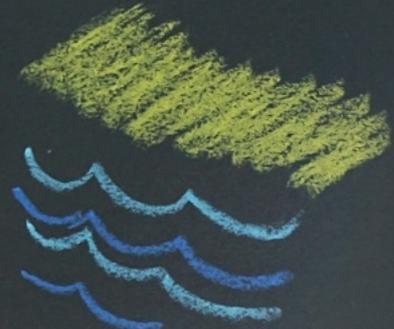


POSITIVE WOMEN VICTORIA
ANNUAL REPORT



2020-2021

ANNUAL REPORT 2020 – 2021

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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 peer 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 (femmes, cis women, and trans 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 who live in Victoria, regardless of whether or not they are members of the organisation.

COVER ART

'What gives me strength and pleasure' by Bev T

Bev T is a former Board Director of Positive Women Victoria, PWV member and participant in the Positively Women Project, a community-based research study that is exploring what it means to be a woman living with HIV in Australia, while bringing visibility to the stigma and discrimination they face in society.

'After serving on the board of Positive Women Victoria for a term of two years it was time to leave and embark on some self-development. I had the pleasure of participating in a four week Art Therapy study for women living with HIV. The experience was so cathartic, I have just commenced a Transpersonal Counselling and Art Therapy course. Thank you to PWV for being one of the sponsors of the Positively Women Project,' Bev says.

For details, to view the art exhibition and to complete a short survey visit: [Positively Women Project](#)

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WORDS FROM THE ACTING CHAIR



MEL SPENCER - ACTING CHAIR

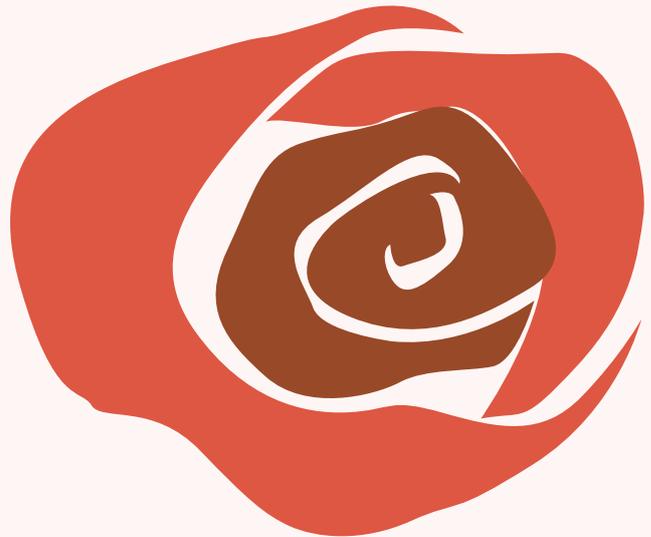
Greetings, friends, fans and members of Positive Women Victoria. Without a doubt it's been another highly challenging year for those of us living in Victoria.

If I have learnt anything over the past nineteen months, it is to appreciate all successes, no matter how small. Never put off 'til tomorrow what can be enjoyed today. Despite another restricted year, the Board has been very busy supporting all aspects of the organisation, ensuring that the voices of women are still heard, our members are receiving support and events will go on where possible.

The principal source of support for the peer support and advocacy we do for all women living with HIV is the Victorian Department of Health and we are thankful for their ongoing commitment. We have also been supported by Living Positive Victoria, and Thorne Harbour Health. Joint projects have been undertaken with the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, and National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA).

The board recognises the challenges for its members this year. We extended our relief program to assist with financial burdens and impacts of COVID and restrictions. Our Annual Retreat was certainly a highlight for many, one of the only opportunities for members to catch up in person, and meet new and old friends. Another achievement of the board was participating in a review of our peer support service provision, and development and implementation of a services framework, as well as upgrades to our database system.

Congratulations to Heather Ellis, successful with a series of podcasts, which has allowed women to share an amazing array of different HIV journeys and life experiences. This initiative (Our Stories: Ending HIV Stigma podcast) is available to listeners worldwide, and gives an insight into women's stories about



living with HIV. We have added to these stories on our [website](#).

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to three departing board directors who complete their terms at the Annual General Meeting. Kylie Tempest who served the organisation as Treasurer until December 2020; Georgina Whitchurch who was Chair during this reporting year and stepped down in June 2021; and Monique Hanley who has served as Secretary. I thank each of them for their hard work, knowledge, and dedication to provide governance and direction for the organisation as well as continuing support to our members. Each will be missed as we move into a new phase.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge that this year marks 40 years since the public were officially informed of the epidemic that would become the AIDS epidemic. Many of us have drawn on these early years for strength, dedication and motivation to continue their fight, and that battle is not forgotten or in vain.

Thankfully, 40 years on, we now have access to treatments, medical services for all and continue to make sure all people living with HIV are treated with respect and free from discrimination.

While we still have stigma to fight, the fight is by no means over.

I look forward to attending upcoming events, and meeting everyone in person again soon.

Stay sane.

MEL SPENCER
Acting Chair



THE 2021 PWV ANNUAL RETREAT WAS HELD IN COSTAL INVERLOCH WITH 27 WOMEN ENJOYING A WEEKEND OF PEER-LEAD ACTIVITIES

"Despite another restricted year, the Board has been very busy supporting all aspects of the organisation, ensuring that the voices of women are still heard, our members are receiving support and events will go on where possible."



WORDS FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER



KIRSTY MACHON - EXECUTIVE OFFICER

In uncertain times, you learn a lot about resilience. For our governance Board, our staff, and of course, our members, the last year has thrown up many tests, and I hope that everyone can feel proud of the way PWV has responded, keeping a steady focus on HIV despite the attention-seeking COVID affecting us all in different ways.

That focus has allowed us to continue to make some great advances for the organisation.

We have learned a lot about ways to engage. While tentative at first, we've shown women have been willing and able to participate and connect in webinars, small social groups, contribute to virtual consultations, and log on for health promotion activities delivered online.

- An Australian-first webinar tackling the question of what U=U means for women was a major success, a frank and full discussion on sex, relationships, motherhood, and the impacts of HIV on first nations women.
- We had our first successful online AGM.
- We've run social group catch-ups, established a social group for women over 50, led by outgoing Chair Georgina Whitchurch, and established a group for women from diverse backgrounds.
- A program of podcasts and web-based stories to tackle HIV-related stigma were all part of the successful Women and HIV: Tell the Story project funded by Gilead Sciences.

POSITIVE WOMEN VICTORIA PRESENTS

U=U IS YOUR STORY TOO

WEBINAR FOR WOMEN



Australia's first webinar led by women living with HIV that will dispel outdated myths, highlighting the message that successful HIV treatment eliminates the risk of transmission of HIV to sexual partners.

