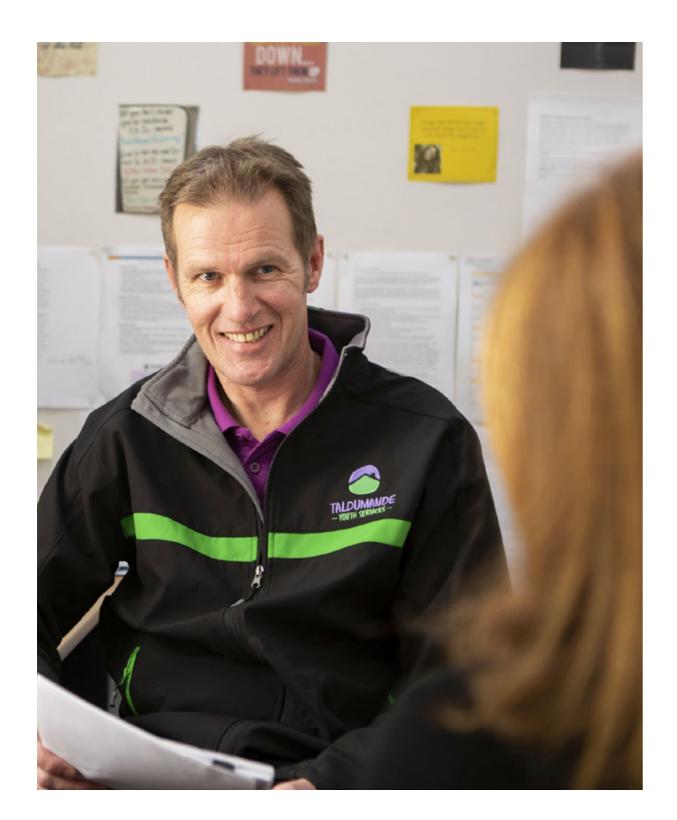


Annual Report 2020 – 2021

Image: A young person in our care painting a mural at our Leith House property during Sydney lockdown 2021

We are with you



"The COVID-19 restrictions, combined with unemployment and financial stress linked to the pandemic, have caused a spike in mental health issues across the country. Taldumande shockingly has seen a 159% increase in mental health concerns in children and young people upon entry to Taldumande since the pandemic began"

Virginia Howard OAM, Taldumande Chair



Thank You, from a Parent
Chair and CEO Report
Our Approach
Mission, Vision and Values
Our Programs
Our Year in Review
Our 2020-2021 Success
Fundraising
Tegan's Story
Thanking Our Supporters
Celebrating Our People
Danny's Story
Our Board
Our Volunteers
Compliance Report
Finance Committee Report
Financials

2
4
6
7
8
10
14
16
19
20
22
25
26
28
30
 31
34



Thank You, from a Parent

Almost two years ago, our two daughters (then 13 and 14 years old) started shoplifting, running away from home at night, and not returning home for days at a time. They began missing school, using drugs and alcohol, socialising with people we did not know, and they became verbally and physically abusive to both their father and me. For our family, respect, love and family unity are of fundamental importance. As parents born in a non-western country, we found it extremely difficult to adjust to the world our girls were growing up in. We were shocked and devastated by their risk-taking behaviours and their refusal to listen to our advice. This kind of behaviour is not common and rarely spoken of within our community.

As parents we tried everything possible to help our children, but none of our efforts seemed to work. We tried to reach out for help from the police and their school, but the advice we received was to set boundaries and apply consequences. This we had tried multiple times before and had proven ineffective. We were also encouraged to approach family referral services and drug and alcohol counselling, though we faced multiple roadblocks as we could not find the right words to express our situation to get us the help we needed, again falling through systemic gaps. As parents, we felt like we were left in the dark, unsure of who would be able to provide us with the guidance and support to rescue our daughters from the never-ending crisis we were in.

A year ago, our situation escalated, our daughters became increasingly violent and sadly we had to involve the police. This resulted in an Apprehended Violence Order (AVO) protecting us and our home from our daughters' uncontrollable behaviour. After this significant event, the police themselves referred us to Taldumande, where we were fortunate enough to be accepted into the Family Restoration and Preservation Program. We received instant support,

and from the first meeting with our case manager, there came a ray of sunshine. By this point we were mentally and physically defeated but we were constantly reminded by our case manager "Don't worry, we are with you". This was very empowering and instilled hope, again, and again, for us to keep moving forward despite the many setbacks.

We have come so far with Taldumande's ongoing support, including our girls each having a short respite stay at Taldumande's under-16s refuge, Emmett House. Our case manager has helped us get our girls the help they needed, they are now engaging with education, drug and alcohol services, psychologists and participate in weekly Family Therapy. They are working on getting sober, and slowly getting back on track. My husband and I have learnt how to respond to difficult situations, we were reminded how to look after ourselves and we also learnt to remember the positives and to celebrate the small wins. We are finally reconnecting with our daughters.

With the help of Taldumande staff, our eldest daughter has already started part-time employment. We feel extremely fortunate to have support from Taldumande. If we did not get introduced to this organisation, we do not know where we would be right now. We want to thank all the staff at Taldumande who are very friendly, approachable, and always ready to listen. We would also like to say thank you to the youth work team for your kind support and endless care to our daughters whilst they were staying in the refuge. The girls have said, "all of you are amazing and caring".

Thank you again for your support for our family.

Of 12-15 year-old Children and Young People within our Family Restoration and Preservation Program were returned home

Chair and CEO Report

Taldumande is an organisation that routinely deals with crises, but it is still amazing how quickly it responds to changing conditions. COVID-19 has hovered over Australia throughout the last financial year, but Taldumande has adapted almost seamlessly to the changing circumstances and health orders.

COVID-19 has impacted young people disproportionately, exacerbating existing issues for young people including family violence, mental illhealth, and homelessness. Young people are highly likely to have lost their jobs because of the industries they often work in, like hospitality and retail.

The COVID-19 restrictions, combined with unemployment and financial stress linked to the pandemic, have caused a spike in mental health issues across the country. Taldumande shockingly has seen a 159% increase in mental health concerns in children and young people upon entry to Taldumande since the pandemic began.

At the beginning of 2020/21 following a previously tough year with regard to donations, we decided that this year we would focus our attention on particular streams of income where we have historically had the most success. Our focus this year was on both current and new high net worth individuals, and we were successful in both areas. Lisa met personally with many of our well established and new major donors via video conference or called them directly to update them on our current situation. In the brief time that we could open our doors several visited our houses. As a result, our total fundraising was up and our very grateful thanks go to all our donors and the foundations who support us, especially the Neilson Foundation that has been so generous over many years.

