



SHINE for Kids®

support - hope - inspire - nurture - empower

# Annual Report 2013



Annual Report 2013 reflects the activities of SHINE for Kids Co-operative Limited for the period 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013.

# Acknowledgement of Country



SHINE for Kids recognises the Traditional Custodians of Australia and the local Aboriginal communities where SHINE for Kids provides services.

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A very big thankyou to Fuji Xerox Australia  
for generously printing this Annual Report for us.



## From our Patron

At its December 2012 meeting, I resigned as Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee (WAC) of Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW). I had been Chair since 2008 and believed it was time for a younger woman to take leadership.

The five years that I worked with this exceptional group of women (all giving their time voluntarily) was most enjoyable and rewarding.

In the 2010-2012 Report prepared for the Commissioner, I drew his attention to our focus on Aboriginal women inmates' issues.

The wellbeing of children of convicted mothers presents specific needs which are included in our advocacy and planning.

The WAC is preparing a research paper on Aboriginal women offenders, drawing attention to the need to recognise the importance of bonding and attachment for their babies.

I remain Patron of the Mothers' and Children's Program in CSNSW and attend meetings as often as possible.

In February I attended a consultation meeting with the NSW Law Reform Commission undertaking an examination of sentencing options. I asked that consideration be given to alternatives to custodial sentences for women offenders who have care of children, particularly infants. There is still no real recognition of the harm inflicted on children when they are separated from their mothers.

I enjoyed being with Helen and Gloria at a Commonwealth Day lunch at NSW Parliament House where the Hon. Max Willis presented me with a cheque for the SHINE for Kids mentoring programs.

At this lunch, Helen won an invitation for us to attend a function hosted by NSW Treasurer, the Hon. Mike Baird MP. I wish you could have heard Helen asking the Treasurer to consider the needs of children of prisoners

- a particular group deserving of a policy and funding focus by the State Government.

The appointment of a new Commissioner for CSNSW prompted me to request a meeting to report on the work of the WAC, and matters of concern about women offenders and their children. In March, Commissioner Peter Severin was very generous in giving me several hours of his time.

I particularly enjoyed speaking at two lunch functions at Silverwater in May. This allowed me to tell the assembled groups about the origins and conduct of the 'Children of Imprisoned Parents' report, which I presented to the NSW Parliament in 1997. It is still a valid document for reform.

I always stress that the recommendations were unanimous and declared that an alternative to imprisonment should always be sought if the woman offender has children in her care.

I look forward to continuing advocacy for these innocent children.

- Ann Symonds  
Patron, SHINE for Kids  
November 2013



## From our Chairman

Since our establishment more than 30 years ago, we have come a long way in fulfilling our mission to help, guide and rebuild the lives of the children of prisoners.

In line with our continuous efforts to support our programs, this year saw the launch of our first social enterprise, **Shine Café** at Silverwater Correctional Complex with the help of the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation. The café provides meals, snacks and beverages for visitors and staff. The café is run by Brett Cooper who is a qualified chef who trains a team of inmates and is also assisted by volunteers. The café venue has also helped us to raise awareness of the work of SHINE for Kids.

In the middle of the year, we hosted three Chairman's Lunches at the Shine Café. The purpose of these gatherings was both to educate people of the plight of the children of prisoners and to show how SHINE for Kids alleviates their suffering and supports them build brighter futures. The lunches garnered more than 140 attendees drawn from government and non-government agencies, corporates, academia and philanthropy, many of whom were new to the work of SHINE for Kids. We were fortunate that they all moved and inspired to support the cause by offering ongoing financial, voluntary and in-kind assistance to the organisation. We are deeply grateful for the effort they made to come to Silverwater and the generosity they showed and continue to show.

We invite you to join us at the café, grab a coffee and a bite to eat and meet Brett and the team!

I would also like to highlight our work with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, families and communities. Research has estimated that close to 1 in 5 Aboriginal children in Australia have had a parent in prison at some stage in their childhood. This is a terrible statistic and there is an urgent need to support as many Aboriginal children as possible who find themselves in this situation. 33% of the children assisted this year were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

SHINE for Kids has several culturally appropriate Aboriginal support programs like 'Belonging to Family' in Kempsey, NSW and 'Colourful Dreaming' in Junee, an art-based program designed to support Aboriginal young people who have a parent in jail and their fathers in Junee Correctional Centre. The talented participants of 'Colourful Dreaming' got the chance to showcase their artwork at the Wagga Wagga Art Gallery in celebration of NAIDOC 2013. Another exhibit entitled 'Comin' Home Soon' was also held at the Goulburn Regional Art Gallery and featured the art pieces of Aboriginal inmates at the Goulburn Correctional Centre. All of our programs, in addition to the ones above, involve working with Aboriginal children and being sensitive to their needs.