Date: Thursday 26 November, 2020

Time: 7.00-8.30pm AEDT

February to April gave us a reprieve from lockdowns and we were able to hold an expanded annual PWV Retreat, welcoming many first-timers. A fantastic communications workshop, Find Your Voice To Tell Your Story, was also held.

Our peer support team now has increased capacity, with three staff now available to support women right through their HIV journey. Over 1,700 instances of individual support were provided in the year to June 2021, both to longstanding members and to women engaging for the first time. New clients and members joined us from 14 different countries of birth, emphasising the diverse needs and experiences of women seeking PWV for support.

An important piece of work was a review of peer support services, informing a major project to develop a comprehensive Peer Support Services Framework and Policy Guidance manual. This sets out how PWV provides support, describes the unique ethical principles, perspective and trauma-informed approach to our work, and explains how we support members and clients, and staff.

A brand new database will soon go live and will streamline communications ensuring the highest levels of data integrity and privacy protection are maintained. We have made great strides with our website, a regularly-updated source of information for members, along with our social media pages.

A huge part of PWV's work is advocacy for individual women, and representing the experiences of women living with HIV at all levels to improve health policy and service delivery. PWV contributed to the development of a new Victorian HIV Strategy, participated in exciting work to ensure sex workers are protected from harm and stigma through decriminalisation, and contributed to a major review of services at the Alfred Hospital. PWV has presented its research work at national conferences, and contributes regularly to the national debate on HIV.

PWV helped individual women to navigate the mental health care system, understand U=U, achieve important personal development goals through the Rose Fund, and attain permanent residency in Australia.

A highlight of the year has been the development, with NAPWHA, of a ground-breaking resource for women with HIV who are pregnant to support informed choice with up-to-date science in making decisions about infant feeding.

The Board of Positive Women Victoria works extremely hard to make sure the organisation is well-run and well-governed. Despite the need to meet virtually for most of the year, their important work has been carried out diligently, and always with the interests of members at heart. Three Board members complete their time at PWV. Georgina Whitchurch, Chair

from February 2020 until June 2021, steps down, having led the Board with focus in a year beset by considerable external difficulty. Former Treasurer Kylie Tempest has been a valiant and committed volunteer, ensuring the organisation is well-run and financially strong since taking on that role in 2018. After two years, Monique Hanley, who brought strong governance and policy skills to the table, will also step down. We wish them well and salute their efforts, and the efforts of all our Board members.

The peer support staff, Heather Mugwagwa, Melissa Iddles and Bernadette Roberts, are the heart of PWV services, and have worked with grace and goodwill under many external pressures to support our clients and members through these singular times. Heather Ellis has provided uniquely inspiring and tireless leadership to tackle stigma in her personal capacity as an author and speaker, as Peer Project Leader for our Women and HIV: Tell the Story project, and most recently, in her new communications role with PWV.

Thanks to the fortitude of our Board and staff, and to the clients and members. I think we can all call ourselves resilient, and with justice.

KIRSTY MACHON
Executive Officer



TREASURER'S REPORT



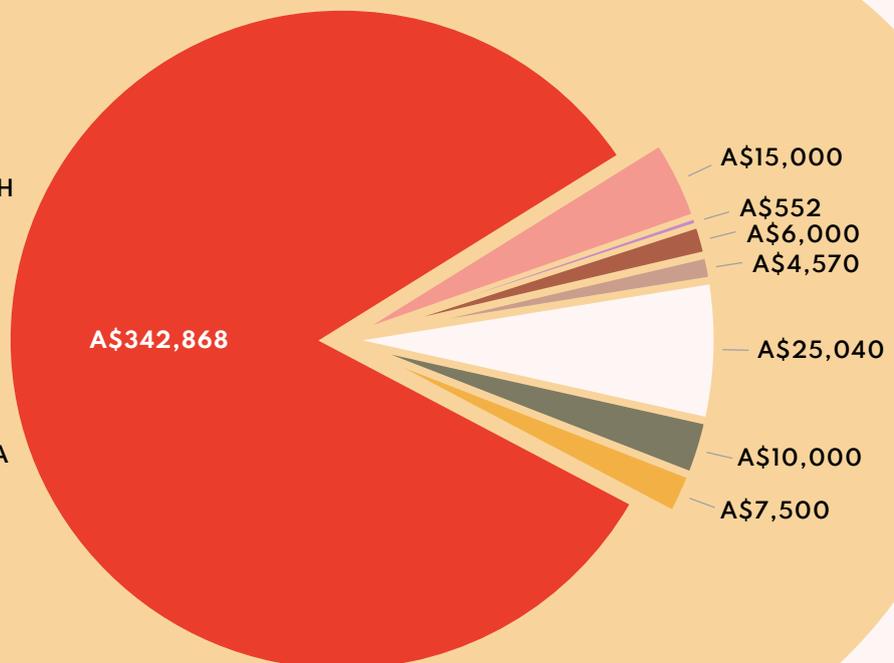
RACHEL MEISNER - TREASURER

As we reflect on the year that was, I feel incredibly proud of the resourcefulness, adaptability and resilience of our staff, our members and our Board. Financial year 2020-21 has been a uniquely unusual and testing year, a year in which no one was unaffected as we tried to imagine what "COVID normal" looked like, and we worked in an ever changing environment. In a time when connection has been both more challenging to achieve and more important than ever, Positive Women Victoria continues to play a pivotal role in supporting, advocating for and connecting our members.

PWV has reported a surplus for 2021 of \$28,371. Some additional COVID-related support was available to us, however, face-to-face activities were limited. Some events were unable to go ahead due to restrictions, with events able to be held face-to-face between March and June. We were successful in delivering a most ambitious and much needed annual PWV Retreat for our members to come together, with additional places able to be allocated as a result of the unfortunate cancellation of the planned 2020 event.

Income Source

- OPERATING
- THORNE HARBOUR HEALTH
- VIIV HEALTHCARE
- LA TROBE UNIVERSITY
- DONATIONS
- GILEAD
- LIVING POSITIVE VICTORIA
- NAPWHA



We have maintained our income levels throughout these difficult times. Total turnover of \$447,121 is an increase on our 2019-20 financial year turnover of \$401,134, primarily this increase is due to COVID related stimulus. These funds have been used to increase our core peer support hours and bring in additional staff support to provide greater support to our members during this difficult time. We also continued to deliver on a project funded through a grant from Gilead Sciences awarded in 2019, an initiative to challenge the impacts of stigma and discrimination among women living with HIV, which was rolled out through 2020 and completed in March 2021. Activities include an innovative podcast series, a media kit on women and HIV, a communications workshop, and our U=U Is Your Story Too webinar.

