



2023 Annual Report

Building
brighter
futures



Header image courtesy Christinaray Weetra. See her story on page 24.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that we are privileged to live and work on Aboriginal land and acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and their enduring strength and resilience. We recognise the deep continuing connections that First Nations Peoples have to land, waterways and communities; and we celebrate their continuing culture, accomplishments and strengths.

It is with immense gratitude to First Nations communities for their ongoing generosity and kindness, that we pay our respects to Elders past and present – and extend our support and allyship to all First Nations Peoples.

Of the estimated 28,204 young Australians aged 12-24 experiencing homelessness during the most recent Census in 2021, around 23% were young First Nations Peoples – an

astonishing figure considering they make up only about 5% of this age group.

This is just one of the many urgent challenges of structural disadvantage that First Nations youth are up against. To achieve meaningful change, we believe that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples must be consulted on policies and solutions that impact their own communities.

Through our work in the homelessness sector, and in listening to and engaging with First Nations Peoples from across Australia, we are aware of the desperate need for change, and we are committed to working with First Nations organisations and communities to walk together with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples so all Australian young people can inherit a brighter future.

Kids Under Cover is proud to have begun working with Reconciliation Australia in 2023 to develop our Reconciliation Action Plan, and we look forward to the opportunities for learning, growth, connection, and transformation that this journey will bring for our organisation, and those we work with.

Thank you to our incredible First Nations partners and friends who share their expertise, talents, and perspectives with us so kindly.

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From turbulence to triumph: Lynton's turning point

"If he's happy, we're happy."

It's a sentiment that sums up Lisa's relief in finding some sense of balance for her son, Lynton.

All three of Lisa's sons have their own unique challenges with tempering behaviours and feelings. Lynton in particular has often found it hard to navigate his emotions.

"He just couldn't express himself properly," she says. "You just didn't know when it was going to erupt."

To create a more peaceful home environment, Lisa supported Lynton to spend some time in residential care where he could find some

breathing space while the family worked to relieve stress and resolve conflict.

But Lisa always wanted him home. She wanted him to know he had her care and support.

The independent space of a Kids Under Cover studio has offered a turning point for the whole family.

"Having the studio feels like we've given him somewhere that he can now kick goals from," Lisa says. "Finally, after all these years we've got a base. That for me, as a mum, is very much a relief. I hope he just gets the chance to achieve as much as he can."

Above: Studio recipient, Lynton, with his mum, Lisa.

About us

Building brighter futures

At Kids Under Cover, we are committed to the idea that it's possible to end youth homelessness by addressing the challenges that put young individuals at risk of homelessness.

Our programs empower young people to develop independent living skills by providing them with the necessary space to flourish while being connected to their family or caregiver, education, and community. In doing so, we assist young Australians in avoiding poor health outcomes and missing positive opportunities for their futures, while also reducing their involvement with costly services and systems such as out-of-home care, the justice system, and unemployment support services.

Our experience shows that for most young people, the risk of homelessness can be entirely prevented with the right support and access to appropriate accommodation. For those already at risk of homelessness, early intervention is crucial in ensuring support networks for a safe transition to independent adulthood.

Additionally, our scholarships provide financial support to pursue educational and training goals. Through this combination of accommodation and education support, we aim to equip young individuals to avoid homelessness, achieve their educational goals, foster independence and have brighter futures.

We actively identify gaps and partner to create solutions for young people falling into homelessness at key transition points when exiting care, homelessness or government facilities.

The key pillars that define our work

Innovative and cost-effective housing solutions

We provide at-risk young people aged 12 to 25 safe, high quality and comfortable spaces to remain at home and connected to family, kin and carers, or to be part of a supportive community.

Life-changing educational opportunities

We provide education support that enriches young people's lives, and helps set, or keep, them on the path to bright futures.

Powerful partnerships

We are passionately dedicated to preventing the factors that cause youth homelessness and intervening to support those who have already become at-risk – so we've cultivated a network of like-minded providers who can connect our young people with complementary services.

Family, carer and community connections

We help build and maintain positive, empowering relationships between young people and those who love and care for them, giving them confidence and support to thrive.

Message from the Chair & CEO

Welcome to our 2023 Annual Report.

Looking back over the past twelve months, we're very proud of what we've been able to achieve, especially within what has been such a challenging financial climate. Knowing we have over 650 studios housing around 1,000 young people every night, gives us great faith to keep growing our impact. We could not do this without our extraordinary partners, supporters and staff.

While we reflect on the year and stop to celebrate our progress, we also acknowledge the many difficulties facing young people throughout our community.

The impact of the housing affordability, rental and cost of living crises leaves the prospect of securing housing for any young person increasingly beyond reach. It's difficult to contemplate the adversity being faced by those most vulnerable. Young people leaving care, unable to stay at home or exiting justice are at a distinct disadvantage and confront an almost impossible challenge to find somewhere stable and affordable to live.

With this in mind, Kids Under Cover is acutely aware of the importance of our mission to prevent and end youth homelessness. Not only in making sure young people have a roof over their head, but also by offering a far brighter alternative to the lifelong damage homelessness can bring.

Innovation

Building on the success of our Village 21 pilot project in Preston with Anglicare Victoria, we've worked hard to make sure this solution is made available to more young people leaving out-of-home care. It's heartening to have received a funding commitment from the Victorian Government to help expand our Village 21

model to three new sites across regional Victoria. These projects will be developed in partnership with leading Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to ensure a culturally safe, supported, shared living environment for young First Nations people leaving care.

Progress has also been made on the development of a pilot program offering a more rapid and agile accommodation solution for young people in urgent need. The design phase of the Mobile Pod project is close to completion and we can expect the first trial to take place early in the new year.

Expansion

It's been exciting to see Kids Under Cover's footprint in South Australia become well and truly established as we progress towards our target of completing the initial 42 studio builds across the state. Working alongside the South Australian Housing Authority has helped make sure we can offer our support to young South Australians who are most at risk. By the end of the financial year, there were 17 young people enjoying a Kids Under Cover studio. We expect this number to increase significantly in the year ahead. We look forward to identifying our next state to expand into to ensure more young people have access to a Kids Under Cover opportunity for a brighter future.

Advocacy

We are doing our best with the resources we have to assist as many young people as we can avoid or escape homelessness, however the scale of the problem requires systemic and policy change. This is particularly required where young people are at very high-risk of becoming homeless after leaving government systems, such as out-of-home care, mental health and Justice facilities. Throughout the

course of the year, we have been involved in a number of important collaborative sector events and projects which articulated and promoted policy reform that will dramatically reduce youth homelessness.

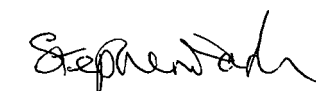
People

After a significant period of change for the organisation, we've been able to build on the strength of our existing staff and recruit a highly talented and passionate team that's well placed to deliver on our vision. On behalf of the board, we acknowledge the contribution of our former Deputy CEO, Heather Fisher and former Board Directors, Deanne Pointon, Renuka Kimber and Deb Tsorbaris who left during the year.




Nathaniel Popelianski
Chair




Stephen Nash
CEO

Looking ahead

We're excited to be expanding our Studio Program reach, developing new approaches and to be breaking new ground as we strive for more ways to enable a brighter pathway for young people at risk. We remain committed to listening to and amplifying the voices of young people with lived experience – sharing their stories, better understanding their needs and responding to their concerns to help improve the level of support we can provide. Never in our history has our work been more important and never have we been better placed to broaden our impact and create lasting change.


A snapshot of our year

93 
studios delivered


130
new studio recipients

365 
DFFH scholarships delivered


350
Kids Under Cover scholarships delivered
(up from 257 in 2022)

660 
studios on the ground

989 
young people living in a studio


3
new Village 21s in development

Where are they now: **Jesse's journey from studio to surgeries**

When Kids Under Cover last spoke with Jesse, he'd just received a Kids Under Cover scholarship and had used it to help fund a medical internship in Europe.



