



# 2014 PORT PHILLIP COMMUNITY GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

## WHAT IS IN THIS REPORT?

THIS REPORT CONTAINS INFORMATION ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY, OUR GOALS, OUR WORK AND OUR PARTNERSHIPS OVER THE PAST YEAR.

## WELCOME

Chair/EO Report... p3  
Treasurer Report... p3

## BUILDING

Homelessness Week... p4  
Five Minutes of Fame... p4

## CREATING

Emergency Relief... p5  
Access Groups... p5

## SUPPORTING

Alma Road Community House... p6  
We Support... p6  
Financial Counselling... p6

## LEARNING

Our Voices... p7  
Community Education... p7

A full copy of this report with the 2014 financial reports can be downloaded from our website [ppcg.org.au/about-us](http://ppcg.org.au/about-us) or by calling (03) 8598 6600 or emailing [info@ppcg.org.au](mailto:info@ppcg.org.au)

< Cover photo by Chris Cassar. Homelessness Person's Week (Jennifer, Rachel, Katie, Toby and Tony)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we work on and we pay our respects to Elders past and present. We also recognise the resilience, strength and pride of our Aboriginal community members.

We appreciate and welcome diversity in all its forms, including staff and community members, and believe this makes our teams, services and organisation stronger and more effective.

Thank you to the community members, volunteers, staff and others that worked with Albie Colvin (ACGD Design) to create this year's Annual Report.



We would like to acknowledge the support from our funders and community partners. In particular our partnership with City of Port Phillip.

**Our community partners:** Albert Park College, Alpha Autism, ANZ Trustees Community Engagement Program, Australian Tax Office Community Assistance Team, Centrelink Community Outreach Team, Champion Data, Chapel Gate Pharmacy, City of Port Phillip Council, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Estate of Henry Herbert Yoffa, Department of Human Services, Department of Justice, Department of Social Services, Event Management International – Dog Lovers Show, FareShare, Foodbank, Fulton Hogan, Galiamble Men's Recovery Centre, Anne and Graeme Garrow, Barbara and Joe Gerstein, GJK Facility Services, Good Shepherd Youth and Family Services, Grill'd Pty Ltd, Michael Holland, Inner South Community Health, Abigail Jabines, Bernard Joffe, Learn for Yourself, Melbourne Magistrates Court, Graeme Mulvey, Port of Melbourne Corporation, Rotary South Melbourne, Rotary Port Melbourne, SecondBite, South Melbourne Community Chest, South Port UnitingCare, St Kilda Bowling Club, St Kilda Indigenous Nursery, St Kilda Legal Service, St Kilda Community Housing, St Kilda UnitingCare, Uniting Church, Wilson, Know St Kilda and Wild@HeART.

**Our staff:** Ann Ades, David Atkins, Shayne Barns, Rhonda Blaich, Denise Beech, Kerrie Byrne, Molly Block, Di Constantinescu, Greg De Vere, Boris Feldman, Casey Fogarty, Marilyn Fox, Anne Garrow, Jane Garrow, Tullia Gilarry, Shona Haddon, Victoria Hartcup, Phil Heuzenroeder, Andy Holder, Tracy Ibrahim, Katie Lockett, Patrick Mader, Jeannette McNair, Maggie Mildenhall, Peter Mildenhall, Elizabeth Milsom, Lisa Mitchell, Prue Newbery, David Nicholas, Rose Paduano, Dawn Perry, Sandi Post, Mary Riley, Robert Roos, Stanley Stork, Robyn Szechtman, Anthea Teakle, Jennifer Wale, Olivia Whitlam, Xueying Wu and Inotoli Zhimomi.

## INTERPRETER SERVICE

Port Phillip Community Group is committed to providing accessible services to everyone from all culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. If you have difficulty in understanding this guide contact us on (03) 8589 6600, and we will arrange assistance for you.



# WELCOME... TO THE 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## CHAIR/EO REPORT

The 2014 Annual Report is an opportunity to celebrate everything that has been achieved and commit to Port Phillip Community Group's vision for a socially just community through social action, advocacy and innovation. Our mission to bring about a more inclusive and equitable society in the City of Port Phillip has been accomplished through innovative and responsive services.

*"A positive year with a great team and wonderful supports."*

PPCG extends it's appreciation to staff, volunteers and supporters who have ensured it continues to make significant contributions to people's lives. PPCG's board is committed to the future strategic growth as the organisation strives to improve community resilience and social justice.

JEFFREY LYONS CHAIR, DAVID ATKINS EO



Board photo: David Atkins, Bernard Joffe, Jeffrey Lyons, John Tansey, Robyn Szechtman and Pamela O'Neill. Absent: Marie Hapke, Helen Fallaw and Anna Moo.

## TREASURER REPORT

The financial information included is from the Port Phillip Community Group's Annual Financial Report year ending 30 June 2014.

