

POSITIVE WOMEN VICTORIA



ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019

Positive Women Victoria
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About

Positive Women Victoria (PWV) is the only community-based organisation specifically funded to support women living with HIV in Australia and was established by and for women living with HIV. PWV provides support, information and advocacy for women in Victoria living with HIV.

For over 30 years, PWV has responded to the changing needs of women living with HIV, recognising the impact gender has on the way women experience HIV and addressing the specific needs and emerging issues that affect women living with HIV in Victoria.

PWV is funded by the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services to provide health promotion to women living with HIV.

Our Vision

All women and girls living with HIV in Australia are free from stigma and supported in their unique journey.

Our Mission

Supporting, representing and promoting effective change for women and girls living with HIV to enable their needs to be met.

Structure & Management

PWV is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

It is an incorporated association governed by a Board of Management. PWV offers support and advocacy for all women living with HIV regardless of whether or not they are members of the organisation.

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WORDS FROM THE CHAIR



This year has been super-charged in terms of Positive Women Victoria's work providing support to our members, and their increased engagement with us. In advocacy, we have worked tirelessly to promote a concerted national and public campaign to end HIV stigma, and raise awareness about HIV including U=U. We owe this growth to the culmination of the hard work and dedication of the Board, staff, volunteers and members.

We are truly blessed to have Dr Kirsty Machon as our Executive Officer. Kirsty has been in the role for just over a year and has done so much to ensure Positive Women Victoria (PWV) is in the strong position we now find ourselves. She brings more than 25 years experience working in the HIV sector in policy development, leadership and governance.

In 2018, the undetectable = untransmittable message was finally endorsed after more than 20 years of scientific evidence that clearly demonstrates people living with HIV on treatments and who have an undetectable viral load cannot transmit HIV. But while U=U is a breakthrough for people living with HIV, it is not yet known by the general population and here we are a year later still calling for the roll out of a national campaign to raise awareness of U=U and end HIV stigma.

I hope I will not be writing, in 12 months from now, the same thing: that action for a national campaign has still not materialised. In the meantime, PWV — along with our partner organisation Living Positive Victoria and all the HIV organisations nationally — are, and will continue to, reach out to the Federal and State governments and to the media to get this message out to all people in Australia, because U=U equals the end of stigma. And this equals support

for all people living with HIV, because it is stigma that is the cause of many of the issues that we continue to face.

In the absence of this national campaign — because people living with HIV don't give up that easily — a number of us are running our own national grassroots campaigns on this issue. Cath Smith, a former Chair of PWV, initiated a successful and visible campaign against HIV stigma through an online petition and social media presence. A grant from the PWV Rose Fund in 2019 saw her head to Canberra for a week spent in Parliament, where she was able to raise awareness about the changing face of HIV, and the need to end stigma, with politicians and other health groups.

I, too, have been interviewed by ABC Radio National's Conversations program and featured in several magazines and newspapers after my second book *Timeless on the Silk Road* was released this year. It is a story that details my HIV diagnosis in 1995 and what happens next when I embark on my last motorcycle adventure on the Silk Roads from London to Hanoi. It is a story that very much raises awareness of HIV and U=U and helps fight stigma.

It is our personal narratives that are so powerful in changing attitudes and combating ignorance and fear around HIV. For the past two years, the PWV board has pushed for HIV to be included on the ABC television show *You Can't Ask That*. But it took the combined voices of several positive people, including Cath Smith, to have HIV at last included in the series to be screened in 2020.

In preparation for the national campaign, PWV has also developed a proposal for a *Women and HIV: Tell the Story* project. This is an exciting project to inspire personal confidence among women living with HIV and ensure the voices and stories of those women living with HIV, including those who choose to speak out, are heard, and that the experience of HIV is being represented accurately in the public domain.

In 2018, the Victorian government implemented a HIV strategy in partnership with people living with HIV. It focuses on testing and treatment and ending HIV stigma by 2030. PWV will lead the way in all areas that concern women and specifically in their reproductive rights including breastfeeding.

As a mother, my pregnancies were before U=U, and sadly I could not breastfeed, because the scientific evidence was just not there eleven and fourteen years ago. But we have come so far and today women living with HIV with undetectable viral loads in African countries, Switzerland and the UK are supported in their decision to breastfeed.

As the evidence of U=U grows in the area of breastfeeding, other countries will also follow, including Australia. ASHM (the peak medical body

for practitioners working in HIV, STIs and BBVs) is finalising new breastfeeding guidance based on a submission from our sisters at Femfatales, part of the NAPWHA (National Association of People with HIV Australia).

PWV will continue to work closely with these organisations so that women living with HIV have the most up-to-date scientific evidence on which to base this decision, without pressure from those in the medical community who may be strongly opposed to women with HIV breastfeeding or who refuse to acknowledge the evidence that supports this as a legitimate decision.

We have connected with 60 new women this year, and those who have joined PWV bring our total membership to 348. We are seeing an increase in younger women and international students seeking support. Approximately half of new members are Australian born. The peer support provided by PWV is vital for our members' wellbeing; particularly for those newly diagnosed, who often have no one else to turn to.

