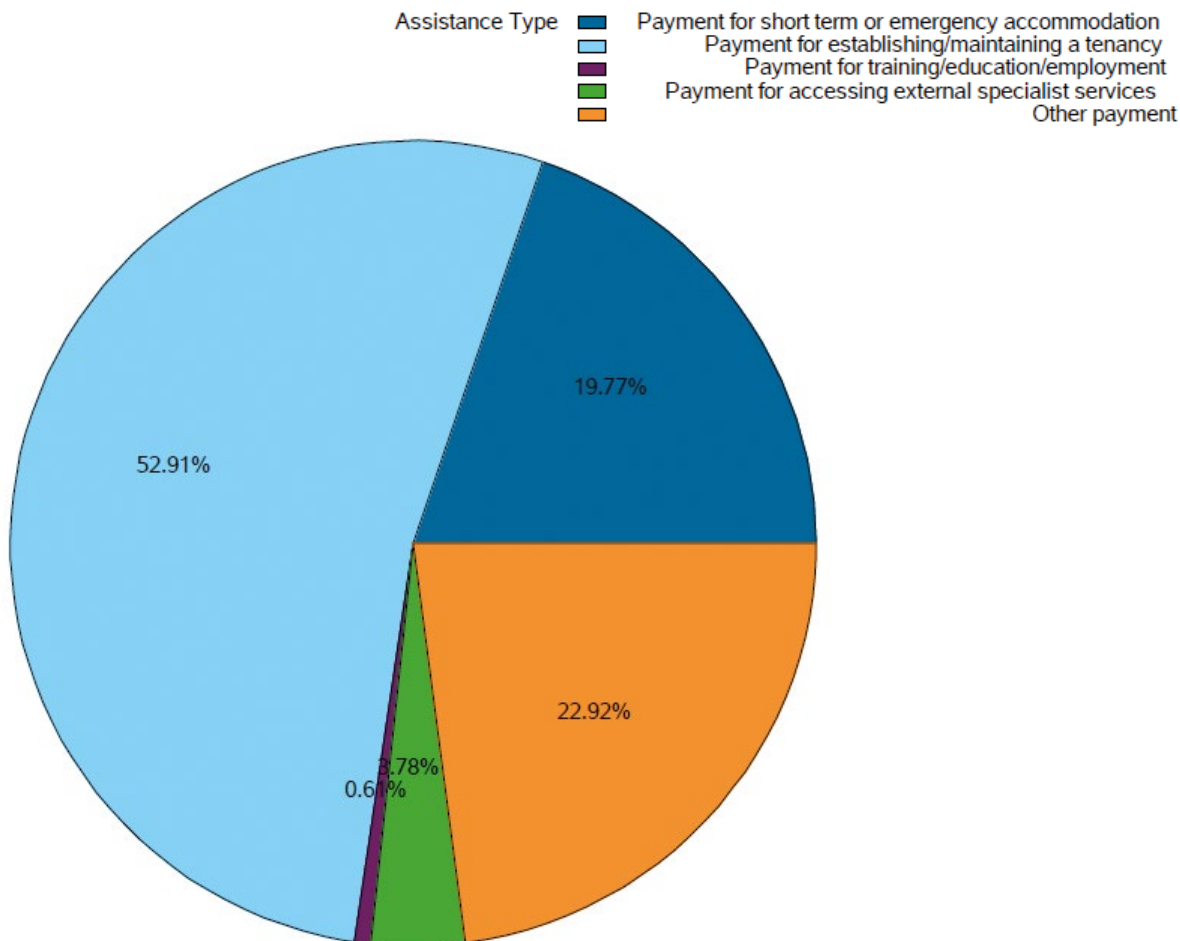
Brokerage 2016-17

Brokerage has become a part of the Specialist Homelessness service to WUN clients. Access to this brokerage has helped many clients at risk of termination due to rental arrears caused by Domestic/ family violence. Brokerage has also been used to assist clients to:

- Pay for relocation costs after experiencing domestic and family violence.
- Purchase furniture and white goods to set up new homes.
- Register and maintain vehicles that provide them with safe transport.
- Access specialist services.
- Maintain and or access work and study.
- Attend appointments.

So that we are able to assist as many women and children as possible, WUN requests that any client that can afford to do so, repays as much as possible through manageable instalments.

