

**WE BELIEVE IN THE POWER
OF INSPIRED YOUNG PEOPLE**



YMCAs of Australia
**COMMUNITY
IMPACT REPORT**
2018



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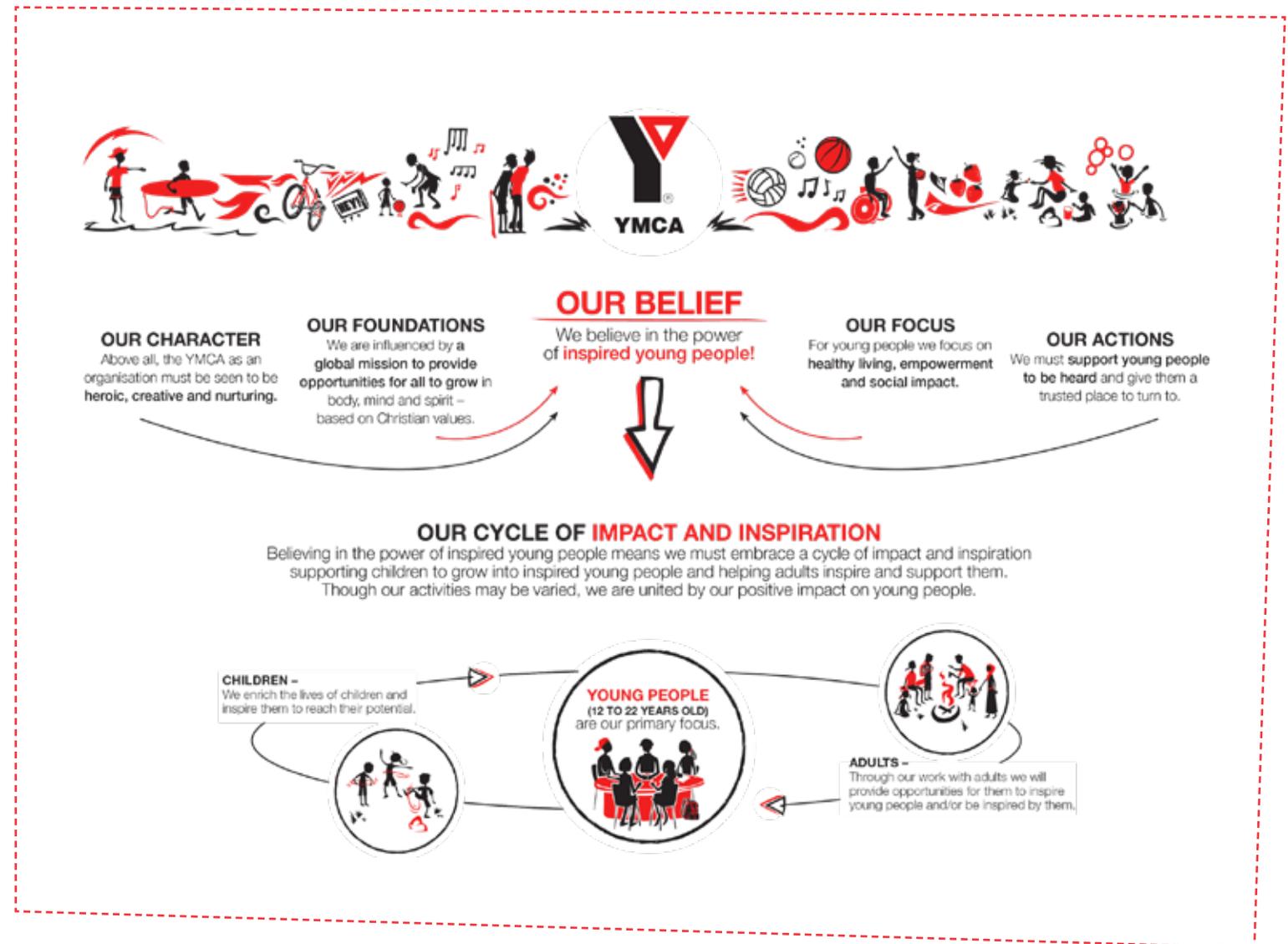
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LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

“We must ensure the Fourth Industrial Revolution unfolds with humanity at its centre, not technology”

Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, 2018 World Economic Forum.

In 2017-2018, the YMCAs in Australia continued to create a better narrative in a fractured world, with our ongoing social impact initiatives with young people. Driven by our belief in the power of inspired young people, we continue to ensure that their voices are heard, as we strive to make sure that humanity, particularly young people, remain at the centre of the fourth industrial revolution.

