



PORT PHILLIP
COMMUNITY
GROUP
Working for
Social Justice



2015 PORT PHILLIP COMMUNITY GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

WHAT IS IN THIS REPORT?

This report contains information about our community, our goals, work and partnerships over the past year.

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A full copy of this report with the 2015 financial reports can be downloaded from our website ppcg.org.au/about-us or by calling (03) 8598 6600 or emailing info@ppcg.org.au

< Cover photos: Smoking Ceremony at the Homeless Memorial and Acland Grange SRS creative workshop, photos by Rachel Edward. Staff walk for Active April, photo by Jane Garrow.



Artwork created by members of the community for the Homeless Memorial

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 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: Access Inc, Aspect – Autism Spectrum Australia, Adult Community and Further Education Board, ANZ Trustees Community Engagement Program, Australian Tax Office Community Assistance Team, Avalon Foundation, Bayside Masonic Lodges, Bunnings Port Melbourne, Captain Fracassa Café, Centrelink Community Outreach Team, Community Information and Support Victoria, City of Port Phillip, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Elbow Skin, Elwood and St. Kilda Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Elwood Toy Library, Equity Trustees Limited, Estate of Henry Herbert Yoffa, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Justice, Department of Social Services, FareShare, Fitness First, Foodbank Victoria, Fulton Hogan, Galiamble Men's Recovery Centre, Garage Espresso, GJK Facility Services, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, Grill'd, Hospitality Employment and Training Catering, Inner South Community Health, JewishCare, Knit One Give One, Launch Housing, Melbourne Magistrates Court, Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, Port of Melbourne Corporation, Port Melbourne Neighbourhood Centre, Port Phillip EcoCentre, R.E. Ross Trust, Roomers, Rotary Club of Melbourne South, Rotary Club of Port Melbourne, Sacred Heart Mission, SecondBite, Dirmuid Shaw, Social Health and Inclusion Port, South Melbourne Community Chest, SPARC Theatre, St Kilda Bowling Club, St Kilda Legal Service, St Kilda Community Housing, St Kilda Uniting Care Engagement Hub, St Kilda Uniting Parish Mission, Uniting Care Prahran Mission, Victorian Dog Rescue and Resource Group, Victoria International Container Terminal Limited, Wilson Real Estate and Wild at Heart Community Arts.

Our staff: Ann Ades, David Atkins, Shayne Barns, Denise Beech, Kerrie Byrne, Di Constantinescu, Greg De Vere, Rachael Edward, Casey Fogarty, Nicolette Forte, Marilyn Fox, Jane Garrow, Sarah Garrow, Shona Haddon, Tracy Ibrahim, Katie Lockett, Jeannette McNair, Maggie Mildenhall, Peter Mildenhall, Elizabeth Milsom, Lisa Mitchell, David Nicholas, Rose Paduano, Dawn Perry, Sandi Post, Stanley Stork, Robyn Szechman, Anthea Teakle, Jennifer Wale, Greg Warren, Olivia Whitlam 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 contact us on (03) 8589 6600, and we will arrange assistance for you.

WELCOME...

TO THE 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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Board members: Jeffrey Lyons, Bernard Joffe, Helen Fallaw, David Atkins, Pamela O'Neil, John Tansey and Anna Moo.

CHAIR/EO REPORT

"A year of challenges & accomplishments."

The PPCG 2015 Annual Report is a celebration of achievements, change and resilience. Forty five years of social action, advocacy and service delivery in the community is a testament of endurance. There have been many major achievements for the PPCG this past year and some are outlined in this report.

We extend our appreciation to the PPCG team, the board of directors, our supporters and partners who are an outstanding group of committed, capable and compassionate individuals and organisations. Thank you to everyone who supported PPCG.

—JEFFREY LYONS CHAIR, DAVID ATKINS EO

Our new light-filled and calming venue is appreciated by clients, colleagues and staff.



TREASURER REPORT

The financial information included is from the Port Phillip Community Group's Annual Financial Report year ending 30 June 2015.

\$1,273,526 INCOME

\$1,177,737 EXPENSES

\$95,789 SURPLUS

The auditor's report demonstrated a positive and sustainable financial position. Total income for 2015 is \$1,273,526 obtained from grants, donations, interest, fees and other income sources. Total expenditure in 2015 used to for service delivery was \$1,177,737. There was a net surplus of \$95,789

BERNARD JOFFE TREASURER

CREATING

A SOCIALLY JUST COMMUNITY

RECREATION ACCESS GROUPS (RAGS)...

Rag is funded by the City of Port Phillip to provide low-cost access to mainstream recreational activities such as swimming, tennis, gym and bushwalking. The goal is to improve social connections whilst accessing a healthy and social activity with others in the local community. Almost 200 people participated in the program and over half of these attended the groups for up to 12 months. 22% were new participants and 27% of those attending were from non-English speaking backgrounds.

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.



886 PHONE CARDS
FOR PEOPLE IN NEED



379 TRANSPORT CARDS
FOR PEOPLE IN NEED



2311 FOOD
PROVISIONS



3319 VOUCHERS
GIVEN TO PEOPLE IN NEED

COMMUNITY MEALS

The program allows PPCG to reach a broader range of isolated people in Port Phillip, including those experiencing homelessness, people affected by mental health issues, and drugs and alcohol. The community meals program builds confidence, social connections and health and wellbeing for individuals and communities. It also provides an opportunity for PPCG workers to network with local service providers, community groups and Council staff.