Jesse and his brother grew up with foster parents in a family of eight in regional Victoria. They shared a room in a hectic house until Jesse was 18. In 2017, a Kids Under Cover studio gave him the space and relief he needed to reconnect with himself and focus on his studies.

Despite things becoming hostile within the household and between family members in the house, Jesse was able to escape into his text books and use the quiet space in his studio to build a stronger connection with his younger siblings.

"It was a huge change to be able to have that space to myself," Jesse reflects. "To be able to spend that time in that space the way I wanted. And not have to tailor my afternoon or my

evening around what other people in the house were doing – it let me focus on my studies and it let me escape emotionally draining situations. It was important in that way."

By 2021, Jesse had earned another scholarship which enabled him to move out and pursue his studies. He's now close to completing his third year studying medicine at Melbourne University and is enjoying a placement in a prominent Melbourne hospital. He's considering branching into orthopaedic surgery but hasn't yet made his mind up. Whichever path he decides to take, there's little doubt he's headed for success.

"It's not always been an easy path, but I've always been pretty focused on the life I want to create. I've reached a point now where that future is beginning to materialise, and it's really exciting."

88

To be able to spend that time in that space the way I wanted. And not have to tailor my afternoon or my evening around what other people in the house were doing – it let me focus on my studies and it let me escape emotionally draining situations. It was important in that way. – Jesse

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Top: Jesse completed an internship in Europe in 2019.
Above: Jesse is now close to completing his third year of medicine in Melbourne

Life-changing impact

This year, RFI Global conducted a survey involving 144 carers who provide support to young individuals living in a Kids Under Cover studio. The survey aimed to capture their reflections and feedback regarding their experiences with the young people under their care, both before and after they received one of our studios and/or scholarships.

The survey helps to measure the impact of our studios through first-hand accounts

of shifts in behaviour and the general well-being of young people, among other measures that may influence a young person's likeliness to become homeless.

It's heartening to hear directly from families that our programs are having a transformational impact on the lives of young people and their families – the anecdotes we've received through this survey show that our work is not only improving their lives right now, but the optimism and positive trajectory for their futures.

BB

It has given her a safe place to be able to recover from a very abusive relationship. It's given her a space to be able to grow mentally and emotionally, she found a new strength to be able to stand her ground and make good choices. Now that she's not escaping the house to get away from the overcrowded hectic living conditions.

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Level of overcrowding in the house decreased from 88% to

↓ **24%**

Conflict between family members decreased from 81% down to

↓ **16%**

Families who reported getting along well increased from 29% to

↑ **96%**

BB

The studio has impacted the family in a very positive way, by allowing the young person his own space – there is less conflict and a much happier household.

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Incidence of time spent away from home without carer knowing whereabouts decreased from 51% to

↓ **9%**

Young people who demonstrate a low level of independent living skills decreased from 62% to

↓ **5%**

BB

Definitely has a better outlook on life, is working and sees a future for themselves. He's able to make plans for future improvements to life and living.

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BB

"He is making connections in the community, talking about an apprenticeship, and hoping to be independent once he outgrows the studio. His attitude is completely changed for the better."

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Performance at school, TAFE or university improved from 55% performing well to

↑ **89%**

Incidence of young person feeling happy increased from 24% to

↑ **83%**

Young person almost always meeting school attendance requirements increased from 39% to

↑ **64%**

Carers' optimism about the young person's future increased from 29% to

↑ **73%**

Our Studio Program

For over thirty years, Kids Under Cover's primary purpose has been to prevent young people from experiencing homelessness by providing a stable and safe studio home on the property of their family or carer. The idea is to keep young people connected to family and community while giving them the space and independence they need, to avoid the risk that they will leave home before they are properly prepared.

Today, Kids Under Cover studios house just under 1,000 young people each night. The program supports people aged 12 to 25 who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The risk can arise for countless and complex reasons, often because of overcrowding, relationship breakdowns, mental health challenges, conflict within the household, or transition from out-of-home care and other government systems.

Over the years, the outcomes we've observed have shown that the impact of a studio can be profound and that changes experienced by young people, families and carers are overwhelmingly positive.

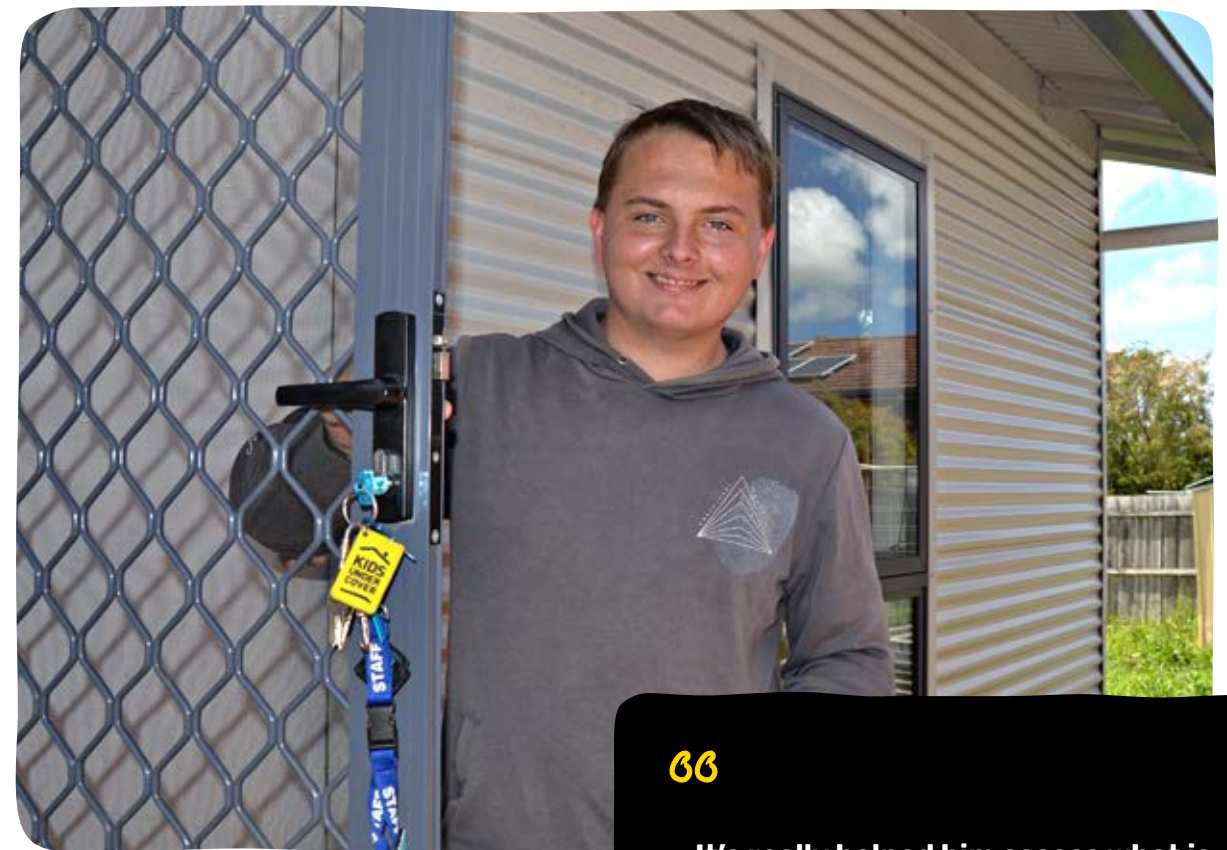
Providing the space to find relief and a chance to 'breathe' can be life-changing. Studio occupants can enjoy a sense of independence, a place to be calm and a renewed opportunity

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A young person who feels safe and secure within the family and has a sense of belonging and attachment to the place of home is far less likely to feel inclined to leave.

