

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Building foundations to prevent youth homelessness




**KIDS
UNDER
COVER**

Breaking new ground

The delivery of Kids Under Cover's first studio in South Australia earlier this year brought much-needed relief to a north Adelaide family with a complex range of challenges.

Sixteen-year-old Charlotte* left home on several occasions, without space in the family home to find the peace and breathing space she needed.

Charlotte's mother said receiving the studio was like "winning the lotto — it's a dream come true". Without it, her eldest daughter would not have stayed at home despite having nowhere else to go.

Stories like Charlotte's show the life-changing difference our programs can make. How the stability and space of a studio can help change the pathway for a young person — from the potential of drifting without a stable home to being supported at a crucial time in their lives by the people who love them most.

*Name changed to protect identity



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY:

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

ABOUT US

Kids Under Cover's preventative approach to ending youth homelessness offers a unique combination of stable accommodation and scholarships to young people at risk. The early intervention model has proven to be effective in strengthening connection to family, community and education. Our support extends to young people leaving out-of-home care and the justice system, offering supported accommodation through our Village 21 program. Independent research and the positive outcomes we see show the impact of our work is life-changing for young people and families.

“It's made a huge difference. Family bonds are stronger. His work life, his studies and his outlook on life have been a lot more positive.”
— Carer of studio recipient

OUR VISION

Where no young person in our community is homeless.

OUR MISSION

Providing young people at risk of homelessness the foundations to strengthen their connection to family, community and education to make a lasting difference in their lives.

OUR VALUES

Empathy — Collaboration — Resilience — Engagement — Integrity

Providing sanctuary when it's needed most

MEASURABLE IMPACT

**CONFLICT BETWEEN
FAMILY MEMBERS
DECREASED FROM 70%**

TO 16% ↓

**CARERS' OPTIMISM
ABOUT THE YOUNG
PERSON'S FUTURE
INCREASED FROM 35%**

TO 79% ↑

**LEVEL OF
OVERCROWDING
IN THE HOUSE
DECREASED FROM 85%**

TO 15% ↓

2021-22 HIGHLIGHTS



5,960

Household members supported by a Kids Under Cover studio



940

Young people called a Kids Under Cover studio home



New Village 21 site begins development in Frankston



260

Scholarships awarded



628

studios on the ground as at 30 June 2022



Initial 8 of a planned 51 studios built and delivered in South Australia



57 extra studios provided accommodating 85 new recipients across Victoria and South Australia



45 Community Service Organisations engaged to help deliver programs

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



It gives me great satisfaction to share the 2022 annual report. The commitment of our team to improving outcomes for young people is reflected by the many achievements in these pages.

It's a comfort to know the organisation is well-placed to move ahead with confidence after a seamless transition to new leadership during what has continued to be a challenging time for our sector.

I would like to warmly congratulate Stephen on his appointment as CEO and acknowledge his wealth of expertise as a leader in the sector.

Stephen has taken the reins from Jo Swift, who joined Kids Under Cover in 2002 and was CEO from 2007 until last December. Under her leadership, Kids Under Cover achieved incredible growth and impact, building nearly 1000 studios, awarding more than 1000 scholarships, and making a profound difference to the lives of countless families. Jo's commitment to ending youth homelessness reached beyond Kids Under Cover to touch the entire sector and we are deeply grateful for her tireless service.

In the past year, we developed a strategic plan for the next three years, committing to increasing Kids Under Cover's impact through sustainably growing our portfolio of studios across three states, with increasing focus on advocating for preventative interventions and innovations.

I want to thank the incredible staff of Kids Under Cover for their continued hard work, their support for each other and their shared passion for our mission. Thanks also to my fellow directors for their professionalism and commitment through a busy period for the organisation, as well as the directors and chairman of Nestd, Greg Muller, for their dedication and commitment in growing our social enterprise focused on the small designer home market.

My gratitude, too, to those who have recognised the importance of our work and backed us with funding support; the Victorian and South Australian governments, our generous philanthropic partners, key suppliers and partners, and the many community fundraisers who are committed to a better future for young people.

With sadness, I must acknowledge the recent passing of our inspiring founder, Ken Morgan. Ken's passing was a reminder to us all of the resolute belief required to truly make a difference. Ever since he raised the funds to build the first Kids Under Cover home in 1989, Ken's commitment to improving lives was unwavering. His extraordinary legacy lives on through the success stories of the young people and families supported by the organisation he and Lenka started over 30 years ago.

Looking ahead, this is a truly exciting time for Kids Under Cover as we strengthen internally as a team, enabling us to work alongside our partners to extend the breadth and depth of our work to young people. With the longer-term impacts of the pandemic only really beginning to emerge, there has never been a more important time to disrupt the path to homelessness and make a lasting impact to the lives of young people at risk.

Nathaniel Popelianski
Chair



Ken Morgan,
founder of Kids Under Cover.

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



It's a great pleasure to introduce the Kids Under Cover annual report for the first time since starting as CEO in December. In this relatively short time, I've been blown away by the commitment of our people and by the life-changing impact our programs are having for the young people and families we work with. I feel incredibly fortunate to be part of such a passionate and driven team and to be overseeing such exciting and effective work.

The impacts of the pandemic continued to make life difficult during this financial year, particularly for the most vulnerable in our community. Despite the challenges, Kids Under Cover has continued to deliver and build on its legacy of over 30 years.

Throughout the year we delivered 57 new studios to backyards across Victoria and South Australia, providing stable homes to 85 young people and bringing much needed relief to families doing it tough. By the end of the financial year, 940 young people enjoyed the sanctuary of a Kids Under Cover studio each night, with a total of 628 studios on the ground. We also delivered 260 scholarships, helping young people keep up with the costs of education and making sure they have the resources to feel confident pursuing their educational goals.

I've fast become a passionate believer in our Village 21 model. The program is having amazing outcomes supporting young people during the challenging transition from out-of-home care to independent living. It was a real thrill to have our site in the Melbourne suburb of Preston awarded in the category of Excellence in Ending Homelessness — Young People at the Council for Homeless Persons' Victorian Homelessness Achievement Awards in December last year.

I'm so excited to be in the process of expanding the model to other cohorts of young people and making sure there are villages in the places

they are needed most. Village 21 is ideally placed to meet the needs of young people during high-risk transitions from residential settings such as out-of-home care, justice, and homelessness models, and drug or mental health treatment programs, to independence. We have built some strong and productive partnerships which enable the most effective delivery of the program. It's a great example of the value of collaboration within the sector; combining our areas of expertise to deliver the best outcomes.

The progress of our expansion into South Australia is well underway. At the end of this year, three studios had been delivered as part of the South Australian Government's commitment to help build 51 studios over three years. The SA Housing Authority will fund 70 per cent of each build and we've been blessed with support from corporate and community partners, in particular JB Hi-Fi Helping Hands workplace giving and Foundation Barossa's Homburg Homelessness Prevention Fund, to help cover the remaining costs.

The organisation is at an important time in its journey. The foundation of our work has been well and truly laid and as we look to the year ahead, we're shifting up a gear — furthering our reach, introducing new innovations and giving young people at risk the support they need to determine their own future.

Stephen Nash
CEO

OUR WORK — STUDIO PROGRAM

Kids Under Cover studios are at the heart of the work we do to prevent youth homelessness. Thirty-three years ago, our founder Ken Morgan had a vision to provide accommodation for families facing the prospect of homelessness. He raised the funds to build a house whose first tenant was a young mother who had been sleeping in a car. Today, Kids Under Cover studios provide stable accommodation for close to 1,000 young people each night.

The program supports people aged 12 to 25 recognised by Community Service Organisations as experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness.

The program provides a one or two-bedroom studio on the property of a family or carer — a secure and stable place for the young person to enjoy their independence while keeping them connected to the family. When the studio is no longer required, it is relocated to another family in need. The overwhelming response is positive, with a range of benefits for both the young person and the family.

