

**Real
People
Real
Stories
Real
Impact**

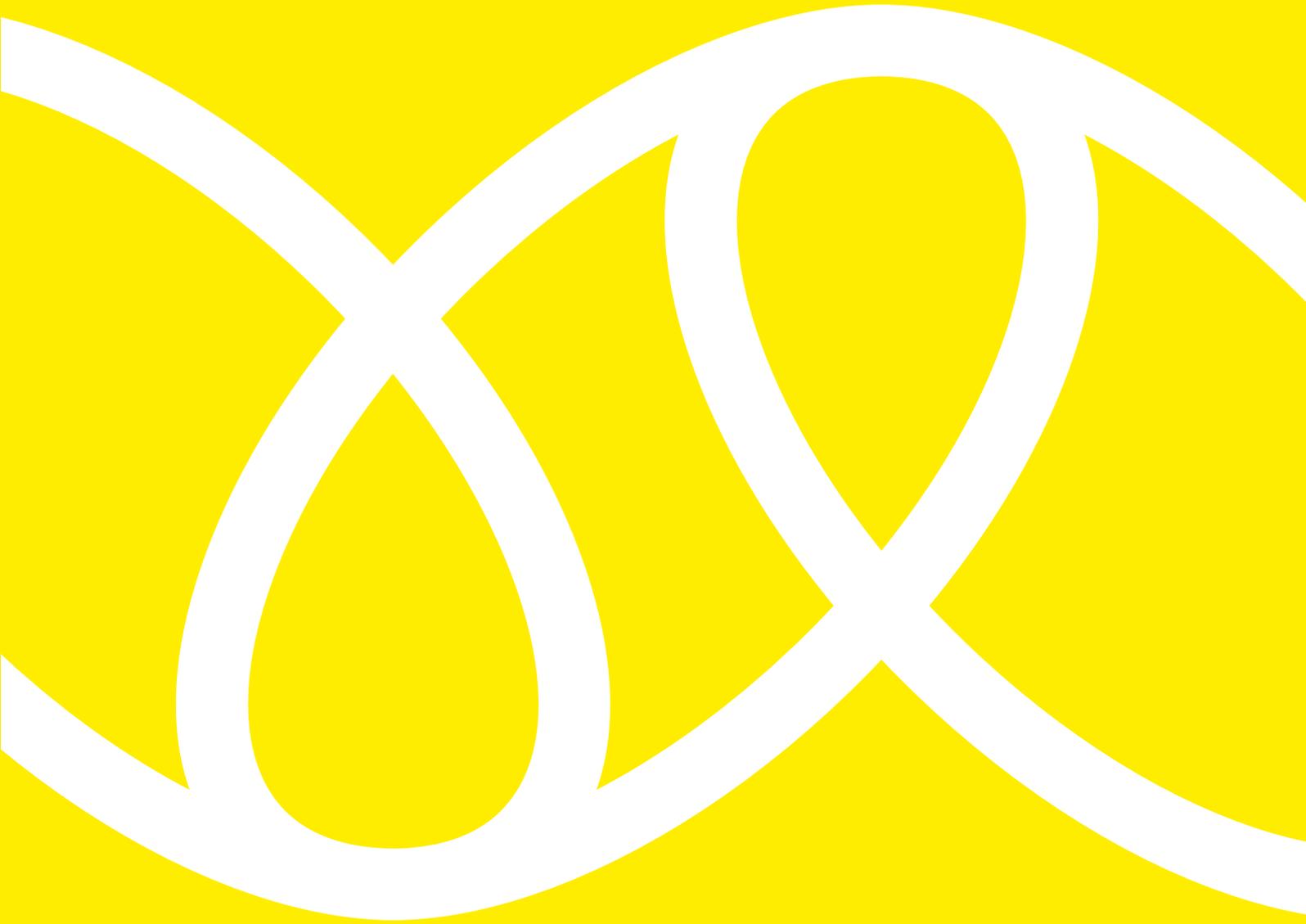
**Annual Report
2016-17**



**Vision
Australia**

Blindness. Low Vision. Opportunity.





This Annual Report is available in standard and large print text, braille, audio, DAISY and accessible digital formats. Phone **1300 84 74 66** to order a copy in your preferred format or visit our website **www.visionaustralia.org**

On the cover: **Santiago**, Vision Australia client

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Meet Anthony, one of our 26,100 clients

Brisbane-based Anthony is a young man with a big voice. He sang at Anzac Day commemorations in France at the sites of two of the most significant battlefields.

Anthony, 17, has been blind since birth, and is a member of the Voices of Birrale, a Brisbane-based non-profit child and youth choral organisation.

He performed at the Anzac Day dawn service at the Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux and the 100th anniversary service at The 'Digger' Memorial, Bullecourt, accompanied by the Australian Army Band.

"I feel very proud to have been a part of the centenary commemorations and to represent our country.

I feel especially fortunate to have been part of the group travelling this year. Just to be able to experience first-hand what it must have been like and to hear stories of World War I, has given me an insight into the sacrifices made by our brave soldiers."

Anthony,
Vision Australia client



Positive change, great outcomes

We're here for Anthony and the other 26,100 Australians who are blind or have low vision that come to us for support.

According to internal research, it is estimated that 384,000 Australians are blind or have low vision – a community that is growing faster than the general population.

For more than 150 years, Vision Australia – and its predecessors – has delivered services for our clients, their support network and health specialists to ensure they can live the life they choose. Our services are delivered when and where people need them – through one of our 29 centres, at home, in the classroom, at the workplace or out in the community. Our agile workforce extends across Australia and uses the latest technology to work with clients wherever they live, including rural and remote areas.

It's hard to believe that, even today, people who are blind or have low vision still face discrimination and barriers that impact on their daily life. These issues can be addressed by more inclusive government policies, business practices and community attitudes. So, we go in to bat for Australia's blindness and low vision community on the issues that matter to them, advocating for positive change – and that's why we're Australia's leading national provider of blindness and low vision services.

