



# ANNUAL REPORT

2019/2020



# **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Supported a total of 14,493 individuals through our range of services. This indicates a 9.98% increase from 2018/19 despite the COVID-19 outbreak in March 2020 and marks the ninth consecutive year we have helped more than 13,000 people.
- Provided information to people and service providers through our websites and service directories. In 2019/20 we received 67,613 visitors who viewed 195,126 pages, an increase of 21.1% compared to 2018/19.
- Continued to provide accurate, timely and appropriate information on the Commonwealth Home Support Program and Aged Care system, including relevant changes and training to service providers and consumers across South Australia.
- Saw increased demand for our online housing and accommodation directories with 41,318 page views and 11,609 users, translating into a 57% and 52% increase respectively from 2018/19.

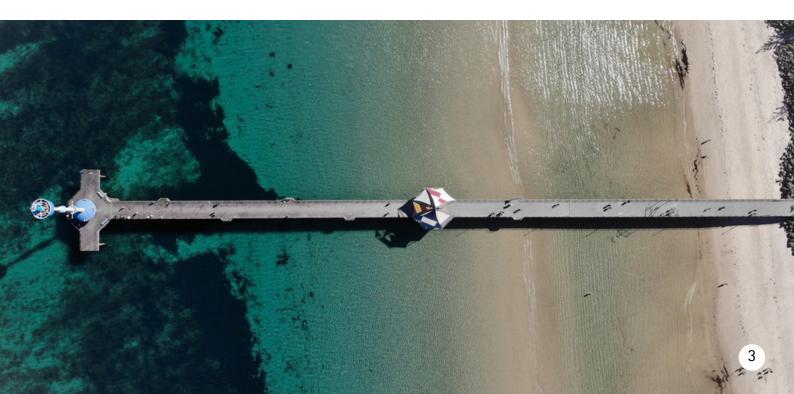
- Organised our sixth successful annual
   Disability Ageing and Lifestyle Expo, My Life
   My Choice; attracting 200 exhibiting
   organisations (the highest number of
   organisations involved in a single DAL Expo)
   and 3,617 visitors (an 18% increase on the
   2018 event).
- Connected with a further 1,754 community members and service providers in other expos and forums across South Australia. This continuous connection highlights the information and support we are providing is vital for South Australians to live their lives and maximise their independence.
- Held 49 information sessions on Commonwealth Home Support (CHSP) and Aged Care matters with feedback received from community members indicating an increase in client confidence from 2.8/5 before support to 4.15/5 after support.
- Participated in a number of disability focused expos and activities and with the Disability,
   Ageing and Lifestyle Expo we reached over 3,000 people living with disability, who are interested in disability products and services.



# **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Organised the first Disability and Ageing Sector Networking Breakfast which brought together 184 professionals and was opened by Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck, Federal Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians.
- Delivered 5 sector support training sessions (in-person and online) attended by 185 individuals; based on feedback received, 100% of attendees found the information relevant and useful. We also attended 22 collaborative meetings and 20 sector support workshops.
- Delivered training to 64 individuals and engaged with 555 community members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer and/or questioning, Intersex and Asexual and/or allies (LGBTIQA+) who attended our community activities including coffee groups, community dinners and forums.

- Increased our engagement within Aboriginal communities and expanded our Aboriginal Services Directory to include 154 listed services. The Directory attracted 2472 visitors between January and June 2020.
- Delivered 16 community-based sessions on Digital Literacy and assisted a further 108 individuals on a 1-on-1 basis.
- Delivered 5 Because I Can wellness and reablement sessions to 275 members of the public.
- Acknowledged our volunteers who contributed 6,254 hours to our work during 2019/20, delivering \$282,055 in economic value to our organisation and the community.
- In response to social isolation caused by COVID-19, we launched the Wellness Gallery, an online photography project aimed at motivating individuals and promoting positivity. The competition received 111 submissions and more than 1250 individuals voted for the winning photograph.



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# WHO WE ARE

### OUR VISION

We exist to support and to assist older, vulnerable and people living with disability in South Australia to achieve better opportunities through self-advocacy, services and support to live their lives as they choose.

### OUR MISSION

We provide inclusive, timely and enabling self-advocacy, services and programs to older, vulnerable people and people living with disability, their family, friends and carers to:

- Build confidence and capability to manage their daily lives and as far as possible to live independent, socially connected, fulfilled lives.
- Access their community through supporting and advocating for the person to fully participate in decision making and working together with other professionals and services.
- Meet individual needs of social connection, health, housing, accommodation and daily living.
- Increase wellness and reablement capacity in individuals and support organisations to deliver services through this approach.
- Support relief of illness, infirmity, poverty and social disadvantage.

# **OUR VALUES**

- We recognise the rights to individual freedom of expression, selfdetermination and decision making.
- We are flexible and responsive to emerging community needs and vulnerability.
- We relieve distress and build capability for individuals to selfmanage their lives.
- We are volunteer friendly, emphasising the importance of peerbased support where possible, as a way of building sustainable capacity and confidence.
- We seek regular feedback to inform individual and organisation wide service reviews and improvement.



## OUR ROLE

- With a focus on wellness and reablement we seek to build capacity in people to address their own challenges and needs.
- We are an independent organisation that translates complex service systems to a wide variety of people, promoting selfadvocacy to access support including building individual capability.
- We are the point of call when people don't know where to start and provide support to vulnerable groups as they transverse many government systems whilst providing opportunities to build capabilities.
- We recognise that throughout life some people move in and out of states of vulnerability.
- We advocate effectively for services at a systemic and individual level.

## **OUR CLIENTS**

- People living with disability and older people seeking to live independently and be in control of their lives.
- Frail and ageing people and their families and carers needing to access aged care services, home support and care, respite care, social support and to maintain independence and control in their lives.
- Socially isolated and vulnerable people, through their life experiences of institutional care, racism, sexual and gender identity or socio-economic disadvantage who are experiencing emotional and mental anguish.
- Service providers and community organisations who support the Home Support and Aged Care system.
- New arrivals or long term unemployed people who reside in South Australia who are socially isolated and for whom volunteering is a pathway to employment.
- Vulnerable job seekers seeking assistance with retraining and maintaining wellbeing in times of stress.
- People seeking to improve or learn digital literacy skills.



## OUR KEY RELATIONSHIPS

- The South Australian community to raise awareness of ageing, disability, health, social and community services available in South Australia.
- Policy Makers and Government Ministers in Commonwealth and State Government – to provide a reliable and well respected source of independent, high quality advice on issues affecting the community.
- Government Organisations to provide advice and systemic advocacy on system gaps and service needs and improvements and to deliver programs and projects that address identified policy and community needs.
- Peer Organisations to collaborate on issues, projects and opportunities of mutual benefit or of benefit to the community.
- Service Providers in the Commonwealth Home Support Program and in Aged Care Services – to support, train and assist service providers to implement and deliver services within a strengths based approach focussed on wellbeing and resilience of the people they serve.
- Non-Government Organisations to work together to advance shared issues to government and the community.
- Private Organisations to be the conduit for information on alternate service availability and to provide value for money services and investigate opportunities for further revenue growth to support our work.