“It’s actually amazing. I don’t think people realise. Just having a studio in the back yard — I don’t think people understand just how life changing it can be.”

— Carer of studio recipient

The risk of homelessness for young people can emerge for various and complex reasons. Often circumstances at home make leaving the only option. Whether it’s an overcrowded environment, challenges with mental health

or the stress of conflict within the household, there are countless reasons young people leave without the preparation or resources they need or simply with nowhere safe to go.

Without the right support, young people who leave home too early often enter a cycle of homelessness that can last their entire lives.

Kids Under Cover’s Studio Program aims to disrupt that cycle by reaching at-risk young people early enough to offer an alternative option — stable and secure accommodation independent from the house that maintains their connection to home.

CELEBRATING OUR 2022 ACHIEVEMENTS

This year, 940 young people enjoyed the comfort and stability of their own Kids Under Cover studio.

During another year impacted by COVID-19, our programs team delivered 57 studios accommodating 85 new recipients across Victoria and South Australia.

We retired or sold 14 studios due to their age and condition. This brings the total number of studios on the ground at the end of the financial year to 628. In total, 5,960 household members were supported by Kids Under Cover including those who live in the main house where a studio is located.

By working closely with Community Service Organisation partners, we have been able to make a life-changing difference for young people and their families by offering a solution that has been shown to strengthen family bonds, improve mental wellbeing and provide the opportunity to build a brighter future.



ALANNAH’S STORY

Even before she spent months moving around between caravan parks and campsites with her family, waiting to find a home, Alannah was facing ongoing challenges with her mental health.

The instability helped fuel an anxiety that at times made school, friendships and everyday tasks feel like a burden too heavy to bear.

When the family was offered a place to live there was certainly some relief. But a three-bedroom house for a family of four presented a new challenge for Alannah.

“Without somewhere to be alone, it was really difficult,” she says. “I knew I had the ability and the tools to cope but I couldn’t use them without my own space.”

Research tells us the extra space offered by a Kids Under Cover studio can have an incredibly positive impact on the mental wellbeing of young people. Alannah’s mum could hardly believe the change she saw in her daughter.

“As silly as it sounds,” she says, “just a room and a bathroom were all it took to allow her to have more control. It sounds like we’re exaggerating but we’re not. It’s exactly what happened.”

Her family was also grateful that while providing a quiet space to unwind, the studio has enabled Alannah to stay connected to her home.

“It’s given her independence — she’s on her own but she’s still within the family. That’s what we love about it.”
— Alannah’s mum

“I really wanted to keep Alannah at home. I didn’t want her to have to move out, but the house only had three bedrooms — so I’m on the couch or she’s on the couch... At her age she needed that independence, but she also wanted someone close by to watch over her just in case.”

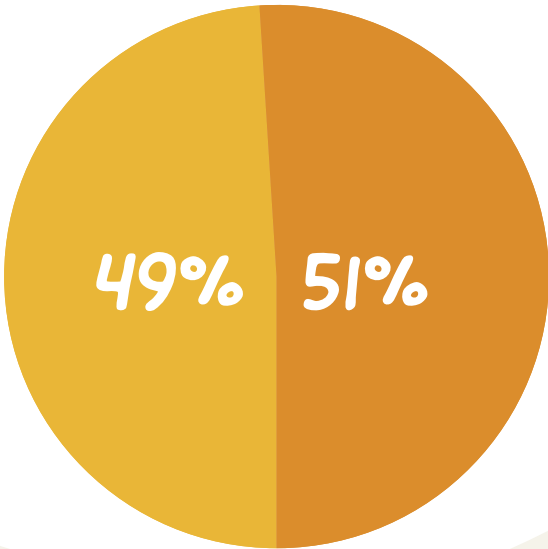
Both Alannah and her mum recognise a distinct shift from the person she was to the young woman she has become. From not being able to go into the supermarket to buy milk, to someone who now works in customer service full-time.

“The studio was a huge part of how she got to where she is now. It showed her that she could do it herself. She didn’t need to let the anxiety control everything. She could work that out on her own, and in her own space.”

THIS YEAR'S STUDIOS

STUDIO SIZE

- One-bedroom
- Two-bedroom



FAST FACTS



Studios have a long lifespan and are relocated multiple times.



Prefabricated and flat-packed, studios can be built in a back yard, with services connected, in around 10 days.



Our studios are 100 per cent Australian-made from domestically sourced materials by a family-owned business in regional Victoria.



They are built with environmentally friendly Durra Panel and have a six-star energy rating.

STUDIO RECIPIENTS HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS WHO:

Identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	33%	Live with mental illness	33%
Live with a disability	31%	Have child protection involvement	36%

STABLE, SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE

Derek Layfield is passionate about sustainable building and about our Studio Program. The managing director of Ortech Industries, his company produces the cost-effective, energy-efficient and eco-friendly Durra Panel with which every Kids Under Cover studio is lined. Here, he explains the process.

"Let's start with the raw materials. After a wheat harvest, you're left with the straw stubble in the paddock. This is usually burned, releasing carbon into the atmosphere, contributing to global warming. It's a huge issue. Rather than burn the straw, we take it out of the paddock, pay the farmer, then put the straw through our machine to produce the Durra Panel that goes into the studios.

On top of that, those studios can be repurposed time and time again. They go to a family in need and once they've fulfilled their purpose they can be relocated. And at the end of the useful life of the panel, it can be shredded and returned to earth safely to help grow more food.

To be surrounded by a straw panel...it feels good. It feels like a comfortable internal environment. That's why architects want to use natural materials.

“They’ve made a choice to minimise the environmental impact with everything they’re doing in their buildings.”

It's part of what sets Kids Under Cover apart from a lot of other organisations. It's smart. It's a win-win. They've made a choice to minimise the environmental impact with everything they're doing in their buildings.

If you can use an otherwise wasted resource... I mean how nice is that? It's cradle to cradle. It comes out of the earth and gets returned to the earth. It's a beautiful thing."



WEATHERING THE PANDEMIC

As Australians emerged from lockdowns, the damaging impact on families and young people continues to be measured, particularly for those living in crowded or unstable households. There have been unprecedented numbers of calls to mental health services, an increase in incidents of domestic violence, and a steady growth in the number of people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Emergency services across the country have been under siege and it's the young people in our community who have suffered most.

Unsurprisingly, Kids Under Cover has experienced overwhelming demand for studios.

Applications were closed a number of times as demand exceeded available funding.

Despite the complexities of working through supply chain issues, ongoing waves of COVID-19 and flu, and office closures, our teams were successful in delivering every studio that was promised. Housing and homelessness functions remain an essential service, so working closely with Ortech Industries and building partner Harris HMC, we were able to hand over studio keys to 57 new families throughout the year.

We continue our work with government and philanthropic supporters to find ongoing sources of funding to ensure our unique, early intervention model can support the carers and young people who need it most and relieve some of the pressure on crisis services.



EXPANSION INTO SOUTH AUSTRALIA

It's an exciting time for the organisation as the Kids Under Cover Studio Program's expansion into South Australia is well underway. After a successful pilot in 2021, work has begun on the delivery of 51 studios across the state over the next three years.

The South Australian government estimates that as many as 2,000 young South Australians do not have a permanent roof over their heads, with the numbers of young people at risk of homelessness a growing concern, particularly in the regions.

The South Australian Housing Authority has pledged \$2.3 million to our early intervention program, accounting for 70 per cent of the costs of the studio builds. The remaining 30 per cent will be covered by philanthropic partners in a welcome collaboration between government, corporate and community sectors.

The program has been endorsed by newly

appointed Human Services Minister Nat Cook. "We welcome every effort to improve housing and reduce homelessness and Kids Under Cover is one of the many organisations working across South Australia in this area," she said.

The first official studio launch took place in Adelaide's north to provide much needed relief to a family experiencing multiple challenges. The 16-year-old recipient has left home on several occasions but believes the studio will give her the space she needs to stay connected with home.