There were 23 women who attended our Annual Retreat in March. For the first time, we held a Wellbeing Weekend for women newly engaged with our peer services. This weekend would not have been possible without the generous donation of \$18,500 from James Addinsall who chose PWV as his nominated charity in his role as the 2018 Laird Leatherman.

The weekend, at a farm stay, was extremely cost-effective, and means we can hold further support activities not covered in our budget. This increase and quality of our peer support would not be possible without the additional ongoing financial support from both Living Positive Victoria and Thorne Harbour Health. Thank you.

I would like to give an enormous thank you to my fellow Board members and all the dedicated volunteers and staff. Without you, PWV would not be able to provide the vital support and advocacy to our members and engage in raising awareness for education and prevention.

Thank you to my Board: Stephanie Raper, Bev Trotter, Mel Spencer, to our Treasurer, Kylie Tempest, and to Diedre McEwen, Nicki Russell, Sally Sharman and Maggie Taaffe. Thank you for your skills and experience and all your hard work on the PWV Board. I welcome all our new board members who bring an enormous diversity of skills and experience that will take PWV forward as we move into our next Strategic Plan.

I would like to give a very special thank you, on behalf of PWV, to the Victorian Government's Department of Health and Human Services, because without their continued funding, we would struggle to provide any of these support services and



**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
IMAGE: LDV PHOTOGRAPHY**

advocacy projects. Thank you for recognising and continuing to support this vital need.

Over the years, PWV has formed a close bond with Living Positive Victoria and Thorne Harbour Health. Thank you for all your support and I know this bond will only grow stronger as we move into the future.

I would also like to acknowledge pharmaceutical industry partners ViiV Health Care and Gilead, and I thank you for understanding just how vitally important our work is in providing support and advocacy, which allows us to be change agents within the wider community.

Finally, I want to thank all our members, past and present, for seeking us out and believing in us and trusting us to provide you with the support you need and deserve. Thank you for this enormous opportunity to chair your Board in governing PWV as we enter 2020.

Thank you.

HEATHER ELLIS
Chair

WORDS FROM THE EO

Over the past 12 months, 60 women living with HIV have accessed Positive Women Victoria for the first time to obtain advice and support from peers about life with HIV. We also have many women with whom we are in regular contact as longstanding members. Each of these women comes with a unique life story and experience of HIV.

Whether a woman is only recently learning of her HIV status, or has lived with HIV for some time but is for the first time seeking peer support or even just information about what a diagnosis might mean, we hope that the engagement will represent something that can change a life, a perspective, or just make a difference.

Women are referred to Positive Women Victoria by clinicians, from health services, or self-refer, and can be at very different kinds of places with respect to their lives and HIV diagnosis. On contacting Positive Women Victoria, any woman with HIV can confidently expect to be heard, know that our peer support team will engage with her on her own terms, and be assured that her personal story will be respected and treated with integrity.

We have had over 1,200 individual member and client contacts this year. An important role for Positive Women Victoria is to ensure that our individual role in providing peer support is bolstered by activities challenging the social and personal stigma that can be related to HIV, and to helping women find the tools and build the confidence to break free from that burden.

For some women, that may mean acquiring the confidence and skills to be a visible peer leader for other women living with HIV. For others, it can be an important personal first step just to tell friends, or families of a HIV diagnosis. Our peer support program, health promotion work, and advocacy are all part of facilitating that process.

We have brought women together at events including regular Women's Health Days at the Positive Living Centre, the annual Retreat, and at public events, including our joint celebration of International Women's Day and the National Day of Women Living with HIV, which was attended by 70 members, community partners and supporters.

We have also offered a new experience: a Wellbeing Weekend specifically for women who had only more recently engaged with our services. Here they were able to come together and learn about many aspects of living with HIV: from finding a doctor, to negotiating dating or personal relationships in the context of U=U.

We have also supported women living with HIV who are ready to take the next step towards becoming leaders in the community of women living with HIV by providing scholarship support to enable women

to travel to attend the Positive Leadership Development Institute (PLDI), a fantastic program run by our community partner, Living Positive Victoria.

Achieving equitable health and wellbeing outcomes for women living with HIV means advocating specifically for women's interests. Positive Women Victoria is part of that leadership through the Department of Health and Human Services HIV Working Group, and we had input into the state's Sexual Health Strategy review and other key policy areas. Positive Women Victoria is also active in the national HIV response. As the only funded community-based organisation in any jurisdiction specifically representing women, we can offer unique insight into the views and needs of women living with HIV, and have advocated on issues including HIV research, women in the national strategy, and crucially, the need for a national effort fighting HIV stigma and discrimination.

In the coming year, we will be leading the effort to get the message out there in the community: what life with HIV looks like, that undetectable really does mean untransmissible, that breast-feeding is a legitimate choice that can be safe for babies and great for mums, and not least, that stigma against people with HIV can be eliminated — a task for all of us in the community.