Thank you to our patron, Ann Symonds and our CEO, Gloria Larman, whose devotion to SHINE's mission has earned her a nomination to the Australian of the Year and Parramatta City Council Australia Day Awards this year. I would also like to acknowledge my fellow board members who give to the organisation over and above the requirements of the role, and welcome its new members:

**Patrick Garcia** Former Policy Director, Office of the NSW Premier and Senior Advisor, Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet. He is currently a fellow of the McKell Institute and a non-executive director with the Youth Action Policy Association. Pat's interest and experience in youth disadvantage and youth policy is significant to SHINE.

**Stephanie Lai** Chartered Accountant and former KPMG partner who has worked in the US, UK Australia and Asia. Stephanie is our new Treasurer and her vast experience in working across borders and different cultures is valuable to SHINE

**Carol Vale** Bachelor of Arts and Master in Indigenous Studies, Post-graduate diploma in Public Sector Leadership, owner - Vale Consultancy. Carol is a Dunghutti woman from NSW and has significant



who never stop devoting their time, compassion, skills and ingenuity to SHINE.

Because of these qualities, some of our staff and volunteers have been recognised by several organisations as Gloria Larman highlights in her report.

Finally, to continue to inspire us all, I urge everyone to hear Terence Smith's story, one of the former inmates in our 'Belonging to Family' program who shared his experience in a recent SBS' Living Black episode. Terence, a father who has been struggling to stay out of prison for the last three years, emphasised the invaluable assistance he received from SHINE for Kids to get his life back

experience in public policy with a particular emphasis on education and human services service delivery.

**Sue Woodward** Bachelor of Arts in Communications, Masters In Marketing Management. An experienced director and graduate of the 2012 Women on Boards Future Leaders Program, Sue brings to SHINE for Kids her strong leadership experience and extensive background in strategy and marketing management and implementation.

I also thank former members of the board who have contributed significantly – Arthur Begetis (Treasurer) and directors Kate Shaw, Kristi Huxtable and Helen Nezeritis. We are grateful for your commitment, enthusiasm and willingness to serve SHINE.

The board would like to acknowledge the hard work of the staff members. Their experience, professionalism, belief in the children and their commitment are most exemplary and without them, we could not achieve our mission. The same can also be said of our volunteers

on track and maintain his relationship with his children while he was locked up. (See more about this episode on page 55.)

Like Terence, who now has the courage to start a bright future for himself and for his family, may we all continue to shine and become an inspiration to more kids and families in the years to come.

- Helen Wiseman  
Chairman, SHINE for Kids  
November 2013





## The year in review

2012-2013 has been filled with both success and challenges for SHINE.

After several years of growth, this year saw a drop in revenue by 10% against a challenging economic backdrop. This impacted on the number of children and families we were able to support. Compared to last year's 5,058 we were able to support 4,439 individual children. (An additional 1,291 children were supported in more than one program; 5,692 children supported during the year in total.) This year we supported a larger proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island children (33% of all children) and Cultural & Linguistically Diverse children (1.9%), reflecting our strategy focus.

SHINE for Kids is fortunate to have a dedicated team of staff and volunteers. I thank our continuing staff members who continuously help achieve our goals under these difficult circumstances.

On a brighter note, challenging times allows for reflection and innovation and allows staff's diverse skills and passions to shine through. During the year we were able to streamline our delivery of programs, consolidate our administration and management structure. SHINE for Kids participated in research partnerships and external evaluation of programs as well commencing its first social enterprise. Staff have throughout the year engaged with community service providers and worked across the community to find new ways of working to support children, young people and their families.

### Research and studies

Ongoing research into the needs of children of prisoners in the ACT is being conducted by Australian Catholic University and is aimed toward determining the gap in our understanding of children whose parents are incarcerated. The findings will greatly help us in identifying the available support program information and data from ACT which will eventually help us in designing programs and services that will meet these

children's support needs. The completed study will be released in October 2013.

A final evaluation of our 'Belonging to Family' (BTF) program was also completed by the Matrix on Board this year. I am pleased to report that the study, which started in 2010, concludes that the program has performed positively in reducing recidivism and intergenerational offending based on the three-year evaluation. The specific findings are listed on page 54.

### Events and activities

In August 2012, with the support of the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, we opened the **Shine Café** at Silverwater. See page 8 for the full report. Our Chairman, Helen Wiseman, used our new venue to host three lunches informing attendees of the plight of the children with parents in prison. Well over a hundred people attended who were all new to SHINE's work and were inspired to support our cause.