"We're really appreciative of the support Vision Australia has provided Anthony from a young age. It's made all the difference in him being able to attend mainstream school. He's also had the chance to get together with other kids who live with vision loss. They really look forward to it. "

Brigitte,
Anthony's mum

Building a stronger future

“We are so grateful for Vision Australia’s constant support and reassurance. I know they will be there when Landon needs them.” Karissa.

Karissa connected with us soon after her son, Landon, was diagnosed with albinism. For eight years, we have supported him to reach his childhood milestones.

As Chair and CEO, it is a privilege for us to lead an organisation that supports people who are blind or have low vision to achieve their goals.

People like Landon are the reason Vision Australia exists. He is one of over 26,100 clients who received our services last financial year.

We consulted hundreds of clients across Australia to learn what they most want from Vision Australia.

While education, employment, independence and social inclusion remain Vision Australia’s four priority areas, our clients say social inclusion and employment top the list.

We commenced the first, of what we hope to be many, intensive pre-employment programs. Of the initial 33 participants, we are delighted that nine have found work. With additional Commonwealth Government funding in place, we will further develop our employment program so more clients can achieve their career goals.

To better tell Vision Australia’s story we launched our new brand. Our logo, three links forming the letters VA, represents how clients are central to our work, how we work with them and other organisations, and unites our staff, volunteers and donors to make a positive difference.

Soon, we will launch a new, more user-friendly, website and other online enhancements to complement our extensive face-to-face services and enrich our services.

Vision Australia creates positive change for our community through engagement and advocacy with employers, governments and communities.

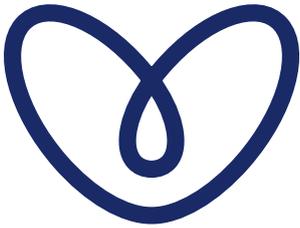
We lobbied hard on many issues, including the absorption of the Mobility Allowance into the NDIS. The Mobility Allowance is important to our clients and we oppose plans to absorb it into the NDIS, as many clients who use it are not eligible for the NDIS. Through our lobbying, crossbench senators have rejected the relevant legislation three times.

Recently, we announced our collaboration with the Royal Society for the Blind (RSB). Vision Australia will service RSB clients in NSW and the ACT, allowing RSB to concentrate on its activities in South Australia.

Thanks to a generous Victorian Government grant, Vision Australia Seeing Eye Dogs will soon open its Australian-first Indoor Mobility and Safety Training Centre in Melbourne - a secure indoor space where clients can become familiar with a new Seeing Eye Dog or white cane in a realistic environment.

We will soon welcome our NSW clients to the new Parramatta hub, opening in late 2017, to replace our Enfield site which was sold in 2016. The redevelopment of our Kooyong office, the Wicking Centre, is also on track for completion by the end of 2017. It will showcase world-class accessibility technology for our clients and the 15 per cent of our staff who are blind or have low vision.





A heartfelt thanks

We are immensely proud of Vision Australia's achievements over the past year. Vision Australia is indebted to the amazing people and partners who help us bring our mission to life.

Thousands of individuals, groups and companies donated generously to Vision Australia. We deeply appreciate their kindness because our extensive services depend on their support.

We are grateful for the expertise of our Board of Directors. Their leadership is a key ingredient in Vision Australia's continued success.

Three Directors will retire at our 2017 Annual General Meeting: Lyn Allison, Don Fraser and Theresa Smith-Ruig, Deputy Chair. Thank you all for your dedication and significant contributions.

Finally, we sincerely thank our 3,000 volunteers and 840 staff whose expertise and commitment is fundamental to supporting our clients to live the life they choose.



Andrew Moffat,
Chair
Vision Australia
(Left)

Ron Hooton,
CEO
Vision Australia
(Right)

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Driving positive change

Getting more from the NDIS

To better understand how our community is supported by the NDIS and what we may need to advocate for on their behalf, we have successfully lobbied the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to report information specific to the blindness and low vision community.

Watching television together

In April, the Minister for Communications, Mitch Fifield, announced the formation of a working group comprised of sector, industry and departmental representatives to investigate options for getting audio described content onto our television screens. We have a seat at this table and will use our position to continue to advocate for a minimum of 14 hours audio described programming on free-to-air television.

Better support for seniors

We're determined to make aged care disability-friendly and are leading a campaign to secure a National Aids and Equipment program for older people, to support their vision-related needs.

Three peak bodies have joined our push for an aids and equipment program. We would like to thank Vision 2020, the National Aged Care Alliance and the Australian Blindness Forum for their support.

Accessible voting win

The ability to cast a secret, independent vote is a basic tenet of democracy.

Our ongoing lobbying efforts brought about a great outcome; Western Australia adopted iVote – an electronic accessible voting system – at their 2017 state election.

\$2.9M

The amount of additional funding we've secured to support seniors with vision-related needs to live at home independently.



Connor,
Vision Australia client

The difference we can all feel

Connor McLeod has had a big 18 months. The Vision Australia client and 16 year-old Sydney school student has received a swag of awards for his critical role in the Reserve Bank of Australia's decision to add tactile features to banknotes – the \$5 notes are now in circulation with the \$10 note in circulation during the first quarter of FY2017/18.

After years of frustration that he couldn't distinguish between bank notes, an otherwise welcome Christmas gift of cash sparked Connor to action.

From the age of 12, Connor became the leading voice calling for accessible bank notes: his online petition attracted more than 57,000 signatures, and Vision Australia worked with Connor to support his complaint to the Human Rights Commission.

“We'd heard about tactile bank notes in other countries. The way we got the support was by spreading it around on social media. The petition was another big factor, and we got family to tell their friends and lobbied disability groups,” says Connor.

Connor has now received a Pride of Australia medal; the Australian National Disability Award for Young Leader; a school scholarship, and the American National Braille Press Hands on Award, previous recipients include author J.K. Rowling.

Connecting through technology

See what I see

Using the latest augmented and virtual reality technologies, people who support our clients can gain first-hand experience of living with vision loss.