We attended the World AIDS Day Parliamentary breakfast, and a national meeting to discuss the impacts and possibilities of new technologies in HIV epidemiology. Our Peer Engagement Coordinator, Heather Mugwagwa, has presented the findings of important research into the needs of African women living with HIV at the national HIV conference, and to HIV community leaders and workers from around the country. Heather also represents Positive Women Victoria on the Victorian HIV Cure Consortium Community Advisory Board.

We co-hosted a successful event on women and HIV research, featuring two stellar international activists and champions of the needs of women in HIV research, in partnership the Australian Research Centre in Sex Health and Society (ARCSHS).

In the coming year, we will also partner with ARCSHS to undertake an Australian-first research project to understand historical attitudes to and experiences of clinical research for women living with HIV, with the aim of ensuring women are a part of the vital push to end HIV through curing it. We have also contributed at a national round table on HIV and ageing, and had input into national guidelines for PrEP.

Melissa Iddles from our Peer Support team has ensured that the pathways to peer support are strong and clear, providing outreach services at the Positive Living Centre, and at the infectious disease

services clinic at Monash Health. We also provide peer support in conjunction with a range of partners: the Green Room at Melbourne Sexual Health, Royal Melbourne Hospital, and the Alfred.

Communicating with our members is crucial. We have initiated a project to establish a brand new website, and through our hard-working Health Promotions and Communications team this year — Natalie Browne (until February) and Kayla Larson, who joined us in March — we have initiated a number of improvements to everyday communications. We have a gorgeous new design for *Positively Women*, a regular program of direct member communication bulletins, and our social media following and engagement continues to grow.

A Strategic Planning Day gave us much inspiration for future work, and our incoming Strategic Plan will clearly link the aims and activities of our health promotion, peer support and advocacy activities to improve health outcomes.

Our Board, led by author and motorcycle adventurer Heather Ellis, is a source of wisdom and insight into the diverse experiences of women with HIV, as well as providing high-quality leadership. Congratulations to Heather on the second volume of an autobiographical account of her travels across Europe and Asia, with its message for all women about strength, endurance and community.

We have Board members with expertise in accounting, organisational governance, women's health and family violence policy, HIV immigration and the law, health, and women's leadership. We thank all of our Board members for their mighty effort: yes, volunteering is rewarding, but it is also a hard slog.

Among our many partners in the effort to end HIV, three need special mention. Thorne Harbour Health (TTH) — co-host of our Women's Health Days — is a fantastic, consultative and committed supporter of our work, making a generous contribution to our peer support program, as a co-host of events, and as a colleague in the Victorian HIV policy response. Thanks to THH, the Board and staff, CEO Simon Ruth, and the Positive Living Centre for your unstinting support.

ViiV Healthcare and Gilead both have generous industry-community partnership programs and back HIV community-based organisations by funding and encouraging novel programs and activities. We are pleased to work with both these pharmaceutical companies as part of community HIV leadership advisory boards.

By no means least, Living Positive Victoria supports us as co-tenants at Coventry House and generously supports our peer support program with funding and in-kind. We are thrilled by the growing success of



jointly-organised events such as Phoenix for Women and the Cook and Chat program. We share the same aspirations for all people living with HIV, working on joint policy responses in areas including aged care and mental health, and with shared governance training. President Adam Ehm, CEO Richard Keane, and the organisation's wonderful peer navigator team have all been true champions for women living with HIV. We are most grateful, as always, for the ongoing support and confidence of the Department of Health and Human Services.

This funding is an acknowledgement of their commitment to ending HIV and to fulfilling the ambitious goals of the Victorian HIV Strategy, and we salute their recognition in doing so that our shared goal of ending HIV is tied inexorably to the achievement of equitable and just health outcomes, and an end to stigma and discrimination, which must include women.

KIRSTY MACHON

Executive Officer

TREASURER REPORT



For Positive Women Victoria, 2018/2019 has been an incredibly strong year. Positive Women Victoria (PWV) has reported a surplus for 2019 of \$60,715 — building further on the surplus of \$15,144 recorded last year.

PWV's total turnover has steadily increased, confirming that our hard work is getting recognised year after year. Total turnover of \$401,272 in 2019 is a 15% increase from 2018's \$348,517. This has placed PWV in a strong position from a cash flow perspective with cash assets on hand over \$350,000. These incredible savings will enable PWV to begin working towards some major overdue projects in 2020, including a complete redesign of our website (to enable us to further promote our message to reduce stigma) and a full health check of our IT infrastructure.

These projects will ensure we are fully equipped to meet our members' needs, including continuing high levels of data integrity and privacy, and improving management of information so we can communicate with members quickly and effectively.

The Victorian State Government's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) continues to be our major funder, providing us with a massive \$315,627 in grant funding this year. Other revenue came from ViiV Healthcare, Thorne Harbour Health, Living Positive Victoria and Gilead Sciences Pty Ltd.