Good luck with timing allowed us to hold our Gala Dinner in May and due to a number of factors, including so many people wanting to get out and enjoy themselves while they could, it was the most successful one we have held. Our first Golf Day also was a success, and we are looking forward to a second day in December.

While there were not too many opportunities to increase Government tenders, we did secure a federal tender for \$125k per year possibly till 2025 depending on our performance. This contract is for Victims of



Forced Marriage and while the contract has a focus in South Western Sydney we will be called upon to support clients Australia-wide. This fits in neatly with our decision, assisted by the generosity of the Chappell Foundation, to purchase a house in Western Sydney although COVID-19 and rising house prices has made this more difficult.

Lisa was invited to join the Yfoundations' Board, the NSW peak body representing young people at risk of, and experiencing, homelessness. Taldumande has supported Yfoundations in much of its research projects and we have played a significant role in the Under-16 protocol paper.

A very big thank you to our wonderful staff for keeping all the young people living with us, and themselves, safe all year. Taldumande has looked after over 800 young people this last year, 100 more than in the previous year. Heartbreakingly, we have had to turn away 365 children and young people, more than double the number from the previous year. The dedication and hard work of all the staff has been quite extraordinary as they have pushed on despite the stress and their own exhaustion. The Board and

Virginia Howard OAM, Chair and Lisa Graham, CEO

Lisa gratefully thanks each one of them for their excellent work and for the extraordinarily good role models they are for the young people in our care.

All the directors have worked strongly together during this unusual year and their time, skills and support have been given most generously. Our grateful thanks go to all of them: Susan Gosling (Deputy Chair and Chair of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee), Ken Hyman (Deputy Chair of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee), Liz Summers, Don Hannam, Hilary Hannam, Jane Jeffes, Mark Wallis and Philip Wallis, and also to our volunteer Board Secretary, Marcia Atchison.

Virginia Howard OAM, Chair Lisa Graham, CEO

- 5

Our Approach

Taldumande Youth Services is a not-for-profit organisation, supporting vulnerable and homeless children and young people aged 12-24, and their families, across Greater Sydney.

Taldumande is an Aboriginal word meaning 'place of refuge' and was established in 1976 as one of the first crisis refuges. On any given night Taldumande has 71 children and young people in residence. As well as Crisis, Semi-Independent and Community/ Independent Accommodation, we provide Support Services, Outreach and After Care Programs.

Crisis or short-term accommodation provides 24/7 support, and a Case Manager is allocated to the children and young people from day one. The primary objective is to provide a safe, stable, and supported environment. Our semi-independent, shared housing accommodation is where independent living skills are learnt, and an individual case plan is generated. Those living in our Independent or Community accommodation programs continue to be supported by a case manager to ensure they can sustain independent living.

Our programs provide a continuum of care, taking children and young people from crisis to independence. We are client driven, information based, and family focused. We work as intensively and as long as the young person requires to achieve outcomes. Individualised, customised strategies are implemented to ensure the young person achieves their goals while also receiving support for past and current trauma.

Where possible, we work holistically with the family on building resilience in the family unit to avoid and manage future crises. We are highly flexible, highly responsive and our contact frequency is unlimited. We work systemically to take each young person from crisis and family breakdown to



re-engagement with education and the community. We aim to help preserve family relationships and offer intensive, flexible, and practical support with the intention of reducing family breakdown.

Our outcome-based approach ensures measurable change and research-based supervision. Community connection is a priority whether that be connecting to education, employment, recreation, peers or extracurricular. After-hours support and referral pathways are an unconditional provision of our service.

The team at Taldumande have a wide range of skills and training plus years of experience which is an invaluable asset for the young people in our care.

Our case-by-case approach, with the child or young person as the central team member, ensures coordination with specialist services, referrals, and formal and informal partnerships, and focuses on ability and solutions. We strive to improve in all areas of our organisation, bringing best practice and innovation that results in a fluid approach to the support of young people and their families as they navigate their way to independence.

Our programs are tailored to the needs and complexities of the individual child or young person, targeted at providing positive outcomes for young people and their families. We work with young people with so many differing needs both mentally and physically and we have a very high success rate with those who are most vulnerable, and need focused, flexible wrap-around support.

Our Mission

Taldumande supports, encourages and empowers vulnerable children, young people and their families through crisis response, residential care, and specialised case work

Our Vision

We are with you

Our Values

Safety Respect Excellence Inclusivity Integrity Resilience Understanding



Our Programs

Homelessness Services

Crisis Accommodation Program

Our Crisis Accommodation Program is a short-term emergency accommodation service for young people aged 15-21 years, regardless of gender, with up to 3 months stay. The service accommodates up to seven residents at any time, providing a range of intensive daily supports aimed at meeting the individual needs of each young person.

Semi-Independent Accommodation Program

This program offers semi-supported shared housing for young people aged 16 - 21 years of all genders who are transitioning to independent housing. We provide case management support and youth workers are onsite delivering structured household initiatives to increase independent living skills.

Support Independent Housing Program

Independent housing programs are designed for tenants who have demonstrated they are capable of living on their own with minimal support. Young people in this program aged 16 - 21 years of all genders are provided with case management support.

Family Services

Family Restoration and Preservation Program

This program provides specialist case management services for families with children and young people aged 12-15 years experiencing crisis. Individualised support is targeted at strengthening key relationships, developing healthier communication, and providing specific family strategies to promote positive change.

Youth Justice Programs

Young Offenders Intervention Program

This program supports young people who are referred to the program through Youth Justice NSW and assessed as having a medium to high risk of offending. Accommodation is provided for young people who are unable to return home due to legal orders or unsafe environments.

Bail Assistance Line Program

Taldumande Youth Services are in partnership with the Bail Assistance Line (BAL) who are funded by Youth Justice NSW to take referrals for children and young people 12–17 years held inappropriately in custody, and in need of crisis accommodation.

The Girls' and Women's Freedom and Equity Programs

Honour My Choice – Prevention program for victims of forced marriage

In 2022 Taldumande will launch a specialised prevention program working in conjunction with schools across NSW which have been identified as potential high-risk zones for girls at risk of, or experiencing, Modern Slavery in the form of forced marriage. This program will provide education, workshops, case management and a pathway to a new life.

A New Pathway – An accommodation program offering crisis response and community integration

Since 2015, Taldumande has offered an accommodation service tailored to victims of forced marriage for girls and women aged 16 to 21. The service ensures flexibility where case managers are not time-restricted and can offer intensive support on a daily basis using concrete and practical support tools. This approach to support facilitates collaboration on goal selection and attainment, developing a strong working relationship with the young person and all relevant services.

There is a particular focus upon independent living skills and capacity building within the initial accommodation placement and this support reduces as the young girls' skills and confidence grows.