As the world searched for “how”, so did we. How we can be the best Movement to ensure the agency of young people in Australia and the world is paramount. How we optimise our social enterprise to be as effective as it can be and how we ensure a safe and happy place for all our participants, young people, staff, volunteers and particularly our children, so they can reach their potential and help positively shape the world.

As a united Movement across Australia, we continue to invest in positive social impact with, and for young people. We are here for a purpose. Our purpose is to empower young people – and to enable young people in Australia to have a stronger voice and be heard more clearly.

Our founder active in the Industrial Revolution. During the Industrial Revolution in England, our founder George Williams, a young drapery clerk, recognised London as a large, overgrown town unable to meet the physical, social, intellectual and spiritual needs of its citizens. London was ripe for reform. On June 6, 1844, 12 young men met in the original George Williams Room for the purpose of forming the YMCA. As we enter into our 175th year, how can we renew the intent of George Williams in our world today?

“We have much to be proud of and there is still so much to be done. The reality in which we operate is changing faster than any one can imagine. The complexities of issues impacting youth are such that not a single player can solve them alone... there is a clear role for the YMCAs to play.”

Carlos Sanvee, Incoming Secretary General, World Alliance of YMCAs

A changing world. Change is inevitable and seeing history made at the World Quadrennial meeting highlighted a Movement ready to embrace a new world. We saw the appointments of our first African Secretary General, Carlos Sanvee and our first female Global President, Patricia Pelton.

Challenges in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. As we face the challenges of our future we understand: “Technology is changing not only the nature of production but also the way people work and define labour. Another force of change is automation, which could replace nearly half of all jobs by 2055,” (World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2018).

We commit to the Y of the future – and the need to be innovative and creative with digital solutions for sustainable growth, to ensure that we continue the great legacy that George Williams created, with relevance and impact to meet the needs of this generation.

The Y of the future. Unity is a challenging and complex task, not just for us, but for most organisations, and we are now demonstrating that we are far more powerful as a whole than as individuals. In the YMCA of the future, focus will be on the following four quadrants of our agreed movement national strategic plan, which are: (1) True National Movement, (2) Empowered Young People, (3) Positive Community Impact, and (4) Strong Social Enterprise.



Chris Lewis
President
YMCA Australia



Melinda Crole
CEO
YMCA Australia

YMCA AT A GLANCE

Programs, Services and Participations

In **over 500 communities** the YMCA offers a range of programs and services that contribute to empowering young people.



Overall Participation

In 2017-18, the YMCA recorded **over 28 million** participations in our programs, services and activities.



Sport & Recreation

3.74 million participations
63 recreation centres/stadiums
2 golf courses
1 sailing club
1 athletics centre
1.5 million gymnastics participations



Health & Wellbeing

12.5 million participations
99 health & fitness clubs

Camping & Outdoor Education

150,000 participations
17 camps



Youth Specific Programs

1.1 million participations



Our People

13,369 staff
3,524 volunteers



Aquatics

3.2 million participations in swimming lessons
127 aquatic facilities
50 outdoor pools

Financial Stability & Sustainability

Turnover in 2017/18 was **\$469 million** with assets under management **\$317 million**.



Children's Programs & Services

8.7 million participations
172 OSHC and vacation care sites
45 kindergartens
38 early learning centres
5 family/in home day care



And more

12 disability services
3 op shops
3 hostels & housing
4 schools
2 hotels



A TRUE NATIONAL MOVEMENT

We have a shared national culture, strategy & action

As a federated organisation, the YMCA in Australia consists of 18 Associations, aligned in strategy, culture and action. We have a shared purpose “we believe in the power of inspired young people”, an agreed strategy, and we work together in areas of procurement and key organisational decisions, with regular Movement leadership engagement activities and national leadership projects. The four quadrants of our united strategy include:

True National Movement. A shared national culture, strategy and action, working as one, and developing a backbone of shared services, branding and digital technology, supported by shared behaviours.

Empowered Young People by applying our belief to engagement, advocacy, decision-making, innovation and technology.

Positive Community Impact. Delivering proven tangible benefits to the community, by always improving, establishing and enhancing the measures that enable us to report our positive community impact.

Strong Social Enterprise. Delivering sustainable, capable, social enterprises, by creating a core and driving OSHC, Early Learning, Recreation and Strive/Thrive through a consistent national brand and business model.