Another fundraising event we held for the first time was the **Charity Golf Day** at the St. Michaels Golf Club. We were thrilled to have the famous Craig Parry at the event. Participants and sponsors were treated to another exciting golf day with PGA Teaching Professional and coach, John Serhan. See over the page for all the details of the day.

Our **community education seminars** were held in Taree and Kempsey this year and have received national endorsement from the Teachers Federation. I wish to thank the University of Technology, Shop Front Design students who assisted in developing marketing and promotional materials to support this program.

A number of art exhibitions and fundraising events for **'Colourful Dreaming'** were held during the year. Participants showcased their artworks at the Wagga Wagga Art Gallery in NAIDOC Week 2013 and at the Goulburn Regional Art Gallery in an exhibit called 'Comin' Home Soon'. The latter inspired a play of the





same title written by Alana Valentine which ran at the Lieder Theatre. The performance combined art and storytelling by Aboriginal children outside and the inmates at the Goulburn Correctional Centre.

Vodafone generously sponsored a combined **Christmas Party** for our families from Silverwater, Parklea and Windsor. 20 of their staff members spread the joy to the children in a wonderful celebration filled with presents, activities and goody bags for the kids.

SHINE for Kids also participated in a one day forum together with the Mental Health Coordinating Council (MHCC), collaborating partners Corrective Services NSW and MH-Kids NSW, to discuss the prevalence of mental health and co-existing concerns for children with parents in prison. This was a first in the state and attracted over 80 participants – different individuals, government agencies and organisations shared their knowledge, practices and service coordination in order to explore possible opportunities to help children of prisoners. I was asked to be one of the panelists, and I described the stigma experienced by children with imprisoned parents and how SHINE helps in rebuilding their lives through our programs and services.

In June 2013 I also participated in another forum held by the National Children's Commissioner Megan Mitchell. At **The Big Banter**, a national listening tour that aims to get the children's thoughts and prepare an agenda for the commissioner's term based on these responses, I raised the plight of children of prisoners so that their voices were heard as well.

## Acknowledgments

Throughout the year, our staff and board members have continuously given their support, guidance and governance to keep things going as smoothly as possible. Our passionate, talented staff are always finding new ways to work in partnership with many different agencies. It is through these on-the-ground local collaborations that SHINE for Kids is able to achieve its goals.

I wish to acknowledge two of our long-term staff members, **Sharon Mumford** and **Leeann Turley**, who left SHINE this year. Thanks for your dedication and commitment – we are very privileged to have had the opportunity to work with great people like you.

# The year in review

## Vale Noleen Hayson Pal

This year saw the passing of Noleen Hayson Pal.

Noleen joined SHINE for Kids in October 2010, volunteering on a regular basis at Parklea Child and Family Centre during the weekends. By 2011 Noleen was also giving her time during weekdays, providing assistance with running the office and the recruitment of fellow volunteers. Noleen also participated with the Child/Parent Activity Days and was a driver with the Children's Supported Transport Program.

Noleen was a single mother, raising two children on her own while studying law. Despite having limited time for herself she gave everything she had to support not only her own children but also the children of others, and to establishing a career within the criminal justice system.

Noleen was well respected and is warmly remembered by staff at SHINE for Kids, Corrective Services NSW and The GEO Group as selflessly assisting disadvantaged families across different programs and different Correctional Centres in metro Sydney. Noleen applied to work as a paid Children's Supported Transport Worker and was to be interviewed for this role.

Noleen died under very tragic circumstances in April 2013. Our thoughts are with her family including her two young sons and her parents.



In honour of Noleen's exceptional contribution to the wellbeing of so many children and their families, the Noleen Hayson Pal Memorial Volunteer Award will be established. Awarded to one SHINE for Kids volunteer annually, it will be announced during the Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinners hosted throughout NSW, Victoria and the ACT.

The following criteria will be used to select a volunteer who reminds us of the qualities we remember best about Noleen:

- Someone who volunteers regularly across two or more programs or services at SHINE for Kids
- Team player and mentor who provides fellow volunteers with moral support, practical advice and assistance
- Someone who volunteers regularly despite personal challenges or obstacles which would stop most people from volunteering in the first place
- The recipient of consistent positive feedback from stakeholders such as, for example, Corrective Services NSW staff, SHINE for Kids' own staff, The GEO Group, other government and non-government organisations, and of course from children or young people and their family members and friends.

