

annual report

20/21

Bravehearts

Educate Empower Protect
Our Kids



our mission

is to prevent child sexual
assault & exploitation in
our society

our vision

is to make Australia
the safest place in the
world to raise a child

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Bravehearts acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and waters on which we work and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community.

We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging and extend respect to all Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders.

Bravehearts is committed to Reconciliation and is in the 'Reflect' stage of our Reconciliation Action Plan.



Bravehearts is an LGBTQIA+ safe service provider and an equal opportunity employer.

message from our ceo

For 25 years, Bravehearts has been at the forefront of child protection, working relentlessly toward our Mission to prevent child sexual assault and exploitation.

As CEO of Bravehearts, it is my great privilege to reflect on this past year with admiration and respect for all involved in the important work of our organisation.

In March, we farewelled our incredible founder, Hetty Johnston AM. Bravehearts was created out of Hetty's family experience and the organisation, as it stands today, is a result of her incredible determination to champion children and their protection. We are proud as an organisation to continue this legacy. The efforts and achievements outlined in this annual report tell the story of our dedication to protect children and support those impacted by child sexual assault and exploitation.

Like many, we were hopeful that 2021 would bring much needed relief from the challenging demands COVID-19 placed on individuals and the organisation. In many ways, 2021 is proving more challenging as we navigate the broader impact of COVID-19.

Lockdowns posed varying problems for Bravehearts across different locations in Australia, with our personal safety program, Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure show for 3 to 8 year olds, being unable to be delivered face-to-face in many classrooms. Despite this, impacted teams worked hard to develop ways schools could access important safety messaging and information for parents to help keep children safe.

Bravehearts' Training team answered national requests for consent training in schools, delivered through our ProjectYou! program for youth aged 13 to 17. Child-facing organisations and schools were able to access our world-class training, ensuring children's personal safety was prioritised whilst organisations navigated lockdowns and restrictions.

Bravehearts' Therapeutic and Support Services continued adjusting to the changing environment, ensuring our services remained accessible during lockdowns and restrictions. The impact on children in lockdown is evidenced in the unprecedented increase in demand for our services. Our teams embraced eHealth options and delivered our services via a combination of in-person and eHealth platforms.

Bravehearts continues to be a proud Redress provider. Our small and dedicated 'Beyond Brave' team is considered one of the top National Redress Support Service providers with support being delivered via outreach, telephone, eHealth and face-to-face.

Bravehearts successfully delivered our 24th annual Bravehearts White Balloon Day, Australia's longest running and largest national awareness day dedicated to the prevention of child sexual assault and exploitation. Thank you to everyone who partnered with us, fundraised, or donated on this important day.

COVID-19 lockdowns impacted our 777 Marathon greatly, with the event being forced to move to five marathons in three Queensland locations. Despite this, the event was very successful, demonstrating our supporters' tireless commitment to child protection.

Lockdowns and the subsequent increased time children are spending at home and online has further developed the focus toward preventing online child exploitation. Our partnership, as a stakeholder of the ACCCE (Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation), was further enhanced as we collaborated on key projects including Closing the Net, a ten-part informative and ground-breaking podcast on child sexual exploitation.

As we look back over our achievements through complex and challenging times, we also look to the future. We unreservedly continue our commitment to shine a light on



child sexual assault and exploitation, break the silence and stop this crime from being further stigmatised. We must keep protecting our children as their future depends on it.

To our Bravehearts staff, supporters, volunteers, ambassadors, National Board members, funders, Police, corporate partners, Government partners, Executive Research Advisory Panel and to all who fly the Bravehearts flag, we express our deepest gratitude - without you, our work is not possible.

Alison Geale

Alison Geale

CEO

Bravehearts Foundation

**"We unreservedly
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**- Alison Geale, CEO,
Bravehearts Foundation**

preventing child sexual assault and exploitation

Bravehearts' 3 Piers to Prevention - Educate, Empower, Protect - guide our work towards our Mission of preventing child sexual assault and exploitation, as well as helping us to assess systemic gaps and identify key priorities for lobbying and reform.

Empower

All adults are trained, aware and motivated to protect children, and adequate specialist counselling and support is available to child and adult survivors of child sexual assault and those who support them.

Bravehearts is working towards reaching this benchmark through the provision of:

- Counselling and support to children and young people who have been affected by child sexual assault, and their non offending family members;
- Early intervention programs for young people engaging in, or at risk of engaging in, harmful sexual behaviours;
- Case Management support for adult survivors of historical, institutional child sexual abuse wishing to access the National Redress Scheme;
- Child protection training for those working with and caring for children and young people;
- Advisory for child-serving organisations.

Educate

All children and young people receive evidence-based, age appropriate personal safety education.

Bravehearts is working towards reaching this benchmark through the provision of:

- Personal safety education programs and resources for children and young people; and
- Cyber-safety, sexual safety and respectful relationships programs and resources for children and young people.

Protect

All systems of community and government engage effectively and respond, at all times, in the best interests of the child.

Bravehearts is working towards reaching this benchmark through the provision of:

- Research;
- Policy development;
- Lobbying and legislative reform; and
- Reporting schemes.



our impact 2020/21

4,912



Enquiries made to Bravehearts' Information and Support Line, including via phone, email, website and other channels such as walk-ins.

184

Families who Bravehearts' Information and Support Line team assisted with child sexual assault disclosures.

3,168

Hours spent assisting, supporting and advocating on behalf of adult survivors through Bravehearts' Redress service, Beyond Brave.

297



Families who Bravehearts' Information and Support Line team assisted with advice regarding sexual behaviour problems in children and young people.



58

Gold Coast and Logan families supported by Bravehearts' Child and Family Advocate as part of our Multi-Agency Service Response.

3,816



Trauma-informed specialist counselling sessions delivered to children and families affected by child sexual assault and exploitation.

316

Counselling sessions delivered under The Courage Project, Bravehearts' and Mackay Women's Services' joint initiative, providing trauma-informed mental health services to children aged 0 to 14 who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing sexual or physical violence.



16

Submissions made by Bravehearts' Research team to Reviews and Enquiries.

636

Counselling sessions delivered under Bravehearts' Turning Corners program, an early-intervention initiative for young people aged 12 to 17 who are engaging in harmful sexual behaviours.

419

Number of case management clients assisted through Beyond Brave, Bravehearts' Redress service.

261

Bravehearts 'Ditto in a Box' personal safety teaching resources sold (both Primary and Early Years versions).

102,212

Children who Bravehearts' Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure show was delivered to across QLD, NSW, VIC and TAS, despite lockdowns affecting our education teams' ability to deliver.

12,741



Clients engaged in facilitated workshops (in-person and virtual) including child protection training and ProjectYou!

62

Child Safety Notifications were lodged by Bravehearts Information & Support Line.



providing therapeutic services & support

Trauma-informed Counselling

Bravehearts provides counselling services to:

- Children and young people who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing child sexual assault;
- Their non-offending family members including parents, partners, siblings and others;
- Children under 12 engaging in problem sexual behaviour [NOTE: Young people aged 13-17 with harmful sexual behaviour are referred to Bravehearts' Turning Corners program].

Bravehearts Therapeutic Services had a successful year, welcoming three new clinicians into the Springwood team and a Team Co-ordinator overseeing the Arundel and Springwood teams.

The shift in COVID-19 saw our counsellors and clients alike embrace change and exercise flexibility in delivering and receiving counselling via our eHealth platform. Flexible service delivery has positively impacted client engagement, particularly with carers utilising tele-health and eHealth options when unable to attend in person.