Her mother said receiving the studio was like "winning the Lotto — it's a dream come true". Without it, her eldest daughter would not have stayed at home, despite having nowhere else to go.

To date, we have built eight studios with our project partners Sensum and Fusco, providing stable and secure accommodation for 11 young people in South Australia, with the aim of delivering 25 studios in the state before the end of the calendar year.

Minister for Human Services Nat Cook with Kids Under Cover's Deputy CEO, Heather Fisher, and Head of Development and Innovation, Pete Zwiers.

A GREAT-GRANDMOTHER'S GIFT

In the days leading up to their studio being completed, Margo's four great-grandsons couldn't wait for their studio to be built.

"They were out there looking through the windows," she said. "The eldest already knew which room would be his."

The two-bedroom studio is the first to be built in the Barossa, where the number of young people sleeping rough or in cars is a growing concern. It's been funded by the South Australian Government's Homelessness Prevention Fund in partnership with Foundation Barossa's Homburg Homelessness Prevention Fund.

Margo took the boys in after their parents were having difficulties and struggling to give them the opportunities they needed.

"I said, 'my word, I'll take them in!' They're my boys. I wouldn't think of anybody else having them."

For the past 12 months, they've all been sharing Margo's small three-bedroom house. One of the boys slept on the couch and tension had been rising between the brothers.

"We're just flat out trying to fit a lounge suite in the lounge room," Margo said. "We can't all fit around the table, there's not enough room. The cooking area's very short on space, the bedrooms are very small. So, we were very cramped actually."

The boys are quiet and quite withdrawn, a trait Margo attributes to the difficulties they've had at home in the past. Margo has been working on developing their independence, encouraging them to make their own decisions and giving them a solid routine — taking them to tai kwon do, the movies or bowling as regularly as she can.

"The studio will be good training for when they do leave home. It'll help them be able to fend for themselves when they're out in the big wide brutal world."

While their great-grandmother acknowledges the relief the new space will bring, she's also grateful the two moving in will still be part of the household.

"I think it'll take the pressure off everybody else in the house. We're so thrilled and appreciate it so much. It's just going to make our life so much easier. "

"I'm going to miss them, being inside all the time. But you know, they'll be in and out. Because the food in the cupboards is in here. And wherever the food is, they're not far from it."

"I think it'll take the pressure off everybody else in the house. We're so thrilled and appreciate it so much. It's just going to make our life so much easier."

Margo and one of her four great-grandsons are enjoying the addition of their studio.

A nurturing environment to grow



OUR WORK — SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Scholarship Program has been a key pillar of the organisation's support model since 2005. Our strategy of complementing the provision of stable and secure accommodation with educational support through scholarships works to target the immediate needs of young people at risk of homelessness and create an easier pathway towards the future.

The program is designed to target young people who are keen to pursue their educational development but need support to obtain the resources required to keep up. It's often extra expenses such as uniforms, laptops, excursions and camps that can lead to social exclusion and stigma for young people. A sense of not being able to participate on a level playing field can result in a lack of motivation and the educational journey ending prematurely for some.

The Kids Under Cover model of support has identified that the combination of a stable living environment with the opportunity to pursue education is key to giving young people every opportunity to thrive.

Independent research by DBM Consultants has found most scholarship recipients experienced a positive impact on their confidence, mental wellbeing and social inclusion.

This year we were proud to award the Sarah Davies Empowering Women Scholarship which recognises a young person who demonstrates exceptional personal and educational potential in a field that supports her community.

2022 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM RESULTS

This year, Kids Under Cover awarded 260 scholarships, up two per cent from 2020-21.

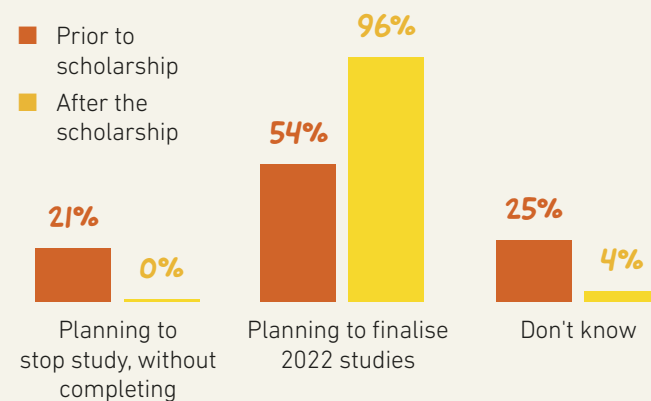
We award scholarships to young people living in a studio as well as any eligible young people living in the main home.

This approach ensures Kids Under Cover is supporting all young people in the household to stay engaged and supported in their educational aspirations, not just the studio occupants.

This year 49 per cent of scholarship recipients were studio occupants, and 51 per cent were young people living in the main home.

Kids Under Cover also administered 305 Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing Student Scholarships. This state government initiative assists young people living in public or community housing, or those at risk of homelessness, to secure the support they need to stay in school.

PLANS TO COMPLETE 2022 STUDIES



EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN THROUGH EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

Earlier this year, Kids Under Cover was delighted to award its inaugural Sarah Davies Empowering Women Scholarship. Potential candidates were identified for their hunger to learn and their commitment to giving back to their communities. In the end, the selection panel couldn't separate the two most eligible candidates — so they awarded a scholarship to each.

From early on in high school, scholarship recipient Sarah was clear about what she wanted to do.

Having had a turbulent upbringing, she was interested in how the experience of trauma as a child contributes to who we become as adults. She balances her studies for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Psychology with work as a disability support worker.

"I've always been interested in understanding why people behave the way they behave and how the things that happened through a person's life contribute to that behaviour. The things I've had to witness affected me a lot

and I've experienced how helpful it is to get professional support. So, I wanted to be a part of that and help other people."

Sarah said she was excited to receive the scholarship. "I'm hoping to graduate in December but because I'm working that's gotten in the way as well. Knowing I've got this extra support, I can put more time into study and take more time off work. From the bottom of my heart — this is something that I really want to be able to do."

Fellow recipient Elisabeth also shows enormous promise in her academic pursuits.

Her motivation for studying biomedical sciences was simply to make the world a better place, she said. "I feel that is something everyone can relate to, particularly Sarah Davies and Kids Under Cover, who through their kindness and work have made not only my world, but countless others, a better place."

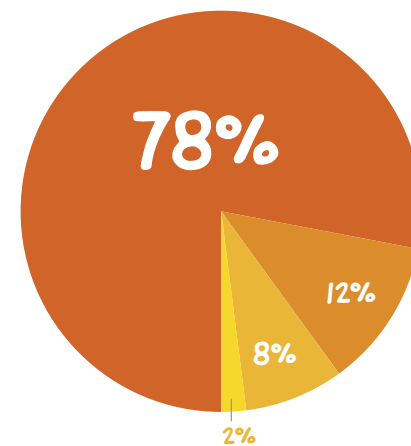
"I hope one day to be able to pay forward everything that has been given to me, to others. But for now, I will continue to express my gratitude through my actions and continuously proving I was worth every chance and opportunity I have so graciously been given."

Kids Under Cover ambassador Sarah Davies (right) awards the scholarship named in her honour.

WHO ARE OUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS?

EDUCATION TYPE

- Secondary school
- TAFE/Job training
- University
- Primary school



- 19% live with a mental illness
- 15% have a disability
- 23% identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- 8% have a non-English speaking background
- 2% have a refugee background

INDEPENDENTLY CONDUCTED INTERVIEWS FOUND THAT SINCE RECEIVING A KIDS UNDER COVER SCHOLARSHIP:



56%

of carers report that the young person has **better attendance at school**



71%

of carers state that the young person's **academic achievement has improved**

“The scholarship has helped confirm that people care about her, believe in her, and want her to achieve her goal of going to university. It has boosted her confidence and helped her to feel she has contributed to the cost of her education. I believe these differences have been even more important than the financial benefit of the scholarship!”