I would also like to congratulate three women from our staff who have been recognised for their contribution in the their local communities:

- **Aunty Kath Withers** (Riverina Institute Art and Design Excellence Award)
- **Barbara Cohen** (Women of Macleay Award)
- **Maree Thomas** (recipient of the Wellington Australia Day Award)

We are all very proud of you! SHINE for Kids remain fortunate to have you and so many people who work together to rebuild the lives of many children.

Many thanks to our Patron Ann Symonds, our Chairman Helen Wiseman and the Board of Directors who are tireless in providing their leadership and unwavering support to SHINE's advocacy.

To our amazing team of hardworking volunteers – we couldn't do the work we do without you ... thank you for helping all of us shine more than ever through the years!

– Gloria Larman  
Chief Executive Officer  
November 2013

## 3.1 Charity Golf Day

The inaugural SHINE for Kids Charity Golf Day was held on Friday 21 September 2012 on the highly scenic course of St Michael's Golf Club in La Perouse NSW, overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Sponsored teams played a 4-man Ambrose and, after a successful auction bid, one lucky team played in the company golfing great Craig Parry, winner of 23 tournaments across the world.

After breakfast at the 10th tee, participants were treated to some entertaining tuition by PGA Teaching Professional John Serhan. With an 8.30am shotgun start, the game concluded around 1pm.

At the lunch following the game, prizes were awarded, raffles were drawn and general merriment was the order of the day.



All photos of our Charity Golf Day 2012 kind courtesy of Ben Cork, Corrective Services NSW



# 3

## The year in review

### 3.2 Shine Café

With the opportunity afforded by the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, the Shine Café at Silverwater Correctional Complex was officially opened on Tuesday 21 August 2012 with a ceremony emceed by SHINE for Kids CEO, Gloria Larman.

In the sunny courtyard, Helen Wiseman, Chairman of SHINE for Kids, began proceedings by outlining the concept and evolution of the Shine Café, especially the efforts of Project Officer Michael Stephens. After officials and dignitaries were welcomed by Ms Wiseman, Assistant Commissioner Brian Kelly was invited to join her to officially open the Shine Café. Guests then enjoyed refreshments and the café facilities.

The café is intended to deliver ongoing funding for SHINE's programs, while also providing meals, snacks and beverages to staff and visitors and opportunities for inmates to develop hospitality skills.

Over the 12 months of its operation, café manager Brett Cooper has steadily refined a select standard menu based on a modern Australian cuisine. Daily food

preparation ensures optimal freshness of ingredients for tastier, healthier dining.

Shine Café also caters for different events which include boardroom, buffet and finger food functions.

The café provides training for inmates, allowing them to develop hospitality skills that will prove valuable in obtaining employment on release. One particular inmate has been fostered by the close supervision of Cooper. Prior to his imprisonment this inmate ran his own café, and his familiarity with the hospitality sector extends to the WH&S procedures he applies in his work at the café.

Shine Café has a pleasant, tree-lined alfresco dining area, while inside, diners can watch the large wall-mounted TV or read books on the comfy lounge. Many patrons have remarked on the spacious, relaxed ambience of the café. The venue has been the setting for numerous SHINE for Kids events including the Chairman's Lunches held by Helen Wiseman and the organisation's AGM.







# Our supporters

## 4.1 Key partners

SHINE for Kids acknowledges the following financial and in-kind contributions:

### Non-Government

<b>The GEO Group Australia Pty Ltd</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child and Family Centres Junee &amp; Parklea</li> </ul>
<b>Aboriginal Child, Family and Community Care State Secretariat (NSW)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employment and support for an Aboriginal Cadet and Aboriginal Trainee</li> </ul>

### State Government

<b>Department of Attorney General and Justice – Corrective Services NSW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management &amp; administration of organisation</li> <li>Children's Supported Transport Service</li> <li>Child and Family Centres Silverwater, Windsor, Bathurst, Wellington, Cessnock, Kempsey</li> <li>Child/Parent Activity Days</li> <li>Video Visits Program</li> <li>Intake, assessment and referral for children and families</li> </ul>
– in-kind donations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff have donated toys and Christmas presents</li> <li>Buildings, electricity for our Child &amp; Family Centres &amp; head office</li> <li>Food for our Centres and sausages &amp; onions for our fundraising barbecues provided through Corrective Services Industries</li> </ul>
<b>Department of Attorney General and Justice – Juvenile Justice NSW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'Stand as One' mentoring program</li> </ul>
<b>Family &amp; Community Services NSW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early Intervention Placement and Prevention, Western Sydney</li> <li>Child and Family Centre Bathurst</li> <li>Delivery of Community Education Seminar in Western Sydney</li> <li>Updating, reprinting and distribution of 'Putting Your Child First'</li> </ul>
<b>The Department of Justice, Victoria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prison Invisits Program in Dame Phyllis Frost Centre and Barwon Prison</li> </ul>
<b>ACT Government – Justice and Community Safety Directorate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of Prison Invisits Program, Child/Parent Activity Days and Homework Program in Alexander Maconochie Centre</li> </ul>
<b>ACT Attorney General</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding support for the Prison Invisits Program and Homework Program in Alexander Maconochie Centre</li> </ul>
<b>ACT Health Promotion Grant</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs analysis 'Building resilience in a uniquely vulnerable group: children of prisoners'</li> </ul>