"This is what life should be all about; a good feed & good conversation." STKCH SOCIAL MEAL PARTICIPANT



Photo by John Tansey

BUILDING

STRONG CONNECTIONS

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Neighbourhood Development Program convened the Inner South Rooming House Network, assisted with the Homelessness Memorial in Peanut Farm and instigated other innovative projects. It involves working holistically and in close connection with other PPCG programs and external service providers to enable a deeper engagement and a broadening of opportunities to address community issues. It continued to provide community meals, developed services and advocated for people in social housing, promoted food and nutrition security and built social capital through cohesive and inclusive practices.

"Every life is valid. The memorial validates lives the mainstream world has thrown away or otherwise deemed worthless" - ATTENDEE OF THE HOMELESS MEMORIAL



FIVE MINUTES OF FAME

The popular inclusive and brilliant open mic project continued to welcome all Port Phillip locals to come along and get involved. It has been designed to encourage active participation from residents of social housing, as well as others who have limited opportunities to access live entertainment events. Local poets, musicians, actors, comedians, dancers and artists of all kinds gathered at the St Kilda Bowling Club to celebrate life, inspiration and creativity.

< Photo by Rachel Edward

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

PPCG officially acquired Learn for Yourself Inc's ACFE-funded education program on 1 July 2014. LFY provided innovative learning opportunities to the local community for over 30 years. To ensure the unique and accessible program's future the LFY Board approached PPCG to take over the program.

Special thanks to the final Chair, Penny Wilson, and the LFY Board for their time and diligence that saw a smooth hand-over.

The community education program continues to evolve by identifying its strengths, developing relationships with community organisations and engaging learners in the classroom and beyond.



Photo by Rachel Edward

OUR PROGRAMS

PPCG provides a number of programs to bring about a more inclusive and equitable society. All of which would not be possible without the funding and support from our generous community partners.

PORT PHILLIP
COMMUNITY GROUP
SERVICE DELIVERY
2014/2015

	EMERGENCY RELIEF AND MATERIAL AID
	ALMA ROAD COMMUNITY HOUSE
	FINANCIAL COUNSELLING
	LEARN LOCAL
	SPECIAL PROJECTS
	NEIGHBOURHOODS DEVELOPMENT
	RECREATION ACCESS GROUPS
	INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

INSPIRED LIFE

The participants undertook an eight week Leadership Course and a four week Community Research Course where they learnt public speaking, advocacy, professional behaviour and research skills. The aim of the project was to build on the learnings and successes of community programs within PCGG and to further develop a learning framework to engage new learners and to create a pathway to employment and future training.



SUPPORTING THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE

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FINANCIAL COUNSELLING

From July 2014 Financial Counselling services have been provided by PPCG and Good Shepherd under the banner of Bayside Peninsula Financial Counselling Service which is funded by Consumer Affairs Victoria. Financial Counselling provides information, education, support and advocacy to people in financial difficulty. Financial Counselling assisted 122 clients face to face, 147 clients with information and referrals which is a total 269.



WILLIAMSTOWN ROAD PROJECT

This is a place based change project for residents providing support and participation for vulnerable tenancies in Port Melbourne.

"I wouldn't have known about services without you guys coming here." - WILLIE ROAD RESIDENT

A vital aspect of the success of the project has been its collaborative approach. This innovative partnership at the Williamstown Road estate is about residents actively participating in community life and providing a greater scope to care for themselves, their neighbours and their built environment.

ALMA ROAD COMMUNITY HOUSE (ARCH)

ARCH is a City of Port Phillip facility managed by Port Phillip Community Group. It is a vibrant community hub where local people feel valued, respected and safe. An open day in August showcased the unique qualities and importance of the Neighbourhood House and its diverse community activities. ARCH also coordinates the collaborative Street Parties Program which fosters community connections which enabled residents to 29 hold street parties.





**PORT PHILLIP
COMMUNITY
GROUP** // Working for
Social Justice

*"I have seen some of these people
down Fitzroy Street for years,
but never knew they were my
neighbours. Now we say hello in
the street."* - PROGRAM PARTICIPANT

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**

For more information **ppcg.org.au**



Photo by John Tansey

Our Volunteers: Sunny Acreman, Sally Allard, Van Apthorpe, Zoe Arnott, Dermot Avon, Lillian Baker, Lenny Beashel, George Beverley, Bob Bissett, Stephanie Borland, Cathy Boyce, Diane Boyle, Tim Brosman, Lisa Bauer, Dana Burman, Wendy Butler, Eva Carfora, Charlotte Browning, Eva Carfora, Kyle Castan, Anna Cave, Kath Chambers, Tina Chiosso, Flo Clark, Ann Conroy, Simon Crouch, Chris Dalziell, Louise Dewar, Chris Donohue, Steven and Beatrix Ewenson, Helen Fallaw, Penny Gale, Raquel Grant, Mary Gray, Naomi Gunnett, Marie Hapke, Bianca Hatfield, Renee Hawkins, Ian (Mac) Hay, Sue Henderson, Louise Hill, Daniel and Naomi Hobson, Auntie Judith Jackson, Bernard Joffe, Caroline Johnson, Gretel Heitbaum Kerwin, Richard Kruse, Jamie Lingham, Jeffrey Lyons, Lorraine Mance, Bernard Mandile, Anna Marinovich, Gary Mannix, Sarah McDonnell, Amanda McHarry, Jane Mitchell, Carla Mitterlehner, Shahram Molaei, Miriam Vazquez Montero, Anna Moo, Laura and Joe O'Connor, Pamela O'Neil, Vince O'Neil, June Parker, Mario Perrone, Luke Poland, Helen Radden, Aaron Ralston, Julie Ryan, Stella Shaitarna, Rev. John Tansey, Rev. Neville Taylor, Peter Tesoriero, Sharon Trebse, Sarah Ward, Katherine Wells, Penne Whyte, Donald Wilson, Natalie Wirth and Robert Wolff.



Supported by the
City of Port Phillip
Community Grants
Program