“It has helped keep them focused and up to date with studies whilst not having to stress about money for school needs. We were able to pay for technology, books and uniforms which has made their lives easier and given them more confidence.”

73%

of carers confirm the scholarship has had a strong impact on the young person's ability to **participate and feel included**

96%

of carers report a better ability to **purchase the necessary school or course requirements**

Building
brighter futures



OUR IMPACT

LIFE-CHANGING RESULTS

Every year, the impact of Kids Under Cover’s work for families is measured by independent researchers, DBM Consultants. Annual program evaluations help to gauge exactly how the lives of families have been improved by the addition of a studio at home.


This year, 164 families were interviewed. They were asked to share their experience and report on how various aspects of their life had changed from before having the studio to after having lived with it for a period of time. The team also collected general testimonials to reflect the overall experience.

The results of the research from 2022 are overwhelmingly positive.

It’s clear from the data that the relief a studio brings from an overcrowded home environment


is significant and the extra space improves things for young people in various ways.

The positive stories we hear confirm that our support model continues to make a life-changing difference for young people and their families. Our thanks to the team at DBM Consultants for their comprehensive assessment and dedication to the evaluation of our work.




Frequent risk-taking behaviours such as drug and alcohol use, risky online activity and illegal or dangerous activities

DECREASED FROM 35% TO 6% ↓



Young person almost always **meeting school attendance** requirements

INCREASED FROM 63% TO 92% ↑



Conflict between family members

DECREASED FROM 70% TO 16% ↓

“He has a more positive outlook on life with his own independence. Family dynamics are more positive towards each other. The studio has been a blessing for all of us.”

“It made a very positive impact on her, she is able to have her own space and work on positive habits that help benefit her future.”

“They feel like they have more control over their own lives.”

Carers’ optimism about the young person’s future

INCREASED FROM 35% TO 79% ↑

Incidence of young person **feeling happy**

INCREASED FROM 30% TO 87% ↑

Level of **overcrowding** in the house

DECREASED FROM 85% TO 15% ↓

Performance at school, TAFE or university

IMPROVED FROM 49% TO 86% ↑

Incidence of **time spent away from home** without carer knowing whereabouts

DECREASED FROM 36% TO 12% ↓

“It’s really helped him assess what is available to him. It’s given him room and time to breathe and to carefully make decisions about his life and future. And he’s learnt skills to help him be independent.”

“It’s been absolutely life changing. My girls now have their own space, privacy and stability, they are not embarrassed any more to have friends over and take pride in keeping the studio looking presentable. The minute they moved in I could see a huge change in their mood, it is awesome to see them happy and at home, safe with me.”



VILLAGE 21

A STEPPING STONE TO INDEPENDENT LIVING

As Kids Under Cover reaches the point of scaling our work to expand across state borders and target specific cohorts of young people in the community, the Village 21 model will be a key component of where we go from here.

After 18 months our pilot site in Preston, Melbourne, is showing remarkable progress, giving us important insights into how the village is best supporting young people, how we can further develop the model, and where other villages could have the most impact.

Village 21 is designed to fill a gap for young people who have experienced out-of-home care and need support to successfully transition to independent living. The village provides accommodation for up to six people aged 18 to 21 and two live-in mentors. The model is underpinned by a key practitioner who helps the young people access services, social activities and employment or training opportunities. Each studio within the village ensures residents' privacy while a communal area encourages shared cooking, conversation and social interaction.

The project is funded by the Victorian Government and run in partnership with Anglicare Victoria, who provide the wraparound services and mentor program. Site manager Leon Jordon from Anglicare has seen how important living skills are developed within the program.

"There's somewhere a young person can go to learn the skills for a certain job," he said. "There's somewhere they can go to get assistance with budgeting. There's somewhere they can go to get medical support. But there's nowhere young people can go to learn those really core life skills. And the village is a place where we're doing a lot of that work that's so important.

"It's these lacking skills that are driving the cycle of homelessness for the young people

that we work with. They don't get talked about often enough. There are no real services where those fundamental skills are really a key focus. That's one of the areas where I think we're making a real difference at Village 21."

Residents will leave Village 21 Preston with a rental reference from a local real estate agent, be supported in finding their next home, and head out into the world better equipped for the next phase of their journey.

The two Village 21 mentors won Outstanding Volunteers at Anglicare Chairpersons Awards 2022.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

Village 21 Preston is being consistently reviewed during its three-year pilot both internally and by researchers from the Centre for Urban Transitions at Swinburne University in Melbourne.

Key findings after 18 months include:

- The Village 21 project has the capacity to be transformational for the Victorian Government in reducing the financial and social burden of homelessness for young people. It also provides a transformative opportunity for young people to develop independent living skills;
- Village 21 Preston is a well-considered part of the Victorian Government response to the volatile transitions that occur in many instances for young people leaving out-of-home care;
- On entering the village, none of the young people were employed. The employment rate of residents now is at 66 per cent;
- 56 per cent of residents had involvement with youth justice in the 12 months prior to entry. None of the occupants have had involvement with youth justice in the last 12 months;



Serg enjoys the communal vibe at Village 21.

- 56 per cent of residents were homeless upon entry to Village 21. None have experienced homelessness since exiting the village;
- Two of the young residents have already transitioned into independent living;
- All of the young people housed have shown measured and significant improvement in living skills.

THE LITTLE THINGS MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE

Without the stability of a family home growing up, Serg spent years moving between foster care, residential care and the Lead Tenant program. When he was offered a place at Village 21 Preston, he was buoyed by the unique combination of his own independent space and guidance from the live-in mentors and his key practitioner, Erin.

"The village offers a good spot to be able to figure out what on earth you want to be doing," he said. "To be able to pick up some new skills with some supports that really care."

Serg shares the village with five other young people and believes the communal aspect is what gives it its "buzz". He's a big fan of the weekly cooking nights and the support he

gets has helped him take significant strides from where he was 18 months ago.

Initial reviews of the support model are showing how important the day-to-day life lessons are in preparing young people who haven't always had exposure to those fundamental skills.

"Since I've been at Village 21 my confidence has skyrocketed," Serg said. "I've been more focused, I've been able to participate in more local things, I've been picking up art, I've been learning all these little hobbies and skills. And stuff that'll last for my lifetime, like budgeting, self-care, hygiene, keeping up the cleaning of the common area. It's good for learning stuff to be able to live down the line in the future in share housing or whatever. I've been hanging my pictures up on the wall recently because I want to feel proud about it. Which has been good for my self-esteem. I have never considered putting up my posters until I moved here."

At the heart of it, Village 21 has provided Serg with a stable place to be, rather than the inevitable uncertainty that comes for young people exiting out-of-home care without preparation to confront the challenges of independent life.

"If I wasn't at Village 21, I don't think I'd be living in any sort of accommodation. I'd be homeless, hoping that I could find a place to be sleeping and living and being able to afford food and such. The village has given me an opportunity to get some sure footing and figure myself out."

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Morgan is one of two live-in mentors at Village 21 Preston. It's a voluntary role that serves to gently guide the young residents and lead by example in terms of everyday living skills.

"I offer as much support as the young people want. I walk alongside them rather than pushing them towards something I want. It's more based around what they want out of this program, what skills they'd like to develop. But also, if they're not super-keen to engage in that support, I'm like a trauma-informed housemate. Holding them accountable in a way that's really understanding and sympathetic towards their past."

Some of the young people living in the village have had very little exposure to the basic domestic requirements of communal living. Vacuuming, cooking, pressing a shirt — skills that can be taken for granted but are an essential step towards independence.

There are also challenges in terms of accessing services that Morgan is on hand to help with alongside the key practitioner who visits the residents on a regular basis.

"As a mentor, we're not doing things for the young people, we're trying to empower and upskill them to effectively do these things on their own. A lot of the young people here haven't had particularly positive adult role models in their life. People who are present, consistent and also sympathetic to some of their circumstances."