Brooke Cotten





LOVE BITES

Women Up North auspices the 'Love Bites' program, which has been delivered through the Lismore 'Love Bites' Committee since 2007. Members of the committee are: Women Up North, Goonellabah Child and Family Health, Lismore Women's Health and Resource Centre, Family Support Network, Richmond Sexual Assault Service, Casino Youth Service and the Men and Family Centre.

'Love Bites' is a national violence prevention program delivered in high schools and is comprised of facilitated workshops exploring healthy and unhealthy relationships and sexual consent, where to get help, and creative programs in banner painting and rap/hip hop, designed to provide awareness in the wider community. WUNH have been successful in achieving 3 year funding through the Lismore City Council, to run programs at Lismore, Kadina, Richmond River and Nimbin High Schools. The Northern Rivers Community Foundation has also been very supportive of the program, providing funding each year to run programs at Casino, Kyogle, Woodenbong and Bonalbo High Schools.

Approximately 600 young people each year participate in the 'Love Bites' program in the Northern Rivers, thanks to the support of the 'Love Bites' Committee and the funding bodies. WUNH also hosted facilitator training in the program this year, increasing the capacity for the program to be delivered.

Funding has also been used to create a Love Bites calendar for 2018, which includes artworks created by the students who have taken part in the program – watch this space for our launch date!

Amara Bartlett
Specialist Homelessness Services Domestic Violence Case Worker

Healthy Minds

Healthy Minds is a Federal government counselling services initiative. Women attending at WUNH do not have to have experienced Domestic Violence to be eligible. Healthy Minds counsellor Judith Long is Medicare and Healthy Minds registered. Counselling sessions are free with a GP referral. Since Judith commenced we have been able to increase the days of service delivery and number of sessions provided and available.

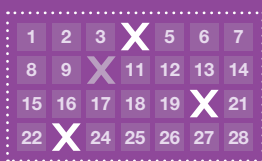
Jillian Knight-Smith

Year	Counselling Sessions provided at WUNH
2015-2016	90
2016-2017	375





1 in 4 Australian women experience intimate partner violence



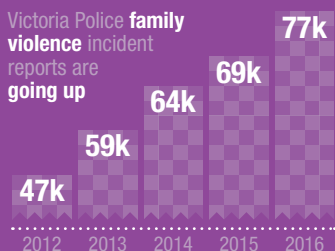
One woman is killed in Australia by a partner or ex **almost every week**



A woman faces an **increased risk of being killed** or seriously injured when **she leaves** or is separating from an **abusive partner**



3 women are hospitalised each week in Australia with a **traumatic brain injury** caused by their partner or ex



Children are present in **1 out of every 3** family violence cases reported to police



Aboriginal women are **35x** more likely to be hospitalised by **family violence** than other women



Women and girls with disabilities are **twice** as likely to **experience violence** as those without

CALD women face additional barriers to **safety**:

- language
- isolation
- strict cultural beliefs
- fear of police & courts
- immigration risks
- financial support



Intimate **partner violence** is the **leading contributor** to **death, disability & illness** in **Victorian women** aged 15–44

Violence against women costs the **Australian economy**



Sources (from top, left to right): 1. Cox, 2015; 2. Cussen & Bryant, 2015; 3. Department of Human Services, Victoria, 2012; 4. Brain Injury Australia, 2015; 5. Crime Statistics Agency, 2016; 6. Crime Statistics Agency, 2016; 7. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework Report, 2012; 8. Women With Disabilities Victoria, 2014; 9. Dimopoulos & Assifiri, 2004; 10. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2014; 11. VicHealth, 2004; 12. PwC, 2015.
© 2016 Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria



The Aboriginal Case management team.
Lorraine Williams, Tanietta de Launey and
Peta Walker

Aboriginal Team Report

Acknowledgment to country

“Ngadhu banhi-gu gulbarra Widjupal mayiny-galang, ngan.gu Bundjalung Ngurambang-ga, ngingha ngan.girra dhurinya gayi. Nadhu yindyamala yuwin-balaay marradhiyal-bu yiradhu-bu mayiny murrigal. Ngadhu-bu dhurany: Yalmambiya mayinygalang! Marunbunmilaydha! “

I would like to acknowledge the Widjupal people of Bundjalung, whose special country, Bugalma Bihyn and WUN work upon. I pay my respects to Elders Past and Present and people from other nations and indeed all cultures. I also bring a special message: Teach the people! To love each other!