Building the Y of the future...

Towards One Y is a movement-wide program driving the Movement in Australia forward in alignment as one Movement. The Movement has given YMCA Australia clear directions that it wants to work more collaboratively to yield more mission impact for the people of Australia, with programs that include a procurement value realisation and development of a strategic alignment framework.

Our collective Towards One Y journey is about unlocking our true potential and uncovering the best way to mobilise our resources to bring to life our purpose– in order to benefit more people and communities, more deeply and more often.

In building the Y of the future, this reporting period saw the merger of Katherine, Central Australia and Top End – to YMCA Northern Territory, and also the merger of Grampians Region and Ballarat. Both are progressing to create new and improved YMCAs for their communities. A merger of Bendigo Regional YMCA with YMCA Victoria has also more recently commenced.



EMPOWERED YOUNG PEOPLE

Over 165 years' experience in the community has taught us that a healthy, active and connected life is powerful in enabling young people to be resilient.

So in 2018 we upped the ante, with over 1.1 million youth specific participations, and greater collective focus on empowering young people.

Youth Summit 2018

The inaugural YMCA Youth Summit took place in May 2018 simultaneously in Melbourne and Perth – and was broadcast live to all YMCAs across Australia, with a focus on optimising mental wellbeing for young people.

In the main event in Melbourne, over 390 students, young people and others gathered at the Melbourne Arts Centre. The event showcased young speakers and artists who shared moving stories, songs and presentations largely based on their personal experiences of living with, managing or overcoming mental health issues.

“To my younger self, you need to know that it’s okay to accept your own imperfections, that in fact what is fractured, broken and flawed transforms who you are as a person.

To my younger self, I would like to say so much more, to tell you about what is in store for your future. That you must learn to live and draft the story for yourself and begin to see you are not wholly defined by any man made category.

You must trust that one day you will meet people you absolutely adore and you will realise that the failure that you feel inside is so very small.”

Rachael Stevens, 27 year old keynote speaker, author and mental health advocate.

See full video presentation on the YMCA Australia Youtube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FnsmlZLApI8>.

See Rachael's website here: <https://rachaelstevens.com.au> and the video of her speech on the YMCA Australia Youtube channel link here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b7Zpwm_dcrM.



EMPOWERED YOUNG PEOPLE

Australian Global Change Agents

Be the Change, Communicate the Vision, Inspire Action

In July, 2018 the Australian cohort of Global Change Agents attended the 19th YMCA World Council, in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The week was marked by an exciting whirlwind of cultural connection, innovative practice and a shared willingness to work collectively as one Global Movement.

Attendees welcomed the newly elected female President Patricia Pelton and the newly appointed Secretary General Carlos Sanvee, from the African Region, both 'firsts' in YMCA's 174 year history. The enormity of this moment ricocheted throughout the cohort of attendees, instilling a sense of excitement and pride in all. Diversity prevailed once again as the Movement's greatest strength. No matter what gender, race, religion or sexual orientation, courage was contagious and many bravely stood up and shared their story of belonging with the YMCA.

Intergenerational workshops and excursions with a social cause delved into aspirational visions of the organisation's capacity to have impact and shape the world. By the event's conclusion, young and old(er) stood equally vulnerable and proud together, and pledged their commitment to youth empowerment today, tomorrow and beyond.

The YMCA Change Agents delivered a strong message demanding more action, conducted through song, dance and audience interaction. This message embedded the need for alignment to address social injustice and take a united stance around important humanitarian issues in our world today.

There are now 700 engaged Change Agents across three cohorts, with a fourth cohort to be recruited, including here in Australia.

YMCA Global connection

Globally the YMCA has almost 100,000 staff, along with millions of volunteers, reaching 58 million people, in 12,000 local YMCAs, through 120 national associations, in all continents of the world. The global YMCA is united in its purpose to empower young people.

Every year, YMCAs around the world unite to take part in the YMCA World Challenge to raise awareness of the many ways the YMCA empowers young people world-wide. This year the focus was on running a combined distance to every YMCA in the world – which was more than 120,000 kms!



EMPOWERED YOUNG PEOPLE

The WhyNot Platform

The WhyNot platform is an exciting expression of the YMCA's belief in the power of inspired young people. Currently, only 20% of young Australians feel heard by those in power (source: YMCA's Voice of Young People Report). This online platform is designed to give young Australians (between 18 and 30 years) an opportunity to share their thoughts, experiences and opinions and to elevate their voices on issues that matter most to them.