## OUR FUTURE

- Our Future is full of possibilities as we work with and respond to community needs and aspirations.
- Our Future has its genesis in our history of being a known, trusted and independent information and support service.
- Our Future will be enriched by creating and developing partnerships and collaborations with other like-minded organisations.
- Our Future builds on our values and commitment to be recognised as offering inclusive services and helping those most vulnerable.
- Our Future will be enhanced by being a responsive and flexible organisation constantly seeking to improve our services and finding innovative ways to deliver beneficial outcomes in the community for older people and people living with disability.



Catalyst Foundation is an umbrella organisation and our core areas are represented in different colours.

CATALYST FOUNDATION



#### **AGEING**

with our work through Seniors Information Service is represented as green.

#### **DISABILITY**

with our work in Disability information and connecting people to services represented as purple.

#### LIFESTYLE

with our work in social support initiatives as well as our Disability, Ageing and Lifestyle Expo is represented as crimson.

#### SOCIAL CAPITAL AND ENTERPRISE

with our work in Ageing SA and collaboration with other organisations to develop joint projects and ventures, represented as blue.

#### **LEARNING**

with our work in digital literacy, seminars and awareness training is represented as yellow in the logo.

#### **GROWTH**

as we expand our ventures is represented as red.



# CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Sarah Bartholomeusz Board Chair



Jenny Hughes Chief Executive

This year Catalyst Foundation turned 25 years old. Like many in the community our celebrations have been put on hold several times throughout the year as we as a community worked through the challenges of Covid-19. In many ways this deferral of our celebration to focus on our clients and the wider community in this complex time reflects our humble foundations as Seniors Information Service.

We have continued to go from strength to strength, this year supporting a total of 14,493 South Australians through our range of services. This is a 9.98% increase in clients from 2018/19 notwithstanding our programs and capacity to support people face to face was affected by the Covid-19 break in March 2020. The increase in clients marks the ninth consecutive year we have helped more than 13, 000 South Australians a year. We have been able to achieve this result by increasing our suite of services, expanding our capacity to reach vulnerable groups, striving towards being a catalyst for action and creating connections in and between the communities we serve.

Fostering and supporting connections has been a priority for Catalyst this year. Our clients have talked to us about the need to continue to develop, support and strengthen people's social networks, community connections and health, whilst helping and enabling people to grow old at home.

This year both the Aged Care and Disability Royal Commissions respectively have published findings that have serious consequences and are challenging our values as a community as to the way our most vulnerable are treated. We have heard from South Australians that trust and confidence in the Aged Care and Disability systems are shaken. Trust in the operation of our health and care systems is essential for us as individuals, as a society, as an organisation and as a country. Trust means different things to people, however we are proud our Annual Survey of Clients and sector organisations has again found that Catalyst is a trusted organisation exhibiting credibility, competence, acting collaboratively and with integrity. We value this feedback and its alignment with our values of independence, fairness, consistency, sincerity, and empathy.



The communities we serve can be geographic as well as individuals connected through social, religious or cultural communities. Our holistic service "with not for" approach has continued this year with specific projects working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and Elders, Veterans and LGBTIQA+ communities. Through this work we have developed close connections and trusted relationships.

Our model of service is based on supporting individuals, their families and carers whilst integrating services to address specific broader community needs such as Housing and Accommodation, Health, Community and Aged Care, Disability and Retirement Living. In addition, we work across the Commonwealth Home Support, Aged Care, Disability and Health services to support the social sector to deliver timely, relevant and culturally appropriate services. We do this from a model of care integration that is community driven and focussed within a collaborative partnership framework with other organisations based on shared values and goals. Our work and Information Directories are aimed at reducing service fragmentation between services and systems and connecting people to services and service organisations across health, housing and community sectors.

With Covid19 affecting service delivery we have seen the digital world increase and impact on the availability of data, degree of connectivity, and speed at which decisions are made. With this change and increasing connectivity the use of internet and access to technology is an essential human right. Without this access, information needed to support decisions is often unavailable and compounded when services normally accessed in person are only available online.

This year we have increased our work in assisting older Australians to increase their digital literacy, particularly through our Vets on the Net program, working with Veterans to connect and engage with family, friends and their online networks for managing personal affairs, learning new apps or technologies that can improve their lives or increase and support independence. We continued our work as a "Be Connected" Network Capacity Builder with our peer volunteer model. This work has been supported by our Volunteer tutors many of whom are university students. This has provided a wonderful intergenerational relationship between participants and volunteers and led to greater understanding and shared knowledge between generations.

Supporting and connecting vulnerable groups and communities has been a very special focus particularly through the Covid19 restriction period. We continued to increase our work and focus in reaching and supporting vulnerable and culturally diverse groups. This year we introduced a Digital Device library for our LGBTIQA+ communities with the support of a grant from the Be Connected program, with many of our LGBTIQA+ social connection programs going online during the Covid19 restrictions for the first time.

We continue to grow and learn in our journey with Aboriginal peoples and organisations. We are proud to have worked with Elders developing the Elizabeth Grove Primary School's Medicine and Bush Tucker Garden, a follow on from our Positive Ageing in Kaurna Country Communities through Traditional Foods, Medicines and Remedies project. We have commenced work on a major community garden project at Kaurna Plains Children's Centre bringing together Elders from the surrounding community, the Northern Elders group and children from the Centre in an intergenerational learning and sharing project promoting healthy eating, food sustainability and cultural knowledge and understanding.

Our role in supporting the Commonwealth Home Support sector remains strong and the directories of information we maintain and the training and support we offer are increasingly valuable in this time of change. We will continue to liaise with our industry partners, clients, service providers and stakeholders and to advocate for our clients and the communities we serve.

The Australian Government and the South Australian Government have continued to support our activities and initiatives. We acknowledge and thank the Australian Government for your ongoing support to provide information and support to individuals and service providers in areas such as home support, ageing and the work we do to build knowledge, confidence and capacity in service providers, the sector more generally, the community and with individuals, their families and carers.

Volunteers remain an integral resource in our ability to provide our services, from behind the scenes support for administration and IT to events, peer educators and project advisors. We also acknowledge and thank our board members for their leadership and commitment to our organization and the work it does.

Our volunteers contributed 6,254 hours toward the fulfilment of our goals which was a 25% increase in volunteer support from 2018/19 and delivered \$282,055 in economic value to our organisation. We thank our volunteers for giving their time and sharing their skills so generously as we would not achieve the outcomes we deliver or reach as many South Australians as we do.

We acknowledge we continue to be in a time of change. Our services remain relevant, warmly regarded and acknowledged by individuals and organisations within the aged care and disability sectors. We thank our dedicated staff who under difficult circumstances through the Covid 19 restrictions have found ways to be innovative whilst providing a personalised approach to each client's individual circumstances. We are proud our staff and volunteers together build confidence and capacity in our clients to make informed choices and deliver appropriate, relevant and timely information, support and training to the community services sector as a whole.