### Australian Government

<b>Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mentoring Program – Bathurst</li> <li>Casework and Central West Carers Group</li> <li>Educational support for children of prisoners</li> </ul>
<b>Indigenous Co-ordination Centres Wagga Wagga &amp; Dubbo</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NAIDOC Family Fun Day celebrations at Bathurst, Wellington &amp; Junee</li> </ul>
<b>Attorney-General's Department</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'Belonging to Family' Program – Kempsey</li> </ul>

## 4.2 Corporate support

### KPMG

Providing both financial and in-kind support. In-kind support has included:

- Monthly rooms and catering for Board of Directors and sub-committee meetings
- Staff participating in Child and Family Centres
- Staff becoming mentors for young people
- Staff involved in the Board of Directors of SHINE for Kids
- Financial support

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### Ashurst

- Legal expertise pro bono to SHINE for Kids
- Financial support

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### Fuji Xerox Australia

- Printing of publications, annual reports and Christmas cards
- Financial support
- Prizes for 30th Anniversary Gala Dinner Raffle

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### Thomson Reuters

- Accounting software and support

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### Microsoft

- Donation of software

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### Kennards Storage

- Donation of storage space
-



## Our supporters

### 4.3 In-kind support

Many, many organisations and individuals provide valuable in-kind support throughout the year, providing free entry tickets to a range of venues, providing Christmas presents, toys, children's books, vouchers, food, raffle prizes, computer equipment

The following list highlights the range of our supporters:

- 1001 Optical
- Airservices Australia
- Angela Tomaras
- Ashmont Hub, Wagga Wagga City Council
- Ashurst
- Atama Furniture
- Aunty Margaret Goneis
- Australian Golf Digest
- Barbara Mosely
- Bathurst Heights Bed & Breakfast, Oberon
- Bernadette Walsh
- Blacktown Auto Spares
- Calmsley Hill City Farm
- Canon Australia
- Danny's Seafood
- Dymock's
- Eastlake Golf Club
- Eastwood Centre
- Ezyline
- Fiona Daniels and John Stafford
- Fitness First Drummoyne
- Gai Waterhouse Stables
- Gibraltar Hotel, Bowral
- Gowrie Child Care Centre
- Hornsby-Waitara Trefoil Guild
- Inmates, Junee Correctional Centre
- Irene Khan
- Kaye Valder
- Kennards Self Storage
- Kooindah Waters Golf Club
- Kyla Platt
- Little Bay Cellars
- Lone Parent Family Support Service
- Margaret Achurch
- Marilyn Wright
- Maureen Powell
- Nambo Bandai Partners
- Nextmedia Pty Ltd
- Northcott Disability Service
- NSW Golf Club
- Officeworks, Wagga Wagga
- On-Pin GPS System
- Peter Hunt
- Peter Peters
- PGA of Australia
- Philip Campbell
- Proud Furniture
- Road Runner Mobile Mechanical Repairs
- Rotary Club of Turramurra
- Schweppes Australia
- Silverwater Correctional Complex Social Club
- Sporte Leisure
- Spotlight, Wagga Wagga
- St Michael's Golf Club
- Steggles
- Steves' Cool Booze
- Sydney Showboat
- Teddy Rock
- Thai Pathong Restaurant
- The Coast Golf Club
- The Lakes Golf Club
- Toyota
- Vern Taber
- Walkerden Golf
- Woolworths Emerton
- Zorica Novakovic



## 4.4 Donations and grants received

### Trusts and foundations

- Australia Youth Trust
- Coca-Cola Amatil Limited
- Commonwealth Bank
- Gandel Philanthropy
- Ivor Ronald Evans Foundation
- Jack Brockhoff Foundation
- Magistrates' Court of Victoria
- Newmans Own
- Pierce Armstrong Trust
- SHELL Company
- Telstra Foundation
- The Baker Foundation
- The Fairbridge Foundation
- The Hazel Peat Perpetual Charitable Trust
- The Ian Potter Foundation
- The Kimberley Foundation
- Todd Family Foundation Pty Ltd
- Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation
- Ward Family Foundation