Support Services

After Care Support Program

The After Care Support Program provides support for an agreed period of time (up to 6 months) after a young person exits our accommodation. Maintaining contact with their Case Manager for a further period of time enables the young person to have greater confidence in transitioning and maintaining their new residence.

Beach Reach

Beach Reach is a night mobile outreach service working alongside NSW Police Force, servicing the Northern Beaches. Our role is to positively engage with young people, get them home safely, and free up valuable police resources.





Homelessness

We continued to see an ever-increasing level of need for young people requiring skilled crisis response, case management and intensive residential care. With the complexities of COVID-19, residential lockdowns and heavy restrictions we have had to rapidly evolve and mitigate risks to ensure the provision of high-quality services across all of our programs.

Our youth workers saw first-hand the challenges of home-schooling during the pandemic with young people in our accommodation services. COVID 19 unfortunately meant that the annual ski trip in August had to be cancelled and then the Northern Beaches lockdown in January saw a further lockdown and an end to summer camping plans. The COVID pandemic placed enormous pressure on the mental health of our clients impacting behaviour and presenting staff with unprecedented and challenging situations.

Despite additional pressures youth workers and case managers worked tirelessly to engage with young people and provide much needed support with 92% of our young people satisfied with their caseworker and 76% of young people met their case goals. A standout achievement was that we had six young people successfully complete their HSC, with four of those young people now studying at university.

Our properties have also had significant upgrades thanks to funding from the NSW Government Stimulus Packages and Lendlease. We were able to make our properties feel more like a home to many of our young people in accommodation programs this year. To overcome many of the obstacles faced this year in Homelessness Services we incorporated much needed technology and information sharing platforms into areas such as: intake and assessment, case management, youth work, staff meetings and training. The integration of technologies was supported by our wonderful Finance and Administration department who are always working to ensure our service is supported to succeed.



The New Pathway Program

Accommodation for girls and women escaping forced marriage

Australian Federal Police approached our service requesting access for forced marriage clients after visiting and seeing how we tailor our residential housing programs. While Taldumande has remained relatively silent about this program we feel now that our girls are well protected and it is the right time to join other services across Australia in letting the public know that Taldumande has been and remains very involved in combating Modern Slavery. Forced Marriage is an act which deprives somebody of their human rights and restricts their freedom. Whilst forced marriage is recognised as a form of slavery in Australia, it can also be conceptualised as a form of gender-based violence and a unique, event specific form of family violence. Since 2015, we have provided crisis response, community integration and a tailored living skills program for girls escaping forced marriage aged 16-21.

This year we faced continued border closures and for Forced Marriage victims COVID-19 has created a "behind closed doors" scenario with schools and businesses closed and isolation in place. Our fear is during this time, not only are victims abused at a higher rate, but families will be preparing travel documents to send daughters overseas to be married when international borders open again there will be a flood of cases. While we are able to accommodate the girls in our specialist homelessness service, we rely on private donations to fund the intensive wrap around case management aspect of the program. There were 92 cases of forced marriage reported to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in the 2019 – 2020 financial year with 51% of those victims aged under 18 years of age. Of this group, 70% related to offshore marriage with females aged 15-19 identified as the most vulnerable. In 2019, the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) published a small case study on forced marriage, noting that data is difficult to obtain for reasons that include the hesitation of victims to report to police. Like other forms of domestic and family violence, forced marriage is under-reported due to fear. While most girls entering Taldumande are born here in Australia we are unable to accommodate girls who arrive in Australia as refugees or hold incorrect visas. In 2022 we believe we will see an influx of this cohort and we will continue to advocate to gain support from the Federal government.

The absence of safe and supported accommodation is a barrier to preventing early and forced marriage.

Our Year in Review

Families

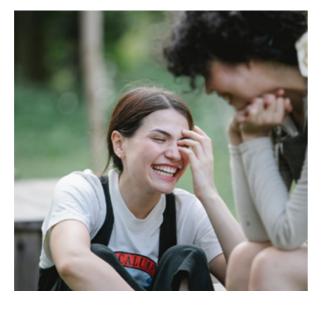
Family Restoration and Preservation Program (FRAPP)

The FRAPP program proudly supported the diverse and complex needs of 39 children and their families despite the ongoing challenges of COVID-19

Prior to accessing our FRAPP, parents were attempting to navigate extremely challenging family dynamics, and all reported they had reached "breaking point". Referrals presented with 82% of children and young teens running away from home, 92% had little or no school attendance for extended periods, 80% had high-risk drug and/or alcohol misuse and 87% had difficulties with emotional regulation and would react with aggression toward their loved ones, 74% were immersed in negative peer groups, whilst sadly most of the remaining cohort could not identify any friends at all. Our FRAPP case managers and youth workers proactively developed strong therapeutic relationships and were able to provide practical family strategies to promote positive change.

Despite the COVID 19 challenges, families who completed all their support plan goals positively improved by 92% in all psychosocial areas. We saw a 90% improvement with family connection, 96% in accommodation stability, 94% re-engagement in education, 67% increased engagement with mental health supports and a 69% reduction in drug and alcohol use. In addition, FRAPP connected 77% of all parents with local parenting education and mentoring assistance. Taldumande was fortunate to have access to a oneoff stimulus funding pool which enabled 18 children presenting with cognitive deficits to obtain costly cognitive and psychological specialist intervention. This provided key treatment recommendations, diagnostic reports, pharmacological regimes, and education aid.

We are delighted to report that 93% of children were able to be restored to their home. Unfortunately, due to limited resources and ever-increasing community demand, our annual turn away numbers totalled 105 local families who were not able to access our program when they were most in need. This is an increase of 50% from last year and is a testament to the critical importance of FRAPP continuing to provide specialised interventions and service delivery.



Youth Justice Programs

Young Offenders Intervention Program (YOIP)

The young people that we support within this program are under the supervision of Youth Justice and have been assessed as having a medium to high risk of offending. Many of the young people that we work with come to us direct from youth detention facilities and enter the program with pre-existing complex mental health, diagnosed behavioural disorders and high levels of drug and alcohol misuse. Due to our successful case management and intensive youth worker engagement in our residential services, Taldumande is pleased to report that 61.5% of supported clients transitioned to further safe accommodation. Young people were either placed in the family home, a residential program at Taldumande, or an external specialist homelessness service. Despite the ever-increasing complexity within this client cohort strong collaboration with Youth Justice NSW coupled with internal management of needs and behaviours, resulted in only two young people returning to custody (15.4%) reflecting how incredibly successful the Taldumande youth justice diversion program is.

Bail Assistance Line Program (BAL)

Our BAL diversionary program supported 30 vulnerable children and young people this year who were diverted from Juvenile Detention Centres, all lacking safe accommodation options. Trends continue to show ever increasing incidents of Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) with 93% of referrals presenting with Apprehended Violence Orders (AVOs) to protect family members in the home. We have seen that this issue spans all genders, the entire range of family structures, and all income brackets. This cohort have all experienced a degree of childhood trauma, they have higher rates of police interaction, court appearances, disengagement from education, and substance misuse.

