



unique as the communities we serve



YMCA

YMCA Australia
Annual Report 2009



Our Mission

The YMCAs of Australia work together from a base of Christian values to provide opportunities for all people to grow in body, mind and spirit.

Our Values

The YMCAs of Australia are guided to achieve their Mission by the following values:

We value the whole person, consisting of a body, a mind and a spirit each of which is of equal importance.

We value the dignity and intrinsic worth of all people regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, belief or other difference.

We value diversity of people, communities and nations.

We value equality of opportunity and justice for all people.

We value healthy communities based on relationships between people which are characterised by love, understanding and mutual respect.

We value acceptance of personal responsibility.

These values can be summarised by four key words: Honesty. Respect. Caring. Responsibility.

responding to needs

that are as unique as the communities we serve



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we are...

a community based charity that delivers programs and services to help build **strong people**, **strong families** and **strong communities** in over 500 YMCAs across Australia. We work in partnership with government, non-profit groups and partners to provide programs and services to more than 500,000 Australians every week in the areas of health and wellbeing, recreation, accommodation, children's services, camping, aquatics, youth and family services.

we strive...

to ensure that no one is turned away due to an inability (not an unwillingness) to pay. **Everyone is welcome** at the YMCA, regardless of faith, **race**, **age**, **abilities** and **income**.

The work carried out by the YMCA Movement in Australia builds connections between people, encourages social inclusion, and promotes individual empowerment by improving people's holistic health and wellbeing. The ways in which we help are direct responses to the unique needs of the communities we're a part of.

we will...

be Mission driven

through our commitment to social inclusion, benevolence, volunteering and international development.

be socially relevant

through our commitment to community engagement, regional and rural development, youth, environmental sustainability, health & wellbeing, and advocacy.

be institutionally viable

through our commitment to good governance, shared leadership, workforce development, program quality, standardised systems and sustainable growth.

(Derived from our Vision 2008-2012)

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YMCA Australia staff

Bob Nicholson	Chief Executive Officer
Nicholas Cox	Operations Manager
Melinda Paulin	Support Services Manager
Peter Newling	Policy Manager
Chris Shelly	Finance Manager
Matt Walton	Project Manager
Alli Carr	Risk and Projects Specialist
Charlie Heywood	Executive Assistant
Jenny Rex	Assistant Accountant
Mandy Wong	Accounts Clerk
Jacki Whitwell	Research & Policy Officer
Anita Lopez	Communications Officer/Design



We build strong **PEOPLE**
strong **FAMILIES** strong **COMMUNITIES**

Message from the President

“People may not always believe what you say – but they will believe what you do.”
Unknown

The Australian YMCA Movement continues to grow as a leading community-based organisation. We are primarily involved in ‘social change’ in our aim for building strong people, strong families and strong communities.

The YMCAs of Australia work together in over 500 communities across the nation, responding to community needs and providing community development opportunities in the local, regional and global contexts... and we believe in what we do.

We continue to provide an increasingly diverse range of programs and services as we *respond to needs that are as unique as the communities we serve.*

Some examples include:

- For single parents and their children, the Y is there, providing relationship building activities through recreation and education programs.
- For those unable to gain access to safe, affordable housing, the Y aims to provide new housing opportunities.
- For a number of young Indigenous people, the Y provides life experiences and life education programs.
- To those affected by the Black Saturday fires in Victoria, the Y continues to provide bushfire recovery services.
- For young people who need an accessible, youth focussed community radio station – the YMCA is there.

The list is diverse and I would encourage you to read deeper into this annual report and visit your local YMCA to gain more of the Y experience.

The Y would not be able to deliver many of these services and programs if it were not for our strategic partnerships and alliances with all levels of Government and other key community organisations. We acknowledge the assistance and support that we receive from our partners, sponsors, supporters and volunteers from right across the communities that we serve.

Further, the Y experience is not complete without an appreciation for the part we play in the World YMCA Movement. We continue to strengthen our connections with the World Alliance, the Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs and our other YMCA partners. We are truly part of a great World Movement.

As 2010 nears, the global volatility and unpredictability of the previous 12 months appears to still be with us. However, we continue to take on new challenges and opportunities with enthusiasm.

A significant opportunity begins with our 2050 Consultation Process (2050 CP) where we shall take a ‘whole of Movement’ perspective on the structures of the YMCA in Australia – with a view to 2050 and beyond. These are exciting times, where we as the YMCA Movement in Australia strive to be Mission Driven, Socially Relevant and Institutionally Viable.

Our retiring CEO, Mr Bob Nicholson, has been instrumental in the establishment of the 2050 CP and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the

commitment, passion and expertise that Bob has brought to the position of CEO of YMCA Australia over the past eight years.

The YMCA Movement in Australia has grown significantly under Bob's leadership, as CEO of YMCA Australia 2002-2010 and CEO of YMCA Victoria prior to that – forming part of his 45 year experience with the Y. His continues to be an illustrious career, and I am sure you will join with me in thanking and congratulating Bob for services above and beyond, and wish him well for his retirement in August 2010.