Morgan said it's the sense of community that he enjoys most and it's what makes the model unique for this age group. Between himself, the other mentor and the young residents, there's always somebody around to interact with even if that's not necessarily to offer guidance or advice.

"It'll be really lovely to see what they're up to in five to 10 years. I'm certain it'll be a much better place than it would have been had Village 21 not existed."



The communal space at Village 21 Preston.



BUILDING KEY PARTNERSHIPS

The successful delivery of the Village 21 program is dependent on the development of effective partnerships that utilise specific areas of expertise. The structure and physical components of the program are provided by Kids Under Cover and draw from more than 30 years of success with our Studio Program.

The case support and mentor programs at Village 21 Preston are delivered by teams at Anglicare Victoria, the state's leading provider of out-of-home care services for children and young people.

Plans are underway to open a village in Frankston, Victoria, specifically designed to accommodate young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This project partners with the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) to lead the service delivery component and oversee the cultural appropriateness and specific supports required for this cohort.

The village, on Bunurong country, will be named Moorumbina Mongurnallin. The name

originated from a local young person and means, "You are loved" in Bunurong language.

We can't wait to share the progress of this special project which is due to open its doors towards the end of the 2023 financial year.

Work is underway on the development of a new Village 21 in Frankston.



OUR SECTOR

JOINING THE CHORUS

It's clear the voice of our sector has grown louder and stronger in calling on state and national leaders to commit to a robust, long-term plan to address youth homelessness. At Kids Under Cover, we are wholehearted members of the chorus, with a coordinated approach to advocacy to influence decision makers, enhance fundraising opportunities and create effective change.

In addition to our ongoing support for the Everybody's Home campaign calling on government to create a better, fairer housing system for everyone, this year we were involved in a range of activities to add our voice and insights towards ending child and youth homelessness.

The major aims of this collective advocacy work are to achieve government leadership,

the development of a strategy to end youth homelessness and commitment of the necessary resources and changes to make this possible.

Kids Under Cover staff have spoken at key summits and forums and published various articles in traditional and digital media channels. We have worked closely with key individuals, organisations and peak bodies on a state and national level to seek to influence policy and budget allocations for youth housing.

MOVING AHEAD WITH GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

During the year, Kids Under Cover continued to foster a strong, mutually supportive relationship with the Victorian and South Australian governments. We gratefully received funding

from the Department of Family, Fairness and Housing (DFFH), the Victorian Property Fund (VPF), the Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS) and the SA Housing Authority.

In 2019 DFFH committed to providing funding of \$4.5 million over four years, enabling us to build 22 studios in the first year, and 18 in the years following. This year was the final one of this four-year agreement. Funding from DFFH has also enabled the commencement of construction of our new Village 21 site in Frankston.

In addition, there was a continuation of a funding commitment from DFFH for a partnership with Melbourne City Mission and Uniting called Detour. We were able to complete six studios during the year through the Detour program, and we look forward to continuing delivery of the program over the next 12 months.

Meanwhile, 2021 was the first year of our partnership with the Department of Justice and Community Safety to deliver studios that support the rehabilitation of young people transitioning out of the youth justice system. A \$3.4 million investment by the Victorian Government will fund 50 relocatable studios to address this critical housing need. The studios are due for completion by June 2023.

As a result of this collaboration, we are extending our reach to further support rehabilitation and re-integration for those involved in, or at risk of becoming involved in, youth justice. At the end of the 2022 financial year, we delivered 24 of these studios.

Kids Under Cover sincerely thanks the Victorian Government for their ongoing support of our shared vision of a community where no young person experiences homelessness.

We're also grateful for funding provided by the SA Housing Authority to enable our expansion in South Australia with a commitment to building 17 studios per year over the next three years. As at the end of the 2022 financial year, we have built eight studios which are providing stable and secure accommodation for 11 young people under this arrangement. We are committed to delivering 51 studios in South Australia before the end of the current agreement in June 2024.

New horizons



Kids Under Cover CEO Stephen Nash (left) with CEO of Homes Victoria, Ben Rimmer, who shared his insights at our strategy planning day.



STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-25

LOOKING AHEAD

It's an exciting time for Kids Under Cover, with the development of a new three-year strategic plan which will see us embark on a period of growth and expansion for our programs. The organisation has recently undergone a leadership change and there has been significant shifts in the sector in terms of both funding and a focus on homelessness throughout the pandemic. Our aim is to leverage the strong foundation and productive partnerships that have been built over more than 30 years to extend the breadth and depth of impact we create for young people.

STRATEGIC GOALS

At the core of our plan is taking advantage of the platform we have built to scale our programs to achieve further reach and greater impact. The plan has ambitious targets over three years:

- 1,300 young people enjoying the stability of a studio each night
- Programs established across three states
- 10 innovations centred on the effective prevention of young people experiencing homelessness

A THREE PILLAR PLAN

Three strategic pillars underpin the core of our strategy as we work to break new ground in the early intervention and prevention space:

1. **Sustainable growth** — Expanding the Studio Program to at-risk households
2. **Strong voice** — Achieving systems and policy change by increasing the strength, presence and profile of Kids Under Cover
3. **Innovation** — Creating new solutions and opportunities for growth and increased impact

The first of these pillars will be achieved by sustainably growing our portfolio to house 1,300 young people each night across three states. Growth will be supported through the unlocking of new sources of funding and the alignment of our fundraising strategy to the organisational strategy.

We will be proactive in amplifying the calls within our sector for stronger leadership and co-ordinated and collaborative state and national plans to address youth homelessness.

The third pillar will see Kids Under Cover investigate new and innovative solutions to maximise our impact, drawing on our work with the transition from out-of-home care and for the cohort of young people at risk and involved with the justice system in need of housing support.



MISSION

Providing young people at risk of homelessness the foundations to strengthen their connection to family, community and education and make a lasting difference in their lives.



VISION

Where no young person in our community is homeless.



VALUES

- Empathy
- Collaboration
- Resilience
- Engagement
- Integrity

1,300 YOUNG PEOPLE, 10 INNOVATIONS, 3 STATES

Increase our impact through **sustainably growing** our portfolio to house **1,300 young people** each night **across three states** with increasing focus on **advocating** for preventative interventions with **several youth-focused innovations** in the pipeline.



SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Expanding our Studio Program to a sustainable portfolio whereby 1,300 young people are housed every night across three states.



STRONG VOICE

Increasing the strength, presence and profile of Kids Under Cover with key decision makers to unlock sustainable funding and champion earlier interventions in youth homelessness.



INNOVATIVE CORE

Creating new opportunities for growth and increased impact through systematically exploring, prioritising, piloting and scaling youth focused innovations (villages and other models), grounded in expertise and evidence.



Compact living design, 'The Gable' on display in the Nestd showroom.

NESTD

Nestd is Kids Under Cover's social enterprise, delivering beautiful and affordable compact homes for retail, tourism and retirement living.

All of Nestd's profits go to Kids Under Cover. Despite the impact of COVID-19 on Nestd's operations and materials supply, the business continued to grow.

During the year the Nestd board committed to a new strategy focused on retirement living tailored to older people in regional communities who are experiencing housing affordability stress or who are at risk of homelessness.

Nestd has been very active in identifying sites and project partners to support the delivery of these retirement villages. In the last quarter of the financial year, Social Enterprise Finance Australia (SEFA) was engaged to complete a review of Nestd's retirement living strategy.

Nestd is indebted to its partners, in particular our philanthropic supporters. For a second year, we'd like to thank the Jack Brockhoff Foundation for their generous donation, and the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation for the provision of a financial grant for SEFA to undertake the strategic review.

During the year, Nestd welcomed Andrew Perkins as a non-executive director and Kids Under Cover CEO Stephen Nash to the board. We want to acknowledge the efforts of departing non-executive directors Adam Jane and Renuka Kimber.

Our chair, Greg Muller, transitioned to the role of executive chair to dedicate time to accelerate the organisation's strategic opportunities and relationships.