We saw 90% of children and young people participating in drug and alcohol misuse which led to hospitalisations, induced comas, violent community behaviours and youth gang culture. These compounding factors make it particularly challenging to engage BAL clients and yet our BAL case managers are able to do so more often than not.

Education has been identified as one of the biggest protective factors against anti-social behaviour and delinquency. Ninety per cent of young people on entry were not engaged in an educational or tertiary day program. Pleasingly 76% of school aged young people reengaged back into a learning environment upon exiting the program. Young people with cognitive disabilities are overrepresented in referrals from the criminal youth justice system. There is an under-recognition of the need for specialist supports for those young people with cognitive or intellectual disabilities prior to entering Taldumande's care. Taldumande supported 61% of young people to receive formal Assessment and Diagnosis resulting in a comprehensive diagnostic report outlining the need for disability support services. This made it possible for families to access an NDIS financial package to assist with ongoing treatment and rehabilitation to prevent future reoffending and family breakdown.

Due to the successful outcomes of the BAL program this financial year, we saw an increase in referrals attributing to a 30% increase in children, young people and families serviced.

Support Service

Beach Reach

The Beach Reach service worked in partnership with the NSW Police to address increasing youth crime across the Northern Beaches area and thanks to a crucial donation from Northern Beaches Council and James Griffin MP, Member for Manly, we continued to answer the local communities call for a joint approach in dealing with the problem.

This service provided many avenues of assistance this year to the community and relieved much needed police resources by offering transport to young people who need help, liaising with parents and family members, and providing first aid. We assisted young people under the influence of alcohol or drugs, engaged with and disbursed groups of young people, ensured young people got home safely and provided accommodation for young people in need.

Our dedicated staff conducted 14 nights of Beach Reach with 168 staff hours, responded to the 22 police requests for assistance, aided police on 25 occasions and spent 28 hours in support to the police. The Beach Reach team sighted 911 young people, 167 young people were offered assistance, with 50 young people taking up our offer of help. 110 young people were given information around services available.

Our 2020-2021 **Success**

children, young people and families supported 13% increase on 2020-21

case work sessions 26% increase on 2020-21 case work sessions per day

of children and young people satisfied with their case worker

76%

of children and young people met their goals with a case worker 75%

of children and young people engaged in education and/or employment

of 12 - 15 year old children and young people within our Family Restoration and Preservation Program were returned home

of Bail Assistance Line young offenders were restored to family home or exited to more appropriate internal specialist homelessness services, and external long-term placements including out-of-home care



of children and young people are happy with our services

Why We Need More Funding



and community support

105 families turned away from FRAPP due to no vacancies

201	total hospitalisations 76% increase from last year
136	due to mental health issues 58% increase from last year
65	due to substance use related issues 132% increase from last year

"The rise in mental health issues and drug and alcohol misuse speaks to the complexities and increased vulnerabilities young people have faced due to COVID-19 lockdowns, lack of part-time work, no onsite schooling/TAFE and numerous roadblocks to accessing specialised mental health supports." Alison Clentsmith, Senior Program Manager

client admitted to hospital

a week on average, we have a client admitted to hospital for

365

due to no program vacancies

141

from our crisis refuge due to no available beds

court appearances 105% increase from last year 173

interactions with police 89% increase from last year 703

"This year has truly shown us that we need to urgently scale up our resources to meet the needs of the increasing numbers of young people at risk of homelessness and who are homeless. This means we need more case workers and youth workers on the ground intervening and redirecting children and young people away from homelessness and the youth justice system. To do this it is critical that we raise more funding." Lisa Graham, CEO



a week on average, we have a client admitted to hospital due to substance use related issues



At Taldumande, we are so grateful for the continued support from our donors this year, especially since we have seen another turbulent year due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Despite these challenging conditions, due to multiple lockdowns and government ordered restrictions, Taldumande had one of our most successful fundraising years to date.

This year, Taldumande raised \$944,826 from individual giving, community and corporate donations, fundraising activities, events, and grants.

We received regular and strong support from our dedicated major donors, as well as an increase in corporate and individual donations through our appeals, a testament of our community pulling together in times of need to help our most vulnerable.

It is only through the support of these individuals, groups, and organisations that we can continue our vital work supporting homeless and vulnerable children and young people and their families. Each year we manage to help more children and young people and we do this by fully or partially funding our programs with donations and grants.

We were fortunate to be able to hold two fundraising events over 2020-21, our Golf Day Fundraiser in November and our Gala Dinner in May, our Gala Dinner being our most successful event to date. We were so thankful to have had the room full of such wonderful support from our community at both events.

We would like to thank our Gala Dinner Gold Sponsor, CBRE for supporting us, as well as donating so generously on the night. We would also like to thank our Silver Sponsor Multiplex for their generous support.



 Taleh Holland

 Community Engagement and Fundraising Coordinator

We were delighted to have had our Patron, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, Governor of New South Wales, in attendance and to have heard her thought and heart provoking speech on the Youth Homelessness crisis.

With Taldumande Ambassador Jean Kittson as our MC, guest appearances by Trent Zimmerman MP and Ambassador Ciaran Lyons, moving speeches by one of our young people and a young person's parents, it truly was a special evening.

We thank our Golf Day Sponsor, Grocery Corp for their generous support to Taldumande. Attendees had a fun filled day of golf followed by lunch, with Ambassador Jean Kittson as our MC, one of our young people sharing their compelling story and Ambassador Ciaran Lyons sharing his experience on the SBS program 'Filthy Rich and Homeless'.

Our successful events and generous donor support have helped us get back on track from significant losses due to our cancelled major fundraising Gala Dinner event of 2019-20. With the proceeds we will be able to revisit our expansion project that was put on hold last year, the purchase of a property that will provide refuge to more youth in need across Greater Sydney.