I would also take this opportunity to thank the Staff Team of YMCA Australia, the immediate past President, Greg Hebble, my fellow Board members and all Member Associations, staff and volunteers, for their commitment, support and enthusiasm over the past year.

I would like to acknowledge two retiring Board members from the YMCA Australia Board, Lorna Long and Dionne Devlin. Both have been enthusiastic and active members of the Board and I thank them sincerely for their contribution.

As we continue to move forward with the 2050 Consultation Process, CEO succession and strategic growth and development, our aim for the Australian YMCA Movement is to take our mission and service to the next level.

With determined leadership and a powerful team spirit – we will continue to respond to the needs of the communities we serve.



Alan Morton
President
YMCA Australia

YMCA Australia

board of directors

Tony Pederick

Peter Malone

Amber Grayson

Greg Hebble

Dionne Devlin

Jane Mugford
Vice President

Alan Morton
President

Richard Edwards

Bruce Harris
Treasurer

Bob Nicholson
CEO



Our 31 Member Associations operate in over 500 Australian Communities.

YMCA of **Ararat**
 YMCA of **Ballarat**
 YMCA of **Bendigo**
 YMCA of **Brisbane**
 YMCA of **Broken Hill**
 YMCA of **Bundaberg**
 YMCA of **Cairns**
 YMCA of **Canberra**
 YMCA of **Central Australia**
 YMCA of **Eastern Goldfields**
 YMCA of **Echuca**
 YMCA of **Gayndah**
 YMCA of **Geelong**
 YMCA of **Great Lakes**
 YMCA of **Hobart**
 YMCA of **Inner North East of Adelaide**
 YMCA of **Katherine**
 YMCA of **Lake Macquarie**
 YMCA of **Launceston**
 YMCA of **Manningham**
 YMCA of **Moorabool**
 YMCA of **Perth**
 YMCA of **Portland**
 YMCA of **Port Pirie**
 YMCA of **Queanbeyan**
 YMCA of **South Australia**
 YMCA of **Stanthorpe**
 YMCA of **Sydney**
 YMCA of **Top End**
 YMCA of **Victoria**
 YMCA of **Whittlesea**

“There’s something very rewarding about making a difference... that the things you do will directly impact on your community in a positive way, and change it for the better. That’s a good feeling.”

Bob Nicholson

CEO, YMCA Australia

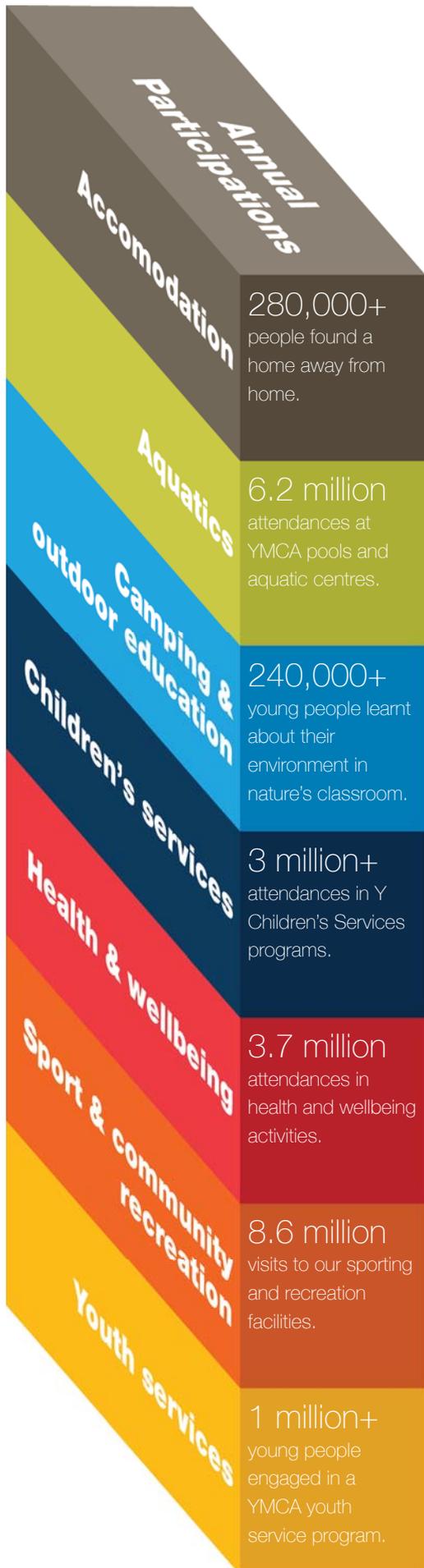
Our movement

The National Council of the YMCAs of Australia (YMCA Australia) is a federation of 31 independent Member Associations across Australia. Each of these Associations is governed by its own local, voluntary Board of Directors who are elected by its local members.

This structure ensures that local Ys serving their individual communities are empowered by, and responsive to local needs... each of which are as unique as the regions they lie in. From the Indigenous social inclusion programs running in the Northern Territory, to donated gym memberships for low income families who were hit hard by the global financial crisis in Victoria, the solutions the Y Movement provide are specific, timely and inherently responsive.