Client confidentiality, wellbeing and safety are always managed with care and diligence. Clinicians continue to work within a multi-disciplinary framework to provide support to children who have experienced or at risk of experiencing sexual abuse and their non-offending family members.

Flexible work arrangements due to COVID-19 has brought about an increased awareness amongst Clinicians of engaging in regular self-care practices and staying connected with the wider organisation to support their own wellbeing. Our clinicians continue to passionately deliver therapeutic support with evidence-based interventions when working with clients.

"We are so grateful for the counselling and support given to our family by Bravehearts. We have nothing but praise for the care and professionalism of the staff."

- Feedback from a family engaged in counselling with Bravehearts

Client feedback:

- A mother expressed how happy she was to be engaged with Bravehearts as she feels there is nowhere else that she can get the specific support.
- "We adored the service we received from [name redacted] at the Strathpine centre. From the very first moment we begun the process we felt welcomed and at ease. I can't thank her enough for everything she taught my daughter and our family. Bravehearts is an incredible program that I highly recommend. I wish there was a way to get access for more schools and communities to have this program be brought into more children's lives as absolutely everyone can benefit from the information taught."
- "We were so blessed to have this service provided at no charge."
- "[name redacted] provided the counselling to our family and was incredibly understanding and guiding. She provided our family with genuine support and care, and moved us to a place I didn't believe we would be able to reach. Certainly, without her help, we would still be in a dark place. We now have a positive outlook and hope for a brighter future. Our warmest gratitude to [name redacted] and the Bravehearts team."



Bravehearts Information & Support Line

Bravehearts' National Information and Support Line (1800 272 831) can be accessed by anyone wanting information or support relating to child sexual assault and exploitation. Our toll free 1800 272 831 Support Line is open from 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday AEST (hours vary on public holidays). Our Information Officers can provide confidential support and advice regarding, but not limited to:

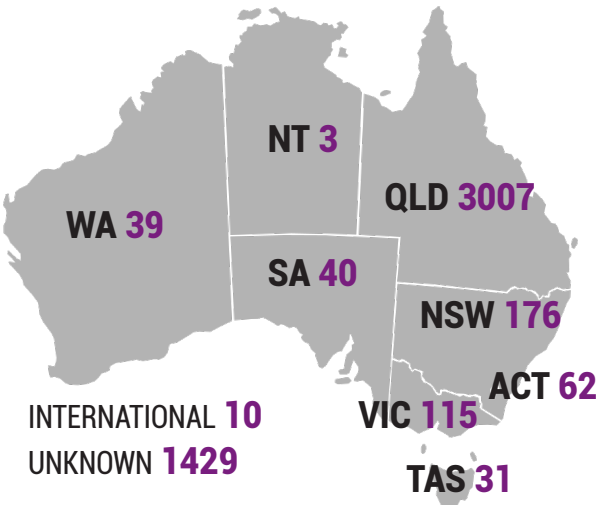
- Immediate crisis support following a recent disclosure;
- Support on how to make a report to state child protection or police (including advice regarding mandatory reporting);
- Advice on what to expect when accessing support and responding to disclosures or difficult behaviours;
- Referrals and information to access appropriate support services.

The Bravehearts Information and Support Line (BISL) team have been able to support 184 families responding to disclosures and provided 297 families with advice regarding sexual behaviour problems. Additionally, our Information Officers have been able to respond to 32 queries regarding family law court matters and supported 371 individuals regarding historical child sexual assault matters.

For the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, BISL:

- Received 4396 calls;
- Responded to 516 emails;
- Conducted 403 intake sessions; and
- Made 62 Child Safety Notifications.

Enquiries to Bravehearts Information & Support Line by State
2020/21 financial year



**“I cant thank you enough for listening to me.
I didn’t know where else to turn to. No one
prepares your family for this.”**

- Feedback from a female caller (Qld) to Bravehearts’
Information and Support Line

The Courage Project

The Courage Project is a collaboration between Bravehearts and Mackay Women's Services, funded through the North Queensland Primary Health Network.

The program provides trauma-informed mental health services to children aged up to 14 throughout the Mackay, Whitsunday and Isaac regions who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing child sexual assault or physical violence. In addition to counselling services, The Courage Project engages in and facilitates community events and education.

The Courage Project officially launched in Mackay in October 2020. With a service delivery footprint of over 90,000km², The Courage Project created working relationships with the Queensland Police Service Criminal Investigation Bureau and Child Protection Unit in the Sarina and Moranbah (Isaac) regions.

These partnerships allowed for prioritisation of referrals, immediate support from Child and Family Advocates, and increased service delivery.

The Courage Project also created working relationships in Bowen, Airlie Beach, Sarina, Moranbah and Middlemount with several schools, PCYCs, Non-Government Organisations, and government offices including Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs.

Working closely with existing service supports and providers is a key feature of this program. The Courage Project recognise the importance of working collaboratively with other services and supports to provide families with best practice.

In late 2020, the Mackay NAIDOC Committee extended an invitation to The Courage Project's Practice Manager to be a part of the committee in preparation for NAIDOC week in July 2021. The Courage Project was also invited to join the LGBTQIA+ Planning Committee and participated in Mackay's first annual Pride March.

The Courage Project hosted two open community events with the Bravehearts Beyond Brave team, with the aim to educate the community on available services and provide information on Child Sexual Assault prevention in collaboration with information regarding the Redress Scheme.

As part of our commitment to educating and supporting the wider community, The Courage Project hosted a number of open community forums jointly with Bravehearts' Redress team (Beyond Brave). Additionally, we facilitated two parent and community education forums during June 2021.

The Courage Project Practice Manager presented at the Closing the Gap Forum facilitated by Northern Queensland Primary Health Network and Hospital Health Service (HHS) in June 2021. The forum focused on creating and growing a healthy future for our Aboriginal, Torres Strait and South Sea Islander communities and improving health and service delivery for the next generation.

The presentation was titled "Working with children and families impacted by trauma; a service response to an identified gap" and discussed The Courage Project's framework and service delivery along with the impact trauma has on child development.

During the 2020/21 financial year, The Courage Project delivered:

- 316 counselling sessions (October to June)
- 64 outreach sessions (Sarina, Whitsunday, Isaac)
- 94 phone/Dokotela sessions
- 3 community forums (52 attendees)



Multi-Agency Service Response (MASR) Child & Family Advocate

In 2021, Bravehearts was successful in receiving short term funding for 6 months to re-establish the Child and Family Advocate support through our Multi-Agency Service Response (MASR), which was previously funded in 2018. Bravehearts' Child and Family Advocate offers families assistance in accessing the support they need and guides families through the child's journey towards healing.

The Child and Family Advocate provides the below support in the Logan and Gold Coast regions:

- Assisting a child/family to provide a 93A statement to police. This can occur at Bravehearts child friendly Arundel office or at police stations within the catchment areas.
- Provide case coordination and crisis support within a case planning approach.
- Provide ongoing liaison support and referrals as required.

Although the Child and Family Advocate Role has only been running for a short period, it has been gaining traction and has been welcomed by Police and other government and community groups who are frequently coming into contact with children and families who have been affected by child sexual assault and exploitation.

The role of the Child and Family Advocate has proven beneficial to clients and their families, with many commenting on the warm welcoming environment at Bravehearts and support provided at the point of need by the Child and Family Advocate.

The most notable achievement thus far, has been the seamless ability to re-establish the previous relationships with key community stakeholders.

Since the beginning of January 2021, the Child and Family Advocate has re-engaged with several agencies, by way of either attending community meetings or providing a presentation to a particular service.