— Dr. Paul Stolz, Swinburne University

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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 new skills to help him become independent.

— Mother of Kids Under Cover studio recipient

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to thrive. For young people who have been in out-of-home care or youth detention, a studio can provide an opportunity for reunification with family, kinship, foster care or other carers.

The studios are sustainable and durable; their construction includes the use of Durra Panels that are 100% recyclable, biodegradable and locally manufactured by Ortech – this means that the studios are also extremely energy efficient as the panels ensure the studio maintains a comfortable temperature year-round.

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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 occupant

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Families can keep a Kids Under Cover studio in their backyard for as long as it is needed to house the original occupant, or any siblings that might need the space after the original recipient has moved out of home. But when a studio is no longer required by the occupant, we make sure that it's in pristine condition before relocating it to another family's backyard so a new occupant can enjoy the benefits of their own safe space.

By the end of the 2022-23 financial year, there were 989 young people safely housed each night in a Kids Under Cover studio. Throughout the year, our programs team installed 93 studios accommodating 145 new recipients across Victoria and South Australia. This brings the total number of one and two bedroom studios on the ground at the end of the financial year to 660.

Rebuilding broken bonds: A family's story of transformation



With four kids sharing two bedrooms, the house that Danielle and her family call home was feeling more than a little overcrowded.

Danielle's household faced unique challenges, with her growing teenagers increasingly needing more of their own space. The close quarters sometimes led to lively disagreements and made it hard for the siblings to keep their close bonds intact. Maintaining family unity became a priority.

"It felt like we were living in a box," she explains. "It was heartbreaking... There was no bond

between any of the kids, whatsoever. I was losing my family."

Danielle's oldest son, Jacob's wellbeing was of utmost concern, and he found himself sleeping in a borrowed caravan in the driveway to seek out the space he needed – a modest accommodation option without some modern conveniences that many take for granted, such as a bathroom or access to other comforts like a TV to watch in his downtime.

Without access to the things that make a living space enjoyable, and without those close relationships with his siblings to turn to for connection and support, Jacob started heading out to spend time with his friends late at night. Like many young adults going through a

challenging phase, he was looking for an escape from the pressures he was feeling at the time.

But Danielle was worried for her son's safety, sleeping in a space that wasn't part of the family home. So, she tried everything she could think of to ensure that Jacob was okay. At one point, Danielle's concern for Jacob became so strong that she had installed a security camera to give her some peace of mind – she wanted to be able to make sure that Jacob had returned home safely each night.

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"He's so much happier.
He wants to be there."

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Jacob was navigating a period where his mental health was suffering. He'd shared that he'd considered leaving home, and as a parent, the uncertainty of his nights in the caravan was a source of concern for Danielle.

"He was going through a full-on time with his mental health. He was wanting to run away from home. He was fighting with his brothers – and with me. It's a frightening thing for a parent. The feeling of him going out there at night and wondering whether he'd wake up in the caravan... or whether he'd be gone."

However, Danielle's optimism was reignited when the addition of a Kids Under Cover studio to her backyard brought immediate change for Jacob and her other kids. The household dynamics shifted, and the bond between the siblings – once at risk of being torn apart – began to build again. Danielle felt like finally there was some hope for her son and her family's future. She observed a noticeable improvement in Jacob's mood and behaviour. He willingly spent more time with the family, rekindling their connection.

"He's so much happier," Danielle says. "He wants to be there. It's given him the chance to rekindle his bond with us. I just think it's amazing. If we had waited two years, I don't think our family would still be together. So, I'm just thankful to everyone who's made it happen."

Households and families positively impacted by the Studio Program

Of the households that received a studio in 2022-23:



60%

of household members have experienced poor mental health



51%

of family members live with a disability



47%

had interactions with child protection services



49%

were Youth Justice clients



47%

of family members were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

Building momentum in South Australia

Since the expansion of our Studio Program into South Australia in 2021, we have been grateful for the partnerships and collaborations with our South Australian stakeholders and community. Over the past year, we have delivered 12 studios across South Australia to support young people at risk of homelessness. Plans are well underway to place another 30 studios throughout the state.

We're pleased to have worked collaboratively with the South Australian Housing Authority to extend our Studio Program, allowing us to reach more young people in need of the space that a Kids Under Cover studio provides.

Since our launch in South Australia, we've seen eligibility criteria for the Studio Program expand to include households residing in public housing properties in the northern



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We now have family nights together; it's changed our lives. There's more peace and quiet now the young people have their own space and privacy. Without the studio, there would have been family breakdown as my 16-year-old daughter would have moved out.

— Mother of studio recipient in South Australia

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Adelaide region. This enables us to provide purpose-built accommodation for young people in the northern metropolitan area, including the Barossa Valley, Gawler Belt regions, and suburbs such as Two Wells in the northeast, Allendale in the north, and Springton and Eden Valley in the northwest regional areas.

We're thrilled that as our ability to reach households in more South Australian regions expands, we can help more families in public housing ensure that vulnerable young people at the greatest risk receive the space they need to avoid homelessness and maintain vital family relationships.

The young South Australians currently in a Kids Under Cover studio have reported experiencing the positive outcomes that the Studio Program aims to achieve.

We thank the South Australian Housing Authority for their commitment to supporting this important work, as well as our generous corporate and community partners, including JB Hi-Fi's Workplace Giving program, Foundation Barossa, and project partners Sensum and Fusco, who have played a crucial role in delivery in South Australia.



From heartache to hope:
**A brighter future
for Kirah**

Julie's heart was filled with relief and gratitude when she received the news that her application for a Kids Under Cover Studio had been approved.

When Julie's eldest foster daughter, Kirah, celebrated her 18th birthday, it marked a turning point. Many of the support services that had previously been available to Kirah as a foster child ended as the birthday milestone represented a graduation into adulthood in the eyes of the organisations that had historically provide help. And on top of that, Kirah experienced all of the challenges of transitioning to adulthood, which strained her relationship with Julie and created tension in their home.

Julie reflects, "It doesn't matter how skilled you are as a foster carer. The trauma the children have experienced before you came into their lives, starts to manifest eventually. By the time they're teenagers, I'm dealing with very complex issues. I often wonder if I can keep my family together."

The situation reached a crisis point when Kirah left home for three months, unprepared and without the means to support herself. Sadly, Kirah became homeless.

Despite the hardships they had endured,

Julie was heartbroken to see Kirah struggling, and felt unsure about how to support her eldest daughter without risking the wellbeing of her other children.

Julie's spirits were lifted when she learned that the South Australian Government had agreed to fund Kids Under Cover to expand its Studio Program into Adelaide and regional areas. She was among the first in the state to apply.

“The relief has been across the board for the whole family.”

Julie reflects, "The relief has been immense for the entire family. It has given us the breathing space we needed, making our relationship warmer. There's no longer that overwhelming pressure. Kirah now has the opportunity to step back and unwind."

"Thanks to the studio, Kirah is now in her third year of university. Without it, she may have had to leave education to support herself. It has empowered her transition into adulthood, and I couldn't be prouder of her."

Our Scholarship Program

As our Scholarship Program reaches its 19th year, it's a milestone worthy of celebration.

We've been dedicated to nurturing the potential of young individuals by providing financial support that can help them re-engage with education, training, or elevate their studies.

Throughout our 19 years of providing financial support for costs associated with education and training activities, Kids Under Cover has recognised the importance of combining a stable living environment with the ability to pursue career-building skills and qualifications. This combination is pivotal in offering young people the best chances to thrive while they are young, as well as into their futures.