We recognize the coming year will have challenges for our organization. We will continue to review and improve our services to ensure they evolve and meet our client requirements and the many reforms and funding changes in the sector. We will also continue to create and build on connections, advocate for our clients, support the Ageing, Disability and community sectors and be a catalyst for knowledge, understanding and action.



# **CLIENT STORIES**

99 Deanette

I was born and raised in South Australia and moved to Western Australia with my husband for employment. We lived in Perth for over 30 years and on retirement we decided to move back to Adelaide and live in the Adelaide Hills. Not long after, my husband was diagnosed with Dementia and he relied on me to be his carer and transport him to his different medical appointments.

I soon started realising the medical fees were becoming very costly and decided to make contact with my Council to find out if they had a list of doctors who bulk bill. The Council recommended I should contact Catalyst Foundation.

Catalyst staff were very supportive and they helped me understand that I was undertaking a Carer role and that I could receive some much-needed support such as day care for my husband while I attended to other family needs. They were also able to give me information on bulk billing Doctors and they referred me to Dementia Australia, Carers SA and My Aged Care.

What I appreciated the most with Catalyst is the ability to talk to a staff member directly. Your agency is a Godsend to me and I will be thanking Council for giving me your number.

99 Kerri.

A friend from the late '80's contacted me to ask if I'd be in a ZoomUnion. Thanks to having the iPad (through Catalyst's Digital Device Loan Program), I said YES unreservedly. Otherwise, I'd either have refused outright, or agreed with reservation. It's hard to Zoom on an iPhone 4. So, we had 3 hours of shared bliss between 10 of us! With loose plans to re-connect, I have felt a sense of ease in my life since that ZoomUnion that I had not known before.

Re-connecting with life-affirming lesbo-celebratory straight-but-not-narrow-allies has been a boost to my mental health, and a sense of integration with good things and people from my past. This would have been highly less likely, or unlikely, without Catalyst's iPad Loan Program.

(Kerri's name has been changed to protect their anonymity)



99 John

As a 75 year old it is very difficult to access any one-to-one, face-to-face, direct tutoring without paying about \$80/hr. I have done this only to find I have more questions after the 'lesson' has finished. I sometimes ask family friends to help me but always feel I am imposing on their time and goodwill.

With Vets on the Net, not only do I not pay, perhaps more importantly, I have the opportunity to note areas I wish to pursue and follow them up the following week. I am not being 'judged'. Then, again, importantly, I can learn at my own pace which can frustrate other (commercial or family) tutors. I feel very relaxed with the volunteer tutors and not embarrassed at my lack of knowledge. Frankly, I am amazed at their knowledge. These young people are a credit to themselves and the organisation.

I once asked one of my tutors "What's in it for you" to receive the beautiful reply "Your smile". So, I am thoroughly supportive of the program. I would be really disappointed if I cannot continue next year.

#### FROM OUR STAFF

Jack

The call started with a discussion on retirement /downsizing options for Jack and his wife Sue as well as options for independent living for their 43 year old son, Ryan. Ryan has Asperger's Syndrome and has always lived at home supported by his parents Jack and Sue. We discussed the retirement village option for Jack and Sue and as a starting point we suggested they look through our Catalyst Retirement Housing Directory to get an idea of what is available. We were able to assist Jack and Sue with refining location, size and pricing options.

We also discussed the options they had considered for their son Ryan including helping Ryan to buy a home. We helped them understand the financial help Ryan could apply for including the First Home Owners Grant, contacting Home Start Finance about their loan options or buying a property through the Affordable Housing Program.

We also provided information on low cost housing including Community Housing as an alternative to purchasing a property and other rental options. Jack was grateful for the information and assistance and said it helped himself, Sue and Ryan to plan their housing futures.



#### -+rancesca

On a very hot summers day Francesca, a woman in her 80's, came to our office looking for help. Having walked to the office Francesca was visibly distressed and tired. Francesca said she was looking for help for her grandson who had no past issues with the Law but had recently done "something silly" and was going to appear in court the following day. The Solicitor had advised her grandson was likely to be released provided that he had a known address.

Whilst making sure Francesca had water and some rest, our staff contacted OARS Community Transitions to explore the options available, as the housing providers listed in our information resources would not be able to provide accommodation with such a short notice and often serviced older people.

With help from OARS staff, we were able to support Francesca's approach to the Homelessness Gateway in this particular instance. Francesca was very thankful and relieved that there was a place she could ask for help as well and left feeling there was a way forward for her grandson.

# Supporting Services

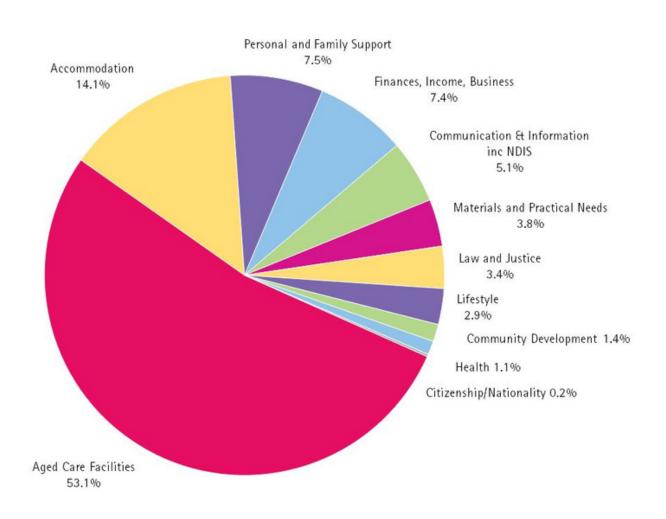
A service provider was looking for information and help to support a client and his wife to access shopping, cleaning and meal preparation services. The client was receiving a cleaning service however his needs had changed. The service provider was looking to find additional services under My Aged Care and was not sure of the process or the availability of services. We explained My Aged Care and how to request access to CHSP services as well as understanding the My Aged Care service directories including the wait list and unavailable services. The Client and his wife were due to have surgery soon, with the wife having open heart surgery and the husband an amputation. We also explained about short term help that is available and other supports including Home Care Packages as an option and the importance of the discharge planning for service support once the couple returned home.

The service provider was appreciative of the help we gave their client and the increased understanding they had of My Aged Care and accessing services.