The Child and Family Advocate has had opportunities during presentations to provide further education to service providers around responding to disclosures of child sexual assault and exploitation plus supporting families navigate the often-complex journeys of child sexual assault and exploitation.

Informal education around police processes and the criminal justice system has been a topic of interest presented to multiple agencies.

The Child and Family Advocate has provided over ten presentations to agencies within the Gold Coast and Logan regions including Wesley Mission, GC Health Child Protection Unit, Child and Youth Mental Health Service, YHES House, Logan Centre for Women and Co, DVPC, GC Youth Service, GC Centre Against Sexual Violence, Parents Next and GC Community Legal Centre. There are plans to continue the offering of these educational presentations for the remainder of the funding period.

Clients engaged in MASR over the 6 month period:

- Logan: 11 clients
- Gold Coast: 47 clients
- Total clients engaged: 58

The Child and Family Advocate has been providing a holistic approach to support which includes warm referrals to help clients access suitable services to meet their individual and family needs.

Feedback from clients has been received informally by the Child and Family Advocate. Feedback from parents and guardians of children who have been supported regarding what to expect with a 93A, have reported that "it was nice to see them (the children) a bit more relieved about it". Other families have offered that "You have been an amazing support" and generally appreciate the idea that the Child and Family Advocate is in their corner.



Turning Corners

The Turning Corners Program is an initiative of Bravehearts that provides comprehensive and integrated responses to working with vulnerable young people. The program caters for youth aged between 12-17 and up to 21 for individuals with an intellectual impairment, who have engaged, or are at risk of engaging, in harmful sexual behaviour. Bravehearts Turning Corners Program is supported by Hand Heart Pocket, the Charity of Freemasons Queensland.

Turning Corners was established as an early intervention program built on the understanding that young people engage in harmful sexual behaviours for a wide variety of reasons ranging from curiosity to previous trauma. The program provides an alternative pathway that allows young people who have or are at risk of, engaging in harmful sexual behaviour to receive support earlier, change their behaviour, avoid contact with the criminal justice system, and above all, prevent other children and young people being harmed. Treatment involves drawing on the strengths of the client and has a strong focus on improved outcomes for the client, their family and the community.

After successfully receiving funding through Hand Heart Pocket, the Charity of the Freemasons Queensland in late 2020, the program has expanded to provide counselling and advocacy support to youth and their families throughout Queensland. Of significance, we implemented a Child and Family Advocate to assist youth and their families navigate and understand the service system and access support to meet their needs. The Turning Corners Child and Family Advocate role provides a holistic wraparound support to adolescents and their families/carers who engage in the program using a biopsychosocial model and family systems framework.

Since its inception, there has been a growing demand for the Turning Corners Program, which now sees clients in various sites across Queensland. The program delivers an outreach and support model and has successfully delivered services to young people within their school, Out of Home Care, Youth Justice facilities and remotely via online videoconferencing platform.

Due to the specialist knowledge and skills of the staff involved in this program, we have seen a growth in requests for the service. Over the 2020/2021 financial year, Turning Corners clinicians have delivered more than 636 individual counselling sessions, reaching over 55 individual young people and their families.

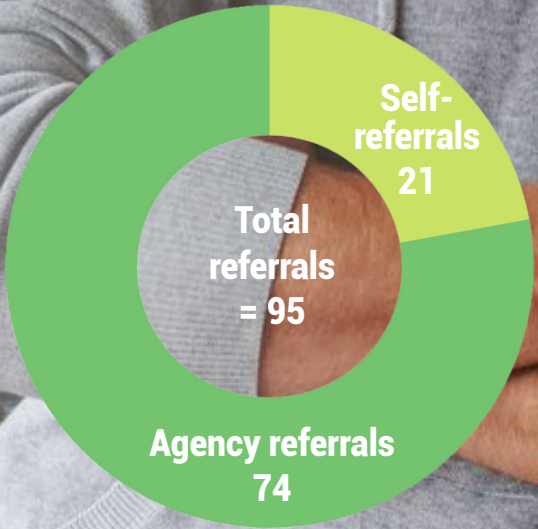
Our program implements a needs-led approach which considers the key needs that a young person is trying to fulfill through these behaviours. We undertake a holistic approach with each young person, many of whom have been impacted by trauma themselves. Through our work, we address the wellbeing of the young people engaged, assist them to increase the possibilities for them to lead a more positive life, and create a sense of optimism and empowerment through the work that we undertake.

The program saw a significant increase in referrals received during 2020/21 in comparison to 2019/20. We received 95 new referrals for counselling, highlighting a substantial increase from previous years. Whilst we expanded the staffing compliment during this time, the escalation in referrals remains a substantial accomplishment for the program.

We recognise that harmful sexual behaviour is a complex area of work, but when we look at it through a cultural lens, there is so much more that needs to be done in this space. Over the last financial year, the program has supported 9 Aboriginal clients and a further 5 culturally and linguistically diverse clients. We continue to work towards ensuring cultural inclusiveness is applied to the program.

Whilst the team is based in South East Queensland, it supports clients across the State via our eHealth platform.

To date, a significant percentage of referrals to the program come from Youth Justice through their alternate restorative justice pathway, with 14 referrals received in the last financial year alone. We have received a further 60 referrals from other agencies including but not limited to police, schools and GP's.



Turning Corners referrals by type
2020/21 financial year

“Turning Corners changes more than the reason why you would come. It changes your life.”

- Feedback from a young person engaged in Bravehearts' Turning Corners program

Beyond Brave

Beyond Brave is Bravehearts' National Redress Support service funded by the Department of Social Services to provide support to people who have experienced sexual abuse as children in institutional contexts.

Beyond Brave offers telephone, online and face-to-face support within South-East Queensland and outreach services to North Queensland.

This financial year, Bravehearts' Beyond Brave team:

- Spent 3,168 hours assisting, supporting and advocating on behalf of adult survivors;
- Made 12,070 total contacts with Adult survivors (including phone, email, eHealth, outreach, letter and in-person contacts);
- Provided support to 419 clients seeking Redress Support (Males = 274, Females = 145);
- Assisted 118 clients to submit Redress Applications to the National Redress Scheme;
- 73 clients received an outcome from the Scheme in this financial year.

This financial year, Beyond Brave continued to provide targeted outreach Redress Services to North Queensland, with a focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and this has led to a 77% increase in demand for our services from the previous financial year.

In addition, Beyond Brave has continued to advocate for improvements to the implementation and operation of the National Redress Scheme. In September 2020, Beyond Brave provided a written submission to the Independent Review of the National Redress Scheme highlighting several areas where improvements are needed in order to ensure that the scheme delivers on its objective of providing justice to survivors.

Beyond Brave was also invited to work with Gilimbaa as part of the National Redress Scheme Northern Australian Indigenous Communication and Engagement Strategy providing feedback and input into the Media Strategy as well as recording a media interview that would be used as part of this strategy for Queensland Remote Aboriginal Media.

“Thank you for being the person who showed me that I would be heard. That is what got me through some of the hardest days while waiting for my Redress outcome.”

- Feedback from a survivor engaged in Bravehearts' Beyond Brave Redress service

educating children about personal safety



Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Show

Bravehearts' Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure show is a live, interactive personal safety program for children aged three to eight, featuring Bravehearts' lion cub mascot 'Ditto'.

Established in 2006, the Ditto program teaches children essential personal safety skills and body ownership using age-appropriate language, song and dance.