Initially launched as part of the organisation's first national brand campaign WhyNot? (2017), in June 2018 the platform became completely run by young people, for young people. It is supported by an editorial committee of six with diverse skills and talents from across Australia. The committee prioritises the empowerment of young contributors, and is dedicated to ensuring the platform is relevant and accessible to all young people.

Since June, the website has had over 3.2k visits (from June to October 2018), reached multiple universities and organisations and had an increase in submissions and engagement from young people from diverse communities.

www.whynot.org.au

Left to right: Editorial Committee. Angus Lonergan, Georgie Nichol, Jonathan Santamaria, Eleanor Brown, Sandra Tay and Luke Beattie

"I think the most important thing to me is that we have had a diverse range of submissions: covering LGBTI+ issues, multiculturalism and racism, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander thoughts on NAIDOC and through a range of mediums: poetry, articles, art, video and short stories"

Angus Lonergan, Editor, WhyNot Editorial Committee



EMPOWERED YOUNG PEOPLE

CEO for a Day

YMCA catapults young people to CEO positions for a day

Georgie Broinowski, a 24-year old from Sydney, went from being a marketing assistant in the service industry to a chief executive of the YMCA Australia; at least for one day. She took part in the annual YMCA CEO for a Day initiative, along with 11 other young people across YMCAs around Australia in April 2018. On this day young people, aged 18 to 30, led the organisation and had a meaningful say on potential solutions to youth issues and programs.

Coinciding with National Youth Week celebrations, the program highlighted a range of issues affecting young people, including unemployment, homelessness, suicide and mental health issues, safety, obesity, disability, disadvantage, housing affordability and accessible training courses.

YMCA Australia CEO, Melinda Crole, says she always looks forward to seeing empowered young people take the reins for a day. "I am eager to learn more about what matters to young people and to support them to advocate for change by providing the YMCA with recommendations from their experience. I hope that other organisations will follow suit in engaging with young people to better facilitate youth-informed decisions," said Ms Crole.



Left: Georgie Broinowski, CEO for a Day, YMCA Australia.
Right: Georgie with Melinda Crole, CEO and
Chris Lewis, President YMCA Australia

EMPOWERED YOUNG PEOPLE

Youth Parliament 2018

Raising the voices of young people

This year, over 400 young people across Australia - in Victoria, NSW, Queensland, South Australia, West Australia and Tasmania debated and passed over 50 bills on issues they care deeply about, with their views being shared with their parliaments in each state.

Over 32 years the program has provided 10,000 young people between 16 and 25 with the chance to be heard at the highest levels of State Government, and develop life-long skills, friendships and connections.

Tallen Howson is a 16 year old proud to live in Cessnock, NSW, so much so that he represented the electorate at the YMCA NSW Youth Parliament. The 16-year-old was concerned about Cessnock's lack of support services available for young people – particularly regarding drug and alcohol use.

Each youth parliamentarian is asked to write about an issue in their local community, and after finding out that children as young as 12 were becoming addicted to drugs, Tallen was inspired to create an online petition calling for appropriate support services and programs for young people in Cessnock.

Tallen had over 1,200 people sign! Tallen said: "I couldn't be happier with the amount of support that this petition has received. I am extremely proud to be living in a community where my passion to make a change is shared and supported by so many others."



Youth Parliament WA, 2018



YMCA'S APPROACH TO YOUTH EMPOWERMENT



OUR BELIEF

We believe in the power of inspired young people.

OUR GOAL

To empower young people to turn their inspiration into positive impact.



OUR MODEL

We align with the global YMCA Youth Empowerment Framework 'Space – Transformation – Impact' by:

- ✓ engaging young people in safe spaces where their potential is unlocked;
- ✓ developing young people's skills and supporting their transformation to grow in body mind and spirit; and
- ✓ empowering young people to have intentional and positive impact on their world.



OUR PRINCIPLES

- ✓ The safety and wellbeing of young people always comes first. We respect young people's rights and support the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- ✓ Every interaction with a young person is an opportunity for empowerment. We put no limits on potential or possibility and focus on building young people's strengths.
- ✓ We respect young people's views and opinions. We actively listen and amplify their voices.
- ✓ Each young person is unique and we value each young person as they are. We deliberately include young people and value the friendships and social networks they have formed.
- ✓ We provide young people with opportunities to lead and have influence.
- ✓ We partner with specialist organisations to provide young people with access to the support and resources they seek.