My name is Tanietta, I am a WUN outreach and refuge worker and I am a proud Wiradjuri woman.

On behalf of all us at WUN I would like to acknowledge the contribution of retired WUN Aboriginal case managers and local elders Laurel Moran and Irene Walker.

I would like to acknowledge our Aboriginal case work team, who have given me the chance to write our report this year. It has been great sharing and learning alongside strong *Bundjalung* women. Thank you, Lorraine Williams, Peta Walker and our casual support team. Thanks also to WUN worker, Brooke for your support and training and outreach work with Refuge.

Our team would like to give special thanks to local Bundjalung elder Rev. Dorothy Harris Gordon. Aunty Dorothy is a mentor to the WUN Board, our Aboriginal casework team and the Aboriginal Women & Children's Refuge, *Bugalma Bihyn*. Aunty Dorothy's, *Welcome to Country* is featured in the WUN website.

Aboriginal family worker and former tenant Nena Carroll is also an Aboriginal Board member. Aunty Dorothy and Nena help us all to build the cultural competence of WUNH Inc. and its programs. They are part of a long tradition of Aboriginal women, colleagues and board members who have been dedicated to continuously improving the cultural competence and culturally sensitive practice at WUN.

This year has been a busy year for the Aboriginal team. Lorraine, in her role in Land Council business and community work. Peta in her studies, mentoring of new workers and community work; and myself working with our partner 3SA on their RAP, Reconciliation Action Plan and our NSW service peaks on strengthening NSW practice with Aboriginal clients and addressing Aboriginal homelessness.

As Aboriginal case workers, our team works with, and is part of, a community that carries the impact of intergenerational trauma.

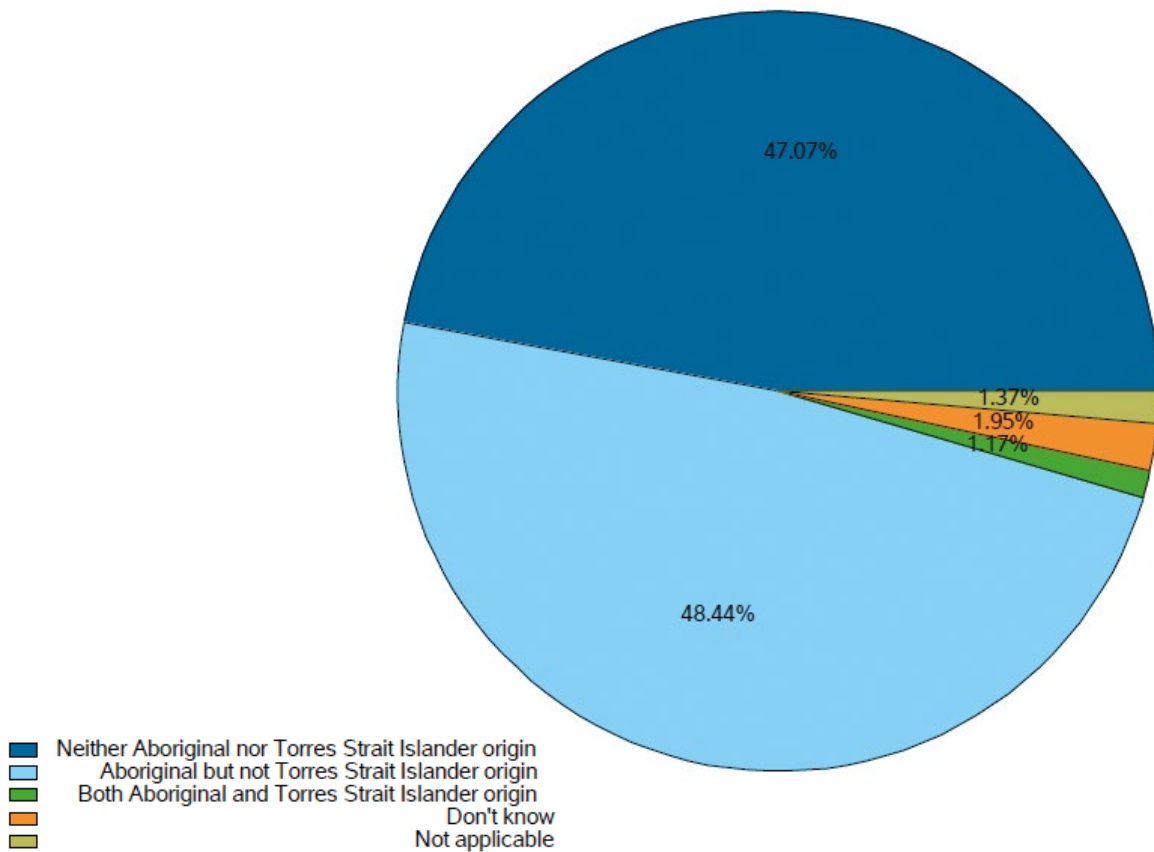
Aboriginal women are more likely to die from and experience Domestic and Family violence and poor health. Our jarjums, our elders of tomorrow, are also victims and witnesses of the cycle of Domestic and Family Violence and the separation from family and community it can cause.