Bravehearts' nine education teams deliver the Ditto program to children in childcare centres, kindergartens and primary schools throughout the East Coast of Australia from Far North Queensland to Tasmania. Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure show reached its one millionth child milestone in September 2019 and has now been seen by over 1,151,592 children nationally.

Thanks to generous funding through grants, philanthropy, and partnership agreements in 2021/21, we were able to welcome a new education team back into Sydney. The team commenced in March 2021 and as at the end of June 2021, saw more than 3,300 children at over 55 shows.

Bravehearts also welcomed a second Brisbane team who commenced delivery in April 2021, expanding the reach available to service regions in South East Queensland.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 lockdowns in Melbourne, Bravehearts has been unable to continue with an active team in the region. While we wait for a return to a new 'normal' we continue to seek a new premises for this team. Meanwhile our enquiries for this region continue to grow as we look at alternative options for delivery.

Despite these challenges, during the 2020/21 financial year, our education teams saw over 22,000 more children than the previous financial year; a credit to the dedication of our committed education facilitators.

Ditto in a Box

Aligning with the Early Years Learning Framework, Ditto in a Box is an in-class resource that compliments Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure show, which can be used as a standalone resource, available in primary and early years formats. It includes the principles, practices, learning outcomes and quality areas that make up assessment.

Created in conjunction with the live show and using the same principles and messaging, these resources are designed to support and equip teachers and educators with tools, knowledge, and language to create and maintain a nurturing environment in the areas of health, wellbeing, community and safety.

During the past financial year, Bravehearts saw a 29% increase in Ditto in a Box sales, with 63 Ditto in a Box for Primary (ages 5 to 8) sold and 198 Ditto in a Box for Early Years (ages 2 to 5) sold.

"Dear Ditto, thank you for that show. It made me learn a lot about safety like not to let anyone touch my private parts and to always say 'NO' if I am not comfortable."

- Feedback from 8 year-old girl after seeing Bravehearts' Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure show

teaching young people about consent & respectful relationships

A background image showing three young people with colorful body paint (pink, blue, and yellow) on their faces and hands. They are smiling and holding up their hands, which are also painted with various colors. The image is slightly blurred, giving it a candid, joyful feel.

ProjectYou!

National attention on gendered violence, particularly in the past year, has resulted in a push from young people for greater education about safety, consent and respect in Australian schools.

An online petition started late last year by former Kambala School student, Chanel Contos, in which thousands of current and former high school students shared stories of the sexual violence they experienced, demonstrating the seriousness of the problem at all levels of Australian society. The campaign website boldly stated the intentions of the petition, which garnered over 44,000 signatures from young people:

"As a collective, we call for sexual consent to be at the forefront of educational issues in school, from a young age."

As a result, Australian high schools are starting to listen to the voices of the young people, and this has sparked a significant increase in demand for Bravehearts' consent and respectful relationships program, ProjectYou!.

In the 2020/21 financial year, ProjectYou! was delivered to 5,160 students, a 77% increase in delivery from the previous year.

ProjectYou! explores the concepts of respectful relationships and personal safety for young people aged 12 to 18 years, presented in flexible formats and varying durations to suit the school's needs.

Topics include asserting personal boundaries, resolving conflict, consent and the impacts of pornography.

ProjectYou! continues to evolve each year as the program reaches more young people and we continually improve the content based on student feedback.

Like our adult learning programs, ProjectYou! introduced videoconferencing formats in the past two years, enabling Bravehearts to continue delivering the program in the United Kingdom and Europe after losing our on-the-ground overseas team to lockdowns. Thanks to philanthropic support, from Civic Solutions Inc, Bravehearts was able to invest in custom motion animations to enhance the content and further improve student engagement.

**"This presentation
covered many
valuable topics.
It's definitely a
great safety tool for
people our age."**

**- Feedback from a student engaged
in Bravehearts' ProjectYou!**

protecting children through training & advisory



Child Protection Training

Bravehearts' child protection courses and workshops support and nurture child safe environments within organisations that work with and in the service of children and young people.

The 2020/21 financial year surpassed expectations for Bravehearts' training services in the face of uncertainty, with many of the sectors we support adversely affected by COVID-19.

Our focus on the digitalisation of our services to eLearning and virtual classrooms proved successful with most planned sessions transitioning to video conferencing and bespoke eLearning modules.

A total of 179 workshops or presentations were delivered to approximately 7,500 people across both in-person and virtual classroom formats. There is now a proven appetite for our virtual classroom and webinar offering, so this will continue as a standard service permanently.

Our eLearning capability was enhanced considerably with the introduction of new eLearning specialists and investment in eLearning tools. This has resulted in more visually appealing and interactive learning experiences for our clients. Despite the significant disruptions to schooling and other child-serving sectors, our eLearning participation increased from the previous year with a total of 4,615 registered learners.

A highlight of the year was the relaunch of our 'Child Protection for Early Years Educators' course. Accompanied by our nationally recognised unit of competency, 'Identify and Respond to Children and Young People at Risk', offered in partnership with PCYC Institute, Bravehearts now has a comprehensive offering for educators working with children under five.

Bravehearts' holistic approach to child protection training for schools continues to be popular with large independent schools, who realise the benefits of role-specific learning experiences for every staff member, volunteer, parent/carer and student. As each jurisdiction across the country adopts the recommendations of the Royal Commission, we foresee the demand for this work only increasing.

Advisory Services

A feature of our advisory services is the ChildProtect Program which supports organisations to examine their child protection risk exposures and develop a roadmap toward best practice implementation of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

While this offering was affected by COVID-19, those organisations that have engaged with the service now better understand their child protection risks and have implemented more effective mitigation strategies, including education and training services.

ChildPlace, our partnership with EY, also continued this year. This is a crucial partnership in our work to support larger scale entities and Government Departments implement child safe practices to enhance their organisational child safe culture.

Podcast

Bravehearts launched The Parent's Podcast series on Safer Internet Day in February 2021, with hosts Carol Ronken, Bravehearts' Director of Research, and Mathew Sinclair, Bravehearts' National Child Protection Training Manager. The series featured interviews with industry experts, including Julie Inman Grant, eSafety Commissioner; Professor Darryl Higgins, Director of the Institute of Child Protection Studies; Detective Acting Inspector Jon Rouse of the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation; and Maree Crabbe from It's Time We Talked. The next season of The Parent's Podcast is currently in production.

"I learned a lot and feel much better educated about child protection."

- Feedback from an educator who completed Bravehearts' Child Protection for Early Years course.



researching & lobbying

Research

Bravehearts' research team was busy kicking off some incredible projects during 2020/21 and its role within the organisation expanded, with greater involvement in the development and review of programs and services.

The research team continues to grow a program of work that:

- focuses on the development of an evidence-based response for addressing child sexual assault and exploitation;
- contributes to child sexual assault and exploitation research and literature;
- is proactive in lobbying and legislative reform;
- ensures best practice of operational services; and
- develops community and sector knowledge plus awareness.

In the latter half of 2020, Bravehearts engaged the Institute of Child Protection Studies to complete a rapid evidence check on research and literature that supports 'what works' in relation to child sexual abuse prevention programs. This critical piece of work is helping to inform a review of Bravehearts' Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program to ensure that the content is in line with best-practice.

Bravehearts successfully attained an Australian Institute of Criminology, Criminology Research Grant with lead partners at the Queensland University of Technology (Dr Jodi Death, Associate Professor Kelly Richards, Dr Michael Chataway and Mr Chris Emzin).