### Business and club donations

- ARM
- Ageless Clinics
- Alouette Childcare
- Auburn Lidcombe Lions Club Inc
- Austen Brothers
- Bathurst Truckies Ball
- Beta Sigma PHI
- Burwood RSL Club
- Campsie RSL Sub-Branch Club Ltd
- Canley Heights RSL & Sporting
- Cessnock Supporters Club
- Chatswood RSL Club Limited
- Club Five Dock
- Dooleys Catholic Club Lidcombe
- Embracive Hair
- Enterprise & Training Company
- Family Day Care Australia Ltd
- Garde-Wilson Lawyers
- Grill'd Manuka
- Hornsby RSL Club
- Illawarra Catholic Club Limited
- Imalia CareCover Pty Ltd
- Infinite Theta Healing
- Lions Club of Crestwood Inc
- Matrix on Board Pty Ltd
- MM Migration
- Moco Insight
- NSW Compensation Lawyers
- Nunawading Viking Basketball Club
- Office Works Wagga Wagga
- Orange City Bowl
- Petersham RSL Club Limited
- PGi
- Quota International
- RACV
- Schweppes Australia Pty Ltd
- South Sydney Junior Rugby
- Spotless Group Limited
- St. Michael's Golf Club
- The Bankstown Trotting Recreational Club
- The Silverwater Social Club
- West Pennant Hills Sports Club Limited
- West Tamworth League Club Limited
- Wests Ashfield Leagues

### Club 1000 Supporters

- AC3
- Cookinvest Pty Limited
- Cyberdog Design
- Family Day Care Australia
- Imalia
- Yaltech Pty Ltd

### Workplace giving - staff donations

- Ashurst Australia
- Attorney General & Justice Department NSW
- KPMG

# 5

## Our people – Corporate Services

### 5.1 Overview

#### 5.1.1 Focus on fundraising

SHINE for Kids was founded as Children of Prisoners Support Group in 1982 by a group of dedicated volunteers. 13 months later the organisation received funding for its first paid worker. 31 years later, SHINE for Kids continues the great tradition of being driven by the incredible goodwill of our volunteers. For every staff member our organisation is lucky enough to have 10 more volunteers, assisting over the full breadth of our operations: the provision of services to clients; fundraising activities; public relations initiatives; consulting roles in governance, HR, finance, administration and legal advice.

Although our volunteers come from different walks of life their strong binding thread is a strong belief in the value of improving the lives of disadvantaged children and their families wherever we are able.

Throughout this financial year new volunteers have joined to assist in areas including:

- Shine Café
- Fundraising barbecues at Silverwater Correctional Centre
- Fundraising Chocolate Drives
- SHINE for Kids Board of Directors
- Mentoring Programs
- Child and Family Centres across NSW
- Prison Invisits Programs across NSW, Victoria and ACT
- Child/Parent Activity Days
- Fundraising events and programs
- Children's Supported Transport Program
- Volunteering one-off for special events
- Administration support at SHINE for Kids HQ
- Students and interns on placement across the organisation in both back office and frontline client service roles

#### 5.1.2 Focusing on volunteer recognition

In July 2012 we launched our new Volunteer Program Policy Framework which outlines our Vision and Principles for Volunteering and a Model Code of Practice. The Volunteer Program Policy Framework provides practical information for staff on how to recruit, support and retain volunteers but importantly, also emphasises the recognition of volunteers for their hard work and commitment.

From July 2012 to June 2013 the Volunteer Recognition Awards Committee made four very difficult selections: the exceptional volunteers who became the SHINE for Kids Volunteer of the Quarter from the many staff nominations.

It is difficult to choose an exceptional volunteer from any of our volunteers since all of them are already exceptional people who, despite having their own commitments and busy lives, strive to improve the lives of disadvantaged children.

Our Volunteers of the Quarter this year have been:

#### July-September 2012: LINDA IRELAND

**Volunteer with the Child and Family Centre Cessnock;  
Volunteer Recruitment; Advocacy Work and Training**



Linda's nomination is for someone who contributes ideas and resources for SHINE for Kids and is a strong advocate for SHINE in her local community area. She promotes the need for volunteers through word of mouth throughout her community, and also has offered to distribute and hand out SHINE pamphlets.

### October-December 2012: ROS BEETON

**Volunteer with the Prison Invisits Program, Alexander Maconochie Centre, Canberra**

Ros is a warm and welcoming person whom the families and children know and recognise; they're always excited to see her and on the rare occasion that she is unable to be with them, they ask where she is.