Our culture is based on connectedness to our land and each other, and so it is very hard for Aboriginal people to leave or name family violence. The WUN team strive to empower and enable women to have safe relationships. Our team would like to acknowledge our community colleagues who are working alongside us in modelling safe lifestyles, and working to build a network of safety and healing for our communities.

Education and knowledge is a powerful tool for change for Aboriginal women and their people. It is an honour to walk alongside women on their journey and exciting to witness them become work and study ready, once they and their family re-establish a safe home.

Ninarae is one of those women. Ninarae and her two sons found safety and rebuilt their lives after being in Bugalma Bihyn and WUN housing. This has given Ninarae the opportunity to further explore her powerful art. Ninarae Wally has allowed us to purchase 2 of her works and has given us permission to feature this art and her story in our Annual report and website. Ninarae is a strong model for all us and we are humbled by her gentle strength, which shines through her work.

Tanietta de Launey



Treasurer's Report

WUN Annual Report



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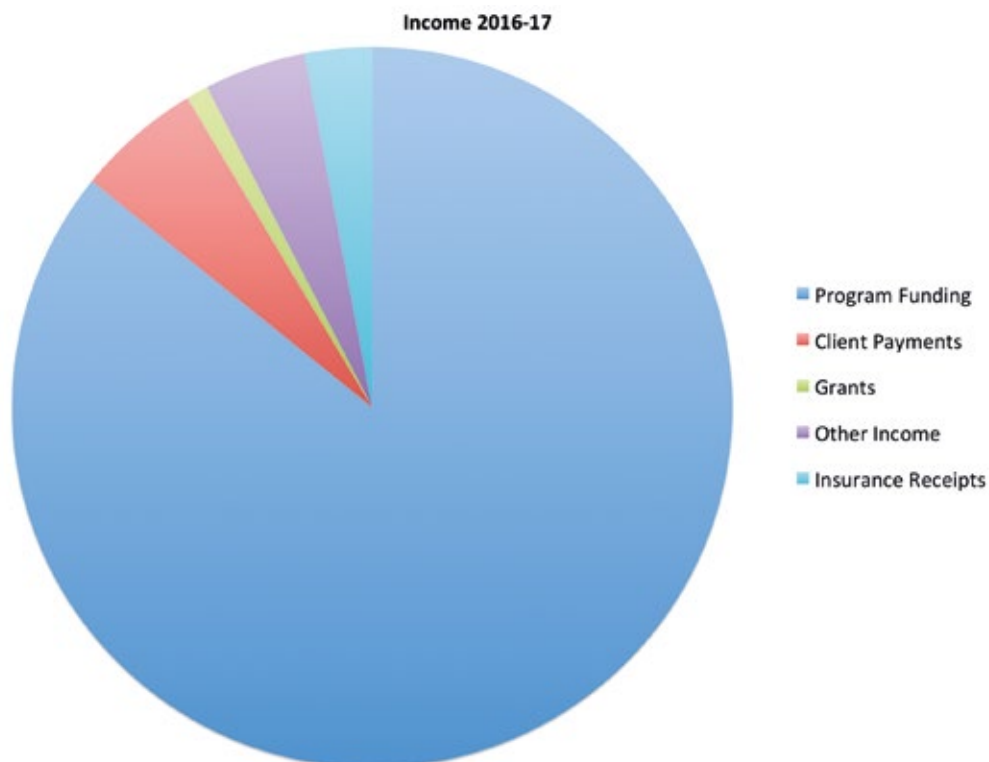
Women Up North Housing Inc. completed the 2016-17 financial year with a surplus of \$23,092, owing substantially to the proceeds from an insurance claim as a result of flooding. Total income from insurance receipts came to \$19,439, resulting in a "relative" operating surplus of \$3,653.