In partnership with Catapult and the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB), we customised a specially-designed app to make it available for Vision Australia users. A person selects an eye condition from the app and places the mobile phone in a set of cardboard goggles. A computer-generated image of the eye condition is superimposed over what the person is looking at, for example, a street setting, allowing them to experience the practical impacts of the condition in a real-life setting.

In partnership with Opaque Interactive, we are developing an immersive virtual reality experience which allows a person to view a computer-generated living room, with one or more eye conditions.

With these powerful and informative tools, we are able to educate clients' families and carers on what it is like to live with blindness and low vision and the often simple strategies that they can put in place to support their loved one.

Knowing our clients

Our clients told us they wanted Vision Australia to deliver a holistic level of support for their specific vision-related needs and the goals they want to achieve in life. They want to tell us their story only once and be confident that whenever they talk to any member of our team, we will know all about them.

Delivering this level of support requires a robust client management system (CMS).

We listened to our clients and this year, we delivered.

Our new, fully-accessible CMS securely houses client information and provides a single view of the services and interactions they have with us, whether it's becoming a handler of a Seeing Eye Dog, joining up to our library service or buying a new magnifier.

The system can be accessed anywhere, anytime on multiple devices and appointments can be scheduled in real time. Travel time is also captured and GPS navigation helps provide the best routes to client appointments.

Importantly, the new CMS supports the management of relationships with other healthcare providers and sharpens our communication with medical referrers, allowing us to reach more clients who can benefit from our support.

Supporting Gabriel half-a-continent away

Technology has made it possible for us to give little Gabriel what he needs.

Gabriel, three, from Alice Springs, has a cortical vision impairment. His eyes function normally, but a brain injury interferes with the way he interprets what he sees.

Mum Zoe says the condition normally improves with age, time, and support – and Gabriel is receiving this support from Brisbane-based Vision Australia Occupational Therapist Trish Rolland, a specialist in movement and speech therapy.

Trish visits Alice Springs twice a year but does much of her work with Gabriel online, via Skype.

“We Skype a lot with Trish. It’s like she’s there. We use items in my house and Trish directs us. We might work on a particular thing each week and then she’ll send me a report. It works really well.

It’s amazing that the service is there. Trish by far is the most skilled occupational therapist we’ve worked with.”

Gabriel's mum, Zoe.

**Gabriel and mum, Zoe,
Vision Australia clients**



Getting around safely and confidently

From the Great Wall of China to the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Where has your white cane taken you?

That's what we asked our clients and community, to learn more about the practical impact a white cane and the right training has had in their life.

- Trekking through a jungle with no paths in India to reach a village bordered with Bangladesh
- Singapore. Riding trains and being able to let my family do other things, whilst I travelled to places of interest on my own
- The Great Wall of China
- The Empire State Building and Alcatraz, USA
- Cinque Terre, Italy
- Following the Wallabies on tour around the United Kingdom
- Europe
- Top of the Harbour Bridge, Sydney
- Eastern Creek raceway to drive a car
- Fishing on a charter boat off Noosa
- Dove Lake, Tasmania
- Navigating around the cattle yards and drafting cattle
- An anti-Vietnam war demonstration in 1969
- Meet my girlfriend, so I could put the engagement ring on her finger!



Taylah,
Vision Australia client

Taylah's learning to move independently

Taylah, aged 15, is a grade 10 student at Taroona High School, near Hobart, Tasmania. She has retinal dystrophy and is legally blind.

Taylah receives bi-monthly coaching from Melbourne-based Orientation and Mobility specialist Gail Stinchcombe and has already completed white cane and traffic training. Gail also helps to assess school and other locations to check that they are accessible for Taylah.

"Prior to Gail's involvement, Taylah was quite reluctant with her cane," says Taylah's mum Kylie.

"Gail's approach is beautiful and seems to be on a wavelength that Taylah can relate to. We love having her every time she comes down."

Taylah enjoys school – especially art and math's. She has big plans for post-school life.

"I'm tossing up between art and photography," Taylah says.

Kylie adds: "Vision Australia has been part of this kid's life since she was two. They have been our backbone forever. Without them, we'd be completely lost."

A bumper year for puppies

A plethora of puppies is a problem that we are happy to have.

Due to an improved pairing process, our breeding team has achieved a 100 per cent conception rate, up from 78 per cent in the previous year. Our new approach includes tracking the health of all dogs, monitoring their breeding suitability, careful selection of breeding pairs and temperament testing for both puppies and breeding dogs.

166

Puppies born – more than double the number from the previous year

5,000

Our trainers walk this many kilometres with our dogs on average per year

8,000

The number of hours we spend training our dogs per year



Cyndul's six-legged partnership

Cyndul, aged 24, has places to go and things to do.

An active and independent young woman from Perth, Cyndul has retinal prematurity detachment, - a condition that has caused total blindness in her right eye and perception of light and dark only, in her left eye.