WITHIN THIS MODEL OUR FOCUS IS

- ✓ To build **confidence** so young people feel certainty in their ability to take action.
- ✓ To build **capability** so young people have the skills to make real and positive change.
- ✓ To support **pioneering** so young people are encouraged to take the lead and catalyse new possibilities.



EMPOWERED YOUNG PEOPLE

YMCA Youth Spaces

Brisbane Upfronts Youth

In 2018, Brisbane YMCA hosted their inaugural Upfronts Youth event. It was an opportunity for young people to network, showcase talent, hear inspirational speakers and presentation pitches for future social enterprises. Highlights included speakers Jayden Parsons, Global Change Agent, MC Jason Mash, and Matt Swires, Youth Worker at Clem Jones Junior Secondary Campus, who shared his inspirational story of growth from disengaged student to YMCA youth worker. Performances by Erin and Daykota (students from the YMCA Vocational School Moreton Bay) supported by Aaron Ainsworth were outstanding, and exciting social enterprise ideas were pitched from: Hannah Nielsen & Phoebe Hall (14 yo student), Kushi Shelat (16 yo), Shanna Smith, Chris Richards and Anthony Parkinson.



EMPOWERED YOUNG PEOPLE

YMCA Youth Spaces

WA's YMCA HQ

YMCA WA HQ's live music venue features weekly performances by local, national and international artists. The multi-purpose facility also boasts an art gallery, co-working spaces and creative spaces available for use by young people and the community at large.

WA HQ has a gig space and a gallery free for artists under 26 to exhibit; a courtyard for outdoor performance, markets or gatherings; and a hot desk space for young people launching or developing small business initiatives.

Youth for Causes

Youth for Causes enables a team of students from Victorian schools or community groups (aged 14-17) to get a social enterprise idea off the ground for a cause they care about, infusing a culture of entrepreneurship, social justice and global citizenship into a school or community. The program ensures young people can make a positive impact in the world while gaining enterprise and job-readiness skills to thrive in their own futures, and is mapped to the Victorian education curriculum.



EMPOWERED YOUNG PEOPLE

Y Streetball basketball program

What started with a simple conversation between two young friends, Dave Gunstone and Peter Abraham, developed into a program run for homeless people in North Melbourne, Victoria, where participants now feel at home as part of the North Melbourne Community Centre Y Streetball basketball program. Every Tuesday at 4pm people of all ages and from all walks of life – including those experiencing homelessness or disadvantage – come together to play basketball, socialise and have a meal together.

To top it off - in June, 2018, the Y Streetball team won the Innovative Program of the Year award at the Aquatics & Recreation Victoria (ARV) Industry Awards. Great job Dave, Peter and Julian!

YMCA Streetgym

YMCA Streetgym is a free outreach program for at-risk young people aged 12 to 18. The program is currently run weekly during school term at Sturt Park, Telopea, in Sydney's North West. The program provides a safe, inclusive and positive environment for young people to gather and connect. Participants engage in team sports and group activities, mindfulness exercises and have a healthy afternoon tea. Key community services such as mental health support, youth workers, and police liaison officers are also available. Streetgym is proudly supported by Parramatta Council and Parramatta Leagues Club.

Outcomes snapshot:

100%

of participants said they felt safer at Sturt Park because of Streetgym

Valuable relationships have been forged by YMCA NSW with external support and community organisations, furthering our ability to

support young people

Participation rates have continued to **increase**

since the program began in 2017



Left: YMCA Streetgym

Right: Julian Balthazaar (Centre Manager, North Melbourne Community Centre), Peter Abraham and Dave Gunstone with their award for Innovative Program of the Year for the Y Streetball program



"I like being active with other people and I've made new friends in Streetgym"

Phoebe

EMPOWERED YOUNG PEOPLE

YMCA mYndPump

YMCA mYndPump is a program created by an inspired young person – 23 year old Global YMCA Change Agent Jayden Parsons, to support young people with mental health challenges.

YMCA Brisbane partnered with the University of Queensland's School of Psychology to develop the program supported by research from PhD student, Sarah Bentley. The research explored the relationship between physical activity and mental wellbeing in young people and informed the initial program design.

The result was a free 12-week pilot group fitness program from March to May at Bowen Hills Fitness, in which eight young people took part. From the pilot's learnings, a revised program commenced in July with 34 young people participating from the outset.