# THE FIGURES

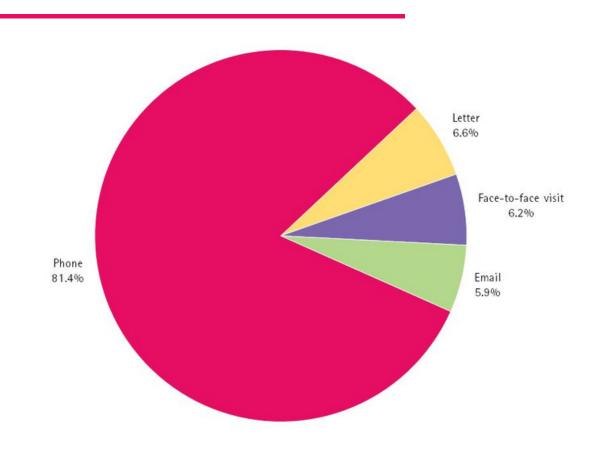
Catalyst Foundation works with South Australians living with disability, people on the ageing journey, their families and carers, by providing information, advice and support, offering training courses and seminars and connecting people to services and linking services to each other. The following figures highlight how valuable, wide-spread and inclusive Catalyst Foundation operations are and the difference our organisation makes to South Australians every day.

## TYPE OF SERVICES REQUESTED

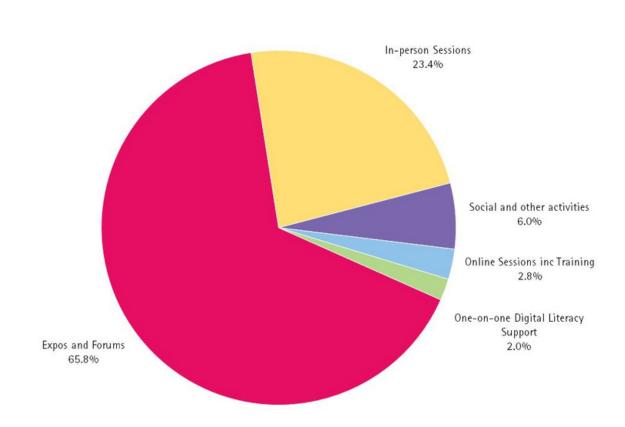




# HOW DO OUR CLIENTS CONTACT US



# WHERE DO CLIENTS ATTEND





# **OUR PROGRAMS**

# Housing and Accommodation

In 2019/20 we continued to offer a broad ranging housing information and support for service providers and individuals covering the many and varied types of accommodation.

The use of our comprehensive searchable online directory of low-cost rental accommodation, independent living units, supported residential facilities, retirement parks and retirement villages has increased again this year and is a valuable resource for individuals, families and carers and the wider Aged Care, health and community sector organisations who use the directory to support clients. The directory allows users to search by location, unit type, and includes vacancies of the subscribing organisations. In 2019/20, our online directory proved to be a very valuable information source with 41,318 page views and 11,609 users, translating into a 57% and 52% increase respectively from 2018/19.

Acknowledging the special needs of many of our clients, we also continue to publish the Rental Housing Directory in print format and in an easy downloadable format on our website. We assisted clients with limited technology skills with searching our own and external resources (e.g. private low-cost rental market).

We maintained our housing information including up-to-date fact sheets, lists of residential parks, retirement housing with aged care on site or adjacent, and a checklist of housing features that ensure your home will suit your increasing needs.

In addition, we continued to offer seminars to help our clients to make informed decisions regarding housing, including:

- Retirement Villages
- Downsizing
- Thinking of selling your home
- · Aged Care Fees and Charges

Through the website, newsletters, seminars and community forums we also provided information and support to individuals and retirement village resident committees on retirement village legislation and regulations.

For people requiring supported accommodation we continued to offer lists of supported residential facilities and residential aged care vacancy registers and to offer monthly seminars in aged care costs.

# Digital Literacy Programs: Be Connected & Vets On The Net

The issues associated with Digital connection, access and knowledge in our community has been known for some time however the Covid 19 restrictions had a significant impact on individuals capacity to connect and access services.

SA's Digital Inclusion ranking is the lowest of all states/territories, and people 65 years and older are Australia's least digitally included age group. The Australian Digital Inclusion Index (ADII) measures the digital gap, which is a complex issue. Aspects of digital inclusion are 'access', 'affordability', and 'digital ability' (including attitude, skills and activities).

A combination of evidence based research and meaningful conversations with our vulnerable communities identified specific needs and aspirations around closing the digital literacy gap. To do this work we have been supported by the Commonwealth Government through the Be Connected program and the

This funding enabled Catalyst to build our capacity to deliver a face-to-face, one-to-one learner centered adult and community e-learning program, powered by skilled, motivated volunteers and based on a strength based approach to working with people.

#### Supported by:





We recruited 29 volunteers who formed two teams and participated in 2 x five week onboarding programs to strengthen capacity to engage with program participants in meaningful, friendly, empowering respectful way. The volunteer onboarding programs delivered team building activities, intercommunication and coaching upskilled skills, confidence and understanding. supported our Volunteers with 435 hours of digital mentoring to equip our Volunteers with an understanding and increased capacity to use important digital literacy tools on the Be Connected, Tech and Wellbeing websites, (including Via Character Strength tools) and Because I Can resources.

Along the way 8 of the new IT Tutor volunteers found employment, demonstrating that volunteering enhances personal skills, confidence and strengthens pathways to connect people with employment. We built on our existing networks and collaborated with StoryRight at the Partnership Hub and The Jamie Larcombe Centre to leverage strategic relationships with Ex Service Organisations (ESO's) to maximise the reach and impact of service delivery into veteran communities.

These collaborative partnerships were enhanced with the co-design and establishment of the Vets on the Net program, a free digital literacy program for older veterans, partners and carers. focuses on improving program confidence and understanding of digital devices and how to access services and information online. The success of the program was in part as a consequence of the willingness and support given by the Executive Committee at Largs Bay RSL sub-branch and other ESO's to commence Vets on the Net for club members and the wider community. The program will recommence following changes to the Covid 19 restrictions and both e learners and IT Tutors are excited about its return.



# An inside view of Vets On The Net Program

The LeFevre Peninsula Veterans Centre was fortunate enough to be selected to participate in the trial of "Vets on the Net", a new program for Veterans run by the Catalyst Foundation.

Vets on the Net brought together Veterans and volunteer University students to work on a one on one basis to support and improve the Veterans digital literacy skills and increase understanding of a range of computer programs, applications and digital equipment, such as laptops and mobile phones.

In my opinion the program far exceeded the outcomes I was expecting and achieved some positive unexpected outcomes. I was surprised at the enthusiasm of all attendees once they had established a rapport with their tutor.

Vets on the Net enabled attendees to increase their digital literacy and provided a platform for social and generational integration with International students as tutors. The students took the opportunity to improve their English speaking skills and the program supported individuals to connect and reduce socially isolation. It was a real win-win situation.

At the end of each session all tutors and students would get together and have a light lunch and it was very heartening to watch everyone interact with each other in a relaxed and friendly environment.

The program was a huge success and I would encourage it to continue and expand.

Peter Cates

President, RSL Largs Bay Sub-Branch





# Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Communities

In 2019–20, we continued to work collaboratively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities around Adelaide and South Australia. We support this work through culturally appropriate literature and contact with Aboriginal controlled and non-Aboriginal organisations to provide greater understanding of the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP).