Total donations recognised in the 2019 financial year amount to \$23,830 — which includes the significant donation from James Addinsall of whom we are eternally grateful. We have also been so grateful to receive significant donations from longstanding supporter Ms Val Lehmann, who donated part proceeds from the 40th Anniversary cast reunion of Prisoner. We also welcomed a generous donation from the Pethard Tarax Charitable Trust.

We express our gratitude to all of these organisations and individuals for their ongoing recognition of the importance of supporting a dedicated, stand-alone organisation for women living with HIV.

To date, our head office has been an amazing location at 111 Coventry Street, Southbank (which we share with our partner organisation Living Positive Victoria). In addition to its annual operating grant to PWV, the DHHS also supports this lease arrangement on behalf of the HIV community organisations.

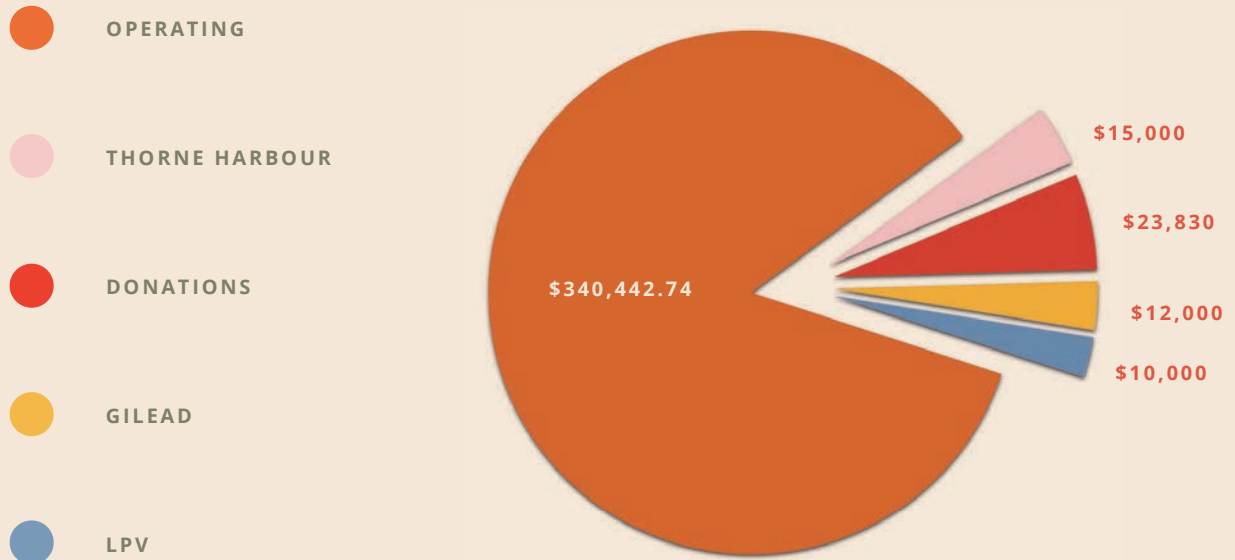
Again, we express our appreciation of the Department's recognition of the importance of a dedicated space for the community organisations that support people living with HIV, and we look forward to continuing this arrangement in a new location in 2020, as PWV moves offices to 95 Coventry Street, Southbank.

We continue to have incredible success with our Peer Support team who work hard with our members and non-members. Significant demand in this area, as well as other factors, has resulted in an increased commitment in staffing to the organisation to meet demands. We welcomed 60 women living with HIV this year who had not previously been members or accessed our services, bringing our total membership to 326.

Before I finish I would like to thank our Board, staff and volunteers for their ongoing commitment to supporting women living with HIV. Many people give generously of their time, talent and resources to ensure that PWV can continue to offer the support and advocacy it provides to women living with HIV and for this, we are deeply appreciative.

KYLIE TEMPEST

Treasurer



Fitted and kitted ... ready to work!

Getting back into the workforce is exciting, but it takes confidence, courage, and yes, the right look. We are thrilled to have introduced a special program this year with a brand new partner, Fitted for Work.

This is a great organisation for all women, with a mission to help women experiencing disadvantage to get work, keep work, and navigate the working world.

The outfitting service means that women can attend job interviews with the extra chutzpah that comes from looking your best, thanks to quality shoes, clothes, and

accessories made available through the program at no cost, and selected in consultation with Fitted for Work staff.

Through the Resume Hub, women can also get support to put together a CV or job history, tips for interviews, and help with writing cover letters.

There is also support available with make-up and presentation skills workshops.

The service is free to members of Positive Women Victoria.

Thanks to Jackie Roberts and Liz Trehwella for their initiative and commitment to a great program.

fittedforwork.org



IMAGE: FI MIMS PHOTOGRAPHY



PEER SUPPORT

Our Peer Support program continues to grow in capacity and strength, and to reach an increasingly diverse group of women. For many of the women who make contact with us for the first time — whether newly diagnosed, or having been living with HIV for some time — accessing the support of Positive Women Victoria is a decisive step on the path to wellbeing.

In 2018-19, we were pleased to welcome 60 new women to our organisation for peer support and other member services.

The organisation's peer services reduce social isolation, provide women with insights from others living with HIV, and help to build and navigate pathways to communities of care.