Highlighted on the coming pages are snapshots of the diverse and distinctive work being carried out across the many communities the Y Movement serve.

We work in these areas



Financial overview

The financial performance of the YMCA Movement has continued to grow over 2008-2009 with a combined turnover in excess of \$235 million. This result shows an increase of approximately 14.5% from the previous year.

Some of the more significant impacts on the financial result of the YMCA Movement throughout 2008-2009 were:

- Continued consolidation of contract tenders across the Movement.
- Impact of Federal Government stimulus packages, particularly in the areas of affordable housing and childcare centres.
- Continued growth of the health and wellbeing sector despite the global financial crisis.
- Tight employment markets impacting across the Movement.

- The effects from the collapse of ABC Learning Centres and the Movement's response to ensure the needs of communities were being met.

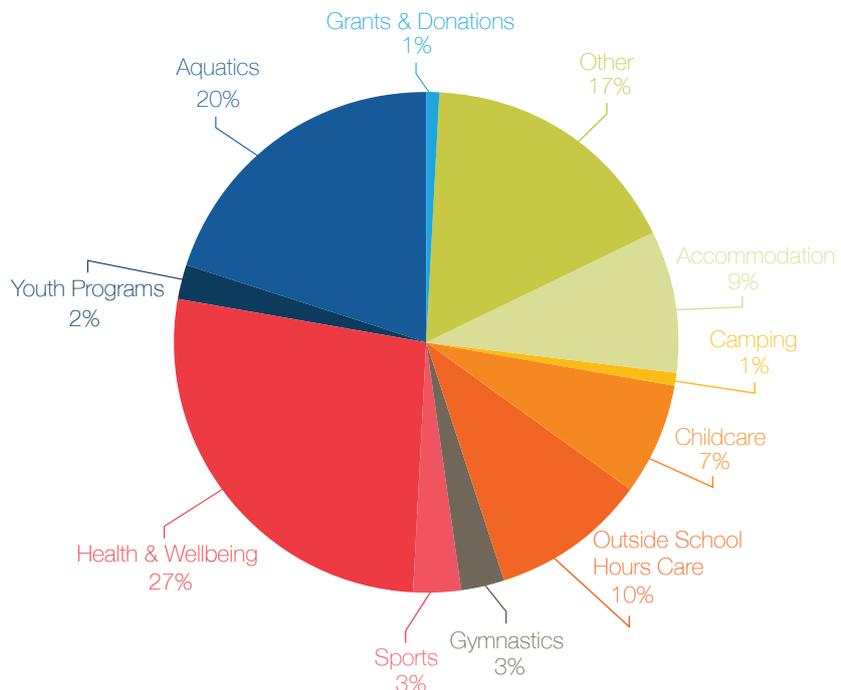
In addition to fee for service program areas, the YMCA was successful in continuing to access Government funding to provide specialist services in a number of program areas. During the year, the YMCA also received other grants and philanthropic donations to support the YMCA's charitable and benevolent work.

The YMCA Movement continues to form partnerships with a wide range of corporations, donors, trusts, Government departments, foundations and other organisations, to help deliver our programs and services.

As a not-for-profit charity, any surpluses generated are reinvested back into the community.

Audited financial statements of YMCA Australia and YMCA Member Associations are available upon request.

YMCA major revenue areas





Recovery comes in many forms

Victorian Bushfire Recovery Response

COMMUNITY NEED

Many children and young people lost their friends, their sense of safety, their recreation areas and their sense of belonging in the February 2009 Victorian bushfires. Their families and communities were left severely fragmented as they struggled to restore a sense of the familiar in their now changed lives. Aid did, and continues to take on many forms as the recovery effort carries on months after the fires are extinguished.

"We have promised to be with the affected communities for the duration of their long road to rehabilitation... and we will honour that promise." **Peter Burns** - YMCA Victoria CEO

The YMCA was and is in a strong position to assist in the medium to long-term rehabilitation of those communities directly affected by the bushfires. This rebuilding does not take on the form of bricks and mortar, but rather is a mix of practical, targeted solutions that facilitate rebuilding the emotional and physical strength of the individuals, families and communities involved.

Directly following the fires, the Y, in partnership with the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund, committed to providing a range of free programs and activities during school holidays in more than 20 bushfire affected locations for the Term 2, Term 3 and summer holiday periods.

These school holiday programs were and are provided for the many children who found the holidays difficult due to the hardships they personally endured, as well as the

destruction and damage to many local facilities in the area.

In the aftermath of any emergency, the importance of addressing the health and wellbeing factors to prevent long term physical and emotional ill health are fully realised.

As a leader in the field of programming, the post emergency rehabilitation response adopted by the Y may also include, family camps, youth mentoring and referral programs, children's activities, recreational support, and community social events.

The range of responses will vary depending on the specific needs and wants of the local community and are being developed and delivered in close consultation with other support agencies, particularly local government partners.