This research is an extension of the work we did with Jodi Kelly and Professor Kieran McCartan (University of the West of England) in 2019/20, exploring the views survivors held about the post-release Circles of Support and Accountability program for those who have committed sexual offences. This new project will document, for the first time globally, the views of survivors of sexual violence about post-release sex offender reintegration.

Bravehearts has also partnered with researchers from the University of South Australia and the University of Haifa (Israel), in partnership with Anima-ey (Israel) to research the utility of artificial analysis of children's self-figure drawings in cases of known or suspected child sexual abuse in respect to the therapeutic process. The system, developed by Anima-ey, has been tested in initial trials with promising results. Bravehearts joined the team to explore the system further and to hopefully refine its application. Data collection will begin in the second half of 2021.

In 2020/21, Bravehearts began a research project exploring young people's digital relationship. Bravehearts' Senior Researcher, Dr Rebekah Chapman ran several focus groups with young people, along with our research partner Dr Jeremy Kerr. We have now begun to explore the transcripts and pull-out themes and will look at publishing this research in 2022.

Bravehearts has also developed a research partnership with Dr David Butler & Dr Tiffany Howell (La Trobe University), exploring support dog use in therapy with children who have been sexually abused.

Submissions & Lobbying

While COVID-19 continued to impact greatly on work undertaken through the 20/2021 year, Bravehearts continued its active participation in State and Federal Inquiries and Reviews, providing 16 submissions to a range of Inquiries. This continues to be a critical part of our work, in ensuring that the voices and views of survivors are heard.

Submissions July 2020 - June 2021

- Inquiry into family, domestic and sexual violence [Commonwealth]
- Universal Periodic Review (UPR) National Report Consultation Draft [Commonwealth]
- Consultation paper regarding ability of victim survivors of sexual offences to publicly self-identify and share their experiences [Vic]
- Criminal Code (Consent and Mistake of Fact) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020 [Qld]
- Government response to Institutions who did not join Redress Scheme [Commonwealth]
- National Framework for information sharing between family law, family violence and child protection systems [Commonwealth]

- Review of section 293 of the Criminal Procedure Act 1986 [NSW]
- Civil Liability Amendment (Child Abuse Settlements) Bill 2020 [NSW]
- Improving the Response of the Justice System to Sexual Offences (ext 08/01) [Vic]
- Inquiry into Management of Child Sex Offender Information [Vic]
- Identification of deceased sexual offence victims [Vic]
- Australian Government's draft Online Safety Bill [Commonwealth]
- Growing child safe organisations in Queensland: targeted consultation [Qld]
- National Strategy to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse (National Strategy) [Commonwealth]
- Developing the next National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children [Commonwealth]
- A review of the operation and efficacy of the serious violent offences scheme in the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992 [Qld]

Executive Research Advisory Panel

Bravehearts would like to thank the members of our Executive Research Advisory Panel for their work in the child protection sector and their continued support of Bravehearts:

- Assistant Professor Alissa Ackerman** / College of Humanities and Social Sciences, California State University, Fullerton
- Dr Jenine Beekhuyzen** / Founder and CEO of Tech Girls Movement
- Peter Bickford** / Barrister
- Francesca Brown** / Child and Youth Forensic Outreach Services, Children's Health Queensland
- Professor Leonie Callaway** / Centre for Clinical Research, Faculty of Medicine, University of Queensland
- Dr Larissa Christensen** / School of Law and Criminology, University of the Sunshine Coast
- Associate Professor Annie Cossins** / Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales
- Barbara Cox** / Sequel Communications
- Maree Crabbe** / Co-founder and Director of It's Time We Talked
- Sergeant Cameron Craig** / Child Abuse and Sexual Crime Group, Queensland Police Service
- Dr Melissa Curley** / Political Science and International Studies, University of Queensland
- Professor Kathleen Daly** / School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Griffith University
- Dr Jodi Death** / School of Justice, Queensland University of Technology
- Lula Dembele** / Accountability Matters Project
- Nina Funnell** / Freelance journalist
- Kylie Trengove** / Office of the e-Safety Commissioner
- Dr Terry Goldsworthy** / Faculty of Society and Design, Bond University
- Dr Margaret Hardy** / Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta USA
- Dr Danielle Harris** / Griffith Youth Forensic Service, Griffith University
- Professor Daryl Higgins** / Institute of Child Protection Studies, Australian Catholic University
- Craig Hughes-Cashmore** / CEO, Survivors & Mates Support Network (SAMSN)
- Dr Mark Kavenagh** / Head of Research and Policy, ECPAT International

- Professor Mark Kebbell** / School of Applied Psychology, Griffith University
- Dr Jeremy Kerr** / Creative Industries Faculty, Queensland University of Technology
- Dr Rachel King** / Team Leader, Lotus Support Services, Micah Projects
- Greg Layton** / Founder and Executive Coach, Chief Maker
- Dr Ben Mathews** / Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology
- Professor Paul Mazerolle** / Pro Vice Chancellor for Arts, Education and Law, Griffith University
- Associate Professor Kieran McCartan** / Health and Social Sciences, University of the West of England
- Dr Elspeth McInnes** / School of Education, University of South Australia
- Dr Gemma McKibbin** / Research Fellow, Department of Social Work, University of Melbourne
- Dr Nadine McKillop** / University of the Sunshine Coast
- Ashley Phelan** / Child Abuse and Sexual Crime Group, Queensland Police Service
- Associate Professor Aileen Pidgeon** / Faculty of Society and Design, Bond University
- Kathy Prentice** / Victim Support Services, Qld Health
- Associate Professor Jeremy Prichard** / Faculty of Law, University of Tasmania
- Dr Kelly Richards** / School of Justice, Queensland University of Technology
- Professor Boni Robertson** / Office of Indigenous Community Engagement, Policy and Partnerships, Griffith University
- Detective Inspector Jon Rouse** / Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation
- Tess Rowley** / Corporate Speaker, Trainer & Writer
- Dr Julia Rudolph** / School of Applied Psychology, Griffith University
- Sonya Ryan** / Founder, Carly Ryan Foundation
- Dr Michael Salter** / School of Social Sciences, University of New South Wales
- Damian Scattini** / Partner at Quinn Emanuel Trial Lawyers
- Associate Professor Cassandra Seery** / Faculty of Business and Law, Deakin University
- Lucy Thomas** / Co-Founder/Co-CEO, Project Rockit
- Rosie Thomas** / Co-Founder/Co-CEO, Project Rockit
- Matt Tyler** / Executive Director, Men's Project, Jesuit Social Services
- Sheryle Vilencia** / Psychologist
- Liz Walker** / Managing Director, Youth Wellbeing Project
- Dr Kerryann Walsh** / Faculty of Education, Queensland University of Technology
- Karyn Walsh AM** / CEO, Micah Projects





**engaging our
community &
raising funds**

Bravehearts' 777 Marathon 2021

Bravehearts' 777 Marathon is Australia's mightiest ultra-marathon that sees participants running 7 marathons in 7 states in 7 consecutive days.

The 777 Marathon (777) started in 2013 as a unique way for individuals to raise funds and awareness for Bravehearts and the prevention of child sexual assault and exploitation.

COVID-19 travel and border restrictions continued to affect 777 this year. The traditional format of the event taking place across seven states was revised, with all seven marathons planned to take place in Queensland only (Toowoomba, Brisbane, Mount Isa, Cairns, Townsville, Mackay and Gold Coast). This decision was made to help mitigate risk for both the runners and the event itself.

Unfortunately, as this pandemic has demonstrated, changes to plans are quickly forced. Just one day into the event, several Queensland Local Government Areas were plunged into lockdown and South East Queensland declared a hotspot.