Our Aboriginal Project Officer has supported communities through the Aboriginal Services Directory and expanded the Directory to 154 listed services. The importance of this Directory is increasing with 2,472 unique visitors to the website between January and June 2020. Catalyst anticipates the Directory will become an increasingly important resource particularly through the periods of Covid 19 restrictions.

As a point of contact the Directory offers a wide range of information for communities and organisations including Health, Housing, Justice and Education services.



Catalyst has been working with individual community members to enable understanding and navigation of the My Aged Care system including the Commonwealth Home Support program both in group settings and on an individual basis. This information and support empowers Aboriginal Elders to make informed choices about their care needs.

We have continued our project work within the Northern area of Adelaide, completing work on Elizabeth Grove Primary School's Medicine and Bush Tucker Garden with the opening being held in October 2020. This garden provides a great outdoor learning environment for the students with most of the plants being native to the Adelaide Plains and used by the Kaurna people for medicine, healing and nutrition. It also provides an opportunity for Elders to engage with students and pass on their knowledge, culture and history.



This year we commenced work on a major community garden project at Kaurna Plains Children's Centre, bringing together Elders from the surrounding community, Northern Elders Carers group and children attending the Centre. This garden has been set up as a produce garden, providing education, hands-on practical learning and an opportunity for Elders and the many generations that attend the centre to learn together.

Several workshops have been held with the community to create their vision of a thriving, sustainable, vegetable and fruit garden. This garden promotes healthy eating and encourages food sustainability using natural, eco-friendly and water wise concepts.





# Tax Help

This year we provided help to 20 clients through our Tax Help Centre with the assistance of a volunteer trained by the Australian Taxation Office. This program provides invaluable assistance and education to low income earners and vulnerable or disadvantaged people and client numbers continue to grow each year.



# Culturally & Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Background Communities

Catalyst Foundation has always and will always build and maintain strong connections with CALD communities through their leaders, volunteers, carers and ethno-specific service providers, to enable us to continuously provide culturally and responsive services.

Our information is updated consistently and in a timely way and we produce our information in plain English language which is easily accessible. Catalyst has two bilingual-bicultural staff to support information, face to face enquiries and to deliver community and or round table presentations on topics relevant to CALD seniors and their carers.

In the first 6 months of the year we delivered 14 presentations to a variety of community groups including the Chinese, Croatian, Filipino, Greek, German, Indian, Italian, Korean, Latvian, Maltese, Persian, Spanish communities. In addition, we presented 2 CALD specific presentations as part of our sector support work on topics including Accessing Aged Care Home Services, Aged Care Fees and Charges and the Retirement Housing available to seniors.

Following the introduction of the COVID 19 restrictions we made significant changes in the way we delivered our services to CALD communities and individual members. These changes included using different digital mediums including social media, webinars, online meetings, round table conversations, delivering presentations and using digital technology to stay connected with families, friends and communities.

At Catalyst Foundation, we took a proactive approach and made many calls to different community leaders, volunteers and ethno-specific staff to support any information or service needs and to reassure them that we are in this crisis together. We provided links to updated COVID 19 information factsheets in different languages as well as posting any requested information they could share with friends and members of communities as needed.

We supported and encouraged individuals and CALD community groups to connect and to support those socially isolated. We were heartened by requests from both CALD groups and individuals to support and train individual members of CALD communities to access digital technology and services including shopping and banking online, how to protect their personal information and to be safe from scammers. We anticipate and look forward to helping elder members of CALD communities to utilise the Catalyst digital IT learning program to create social connections and access to services.



# LGBTI+ Communities

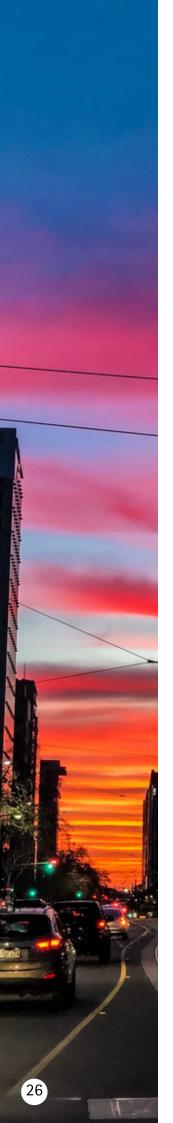
2019 – 2020 has been an exciting year for Catalyst Foundation's LGBTI+ activities, and one that involved lots of adaptation!

#### LGBTI+ Over 50s Social Activities

Our monthly social activities for people over the age of 50 continued with great turn outs. Requests from the community for an additional monthly film group saw Catalyst's seminar room become a cinema once a month, with a plethora of LGBTI+ films and documentaries screened, including 2 additional movie marathons! As part of NAIDOC week an assortment of documentaries about LGBTI+ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members were shown with a great response.

When Covid-19 restrictions struck earlier this year, all activities were moved online, a Facebook group was established to pass on information and keep connected, and a weekly newsletter was sent out with LGBTI+ online activities and wellness information. It quickly became apparent just how much anxiety is caused by technology (especially technology not working), which required Catalyst's LGBTI+ Project Officer to begin providing tech support over the phone, and at times visiting people's houses (socially distanced) to assist them in setting up and using their devices. Providing this option allowed many to overcome their tech concerns and feel a real sense of achievement when they were able to join in with others online.





#### LGBTI+ Digital Devices Library

In light of what we were learning about barriers to accessing online activities and services, Catalyst applied, and was successful in receiving a grant from BeConnected to establish a Digital Devices Loan Program for LGBTI+ Over 50's community members. This grant allowed us to purchase 7 devices (iPads & Android tablets), and 7 portable wifi connections.







# DIGITAL DEVICES LIBRARY

FOR LGBTI+ COMMUNITY MEMBERS OVER 50



#### Rainbow Directory

The Rainbow Directory went "live" in 2019, and was due to be officially launched in November 2020. Our latest statistics show that we have 89 LGBTI+ services listed on the site, and have had a total of 4429 visits between January & September 2020, 3699 of which were unique, and 14,519 total page views. Monthly visits to the page have increased from 260 in January 2020, to 661 in August 2020.



### Training and Professional Development

Catalyst's 'LGBTI+ 101' and 'Toward a Safe Place: LGBTI+ Domestic & Family Violence' trainings were both re-developed over the last 12 months, and launched in the second half of 2020. Both have been delivered with great feedback, and we have had several enquiries from organisations, government departments and individuals for further delivery, which will be provided when restrictions ease.

Absolutely fantastic training - a great alance of theoretical frameworks, prevalence, addressing myths in a gentle yet challenging way and opening up Liscussion about strategies to implement professionally and personally

"Toward a Safe Place" training participant

# Wellness Gallery



In response to social isolation caused by COVID-19 amongst the community, we launched the Wellness Gallery, an online photography project aimed at activating and inspiring individuals and promoting positivity and wellness.