A GROWTH YEAR IN 2022-23

Despite the economic challenges the country is facing and the impacts on the business, Nestd is projecting a record year of trading across all sectors. A new home design, The Hygge, is expected to be launched soon, offering a stylish single level, two and three-bedroom design from the generous and talented team at NH Architecture.

The strategic push into retirement living and wholesale development projects is expected to bear fruit this coming year and position Nestd well for large volume supply contracts in future years.

Life-changing
impact



OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Stephen Nash
CEO

Stephen became CEO of Kids Under Cover in December 2021 after being a founder and CEO of homelessness and community housing organisations for the past 25 years in Victoria. Stephen has formed local, national and international alliances and partnerships to innovate and advocate and he has led campaigns to create new solutions to homelessness. Stephen has been invited to be a member of ministerial advisory committees on homelessness and housing and elected by his peers to serve on national and state peak body boards.



Heather Fisher
Deputy CEO

Heather joined Kids Under Cover in March 2016, bringing more than 20 years' experience to the team. Promoted to the position of Deputy CEO in September 2021, her responsibilities include governance, risk, finance operations, communications, fundraising and people. A respected leader with a reputation for integrity, quality and delivering results, Heather began her career in a top tier-chartered accounting firm before moving into the service industry, where she held a variety of executive roles.



Pete Zwiers
Head of Development and Innovation

Pete joined Kids Under Cover in November 2017 overseeing the end-to-end delivery of the Studio and Scholarship Programs. In early 2022, he shifted focus to development and innovation. Spending more than 10 years in the not-for-profit sector and with a background in project management, Pete has a real passion for affecting positive social change through the betterment of physical environment and improved living conditions.



Adam Walsh
Head of Fundraising

Adam has been with Kids Under Cover since April 2020, and has an extensive background in senior fundraising roles within International Development, Environment, Health and Medical Research and Conservation. Adam brings a strategic, data-driven approach to all our fundraising activities, and is passionate about our supporters feeling engaged with our work and excited about the opportunities they are creating for young people.



Susannah Walker
Head of Communications

Susannah is a senior communications leader with an extensive background in the media. She had an award-winning career as a journalist and editor on some of Australia and New Zealand's leading websites, magazines, and newspapers before moving into the not-for-profit sector. Susannah joined Kids Under Cover in September 2022 and has a particular interest in the power of prevention and early intervention to create positive change for young people.

OUR BOARD



Nathaniel Popelianski
Chair

Nathaniel joined the Kids Under Cover board in August 2012. He is a partner at Corrs Chambers Westgarth where he is head of the national real estate practice. A specialist in complex, deadline-driven real estate projects, Nathaniel acts for corporate clients, developers, land owners, housing associations and financiers on the full spectrum of property issues. With an impressive career in Law, Nathaniel ensures Kids Under Cover practices are within the law and our constitution reflects our organisation and growth.



Deanne Pointon
Director

Joining the Board in December 2019, Deanne has over 20 years' experience across service industry, property and large private companies. Currently the CFO of Bendigo Heritage Attractions, Deanne's skills and experience in financial acumen, governance and commercial focus on business activities are an enormous asset to Kids Under Cover. She is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, holds a Bachelor of Business (Commerce) and is a member of CPA Australia.



Renuka Kimber
Director

Renuka joined the board in February 2019 having spent more than a decade working in brand transformation, digital strategy and stakeholder relations. Renuka holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Melbourne, Master of Media & Communications from the University of London and an MBA from Melbourne Business School. Drawing on her significant experience in consumer marketing and business strategy, alongside her technology and growth role with KPMG, Renuka now extends her breadth of expertise to the prevention of youth homelessness.



Christopher Cramond
Director

Christopher joined the Board in December 2021, after becoming involved with Kids Under Cover a decade earlier through pro-bono consulting. He strongly believes in the combined preventative approach of education and housing to support young people. Christopher is currently the Head of Customer Strategy & Insights for a major superannuation fund, and brings his professional skills to Kids Under Cover offering strategic frameworks to support long term planning and robust oversight of organisational outcomes.



Deb Tsorbaris
Director

Deb joined the board in February 2017, bringing a wealth of experience including government and peak body, most recently as CEO of the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare. Deb spent six years as CEO at Council to Homeless Persons, four years with the Department of Health and Human Services, and was appointed CEO at The Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare in 2013.

GOVERNANCE

The Kids Under Cover Board is responsible for the overall governance of the organisation. The board convenes a minimum of six times per year plus the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Under the leadership of the Chair and the CEO, and within the boundaries of the constitution, the board determines and articulates the values, vision and the strategic direction of Kids Under Cover. In doing this, the board is expected to:

- meet fiduciary responsibilities as required under all relevant commonwealth and state legislation;
- act within their duty of care to make decisions in the best interests of Kids Under Cover;
- avoid conflicts of interest;
- develop strategic planning and direction of Kids Under Cover including monitoring organisational performance and evaluating strategic results;
- monitor the organisational compliance with the relevant commonwealth and state legislation and with Kids Under Cover's own policies; and
- evaluate its effectiveness as a board.

BOARD COMMITTEES

Finance and Risk Committee

The committee assists the board in fulfilling its fiduciary responsibilities and ensures the ongoing fiscal accuracy and health of the organisation. It also identifies, reviews and rates the potential, current and future risks to the organisation. The committee ensures appropriate systems, measures and support are in place to minimise risks to the organisation. The committee guarantees policies and processes are observed and ensures we receive an unqualified audit report each year from Pitcher Partners.

Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee supports the board in ensuring Kids Under Cover's corporate governance responsibilities in relation to remuneration are fair, consistent and meet award standards. The committee also assists the board in reviewing the performance and remuneration of the CEO.

Their time to
thrive



OUR SUPPORTERS

PHILANTHROPIC, CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The success of Kids Under Cover's model of support relies on partnerships with philanthropic trusts and foundations, corporate contributions and community partners. Without them, we simply could not exist. Every young person enjoying the comfort and extra space of their studio and the financial relief of an education scholarship can do so because of the generosity of our supporters and their belief in what we do.

Over the course of the financial year, 12 studios supporting 18 young people were funded by our trust and foundation partners, and 276 education scholarships awarded. In addition, our philanthropic partners were instrumental in contributing to the ongoing success of the Nestd social enterprise and enabled the expansion and evaluation of our innovative Village 21 program. We were pleased to receive 74 grants this financial year and grateful for the commitment of our trusts and foundation partners who so generously contributed to our work.

This year we were pleased to welcome the Kay & Burton Foundation and thank them for their incredible support. The foundation, created by premium real estate agency Kay & Burton, operates from a core belief that everyone deserves a sanctuary. Kids Under Cover had the good fortune of being chosen as one of Kay & Burton's two inaugural charities.

Kay & Burton executive director Peter Kudelka said the rewards go both ways. "It just makes perfect sense for a company in our field to get behind the important work of Kids Under Cover. The foundation gets enormous satisfaction seeing the relief our contribution can bring to families who need a bit of extra support and space. We're proud to be on board."

Kids Under Cover would also like to acknowledge the great friendship and rewarding partnership we have built with

JB Hi-Fi. The home entertainment retailer has been supporting our Studio Program since 2019, with over 70 per cent of its staff contributing to their hugely successful workplace giving program. Matched dollar for dollar by the company, this contribution has been instrumental in enabling the expansion of our work into South Australia.

BIG BUILD 4 KIDS

Earlier this year we ran our second Big Build 4 Kids community fundraising campaign, bringing as much focus as we can to our work to raise funds over a 24-hour period. Through social media, email and phone, we reached out to our networks for as much support as they could give with the promise that every dollar donated would be matched by a number of our superstar supporters.

This year we set a fundraising target of \$150,000 and raised \$246,669, which goes directly to creating real and lasting change for families and young people in need of support. Many thanks to the organisations and individuals who matched every donation with their own — JB Hi-Fi, Discovery Childcare, Kay & Burton Foundation, Manheim, Chris Wood, Mark Luff and Joe Catalfamo.