Throughout the last year, we have been carefully evaluating our services to make sure that we are continuing to meet the needs of all women in a diversifying epidemic.

Support

We had a total of 1,208 direct contacts with women living with HIV over the 12 months to June 2019. Among the reasons women make contact are:

- to discuss their HIV diagnosis with a peer who is also a woman living with HIV
- to access services, or find out about accessing services
- to find out about member events or social opportunities
- to seek information about treatments, or pathways to care; or
- for information relating to specific needs, such as legal support or advice, or housing assistance.

Women may self-refer, such as through our website, but women are also regularly referred to our services through partner organisations such as HIV or sexual health services, general practice, refugee health services, hospitals, psychological services, or community-based organisations.

We employ two peer support workers, and have been fortunate enough to be in a position to increase the total availability of peer support hours to meet ongoing demand. Our peer support workers are able to travel to support members, including in regional Victoria, as well as right across metropolitan Melbourne.

Our Peer Support team work with a diverse and increasing network of providers and partners. Many of our members have multiple health needs, often requiring broader psychosocial support. Our members may be affected by family or intimate partner violence, be supporting children, or be seeking information and support as they navigate the immigration system.

Outreach services are available regularly at the Positive Living Centre, and the Monash ID Clinic. Our peer workers also visit sexual health services and a network of S100 prescribers, the Alfred Hospital health services, Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, hospitals, and provide outreach across Melbourne at venues suited to the women needing support. This year, the team has travelled to meet women in Geelong (Barwon Health) and Ballarat, and provided remote support to women in locations including Wodonga and Bairnsdale.

Events

We had 22 women join us for the **Annual Retreat**, held in the Macedon ranges. Many of the women who attended were new to the retreat; a peer-led and peer-based weekend and program of activities which this year featured peer support sessions, art therapy, social time, and the launch of the *HIV Speakers' Guide*, written by longstanding member and a tireless advocate for women with HIV globally, Susan Paxton.

We jointly celebrated **International Women's Day** (March 8) with the **National Day of Women Living with HIV** (March 9) with a morning tea at the Positive Living Centre. Over 70 members, stakeholders, healthcare workers, and supporters of our work joined us.

Our Frankston Lunch Group continues to meet for regular lunches, a crucial network for women with HIV in south-east Melbourne.

We hold regular **Women's Health Days** at the Positive Living Centre, with a program of activities including art classes, group information and discussion sessions, and makeovers.

Planning in 2019-20, with funds received from a generous donation in 2018, culminated in our first **Wellbeing Weekend**, an intensive weekend to bring together a number of women engaged with our peer program, most of whom had not attended a peer event with Positive Women before.

The group was supported by the Positive Women's Peer Support team, with a workshop led by a clinical psychologist at which women were invited to discuss a range of topics, including: how to choose a medical practitioner; tips for wellbeing; and negotiating relationships. There was a Malaysian cooking demonstration, a Qi Gong class, and plenty of time to relax with other women.

"A beautiful setting ... a lovely and tranquil day ... The warm and welcoming attitudes to me and my baby were appreciated."

- Member experience of the Wellbeing Weekend

Phoenix for Women

The Phoenix program for newly-diagnosed women has grown over the past 12 months, and is a model of wonderful cooperation between Living Positive Victoria and Positive Women Victoria.

The program is now in its fourth year, and is a two-day holistic program, peer-led, and regularly reviewed.

In June 2019, we had a record eight women attend the workshop.

Rose Fund

Positive Women Victoria is in the lucky situation of being able to support members with a special-purpose charitable fund that aims to assist with program grants for activities contributing to members' personal or professional development and education.

The Rose Fund has this year:

- supported Cath, who undertook a week-long volunteering and advocacy trip to Canberra, where she gained crucial insights into the parliamentary process, met MPs and other health advocates, and was able to advocate for and promote the message that it's time to put an end to HIV stigma; and
- provided assistance for a member to cover the cost of child-care allowing her to be able to attend classes to complete a qualification in early childhood care.

HEATHER MUGWAGWA & MELISSA IDDLES

Peer Support



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
IMAGE: LDV PHOTOGRAPHY

"You will not determine my story. I will."

- AMY SCHUMER

WILDLIFE AT THE WELLBEING WEEKEND, TONIMBUK
IMAGE: KAYLA LARSON



ANNUAL RETREAT
IMAGES (RIGHT, BOTTOM): SARAH FEAGAN

Supporting our team, in order to support our members

The work of Positive Women Victoria depends on both our paid staff and our volunteer Board. Our Peer Support team work very hard to make sure that all women who access our services feel safe, welcome and understood. It's not always easy work, and our members can have complex needs, with many social and health impacts affecting their lives.

Our volunteer Board keeps the organisation healthy, helps set direction, represents women with HIV at events, contributes to policy and discussion, and supports our work in so many other ways.