Jayden Parsons coordinates the program and mentors young people, with Nerissa Gray, Fitness Manager at YMCA Bowen Hills Fitness Centre.

Skateboarding League Finals

Outcomes snapshot: YMCA Impact



25k

annual enrolments
in programs



65k+

spectators at
our events



239k+

annual visits to
YMCA Skateparks

Outcomes snapshot: Empowered young people



61

young people trained
across six states



5

YMCA associations
engaged

Introducing Hayley Wilson

Won our Victorian state finals four times
Won National final three times (2016 – 2018).

"I got my first skateboard when I was 7 years old and a year later I started competing through YMCA Skate Park League (SPL) competitions"

Hayley Wilson

POSITIVE SOCIAL IMPACT

Safeguarding Children and Young People

Safeguarding children and young people is a priority at the YMCA in Australia, and we work hard to ensure that safety and care are our first consideration in providing programs and services for children, young people and their families. See the YMCA's National Safeguarding Children and Young People policy available at ymca.org.au.

We work in close partnership with the Australian Childhood Foundation (ACF) to “keep children safe and build the ability and confidence of individuals and organisations to protect children” (ACF). Our work with the ACF includes Safeguarding Children Accreditation at all YMCA Associations across Australia, and regular training programs for staff and volunteers. Every YMCA in Australia works actively to maintain child safe standards.

Over the 2017-2018 financial year 5,449 YMCA staff and volunteers completed training in the Safeguarding Children and Young People Program and 34,021 have completed training since 2014.

YMCA Australia has also formed strategic partnerships with the federal government to influence policy in this crucial area. We participated on the Implementation Advisory Group to input into the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, and in May 2018, our National Board and National Leadership Team met with Megan Mitchell, National Children's Commissioner to discuss child safety in Australia, post the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and the development of the National Principles.

National Redress

In May 2018, YMCA Australia announced its intention to join the National Redress Scheme. The establishment of the National Redress Scheme is a critical recommendation from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. With the establishment of the National Redress Scheme, YMCA hopes survivors of institutional child sexual abuse will finally feel heard and have the support and recognition they deserve. In 2016, YMCA established a redress scheme of its own, but this was always intended as an interim solution until a national scheme was established.

“We all share the responsibility for responding to survivors of child abuse, just as we all share the responsibility to make sure every child in Australia is safe and protected.” – Melinda Crole, CEO YMCA Australia.

The YMCA considers all forms of child sexual abuse to be intolerable and inexcusable under any circumstances. We recognise the lifelong impact that child sexual abuse may have on the health and wellbeing of individuals, their families, and communities.

“We can't change the past for survivors, but we can change their future. An effective National Redress Scheme is critical for ensuring justice and healing for survivors”

Melinda Crole, CEO YMCA Australia



STRONG SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

YMCA's Gyms

The YMCA in Australia currently manages 63 recreation centres across Australia with over 8.7 million participations a year. As a not for profit organisation, fees and memberships fund a range of programs in the local community! People of all ages, fitness levels and abilities are involved, and we work on strength, fitness, flexibility and co-ordination.

The YMCA works in partnership with national sporting bodies to ensure high quality programs and services. YMCA gyms are a great way to connect with others and be your best!

Gymnastics

Gymnastics is another great way to get active, connect with others and unleash yourself! With over 1.5 million gymnastics participations annually, the YMCA's gymnastics program is all about learning to move, develop new skills and self-confidence as well as being physically active. Sessions are led by qualified coaches accredited with Gymnastics Australia. Gymnasts can progress all the way from Kinder Gym to National Competitions in an inclusive, safe environment, while participants have fun, develop leadership skills and learn to work with others.



YMCA Epping gymnasts had a monster medal tally at the 2018 Special Olympics National Games in Adelaide. Christopher Bunton, Raymond Xing and Nicholas Zrnac collectively won 18 of NSW's 54 medals. Bunton — an accredited gymnastics coach from St Clair — grabbed five gold alone in floor, pommel, rings, high bar, and parallel bars. That is on top of a silver medal in vault, landing him the overall top place in Level 3 of the competition. All three men have Down Syndrome.

STRONG SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

YMCA Swims

The YMCAs across Australia facilitated over 3.2 million swimming lesson participations in 127 aquatic facilities over the past year, and we are passionate about water safety and teaching young people to swim. A large percentage of our lifeguards are inspired young people, and we're proud to showcase our young people doing extraordinary things.