Living Positive Victoria and Thorne Harbour Health continue to contribute funds to our Peer Support Program. This is vital to helping PWV support the physical, emotional and social wellbeing of our members, and we are grateful to these organisations for the commitment to women living with HIV expressed through this partnership support.

Donations included \$4,000 from the Pethard Charitable Trust, and other donations such as those made through our Give Now platform. In this challenging environment all donations, no matter how big or small, deserve recognition and we are doing everything we can to use every dollar to make an impact by reducing stigma, increasing education nationally and enhancing our ongoing support.

The Victorian State Government's Department of Health continues to be our major funder, providing us with \$341,207 in grant funding this year..

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.

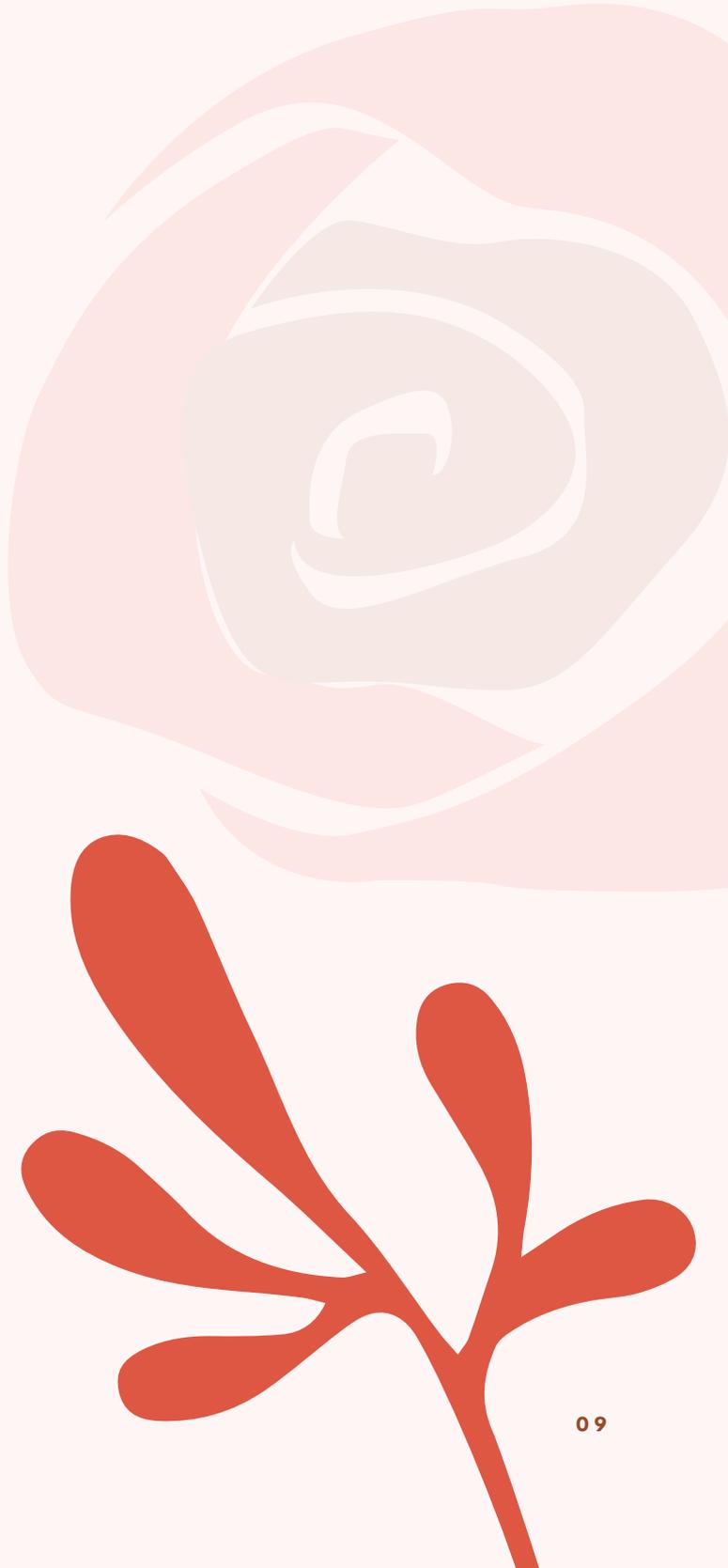
PWV is in a strong position from a cash flow perspective, with cash assets on hand of over \$390,000. This financial confidence has given PWV the ability to continue to provide additional assistance when needed and to ensure we are able to reach out to our members through these difficult COVID times.

These savings enabled PWV to support some major projects during 2020-21, including the development of a new database and member management system to support us in maintaining all records with the highest degree of confidence. We also undertook a strategic examination of our peer support program and its needs, and the findings of our consultation and interviews have provided us with constructive feedback to strengthen service delivery effectively through the completion of detailed services framework and supporting policies.

To be able to achieve so much through such a time of change and uncertainty is a demonstration of the resilience and commitment of our staff, volunteers, EO and Board. 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 we are deeply grateful for their ongoing commitment.