In the coming months, the recovery effort will also include a mobile youth service, funded by Newman's Own Foundation, that provides support, programs and activities to young people living in the affected communities. The service will be staffed by youth workers, who will also provide referrals to other services.



Building housing, delivering homes

Affordable Housing Project

COMMUNITY NEED

With the onset of the global financial crisis, housing affordability has surfaced as a major setback for Australians, but none have felt it hit quite as hard as lower-income Australians. Many people who fall within this threshold rely on a government pension as their only source of income, and the difference between this pension being adequate or inadequate can depend on housing costs. There are currently over 10,000 people on assisted accommodation waiting lists across Queensland, and this demand is increasing.

In 2008, after three years of negotiations and planning, the YMCA received building approval for the much needed, 52 unit housing development in Nerang. The \$8 million project was funded by the State Department of Housing and the YMCA and provides quality affordable housing to people experiencing housing stress.

'Melville Place, Nerang' opened its doors in 2009 and was named in honour of former YMCA Brisbane CEO, Ross Melville, who held a

long term desire for, and lobbied strongly to meet, the housing needs of the disadvantaged within the communities he served. Tenants for Melville Place are selected from Department of Housing waiting lists, and are those who are in dire need for the services that the village provides.

The design incorporates a community room in which tenants can meet, socialise and take part in training that helps to improve their quality of life. With its holistic

approach to addressing community issues, the YMCA is well placed to reduce the distress and suffering seen as a result of poverty and misfortune.

Currently, the complex is close to full occupancy and the ultimate goal with the project is not just to provide accommodation, but to create a true community that cares and works together for the betterment of all.



Giving the youth of Perth a voice

Hype FM

COMMUNITY NEED

Perth's only youth-driven community radio station, Groove FM, had its licence renewal denied by the Australian Communications and Media Authority in early 2008. This left the city's youth without a station that was accessible, community centred and complementary to the interests and opinions of the youth and student community of Perth.

After supporting Groove FM prior to its closure in 2008, the YMCA developed a strong relationship with a passionate and talented team of volunteers who were keen to see a youth focused radio station remain part of the broadcasting landscape in Perth.

In a productive 12 months, the YMCA successfully gained a Temporary Community Broadcasting License and began broadcasting in January 2009 with a dedicated team of 40 volunteers and a station coordinator.

Volunteers are the driving force behind the station, overseeing the music, programming, events, community promotions and general operations.

The station currently has 14 regular programs varying from genre specific music shows to talk back style programs highlighting relevant youth news and current affairs.

After a highly successful launch event earlier this year, Hype FM is emerging as a vibrant, youth-led initiative with great support from the youth and community sector.

last year there were over
5.6 million
 participatons in a YMCA
 program or service by
 young people
 (13-24 years old)



An environment of learning and opportunity

National Centre of Indigenous Excellence

COMMUNITY NEED

In 2006, the Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) purchased a site in the heart of Sydney, and transformed it in to what is now The National Centre of Indigenous Excellence (NCIE). The centre houses programs and provides facilities for young Indigenous people to help them achieve their dreams and aspirations in the areas of sport, art, education and culture. To help provide the depth and quality of service the ILC envisioned for its sporting and recreation visitors from across Australia, the centre needed a partner who would be sensitive to the unique needs of participants in their programs.

The YMCA has an established background in being a leader in the provision of services and programs that help build strength and resilience in young people, in body, mind and spirit. Due to this unique approach to service delivery and its link to the industry, the Y became the partner of choice for the NCIE in the areas of sports recreation, youth program development as well as staff development and training.

Within the NCIE the Y manages the Eora Sports, Arts & Recreation Centre as well as the Eora Campus. These centres act as activity hubs that house the programs and services that help increase opportunities and cultivate the talent of young Indigenous people who visit from across Australia.

The campus provides accommodation for visiting sporting teams, schools and tour groups, whilst the

sports centre is a state of the art community recreation facility that offers a wide range of programs accessible to the community.

The team delivering these programs and services currently consists of nine staff, six of whom come from an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background, with a view to increase this number as the partnership progresses.



last year
462,743
 children learned how
 to keep safer in and
 around water from
 the Y

Learning water safety without water

AquaSafe Theory Program

COMMUNITY NEED

After research was carried out by the YMCA, it became increasingly apparent that many school and early childhood education facilities were not able, for a variety of reasons, to engage their participants in practical water based aquatic education sessions. Consequently, many parts of the community were being disadvantaged by not being able to gain access to vital personal water safety and survival information, especially in rural areas where practical water safety education can be inaccessible.

The Y's plan was simple – if participants could not go to the pools, due to location, financial difficulties etc., then the safety training would go to them. Thus, the AquaSafe Theory program was developed.

The program is a theory based water safety and personal survival program for kindergartens, primary schools and community group education. A series of storyboards depicting a range of aquatic environments, together with a choice of magnetic 'add on' items, enables aquatic education teachers to build and

create scenes and scenarios that stimulate discussion, enhance an interactive learning environment and provide flexibility in mode of delivery.