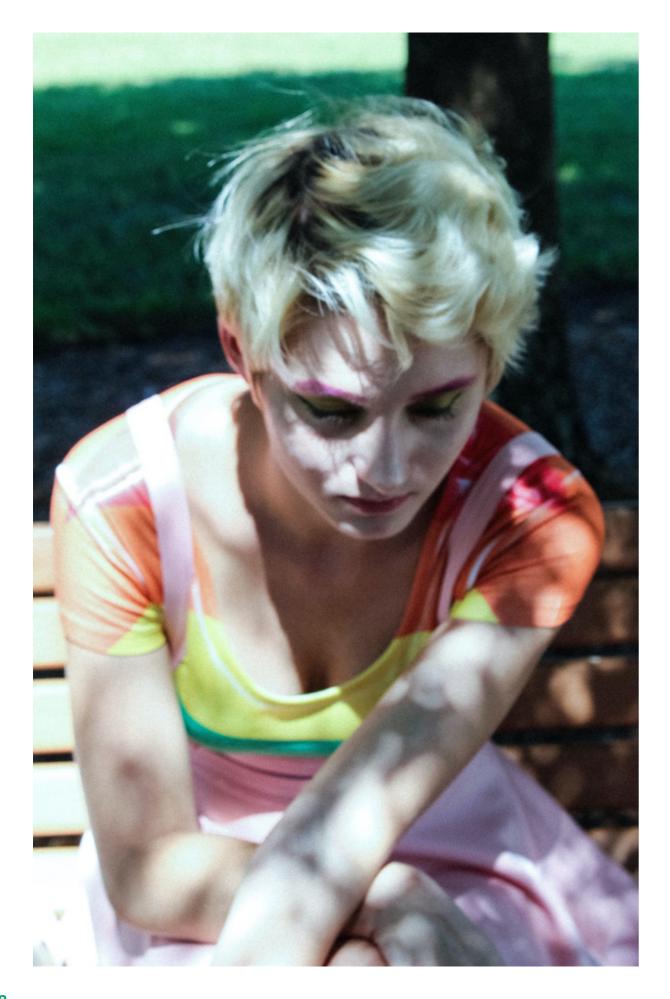
Taldumande continues to be incredibly supported by the community which includes numerous local individuals, community groups, churches, clubs and corporates. Their financial and in-kind donations have enabled many of our programs to continue and thrive. Regardless of the amount, this generosity helped us support so many vulnerable young people in our care.

We would like to thank everyone who donated funds and goods in-kind, attended our events, and volunteered their time so generously over 2020-21. We could not have done it without you.

Taldumande Youth Services is endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) and holds a Charitable Fundraising Authority from the New South Wales (NSW) Government.



Clockwise: A punter takes a swing at our Golf Day; Our dedicated volunteers at our Gala Dinner; Our Patron, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC Governor of New South Wales, Dennis Wilson, Virginia Howard OAM, Trent Zimmerman MP, and Ciaran Lyons at our Gala Dinner.



Tegan's Story

Tegan is a 22-year-old who, to the public, looks like any young woman. On the outside, Tegan is a bright, calm, and caring young person, however on the inside she has faced years of hardship and confusion. Tegan's biological sex determined at birth was male; an assignment she has never accepted nor agreed with. Tegan's gender expression is female and she identifies with many female specific traits and ideals. Tegan was very close with her mother, who loved her whole-heartedly. Tragically, at the age of 14 years, Tegan's mum passed away which led to a deep sense of isolation and loss; particularly given her father was verbally, physically and psychologically abusive. Trying to express herself to the world was one thing, yet it felt even harder when all seven of Tegan's siblings were unsupportive and treated her as the outcast.

Following the death of her mother, Tegan felt she in her and understood the person she had to hide was unable to continue living with her family as for so many years. the traumatic outbursts and bullying proved too much for her mental health. This was Tegan's first Taldumande's housing partner, My Foundations homelessness experience – and she was scared. Tegan Youth Housing, had recently opened a new housing felt it was better to return home than to be on the program dedicated to young people who identify streets; she was not aware of specialist homelessness as LGTBQI+. When her Case Manager brought this services within the community, and it was very information to Tegan, she was so excited. Together frightening for her at the age of 14 years. Three they completed the relevant referral package, eagerly painful years later, Tegan was kicked out of home waited in anticipation, and were overjoyed when she and forced to find safe refuge. Through persistence was accepted. Tegan was supported to transition into and sheer determination, Tegan completed her her new home, where she would be welcomed within Higher School Certificate whilst couch surfing at a community of like-minded individuals and the 17 years, a huge feat. Through the next two years, opportunity for aftercare support from Taldumande. Tegan bounced between five different homelessness Tegan is now thriving; she is living independently and services, desperately trying to find the right support. in a healthy long-term relationship. Tegan expressed Tegan had a strong sense of abandonment and would her gratitude for Taldumande's help at a time when often feel judged, misunderstood and alone. She felt she needed it the most. With the right support, Tegan it was often difficult to find the right help and housing was able to flourish and go on to enjoy life with due to her gender identity. vivacity and hope for her future.

Tegan felt relieved when she was finally able to secure housing through a privately rented granny flat in the Northern Beaches; however, this joy soon led to disappointment when her landlord found out and disapproved of the "lifestyle of being transgender". Frustrated and ready to give up, Tegan's mental health support worker referred her to Taldumande. As Tegan was now 21 years of age and had been residing on her own for quite some time, she was able to demonstrate significant abilities in terms of her living skills. Tegan was given the opportunity to transition into one of Taldumande's two bedroom, independenthousing properties in Denistone NSW. As Taldumande supports young people up to the age of 22 years, Tegan and her Case Manager worked rapidly on sourcing a longer-term placement where Tegan was going to be supported and most of all, feel safe.

Within the three months of Tegan residing at Taldumande, Tegan had opened up and engaged in the case management process extremely well. She kept up her part-time employment as a pick-packer in her best effort to save up for her future. Tegan grew more confident within herself, and finally began to explore Hormone Replacement Therapy as well as prospective study in Fashion and Design. Her Case Manager provided the basic support Tegan felt she had missed for so many years; the use of the correct gendered pronouns, inclusive language, Christmas and birthday presents and just a caring, listening ear. Tegan felt someone had finally believed in her and understood the person she had to hide for so many years.



of Children and Young People referred to us due to family breakdown as a result of violence, abuse, and/or lack of family and community support



We are thankful for all the groups, businesses and organisations that have supported Taldumande's vital work over the past year. Their financial support, donations in-kind, and time volunteering with our staff and clients have made a real impact on the lives of vulnerable children and young people in our care.

We would particularly like to thank our individual major donors and the ongoing support that you give us.