RACHEL MEISNER

Treasurer



PEER SUPPORT

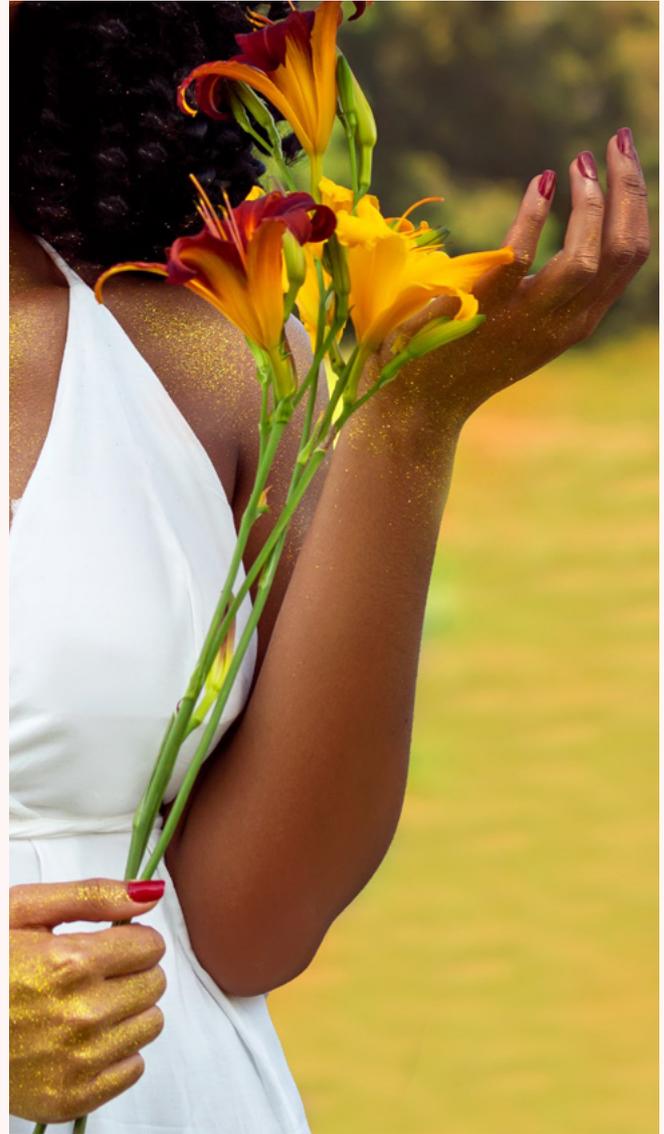
In 2020-21, the number of women living with HIV engaging as members or clients grew from 366 to 378. Continuing a pattern, 74% of the women newly referred or self-referring for the first time were overseas-born, highlighting that HIV affects many women across different communities, with different language or cultural backgrounds and needs. The peer support team provides support to all women living with HIV in Victoria. Where language may be a barrier, we have often accessed interpreter service support provided at point of referral in order to facilitate in person or telephone peer support. However, an advocacy priority for PWV next year will be to look at ways we can facilitate greater access to the health interpretation and translation many women need.

A significant proportion of new referrals are from clinical HIV services including Monash Medical Centre, where peer support outreach is available (though COVID has meant this was delivered principally online and by phone throughout 2020-21), the Alfred, Bolton Clarke, Living Positive Victoria and Thorne Harbour Health. There are also women who have self-referred after finding us through our website and other places we promote our services.

There was a modest increase in individual instances of peer support contact, up 3.1%, with over 1,700 individual points of connection with members and clients. The year, like the previous one, was marked by ongoing restrictions which affected the ability and willingness of members to travel and meet. In-person meetings were limited by this, but Zoom, face-time, email and SMS, which is a very effective form of communicating with some members, were all novel forms of contact that have been taken up.

Face-to-face outreach provided at Monash Medical Centre resumed in March, but was interrupted again by lockdowns from June. Positive Living Centre outreach had been conducted fortnightly until March 2020, but was not resumed in 2021 due to ongoing restrictions and staffing numbers. However, ongoing client contact and referral between the services was maintained. Plans to re-commence face-to-face peer support from mid-July 2021, possibly using a mix of Thorne Harbour Health, Collingwood and the Positive Living Centre for appointment-based outreach, was interrupted, but we hope to introduce this option once circumstances permit.

Usually, the support and connection that most women form with PWV and/or our peer support team is the reason why they are likely to return to us during a crisis.



Method of contact during COVID lockdown

Peer support is a crucial centrepiece of the organisation's program. This includes outreach work through partner clinics and services, and PWV events, as well as opportunities for women to meet up with the team one-on-one in social settings such as over lunch and coffee. This year PWV held three face-to-face events in a window of opportunity available to us early in 2021. Our annual Retreat, for which we opened up additional places, was held in March, a wonderful communications workshop aimed to help women 'find their own voice' to tell their stories, and we launched the Over 50s Simply Social lunch group.

Our members have been variously affected by COVID and lockdowns, and peer support has engaged to support many women through what has been a complex and difficult time. This is especially so for women receiving a new diagnosis in an already complex environment. Issues that have arisen and

Rose Fund helps a career in aged care bloom

“Thank you for my grant from the Rose Fund. I really appreciate the help for my aged care courses. I lost my job due to COVID-19 lockdowns. But with the help from the Rose Fund, I now have a full time job with a good income. Thank you to Heather M from peer support, who advised me to apply. It means so much for my life. Thank you...” Annie

The Rose Fund is a special-purpose charitable fund set up by PWV to support members reach their potential by providing grants for personal and professional development, and education assistance. This year, PWV has helped a member cover the cost of her tuition fees for further education; paid the cost of a computer for a member to participate in online learning; and supported a member to complete an entry-level qualification to enable further study.

through which the team has supported women have included:

- geographical and social isolation
- vulnerability to experience of family violence
- ageing with HIV
- financial difficulties exacerbated by decreased employment or difficulties in finding work and
- managing the impacts of the COVID pandemic with significant carer responsibilities including homes COVID schooling.

The PWV peer support team has worked tirelessly to support women facing the above issues, triaging and connecting women to appropriate services where needed. Many women living with HIV turn to PWV during a period of crisis. Women have often made a connection with the peer support workers when they initially came into contact with the organisation for an HIV-related issue. The PWV team has engaged through one-to-one peer support, through online events, telephone calls, and referrals. We regularly refer women to services including clinical services, counselling services and financial and other support services such as those provided by Thorne Harbour Health. Financial support has been made available through PWV from the Rose Fund (a donations fund operated by PWV, which offers small grants to support women in their aspirations around wellbeing and education), and our food voucher program. Short-term support to meet emergency costs associated with the pandemic, such as those relating to housing insecurity or medical costs, was also available. We also support a number of women through referral to HIV legal services and immigration legal services.

The number of women living with #IV engaging as members or clients grew from 366 to 378.

Peer support professional development and training

Peer Support staff take a trauma-informed approach to our work, and have participated in the Trauma Awareness in Practice training offered by Blue Knot foundation. This ensures we are always aware of the ways in which our members can be affected by trauma, and respond in a safe and informed way. PWV was also involved in a research consortium with the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society and supported by the Victorian HIV Cure Consortium, to help identify barriers to clinical research participation for women, and inform future strategies to engage women in HIV cure research. Staff training sessions focused on client consent processes, privacy, and best practice note-taking. Training was also undertaken in: My Aged Care; Priority Populations and Vulnerability in COVID-19; Mental Health First Aid; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Awareness; Engaging Multicultural Communities; and Introduction to HIV Migration Law in Australia. PWV contributed actively to the HIV Intersections Community of Practice, and participated strongly in ASHMs 2021 Joint Australasian HIV & AIDS and Sexual Health Conferences (virtual) in September.

**HEATHER MUGWAGWA
MELISSA IDDLES
BERNADETTE ROBERTS**

The PWV Peer Support team

PEER SUPPORT EVENTS

Despite a year filled with COVID lockdowns, PWV was able to hold some face-to-face peer support events as well as embracing the virtual world to ensure members remained connected.