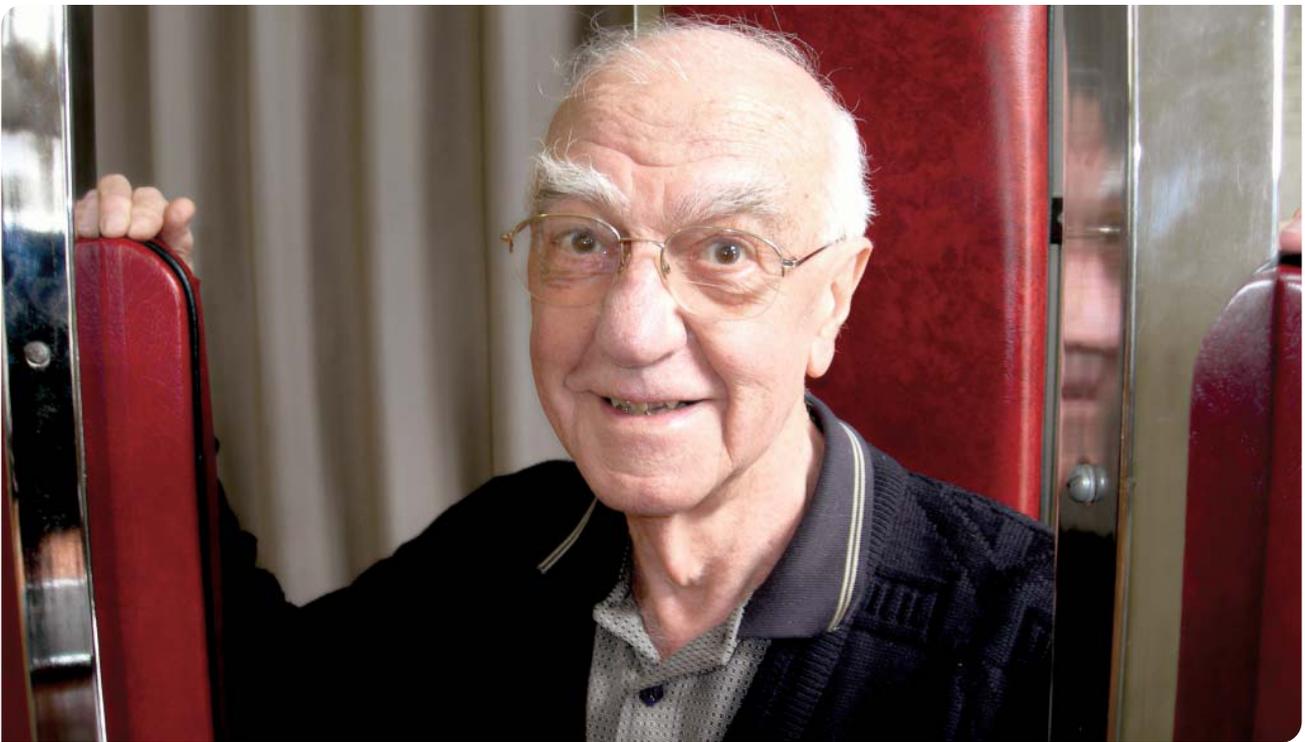
The program's variety and delivery options are vast. User groups can elect to focus on specific environments and expand on or reduce scenarios depending on group numbers and dynamics. The environments covered are not limited to pools and beaches, but also cover the following scenarios:

- Farm
- River
- Beach
- Home
- Lake
- Surf

The program is very visual and interactive, easily catering to:

- English Language School groups.
- Access groups.
- Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) community groups.

Sessions encourage students to actively participate in the program by asking questions, providing solutions and relating the topics discussed to the environment around them.



Social and fitness outlets for older adults

prYme Movers

COMMUNITY NEED

Like the continuing trend in many Australian communities, Canberra faces an increase in the unique and very real needs of an ageing population. The challenges take on many forms and can encompass community engagement, health, wellness and social and economical needs.

After having successfully run for a number of years in YMCAs across Australia, the Pryme Movers program arrived in Canberra. The launch of this program was in response to a clear gap in service delivery for older adults, one that addressed both the physical and social development needs of a growing and important segment of Canberra's community makeup.

The premise of Pryme Movers is that age is no barrier to friendship, fun and fitness for participants in the program, and has been well received by Canberra residents aged 50+.

The intimidation of walking into a loud and crowded gym full of fit young bodies was effectively removed. Carefully programmed activities are facilitated by instructors who are empathetic to the needs of mature adults. These instructors are trained to teach exercises and activities designed to cater for the variance in ages, fitness and skill level or ability of the participants.

Through participation, the sharing of common and individual goals and new and shared experiences, friendships are forged and vital connections made that promote community connectivity and good health. This, in turn, enhances the quality of life for all involved.

last year there were
2.7 million
visits by older adults
to YMCAs

Recognising the inspirational work carried out by our people across the movement

Each year the YMCA recognises the work carried out by individuals and Associations across the Movement in areas that encompass benevolent and volunteer work, as well as environmental sustainability. These awards act as a means of identifying, encouraging and often funding the inspirational work being carried out within the national Movement. A sub-committee of the YMCA Australia Board reviews all nominations, and selects the eventual award recipient.