Our Scholarship Program is tailored for young people who are eager to pursue their education or other training opportunities but require assistance to obtain the necessary resources for these experiences. Often, additional expenses like uniforms, laptops, excursions, and camps can lead to social exclusion and a sense of discouragement for young people. The sense



of not being able to participate in the same way as their peers can result in a loss of motivation, prematurely ending their educational journey. Surveys of our participants have shown that, in addition to fostering further education and training, most scholarship recipients experience positive impacts on their confidence, mental well-being, and social inclusion.



*Our prestigious Ken and Lenka Morgan and Sarah Davies Scholarships offer high value support to young people who show exceptional personal and educational potential.

This year's scholarships

This year, Kids Under Cover distributed 718 scholarships in total, including 365 on behalf of the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) and 353 from our Scholarships Program – up from 257 last year.

We offer 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.

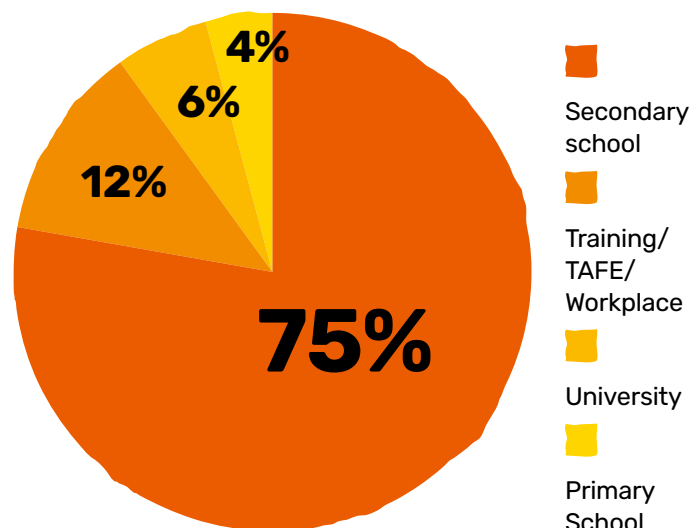
Kids Under Cover delivered 365 scholarships on behalf of the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) as a delivery partner for its Student Scholarships initiative. This state government program aims to overcome barriers in students'

educational attainment and assist in school retention and attendance.

We're proud that the large number of scholarships we delivered also included three awards in honour of some of our most passionate advocates for young people – Ken Morgan OAM, Lenka Morgan and Sarah Davies AM. These award scholarships are designed to acknowledge young adults who have set goals for exceptional achievement across their personal, educational or career plans and have seen some outstanding young people recognised for their efforts.

This year was the first time that our prestigious Ken and Lenka Morgan Scholarship was awarded to not one, but two recipients, Liam who is completing an apprenticeship in the automotive industry and Ibrahim for his studies in Human Resources Development & Psychology. And our Sarah Davies Scholarship which aims to support young women who demonstrate exceptional potential to support their communities, this year was awarded to Kristy who is finishing her training to work in the Early Childhood Education sector.

Scholarship demographics



29% of Kids Under Cover scholarship recipients live with a mental illness

25% live with a disability

19% identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

13% have non-English speaking background

2% have a refugee background

Since receiving a scholarship:

59% of carers report that the young person has improved attendance rate at school



67% report their academic achievement has improved

BB

They didn't seem out of place or embarrassed because we were able to purchase most of the items at the start of the year instead of waiting until I had enough money.

DD

BB

They felt like they had hope and that people outside their home do care about their future.

DD



80%

of carers report a better ability to purchase necessary school resources



89%

of young people plan on finishing their studies (up from 48%)

BB

The scholarship allowed him to be a participant in both studies and community involvement as the funding covered the costs of uniforms, books and sporting equipment. Without the funding, the child would not have been able to independently participate due to lack of resources.

DD

The Ken and Lenka Morgan Scholarship: Nurturing potential for bright careers



"I've sunk my teeth into this career from the beginning. And this will help me complete some of those things on the side that I haven't quite gotten around to. I was so grateful to be given the opportunity of this apprenticeship and when I found out I had received the scholarship it changed the start to my career for the better," says Liam.

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The Ken and Lenka Morgan Scholarship pays tribute to Kids Under Cover's founder, Ken Morgan, and acknowledges Lenka Morgan, a pivotal contributor to our mission since the organisation's inception in 1989. Lenka continues to support our work as we embark on Kids Under Cover's 34th year.

The enduring positive impact of Ken and Lenka's dedication to making futures brighter for young people is illustrated through stories like that of Liam, an automotive refinishing apprentice from regional Victoria. As one of the two recipients of the 2023 Ken & Lenka Morgan Scholarship, Liam finds pursuing his career more accessible with the financial support needed for week-long theoretical training courses over an hour away from home.

Liam first became connected to Kids Under Cover when his family received a studio in 2021 to help relieve the pressure of living in a crowded home.

"The studio gave my eldest sister a sense of independence while still being close enough to get the care she needs from our mum," Liam says. "I've noticed such a change in my sister — her confidence in herself and pride in herself and space. We're a lot happier now. And we all get along a bit better."

For now, the scholarship enables Liam to receive the qualifications and experiences he needs to pursue his ideal career path — but beyond his own journey, Liam aspires to mentor other young people, helping them pursue their goals. We look forward to hearing about the great things he'll achieve and the positive stories he'll influence along the way.

Above: Liam is on track to building his dream career



Nestd

Nestd, has come a long way since its launch in 2018 and has transitioned to two separate businesses.

The Kids Under Cover board recently agreed to separate Nestd into two businesses and transfer these enterprises to two different entities. Kids Under Cover will remain a charitable recipient of both businesses.

Nestd delivered inspired and affordable compact homes that promoted liveability, space and comfort with all profits from sales being directed back to Kids Under Cover. Nestd serves the residential, tourism, retirement and affordable housing sectors and over the past year has continued to expand its client base across Australia.

This year, Nestd participated in the Melbourne Home Show for the first time since COVID and attracted an encouraging level of consumer interest.

Over the last financial year, Nestd added to its product range with the introduction of the new three-bedroom Breeze. Working with long-term architecture partners, Grimshaw Architects, the Peak family of designs has also been updated with the introduction of a three and four-bedroom variant to the range.

Homes previously provided by Nestd will continue to be delivered by experienced builder and developer Michael Griffiths, through his company Oakbeech Homes.

Nestd Villages has positioned itself as a retirement housing developer in regional areas and will be operated in future by Greg Muller, the previous chair of the Nestd board.

Nestd relied on the support of many partners and suppliers, some of whom provide their service on a no fee basis. The Nestd team is indebted to Pitcher Partners, Alan Takle and Corrs Chambers Westgarth for their support throughout the year, and to the team at Grimshaw Architects for their outstanding contribution to the Nestd Villages architectural vision for Wangaratta, as well as the redesign of the new Peak family.

Above: One of Nestd's home designs.



Our Innovations

Expanding on the Village 21 model

The Village 21 supported accommodation model is now in its third year, with the model's pilot project delivered alongside our partners at Anglicare Victoria, operating very successfully. In Melbourne's inner-north, Village 21 Preston continues to offer a place to live that empowers young adults with an out-of-home care experience with crucial employment guidance, educational pathways, and life skills for a successful transition to independence.

Our partnership with Anglicare Victoria will drive the development of additional Village 21 models across the state and beyond.

We're thrilled to be working alongside the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) in delivering 'Moorumbina Mongurnallin,' a Village 21 housing project based in Frankston aimed at supporting First Nations young people who are leaving care to develop their skills and confidence in preparation for independent living.

The name 'Moorumbina Mongurnallin,' which translates to 'you are loved' in the local Bunurong language, reflects the cultural essence of this project which is being delivered by VACCA in close consultation and collaboration with members of the Aboriginal community. Those who live and work on Bunurong Country, including Elders and young people alike, will help ensure that First Nations perspectives, insights and protocols are

embedded throughout the design and delivery of services for those who will call Moorumbina Mongurnallin home.