PWV Annual Retreat 19-21 March 2021

The 2021 Annual Retreat was held in coastal Inverloch, with 27 women enjoying a weekend of peer-lead activities focused on old and new connections for peer support, health, wellbeing and having fun together.

Find Your Voice To Tell Your Story Workshop Saturday, 1 May 2021

This workshop helped equip women living with HIV with the skills to feel confident to tell their own stories about their diverse experiences as women living with HIV. The workshop was part of the Women and HIV: Tell Your Story project, a program of activities that challenged HIV-related stigma, and was funded with an unrestricted grant from Gilead Sciences. The workshop was facilitated by professional voice and communications coach, Emmanuella Grace, from Find Your Voice Australia.



Simply Social Over 50s - lunches and virtual get-togethers

Developed by former PWV Chair Georgina Whitchurch in 2020, Simply Social Over 50s is a social group for women living with HIV aged 50 and over. Seven women attended the group's first lunch event on 6 December 2020 and again came together for lunch on 23 May 2021. Due to COVID lockdowns, recent activity has been virtual. Georgina said: 'Older women living with HIV have some unique issues and this group is a chance for us to talk together about these issues such as health issues; what we hope for; relationships; the joys of families and grandkids; and share ideas on how we stay well.'

Diverse Women's Social Engagement Group

PWV membership includes women from over 30 cultural backgrounds. In addition to bearing the burden of emotional and psychological distress many face, women living with HIV who have migrated to Australia confront many challenges as they relocate to a developed country. To support these women, the peer support team runs the Diverse Women's Social Engagement Group. The aim of this group is to engage with these women who may feel a greater sense of isolation and get them in the same space with women who share similar experiences. It is also a great way to build their capacity and increase their social connectedness. However, due to COVID lockdowns, the group was unable to meet face-to-face, but were able to connect virtually.

Catch Up Chat – monthly virtual events

To provide women living with HIV, especially those who live alone, with an opportunity to connect during the isolation of COVID lockdowns, PWV held several peer-led virtual meetings via Zoom during 2020 and 2021. Each monthly Catch Up Chat was attended by approximately eight women who shared experiences that nurtured health and wellbeing, especially during the isolation of lockdown.

HIV ADVOCACY AND HEALTH PROMOTION EVENTS

PWV hosted two webinars during 2020-2021, which are part of a continuing series aimed at either HIV advocacy such as reducing HIV stigma or health promotion to nurture the health and wellbeing of all women living with HIV.

An Australian first, U=U Is Your Story Too was an online panel discussion focused on the Undetectable = Untransmittable message as it relates specifically to women. A panel of women living with HIV were joined by Associate Professor Edwina Wright who specialises in HIV medicine and HIV clinical research. U=U Is Your Story Too was part of Women and HIV: Tell the Story project, a program of activities that challenged HIV-related stigma, and was funded with an unrestricted grant from Gilead Sciences. More than 60 people registered to attend the event with 31 people attending.

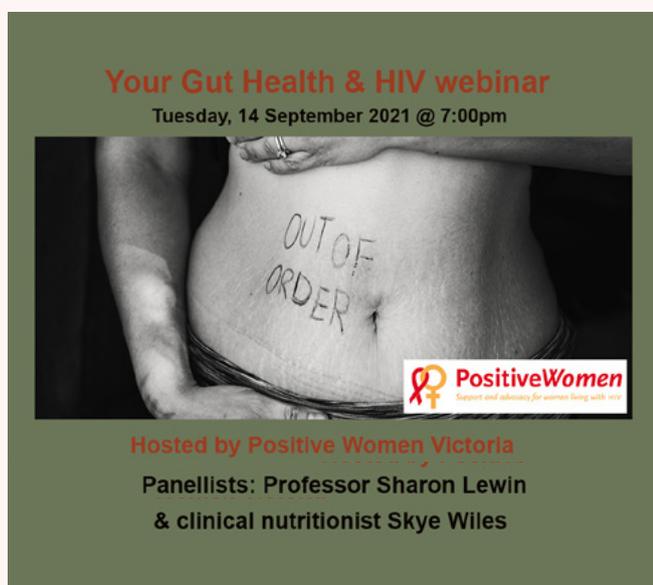
Watch the Recording: [U=U Is your Story Too](#)

Your Gut Health and HIV webinar – 14 September 2021

Your Gut Health and HIV webinar hosted by PWV featured panellists Infectious Diseases Specialist Professor Sharon Lewin and clinical nutritionist Skye Wiles. Prof Sharon Lewin and Skye Wiles outlined latest research and how PLHIV can optimise their gut health through good nutrition and healthy living. The webinar was open to all genders nationally and internationally and more than 60 people registered to attend with 27 people attending. The webinar was the first in PWV's series of health

and HIV focused webinars. The second webinar in this series [Menopause and Women Living with HIV](#) will be held on 16 November 2021.

[Watch the recording: Your Gut Health and HIV webinar](#)



Webinars have been a successful way to engage with our members and the community. Following the success of our U=U webinar for women, PWV will continue to offer a regular program of webinars as part of our health promotion plan.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

BREASTFEEDING FOR WOMEN LIVING WITH HIV IN AUSTRALIA RESOURCE

The *Breastfeeding for Women Living with HIV in Australia* resource was developed by NAPWHA (National Association of People with HIV Australia) and Positive Women Victoria, with contribution, review and feedback from women living with HIV and HIV healthcare professionals nationally. The publication of this resource, a first in Australia, supports women living with HIV to make informed choices about feeding their baby, including information for women who may wish to breastfeed. The resource was released in conjunction with a new guidance: *The Optimal Scenario & Context of Care: Guidance for Healthcare*



Providers regarding infant feeding options for people living with HIV, published by ASHM (Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine). Both the resource and the guidance were launched at ASHM's 2021 Joint Australasian HIV & AIDS and Sexual Health Conferences in September 2021.

While the ASHM guidance is for healthcare providers, the Resource is for women who are living with HIV and want to understand the issues, whether around breastfeeding or formula feeding.

'After reading the resource, it is hoped women living with HIV will feel encouraged by the news that although medical and health experts agree that formula feeding is still the safest option, breastfeeding is increasingly being recognised as an option that may be open to some women living with HIV in Australia,' says Heather Ellis, PWV Communications and Engagements Coordinator, who was the co-author of the resource.