Exemplary Volunteer

Service Award

The YMCA Exemplary Volunteer Service Award seeks to highlight the work of a YMCA Volunteer who has gone 'above and beyond the call of duty' for their Association during the previous 12 months.

Young Volunteer

of the Year Award

The YMCA Young Volunteer of the Year Award seeks to highlight exceptional service over the previous 12 months, as carried out by young volunteers. The recipient must be 'a young person', as defined by the Australian YMCA Movement, ie. under the age of 30.

IC Howard

Award

The IC Howard Scholarship has been awarded annually since 1989. It is a \$5,000 scholarship awarded for the further education and development of YMCA staff and is open to all staff members with at least two years of service.

Jed Macartney | YMCA Victoria

Jed was one of three main drivers behind the creation of the Bridge Project (www.bridgeproject.ymca.org.au); a YMCA driven program that aims to assist young offenders leaving custody with their reintegration back in to the community.

The program is now serviced by a voluntary Community Council of 33 people under Jed's capable leadership.

Donald Young | YMCA of the Top End

For 11 years Donald has been involved with the YMCA Youth Parliament, first as a participant and now as Coordinator of the program. His involvement with the Y also extends as a board member of the YMCA of the Top End. Through his volunteer work with the Y, he ensures that the young people of the Northern Territory are portrayed through the media in a positive light by educating the media on the fantastic and positive things young people are involved in. The recipient of the Young Volunteer of the Year Award also selects a YMCA youth program to receive a \$2,500 grant from the Abmoowoot Foundation. Donald has opted to utilise this grant toward sponsorship of Indigenous young people in the Youth Parliament program.

Ariana Kurzeme | YMCA Victoria

Ari began her career with the Y in 1993 as a junior lifeguard and today works as the Project Manager (Community) for YMCA Victoria. Enhancing the capacity for branches to respond to and connect with the communities they serve is central to her role as Project Manager. To help continue the work she is doing in community engagement, Ari will be using the scholarship to complete a Graduate Certificate in Social Science (Community Engagement).

Last year
2,305 volunteers
 contributed over
413,000 hours
 of volunteer work
for the YMCA

Y program award winners making a difference

Volunteer Program

Award

The YMCA Volunteer Program Award is a national Volunteering Working Group initiative, and aims to reward an Association for the development and implementation of a program that demonstrates best practice in volunteer engagement.

School Breakfast Program | YMCA Brisbane

In 2006, Education Queensland identified key schools within the State whose student population were in the high risk margin of going without breakfast each day.

YMCA Brisbane, in partnership with Education Queensland and Foodbank Queensland, has since been successfully running 'The Breakfast Club' to address this issue and to date has served approximately 235,984 free breakfasts to in-need children across Brisbane.

The success of the program is the result of dedicated volunteers who are crucial to the operation of the program. Over 100 volunteers between them contribute over 170 hours a week serving breakfast in the 24 schools that participate in the program.

Green Y

Award

The YMCA Green Y Award is a national Environment Working Group initiative, and aims to reward an Association for the development and implementation of an initiative that demonstrates best practice in environmental management.

Carbon Neutrality 2012 Initiative | Perth YMCA

In 2007, YMCA Perth committed to achieving a carbon neutral position by 2012 and in particular, make significant progress on carbon neutral childcare operations.

During 2008, YMCA Perth's environmental initiative achieved 100% reduction in greenhouse gases (GHG) from electricity consumption at both its head office and their seven childcare centres. Additionally, they reduced electricity consumption at head office by 21% through a range of targeted energy efficient policies.

Their results have been achieved without increasing the total-spend on electricity.

YMCA Australia

international vision

YMCA Australia is an active member of the World Alliance of YMCAs, and of the Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs. We are committed to developing an increased number of YMCA people and Associations that are engaged in international forums, programs and partnerships.

An International Standing Committee has been appointed by YMCA Australia to oversee its work with international partners. The Committee works toward achieving the following Vision and Principles:

The **YMCAs of Australia** are active contributors to the international Movement, seeking to enhance awareness and engagement, equity and understanding, and to foster a spirit of mutual learning.

World Alliance of YMCAs

The main areas of focus for the YMCA globally are expressed in their Challenge 21 statement which includes:

- Striving for the well-being of individuals and wholeness of communities.
- Empowering young people and women.
- Advocating for the rights of women and children.
- Fostering dialogue between different ideologies.
- Working in solidarity with the poor and oppressed.
- Seeking to be mediators in situations of conflict.
- Protecting the earth's resources for coming generations.

The next quadrennial World Council meeting is scheduled for 2010 in Hong Kong.

International YMCAs

responding to their unique communities

YMCA England

Burton homeless facility

Faced with an increase in the number of people displaced due to homelessness in the town of Burton, YMCA England erected and equipped a new shelter. The facility provides not only a base for the homeless but also provides the training and support needed to get back on their feet and reduce the number of people sleeping in doorways, especially in the winter months.