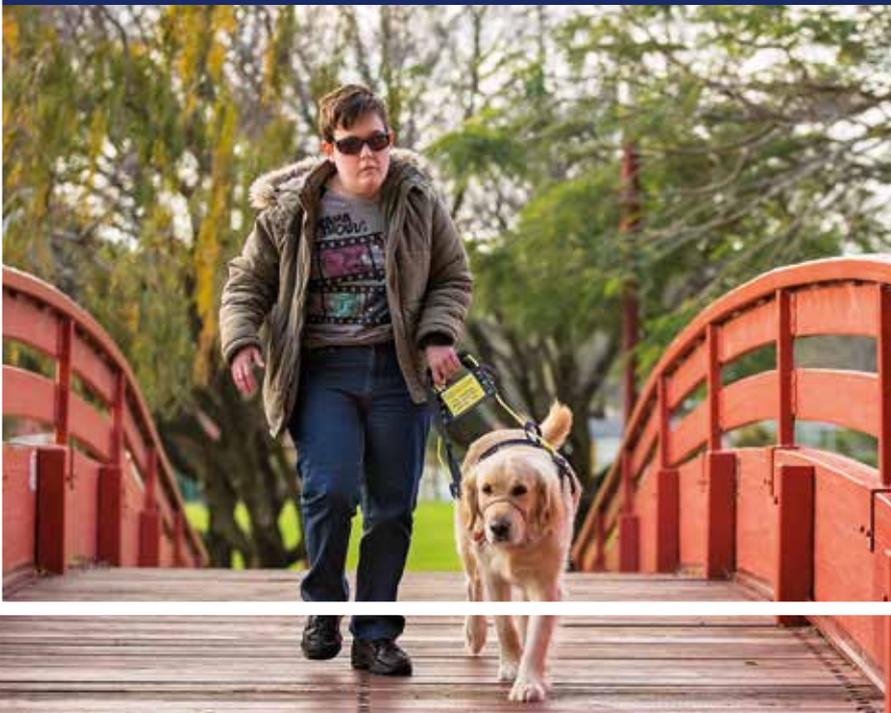
But, with her new Vision Australia Seeing Eye Dog, Enya, she's forging ahead. Cyndul has started a four-year Information Technology Degree and is aiming to move from her mum's home to live independently by the age of 30.

"Enya has really improved my life. I love her to bits. She's the best thing that has happened to me for a while," Cyndul says.

"Vision Australia is also supporting me to learn to cook with a Thermomix, with the help of a support worker."

Under the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Cyndul has been assessed for assistive technology to further her education.

"I'm hoping that one day I can work at Apple," she says. "Maybe in the United States. Maybe in Australia."



**Enya with Cyndul,
Vision Australia client**

Having the smarts opens up doors

Education and work experience prepare people to look for a job and build a meaningful career.

The employment-related programs and services offered by Vision Australia gets our clients into the workforce and keeps them gainfully employed.

Pre-employment program gets client's job ready

To date, over 30 per cent of clients who complete the pre-employment course secured a job. And we expect this to increase in the future as more opportunities arise.

Further education bursary program eliminates barriers through technology

This program provides access to technology that helps students in tertiary education fully participate and succeed in their chosen studies.

320+

Students have been supported by our bursary program over 21 years

Career Start Graduate program -work experience at Vision Australia

Now in its third year, graduates gain work experience in a paid role at Vision Australia. All 2015 and 2016 graduates secured full-time roles either within Vision Australia or organisations such as Media Access Australia and ANZ Bank.

Skilling Queenslanders for Work

Proudly funded and supported by the Queensland Government through its Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative. Six trainees from Queensland completed their Certificate I in Business, essential job skills training and a 16-week work-placement project.

101

Job seekers were successfully placed through our employment services

Building Stronger Futures program coming in 2017

Developed in collaboration with the Commonwealth Government's Empowering YOUth Initiative this program equips young people aged 15-24 with the skills to support them to find employment.

Running over six months, clients will participate in an intensive three-week skills development program to get them job-ready, and will then be supported to find work.

The program will commence in Melbourne in September followed by a national roll-out beginning in late 2017.

\$690,000

Secured for the Empowering YOUth Initiative



Angus,
Vision Australia client

Angus' bright future

He's not quite sure where his studies will take him, but Angus is enjoying his time at university.

The Canberran, 20, has low vision caused by Oculocutaneous Albinism and is in his first year studying dual Bachelor degrees in Science and Mathematical Science at the Australian National University.

Angus benefitted from Vision Australia's Further Education Bursary Program, which gives students access to assistive technology so they can study alongside their sighted peers.

He has received a Dell XPS 15 laptop, Google Pixel XL smartphone and telescopic spectacles.

"The bursary has really made things heaps easier for me. The equipment means I can study and not have to worry about eye fatigue.

I've been able to get all my textbooks and other material on the laptop, which has made studying and completing my course work a lot easier,"
Angus said.

Connecting our community

Getting together

Clients can access local social support, get information about Vision Australia, stay fit or start new hobbies through our Community Groups.

70

Community groups operating across Australia

Tuning in

543,000* listeners aged 15+ tune in each month to Vision Australia Radio for an array of interesting and informative programs that feature readings from the latest newspapers, magazines and books. Our exclusive specialist content also includes programs on new technology, current affairs, book and film reviews, health and wellbeing, the arts, finance, travel and more. (*McNair Ingenuity Research National Listener Survey, July 2016).

Someone to talk to

We don't want anyone to feel alone. Our 54 peer support group volunteers have hands-on experience and so are able to offer personal support based on shared know how. We also connect people across Australia through nearly 140 telephone social groups, including eight groups who speak in languages other than English.

Supporting each other

Our Quality Living Groups are led by trained facilitators who encourage the sharing of experiences, strategies and information in a friendly and confidential environment.

439

Clients participated in telephone and client groups

7,000

Hours of support delivered

Staying informed

There will be even more accessible materials in our library connection in the future thanks to the introduction of the Marrakesh Treaty.

The treaty came into force on 30 September 2016 and allows the legal sharing of accessible publications between countries which have ratified the treaty.

Library members of Vision Australia and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind are among the first to benefit from the treaty, with a symbolic exchange of DAISY format books.

Making the right connections

“Exercise is a great way to get the body back in balance. It is an escape. You focus on what you are doing and everything else goes out of the window.”

Sydney’s Majella (left side of image below), in her early 40s, is an ambitious woman who is currently working as a project manager for Westpac. Health issues led to sight loss at 22 and, by 25, her vision was gone. She has since had a heart attack.

Majella,
Vision Australia Client

“I first got involved with the Achilles Running Club in 2010 after moving to Sydney from Melbourne. I found out about them through my Orientation and Mobility Instructor at Vision Australia.”

The Achilles Running Club allows people with disabilities to enjoy the health benefits of walking and running. Majella powerwalks with guides matched to her, starting at the Art Gallery in Sydney and finishing with a friendly social cuppa.

“As part of my weekly fitness routine, the Achilles Running Club helps to keep me on this planet.”