Our Everyday Heroes

Meet YMCA lifeguard Lachlan Merchant. By day he is a humble 17 year old, year 12 student and lifeguard at the SA Aquatic and Leisure Centre (SAALC), and on weekends he is an outstanding swimmer, surf life saver and community builder.

Lachie's work as a student, elite level athlete, community surf life saver and YMCA lifeguard is inspiring to his fellow swimmers, co-workers, peers and all that know him. He is a team player, mentor and role model. One day he can be found on the 'starting block' as elite level swimmer and the next educating migrants and refugees or non-swimmers at Glenelg beach of the perils of rips, currents and rocks.

Lachie is also set to compete at the 2018 World Rescue Championships.

"I have responded to over 20 different distressing scenarios so far in my career.

Every situation is unique, and you need to have quick recognition of people in distress to eliminate it before it gets serious.

Lifesaving Championships really prepared me to respond quickly to these unexpected scenarios"

Matthew Perriman

29 year old YMCA Lifeguard Matthew Perriman has worked at the SA Aquatic and Leisure Centre (SAALC) for over seven years, and started preparing with Royal Life Saving through sport when he was just 12. Matthew is passionate about sport, and over the years has played cricket, football, water polo and loves to swim. Between 2006 and 2011, he competed in the Australian Development Team Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships in England, Canada and South Africa, in a number of different simulated rescues - emerging with multiple gold medals.

75% of SAALC's lifeguards are between 16 and 25 years, and Matthew is also involved with the internal training of many of them.



Left: Lachie Merchant. Right: Matthew Perriman.

STRONG SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

YMCA Camps

The YMCA in Australia runs 17 camps with over 150,000 participations annually. Camps are available for school and community groups, as well as families - offering day programs over school holidays. Camp programs include indoor and outdoor activities that promote teamwork, personal growth, community and immersion in nature. Camping is yet another way for people to get active, connect with others and unleash themselves!



Camp Manyung in Mount Eliza



OSHC

The YMCA in Australia runs over 170 OSHC and vacation care programs with nearly 30,000 families registered across Australia for their children to be involved in outside school hours care and holiday programs. We aim to please both children and parents – ensuring that children want to come back to make their parents smile!

In July 2018, the Georges Hall OSHC program run by the Y in the Macarthur & Bankstown regions in NSW, was visited by Senior Constable Phillip Smith. The children had the opportunity to write thank you letters which they all got to read to him. He talked to the children about bullying, name calling, racial comments and more – and the session was a great success. A big thank you to Senior Constable Phillip Smith.



In March 2018 children at the Harrington Street OSHC worked on their very own garden area. They dug the holes, planted the seeds, pulled out the weeds and planted carrots, lettuces and peas. Then they watered the plants. Take a look at them in action!

STRONG SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Early Learning

The YMCA in Australia runs over 80 early learning centres with over 10,000 families registered across Australia, and believes in early education and care that ensures families make a choice they never regret, by working together to support children to thrive.

The kids of Westminster West Australia ELC had an exciting opportunity to participate in a Hey Dee Ho musical class with residents of Berrington Care Group. Leaving the centre gave students the opportunity to develop social skills among residents and demonstrate gross motor and co-ordination skills by participating in song and dance. Check out some of our favourite photos below.



GOVERNANCE

The YMCAs in Australia would like to thank our Life Governors, Presidents, Boards, CEOs and Leadership teams for their significant and continued contribution to the Y.

YMCA Presidents



Back from left: Garry Watson (Canberra), Owen Kelso (Geelong Director), Justin Eve (Western Australia), Matt Fawkner (Northern Territory Director), Donna Powell, (Hobart), Richard Hughes (New South Wales), Russell Heywood (Queanbeyan), Ian Hart (Bendigo). Front from left: Chris Lewis (YMCA Australia), Boh-lee Mook (Whittlesea), Stephen Ellich (Victoria), Keryn Crebbin (Ballarat), Natalie Matulick (INEA), Mark Mugnaioni (Brisbane Vice President). Absent: Bundaberg, Launceston, South Australia.

Life Governors

Ms Caz Bosch
 Mr David Davis OAM
 Mr Richard Edwards OAM
 Mr Bruce Harris
 Mr Ian Howard

Mrs Jenny McCombe OAM
 Mr Ross Melville
 Mr Bob Nicholson
 Mr Robert Romanes OAM
 Mr Grahame Wheeler AM

YMCA Australia Board



YMCA Australia's Board - (Top L-R) - Ben Hubbard, Jonathon Rea, Michael Vanderheide, Glyn Davies (Interim CEO), Tom Stephenson (Treasurer), Catherine Follett, Ross Peddlesden, and (Front L-R) Richard Nedov, Catharine Payze, Chris Lewis (President), Peter Malone (Vice President) and Tal Karp.