This project has been made possible through the support and collaboration of various stakeholders, including Homes Victoria, the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness & Housing (DFFH), as well as a wide range of generous donors and corporate partners. Construction is set to begin later this year.

Earlier this year, Kids Under Cover also celebrated the news that the Victorian Government will provide the funding to expand the Village 21 model at two new sites in regional

Victoria. Former Victorian Minister for Housing, Hon. Colin Brooks MP announced the funding would be granted as part of a \$50 million investment by the government to create youth housing across the state.

These additional Village 21 model adaptations will be developed with cultural safety and inclusion as a focus as we partner with Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-Operative and Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-Operative to establish what the future residents of these living spaces will need.

Opposite: Live-in mentor, Morgan, with resident, Serge, at Village 21 in Preston.



The new development will feature lots of space for residents to spend time together outdoors.



Development is underway for our new Village 21 site in Frankston.



Moorumbina Mongurnallin residents will have access to their own private basketball court, gardens, and a 'yarning circle' area.

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39% of young people leaving care end up homeless in the first year after they turn 18. Village 21 is designed to interrupt this spiral by providing six young people with stable accommodation and support for up to three years.

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Christinaray – artist on the rise

Christinaray is a young Warumungu and Arrernte woman making her mark in Victoria’s contemporary First Nations art scene. She paints from the heart and as a way of sharing the challenges and experiences that have shaped the lives of herself and her community.

One of Christinaray’s many artworks is to be transferred onto a carpet that will be laid in the communal space at Moorumbina Mongurnallin, the new Village 21 supported accommodation site in Frankston developed by Kids Under Cover in partnership with the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency.

Christinaray knows as well as anyone how valuable the Village 21 will be for the young First Nations residents and their personal development.

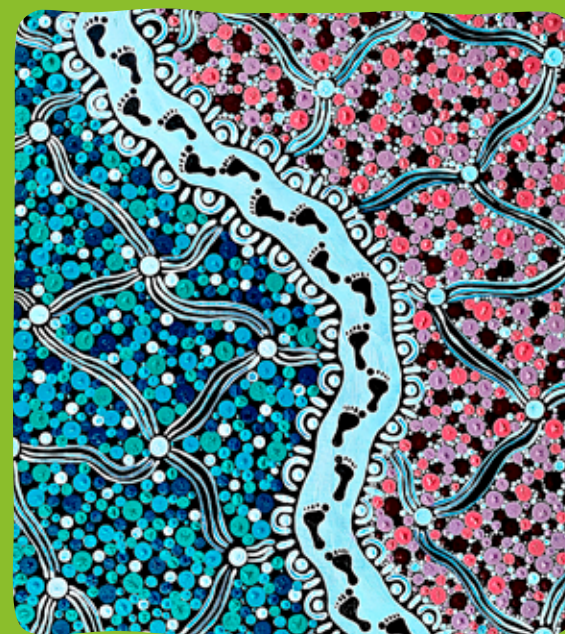
“I was homeless quite a few years ago,” she explains. “And the first program I went to was a foyer – a place where they put a roof over your head for up to 2 years and help you work towards a goal. Having that safe place, that security that a lot of people don’t have meant so much. The idea that there’s a place like this new Village 21 where young Indigenous people are going to have that support to build those skills so they can learn to help themselves, and can continue on from there, is really important.”

Describing the artwork she composed specifically with the Village 21 in mind, Christinaray says she wanted to convey a place where young people can imagine their journey, a place where they can begin to prepare for and forge a path ahead.

“It’s why I did feet – black and white – representing the people that are going to be



Artist Christinaray lives and works as an artist on Bunarong Country.



Christinaray’s winning art submission that will be featured in the design of Moorumbina Mongurnallin.

there. When they move on and the next people who come. And I did all the dots to represent the young men and women who will share the experience and all of the people it’s going to take to support them. The connection to community and connection to ... everyone.”

Mobile Pod Pilot

Young people’s risk of homelessness is often increased when family relationships breakdown and there is conflict in the home.

Family breakdowns can be exacerbated by overcrowding, experiences of mental ill health and trauma, and behavioural challenges. These disruptive circumstances can result in young people becoming homeless and often disengaging from family, education and their community in the process. Most families and households can wait the 3-4 months it usually takes for a Kids Under Cover studio to go through council and construction processes.

Our mobile solution aims to provide a high-quality, agile accommodation solution that



The Mobile Pod will provide a temporary accommodation solution for emergency situations.

can be rapidly deployed and relocated within days as a circuit breaker to tensions that may lead to family breakdown, homelessness or entry into out-of-home care.

The Mobile Pod Program is intended to be complimentary to our existing Studio Program, providing an immediate response and fulfilling urgent client and sector needs that the current studio offering cannot.

Our Supporters

Every young person who is currently enjoying the stability and sanctuary of a Kids Under Cover studio can do so because of the foundations, organisations and individuals who are committed to supporting the work we do. Having worked to build our studio model for over thirty years, we're grateful to have earned the trust and built lasting partnerships with a growing list of incredibly generous donors.

We are grateful to our Trust and Foundation supporters who in the last year contributed to 12 studio builds, our new Village 21 site in Frankston, and who continue to support our innovation work for vulnerable young people exiting care.

The support we receive from our long-term partners who continue to provide in-kind support as well as financial contributions is quite remarkable — we couldn't deliver at the scale

that has enabled us to house almost 1000 young people in studios each night without the support we enjoy from our many generous collaborators including Harris HMC, Ortech and Durra Panel, Mactux, and many others.



Above: The team at Snap Fitness 24/7 in Warrnambool participated in our #SkipForKids fundraising challenge in March. **Top:** A generous grant from Homes for Homes will fund two 2-bedroom studios in Melbourne.



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JB Hi-Fi's Helping Hands workplace giving program which has been integral to helping us to expand our reach.

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Kids Under Cover and JB Hi-Fi team members celebrate our partnership at an event.

Royce Communications has been collaborating with Kids Under Cover for many years, thanks to their passion and belief in the work we do. Richard Amos, CEO of Royce Communications says, "For RoyceComm, working alongside KUC over the past decade has been both a privilege and a responsibility. For us, the privilege sits in being able to directly contribute to improving the lives of vulnerable young people by providing them with safe housing and support. The responsibility lies in upholding the trust and confidence of the young people, their families, and the community in delivering effective support and services. Which involves advocating for their rights, raising awareness about the issue in the media, and securing funds to prevent youth homelessness.

For over a decade, we've felt we have shared this privilege and responsibility with KUC, which makes KUC a very special relationship."

In May this year, JB Hi-Fi retail staff across 200 stores around Australia went 'undercover' to raise \$150,000 to support our work. This is in addition to the ongoing support we've received via JB Hi-Fi's Helping Hands workplace giving program which has been integral to helping us to expand our reach into South Australia.

We've also seen extensive generous support from countless small businesses who have kindly participated in fundraising activities, encouraging their customers to support our work and raising awareness for what we do at Kids Under Cover.

It's partnerships and supporters like these that enable us to support more families and move closer towards our ambition to end youth homelessness.



We're grateful when small businesses like Thornbury Vets choose to fundraise for Kids Under Cover.

Creative community spirit

Over the past year, we've enjoyed the good fortune of attracting contributions from a variety of creative community fundraising activities.

While Swinburne Secondary College chose to donate funds raised from a student sleepover in a classroom at the school, students at Camberwell Grammar held a sock sale with all proceeds going towards supporting our programs.

Office management company, the GPT Group have supported Kids Under Cover consistently by holding a weekly flower auction of some amazing floral arrangements at 530 Collins Street to enable our work.