The right tools for everyday living

Refurbishing our shops

To improve our customer's shopping experience, we refreshed our online shop and warehousing processes.

The redesigned Vision Shop, available on our website, showcases over 600 products that assist people who are blind or have low vision in their day-to-day living.

The new look shop offers a quicker shopping experience and has an intuitive design which makes navigating the site and finding products easier. Shoppers can also opt in to receive a newsletter to keep up to date with the latest equipment offerings.

Taking another bite of the Apple

We believe that technology should be accessible to everyone and we help make that a reality every day. We've been working with Apple Inc. for many years, assisting in the development of accessible technology and this year, expanded our partnership with them.

We are now an authorised Apple Reseller selling Apple products, including Apple Care. Our Adaptive Technology team have been accredited as Apple Consultants and are working with clients to ensure their device is personalised to meet their own accessibility requirements. They are also helping clients develop training plans, to ensure they have the confidence and capability to make the most of technology and the internet.

Keeping Judith on the bowling green

Age-related macular degeneration isn't slowing Judith from South Australia down.

Both of Judith's eyes are affected but the condition is being held steady by regular injections. A series of electronic and visual aids are helping to keep Judith active and engaged.

"I can still see everything that my husband does wrong. With all the aids available from Vision Australia, I am extremely lucky."

Judith has a series of hand-held magnifiers, a CCTV-based reading magnifier and special magnifying glasses that enhance her television viewing.

"You look like Freddo Frog in them, but they bring the television picture much closer and I can read subtitles now."

To keep her on the green at the Barmera Bowling Club, Judith even has a set of binocular glasses, with lenses that can be focused to suit each eye. But, do they help her game?

"It depends on the day!"

Judith,
Vision Australia client



Volunteers, making a whole world of difference

On behalf of our clients and the blindness and low vision community, we thank everyone who has volunteered for us.



868,508

Volunteer hours worked

2,982

Volunteers donated their time

300

Volunteers and ambassadors helped with puppy caring, fostering dogs, acting as kennel and administrative assistants, driving, doing maintenance work, assisting our vets and speaking to the community.

Annette,
Vision Australia Volunteer
Program Consultant

Udari's story of volunteering

Udari is one of the nearly three thousand volunteers who devote their time to support our clients and community.

We couldn't achieve such great outcomes without their dedication and commitment.

The strong culture of volunteering at Vision Australia enriches lives and provides deeper connections within local communities. In addition to the rewards of giving their time and skills to the community, some volunteers learn skills that make them a more attractive candidate for the workforce.

Our volunteers come from all age ranges and backgrounds and volunteer for many different reasons.

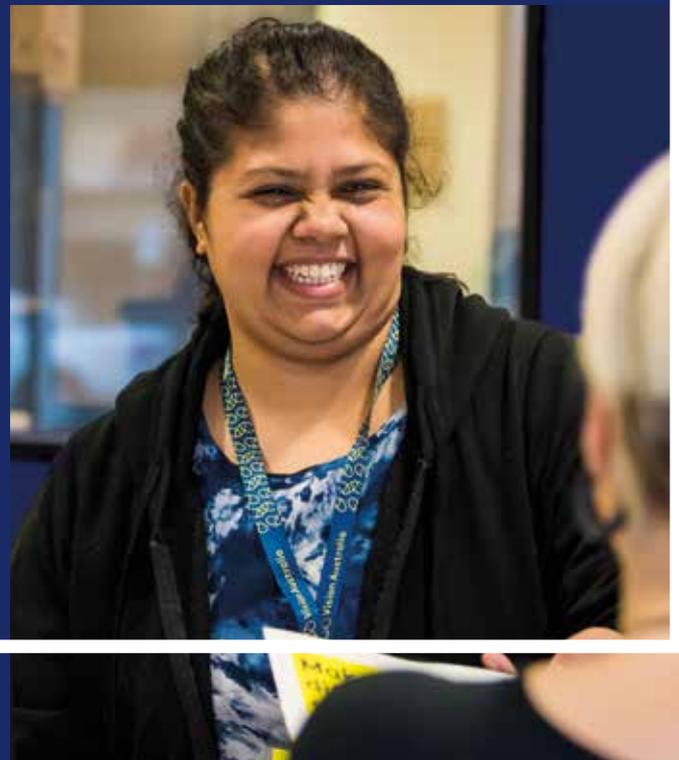
Udari, 33, arrived in Australia from Sri Lanka in 2015. She had excellent administration and coordination skills and experience, but found obtaining paid work in Australia challenging.

Udari became an administrative support volunteer with Vision Australia in Bendigo and her volunteering work with us helped her gain employment.

"Volunteering for Vision Australia has been an incredible experience. I enjoyed every single day. I developed my skills, gained confidence and learned. More importantly, it helped me find employment that I love.

"I thank Vision Australia from the bottom of my heart for giving me such an amazing opportunity and for the support that they provided me."

Udari,
Vision Australia volunteer



**We are sincerely
grateful to
donors and
volunteers.
Thank you.**

Debra,
Vision Australia volunteer

erely
our



A heartfelt thanks to our donors

We are grateful that you
chose to support us.

29,407

People donate monthly to Vision Australia

967,885

Lottery tickets sold

75,091

Individual cash donations to Vision Australia
and Seeing Eye Dogs

Carols by Candlelight

The 79th year of Carols by Candlelight in 2016 was once again a rousing success.

Broadcast nationally on the Nine Network to over 2.4 million viewers, Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight raised \$1.29 million for children who are blind or have low vision through ticket and merchandise sales, corporate sponsorships and donations of \$370,000.

Supporting our Seeing Eye Dogs

The Pet Foundation, a partnership between Petbarn, Greencross Vets and City Farmers has raised more than \$2 million in its four-year history. A staff-driven campaign has funded a total of 45 Seeing Eye Dogs over that time.

The Pet Foundation ran another successful appeal this year and, with help from pet lovers, raised almost \$700,000 - enough to sponsor 13 puppies.