This foiled our travel ability and posed too great a risk to our runners, so quick decisions were made to reduce the event locations, with some runners choosing to fly home to their respective states and complete the challenge virtually.

Despite the COVID-19 spanner being thrown into the works, our 777 runners, staff and volunteers made the best out of the situation and still managed to have fun, run and raise much-needed funds for Bravehearts.

Thank you to our amazing runners, volunteers and 2021 Bravehearts 777 Marathon sponsors - Fisiocrem, Autopact Foundation, Run Down Under, Thrifty, Lions International, Nutrifit Meals, The St. Food Co. and Alpha Vital.

777 Marathon National Runners 2021

Matt Arnold
Darren Barlow
Jennifer Bell
Daniel Bell
Stephanie Brown
Janet Cox
Stacey Dowling
Richard Egan
Adam Engel
Laura Firth
Chris Glacken
Isaac Harris
Brian Jackson
Peter Mahoney
Fenix Maiorana
Daniel Mazzei
Samantha Mazzei
Dani McLaren

Kelly McLeod
Juliette Peck
Jess Peil
Kaitlin Primrose
David Roby
Alice Samson
Ross Scott
Melissa Searle
Mark Supple
Paul Tippet
Peter Tsantis
Stacey Ward
Simone Watts
Ben Wilson
John Wilson
Brenda Windsor
Stuart Wise



Bravehearts' White Balloon Day 2020

Established in 1996, White Balloon Day is Bravehearts' signature annual awareness and fundraising campaign.

Bravehearts' White Balloon Day 2020 was held on Friday, 11 September, during National Child Protection Week.

The call to action for the 2020 campaign was to 'wear white and donate to protect kids'. Despite fundraising events and activities being impacted by COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns, the campaign saw high engagement on social media with supporters posting selfies and messages of support in the lead up and on Bravehearts White Balloon Day.

The campaign saw the introduction of a giving day, which occurred on the actual day of Bravehearts' White Balloon Day, with support from Superannuation Advice Australia who matched donations on the day, up to \$50,000.

Bravehearts used the 2020 White Balloon Day campaign to debut our new fundraising platform (Funraisin), which streamlined the registration process and simplified online fundraising for supporters.

The clear call to action coupled with the giving day and the introduction of this new fundraising platform resulted in our most successful Bravehearts White Balloon Day to date with a total of \$195,371 raised.

Bravehearts White Balloon Day 2020 was funded by a grant from Department of Social Services (DSS), National Initiatives.

The 24th Annual Bravehearts Ball

The 24th Annual Bravehearts Ball in support of White Balloon Day was held on Saturday 22 May, 2021 at Brisbane City Hall. Traditionally the Ball is held in conjunction with White Balloon Day during Child Protection Week in September, however COVID-19 restrictions forced us to postpone the 2020 Ball and move it to May 2021.

This move greatly benefited the event, with attendance and funds raised higher than any other preceding year.

450 guests attended the night and enjoyed a three-course meal, drinks, live music, live auction, silent auction and raffles.

Margaux Parker MC'd the evening and speakers included The Hon Michelle Landry MP, Bravehearts CEO Alison Geale, Hetty Johnston AM, and Robin Bailey.

The fundraising total from the evening was over \$103,000 thanks to the generosity of the guests in the room and corporate supporters Superannuation Advice Australia and Living Gems.

"Our dedicated fundraisers are absolutely essential to our work in preventing child sexual assault and exploitation. Not only do they contribute much needed funds, but they play an important role in raising community awareness."

- Alison Geale, CEO, Bravehearts

Third-party fundraising

Third-party fundraising events are held throughout the year by individuals, businesses and organisations committed to protecting Australian children.

Bravehearts supporters continued to come up with new and creative ways to fundraise in a year of restrictions and lockdowns.

Listed right are our top 10 fundraising champions from the past financial year.

Top 10 Third-Party Fundraisers 2021

Claude 'The Mowerman' Harvey / \$88,406
Hats 4 High Tea / \$33,047
Penny and Charlie Cootes / \$19,764
Grace Tucker / \$9,619
Richard Parry / \$5,522
Olivia Lymberis / \$4,733
Lisa Wells / \$4,500
Lucy Netherwood / \$4,177
Amy Franz / \$4,049
Liz Mackinlay / \$1,570

Claude 'The Mowerman' Harvey

Long-time supporter and fundraiser, Claude Harvey OAM (aka 'The Mowerman') continued to spread the message of child safety and raise funds from Bravehearts this year, sticking to Queensland towns and cities due to state border restrictions.

This financial year, 76 year-old Claude completed his annual Gold Coast walk from Coolanagtta to Hope Island during Child Protection Week, as well as travelling to the Sunshine Coast and Gladstone visiting towns in between in October.

In March 2021 he toured Central Queensland, travelling over 1500 kilometers from the Gold Coast out west to Charters Towers and up to Townsville.

In the 14 years that Claude has supported Bravehearts, he has raised over \$1.2 million dollars.

Thank you Claude, you are truly amazing and a national treasure.



Above: Claude Harvey OAM (aka 'The Mowerman')



our people & organisational culture

Employee engagement

Bravehearts dedicates time to fostering a culture that embodies our organisational values of integrity, respect, energy and empathy. What stands out is Bravehearts' commitment to the welfare of its people and our staff and volunteers' commitment to our cause.

Bravehearts staff indicated via an employee survey in December 2020 that they 100% believe in the values and purpose of the organisation and 96% report they are proud of and enjoy the work they do.

Reward & recognition

The Cog Recognition Program is a way for Bravehearts to acknowledge our team members' 'everyday' efforts in striving to meet our Vision of making Australia the safest place to raise a child.

2020's Cog Award went to Sarah Rudolph, who has been with Bravehearts since 2014. Sarah is our Quality Assurance Coordinator and is passionate about working to keep children safe.

Reconciliation Action Plan working group

Recognising the importance of Reconciliation and Bravehearts' role within it, lead to the launch of the Bravehearts Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in May 2020.

Despite a disruptive 12 months, the RAP working group has built staff engagement and knowledge around Reconciliation, and strengthened relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partners in our sector.

Bravehearts is committed to the Reconciliation process and will continue to work in the 'Reflect' phase of our RAP for the year to come.

Benefits for staff

Bravehearts recently created a discretionary paid leave type for our Therapeutic and Support Services staff called Self-Care Leave. This leave allows staff to request single days of leave (up to five per year on top of standard entitlements) for the purpose of health and wellness.

Ongoing employee benefits

- Birthday Day off
- Free and confidential Employee Assistant Program
- Paid professional development and training



Above: Volunteers Annie and Jane helping out with Bravehearts' mascot Ditto at our annual corporate golf day.