Women Up North derives income from four sources:

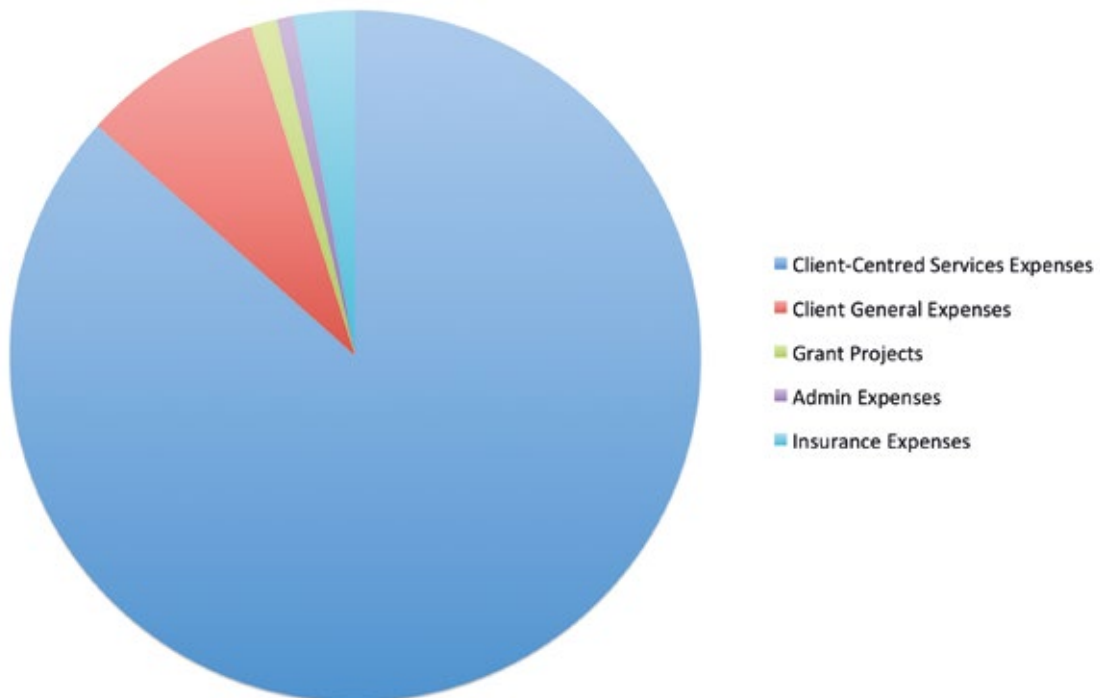
- Service level funding agreement
- Client payments
- Grant funding
- Other, mainly donations and income from hiring out the group room

Women Up North is a tight-knit operation, consistently working to keep costs low and maximise each dollar for client needs. The majority of income comes from service level funding agreements with our partner Third Sector Australia. Funding is provided for the delivery of client-centred services; every dollar of funding received in the period was spent directly on client-centred services.

Client-centred services are service responses built around the needs of individual clients. The service response is based on the particular circumstances of each client, their experiences and choices. This includes individually tailoring the intensity and duration of support and the accommodation setting in which support will be delivered. A client-centred response also considers the needs of the family or



Expenditure 2016-17



household in achieving a long-term housing outcome including building individual and family capacity, skills, resilience, considering the needs of children and building connections to community.

Year on year, Women Up North manages to allocate 100% of its program level funding to case management: a staggering achievement for the whole team to be proud of!

Remaining income was split across client general expenses and grant funded projects, with a minor amount going to administrative expenses and end of year surplus.

Executive Officer Jillian Knight-Smith has achieved cost containment strategies throughout the period; such as reduction in banking fees, and bringing bad debts to zero, while increasing funding to more critical areas; such as equipment upgrades and continuing to boost support systems for workers.

I join my fellow board members in congratulating the team at Women Up North on another outstanding year!