As an organisation, we also want to thank and support our Board and staff, by providing opportunities for training and learning new skills. Board and staff members this year had the chance to attend an afternoon session to hear from young

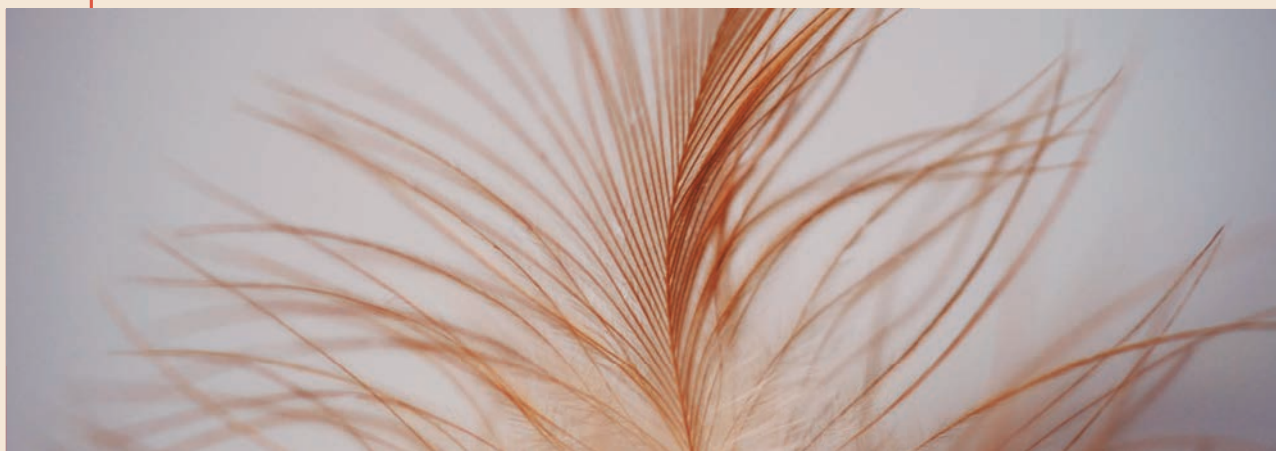
people who identify as transgender and gender diverse about service and health needs.

Staff training included an information session on HIV, immigration and the law, conference attendance, attendance at a forum on refugee health on World Refugee Day, and a course to learn about how to provide counselling and support services in a way that understands and recognises the impacts of personal trauma on clients' lives. Staff also undertook facilitation training, and training in handling complex or difficult client calls.

Our Board were able to engage in governance training (with Living Positive Victoria) and learn about Indigenous cultural competence (with Thorne Harbour Health) as well as undertaking a strategic planning session together.



**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
IMAGE: LDV PHOTOGRAPHY**





FINANCIAL REPORT

POSITIVE WOMEN (VICTORIA) INCORPORATED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

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FINANCIAL REPORT

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INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	NOTES	2019 \$	2018 \$
REVENUE FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	2	401,273	348,517
EMPLOYEE EXPENSE		(243,428)	(237,872)
DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION EXPENSES		-	(3,880)
LEGAL EXPENSES		(1,750)	-
PROJECT EXPENSES		(15,468)	(14,530)
RENT		-	-
OTHER EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		(79,912)	(77,091)
SURPLUS/(LOSS) BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE (INCOME TAX REVENUE)		60,715	15,144
INCOME TAX REVENUE (INCOME TAX EXPENSE)			
SURPLUS/(LOSS) AFTER INCOME TAX EXPENSE (INCOME TAX REVENUE)		60,715	15,144

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

	NOTES	2019 \$	2018 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
CASH ASSETS	3	358,469	300,270
RECEIVABLES	4	13,230	858
OTHER	5	-	12,927
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		371,699	314,055
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
FIXED ASSETS	6	1,500	1,500
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		1,500	1,500
TOTAL ASSETS		373,199	315,555
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
PAYABLES	7	38,759	36,926
PROVISIONS	8	7,476	5,350
OTHER	9	15,000	22,030
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		61,235	64,306
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
PROVISIONS	8	-	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
TOTAL LIABILITIES		61,235	64,306
		311,964	251,249
NET ASSETS		311,964	251,249
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
RETAINED SURPLUS	10	311,964	251,249
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		311,964	251,249

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	NOTES	2019 \$	2018 \$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
RECEIPTS FROM GOVERNMENT AND SPONSORS		413,301	394,137
PAYMENTS TO SUPPLIERS AND EMPLOYEES		(358,444)	(367,021)
INTEREST RECEIVED		3,342	3,213
NET CASH PROVIDED BY/(USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	11(B)	58,199	30,329
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
PAYMENT FOR PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		-	(3,880)
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		-	(3,880)
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
NET CASH PROVIDED BY/(USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES		-	-
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH HELD		58,199	26,449
CASH AT BEGINNING OF FINANCIAL YEAR		300,270	273,821
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	11(A)	358,469	300,270

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic). The Board of Management has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report:

(a) Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset was held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The carrying amount of fixed assets is reviewed annually by the Board of Management to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of those assets.