African Alliance of YMCAs

From subject to citizen

The program seeks to transform young people from the state of being subjects of leaders who can abuse them, to a state of true citizenship with independent minds. The national program aims to reverse the sickening phenomenon of young people being used by selfish gang leaders to perpetuate violence and crime of all forms across Africa.

YMCA Sierra Leone

Community centre

In 2008, the YMCA of Sierra Leone developed a sound plan to open a new Community Centre in the Kroo Bay slum, offering safety, community spirit, engagement and entertainment to the residents. It will offer residents a safe place for their children, and a space to host up to 300 people at a time for key community gatherings.

YMCA Liberia

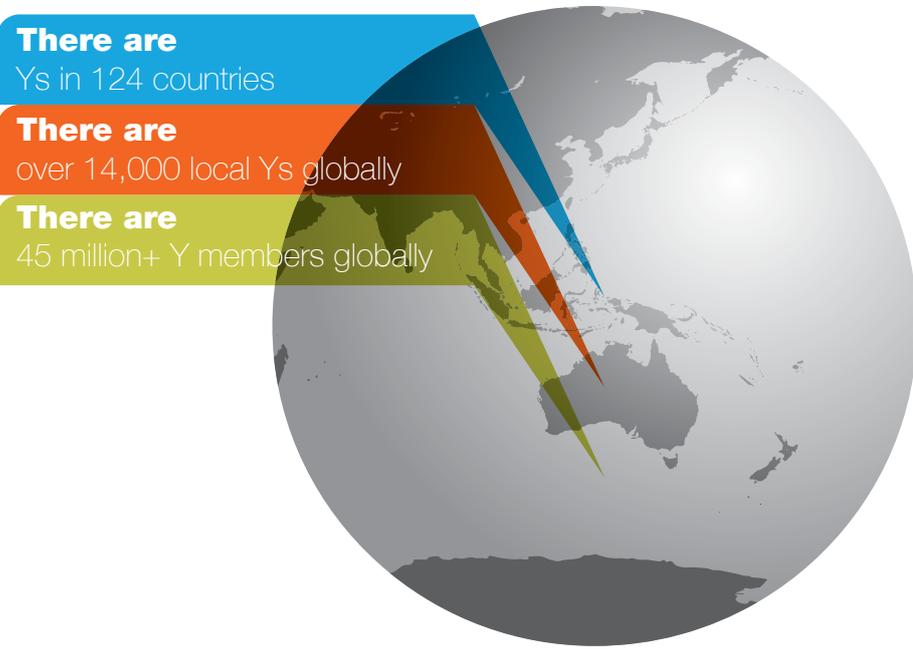
Building farming families

Following the long period of civil unrest and massive displacement in Liberia, many communities faced unemployment, poor education, health and housing facilities. In response to the desperate situation, YMCA Liberia launched a rice production programme that provided tools, seeds and training to farmers. A major component of the programme was the grouping of farmers into "farming families" to achieve larger productions and enhance solidarity in the community.

YMCA Chiang Mai

Preserving community forests

For over 15 years, the YMCA of Chiang Mai in Thailand has been running a participatory programme to raise awareness amongst villagers and grass roots communities of their rights and responsibilities regarding the use and preservation of their local forest and watershed areas. To date, approximately 50,000 people have participated in the process and as a result water resources have improved, illegal logging has been reduced, new forests have grown and environmental education and respect for nature has increased.



Policy report

affecting change, positively

Our policy work has focused on a broad range of key issues of relevance to the YMCA in Australia.

These issues have included:

- The role of the not-for-profit sector relationship with Government.
- Reforms in early childhood education and care.
- Health and wellness.
- Community-based sport.
- Preventative health.
- Obesity.
- Family support programs.
- Disability services.

During the course of the year, YMCA Australia in consultation with the Movement, made a number of submissions to the Federal Government and Commonwealth bodies, providing

our views and recommendations in response to the:

- Inquiry into the Disclosure Regimes for Charities and Not-for-Profit Organisations (Aug 2008);
- Inquiry into Obesity in Australia (Aug 2008);
- Development of a National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care (Sep 2008);
- Development of a National Compact between the Government and the Not-for-Profit sector (Sep 2008);
- Discussion Paper – Australian Sport: Emerging Challenges, New Directions (Nov 2008);
- Development of a National Disability Strategy for Australia (Dec 2008);
- Development of a National Preventative Health Strategy (Dec 2008);

- Development of a National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care (Mar 2009);
- Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) Discussion Paper: Developing a Family Support Program (May 2009); and
- Productivity Commission's study into the Contribution of the Not-for-Profit Sector (Jun 2009).

In support of our formal, written submissions to Government, YMCA Australia has also participated in consultations with Commonwealth departments, provided evidence at a Senate Committee hearing and has met with a number of senior Government Ministers to put forward our views on a range of topics.