The Wellness Gallery was as an online photo competition with the theme "Colour", and was open to all adult residents of South Australia. The competition received 111 submissions from participants between 20 and 98 years and from across South Australia, from Whyalla to Tantanoola. The photographic entries were reviewed by our panel of jedges including Pip de Cure - Lecturer of Photography and Photo imaging at TAFE SA, Kelly Noble - CEO & Editor-in-Chief of Glam Adelaide, artist Chelsea Nicholls and art photographer Heather Petty.



This publication features photographs (or details of photographs) submitted by our 30 finalists. To view all photos in high resolution, please visit www.wellnessgallery.com.au or scan the code below.



Free Photo Competition: Colour

wellnessgallery.com.au



The judges selected their 30 favourite pictures for voting by the public to select the three winners on the dedicated Wellness Gallery website. More than 1,250 people voted for their favourite entries and the three winners were Paula McManus of West Beach with Macaron Stack (1st), Michelle Dimmock of Woodcroft with Sunset Fishing (2nd) and Tanya Zhong of Payneham with Mirroring (3rd).

The competition was cross-promoted by TAFE SA and Glam Adelaide's social media. It was a great success and it received positive feedback from entrants and visitors who enjoyed the photos and the visual artistry they invoked.

Our thanks to all who participated, entrants and voters and to our wonderful judging panel for volunteering their time and expertise.



# **EVENTS**

We are committed to supporting our clients, their families and carers across the state and we have developed a number of specialised courses and events to meet the needs of our community. In all, we have attended or delivered more than 100 information sessions and community meetings and forums across South Australia. We continue to demonstrate our commitment to clients with particular vulnerabilities by delivering our programs at a growing number of events, including:

- Adelaide Designed for Life –
   Adelaide City Council
- · Age Well Expo
- Ageing Well Expo City of Charles Sturt
- ARAS World Elder Abuse Day Conference
- Barossa Ageing and Disability Expo
- Barossa Community Expo
- Business SA Human Services Chapter
- Consultation on Draft Aged Care Access Code
- COTA SA Policy Council
- · DANA Board
- DHS Ministerial Domestic & Family Violence Roundtable
- DHS Multicultural Advisory Committee

- Disability, Ageing and Lifestyle Expo
- Eastern CHSP Collaborative
   Forum and Executive
- Electoral Commission of SA
   Disability Advisory Committee
- Empowering Digital Connectivity with nbn
- Festival of Now
- Gawler Reconciliation
   Community Day
- Housing, Homelessness and Support 10-year State Strategy Workshop
- LGBTIQ Advisory Group -Rainbow Directory
- National Forum Preparedness for people with disability most at risk in natural disasters
- NDIS Explained Expo

- NDIS Forum with Department of Social Services
- NDS CEO Conference (Sydney)
- Northern CHSP Collaborative
- Older Persons Covid-19 Social Support Strategy
- Retirement Village Ministerial Advisory Committee
- · Royal Adelaide Show
- Royal Commission into Aged Care (Adelaide)
- Royal Commission Workshop on Royal Commission into Disability with DANA and State Advocacy services
- · SA Gerontology Conference
- SACOSS LGBTI+ Consultation
- SALA
- · Southern Services Reform Group
- STAAR SA Stakeholder Group (Hospital to Home) Project
- Stakeholder Consultation
   Workshop on the Establishment of the new Adult Safeguarding Unit
- Stakeholder Workshop National Communication Strategy addressing Elder Abuse and Ageism
- Virtual Consultation Meeting with NDIS and CALD organisations
- Western Linkages CHSP Collaborative
- Youngcare National At Home Grants Panel



# Disability, Ageing & Lifestyle Expo 2019

# My Life My Choice

The 2019 Disability, Ageing and Lifestyle (DAL) Expo was held on Thursday, 17 October at the Adelaide Showground. The event which exceeded its financial targets was highly successful and attracted the highest number of organisations involved in a single DAL Expo representing many sectors including health and well-being, mobility equipment, support services, rehabilitation, ageing, entertainment and disability and employment.

Catalyst Foundation's valuable contribution to the South Australian community was recognised by Senator the Hon. Richard Colbeck, Federal Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians, who opened the DAL Expo Networking

99.8%



This is the highest rating received by Expo visitors in the history of the event

3,617



The number of attendees increased by 18% compared to 2018.





8.6/10

This is the third consecutive Expo to receive an overall Exhibitor rating higher than 8/10.



200

This is the highest number of organisations involved in a single DAL Expo. The Hon. Michelle Lensink MLC, Minister for Human Services, attended and addressed the Expo, highlighting the important role played by the Expo to enable Exhibitors to further their understanding and better service of the needs of their clients and increase awareness in carers and the broader community of services and support available.

Visitors to the Expo were pleased with the breadth and availability of exhibitors and gave the 2019 DAL Expo its highest rating with 99.8% approval.

By creating an event for the community, service providers and health professionals, Catalyst Foundation once again demonstrated its capacity to bring people and services together by delivering the largest and most iconic community event in the disability and ageing event calendar for exhibitors and visitors alike.

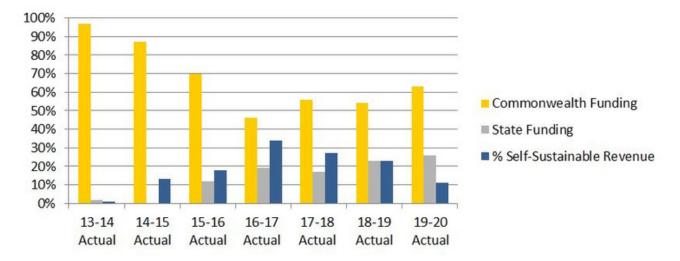


# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The 2019-20 financial year was positive for the Catalyst Foundation with a profit in the order of \$173,000, an improvement on the 2018-19-year result of 24.5%. This was an excellent result given the difficulties faced by the organisation as a consequence of Covid-19 and its impact on Catalyst's capacity to deliver specific grant funded programs and projects in light of the restrictions.

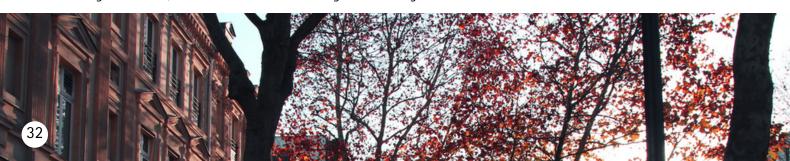
Efficiencies across all functions of Catalyst Foundation were required to ensure the 2019-20 financials were managed tightly and grant funded programs were delivered effectively within the funding and income generated. Tight controls on expenditure were maintained with the 2019-20 total expenditure being \$1.125 million representing a modest increase of 5% on the 2018-19 expenditure of \$1.071 million.

The Ageing and Disability Expo continued to be a flagship event growing in terms of exhibitors, patrons and reputation year on year as is a central component to funds self generated by the organisation. The income diversification strategy established in the past three years was affected by Covid-19 and Catalyst was supported by the Commonwealth Government Jobkeeper programs as a consequence of the restrictions preventing program and project delivery. The full impact of Covid 19 and revenue generation is forecast to impact in the 2020/21 financial year due to the cancellation of the 2020 Disability, Ageing and Lifestyle Expo in October 2020.