The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised leased assets, but excluding freehold land, are depreciated over their estimated useful lives to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Properties held for investment purposes are not subject to a depreciation charge. Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Office Furniture & Equipment	10-40%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

Asset classes carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the income statement. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

(b) Leases

Leases of fixed assets, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership, are transferred to the association are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised, recording an asset and a liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. Leased assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives where it is likely that the association will obtain ownership of the asset, or over the term of the lease. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

(c) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits expected to be settled within one year together with benefits arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled plus related on-costs. Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

Contributions are made by the association to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(d) Revenue

Revenue from sale of goods is recognised upon the delivery of goods to customers.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	NOTES	2019 \$	2018 \$
NOTE 2: REVENUE			
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
INTEREST	2(A)	3,342	3,213
OPERATING GRANTS		330,628	302,830
DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP		60,830	40,475
CONFERENCE INCOME		-	-
OTHER INCOME		6,473	1,999
		401,273	348,517
(A) INTEREST FROM BANK ACCOUNT DEPOSITS		3,342	3,213
NOTE 3: CASH ASSETS			
CASH ON HAND		201	201
CASH AT BANK		9,974	14,800
CASH AT BANK DGR		-	-
ROSE FUND BANK ACCOUNTS		39,332	9,380
ROSE FUND INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS		62,704	61,875
ING INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS		131,951	130,098
CASH RESERVE		114,307	83,916
		358,469	300,270
NOTE 4: RECEIVABLES			
CURRENT			
TRADE DEBTORS		13,230	858
ACCRUED INTEREST		-	-
OTHER DEBTORS		-	-
		13,230	858
NOTE 5: OTHER ASSETS			
CURRENT			
PREPAID EXPENSES		-	12,927
		-	12,927
NOTE 6: FIXED ASSETS			
(A) PLANT AND EQUIPMENT			
AT COST		38,086	38,086
LESS ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		(38,086)	(38,086)
		-	-
(B) ARTWORK			
AT COST		1,500	1,500
LESS ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		-	-
		1,500	1,500
TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		1,500	1,500

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

NOTES	2019 \$	2018 \$
NOTE 7: PAYABLES		
CURRENT		
UNSECURED LIABILITIES		
TRADE CREDITORS	11,658	13,885
SUNDRY CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS	27,101	23,041
	38,759	36,926
NOTE 8: PROVISIONS		
CURRENT		
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - PROVISION FOR ANNUAL LEAVE	7,476	5,350
NON-CURRENT		
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - PROVISION FOR LONG SERVICE LEAVE	-	-
AGGREGATE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS LIABILITY	7,476	5,350
NOTE 9: OTHER LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
PREPAID INCOME	13,000	5,030
UNEXPENDED GRANTS	2,000	17,000
	15,000	22,030
NOTE 10: RETAINED SURPLUS		
RETAINED SURPLUS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	251,249	236,105
NET SURPLUS (LOSS) ATTRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE ENTITY	60,715	15,144
RETAINED SURPLUS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	311,964	251,249
NOTE 11: CASH FLOW INFORMATION:		
(A) RECONCILIATION OF CASH		
CASH AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR AS SHOWN IN THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS IS RECONCILED TO THE RELATED ITEMS IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS FOLLOWS:		
CASH ON HAND	201	201
CASH AT BANK	358,268	300,069
	358,469	300,270
(B) RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS WITH PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER INCOME TAX		
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER INCOME TAX	60,715	15,144
NON-CASH FLOWS IN PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
DEPRECIATION	-	3,880
CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES:		
(INCREASE)/DECREASE IN RECEIVABLES	(12,372)	(858)
(INCREASE)/DECREASE IN OTHER ASSETS	12,927	(12,927)
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN PREPAID INCOME	(7,030)	15,360
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN PAYABLES	1,833	18,235
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN PROVISIONS	2,126	(8,505)
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATIONS	58,199	30,329

NOTE 12: ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The principal place of business of the association is:
Positive Women (Victoria) Incorporated
Coventry House,
Suite 1, 111 Coventry St, Southbank 3006

STATEMENT BY THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The board have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the board the financial report:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Positive Women (Victoria) Incorporated as at 30 June 2019 and its performance for the financial year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Positive Women (Victoria) Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

Dated this 17th day of September 2019



.....
Heather Ellis
Chair



.....
Kylie Tempest
Treasurer

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF POSITIVE WOMEN (VICTORIA) INCORPORATED

Report on the Financial Report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Positive Women (Victoria) Incorporated (the association), which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2019, the income and expenditure statement and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2019 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. I am independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report

The committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*, and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.


Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit, I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



John Woodward

Chartered Accountant


Level 5, 398 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne Vic 3000

Dated this 17th day of September 2019

DISCLAIMER TO THE MEMBERS OF POSITIVE WOMEN (VICTORIA) INCORPORATED

The additional financial data following is in accordance with the books and records of the association which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our statutory audit of the association for the financial year ended 30 June 2019. It will be appreciated that our statutory audit did not cover all details of the additional financial data.

Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on such financial data and we give no warranty of accuracy or reliability in respect of the data provided. Neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility in any way whatsoever to any person (other than Positive Women (Victoria) Incorporated) in respect of such data, including any errors of omissions therein however caused.



John Woodward
Chartered Accountant

17th September 2019

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	NOTES	2019 \$	2018 \$
INCOME			
INTEREST		3,342	3,213
SUBSIDIES AND GRANTS		330,628	302,830
CONFERENCE INCOME		-	-
DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP		60,830	40,475
SUNDRY INCOME		6,473	1,999
TOTAL INCOME		401,273	348,517
LESS EXPENSES			
ACCOUNTING FEES		10,530	11,440
ADVOCACY EXPENSES		7,485	1,118
AUDIT FEES		3,200	3,150
BANK CHARGES		-	46
BOARD & AGM EXPENSES		2,845	708
COMPUTER & IT CONSULTANT EXPENSES		3,004	18
CONFERENCES & SEMINARS		4,612	6,139
CONSULTING FEES		-	-
DEPRECIATION		-	3,880
HOLIDAY PAY PROVISION INCREASE/(DECREASE)		2,126	(8,505)
INSURANCES (INC WORKCOVER)		3,297	2,576
LEGAL AND COMPLIANCE FEES		1,750	103
OFFICE EXPENSES		338	1,056
PLANNING EXPENSES		260	274
POSTAGE AND COURIERS		-	18
PRINTING AND STATIONERY		796	249
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT		2,234	5,752
PROMOTION EXPENSES		993	8
PROJECT EXPENSES		15,468	14,530
SPONSORSHIP/DONATIONS		-	-
CARRIED FORWARD EXPENSES		58,938	42,560
RECRUITMENT COSTS		-	90
RENT		-	-
SALARIES AND WAGES		217,647	224,082
STAFF TRAINING AND WELFARE		479	366
STAFF WORKPLACE COUNSELLING		2,320	-
STORAGE COSTS		-	-
SUBSCRIPTIONS		1,029	967
SUNDRY EXPENSES		-	-
SUPERANNUATION		20,358	19,719
SUPPORT EXPENSES		36,931	35,616
TELEPHONE		1,493	364
TRAVELLING EXPENSES, ACCOMMODATION AND CONFERENCE		866	7,838
WEBSITE EXPENSES		497	1,771
TOTAL EXPENSES		340,558	333,373
SURPLUS/(LOSS)		60,715	15,144

At the table: our advocacy work

Positive Women Victoria works for you by:

1. Representation on joint policy committees within the HIV sector.
2. Working with the Department of Health and Human Services in Victoria to deliver on the aims of the Victorian HIV strategy.
3. Attending community and sector round tables and participating in discussions and policy.

This year, we've been at the table to put the perspective of women living with HIV on:

- ageing and HIV
- new technologies in epidemiology
- women and PrEP
- breast-feeding
- the Victorian state election
- the Victorian and national HIV strategies
- clinical research
- HIV cure
- HIV testing
- U=U
- stigma
- women's health
- HIV treatments
- peer education and training
- mental health services
- the needs of women living with HIV from African communities
- health literacy
- immigration and the law ... and more!



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
IMAGES: LDV PHOTOGRAPHY

BOARD & TEAM MEMBERS

BOARD MEMBERS

Heather Ellis (Chair)
Steph (Vice-Chair)
Kylie Tempest (Treasurer)
Sally Sharman (Secretary)
Bev (Director)
Deidre McEwen (Director, to April 2019)
Mel (Director)
Nicki Russell (Director)
Maggie Taaffe (Director)

STAFF MEMBERS

Dr Kirsty Machon (Executive Officer)
Natalie Browne (Health Promotion & Communications Officer, to February 2019)
Melissa Iddles (Peer Support Worker)
Kayla Larson (Communications & Health Promotion Officer, from March 2019)
Heather Mugwagwa (Peer Engagement & Research Coordinator)
Bernadette Roberts (Peer Support Worker, June 2019)
Emma Sheldon-Collins (Peer Engagement Worker, June 2019)

Thanks to the many members, Board members and supporters who've been willing to share stories online, on the TV, in memoirs or at forums, speak the truth, run workshops, attend workshops, support other women, be visible, work behind the scenes, sit in meetings, train health care workers, sign petitions and so much more.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
IMAGES (ABOVE, RIGHT): LDV PHOTOGRAPHY

Support, information and advocacy

FOR WOMEN IN
VICTORIA WHO
ARE LIVING
WITH HIV



Contact Us

Positive Women Victoria
Coventry House
1/111 Coventry Street,
Southbank VIC 3006
E | info@positivewomen.org.au
W | positivewomen.org.au
PH | (03) 9863 8747



@PositiveWomenVictoria



@PosWomenVic

Positive Women Victoria acknowledges the lands on which we work at Coventry House are on the traditional lands and waterways of the Kulin Nations.

We pay our respects to Elders both past, present and emerging, and acknowledge their continued spiritual relationship and connection to their country.



PositiveWomen

Support and advocacy for women living with HIV