We'd also like to thank our dog food partner Royal Canin Australia for contributing to The Pet Foundation campaign each year.

A special shout out to the Black & White Committee of Vision Australia

This Sydney-based charitable institution celebrated its 80th anniversary with the Black and White Ball in September 2016. The Committee is run by a team of volunteers many of whom have been members for over 20 years and some for over 50 years. This financial year, they raised \$259,000 for services for children.



A heartfelt thanks to our donors

Meet the wonderful individuals, businesses and organisations that have supported us by giving over \$10,000 this year, as well as our corporate partners, and Fundraising Committees.

Gifts in Wills

Estate of the Late Mr D Adams
Estate of the Late Mrs L Armytage
Estate of the Late Ms O Ashcroft
Estate of the Late Ms S Bailey
Estate of the Late S Bassett
Estate of the Late G Berkovitch
Estate of the Late E Beves
Estate of the Late Mr H Bowler
Estate of the Late Mrs O Branz
Estate of the Late Mr R Brewster
Estate of the Late Mrs G Bunter
Estate of the Late O Buzacott
Estate of the Late Mrs I Callaway
Estate of the Late Mr J Calleja
Estate of the Late G Cameron
Estate of the Late Mrs L Carroll
Estate of the Late Mr M Carter
Estate of the Late Mrs E Casey
Estate of the Late Mr H Chandler
Estate of the Late Ms R Chitty
Estate of the Late D Cobcroft
Estate of the Late R Cook
Estate of the Late Mr T Corbett
Estate of the Late Miss B Cordingley
Estate of the Late Mr N Crawford
Estate of the Late Mrs S Custance
Estate of the Late Mrs J Daley
Estate of the Late D Davies
Estate of the Late D Downey
Estate of the Late Mrs N East
Estate of the Late Mr P Edwards

Estate of the Late Mr E English
Estate of the Late Mrs M Farrugia
Estate of the Late Ms J Fildes
Estate of the Late Mr W Flecknoe
Estate of the Late T Fleming
Estate of the Late Ms B Ford
Estate of the Late J Francis
Estate of the Late H Gadsden
Estate of the Late G Gale
Estate of the Late Mr E Geddes
Estate of the Late H Goff
Estate of the Late Mr J Griffiths
Estate of the Late Ms J Gunnis
Estate of the Late Mr A Haley
Estate of the Late Mr I Harris
Estate of the Late Mrs J Harrower
Estate of the Late F Harvey
Estate of the Late Mr C Haynes
Estate of the Late H Hennessy
Estate of the Late Mr J Holt
Estate of the Late Mr G Horsley
Estate of the Late Mr O Hotchkiss
Estate of the Late Mr D Howard
Estate of the Late Ms H Hudson
Estate of the Late Mrs E Hughes
Estate of the Late Mr R Hunter
Estate of the Late Mr J Inwood
Estate of the Late N Jury
Estate of the Late Mrs A Kennedy
Estate of the Late Mr K Knuckey
Estate of the Late Mr W Little

Estate of the Late Ms G Lloyd-Smith
Estate of the Late Ms M McCallum
Estate of the Late Ms B McCaughan
Estate of the Late Mr J McDaid
Estate of the Late B McNamara
Estate of the Late Mr B Mellor
Estate of the Late Ms J Millard
Estate of the Late E Mirbeth
Estate of the Late Ms J Moore
Estate of the Late T Natt
Estate of the Late Mrs N Newton
Estate of the Late Mrs G Nicoll
Estate of the Late Ms C O'Brien
Estate of the Late Mrs D O'Donnell
Estate of the Late Ms V Oswin
Estate of the Late Mr A Paul
Estate of the Late M Plumridge
Estate of the Late J Reid
Estate of the Late Mrs D Ridgway
Estate of the Late Ms M Roberts
Estate of the Late Ms L Ross
Estate of the Late Mr G Rothman
Estate of the Late J Rowe
Estate of the Late Mr V Rudling

Estate of the Late Mrs E Russell
Estate of the Late Mr V Russell
Estate of the Late Mrs P Simpson
Estate of the Late Mrs J Sproat
Estate of the Late Mr P Stewart
Estate of the Late M Strachan
Estate of the Late K Stubbs
Estate of the Late Mrs S Taft-Hendry
Estate of the Late Mrs F Taylor
Estate of the Late Ms E Taylor
Estate of the Late Mr J Thirsk
Estate of the Late Mrs V Thompson
Estate of the Late J Thorburn
Estate of the Late Ms J Virgona
Estate of the Late Ms R Tout
Estate of the Late Mr J Ward
Estate of the Late Mrs L Watson
Estate of the Late Ms P Were
Estate of the Late Ms J White
Estate of the Late A Wienand
Estate of the Late Mr W Williams
Estate of the Late D Witherspoon
Estate of the Late Mr C Wood
Estate of the Late Ms V Wood
Estate of the Late Ms J Wright