The balance sheet remains in a favorable position, with the value of the Foundation's cash and debtors balance being sufficient to meet the total liabilities and future contractual commitments. The Board recognises that the future post 30 June 2021 continues to remain uncertain. From the current solid base, Catalyst Foundation's agility and responsiveness to identifying and securing funding opportunities will support a continuation of the high quality service provision the Foundation is recognised for. Copies of our full financial statements are available upon request.

Angela Allison, Audit and Financial Management Delegate





# OUR BOARD, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

### Our Board

#### Sarah Bartholomeusz - Board Chair

Sarah is the Founder and Principal of award winning commercial law firm, You Legal. You Legal is a new category of law firm providing commercial legal services to Australian clients. In addition to her B.A. and LL.B from the University of Adelaide, Sarah has a Graduate Diploma of Applied Corporate Governance from the Governance Institute of Australia Ltd, of which she is a Fellow. Sarah is also a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Directors Company Director's Course and a Member of the Law Society of South Australia. Sarah is an author of three best-selling books on governance, the host of a podcast 'Accountants on Purpose', and regularly lends her expertise to medical practices through her series of Webinars. She also serves on the Entrepreneur's Organization's Global Governance Committee as the APAC Governance Director. Her most important role is as wife to Dave and mum to Alex (8) and Nicola (6).

#### Dr Fiona Kerr - Deputy Chair

Dr Fiona Kerr is the founder and CEO of The NeuroTech Institute and Focus (NTI), which research and consult in the neurophysiology of human interaction and how this differs with and through technology. This is particularly pertinent to the impacts of direct and technologically intermediated interaction on aged and health care, healing, trust, creating positive behaviour change and decision making. Fiona also consults on building and scaling systems, including human-centric technologized healthcare systems, and living and ageing well.

Dr Kerr's qualifications include complex systems engineering, cognitive neuroscience, psychology and anthropology, built up over forty years, with over thirty years in industry. She is an international speaker, appears regularly in media and works across five countries with companies, research bodies and governments. Fiona holds advisory and board positions both here and overseas including the Catalyst Foundation, Global Centre of Modern Aging, Bionics Queensland, the Validation Therapy Consortium and Finland's National Al Steering Committee, is a member of The Health and Medical Industries Ministerial Advisory Panel and holds honorary academic roles with UCD, SAHMRI and UniAdelaide.

#### Angela Allison - Audit & Financial Management Delegate

Angela joined the board of Catalyst Foundation in February 2014, bringing extensive financial and corporate governance skills and experience. Angela has a Bachelor of Arts, Accounting from the University of South Australia, a Diploma in Project Management (AIMSA), CPA and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Directors Company Directors. Angela is an accomplished advisor and mentor in addition to having over 30 years' experience in financial, governance and strategic leadership roles across government and is currently the Director Business and Partnerships at the South Australian Housing Authority. Her other Board appointments include Slingsby Theatre Company.



#### Joanna (Jo) Carrick - Board Member

Jo works as a New Program Development in the University of Adelaide's newly created PACE (Professional and Continuing Education) Unit. She is responsible for the development of new short-course offerings, customised training services and the project management of specialised training programs. Core to her role is working directly with clients from government, business and not for profit groups to deliver tailored training and short courses. Jo's previous roles in university sector have involved projects to improve equal access and participation of people who may experience barriers to higher education because of disability, culture, or economic disadvantage or discrimination due to gender, ethnicity, language, age or sexuality. Jo has Bachelor of Arts (Communication Studies), Diploma Project Management (Applied) and a Certificate IV (Training & Assessment). Jo joined the Board in early 2016 and brings experience in business development and marketing to Catalyst Foundation.

#### Elizabeth (Libby) Dudley Kosmala, OAM - Board Member

Libby has lived with disability since birth and is a well-known sporting identity in South Australia and across the world having participated in 12 Paralympics. Libby has spent her life contributing back to the community through Community based and Government Boards and has significant board experience at an executive and member level. Libby has experience of both the ageing and disability systems as a participant and advisor and has significant networks across both the disability and aging sectors, assisting charities to raise funds over many years. Libby is currently the Chair of Domiciliary Care Consumer Advisory Committee and also a current community member of the National Physiotherapy Board. Libby is an Ambassador for Dignity in Care for Disability Services SA and Junction Australia (Housing) and a patron for Technical Aid for the Disabled in SA.

#### Vince Buckskin - Board Member

Vince Buckskin is a Narrunga/ Kaurna man who has and is working strongly with Aboriginal communities including in his current role as Aboriginal Cultural Advisor, Transitional Care Program, Country Health SA, Local Health Network providing positive health outcomes for Aboriginal people in Country SA.

Prior to this role, Vince worked as an Aboriginal Youth, Training Employment Officer at Point Pearce Aboriginal Community, focusing on opportunities for young Aboriginal people living on Yorke Peninsula.

Vince has also worked in the Australian Bureau of Statistics providing information to Aboriginal people on the census process as well as working in the Local Government Association focusing on employment opportunities for Aboriginal people in Local Councils throughout SA. Vince continues to be both a leader and an educator in supporting cultural heritage and inclusiveness across all sectors.

#### Our Staff

As our organisation continues to grow, evolve and change we are able to provide valuable services to the community due to the contribution of our highly skilled, knowledgeable and friendly staff. In the past financial year, the following staff members have helped Catalyst Foundation to deliver services or projects to South Australians.

Ann Shipley Jennifer Hughes Ravinder Bhogal Caitlin O'Toole Joanne Wood Sepideh Mobedi Carol Lindner Kvlie Read Shaez Mortimer Diana Calle Lucy Hackworth Susantha Arthurugiri George Gouzounis Luisa Silveira Tina Summers Jacqui Vandenbroek Miriam Cocking Truphena Mahindu



#### Our Volunteers

We sincerely acknowledge our volunteers who contributed 6,254 hours to our work during 2019/20, delivering \$282,055.40 in economic value to our organisation and the community. We were deeply saddened by the passing of a long-serving and dedicated volunteer, Chris Shipley. We offer our sincere condolences to Ann and family on his passing.