Our Patron

Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC Governor of New South Wales

Our Ambassadors

Jean Kittson Ciaran Lyons Peter FitzSimmons AM

Our Foundation Supporters

Macquarie Group Foundation Neilson Foundation Rawson Foundation The Chappell Foundation Westpac Foundation Halstead Foundation Grosvenor Burfitt-Williams Foundation

Our Corporate Supporters

CBRE North Sydney Johnson Winter & Slattery Lander & Rogers Lendlease MinterEllison Multiplex National Australia Bank VGI Partners

Our Community Supporters

4WD Tours R US 7th Day Brewery Anglican Parish of St Luke Alperstein Designs Arrowfield Bakers Delight Neutral Bay Balgowlah RSL Memorial Club Bell Shakespeare **Belvoir St Theatre** Ben & Jerry's Chatswood Bluedog Signs Cammeray Golf Club Chatswood RSL Club Chiosco City of Ryde Clonakilla Commonwealth Bank **Cooley Auctions Crows Nest Community Centre** Cumulus High Altitude Vinyards Days for Girls Dee Why Gardens Knitting Group Dee Why RSL Club **Dive Centre Manly** Elanora Country Club Ethos BeathChapman

Ferndale Gardens Fluid Building Services FoodBank Greenhill Grill'd Chatswood Grill'd Crows Nest Grill'd Neutral Bay Hornsby RSL Club Hotel Mosman Hunter Valley Stays Huntington Gardens Inner Wheel Club of West Harbour JW Corporate Uniforms Kineo Lane Cove Council LifeSource Community Care Lions Club of Manly Luna Park Sydney Manly Drug Education and Counselling Centre Manly Kayak Centre Marriott Lane Real Estate Melissa Browne Microhire MLC Mosman Municipal Council Mosman-Neutral Bay Inter-Church Council Mowbray Park Farmstay Nafisa Naomi Nelson Bay Golf Club Neutral Bay Public School North Sydney Council Northern Beaches Council Northern Sydney Random Acts of Kindness NORTHS Sydney Leagues Club Nutie **Opera** Australia OzHarvest PCYC Hornsby **PCYC North Sydney PCYC Northern Beaches** Piecemakers PwC Q Station Ravenswood Junior School, Gordon **Red Line Productions**

Redlands **Rimba Sweat** Root'd Plants Rotary Club of Beecroft Rotary Club of Chatswood Rotary Club of Crows Nest Rotary Club of Epping Rotary Club of Lane Cove Rotary Club of Manly Rotary Club of Mosman Rotary Club of Northbridge Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook Savage Designs Share the Dignity SoCal Soul Dining St John's Anglican Church Dee Why St Peter's Anglican Church Cremorne Stefan Tuionetoa, PGA Golf Pro Street Smart Australia Sydney Restaurant Group Sydney Showboats Sydney Theatre Company Taronga Zoo The Barn Quilters The Beach School The Folk and Decorative Artists' Association of Australia The Oaks Hotel The Property Agency The Union Hotel Tulloch Wines Vicki Skarratt Photography Westpac Willoughby City Council YFoundations











Celebrating **Our People**

Our Staff

We greatly value the variety of skills and abilities of all our staff. When their skills are combined over the whole organisation, we are able to deliver the best possible outcomes for the young people in our charge.

The continued COVID-19 pandemic during the year has been very testing for our staff. We are so proud of our people for their resilience, continued efforts, and flexibility around a constantly changing work environment. Their constant vigilance around workplace health and safety has ensured that the young people under our care have been looked after in the safest possible conditions.

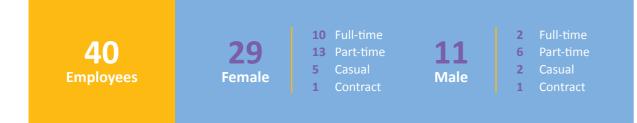
Our workforce continues to be dominated by women with 72.5 per cent of the staff being female and 60 per cent of our Board comprising women. We are committed to provide flexibility in our workforce and as a result the majority of our staff work on either a part-time or casual basis at their request. This ensures that we can address any staffing requirements while at the same time our staff are able to balance their work and lifestyle obligations.

Wellbeing

The difficult nature of the work undertaken by Taldumande can often prove challenging for staff members. In recognition of this, the organisation has a wellbeing program. The aim of this program is to provide team members with the support necessary to ensure they look after their own welfare while we standby to help as needed. As with most organisations, the current COVID-19 conditions are making it difficult for us to physically get together for work and socialising, however we have had several virtual staff meetings and social get-togethers and look forward to being able to meet up again as restrictions allow.

The wellbeing program includes:

- Availability of flu shots to all staff
- Provision of relevant educational resources
- Access to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). This service ensures that all staff have access to a range of counselling and support services which they are encouraged to use
- Access to online wellbeing programs that practice mindfulness techniques and exercise



Our Leadership Team



Lisa Graham **Chief Executive Officer**



Greg Soames Senior Compliance Manager

Helen Fehon

What Our Team Says **100%** of staff are happy at work **100%** of staff are inspired to do their best 97% of staff are satisfied with their world 93% of staff are satisfied with training a



Alison Clentsmith Senior Program Manager



Finance and Administration Manager

work by their team	
·	
life balance	
nd supervision	



Danny's Story

Danny is a 15-year-old boy who entered the Taldumande Bail Assistant Line Program following a charge of breaching an Apprehended Violence Order (AVO). Prior to coming into our care, Danny and his family were experiencing major family breakdown. The police placed an AVO on Danny to protect his family following several physical assaults on his mother and siblings, as well as malicious damage to property. Danny had disengaged from school and was partaking in high-risk substance abuse. He was also engaged in criminal activities consisting of petty theft, stealing vehicles and common assaults, leading to six different incarcerations. Danny had been hospitalised on numerous occasions and placed in a medically induced coma as result of extremely unsafe levels of intoxication. In addition, Danny had been diagnosed with anxiety, depression, and ADHD since his early childhood years. These cognitive issues also contributed to Danny's inability to regulate his emotions and lack of consequential thinking.

Danny arrived for his BAL placement, transported directly from Juvenile Detention, with only the clothes he was wearing. The specialised Under-16s Youth Worker offered Danny comfort, kindness, and care, introducing him to his own room where he would reside for the next 28 days. The following day, Danny met his case manager where he was able to discuss his goals and make a plan for his return home. Danny had never engaged with support workers before, but he opened up to his case manager about the challenges he was facing with his family and his drug and alcohol misuse. Together they worked intensively on his support plan, with a specific focus on drug and alcohol use, legal and family issues. Simultaneously, the case manager worked with Danny's parents to support his return home. Danny's parents were separated and benefited from coaching on different strategies including responses in crisis situations, with a strong emphasis on safety and harm minimisation. Over the 28-day period the family were supported to navigate the service system, book referrals for appropriate supports and work collaboratively with Taldumande to meet Danny's complex needs. As the family were in Taldumande's service area, this meant that ongoing aftercare could be provided through the Family Restoration and Preservation Program.