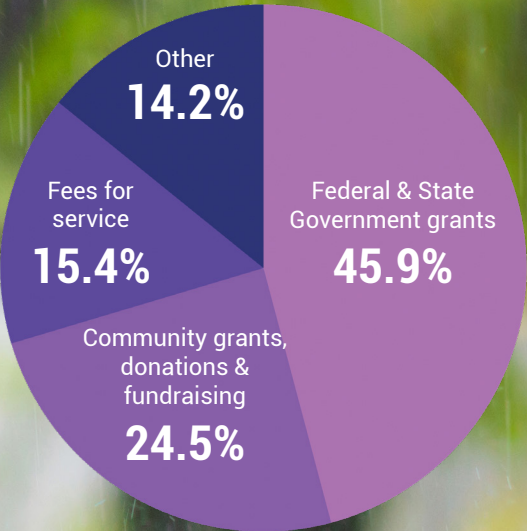


our financials

Total revenue for the
2020/21 financial year
\$8,206,464

Total expenditure for the
2020/21 financial year
\$7,663,613

Sources of revenue for the
2020/21 financial year



Breakdown of expenditure for the
2020/21 financial year



Only 11 cents of every dollar
donated or fundraised is used
on administration or overheads.
89% of your donated dollar goes
directly towards the pursuit of
our Mission

- Delivery of therapeutic services, case management, child protection training & advisory **54%**
- Delivery of personal safety education program Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure **17%**
- Fundraising, awareness & community engagement **11%**
- Operations & administration **11%**
- Research & lobbying **7%**

acknowledgements

Grants

Anglo American Community Grants \$8,843.00 The Courage Project, Mackay	Goulburn Valley Centre Against Sexual Assault \$68,700.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Shepparton
BHP \$2,784.00 iPads - The Courage Project, Mackay	Hand Heart Pocket - Charity of Freemasons, Queensland \$394,000.00 Turning Corners program
City of Gold Coast \$15,000.00 Building upgrades, Arundel	Harold Mitchell Foundation \$10,000.00 Parent Packs
Civic Solutions Inc \$45,000.00 ProjectYou!	Heritage Bank Charitable Foundation \$10,000.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Sydney
Child Protection Week Activity Grant \$1,000.00 Ditto in a Box resources for Child Protection Week 2020	Lord Mayors Charitable Trust - Brisbane \$10,000.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, South East Qld
Coca-Cola Australia Foundation \$25,000.00 Therapy dog trial	Moreton Bay Regional Council \$1,570.00 Strathpine air conditioner
CommBank Staff Foundation Community Grant \$10,000.00 Parent Packs	North Queensland Primary Healthcare Network \$762,511.00 The Courage Project, Mackay
Dawn Wade Foundation \$7,875.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Geelong	One Light Charity Foundation Limited \$5,877.00 Bartercard Donation
Department of Children, Youth Justice & Multicultural Affairs - Qld \$1,216.00 HSQF audit \$33,546.00 Multi Agency Service Response \$268,662.00 Therapeutic Services, Strathpine \$1,037,743.00 Therapeutic Services, South East Qld \$10,000.00 Redress - survivor retreat	Percy Baxter Charitable Trust \$7,440.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Geelong
Department of Education Skills and Employment - Commonwealth Government \$57,700.00 Training modules	RACQ Foundation Pty Ltd \$8,711.85 Therapeutic online assessment tools
Department of Education Tasmania \$200,000.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Tasmania	Ruth Fagg Foundation Trust \$5,000.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Geelong
Department of Social Services \$200,000.00 Bravehearts' White Balloon Day \$281,467.04 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Cairns \$324,956.00 Redress, Beyond Brave outreach \$858,010.00 Redress, Beyond Brave service	Shoalhaven City Council \$5,000.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Shoalhaven
Gambling Community Benefit Fund \$35,000.00 Turning Corners vehicles	The Pierce Armstrong Foundation \$20,000.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Geelong
Geelong Community Foundation \$8,000.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Geelong	Thyne Reid Foundation [Amount withheld] Multi-Disciplinary Team - Child and Family Advocate
	Transport Accident Commission - Victoria \$10,000.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Geelong
	Westpac Safer Children, Safer Communities Grant \$100,000.00 Digitalisation of Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program
	Wightons Lawyers \$6,000.00 Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program, Geelong

ThankShoe Awards

Bravehearts presents valued supporters each year with a 'ThankShoe Award' to acknowledge their contribution to child protection in Australia. Our sincerest thanks to the following businesses, organisations and individuals who have supported Bravehearts this year.	
Platinum Awards <i>For the donation of funds and/or goods and services to the value of \$100,000 and over</i> AFL Cape York Claude Harvey OAM Clayton Utz Department of Children, Youth Justice & Multicultural Affairs - QLD Department of Education - Tasmania Department of Social Services Ernst & Young Esther Dyer Hand Heart Pocket - Charity of Freemasons, Queensland Mazzei Foundation Moreton Bay Regional Council North Queensland Primary Healthcare Network oOh!media Ord Minnett Limited - Brisbane Rotary Club of Byron Bay Incorporated The Pharmacy Guild of Australia - Queensland Branch Uechtritz Foundation von Bibra Auto Village Westpac Safer Children, Safer Communities Grant	
Gold Awards <i>For the donation of funds and/or goods and services to the value of \$50,000 and over</i> ALH Group Department of Education, Skills & Employment - Commonwealth Government Goulburn Valley Centre Against Sexual Assault Grant Broadcasters Jane-Marie Forrest Margaret Clift Superannuation Advice Australia	
Silver Awards <i>For the donation of funds and/or goods and services to the value of \$25,000 and over</i> 102.9 Hot Tomato Ainsworth 4 Foundation Civic Solutions Inc Coca-Cola Australia Foundation Gambling Community Benefit Fund Lachlan & Jocelyn McGillivray Lendlease Macfie Curlewis Spiro Pudding Lane - Kevin Stubbs Sabio The Advertising Works Toll Group	

Bronze Awards <i>For the donation of funds and/or goods and services to the value of \$10,000 and over</i> Accurate Estimating Services Anglo American Community Grants Architectural Collaborative Australian Framing Solutions Pty Ltd Belinda Messer Boma Group Brisbane City Council Bruce & Louise Mackenzie C C Pines Cass Cooper City of Gold Coast Commbank Staff Foundation Community Grants Connect Audit & Assurance Services Pty Ltd Dawn Wade Foundation Elizabeth Tate Emily Tate Fisiocrem Geelong Community Foundation Harold Mitchell Foundation Heritage Bank Charitable Foundation Humanforce Hydro Construction Production Ian Mathieson Insigniature Signs JTY Imports / Exports Pty Ltd Lord Mayor's Charitable Trust - Brisbane Malcolm Maguire Meg Kerwick Noble Street Uniting Church - Newtown PayPal Giving Fund Australia Percy Baxter Charitable Trust Professional Certification Group RACQ Foundation Pty Ltd ReeBuild Regional Express Airlines REX Rosebank Child Sexual Abuse Service Inc Ruby Developments Ruth Fagg Foundation Trust Sandie Parkes Shayne Hegarty Shoalhaven City Council The Lottery Office The Magazine Publishing Company The Pierce Armstrong Foundation Transport Accident Commission - Victoria Vivienne Court Trading Pty Ltd Wightons Lawyers Win Television	
10 Year Service Awards <i>For 10 years of service to Bravehearts as either an employee or a volunteer</i> Breanna Parker Leanne Hicks Mandy Berry Narelle Spence	

our patrons & ambassadors

Patrons



Paul de Jersey AC
Patron in Chief

Mr de Jersey AC practised law in Queensland and was called to the Queensland Bar in 1971. He took silk in 1981 as one of Her Majesty's Counsel (QC).

He was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 1985 and was the Commercial Causes Judge between 1986–1989. He was the judge constituting the Mental Health Tribunal between 1994–1996, President of the Queensland Industrial Court between 1996–1997 and was also the chairman of the Law Reform Commission of Queensland during that time.

He was Chief Justice of Queensland between 1998-2014 and appointed Queensland Governor on 29 July 2015.