**\$1,520,970 INCOME**

**\$1,182,477 EXPENSES**

**\$338,493 SURPLUS**

The auditor's report continues to indicate that the Port Phillip Community Group is in a sound financial position. Total income for 2014 is \$1,520,970 derived from grants, donations, interest and income. Total expenditure to deliver our programs in 2014 was \$1,182,477. There was a net surplus of \$338,493. A number of projects are ongoing and their unspent monies are held as Grants in Advance. PPCG continues to operate under a responsible budget in a challenging financial environment.

BERNARD JOFFE TREASURER

< Artwork by Mary Grace Levakis



## HOMELESSNESS WEEK

*No Fixed Address* was an exhibition featuring poems and art contributed by community members who have experienced homelessness. The project was about opening our eyes and ears to celebrate those of us who often go unseen and unacknowledged. The exhibition was displayed in shop windows along Carlisle and Fitzroy Streets and the public were invited to tours conducted by consumer representatives from the Inner South Rooming House Network who helped create the project in partnership with Port Phillip Community Group.

*"I'm really happy to have been involved with the project and met many wonderful people because of it"* - WORKING GROUP CONTRIBUTOR

Photo by Suzanne Phoenix [suzannephoenix.com.au](http://suzannephoenix.com.au)

## BUILDING STRONG CONNECTIONS

### FIVE MINUTES OF FAME

*Five Minutes of Fame* is a quarterly open mic extravaganza, providing an opportunity for Port Phillip's fringe-dwelling performers to stand centre stage. It also provides a socially stimulating night of entertainment for those who may not otherwise have access to live performance events. People from all backgrounds and abilities are encouraged to get up on stage and perform, dance and cheer. Many of the attendees live in supported accommodation and are transported to the venue and fed by generous Rotary volunteers.

*"Nobody cares if you sing out of tune as long as you give it a go. You get good food and entertainment. What more could one ask for."*

- COMMUNITY MEMBER

# CREATING

## A SOCIALLY JUST COMMUNITY

### EMERGENCY RELIEF AND MATERIAL AID

PPCG's *Emergency Relief* in Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and St Kilda provided essential services which contributed to improved outcomes for vulnerable people, children, families and community members by helping address their immediate and long term needs in times of crisis.

PPCG seeks to improve financial resilience and referral pathways by identifying effective methods of recognising families at risk of homelessness and providing early intervention strategies and implementing positive solutions. People's needs vary greatly in terms of the reasons why they require emergency relief and in terms of the level and type of support they might need to overcome barriers to stabilise their situation.



**886 PHONE CARDS FOR PEOPLE IN NEED**



**379 TRANSPORT CARDS FOR PEOPLE IN NEED**



**2311 FOOD PROVISIONS**



**3319 VOUCHERS GIVEN TO PEOPLE IN NEED**



### RECREATION ACCESS GROUPS

The *Recreation Access Groups (RAG)* program is funded by the City of Port Phillip to provide low cost access to mainstream recreational activities and enhanced social connection for people of all abilities. About 286 people accessed *RAG* with about 38% being new participants. *RAG* includes gym, swimming, bush walks, tennis and *Five Minutes of Fame*. People particularly enjoy the social and health aspects of the program and join more than one activity.



*"There is nothing more beautiful than someone who goes out of their way to make life beautiful for others."*

- MANDY HALE



06 PAGE

## ALMA ROAD COMMUNITY HOUSE (ARCH)

Alma Road Community House (ARCH) hosts a range of educational and recreational activities such as computer classes, drop in art, playgroups and walking groups. The space is hired for activities such as yoga, chess and private parties. The Te-Arai Community Garden is a much loved space at the rear of ARCH and more gardeners are always welcome.

# SUPPORTING THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE

## WE SUPPORT...

Port Phillip Community Group (PPCG) supports over 14,000 people from the community through social action, advocacy and innovation to bring about a more inclusive and equitable society.



## FINANCIAL COUNSELLING

*Financial Counselling* is accessed by low income local community members. The goal is to empower community members to take control of their finances via information, education, support and advocacy. Many people report difficulties with inadequate income, credit card debt, loan arrears, chronic illness and increased costs of living. During the year we responded to 193 inquiries.

> Photo by Russel Cooper (Annie and Obie).