Britt Huxtable
Treasurer

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC

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WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Revenue		642,995	611,668
Employee Benefits Expense		(419,358)	(423,187)
Depreciation & Amortisation Expenses		-	(880)
Other Expenses		<u>(200,545)</u>	<u>(204,479)</u>
Profit (Loss) Before Income Tax		23,092	(16,879)
Income Tax Expense		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Profit (Loss) for the Year		<u><u>23,092</u></u>	<u><u>(16,879)</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand	2	47,761	45,537
Trade & Other Receivables	3	11,330	148,659
Financial Assets	4	133,500	125,140
Other Current Assets	5	3,358	1,054
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>195,949</u>	<u>320,391</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>195,949</u>	<u>320,391</u>
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade & Other Payables	7	33,599	53,508
Provisions	8	22,143	20,950
Other	9	4,970	133,979
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>60,712</u>	<u>208,437</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	8	15,119	14,927
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>15,119</u>	<u>14,927</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>75,831</u>	<u>223,364</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>120,119</u>	<u>97,026</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained earnings		<u>120,119</u>	<u>97,026</u>
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		<u>120,119</u>	<u>97,026</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2015	113,905	113,905
Comprehensive income		
Profit (loss) for the year	<u>(16,879)</u>	<u>(16,879)</u>
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to members of the association	<u>(16,879)</u>	<u>(16,879)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2016	<u>97,026</u>	<u>97,026</u>
Balance at 1 July 2016	97,026	97,026
Comprehensive income		
Profit for the year	<u>23,092</u>	<u>23,092</u>
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to members of the association	<u>23,092</u>	<u>23,092</u>
Balance at 30 June 2017	<u>120,119</u>	<u>120,119</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from Customers		699,325	676,632
Payments to Suppliers		(692,963)	(687,959)
Interest Received		4,222	3,877
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	10	<u>10,584</u>	<u>(7,450)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		10,584	(7,450)
Cash on hand at beginning of financial year		<u>170,677</u>	<u>178,127</u>
Cash on hand at end of financial year	10	<u><u>181,261</u></u>	<u><u>170,677</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

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1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 2009 New South Wales and the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012. The board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

The financial statements have been authorised for issue by the members of the association.

(a) Income Tax

The association is exempt from income tax in accordance with subdivision 50 A Various Exempt Entities of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(b) Property, Plant and Equipment

All property, plant and equipment except for freehold land and buildings are initially measured at cost and are depreciated over their useful lives to the association.

(c) Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

(d) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee annual leave benefits have been measured at the nominal amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus any related on-costs. Other long-term employee benefits are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on corporate bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Both annual leave and long service leave are recognised within the provisions liability.

(e) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Provisions are measured using the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

(f) Government Grants

Government grants are recognised at fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all grant conditions will be met. Grants relating to expense items are recognised as income over the periods necessary to match the grant to the costs they are compensating. Grants relating to assets are credited to deferred income at fair value and are credited to income over the expected useful life of the asset on a straight-line basis.

(g) Revenue and Other Income

Non-reciprocal grant revenue is recognised in profit or loss when the association obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the association and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer.

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

(h) Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

(i) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
2. CASH ON HAND		
BCU High	41,592	17,735
BCU Working	621	325
Visa Debit Card	717	198
Debit Card WDV	817	306
Debit Card ADV	147	264
Women's DV	1,238	5,440
Women's DV Brokerage	1,653	12,274
Aboriginal DV	897	8,350
Aboriginal DV Brokerage	80	645
	47,761	45,537
3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND OTHER DEBTORS		
CURRENT		
Accounts Receivable	11,330	148,659
	11,330	148,659
4. FINANCIAL ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Held-to-maturity investments	133,500	125,140
	133,500	125,140
Held-to-maturity investments:		
Term Deposit - BCU I90	125,617	-
Term Deposit BCU I40	0	122,376
WDV Term Deposit	5,758	1,403
ADV Term Deposit	2,125	1,360
Total held-to-maturity investments	133,500	125,140
5. OTHER CURRENT ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accrued Income	141	305
Prepayments	3,217	749
	3,358	1,054
6. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Motor Vehicles	52,389	63,022
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(52,389)	(63,022)
Total property, plant and equipment	-	-