Karl Morris AO
National Vice Patron

Karl Morris AO, is Executive Chairman and Managing Director of Ord Minnett Ltd, Chairman of the Brisbane Broncos Ltd, Chair of the American Chamber of Commerce in Australia (AmCham) Council of Governors in Queensland and Patron of the Mary MacKillop Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund. Other Board memberships include Australian Catholic University Senate and J.P. Morgan Australia Advisory Council. He is a Master Member of the Stockbrokers and Financial Advisers Association of Australia, and former Chairman of QSuper (2013-2019). He also sits on the Investment Committees of the Catholic Archdioceses of Brisbane and Sydney.

Ambassadors



Bob Atkinson AO APM
Ambassador in Chief

Bob Atkinson AO APM is the Former Commissioner for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, former Commissioner of Queensland Police Service for 12 years and served in the Queensland Police Service for 44 years, including as a detective for 20 years.

Bob Atkinson acted as the police prosecutor in various Magistrates Courts during this period, overseeing reforms after the Fitzgerald inquiry from 1990, as well as the Public Sector Management Commission Review and Report Recommendations of the Queensland Police Service in 1993.

- Duncan Armstrong** - Olympic Gold Medal Swimmer
- Amelia Ayris** (Youth Ambassador) - Actor/Singer
- Robin Bailey** - Radio Host/Celebrity
- Tony Bonner AM** - Actor
- Simone Buchanan** - Actor
- Paul Constable Calcott** - Indigenous Artist
- Kristina Costalos** - Channel 10 Journalist
- Amy Cure** - Olympic Cyclist
- Stacey Currie** - Motivational Speaker
- Damian DeMarco** - Lobbyist
- Lula Dembele** - Advocate
- Cheryl Gaidja** (Community Ambassador)
- Julie Gilbert** - Dietitian
- Lisa Gormley** - Actor
- Katrina Harper-Greenwell** - Commissioner at Fair Work Commission
- Isaac Harris** (Community Ambassador)
- Kelly Humphries** - Survivor/Author/Speaker/Senior Constable, Queensland Police Service
- Tait MacKrill** - AFLW GWS player
- Jimmy Maher** - Ex-Cricketer
- Angus McLaren** - Actor
- Kristy Meizer** (Local Ambassador) - Director/Owner Lovell Meizer Funerals
- Heidi Middleton** - Co-creator Sass & Bide
- Larissa Miller** - Olympic Gymnast
- Darcia Ondrovcik** - Author/Fitness Guru
- Margaux Parker** - Radio Host/Celebrity
- Jess Peil** (Community Ambassador) - Fitness professional
- Meg Poulter** - Managing Director DPG Legal
- Rob Redenbach** - Author/Speaker
- Carla Rodan** - Celebrity
- Isabella Rositano** - Fighter/Musician
- Detective Inspector Jon Rouse** - Detective Acting Superintendent Manager Operations, Victim Identification and Training, Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation Australia
- Edwina Royce** (Youth Ambassador) - Actor
- Peta Searle** - AFLW Coach
- Hannah Southwell** - Women's NRL, Roosters
- Ross Synot OAM** (Community Ambassador)
- Nichola Turner** - Womens 30's Surfing Champion

our national board 2020/21



Vanessa Garrard
Founder & CEO, Simpli
Chair

Vanessa is an entrepreneur, mother to four children and a leader in the consumer products industry. She is currently Founder and CEO of Simpli, a sourcing company focusing on eco-friendly products and packaging for small businesses and corporates. One in two Australians own a product that her company has produced.

With over 25 years' experience in building businesses across the world, Vanessa's passion for commercialising products has seen her ranked in Australia's Top 30 Female Entrepreneurs list five years running and she was named EY Entrepreneur Of The Year for Industry, Telstra Young Business Woman of the Year, and the Australian Financial Review's 100 Women of Influence.



Andrew Hay
Partner, Clayton Utz
Deputy Chair

With over 25 years' experience as a corporate lawyer, Andrew has advised many of Australia's leading companies in corporate governance and the formal application of ethical standards.

Andrew currently leads top-tier law firm, Clayton Utz's Japan practice group nationally and is President of the Australia-Japan Society (Queensland) Inc. He also heads the corporate advisory team for Clayton Utz in Brisbane and the Agribusiness group nationally.

Andrew has long been involved in organisations that provide community care, such as the Adam Scott Foundation, which provides life opportunities for Australian youth and the Children's Cancer Institute.



Gemma Cook
Director, Bentleys
Treasurer

Gemma is a Bentley's Director who provides business and taxation advice. Gemma has an extensive background and specific expertise in developing solutions that align to the individual needs and circumstances of her clients.



Jemima Harris BA LLB
Legal & Strategic Projects Director, Megaport
Company Secretary

Jemima is a senior lawyer, executive and company director with extensive experience in legal and commercial roles. An expert in continuous improvement, Jemima loves helping organisations streamline systems and processes and execute strategy.



Helena Kolenbet LLB BBus (INB)
People & Development Consultant, LOD
Minute Secretary

Helena is a Human Resources professional with a background in commercial law. She has previously both worked for and volunteered with organisations that have a mission to protect and advocate for children and young people.



Hetty Johnston AM GAICD
Retired from Board position in April 2021
Founder and Director

Founder of Bravehearts, Hetty is a woman of passion and determination who has succeeded in highlighting the crime of child sexual assault both nationally and internationally. Her vision and tenacity has enabled Hetty to change the way we deal with child sexual assault in this country.



Rob Molhoek
State Member for Southport
Director

Elected in 2012, Rob is the State Member for Southport, Deputy Chair of the Queensland Parliamentary Health and Environment Committee, Assistant Shadow Minister for Families, Seniors, Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Co-chair of the Parliamentary Friends of First Nations.

our partnerships

Government partners

- Australian Federal Police
- Australian Centre to Counter Child Sexual Exploitation
- City of Gold Coast
- Commonwealth Department of Education Skills and Employment
- Commonwealth Department of Health
- Department of Children, Youth Justice & Multicultural Affairs - Queensland
- Department of Education - Tasmania
- Department of Justice & Attorney-General - Queensland
- Department of Premier and Cabinet - Queensland
- Department of Social Services
- Goulburn Valley Centre Against Sexual Assault (GV CASA)
- Lord Mayor of Brisbane
- Moreton Bay Regional Council
- Queensland Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women
- Queensland Family and Child Commission
- Queensland Police Service
- Shoalhaven City Council
- Transport Accident Commission - Victoria

Corporate partners

Bravehearts is grateful to all Corporate Partners for their support throughout the 2020/21 financial year. Corporate Partnerships provide significant financial and in-kind support critical to ensuring the work of Bravehearts continues. The many organisations that support Bravehearts have made a positive impact on the lives of thousands of Australian children.

This year, as we continued to navigate COVID-19, we were fortunate that many key events were able to take place. These events were gratefully supported by a number of major sponsors; Bravehearts' White Balloon Day (Superannuation Advice Australia), The Bravehearts Ball (Living Gems), Bravehearts' Corporate Golf Day (Australian Framing Solutions), Bravehearts' 777 Marathon (Fisiocrem & Autopact Foundation).

Corporate Partners can support Bravehearts in many ways, including workplace giving, fundraising, sponsorships, provision of goods and services, round ups and bespoke solutions. If you would like to know more about how your business or service can become a Corporate Partner please contact us at partnerships@bravehearts.org.au or 07 5552 3060.



Above: Australian Federal Police supporting Bravehearts' White Balloon Day.



Above: Staff at Superannuation Advice Australia supporting Bravehearts' White Balloon Day.





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Bravehearts Foundation operates a service delivery system that complies with requirements of Human Services Quality Standards.

Bravehearts
Educate Empower Protect
Our Kids