A heartfelt thanks to our donors

Trusts and Foundations

A Raper Charitable Trust
Aged Persons Welfare Foundation
Allen & Cecilia Tye Fund
Amy Irene Christina Ostberg Estate
Australian Communities Foundation
Bell Charitable Fund
Bill & Jean Henson Charitable Trust
Brian M Davis Charitable Foundation
Collier Charitable Fund
David Allen Trust
E Beggs Charitable Trust
E C Blackwood Charitable Trust
Eric Crawford Memorial Fund
Estate of the Late Frederick John Banbury
Estate of the Late G Bradshaw
Estate of the Late J Williamson
Estate of the Late John Frederick Wright
Estate of the Late Mona Isobel Paul
Estate of the Late Norman Charles Raff
Estate of the Late Thomas James Malcolmson
& Winifred Gleeson
Estate of the Late W Fernie
F Hattersley Trust
F Shepherd Trust
Family Frank Foundation
Frank & Sybil Richardson Charitable Trust
Gaunt Family Foundation
Gregory Patrick & Marie Dolores
Farrell Foundation
Henry James Francis Estate
Ian McLeod & Madge Duncan
Perpetual Charitable Trust
J O & J R Wicking Trust
James N Kirby Foundation
Janet Calder MacKenzie Charitable Trust
Kel & Rosie Day Foundation
L Spencer Fund
Lady Proud Foundation
Leslie Francis Gill Trust
Lola Poynton Memorial Fund
Marjorie Scott Trust
Marrich Charitable Foundation
McTaggart Charitable Trust
Oscar William Eschenhagen Edwards Trust
Payne Charitable Trust
Philandron Foundation
Pierce Armstrong Foundation
Russell Vontom Charitable Trust
Scott Family Bequest - Trust
Seeing Eye Dogs & Vision Impairment
in Queensland Program
Skipper-Jacobs Charitable Trust
STAF - Judith De Garrod Donation
STAF - Lockwood Murray Hogben Bequest
Sydney Community Foundation
The Donald & Joan Wilson Foundation Ltd
The Edith Kemp Memorial Trust Fund
The Elliott Family Trust
The Granger Charitable Foundation
The Hardie Family Bequest
The Howard Glover Perpetual Charitable Trust
The Iorine Estelle Demmer and Hugh Eardley
Demmer Charitable Trust
The Kemvan Trust
The Lin Huddleston Charitable Foundation
The Longreach CP Ownership Trust
The Marian & E H Flack Trust
The Muffin Foundation
The Orloff Family Charitable Trust
The Profield Foundation
The Russell McKimmin Charitable Trust
The Sally Sinisoff Trust Fund
The William Mansel Higgins & Dorothy Higgins
Charitable Trust
Urquhart Charitable Fund
W Bon Charitable Trust
W Walsh Trust
William & George A Sunderland Trust

Individuals

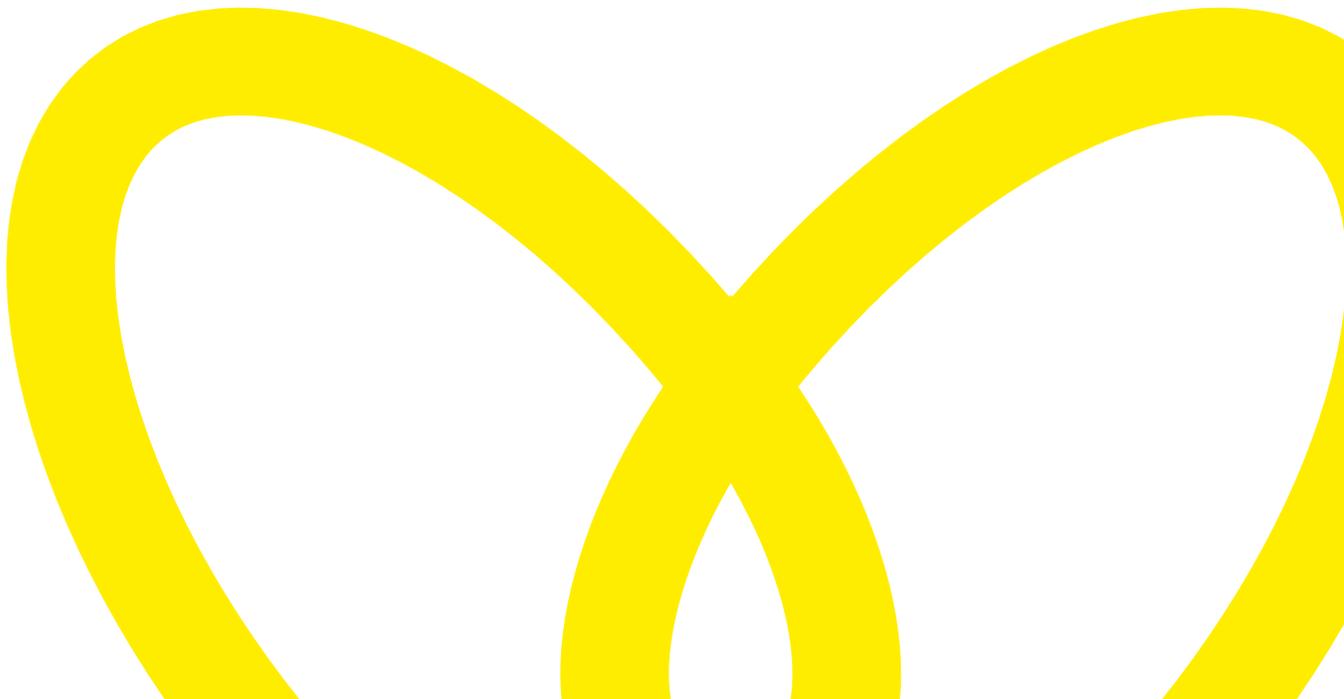
Mr W Barnett
Mrs J Barton
Mr P Berger
Ms J Cain
Mr D & Mrs A Craig
Mr A Eger
Mr E Carroll & Ms G Marsh
Mr M & Mrs L James
Mr R Kaiser
Mr C & Mrs J Macleod
Mrs E & Mr P Manley
Miss A Miller
Mr G Painton
Mrs V Rado
Mrs M Roberts
Mr B J Royle
Mr M Schroder
Mrs A Shaw
Ms J Sheridan
Mrs J Smith
Mr K & Mrs A Thornton
Mr C Williams
Mrs R Yabsley

Businesses

Archibald's Leak Detection Services
Australian Taiwan Women's Association
Dick Smith Foods Foundation
J & J Frank Holdings Pty Ltd
J J Richards & Sons
Kimberly-Clark Professional
Security Portman Pty Limited

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A heartfelt thanks to our donors

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Taree Friends of Vision Australia
The Black And White Committee of Vision Australia
Wangaratta Friends of Vision Australia
Willaura Friends of Vision Australia
Yass Friends of Vision Australia



Sophie's fundraising story

Sophie, who has hearing and vision loss, ran her first half-marathon in March to raise funds for Vision Australia.