### January-March 2013: MORAG SUDGEN

**Volunteer with the Bathurst Education Program; Child and Family Centre Bathurst; School Holiday Outings**

Morag Sugden's nomination describes her as someone who has developed a great rapport with a number of the children on the Education Program, who benefit from her reliability, consistency and determination. Morag assists with our other programs in Bathurst such as the

Child and Family Centre and School Holiday Outings. Morag is always keen to learn new things and help the children in all facets of their educational and social development.

### April-June 2013: ANTHONY CARR

**Volunteer, Fundraising Barbecue, Silverwater**

From late 2012 to mid-2013 Tony Carr and his wife Brigitte (Kitty) ran the fundraising barbecue at Silverwater Correctional Centre to feed staff and visitors every Saturday and Sunday. Their lively service filled a gap for visitors with little time to purchase hot food and drinks. Proceeds from the sales have been allocated to various SHINE for Kids services.

Although the couple have busy lives and commitments they found time to volunteer each Saturday and Sunday, until, unfortunately, Tony became ill. Tony has been missed by staff at SHINE for Kids, and visitors have relayed their wishes for his speedy recovery.

Our Volunteers of the Quarter are listed on our website [www.shineforkids.org.au/volunteers/volunteer\\_of\\_the\\_quarter.htm](http://www.shineforkids.org.au/volunteers/volunteer_of_the_quarter.htm)

## 5.1.3 Focus on fundraising

The establishment of the SHINE for Kids' Volunteer Fundraising Team has enhanced SHINE for Kids' capacity to initiate fundraising innovations. We have specifically recruited fundraising volunteers to assist at the Shine Café at Silverwater Correctional Centre with kitchen duties, taking orders and serving the customers.

Fundraising chocolate campaigns have been conducted in several NSW correctional centres. Through their correctional centre's "buy up" system, inmates purchase chocolates from SHINE for Kids. Volunteers have assisted with the packing and delivery of the chocolate orders for hundreds of inmates across NSW.

Other initiatives include weekend fundraising barbecues and corporate fundraising events.

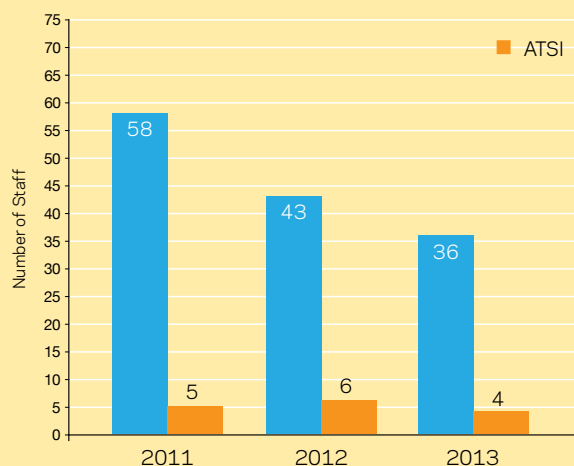
Although times are challenging across the business, government and not-for-profit sectors, SHINE for Kids continues to thrive due to the combined efforts of both our paid staff and volunteers. This has positioned SHINE for Kids to achieve further growth and pursue new opportunities in the short and long term future.

**- Alex Maniquis  
Manager Corporate Services**

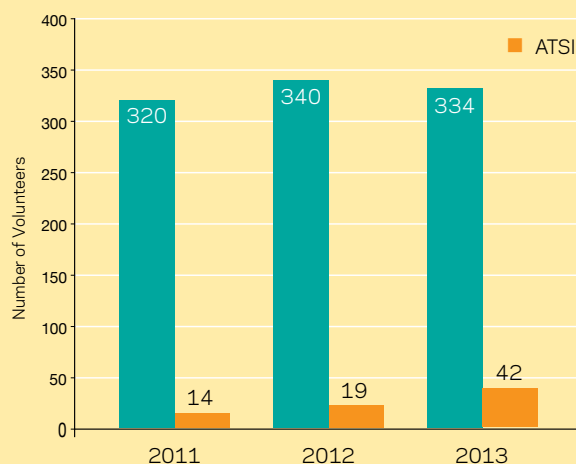
# Our people – Corporate Services

Staff and clients	30 June 2011	30 June 2012	30 June 2013
Total number of staff	58	43	36
ATSI staff	5 (8%)	6 (13%)	4 (11%)
Total number of volunteers	320	340	334
ATSI volunteers	14 (4%)	19 (5%)	42 (13%)