MOVING FORWARD

Over the coming year we will continue to monitor policy developments and outcomes from the Federal Government and respond to issues of relevance to the YMCA. In particular, outcomes from the Productivity Commission's study into the Contribution of the Not-for-Profit Sector, developments towards a National Compact and the National Preventative Health Strategy will be central to our work.



Australian YMCA Superannuation Fund

Since 1949, the YMCA has assisted employees in developing a strong financial future. Australian YMCA Superannuation Fund (AYSF) is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors and administered by YMCA Australia. AYSF is open to all YMCA staff and their partners and currently has over 14,800 members and approximately \$65 million in assets.

The 2009 financial year was another volatile year for investment markets. Whilst falls in the share and property market continued for some time during the year, the market has shown signs of recovery towards the end of the financial year.

AYSF has declared the following results for the year ended 30 June 2009:

- -9.75% p.a. for Accumulation Accounts; and
- -9.13% p.a. for Income Stream Accounts.

AYSF's 12 month performance not only out-performed the median

Long term compound returns to 30 June 2009



returns of all major survey groups, it exceeded the first quartile for the two groups who publish such information. Within these survey groups, all returns for the year were negative and ranged from -7.6% to -17.8% p.a.

The graph above presents AYSF's compound annual return performance over a 5 and 10 year period compared to the median long term return figures published by the three major research agencies.

From 1 July 2009, AYSF has offered investment choice which allows members to opt for a growth strategy or a conservative Fixed Interest strategy, or a mix of the two. Information about investment choice is available on our website www.ymca.org.au/super, select Investment Choice.

AYSF's performance over the long term is competitive and in particular **exceeds the 10 year performance median** return published by each research agency.

Australian YMCA Institute of Education & Training

The YMCA, as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), delivers accredited training in a number of areas to dedicated staff across the Movement. During 2008-2009, the Institute delivered a number of new courses on top of existing courses within its scope of delivery including; fitness, first aid, child care, and recreation management.

In addition to internal training, the YMCA continues to offer nationally recognised training programs to the general community and during 2008-2009 delivered over 3,000 qualifications and short courses. The Institute provided training for full time, part time and school based traineeships at Certificate II, III, and IV as well as Diploma level qualifications.

The Institute offers a range of courses to both staff and the general public which include:

- Sport (Coaching)
- Sport & Recreation
- Community Recreation
- Fitness
- Business Administration & Management
- Assessment & Workplace Training
- Aquatics
- Children's Services
- Out of School Hours Care
- First Aid/CPR

YMCA E-Store

YMCA E-Store was developed to raise revenue to support the charitable mission of the YMCA. It's a company wholly owned by the YMCA, specially structured to develop a nationwide retail capacity for YMCA branded merchandise.



The business has experienced further operational and financial success, as well as continued growth and development. E-Store has ventured in to external retail mass marketing with Target Australia, and grown the YMCA local markets nationally. Over the past year YMCA E-Store has sold approximately 250,000 units of YMCA branded clothing through Target stores, contributing a further \$105,000 to shareholders. In addition, the YMCA brand and products have featured in three Target catalogues sent to 6.4 million homes nationally.

The business has increased income by approximately 6% in the financial year exceeding \$2 million in direct sales. During the reporting period, YMCA E-Store contributed over \$200,000 to the charitable work of the YMCA.

Furthermore, E-Store continues to play an important part in generating revenues for our sites through the sale of YMCA products.

Over the past twelve months, E-Store has commenced the implementation of a total logistics and administrative integrated system to streamline the business.

E-Store has:

- Developed a new website, www.ymcagear.com as part of our communications strategy.
- Further developed relationships with New Zealand YMCAs.
- Commenced sales in Hawaii.
- Secured supplier agreements with accredited manufacturers.
- Developed new and innovative products.
- Created further retail opportunities with Australian Chemists and also external swimwear retailers.

Australian YMCA Superannuation Fund

Directors

Richard Edwards (Chair)
 Ross Melville Ed Ferguson
 Bob Anderson Sathy Sappany
 Adrian Lombardo John Simkiss
 Ian Heraud Bob Nicholson

Staff

Carolyn Todhunter Strategy & Compliance
Sabina Hamidovich Fund Administrator
Kim Campbell Admin Assistant
Mandy Wong Admin Assistant
Regan Lesko Assistant

Institute of Education & Training

Frances Bevacqua Administrator
Nick Cox Institute Director

Campus managers

Andrew Ballam YMCA Perth
Will Sambrook YMCA Brisbane
Jill Willoughby YMCA Victorian

E-Store

Directors

Richard Edwards Ross Melville
 Ed Ferguson Peter Malone
 Linda Dillon Caz Bosch
 Bob Nicholson

Staff

Mark Sargent CEO
Kylie Bire Business Manager
Michelle Balassone Accounts Administrator
Lisa Garbellini Sales Administrator
Bradley White Centre Relationship Coordinator
Keith Van Den Driesen Warehouse Manager
Jarryd Sargent Assistant

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We build strong **PEOPLE**
strong **FAMILIES** strong **COMMUNITIES**