**Our Volunteers:** Sunny Acreman, Sally Allard, Michelle Anderson, Van Aphorpe, Chris Arnott, Zoe Arnott, Bibi Curim Baccus, Lillian Baker, Lenny Beashel, George Beverley, Bob Bissett, Stephanie Borland, Cathy Boyce, Diane Boyle, Tim Brosman, Neil Brown, Dana Burman, Wendy Butler, Eva Carfora, Charlotte Browning, Wendy Butler, Eva Carfora, Kyle Castan, Anna Cave, Kath Chambers, Tina Chiosso, Flo Clark, Ann Conroy, Simon Crouch, Noreen Dempsey, Louise Dewar, Cassy Doyle, Chris Ellard, Steven and Beatrix Ewenson, Helen Fallaw, Helen Ferguson, Penny Gale, Katharina Glynne, Mary Gray, Naomi Gunnnett, Marie Hapke, Glenn Hargrave, Bianca Hatfield, Renee Hawkins, Ian (Mac) Hay, Sue Henderson, Louise Hill, Daniel and Naomi Hobson, Cathy Horsley, Aunty Judith Jackson, Bernard Joffe, Caroline Johnson, Deb Kendall, Gretel Heitbaum Kerwin, Verity Kimpton, Helga Kleber, Richard Kruse, Jamie Lingham, Jeffrey Lyons, Bernard Mandile, Anna Marinovich, Gary Mannix, Paul McAllister, Sarah McDonnell, Amanda McHarry, Deb McIntosh, Jane Mitchell, Carla Mitterlehner, Miriam Vazquez Montero, Anna Moo, Janet Ng, Laura and Joe O'Connor, Pamela O'Neil, Vince O'Neil, June Parker, Mario Perrone, Luke Poland, Kate Power, Helen Radden, Amy Rosenfeld, Stella Shaitarna, Diamond Shaw, Elbow Skin, Emily Spruce, Shaitarna Stella, Amanda Stevens, Robert Stock, Rev. John Tansey, Rev. Neville Taylor, Peter Tesoriero, Sanam Totabtanki, Miling Toyle, Sharon Trebse, Bernadene Voss, Sarah Ward, Katherine Wells, Penne Whyte, Donald Wilson, Natalie Wirth, Robert Wolff, Jessica Wood and Sharni Viz.

# LEARNING NEW SKILLS

PAGE 07



## OUR VOICES

*Our Voices* is a project that offers people a chance to build their skills and self-confidence through learning and employment opportunities. People who have struggled with issues such as homelessness, drug use or isolation are in a unique position to use their knowledge and personal experiences to educate the community.

*"Our Voices has made me feel a lot more secure and confident. I feel very valued and respected."* - PROGRAM PARTICIPANT

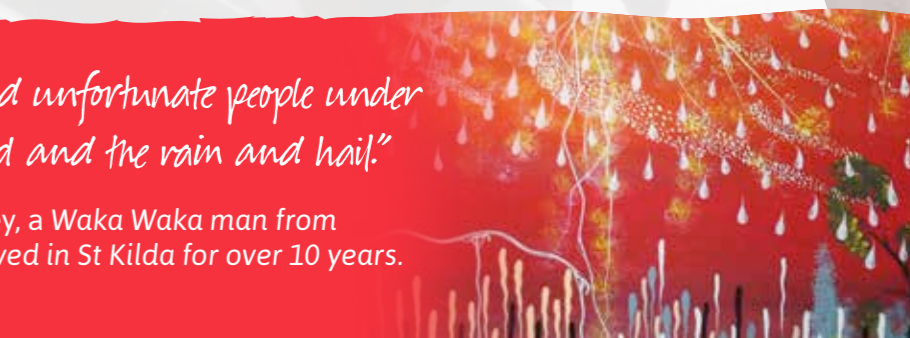
This may be through advocacy, contributing to policy or challenging people's perceptions. Courses offered include the *Community Leadership* program where people learn public speaking, *Community Research* and *Inspired Life* where Internet skills are taught to help people connect up with and explore their community.

*"This painting shows fortunate and unfortunate people under a shelter and people out in the cold and the rain and hail."*

> Artwork 'Shelter for all' by Leslie Stanley, a Waka Waka man from Central Southeast Queensland. He has lived in St Kilda for over 10 years. For half of that time he was homeless.

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

*Community Education* has entered an exciting phase with the expansion and broadening of its program for marginalised and disadvantaged learners. Through diverse courses and dynamic partnerships with other not-for-profits including Access Inc., Wild@heART, Alpha Autism and Galiamble Men's Recovery Centre it's designed to engage participants and encourage further learning experiences.





# PORT PHILLIP COMMUNITY GROUP

*"Friendship from PPCG is very special – friends for life!"*



## About Port Phillip Community Group (PPCG)

Port Phillip Community Group (PPCG) began 40 years ago in the 1970s and now operates from St Kilda, Port Melbourne, East St Kilda and South Melbourne in partnership with the City of Port Phillip using a community development approach to build, strengthen and support an inclusive local community. PPCG is co-located with the St Kilda UnitingCare Drop-In Centre and St Kilda Legal Service.

**Our Vision** A socially just community in the City of Port Phillip.

**Our Mission** Port Phillip Community Group works with community through social action, advocacy and innovation to bring about a more inclusive and equitable society.

**For Information** about where you can find us and how you can contact us please call **(03) 8598 6600** or email **[info@ppcg.org.au](mailto:info@ppcg.org.au)**

For more information **[ppcg.org.au](http://ppcg.org.au)**