Since engaging with the BAL program Danny has made significant improvements in all areas, the time spent within the placement providing a beneficial circuit breaker. Danny returned home under house arrest and has chosen to be compliant with his bail conditions despite intense negative peer influence. He has not consumed drugs or alcohol for two months, he has not reoffended since his placement, and he continues to stay engaged with his supports with a goal of completing Year 10. All family members have developed greater communication techniques and are able to manage issues that may arise. Danny is not out of the woods yet, however he shows enormous potential to excel as he matures if he continues down this path with all the supports engaged.



of Bail Assistance Line young offenders were restored to family home or exited to residential rehab and more appropriate internal specialist homelessness services, and external long-term placements including out of home care

Our Board

Virginia Howard OAM BA, MA (Hons), Dip Ed, MAICD Chair

Virginia has a background in local government, charity administration and education. She served on Mosman Council for 16 years, including three years as Mayor and one year as Deputy Mayor. She is currently also the Chair of Dougherty Retirement Village and Care Home at Chatswood and a Director of Mosman Community Services. Virginia has been the Administrator of Mosman Meals on Wheels, School Projects Officer for Australian Red Cross in NSW, taught English at Loreto Kirribilli and was Director of Community Relations at Queenwood School and Executive Director of the Wenona Foundation. Virginia was awarded North Shore 2018 Local Woman of the Year for her work with Taldumande, and in 2019 Virginia received the Order of Australia award.

Dr Susan Gosling BSc, MA, PhD GDipEM Deputy Chair, Audit and Risk Committee

Susan has deep investment management and leadership experience with leading financial services firms. She has been a hands-on portfolio manager for over 30 years with a focus on multi-asset portfolios and risk management using a pioneering investment approach and philosophy. Susan is a non-executive director of Mercer Investments (Australia) Limited and a member of the Remuneration & Nominations Committee. Prior to 2020 Susan was Head of Investments at MLC and remains a member of MLC's Private Equity Investment Committee. She has worked in both the public and private sectors in Australia and the UK and commenced her career in London as an economist with the Economist Intelligence Unit and was an Economic Adviser with the National Economic Development Office.

Ken Hyman B Com, Grad Dip Fin Deputy Chair, Finance Committee

Ken founded Antares Fixed Income in 1990, a specialist funds management business within the MLC Group, now managing over \$27bn. He has over 50 years' experience in financial markets and investment management, specialising in fixed interest and money markets. He began his career in South Africa but has spent the last 30+ years in Sydney. Ken is a keen supporter of wildlife and land conservation and is a committed member of the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, Wires and Bush Heritage. Ken sits on the investment committee of the Jewish Communal Appeal.

Dr Donald Hannam MB, BS. (Hons 1), FACEM Director

Don is an Emergency Medicine Specialist at Royal North Shore Hospital. He has nearly 25 years' experience as a General Practitioner and is a Fellow of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine having trained at Royal Darwin Hospital. Don has a keen interest in Aboriginal Health and has previously worked in central Australia as a District Medical Officer and Aeromedical Coordinator with the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS).

The Hon Justice Hilary Hannam BA, LLB (Hons) Director

Hilary's background is in the law, especially as it relates to young people and children. She was first aware of Taldumande and its reputation in providing services for young people at risk of homelessness when presiding as a Children's Court magistrate over ten years ago. Hilary was eager to take up a position on the Board after she returned from a period of time in the Northern Territory as the Chief Magistrate and has been delighted to continue to serve in this capacity as Taldumande has expanded to meet the growing need for support of young people and their families.

Jane Jeffes BA (Hons) Director

Jane is a producer, director, writer with over 30 years' experience in media in the UK and Australia. She was Head of Programmes at the UK's largest radio production company, Head of the ABC's Religion & Ethics Unit and Communications and Impact Director for the G20 Interfaith Forum where she created an Anti-Slavery Taskforce. She has produced and directed documentary films for local and international



Dr Donald Hannam, Ken Hyman, Dr Susan Gosling, Virginia Howard OAM, Mark Wallis, Lisa Graham, Philip Wallis, Liz Summers, The Hon Justice Hilary Hannam, (Jane Jeffes not pictured)

broadcasters and blue-chip organisations such as the Red Cross, NSW Law Society and Unilever. Jane was an advisory board member of Griffith University Centre for Interfaith and Cultural Dialogue. A finalist in the 2020 NSW Premier's Multicultural Communications Awards, she also received a Canterbury Bankstown award for her contribution to interfaith dialogue and harmony in Australia. Her current focus is forced marriage.

Liz Summers BA, MAICD Director

Liz is a Director of SAL Consulting (Operations and Business Development) and has over 15 years' experience in human services. She specialises in the areas of complexity and vulnerability, working with organisations and individuals to develop clinicallyinformed strategic management, operational planning, training and development, policy and framework, quality assurance and improvement processes. Liz is a passionate advocate for young people who have experienced trauma in their lives. She is a member of the Neuroleadership Institute and is also a Director of the I AM Fellowship, a not-forprofit organisation that provides therapeutic services for people who have experienced trauma.

Mark Wallis Director

Mark is a passionate advocate for the rights and welfare of our young people. He is a father of two children and is dedicated to supporting them, advocating for youth rights, working with and for local community, and the global environment. His commercial career was in senior executive Sales and Marketing roles in the IT&T industries, and he is currently working as a licensed Real Estate Agent following on from his successful Property Development ventures. Mark is well positioned and focused in assisting Taldumande achieve its growth and business plans for the years ahead. Mark is the President of Mosman Rotary, is a committee member of Impact 100 North, and former director of Bendigo bank plus a number of other unrelated board positions and is a qualified Rural Fire Fighter and Justice of the Peace.

Philip Wallis LLM Director

Philip is a Barrister practicing in Sydney principally in corporate and commercial law, equity and wills and estates. He is a member of the Bar Association Professional Development Committee. He was previously both an employed solicitor and a partner in private practice during which time he served on several Law Society committees and was President of the Young Lawyers Section of the Law Society. Philip has also worked as an in-house lawyer and in that capacity served on both the New South Wales and National Boards of the Australian Corporate Lawyers Association (now Association of Corporate Counsel, Australia) and was National President for two years. He grew up on the North Shore and is well aware of the issues surrounding youth homelessness in that area.



Clockwise: 3 of our wonderful Gala Dinner volunteers; Our Volunteer of The Year Nominee, Emma Thorburn, and Trent Zimmerman MP, Federal Member for North Sydney at the Gala Dinner; Northbridge Rotary generously providing food from their food drive; 2 dedicated workers at the Lendlease High Street property volunteer day.

Our Volunteers

This financial year we were so fortunate that our crucial and dedicated volunteers were willing and able to assist us around the difficulties of COVID-19 and its many obstacles and setbacks. In July 2020, the Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook spent a day in the garden at our Pennant Hills property; our gardeners at the under-16s refuge made regular visits when able, and our graphic designer was busy designing the 2019-2020 Annual Report.

Over the months our Fundraising Admin Volunteer and Communications Volunteer were busy assisting the Marketing team. Lendlease Victoria Cross and some of their expert contractors kindly assisted with our under-16s refuge and Willoughby property, and our regular gardeners from Lodge Southern Cross No. 91 tidied the crisis refuge garden for Christmas. Our dedicated Event and DJ volunteers helped make the Young Person's Christmas Party a fun and memorable afternoon, all before the Christmas lockdown.