“**I don't think there's any great satisfaction from making money and saving it all for your own benefit. I think if you're in a position to support people in the community who are in need, then you should. Simple as that.**”

SUPPORTER PROFILE — A QUICK CHAT WITH MORGAN LE TET

Morgan Le Tet (pictured) is managing director of Discovery Childcare and Education and a hugely generous supporter of Kids Under Cover. After working for some years in corporate law, Morgan felt a stronger calling from early education. His approach is built around a focus on dignity and respect for young people, values he saw reflected in the work we do at Kids Under Cover.

"I think it's really important to offer guidance in a respectful and collaborative way to young people, rather than just instructing them. Sometimes telling people what they should do isn't very helpful. Instead, by talking things through and offering guidance, we can offer support in a more impactful way. Even for very young children, there should be a conscious effort made to ensure their dignity is prioritised in this way."

Morgan heard about Kids Under Cover through a friend who sits on the board. After reading about the work we do and how we do it, he was impressed by the effectiveness of the model.

"I thought it was a very innovative, practical and meaningful way of making an impact on an issue that is deserving of support. I got the impression with Kids Under Cover that the funding support you receive goes directly to helping people. What you guys are doing is not only a worthwhile cause, but your organisation is also at the top of their game in terms of how you run things."

Morgan was a generous supporter of our Big Build for Kids campaign and has donated significantly on several occasions.

"I don't think there's any great satisfaction from making money and saving it all for your own benefit. I think if you're in a position to support people in the community who are in need, then you should. Simple as that."



DONATE YOUR CAR — OR VAN, OR TRAILER, OR YACHT!



The Kids Under Cover Donate Your Car program has been running for 16 years and is a hugely successful fundraising initiative to help build more studios for families and young people in need.

The program relies on the incredible generosity of people who no longer have use for their vehicle and encourages them to donate the vehicle for auction by our long-time partners and friends at Manheim to raise funds for Kids Under Cover. All proceeds go directly to our Studio Program.

This year, we've had an amazing diversity of donations including a Maserati, a Mustang and, for the first time anybody can remember — a yacht!

Our generous supporter, Peta, explains her decision to part ways with her beautiful 'Catalina' and donate to a cause to which she feels especially connected.

"I had bought Catalina with money left to me by my 'aunty' Pauline. It wasn't a huge sum but just enough for a small yacht — something I had always wanted. After some wonderful years together, Catalina eventually remained parked unattended in St Kilda while I was mostly parked in Castlemaine (a fair distance and well inland). So, the ideal solution: donate Catalina to Kids Under Cover.

This way I'd be passing on my good fortune to others in a way that my aunty would really appreciate. I'd also feel the great satisfaction of giving and the buyer would also get to feel great about themselves because their money would be going to an exceedingly worthwhile charity and Kids Under Cover would (hopefully) get a decent return. So win-win-...win!"

Supporter Peta on the yacht she generously donated.



THE DRIVE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Manheim Australia have supported Kids Under Cover for 16 years and raised over \$16 million for our programs over that time through our Donate Your Car program. Manheim make it easy for people to donate the value of their pre-loved vehicles for the benefit of the young people we support. The proceeds that come to Kids Under Cover from the auctions make a crucial contribution to our Studio Program. We simply could not have had the impact we have had without Manheim.

CEO of Manheim, Charles Cumming understands the value of socially responsible organisations. "Our staff and customers get a great feeling of satisfaction from every vehicle sold through the program. We follow the work of Kids Under Cover with great admiration and we're proud to be part of such positive outcomes for our community."

It's a heartening reminder to see community and corporate partnerships working to address important social issues like the prevention of youth homelessness. On behalf of the thousands of young people they have helped us support, our deepest thanks to the team at Manheim.

Kids Under Cover CEO Stephen Nash with Manheim CEO Charles Cumming and the Kids Under Cover beetle.

OUR SINCERE THANKS

The success of the work we do at Kids Under Cover depends on collaboration with supporters and partner organisations. Each and every contribution takes us a step closer to our vision of a community where every young person has a stable place to live.

Founding Patron

- Ken Morgan OAM

Patrons

- Athol Guy AO
- Daryl Somers OAM
- Herb Elliott AC MBE
- Ian 'Molly' Meldrum AM
- Incolink
- Master Builders Association of Victoria
- Tommy Emmanuel AM

Life Ambassadors

- Brian Chenu
- David Lee
- George Ermer
- Trevor Fasham

Nestd Board

- Greg Muller (Chair)
- Stephen Nash
- David Parsons
- Joseph Barbaro
- Teresa Giuffrida
- Andrew Perkins
- Adam Jane (retired during year)
- Jo Swift (retired during year)
- Renuka Kimber (retired during year)
- Sarah Buckley (retired during year)

Foundation Partner

- Harris HMC

Platinum Partners

- JB Hi-Fi Helping Hands
- Manheim
- Shine On Foundation

Gold Partners

- Baker Foundation
- BB & A Miller Foundation
- Brian M Davis Charitable Foundation
- Eric and Elizabeth Gross Foundation
- Foundation Barossa
- Harris HMC

- Jack and Ethel Goldin Foundation
- Joe White Bequest
- Lendlease FutureSteps
- Morgan Le Tet
- NH Architecture
- Officeworks
- Roger Taylor
- Scott Valentine
- Suitters Foundation
- The Bowden Marstan Foundation
- The Cramond Family
- The Jack Brockhoff Foundation
- VGI Partners

Silver Partners

- Cassandra Gantner Foundation
- Chris Wood
- Computershare Change a Life Foundation
- Davies Siebert Family
- Dimmick Charitable Trust
- Goodridge Foundation
- J & B Jackson Foundation
- Kay & Burton Foundation
- Kimberley Foundation
- Kingfisher Charitable Trust
- Lewis Family Foundation
- Link 21 Foundation
- Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
- Marcia and Henry Pinski
- Marian & E.H. Flack Trust
- Mark Luff
- Matana Foundation for Young People
- McNamara Family Foundation

- Millett Family Foundation
- Newsboys Foundation
- Norman, Mavis & Graeme Waters Charitable Trust
- Paulusz Family Foundation
- Pierce Armstrong Foundation
- Susan LloydHurwitz
- The Barbara Luree Parker Foundation
- Vernon Foundation
- Vicki Standish Family Foundation
- Wood Family Foundation
- Zinfra / Jemena

Bronze Partners

- Australian Owner Builder Insurance Services Pty Ltd
- Australian Philanthropic Services Foundation
- Casey Cardinia Foundation
- Dennis Orton Foundation
- Dorrington and McArthur Household
- Fila SM Brands
- Gill Family Foundation
- Greenlight Foundation
- Gunditjmara Aboriginal Cooperative Ltd
- Kamener Foundation
- Max Ould
- Nathan and Susan Pinski
- Pethard Tarax Charitable Trust
- Raoul Endres
- Robson Giving Circle
- Shulu Foundation
- Smartgroup Foundation
- The Flora & Frank Leith Charitable Trust

- The Loftus-Hills Family in memory of Geoffrey Loftus-Hills
- The William Angliss (Vic) Charitable Fund
- Tobin Brothers Foundation
- Trinity Families
- Waterwheel Foundation

Studio Partners

Victoria

- Gateways Support Services
- Gippsland & East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-op Ltd
- Gippsland Lakes Community Health
- Gunditjmara Aboriginal Co-op
- Haven; Home, Safe
- Housing Justice
- Jesuit Social Services
- Launch Housing
- MacKillop Family Services
- Mallee District Aboriginal Services
- Melbourne City Mission
- Merri Outreach Support Services
- Migrant Information Centre
- Mirabel Foundation Inc
- Mpower
- Njernda Aboriginal Corporation
- Oz Child
- Quantum Support Services
- Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative
- Test Household
- The Salvation Army

- The Salvation Army Social Housing Service Western
- UnitingVicTas
- Upper Murray Family Care
- Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency
- WAYSS
- Whitelion
- Youth Support and Advocacy Service

Studio Partners

South Australia

- Aboriginal Family Support Services
- Anglicare South Australia
- Centacare
- Junction Australia
- Lutheran Community Care
- Service to Youth Council
- Uniting Communities

Studio Partners

Village 21

- Anglicare Victoria
- Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency
- City of Darebin

FINANCE REPORT

In a year when families across Australia have endured the pressures of rising living costs, a housing affordability crisis and supply chain shortages, our commitment to offering support to young people has never been more important. Despite the challenges, Kids Under Cover has continued to have a lasting impact, providing 57 studios and awarding 260 scholarships during 2021-22.