Thirteen-year-old student, Lennox, built his own gofundme page with the ambition to raise \$10,000 for Kids Under Cover, a cause he considers close to his heart.

A group of young actors, Lennox, Mae, and Naomi, who star in a new series called 'Plausible Deniability' which is soon to be released for streaming have been inspired by the script from the series and set up a GoFundMe page in support of Kids Under Cover and are on their way to raising \$10,000.

We're so grateful to everyone who has helped raise much-needed funds for us over the year and to those who get behind their community by supporting these fundraising efforts.



Narre Warren South Cub Group enjoying their sleepout fundraiser this year.

One out of the box

Every year for the past four years, the Narre Warren South Cub Group have been running a cardboard box sleepout to raise funds for a local homelessness charity. This year they chose Kids Under Cover. Cub Leader and co-founder of the event, Tracy, says that she helps some of the Cub Group's older youth leaders to choose a charity to support each year, and Kids Under Cover's focus on combining education support with housing solutions was the deciding factor in selecting us for their fundraising efforts in 2023.

"We ask the cubs to bring large boxes and we supply tarps, scissors and packing tape. They come to the campsite after dinner with just a sleeping bag, toothbrush, and water bottle. They create their sleeping forts and during a very light supper of assorted plain biscuits and Milo, we talk about the charity, reasons for homelessness and how it affects those impacted.

"They love the novelty of sleeping outside in virtually nothing. And they love the construction side of creating their cardboard sleeping arrangements. The cubs really get a buzz out of sleeping under the stars and knowing their helping make an important difference. It has become the highlight of our yearly calendar for the kids."



Donate Your Car

Kids Under Cover has enjoyed the great fortune of a rewarding partnership with our friends at Manheim Australia for 17 years. The relationship has enabled donors across Australia to donate their pre-loved vehicles through Manheim's auctions with all proceeds supporting our work.

The Donate Your Car program is one of our most critical fundraising streams and has contributed over \$2 million throughout the 2023 financial year. We're so thankful to all the

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I bought a new car a few years ago and I gave this car to my brother, Billy. He recently passed away, so I went back to driving it for the sake of his memory. My brother and I have always said that, when the time comes, we want to donate it to your organisation. I hope you can get something for it.

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amazing people who have donated their cars, caravans, motorbikes and boats to help give young people the opportunities they deserve.

Above: Vehicles submitted to our Donate Your Car program come in all sorts of shapes, sizes, colours and styles.



Where are they now:

Sandi's success sees her giving back

One of the great pleasures of supporting young people is having the chance to revisit down the track and see how far they've come. There's something extraordinary about knowing the stable foundation we helped provide offered a platform from which to shape a flourishing adult life.

As a teenager, Sandi's complicated home life was offered some relief with the provision of a Kids Under Cover studio.

Sandi describes her younger self as a chronic runaway kid. When things became too much

at home, or she became frustrated with her family's situation, Sandi would leave. She would hang out in parks for hours or sleep at friends' houses overnight. At the time, Sandi wouldn't have classified herself as homeless or at-risk. In hindsight, Sandi felt that she was at risk of becoming homeless.

"I was thrust into adulthood pretty quickly... It wasn't the easiest adjustment. So, sometimes, leaving just seemed easier," says Sandi, "I was so ready to grow up."

To this day, Sandi is grateful to have been given the chance to create a peaceful home

Above: Sandi visited our Donate Your Car partners at Manheim Auctions to drop off her second car donation. **Right:** Sandi participating in community fundraising activities on behalf of Kids Under Cover.

environment from which to grow into the successful and happy young adult she has become.

"The studio did keep me at home longer than I would have stayed without it. I had a tough period. I definitely wouldn't be where I am today if I hadn't had the studio," Sandi says. The space gave Sandi a taste of independence while enabling her to continue her education and build on the foundations of her family life.

More than 10 years on, Sandi is living in Melbourne and is very close to her family. Her career is thriving, too – and Sandi has worked on some impressive large-scale construction projects including some high-profile infrastructure works around Victoria.

Sandi has been advocating for Kid Under Cover for over ten years now, and other young people whose potential can be realised with a bit of extra support and space to grow. She takes any opportunity to give back to the organisation that helped her at such a critical time.

In fact, her professional network is so strong that Sandi even helped to source support for some crane work required for our Moorumbina Mongurnallin Village 21 build in Frankston by reaching out to her current and past colleagues requesting assistance for the project on behalf of Kids Under Cover.

She is a regular volunteer for Kids Under Cover and donated her own vehicle via the Donate Your Car program back in 2013. This year, Sandi generously donated a second car to our Donate Your Car program that raises funds for the delivery of our work.

"I'm proud to be in a position where I can give back in this way... to be working in a field that I love, and financially stable enough to have bought two cars and to have donated them, feels like a big achievement," says Sandi.

"Kids Under Cover supported me at a time when my future was unclear. Things got really tense at home, with a very sick little sister and my constant arguing with my parents at the time – the studio really gave me the independence I needed, so it feels good to be able to offer some support in return, for somebody else who might be in a similar situation."

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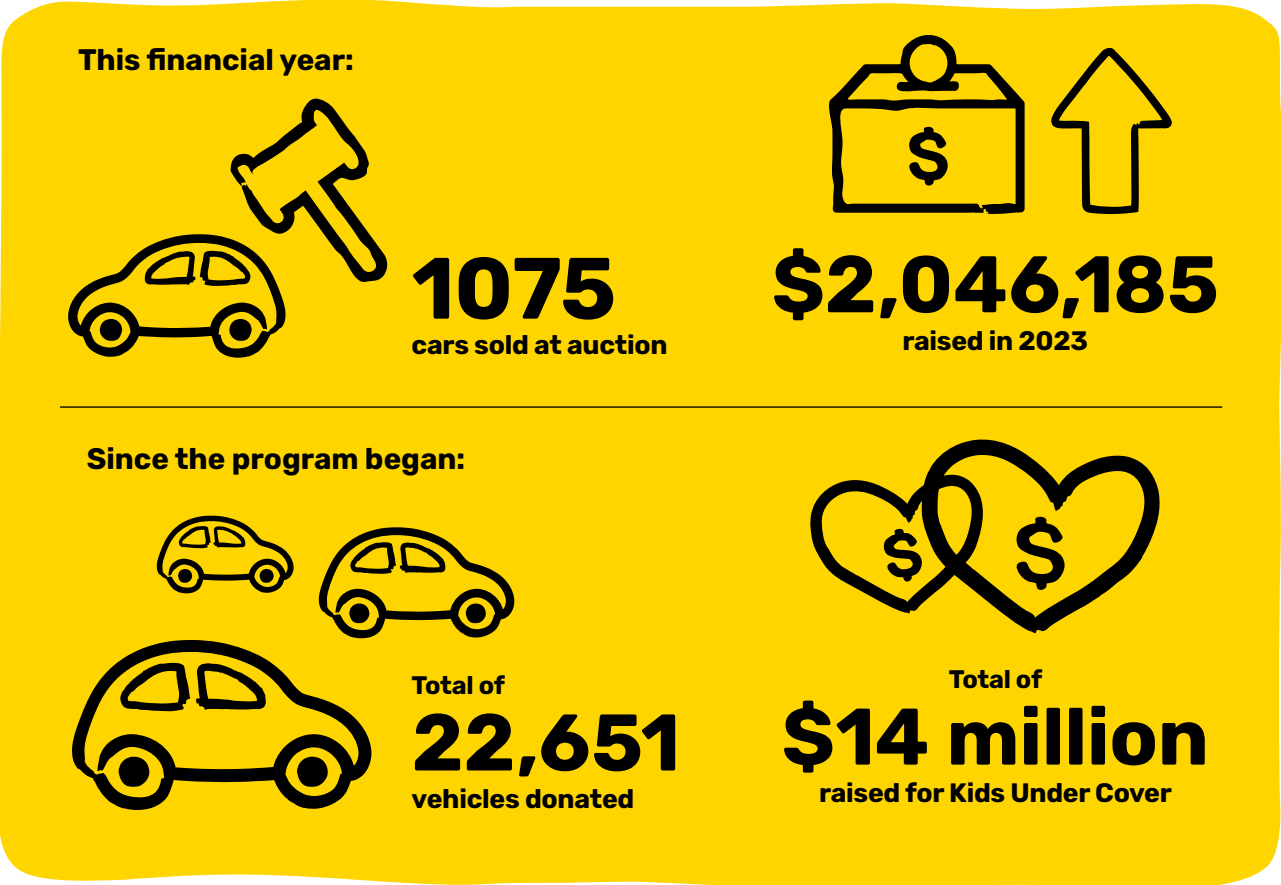
I'm proud to be in a position where I can give back in this way. Kids Under Cover supported me at a time when my future was unclear.