To watch a recording of a panel discussion on Breastfeeding for Women Living with HIV in Australia from the ASHM launch and to download the Resource and the Guidance documents and to read other information go to PWVs web page:

[Pregnancy and Breastfeeding](#)

FINANCIAL REPORT

POSITIVE WOMEN (VICTORIA) INCORPORATED

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Financial Report

- **Income & Expenditure Statement**
- **Statement of Financial Position**
- **Statement of Cash Flows**
- **Notes to the Financial Statements**

Statement by the Board of Management

Independent Audit Report

Disclaimer

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement



INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
REVENUE FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	2	447,121	401,134
EMPLOYEE EXPENSE		(310,805)	(306,378)
DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION EXPENSES		(6,116)	(1,996)
LEGAL EXPENSES		-	(1,250)
PROJECT EXPENSES		(57,122)	(12,565)
OTHER EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		(44,707)	(51,084)
SURPLUS/(LOSS) BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE (INCOME TAX REVENUE)		28,371	27,861
INCOME TAX REVENUE (INCOME TAX EXPENSE)			
SURPLUS/(LOSS) AFTER INCOME TAX EXPENSE (INCOME TAX REVENUE)		28,371	27,861

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
CASH ASSETS	3	390,501	414,129
RECEIVABLES	4	4,203	50
OTHER	5	-	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		394,704	414,179
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
FIXED ASSETS	6	18,208	9,484
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		18,208	9,484
TOTAL ASSETS		412,912	423,663
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
PAYABLES	7	25,660	29,892
PROVISIONS	8	19,056	19,446
OTHER	9	-	34,500
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		44,716	83,838
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
PROVISIONS	8	-	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES		44,716	83,838
NET ASSETS		368,196	339,825
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
RETAINED SURPLUS	10	368,196	339,825
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		368,196	339,825

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES FORM PART OF THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
RECEIPTS FROM GOVERNMENT AND SPONSORS		408,322	469,007
PAYMENTS TO SUPPLIERS AND EMPLOYEES		(417,257)	(406,210)
INTEREST RECEIVED		147	2,843
NET CASH PROVIDED BY/(USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	11 (b)	(8,788)	65,640
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
PAYMENT FOR PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		(14,840)	(9,980)
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(14,840)	(9,980)
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
NET CASH PROVIDED BY/(USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES		-	-
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH HELD		(23,628)	55,660
CASH AT BEGINNING OF FINANCIAL YEAR		414,129	358,469
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	11 (a)	390,501	414,129

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES FORM PART OF THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

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	20-50%

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	2021 \$	2020 \$
NOTE 2: REVENUE			
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
- INTEREST	2(a)	147	2,843
- OPERATING GRANTS		341,207	343,233
- DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP		61,570	52,423
- CONFERENCE INCOME		44,197	2,635
- OTHER INCOME		447,121	401,134

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
(a) INTEREST FROM: - BANK ACCOUNT DEPOSITS		147	2,843
NOTE 3: CASH ASSETS			
CASH AT BANK		8,328	49,299
ROSE FUND BANK ACCOUNTS		50,156	42,921
CASH RESERVE		332,017	321,909
		390,501	414,129
NOTE 4: RECEIVABLES			
CURRENT			
TRADE DEBTORS		4,125	50
OTHER DEBTORS		78	-
		4,203	50
NOTE 5: OTHER ASSETS			
CURRENT			
PREPAID EXPENSES		-	-
		-	-
NOTE 6: FIXED ASSETS			
(a) PLANT AND EQUIPMENT			
AT COST		41,926	38,086
LESS ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		(40,006)	(38,086)
		1,920	-
(b) ARTWORK			
AT COST		1,500	1,500
LESS ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION - -		-	-
		1,500	1,500
(c) WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT			
AT COST		20,980	9,980
LESS ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		(6,192)	(1,996)
		14,788	7,984
TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		18,208	9,484
NOTE 7: PAYABLES			
CURRENT			
UNSECURED LIABILITIES:			
TRADE CREDITORS		9,935	21,071
SUNDRY CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS		15,725	8,821
		25,660	29,892
NOTE 8: PROVISIONS			
CURRENT			
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - PROVISION FOR ANNUAL LEAVE		19,056	19,446
NON-CURRENT			
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - PROVISION FOR LONG SERVICE LEAVE		-	-
AGGREGATE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS LIABILITY		19,056	19,446
NOTE 9: OTHER LIABILITIES			
CURRENT			
PREPAID INCOME		-	10,000
UNEXPENDED GRANTS		-	24,500
		-	34,500

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
NOTE 10: RETAINED SURPLUS			
RETAINED SURPLUS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		339,825	311,964
NET SURPLUS (LOSS) ATTRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE ENTITY		28,371	27,861
RETAINED SURPLUS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		368,196	339,825
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		-	-
CASH AT BANK		390,501	414,129
		390,501	414,129
(b) RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS WITH PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER INCOME TAX SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER INCOME TAX			
NON-CASH FLOWS IN PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		28,371	27,861
DEPRECIATION		6,116	1,996
CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES:			
(INCREASE)/DECREASE IN RECEIVABLES		(4,153)	13,180
(INCREASE)/DECREASE IN OTHER ASSETS		-	-
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN PREPAID INCOME		-	19,500
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN PAYABLES		(38,732)	(8,868)
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN PROVISIONS		(390)	11,971
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATIONS		(8,788)	65,640

NOTE 13: EVENTS OCCURING AFTER THE BALANCE DATE

Since the balance date, increased levels of community transmission of COVID-19 across Victoria has seen increased restrictions put in place for the State. During this time, the association has continued to operate however, not in the same manner, or to the same extent, as historically.

The pandemic has had a significant and direct financial impact during, and since, the period reported within these financial statements.

Due to the significant uncertainty surrounding the future impacts of the pandemic on the local and international economies, it is not possible to estimate the full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the association operations or financial results at the time of signing.

Management, and those charged with governance, will continue to monitor the financial and non-financial impacts of the pandemic on operations, and will put in place various mitigation strategies in response to any changes.

These financial statements have been prepared based upon conditions in place at the balance date, and events that have occurred since the balance date to the time of signing. As the major impact of pandemic related events occurred after the balance date, and are not evidence of conditions in place at the balance date, no adjustments have been made to these financial statements as a direct result of pandemic related subsequent events.

Management, and those charged with governance, have considered results to the date of signing, forward forecasts and cashflow budgets, and believe the association will continue to be able to pay its debts as and when they become payable, despite the impacts of COVID-19 on the broader economy, for a period of twelve months from the date of this report. However, should further restrictions on trade be implemented (or current restrictions further extended) by the State Government, this could alter this position and view.

No other matters or circumstances have arisen between the end of the financial period, and the date of this report, which have directly, significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

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 2021 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 31st of October 2021



Melinda Spencer,
Acting Chair



Rachel Meisner
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 2020, 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 2020 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.

Dated this 31st of October 2021

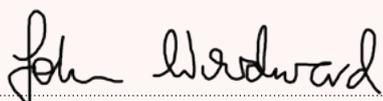


John Woodward
Chartered Accountant
Level 5, 398 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

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 2021. 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.