> 1587 Skilled Volunteer Hours



In March, two Fundraising and Events Assistants generously gave their time to help plan our Gala Dinner held in May whilst loyal, longstanding Event Volunteers and a handful of new Event Volunteers helped make the Gala Dinner a huge success. Whilst all this activity was taking place, our committed Board diligently volunteered behind the scenes.

Taldumande is extremely fortunate to have our amazing and skilled volunteers help us deliver the best possible service to our vulnerable young people, even during a pandemic. We also have the support of many local community groups, clubs, corporates, and individuals volunteering their time to provided much needed in-kind support. Without our volunteers we would not be able to do a great deal of the work we do. We are so grateful for their help and support.



Compliance Report

This year we have been kept busy with COVID-19 restrictions and engaging in accreditation with regulatory bodies from the Australian Service Excellence Standards and the National Regulatory System for Community Housing.

We have worked incredibly hard over the year to ensure that all services across the organisation have been COVID-19 compliant and have met the standards of both the NSW Health Department and the Department of Communities and Justice. Thanks to the support of the organisation's Emergency Planning Committee and dedicated staff, we were able to rapidly make many critical changes across all programs whilst still providing much needed assistance to children, young people, and their families. It was great to see that with these changes not one of our programs was required to close over this period and no staff member or client contracted the virus. To ensure we continue to provide quality services now and into the future for our clients, Taldumande Youth Services are required by the Department of Communities and Justice to engage in and pass accreditation as a Tier 3 Community Housing Provider and a Specialist Homelessness Service. Staff have been continuing to work together as a team over this year to make the necessary changes and we will be engaging with auditors from both regulatory bodies in the next financial year.

Finance Committee Re

In view of the difficult circumstances created by the on-going pandemic, we are particularly pleased with the financial performance of Taldumande over the past financial year. Despite these challenging conditions, Taldumande had the most successful fund-raising year to date. Donations from Foundations were the most notable feature. These include the Neilson Foundation which has continued to provide regular strong support, and we have received a grant of \$250,000 from the Chappell Foundation towards the purchase of a property to facilitate the expansion of services. We were also fortunate in being able to hold a successful fundraising event in May which was also pivotal to the financial outcome for the year.

Overall, we have recorded a surplus of \$352,810, of this around \$320,000 is earmarked for the purchase of a property. The successful fund-raising program was key to the 15 per cent increase in revenue for the year, while expenditure increased by 6.5 per cent primarily due to increased employment expenses. Other expenses remained tightly controlled, with covid-related cleaning costs being the only other notable cost increase.

port

Taldumande continues to see a significant evolution in the range and volume of services to young people in need. The level of donations and grants, and support for our fundraising events, from foundations and individuals as well as corporates remain crucial to our ability to expand services going forward.

Attached to this report is an extract from our financial statements. We have had a complete audit of the organisation for the year ended 30 June 2021 and received an unqualified audit opinion. A complete set of our Financial Reports is available on request.

Taldumande Youth Services Inc. Officers' Report

30 June 2021

Your committee members submit the financial report of Taldumande Youth Services Inc. (the Incorporated Association) for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

Committee members

The following persons were committee members of the incorporated association during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

- Virginia Howard (Chairperson)
- Susan Gosling (Chair Finance Committee)
- Lisa Graham (Chief Executive Officer)
- Kenneth Hyman (Deputy Chair Finance Committee)
- Mark Wallis

Donald Hannam

Philip Wallis

Hilary Hannam

Elizabeth Summers (Public Officer and Secretary)

Jane Jeffes

Objectives

The main objective of the Incorporated Association is to provide accommodation options and support services to homeless young people in Greater Sydney. Our services are designed to enhance family relationships and prevent youth homelessness.

The Incorporated Association would like to thank the Department of Family and Community Services for their generosity and for continuing to be the primary sponsor.

Principal activities

Results from General Operations

The joint initiatives with Mission Australia have resulted in increased government funding for general operations over three years allowing Taldumande Youth Services Inc. to provide a much larger program of accommodation options and support to homeless young people.

Results for non-government fundraising

The Committee is pleased to report another excellent result from fundraising activities. These much needed funds have enabled Taldumande Youth Services Inc. to continue two important programs: a youth and family program and a going home staying home program.

Performance measures

Taldumande Youth Services Inc. measures its performance on the quantity and quality of youth housing and support services it provides to the community.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee:

Virginia Noward.

Virginia Howard OAM Chairperson



Susan Gosling Chair Finance Committee

Taldumande Youth Services Inc. Officers' Declaration

30 June 2021

In the Committee member's opinion:

- · The incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 1 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the New South Wales legislation the Associations Incorporation Act 2009, and associated regulations
- The attached financial statements and notes thereto comply with the Accounting Standards as described in note 1 to the financial statements
- Theattached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the incorporated association's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date
- There are reasonable grounds to believe that Taldumande Youth Services Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due and payable

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Virginia Noward.

Virginia Howard OAM Chairperson

Susan Goding

Susan Gosling Chair Finance Committee

Taldumande Youth Services Inc. Concise Financial Information

For the year ended 30 June 2021

Taldumande Youth Services Inc. ABN 67 801 186 046



	2021 (\$)	2020 (\$)
Balance sheet		
Current assets	1,958,476	1,595,700
Non-current assets	99,200	116,851
Total assets	2,057,676	1,712,551
Current liabilities	862,206	849,283
Non-current liabilities	217,395	238,003
Total liabilities	1,079,601	1,087,286
Net assets	978,075	625,265
Equity		
Accumulated funds	978,075	625,265
	978,075	625,265
Income statement		
Revenue		
Net Government program funding	3,672,418	3,443,810
Fundraising activites	944,826	400,373
Rental income	80,238	67,955
Interest received	6,674	23,542
Other income	-	120,007
	4,705,156	4,055,687
Expenditure		
Administration expenses	470,931	475,420
Employment expenses	3,555,877	3,302,035
Motor expenses	54,471	11,905
Other operational expenses	270,067	245,698
	4,351,346	4,035,058
Not surplus //doficit)		

Net surplus/(deficit)		
	352,810	20,629

N.B. Audited financial statements available on request.





Our young people enjoying fish and chips by the beach



Young people enjoying table tennis at our refuge



A young person using their recently learnt cooking skills, taught by our youth workers



A young person rock climbing on an activity day

2 boys having fun at the arcade on an activity day

Our volunteer DJ playing at our 2020 Young People's Christmas Party

How you can help us

Make a donation Become a corporate partner Volunteer with us Join our team

Contact us

02 9460 3777 administration@taldumande.org.au www.taldumande.org.au

Follow us



Head Office

Level 2 38-40 Chandos Street, St Leonards