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
7. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
CURRENT		
GST Payable	10,969	24,232
Accounts Payable - General	6,707	4,754
Other Creditor	-	2,952
Accrued Expenses	10,250	8,732
PAYG Withholding	5,673	12,838
	33,599	53,508
8. PROVISIONS		
CURRENT		
Provision - Employee Entitlements	22,143	20,950
NON-CURRENT		
Employee Entitlements	15,119	14,927
9. OTHER LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Grant In Advance - WDV	-	96,627
Grant In Advance - ADV	-	37,352
Grant in Advance - Love Bites	4,970	-
	4,970	133,979
10. CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
(a) Reconciliation of Cash		
Cash on hand at the end of financial year as included in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash at Bank	181,261	170,677
	181,261	170,677

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
(b) Reconciliation of cash flow from operating activities with net current year profit		
Current year profit after income tax	23,092	(16,879)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in trade and term debtors	135,025	956
Increase (decrease) in trade creditors and accruals	(6,646)	(810)
Increase (decrease) in employee entitlements	1,385	7,112
Increase (decrease) in tax payable	(13,263)	1,291
(Increase) decrease in fixed assets	-	880
Increase (decrease) in income in advance	(129,009)	-
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	10,584	(7,450)



4 August 2017

The Board
Women Up North Housing Inc
P.O. Box 5197
EAST LISMORE NSW 2480

**REGISTERED
COMPANY
AUDITORS**

TW Graham
BBus, CA, FFH

GJ Smith
BBus, LLB, CA, Dip FP

SI Trustum
BBus, CA, Dip FP

TL Kirkland
BBus, CA

**SMSF
AUDITORS**

GJ Smith
BBus, LLB, CA, Dip FP

SI Trustum
BBus, CA, Dip FP

T Bazzana
BBus, CA, Dip FP, AFP*

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

This declaration is made in connection with our audit of the financial report of Women Up North Housing Inc for the year ended 30 June 2017 and in accordance with the provisions of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Act 2012.

We declare that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of any applicable Code of Professional Conduct in relation to this audit.

Yours faithfully,

WCA audit & assurance pty ltd
Authorised Audit Company

T. Kirkland

Tania L Kirkland
Director

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Women Up North Housing Incorporated (the Entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, statement of profit and loss and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and managements' assertion statement.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2017, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* (NSW) and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Basis for Opinion

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

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

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 to assist Women Up North Housing Incorporated to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* (NSW) and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITORS

TW Graham
BBus, CA, FFn

GJ Smith
BBus, LLB, CA, Dip FP

SI Trustum
BBus, CA, Dip FP

TL Kirkland
BBus, CA

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* (NSW) and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with 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 the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

WCA audit & assurance services pty ltd
Authorised Audit Company

T. Kirkland

Tania L Kirkland
Director

DATE: 4/8/2017

158 MOLESWORTH STREET
LISMORE NSW 2480

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

REGISTERED
COMPANY
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your financial partner

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
INCOME		
Interest received	4,222	3,877
Gain on sale of Asset	2,455	-
Grants	6,379	7,497
Brokerage Reimbursement	13,287	11,033
Donations and Fundraising	1,561	3,755
Hire - Group Room	73	-
Insurance Received	19,439	17,222
On Track - Women's DV	386,508	386,508
On Track - Aboriginal DV	149,408	149,408
Reimbursements Received	15,766	3,652
Rent Charged	22,878	26,962
Sundry Income	21,020	1,754
	642,995	611,668
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Audit & Accountancy fees	4,978	4,570
Administration	1,620	1,918
Advertising	880	960
Bad Debts	-	3,939
Bank charges	16	60
Bookkeeper	18,598	16,790
Case Management	71,432	74,824
Cleaning & Rubbish Removal - Office	6,614	8,476
Computer Expenses	2,247	2,436
Depreciation	-	880
Donations	115	55
Electricity	6,968	7,189
Employees entitlement	5,359	7,112
Fundraising	532	-
Group Activities	4,612	2,761
Group - Food	693	616
Group - Materials	465	-
Group - Childcare	1	207
Grant Expenditure - Love Bites	206	1,450
Insurance	3,000	2,891
Internet & Website	2,025	2,647
Meetings & Management Committee	484	684
Membership & Subscriptions	3,492	2,426
Motor Vehicle Expenses	10,193	10,850
Office Furniture & Equip Replacement	3,748	1,555
Pest Control	1,227	-
Postage & Stationery	8,047	3,712
Rent - Office	20,491	20,491
Repairs - Office	8,276	12,333
Salaries & wages	371,255	372,601
Security Costs	1,454	1,772
Staff Training & Welfare	3,494	5,488