— Sandi

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Donate Your Car snapshot



Behind every car, there's a story...

“UEK is the best car!! He really got me through some tough times. I’ve owned UEK for over 16 years and I adore him. I lived in UEK for a bit while I finished uni. All the scratches and marks have a memory and it will be sad to say goodbye. But, if UEK can help a family or someone who needs a break in their life then it’s a win... It will be an emotional goodbye.”

“I used to be homeless as a boy. It is a beautiful Ute. Clean reliable, 12 months rego... I want the money to go to Aussie kids in need please.”

“This vehicle was owned by my grandmother and then until recently my late mother. It holds many memories of Nanny showing up with delicious home-made cakes and treats for her grandsons.”

The will to give

Earlier this year, we celebrated a valuable partnership with Gathered Here – an online platform offering free will creation and the option to leave a gift to Kids Under Cover to support our mission of ending youth homelessness.

Leaving a bequest is a generous investment in a brighter future for young people facing difficult challenges. By dedicating part of their estate to help Kids Under Cover, our supporters promise support, protection and empowerment for young people. Gifts like these enable us to continue developing innovative solutions to the challenges young people face, with confidence.



Supporters can access the online will-writing tool on our website, leaving a lasting legacy for our charity. They'll receive regular updates on our work and become part of a compassionate community of supporters. This has been an exciting new addition to our fundraising portfolio.

“After including a bequest to Kids Under Cover in my will, I felt immense pride, knowing the difference our family could make for those who need support the most. Kids Under Cover programs are truly life-changing, so this is a legacy I will be proud to leave behind, and one that I look forward to teaching my own children about.”

- Amy-Lou left a gift in her Will to Kids Under Cover

The impact of leaving a bequest to Kids Under Cover



Lourine, a caregiver to three children, personally experienced the benefits of the Kids Under Cover Studio Program. She's now an advocate for the impact of bequests in supporting our work.

"Every child needs a safe and loving home. That's why I took in my beautiful grandchildren when their parents couldn't care for them. But our house was tiny, and overcrowding was a concern."

"Kids Under Cover built a studio in our backyard, providing the space we needed, keeping the family together, and creating a more peaceful home."

"Growing up in this calm place, my grandchildren have healed from early trauma, and they now have a bright future."

The many hands and hearts behind our work

Our work at Kids Under Cover is very much a collaborative operation. The success of our programs and the renewed hope they provide for young people and families is all due to the many compassionate people who support our work. Our sincere thanks to you all.

Founding Patron

- The late 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

Foundation Partner

- Harris HMC

Platinum Partners

- Brian M. Davis Charitable Foundation
- Corrs Chambers Westgarth
- JB Hi-Fi Helping Hands
- Manheim
- Shine On Foundation
- The Estate of Rosemary Gleeson

Gold Partners

- B.B. & A. Miller Foundation
- Capricorn Foundation
- Eric and Elizabeth Gross Foundation
- Foundation Barossa
- Hugh D.T. Williamson Foundation

- Joe White Bequest
- Lendlease FutureSteps
- Suitters Foundation
- The Bowden Marstan Foundation
- The Raymond E. Purves Foundation

Silver Partners

- Bellwether Foundation
- CBA Staff Social and Charity Club
- Chris Wood
- Computershare Change A Life Foundation
- Equity Trustees
- Goodridge Foundation
- J. & B. Jackson Foundation
- Kay & Burton Foundation
- Kimberley Foundation
- Lewis Family Foundation
- Marcia & Henry Pinski
- Marian & E.H. Flack Trust
- Millett Family Foundation
- Morgan Le Tet
- Morialta Trust
- Norman, Mavis & Graeme Waters Charitable Trust
- The Cramond Family
- The Jack Brockhoff Foundation
- The William Angliss (Vic) Charitable Fund
- V.G.I. Partners

Bronze Partners

- Andrews Foundation
- Antoinette & Edward & The Moylan Family Fund
- Australian Owner

Builder Insurance

- Services Pty Ltd
- Australian Philanthropic Services Foundation
- Bill & Elizabeth Corbett
- CommBank Staff Foundation
- Dimmick Charitable Trust
- Energy Australia
- Fila S.M. Brands
- Fred J. Cato Charitable Fund
- Gilbert Household
- Haighs Chocolates
- Handital NSW
- Kamener Foundation
- Link 21 Foundation
- Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation
- Paulusz Family Foundation
- Pethard Tarax Charitable Trust
- Robson Giving Circle
- Shulu Foundation
- Surge Direct
- The Anthony Costa Foundation
- The Barbara Luree Parker Foundation
- The G.P.T. Group
- The One Tree Foundation
- The Radford Foundation
- Trinity Families
- Waterwheel Foundation
- Wood Family Foundation
- YPO

Studio Partners Victoria

- Aboriginal Housing Victoria
- Anglicare Victoria
- Berry Street Victoria
- Children’s Court Youth Diversion

- Department of Youth Justice and Community Safety
- DFFH Child Protection
- Gippsland & East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-operative
- Harris HMC
- Homes Victoria
- Lighthouse Foundation
- MacKillop Family Services
- Macutex
- Melbourne City Mission
- Moira Disability & Youth Services
- Neami International
- Ortech Industries
- RACV Solar
- Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative
- The Salvation Army
- Uniting Care
- Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency
- Youth Justice Community Support Service (YJCSS)
- Youth Support and Advocacy Services (YSAS) Pty Ltd

Studio Partners South Australia

- Foundation Barossa
- Fusco Construction
- JB HI-FI Helping Hands
- Lutheran Care
- MFCom
- Ortech Industries
- Sensum
- South Australian Housing Authority
- Uniting Communities

Village 21 Partners

- Anglicare Victoria
- Benchmark Heritage Management
- Botanix

- Bunurong Land Council
- Bush Projects
- City of Darebin
- Corrs Chambers Westgarth
- David Parsons – PPDM
- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing
- Department of Transport
- Frankston City Council
- Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-Operative
- Greater Shepparton City Council
- Harris HMC
- Homes Victoria
- JB Hi-Fi Helping Hands
- JY Cranes
- Koala Furniture
- Lend Lease
- Macutex
- Milliken
- NH Architecture
- Ortech Industries
- Protest Engineering
- Ratio
- Re-Love (Built)
- Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative
- Sensum
- Town Planning Co
- Tree Projects
- Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency

Scholarship Partners

- Sarah Davies
- All secondary school participants
- DFFH – Statewide Disability and Housing Operations
- Lenka Morgan

Governance

The Board

The Kids Under Cover Board is responsible for the overall governance of the organisation including its strategic direction, establishing goals for management and monitoring the achievement of those goals. The board convenes a minimum of six times per year. 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;
- endorse key policies;
- report back to the stakeholders at the AGM;
- 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, Audit 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 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 ensure we receive an unqualified audit report each year.

Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee reviews pay, conditions and performance of senior management and reviews recommendations made by the CEO in relation to staff recognition.

Our Board



Nathaniel Popelianski

Chair

Nathaniel joined the Kids Under Cover board in 2012. Nathaniel 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, landowners, 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.



Christopher Cramond

Director

Christopher joined the Board in 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.



Julia Griffith PSM

Director

Julia joined the board in 2023 after having served as Deputy Commissioner and Acting Commissioner for the Victorian Public Sector Commission and as a senior executive in the Victorian Public Service (VPS) for the past 20 years. During this time, she was responsible for providing portfolio advice to Ministers, leading and overseeing a range of justice portfolios. Julia is keen to assist Kids Under Cover make even more impact for vulnerable young people as a key partner with the Victorian Government.



Brett Comer

Director

Brett is the most recent appointment to our board, joining in 2023. Currently serving as the Chief Financial Officer at State Trustees, Brett previously led significant transformation and enterprise-wide improvement initiatives in customer experience, stakeholder engagement, and financial performance at Bupa Australia and New Zealand, Monash IVF, and Camp Australia. His primary focus for his role as a Kids Under Cover Director is collaborating with others to achieve impactful and sustainable outcomes for customers, the community, and related stakeholders.

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 trial new solutions to homelessness. Stephen has been invited to be a member of ministerial advisory committees on homelessness and housing.



Kara Briggs

Head of Programs

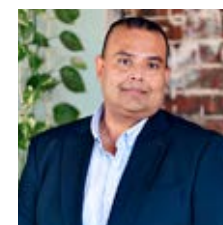
Kara joined Kids Under Cover in January 2023 to lead delivery of the Studio, Scholarship and Village 21 Programs. Kara is passionate about working in the “for purpose” sector and brings over 20 years of experience in service delivery and strategy across a broad range of community, health and disability service organisations. With a commitment to early intervention, Kara is excited about growing the long term impact that Kids Under Cover can have on the lives of young people and their families and carers.



Kealey Nutt

Head of Communications

Kealey joined the Kids Under Cover team in April 2023, bringing over a decade of marketing and communications experience from both the corporate and social sectors. She is particularly passionate about stakeholder engagement, accessibility, co-design, and community-centric program delivery. Throughout her career, Kealey has worked within complex environments, developing nuanced content and communication strategies that address audience needs and drive organisational development outcomes.



Joe Corera

Chief Financial Officer

Joe came on board the Kids Under Cover team in March 2023 as the Chief Financial Officer. He began his career in banking and finance and has built his career in accounting, insurance, logistics and health. He has held senior positions in the corporate, government and not-for-profit sectors and brings a strategic return on investment approach, balanced with a community focus. Joe is passionate about using resources in a way that maximises benefits to the community.



Katrina Craib

Head of People and Culture

Katrina joined the Kids Under Cover leadership team as Head of People and Culture in March this year, having been with the organisation since 2019. She brings a sound knowledge of the compliance and legal components of human resource management and combines that with an empathetic and consultative approach to supporting our teams. Katrina is well-equipped to solve complex issues in our dynamic work environment.



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.

Financial summary

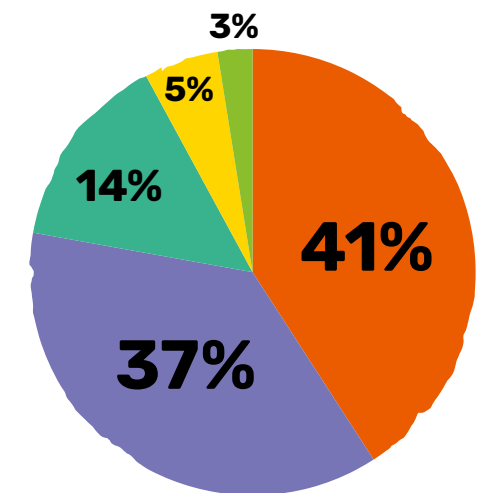
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position As at 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	5,128,484	6,039,856
Receivables	398,599	674,609
Other financial assets	2,923,911	2,644,273
Other assets	86,455	139,071
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	8,537,449	9,497,809
NON- CURRENT ASSETS		
Intangible assets	—	1,588
Lease assets	220,127	408,804
Property, plant and equipment	7,871,057	7,380,845
TOTAL NON- CURRENT ASSETS	8,091,184	7,791,237
TOTAL ASSETS	16,628,633	17,289,046
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	1,137,710	366,599
Lease liabilities	199,910	186,222
Provisions	257,459	280,755
Other liabilities	5,343,893	6,882,397
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	6,938,972	7,715,973
NON- CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Lease liabilities	34,271	234,181
Provisions	102,568	119,163
TOTAL NON- CURRENT LIABILITIES	136,839	353,344
TOTAL LIABILITIES	7,075,811	8,069,317
NET ASSETS	9,552,822	9,219,729
EQUITY		
Reserves	2,443,615	2,487,415
Accumulated surplus	7,109,207	6,732,314
TOTAL EQUITY	9,552,822	9,219,729

Financial summary

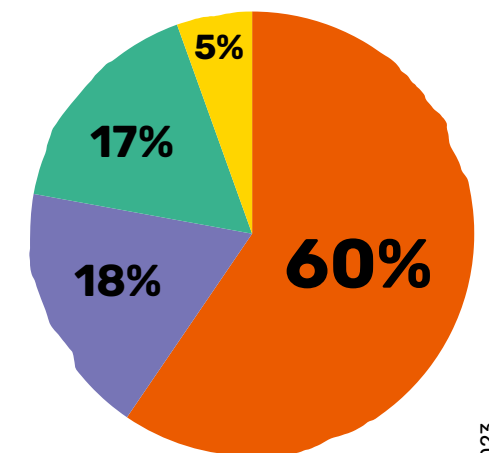
Consolidated Statement of Income and Expenditure For year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME		
State government funding	4,843,364	2,730,960
Other Grant funding	1,867,000	1,624,000
Fundraising:		
Donations and gifts	5,354,288	5,206,201
OTHER INCOME		
Gain on fair value adjustments	215,273	—
Sundry income	694,009	151,992
Investment income	115,482	140,712
Jobkeeper and cashflow boost	—	—
Gain on disposal of assets	12,462	7,578
TOTAL REVENUE	13,101,878	9,861,443
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Social enterprise	(701,178)	(506,293)
General marketing and fundraising	(1,976,847)	(1,859,760)
Donate Your Car®	(365,048)	(272,859)
Scholarship program costs	(721,315)	(348,420)
Studio program costs	(6,879,618)	(6,839,868)
Management and administration costs	(2,124,779)	(2,116,382)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(12,768,785)	(11,943,582)
(DEFICIT) / SURPLUS BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE	333,093	(2,082,139)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	—	—
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE (DEFICIT) / INCOME	333,093	(2,082,139)



2023 Revenue

- Fundraising
- State Government Funding
- Other Grant Funding
- Other
- Investment Income



2023 Expenditure

- Program Delivery
- Fundraising and Marketing
- Management and Administration
- Social Enterprise

Be an agent for change

We're always so heartened by the level and diversity of support we receive from the community, who clearly believe in the relief we are providing for families. From corporate flower sales to school fundraisers where bright young minds have come up with such creative ways to raise a few dollars, every effort counts and is deeply appreciated.

There are countless ways to support the work we do to end youth homelessness. Here are just a few:



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.



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.



Fundraise

There are endless ways to support Kids Under Cover in your community. From marathons to bake sales – we'd love for you to get involved with fundraising for our cause!



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.



Corporate partnerships

Partner with us and let your employees, customers and clients know your business is committed to making a difference!



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





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Freecall 1800 801633



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kuc.org.au



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kidsundercover



Kids Under Cover