YMCA CEO & Leadership Forum



CEO & Leadership Forum held at Mullum Mullum Stadium, Donvale, 2018.

RECOGNISING OUR PEOPLE

Thanks for your contribution

The YMCA Australia Board's Directors continue to bring a significant wealth of experience to the Movement, and we would like to acknowledge and thank our outgoing Directors for their valuable contribution to the YMCA in Australia.

Peter Malone



Peter has been on the YMCA Australia Board since 2001, as well as the YMCA Bendigo Board for over 27 years. Peter has been long serving Chair of the Licensing and Member Development Committee, as well as numerous other Standing Committees of the National Board and Movement. Peter was President of YMCA Australia and also during this period, Interim CEO for YMCA Australia to support the Movement during a significant period of change.

Peter was also a serving member of the E-Store Board. Peter has held representation on the Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs (APAY) Committee for 10 years and has contributed passionately to the international work of the YMCA. Peter has been a critical leader and corporate knowledge holder, and has seen the YMCA move through many phases during his tenure. We'd like to thank Peter for his significant and valuable contribution for over 20 years.



Catherine Follett

Catherine has served on the YMCA Australia Board since 2016, and as a Director on the YMCA INEA Board (including Chair) since 2014. Catherine is Director of MSM Legal, an experienced commercial lawyer and a registered migration agent. Thanks Catherine for your contribution to the YMCA Australia.

Marg Lennon



Marg served on the YMCA Australia Board from 2016, and the YMCA NSW board (including Chair) since 2009. We'd like to thank and acknowledge Marg Lennon's significant contribution to the YMCA in Australia over the last 10 years. Marg championed much of the initial work for the Movement's Fit for Purpose project during her time on the National Board. Marg is experienced as a senior Human Resources and organisational development executive and is currently an executive coach and leadership development consultant.



Catharine Payze

Catharine has served on the YMCA Australia Board since 2015 (and the YMCA of Western Australia since 2014), and as National Treasurer since 2016. Catharine is Managing Director at Leadership Locus, with an extensive human resource management background. Catharine has an MBA (University of WA) as well as a Master of Arts degree. Thank you Catharine for your significant contribution.



Awards

Carina O'Neil, YMCA Grampians Region

YMCA Global study: The French Health and Social Care System: Ideals and Reality

Early years' specialist Carina O'Neill was a joint recipient of the I.C. Howard YMCA Staff Scholarship for 2017. Carina has extensive knowledge about child and youth-focused programs and the issues facing families in regional settings. Carina is passionate about ensuring there is a strong commitment to the provision of effective, place-based and user centred early years' services within rural Victoria.

Carina was awarded the scholarship to travel overseas to Lille, France, to gain an international perspective on the social, cultural, political and economic factors that effect health inequalities for children, youth and their families. Carina through YMCA Global Studies explored how health is often understood in its restrictive sense of "absence of disease". However, other cultures, along with the World Health Organization, emphasised the notion of "well-being", as well as the social and environmental factors involved in health. Carina is currently completing a Masters by Research thesis, investigating how families navigate through health and early years' services from conception to school.

Peter Burns, YMCA Canberra

World YMCA Innovation Camp in Switzerland

Peter Burns, Community Development Manager at YMCA Canberra, was also a joint I.C. Howard Scholarship recipient in 2017. Peter recently attended the Global Innovation Camp in Leysin, Switzerland, as well as spending time with YMCAs in the UK and Europe.

Peter is disciplined, thorough and evidence-based in his approach to research and development. Peter has performed a range of roles with the YMCA in Canberra over several years and on each occasion has demonstrated his commitment to the YMCA values and the betterment of the Movement and the communities we serve.



YMCA Staff



Fiona Miller



Olivia Brown



Diane Shelton



Fiona Hellings



Sheryl Cole



Mandy Wong



Jacki Whitwell



Dianne McDonald



Jenny Rex



Georgie Nichol



Brian Rackham



Frances Bevacqua



Alli Carr



#YMCAAustralia

Level 1, 88 Market Street
South Melbourne, Victoria 3205

 +613 9699 7655

 admin@ymca.org.au

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