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Storage Shed Rent	891	891
Superannuation	35,427	34,844
Support & Supervision	1,050	109
Telephone	8,986	9,230
Travel	1,747	560
Tenant - Centrepay Charges	685	588
Tenant - Lawn Mowing & Gardening	-	820
Tenant - Repairs, Maintenance and Replacement	175	451
Tenant - Telephone & Gas	903	579
Rubbish removal	-	50
Water	202	100
Worker's Compensation Insurance	7,316	8,631
	<u>619,902</u>	<u>628,547</u>
NET OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS)	23,092	(16,879)
Retained Profits at the beginning of the financial year	97,026	113,905
TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION	120,119	97,026
RETAINED PROFITS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	<u>120,119</u>	<u>97,026</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC
STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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The board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In accordance with a resolution of the board of Women Up North Housing Inc, the members of the board declare that the financial statements as set out on pages 2 to 10:

1. present a true and fair view of the financial position of Women Up North Housing Inc as at 30 June 2017 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 2009 and the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012; and
2. at the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that Women Up North Housing Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is signed for and on behalf of the board by:

President

L Lancelotti

Dated:

4 August 2017

9/11/17

4 August 2017

wca audit & assurance services pty ltd
P O Box 198
LISMORE
NSW 2480

We provide the following representations in respect of the audit of our financial statements and records for the year ending 30 June 2017. These representations are made after making appropriate enquiries and according to the best of our knowledge and belief.

General

1. We acknowledge our responsibility for the fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with adopted accounting policies and any applicable legislation.
2. All financial records and related data have been made available for your inspection. All material transactions have been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements.
3. There have been no irregularities, including frauds, involving any member or employee of the organisation that could have a material effect on the financial statements.
4. Except as disclosed to you, there have been no:
 - violations or possible violations of laws or regulations, the effects of which should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a contingent loss; or
 - communications from regulatory authorities concerning non-compliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
5. There have not occurred any circumstances which would indicate that the organisation will be unable to continue as a going concern over the next 12 months.

Assets

6. Assets of the organisation are owned by the entity and there are no known encumbrances on title of any assets, other than those disclosed in the financial report.
7. All assets stated in the accounts physically exist and are not stated in excess of their fair value.

Liabilities

8. All liabilities which have arisen or will arise out of the activities of the organisation to the end of the financial year have been included in the financial statements.
9. There were no contractual commitments for capital expenditure at balance date not included in the financial statements or the notes thereto.
10. There were no contingent liabilities, including guarantees, at balance date which are not disclosed in the financial statements or the notes thereto.

Other

11. No events have occurred subsequent to balance date which would require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements.
12. The company has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the book values or classification of assets and liabilities at balance date.
13. The minutes of board meetings made available to you are a complete and authentic record of all meetings held since the beginning of the financial year to the date of this letter.
14. Tax records required to be maintained during the period were in accordance with the Australian Tax Office requirements (if applicable).

Signed: *L. Hancett*

Name: *Louise Hancett*

Title: *Chair of Board*

Organisation: Women Up North Housing Inc

Introducing Australia's First Financial App for Women Experiencing Domestic Violence

DV Editor • November 24, 2017 Australia, crisis services, domestic violence, financial abuse, technology

Domestic violence isn't a one-size-fits-all problem. It can manifest itself in all sorts of forms, including physical violence, emotional abuse and imposed financial restraint.

This week, Women's Legal Service Queensland launched Penda — an app that helps empower victims experiencing financial abuse at the hands of their partner. According to the Women's Legal Service, 80-90% of women who seek support for domestic and family violence also experience financial abuse.



While the specifics of financial abuse vary from situation to situation, it may involve limiting access to money, controlling the finances, or stopping the victim from earning.

Penda can help victims of financial abuse by providing practical information, including financial safety planning, tips to access emergency money, crisis payments, and emergency housing. The app also helps women to protect their assets in the future, and manage debt after separation or divorce.

Financial abuse survivor and financial planner Hana Nataprawira says this app would have been a godsend when she was in trouble:

"My husband was very controlling. He gave me an allowance for groceries and I wasn't allowed to spend money on anything for myself. I didn't know that there was all of this help out there. Penda would have made a huge difference to me.

"Now, as a financial planner I see so many women who have no assets independently of their partners, putting them at financial risk.

"Knowledge is power. Penda is making the right information available to women when they need it most."



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