Total revenue for the year decreased by approximately \$200,000 in comparison to last year. This, combined with an increase of expenditure of approximately \$2.3 million, has resulted in an overall deficit for 2021-22 of around \$2 million.

Contributors to these variances were:

- 32 per cent decrease in Victorian Government funding
- \$1.4 million increase in Other Grant funding (South Australia plus independent Construction Service Agreements)
- Five per cent increase in philanthropic support attributed to corporate, individual and workplace giving donations plus continued support of our Donate your Car program
- The number of studio builds has seen a slight decrease in comparison to last year, while we were able to award several more scholarships.

This year we received support from the Victorian Government across three departments and a new partnership with the South Australian Government per their commitment to our expansion in that state. The ongoing and continued support of philanthropic partners, individual and corporate donors has again demonstrated their deep connection to the work at Kids Under Cover.

The development of our next three-year strategic plan includes longer-term financial objectives, enabling us to plan for the increase in demand for studios and for the expansion of our reach to new states, regions, and demographics. We recognise the need to continually focus on cash flow requirements to enable us to fulfil our existing build obligations.

Our target of 1,000 at-risk young people housed by the end of 2022 is contingent upon ensuring we have the ongoing resources required to maintain each studio for the duration of each young person's occupancy. We're also buoyed by the continued philanthropic commitment to enable ongoing delivery of scholarships so critical to maintaining a young person's engagement with education.

With our emphasis on financial sustainability, we will continue to explore strategic and innovative initiatives to facilitate our plans to scale and to continue our growing impact in providing housing for young people at risk.

In closing, I would like to thank Pitcher Partners, our auditors, for their continued commitment and expertise.



Deanne Pointon
Director

Making it count



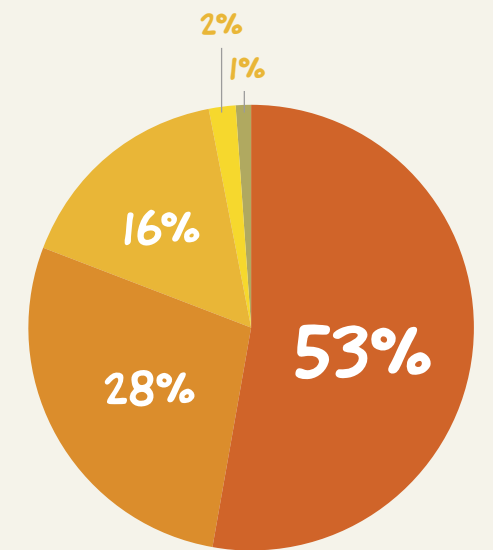
FINANCIALS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	6,039,856	3,789,194
Receivables	674,609	217,253
Other financial assets	2,644,273	2,750,995
Other assets	139,071	270,129
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	9,497,809	7,027,571
NON- CURRENT ASSETS		
Intangible assets	1,588	14,958
Lease assets	408,804	23,062
Property, plant and equipment	7,380,845	9,004,852
TOTAL NON- CURRENT ASSETS	7,791,237	9,042,872
TOTAL ASSETS	17,289,046	16,070,443
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	366,599	611,417
Lease liabilities	186,222	32,306
Provisions	280,755	452,461
Other liabilities	6,882,397	3,519,387
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	7,715,973	4,615,571
NON- CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Lease liabilities	234,181	-
Provisions	119,163	153,003
TOTAL NON- CURRENT LIABILITIES	353,344	153,003
TOTAL LIABILITIES	8,069,317	4,768,574
NET ASSETS	9,219,729	11,301,869
EQUITY		
Reserves	2,487,415	1,726,186
Accumulated surplus	6,732,314	9,575,683
TOTAL EQUITY	9,219,729	11,301,869

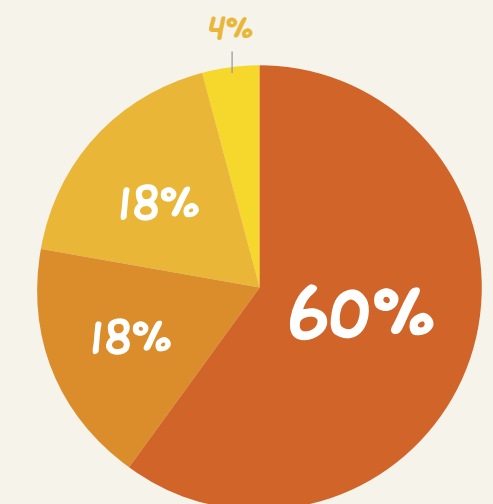
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME		
State government funding	2,730,960	4,049,004
Other Grant funding	1,624,000	178,785
Fundraising:		
Donations and gifts	5,206,201	4,939,553
OTHER INCOME		
Gain on fair value adjustments	-	134,408
Sundry income	151,992	161,179
Investment income	140,712	240,294
Jobkeeper and cashflow boost	-	379,500
Gain on disposal of assets	7,578	1,001
TOTAL REVENUE	9,861,443	10,083,724
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Social enterprise	(506,293)	(374,212)
General marketing and fundraising	(1,859,760)	(1,310,627)
Donate Your Car®	(272,859)	(317,680)
Scholarship program costs	(348,420)	(457,194)
Studio program costs	(6,839,868)	(5,650,756)
Management and administration costs	(2,116,382)	(1,476,998)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(11,943,582)	(9,587,467)
(DEFICIT) / SURPLUS BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE	(2,082,139)	496,257
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE (DEFICIT) / INCOME	(2,082,139)	496,257



2021-22 REVENUE

- FUNDRAISING
- STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING
- OTHER GRANT FUNDING
- OTHER
- INVESTMENT INCOME



2021-22 EXPENDITURE

- PROGRAM DELIVERY
- FUNDRAISING AND MARKETING
- MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION
- SOCIAL ENTERPRISE (NESTD)

BE PART OF THE MOVEMENT TO END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

We're always so heartened by the level and diversity of support we get from the community, who clearly believe in the relief we are providing for families. From corporate golf days to school fundraisers where youngsters have reached into their own piggy banks to chip in a few dollars, every effort counts and is deeply appreciated. And all funds raised go towards giving a family in need a little more space or help with educational resources.

THE WAYS YOU CAN GET ON BOARD ARE ENDLESS. HERE ARE JUST A FEW:



Regular giving

Any gift of any size given on a regular basis enables us to move forward with confidence and gives you the sense of knowing your impact is ongoing.



Donate Your Car

Whether your vehicle is worth a lot or a little, we can assess it to be auctioned to raise funds for more studios.



Leave a bequest

Leaving a gift in your will for a cause you feel close to is one of the most generous and enduring legacies you can leave.



Fundraise

Use your imagination! There are countless ways to involve your community to get behind Kids Under Cover. From swear jars to skydives, bingo and discos — we can help you get started.



Corporate partnerships

Showing that your organisation or business is committed to a worthy cause is a proven way to boost the confidence of your customers and employees.



Get behind us

Follow us, share our stories, help spread the word. The more we encourage others to support positive outcomes for young people, the better.

Find out more at

kuc.org.au | donateyourcar.org.au | nestdhomes.com.au

Life-changing
outcomes





Phone (03) 9429 7444
Freecall 1800 801 633



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kidsundercover



Kids Under Cover