Running to lose weight turned into a passion. Sophie's colleagues at Clicks IT Recruitment got into the spirit of it too, volunteering for pre-work training runs.

Sophie, 37, has Seeing Eye Dog Yarra, who she says restored her independence.

"I want to contribute to Vision Australia Seeing Eye Dogs so that other people like me can get their lives back.

"Yarra has given me my independence. Before receiving Yarra, I was avoiding leaving the office at lunchtime because I was scared of bumping into people and falling over. Having Yarra means I can work full-time in the office with my team and perform my job with ease.

"I've been able to visit friends and enjoy meeting them for coffee or dinner without relying on someone else to get me there."

Sophie,
Vision Australia client



Financial Performance

Our services rely on prudent financial management

In Financial Year 2016/17, we achieved an operating surplus of \$3.871M allowing us to re-invest in enhancing and extending our services.

The disability sector is moving from a relatively stable, grant-based, funding environment to a less predictable financial environment based on individualised funding. We can only continue to make a positive difference to people who are blind or have low vision by demonstrating long-term financial stability.

Our strong asset base will sustain us as we streamline our processes, corporate strategy and fundraising, manage our costs and investment portfolio, and grow revenue opportunities to meet those challenges.

Generous support

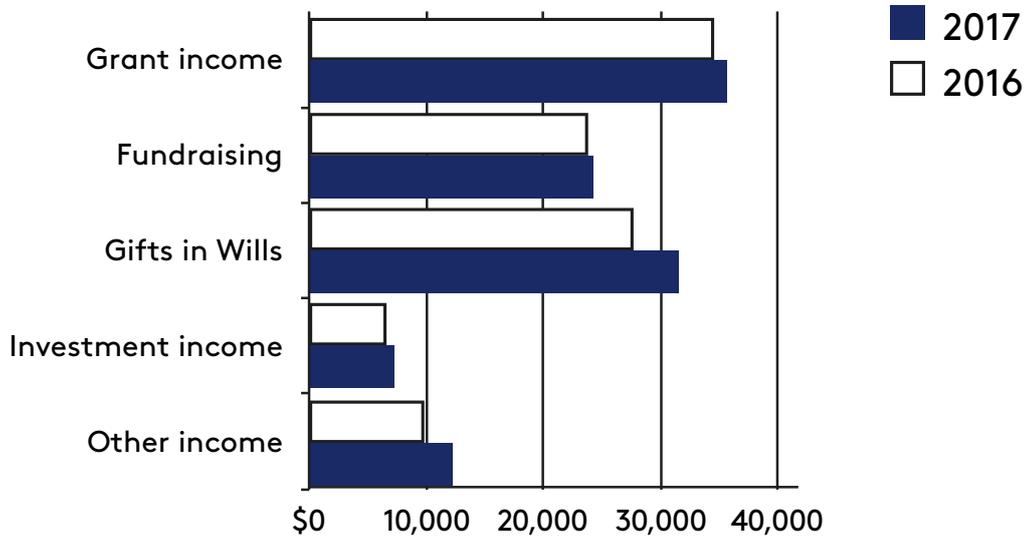
Supporting our community would not be possible without the generous financial assistance of individuals, corporate partners, businesses, organisations and government. We thank you.

We are also thankful for the strategic guidance and governance of our Board and the committees that support them for their role in our strong result. Many Board and committee members are blind or have low vision. Their first-hand insights and extensive commercial experience guide how we support our community and reach the goals in our strategic plan.

Our full financial statements are available in standard and large print, braille, audio, DAISY and accessible digital formats. Phone **1300 84 74 66** to order a copy in your preferred format or visit our website www.visionaustralia.org

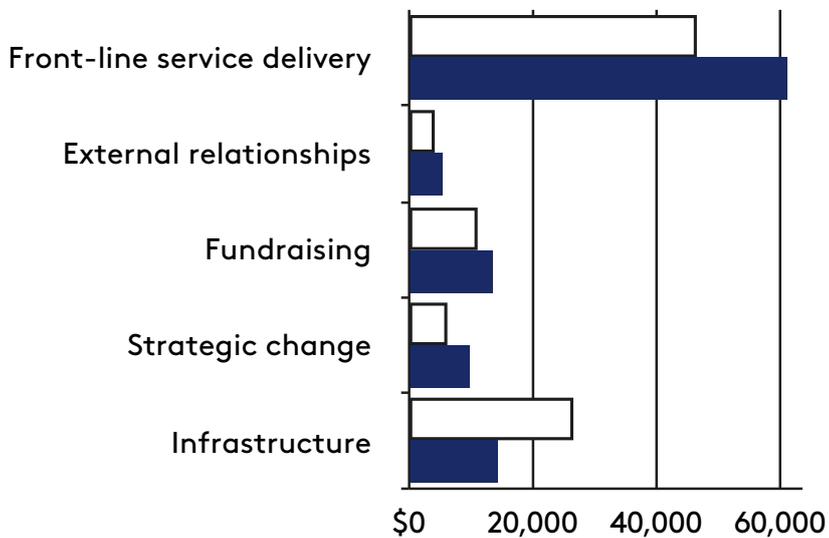
Where our income comes from

Where our income comes from



Where your money goes

Where your money goes



Kirsty,
Vision Australia Client

Connect with us

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info@seda.org.au

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Vision Australia Radio

Tune into our radio stations on these frequencies. Vision Australia Radio is also broadcast over digital stations in Melbourne, Perth and Adelaide or via the Vision Australia Connect app.

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Albury/Wodonga 101.7FM

Victoria

Bendigo..... 88.7FM

Geelong 99.5FM

Melbourne 1179AM

Mildura 107.5FM

Shepparton..... 100.1FM

Warragul 93.5FM

Warrnambool 94.5FM

South Australia

Adelaide 1197AM

Western Australia

Perth 990AM



The Vision Australia Radio Network acknowledges the Australian Government's financial support for this vital service via the Community Broadcasting Foundation, the advocacy and support of the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia and the ongoing collaborative partnership with RPH Australia.

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