Alex Macmillan

Barry Horwood

Carol Kade

Celia Moodie

Amarjot Kaur

Bianca Peta

Cheng Geng

Chilkaben Patel

Anderson Xu

Carol Durrans

Carol Durrans

Carol Kade

Celia Moodie

Cheng Geng

Chilkaben Patel

Angela Allison Carol Hannaford Damien de Bricassart

Kesha Patel Damien Riggs Richard Velasquez Darrell Bampton Khoulood Navaser Riki Owens-Bennett David Finkemeyer Kusum Kharanger Rod Trinca Devanshu Chawla Laura Parsons Rose Miller Dilhani Pradeepika Lucy Corin Ruben' Ser Tung Too Lyn Frimpong Salma Tabassum Vithanage Dinuk Nanayakkara Manpreet Kaur Sarah Bartholomeusz Dr. Fiona Kerr Maria Venus Scott Keeley Elizabeth (Libby) Dudley Marie Good Senthil Kumar Kosmala, OAM Marty Ashley Paynter Senthil Murugesan Gnanika Chandrasena Mary Chapman Sepi Mobedi Grace Mitchell Marymol Babu Shaez Mortimer Greg Wood Masoumeh Rahimi Shayne Glasgow Hamid Gholami Mathew Morris Tang Zhenhui (Jody) Mehrnoosh Fard Teresa Herrera Harry Gruttner Thariq Abdeen Hillol Majumdar Mergho Ray Jacqueline Derteano Nakul Vaidya Tony Kassouf James Brenner Nicholas Crayford Trevor Eblurn Vince Buckskin Jarred Gosper Nipuni Nishshanka Xiaojie 'Shady' Lu Jessica Tsang Norman Radican Jiazhen Jen Guo Ollie Patterson Xiaoning Wen (Shawn) Palminder Kaur Jin Xu Xinrui Ying Joanne Carrick Paul Kennett Ya Xiao Jo Jo' Wenjun Chen Percy' Luke Mashford Yu Fan

John Thompson Renuka Karupiah Zhixiong Guo
Richard Parks Zoe Kyprios
Zoran Radenovic

Prithvi Govindaraj

I feel happy in my heart. First I started with Catalyst Foundation as a volunteer to improve my English speaking skills but now, after starting our sessions with Digital Literacy learners, I've started to feel that I'm part of the society here and useful again which is really important for me as a new migrant. Thank you for this opportunity, this is one the best things that I've ever done in my life.

Zac Cannell



John Dunsford

I have been working in the IT field for almost 14 years, so I think I have solid knowledge about basic IT. I used to teach my parents and other seniors how to use smartphones and how to set up emails when I was in China. I sincerely understand the difficulty seniors feel when they are facing such problems, that's why I want to use my IT knowledge to help them. During the last few months of volunteering, first of all, I feel so happy that the learner is now able to use various devices smoothly and confidently. The volunteering experience not only made me more confident in communicating with people by showing what I am actually capable of, but also gave me a great opportunity of learning historical knowledge and local community life from these passionate learners.

# **OUR SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS**

Catalyst Foundation receives funding support from the Australian and South Australian Governments to address the needs of individuals, families, carers and the communities we serve and for this we are very grateful. As a charitable organisation, we also receive other forms of income to augment the increasing demands for services from communities or individuals. This is made possible with the commitment and generous support of the following organisations:

#### **Funding Bodies**

#### Australian Government

- · Department of Health
- Department of Veteran's Affairs
- Good Things Foundation (on behalf of Australian Government)

#### South Australian Government

- Department for Human Services
- Office for Ageing Well

#### **Event and Project Sponsors and Supporters**

**Enhanced Lifestyles** UniSA Health **BMV** Cabinets **XtraHomeCare** MS Society Bunnings - Parafield Assured Home Care TAFE SA Men's Shed - City of Playford Meaningful Ageing **NDSP** Elizabeth Grove Primary School AnglicareSA Uniting Care Wesley Bowden Kaurna Plains Children's Centre **HCA** Home Scooter World News Corp Australia Regis Aged Care Respirico Healthcare Quisk Family Wellness U City Link Magazine Living To The Max Mobo Group Coast FM Office for Ageing Well Telstra Radio Italiana

#### Collaborative Partners

Advocacy for Disability Access Australian Migrant Resource City of Burnside and Inclusion Centre City of Campbelltown African Communities Council of Australian Taxation Office City of Charles Sturt SA BFriend Advisory Committee City of Marion Aged Care Housing Group **CALD Ageing Alliance Carers** City of Playford **ACSA** Association of SA Chinese Country Health SA **ARAS** Welfare Services of SA Inc. Croatian City of Adelaide Aged Care Services

#### Collaborative Partners (cont.)

Dementia Australia (SA)

Department of Human Services

Eastern Regional Collaborative Project

**ECH** 

Greek Community Services of SA

Greek Welfare Services "St Philotei"

Helping Hand

Lebanese Information Centre in SA

LGBTI+ Ageing and Aged Care Network

Linking Futures

Multicultural Age Care Inc.

Multicultural Communities Council of

SA

Muslim Women's Association of SA

**National Seniors** 

NDIS LGBTIQA+ Network

Northern Carers Network - A Service

of Centacare Catholic Family Services

Northern Collaborative Project

Office for Ageing Well

Radio Adelaide

Reconciliation SA

Relationships Australia

SA Health CALD Working Group

South Australian Housing Authority -

Modbury

South Australian Residential Parks

Resident's Association

South Australian Retirement Village

Residents Association of SA

Southern Services Reform Group

Spanish Speaking Seniors Group in the

North "Inspiraciones"

St Louis Community Care

Turkindi Information Network

Ukrainian Social Services

**Uniting Communities** 

UnitingCare

Vietnamese Community of Australia,

SA Chapter

Volunteering SA & NT Inc.

Western Linkages CHSP





#### Memberships

In order to provide the best possible service quality and reliable information to those who require our support, we are a member or contributor to the following organisations and key committees/ forums:

Aged Care Housing Group (ACH) Business SA Human Services Chapter Cambodian Association of SA - CHSP Services Central Adelaide Local Health Network Consumer Advisory Council Centrelink Regional Multicultural Forum CO.AS.IT SA Inc. - Italian Assistance Association Coordinating Italian Committee of SA Inc (CIC) Council for Women of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Background Council on the Ageing SA (COTA SA) Policy Committee Department of Human Services Consultative Forum Department of Human Services -Regional Multicultural Advisory Group Ethnic Broadcasters Inc Greek Orthodox Community of SA Inc. - CHSP Reference Group Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex Ageing and Aged Care Network Migrant Women Support Services

Polish Women Association Reconciliation Australia Retirement Village Ministerial Advisory Committee SA Agency Liaison Group for the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency SA Community Transport Association SAFECOM Vulnerability Working Forum SA Reconciliation Action Plan stakeholder forum South Australian Council of Social Services The Filipino Seniors Group - "Ka Pamilya" The Society of St Hilarion Community Services Turkindi Information Service Ukrainian Social Services Uniting Communities - Multicultural Home Support Program Committee Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service Vietnamese Association of Australia, SA Chapter Vietnamese Women's Association of SA Inc.

Volunteering SA & NT

Young Care Australia

#### Auspicing

**National Seniors** 

Migrant Women's Lobby Group

Catalyst Foundation continues to support the valuable work of voluntary, unincorporated organisations. In 2019/2020 we supported and auspice the operation of the Advanced Care Planning Barossa Light Gawler Reference Group to support their work in the region to increase awareness of Advanced Care planning and its importance in planning for individual health needs and treatment requirements.



# facebook



.cacaryscrouridation.cc



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Catalyst Foundation



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(f) (in ) CATALYSTENDN