Dated this 31st of October 2021



John Woodward
Chartered Accountant

THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ATTACHED DISCLAIMER.

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
INCOME			
INTEREST		147	2,843
SUBSIDIES AND GRANTS		341,207	343,233
CONFERENCE INCOME		-	-
DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP		61,570	52,423
SUNDRY INCOME		44,197	2,635
TOTAL INCOME		447,121	401,134
LESS EXPENSES			
ACCOUNTING FEES		12,749	9,840
ADVOCACY EXPENSES		192	801
AUDIT FEES		3,250	3,200
BANK CHARGES		12	5
BOARD & AGM EXPENSES		2,301	1,959
COMPUTER & IT CONSULTANT EXPENSES		1,956	2,002
COMPLIANCE FEES		-	312
CONFERENCES & SEMINARS		1,584	3,944
CONSULTING FEES		-	-
DEPRECIATION & AMORTISATION		6,116	1,996
HOLIDAY PAY PROVISION INCREASE/(DECREASE)		(390)	11,971
INSURANCES (INC WORKCOVER)		3,837	3,949
LEGAL AND COMPLIANCE FEES		-	1,250
OFFICE EXPENSES		340	429
PLANNING EXPENSES		-	-
PORTABLE LONG SERVICE LEAVE		4,584	4,468
POSTAGE AND COURIERS		14	-
PRINTING AND STATIONERY		2,691	147
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - STAFF		2,079	2,087
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - BOARD		-	2,850
PROMOTION EXPENSES		2,128	1,544
PROJECT EXPENSES		26,127	12,565
SPONSORSHIP/DONATIONS		-	-
CARRIED FORWARD EXPENSES		69,570	65,319
CARRIED FORWARD EXPENSES		69,570	65,319
RECRUITMENT COSTS		-	-
RENT		-	-
SALARIES AND WAGES		277,845	262,009
STAFF TRAINING AND WELFARE		153	345
STAFF WORKPLACE COUNSELLING		1,680	766
STORAGE COSTS		-	-
SUBSCRIPTIONS & MEMBERSHIPS		2,308	1,446
SUNDRY EXPENSES		-	-
SUPERANNUATION		25,950	25,002
SUPPORT EXPENSES		30,995	13,371
TELEPHONE		2,505	2,072
TRAVELLING EXPENSES, ACCOMMODATION AND CONFERENCE		886	2,011
WEBSITE EXPENSES		6,858	932
TOTAL EXPENSES		418,750	373,273
SURPLUS/(LOSS)		28,371	27,861

THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ATTACHED DISCLAIMER.

BOARD AND STAFF

Positive Women Victoria Board to year ending 30 June 2021

Board

Georgina Whitchurch, Chair

Mel Spencer, Vice-Chair

Rachel Meisner (Treasurer from December 2020)

Kylie Tempest (Treasurer to December 2020)

Monique Hanley (Secretary from December 2020)

Steph Raper

Nicki Russell

Emma Sheldon-Collins

Staff

Kirsty Machon, Executive Officer

Heather Mugwagwa, Peer Engagement Coordinator

Melissa Iddles, Peer Support Worker

Kayla Larson, Health Promotion and Communications Coordinator (to February 2021)

Heather Ellis, Peer Project Leader, Women and HIV: Tell the Story (to March 2021) Communications and Engagement Coordinator (from April 2021)

Bernadette Roberts, Peer Support Worker (Casual)



40 YEARS OF HIV AND POSITIVE WOMEN VICTORIA

In June 2021, it was 40 years since the first reports of deaths from what would become known as AIDS appeared in the US. Women with HIV have played a key role in the response to the HIV pandemic globally and in Australia, through peer support, healthcare and activism, especially in fighting HIV stigma. Here are some highlights from Positive Women Victoria and its members over most of those forty years.

1982 – First case of HIV in Australia.

1984 – Nearly 2,900 people diagnosed with HIV in Australia. Bev Greet – co-founder of Positive Women Victoria, among first women diagnosed.

1988 – Positive Women Victoria founded

Positive Women Victoria was founded in 1988 by Bev Greet and Deborah Gillies, as a result of their isolation following their HIV diagnosis. The late, great very funny Sonja Ristov and many other women living with HIV were also an inspiration during this decade.



SOME OF THE FIRST MEMBERS OF POSITIVE WOMEN VICTORIA. DEBORAH GILLIES (FRONT RIGHT) AND BEV GREET (FAR RIGHT).

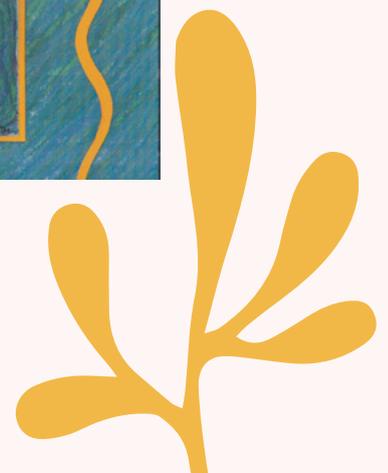
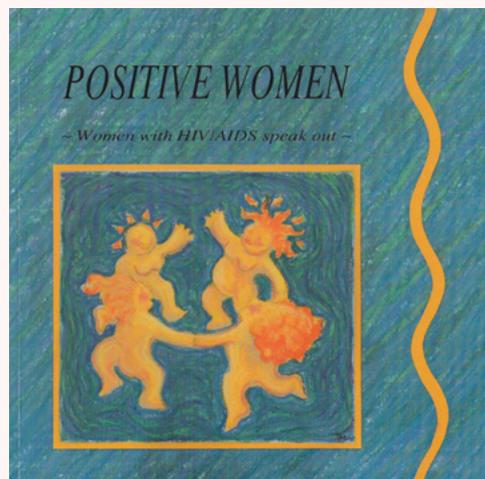
Bev Greet, co-founder Positive Women Victoria, reflects on those early years.

‘From 1992 when Positive Women Victoria finally got funding we had a Board which was made of all positive women. I was chairperson for ten years when there was no limit of tenure. It was a time of urgency and grief as women were getting sick and dying as there were no treatments then. Most of the women on the Board were not out as positive because of the stigma and discrimination. Consequently, there was only one or two of us who would talk to the media. Sometimes with a different name. Sometimes a picture of us in shadow for confidentiality reasons. We had annual retreats and at each one, we didn’t know who would be alive the following year. Funerals were commonplace. Who would be next? We were brave women and yet we still tried to help others. It was scary times,’ says Bev Greet. [Watch Bev’s Story](#)



BEV GREET AT THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF POSITIVE WOMEN VICTORIA IN 2018.

1991 – *Women With HIV/AIDS Speak Out* video and book published by PWV.



1992 – PWV has 50 members. Receives Victorian Government funding. Employs first paid worker.

1994 – First Retreat held at Starglen Lodge, Bonnie Doon. Rosehaven opened in Clifton Hill to provide respite for women and Sunday lunch until it closed in late 1999.



JOAN KIRNER OAM, AC WITH PWV MEMBERS

1994 – Former Victorian Premier Joan Kirner (OAM, AC) becomes first PWV patron.



DEBORAH GILLIES, CO-FOUNDER POSITIVE WOMEN VICTORIA

1996 – Treatment breakthrough: HIV begins to be a treatable illness.

1999 – PWV triathlon team formed and competes in the World Masters Games. Believed to be the first HIV+ team ever in an international sporting event.



PWV'S TRIATHLON TEAM IN 2002 WITH STEPHANIE MOORE (PWV EO, FAR LEFT), ANNE PHELAN OAM (CENTRE). THE TEAM WAS SPONSORED BY MAURICE BLACKBURN CASHMAN LAWYERS.

2000 – Anne Phelan OAM, Australian actress becomes patron of PWV, until her death in 2019.



ANNE PHELAN OAM WITH PWV MEMBER SONJA RISTOV.

2000 – Susan Paxton (PWV member since 1991), representing HIV positive people, carries the Olympic torch as part of the *2000 Sydney Olympics*.



2001 – *Blood Ties: The Stories of Five Positive Women* published.



POSITIVE STEPS FOR WORLD AIDS DAY 2002

2002 – Positive Steps for World AIDS Day 2002. PWV members fight HIV stigma and raise awareness that HIV also affects women.



PWV MEMBERS AT THE 2005 RETREAT AT MAITRIPA CENTRE, HEALESVILLE

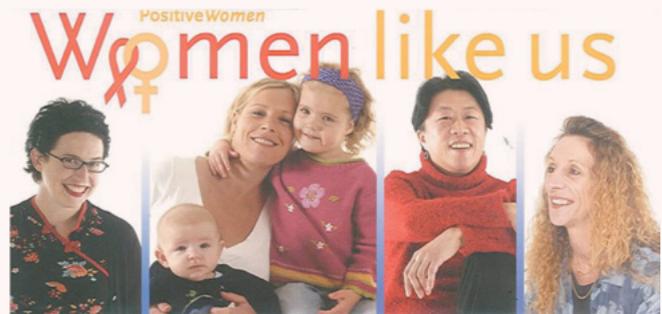
2006 – *In The Family* by playwright Graham Pitts. Stories from PWV members told by leading performers.



2006 – *A Body of Knowledge*, a series of 15 powerful photographs with written messages on the bodies of women living with HIV. By photographer Michael Coyne and artistic director Graham Pitts.



2007 – Baby boom amongst PWV members. Many choose a natural birth, but we are still not allowed to breastfeed.



2007 – National Women’s Forum hosted by PWV held in Melbourne.

2008 – PWV celebrates 20 years with publication of *Positive Women: Celebrating 20 Years of advocacy and support for women and families living with HIV in Victoria*.

2010 – *Positive Women Speaking Out* (PWV speakers’ bureau) established.

2014 – *My Positive Journey* kit published.

2018 – PWV celebrates 30 years.



DEB SYKES, BEV GREET (OAM), JENNY HOY, SUSAN PAXTON, JUDITH GORST AND ROBYN CALLAGHAN AT PWV 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

2018 – HIV treatments now one pill a day. U=U (undetectable = untransmittable) campaign arrives from US and greatly improves lives of PLWH in Australia.

2019 – *You Can’t Ask That* – HIV episode on ABC TV after combined pitch by PWV and Living Positive Victoria.

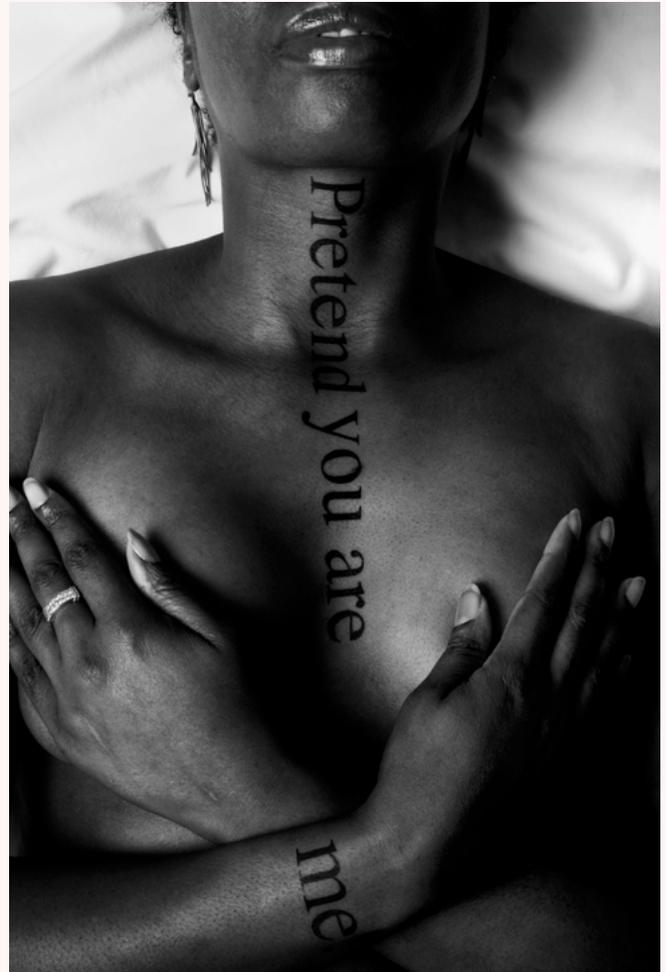
2020 – PWV helps its members and clients impacted by COVID-19 during 2020 and during most of 2021.

2020 – PWV’s *Women and HIV: Tell The Story* project funded by Gilead Sciences helps end HIV stigma. Activities included producing and hosting the popular podcast: *Our Stories: Ending HIV Stigma*, which continues to attract listeners globally.



2021 – NAPWHA and PWV develop the Breastfeeding for Women Living with HIV in Australia resource.

2021 – PWV has 378 members



ONE OF THE 15 POWERFUL IMAGES FROM A BODY OF KNOWLEDGE.



CONTACT US

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 facebook.com/PositiveWomenVictoria

 [@PosWomenVic](https://twitter.com/PosWomenVic)

 PositiveWomen.org.au

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.