Total number of staff

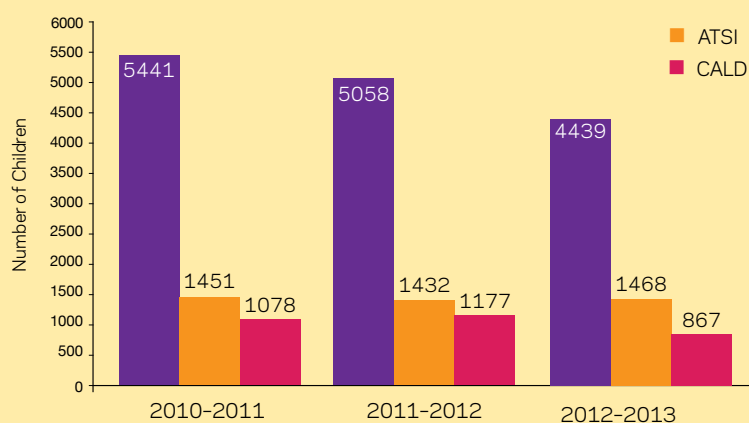


Total number of volunteers



Total numbers of children	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Total number of individual children supported	5441	5058	4439
Total number of ATSI children supported	1451 (27%)	1432 (27%)	1468 (33%)
Total number of CALD children supported	1078 (20%)	1177 (22%)	867 (19%)

Total number of individual children supported



## 5.2 Volunteer stories

### Zola, Prison Invisits Program, Victoria

I volunteer for SHINE because I believe that every child deserves the opportunity to feel safe, happy, included and supported, and to be given an equal start in life.

Every time I go into the prison and witness a loving interaction between a child and their father, and when kids tell me that they look forward to Sundays because they get to do drawings for Dad, it's really heartening to know that we are facilitating these positive interactions, and supporting these kids.

Many friends and family ask me if I find going into the prison scary or threatening, or if it's difficult interacting with the prisoners, but to be honest, the only interactions that I have had with both corrections staff, prisoners, and families, have been very polite and extremely positive. I believe this program brings a ray of light into the prisons, which has a positive effect not only on the children visiting, but on the place as a whole.

I am so very fortunate to have a family with loving parents, a brother, grandparents and extended family who have always been there to support and encourage me, and provided a good home, food and education, to enable me to reach my full potential. Many children, through no fault of their own, don't have this kind of start in life, and I believe that those in society who have been privileged have a duty to support these children, to help them to reach their full potential, and to SHINE.

### Kristy, Prison Invisits Program, Victoria

I first started volunteering for SHINE for Kids as a university requirement, but then I couldn't bring myself to leave the organisation. SHINE really does make a difference, it focuses on creating that child-parent bond, which is very important.

Every time I volunteer I not only gain deeper knowledge of the justice system, seeing the children smile and enjoying themselves is always a rewarding moment. It's difficult not get too attached to the children, it's important to show you care and that you're there for them, but there are specific ethical guidelines that you have to keep in mind.

I like helping others because it is important to give back to the community. When you know you're making a difference, not only is it self-rewarding but you know that your presence can motivate and/or influence a child to change their life in a positive way.

### Dennis, Children's Supported Transport Service and Prison Invisits Program, NSW

Having fun art activities for children within a harsh prison environment means the visit experience can be much more positive and helps them connect to their parents. I find this very rewarding.

My father was in prison when I was in my teens. There was no SHINE back then so he was simply out of my life for six months. When I was leaving Silverwater Women's after a visit, a beautiful little girl of about twelve was extremely distraught at having to say goodbye to her mother. It brought back my time as a teenager. I can use my experiences to help the kids I transport.

My most challenging time was when I heard of the death in custody of a mum whose 7-year-old son I'd transported to see her the previous Christmas.

Every moment I can bring children and parent together is rewarding. I have become passionate about my job. I think most people like helping others but don't go looking for the opportunity, or they find it too confronting. We all have a will but making that will become action is a different matter.

I volunteer for SHINE because I feel like I am giving back to society. I can make a difference to children's lives. SHINE is not a beauracrat-laden organisation and they cut to the chase, allowing my volunteering to be maximised.

### Anne\*, Prison Invisits Program, Victoria

One day I was sitting on the protection side and a girl about nine years old kept looking over at me. I went over to her and her father to let them know about SHINE and that the girl was welcome to participate. She told me that she thought I was police until she saw my visitor pass and asked if I had to go through all the checks to get in. I believe it was her first time in the prison visiting her dad. She was very polite and told me about how she lived on a farm and asked if she could do the next activity. I really felt that the art experience helped her deal with entering MRC for the first time.

**\* Name has been changed**



# The team at SHINE for Kids

## 6.1 Our management\*

### Patron

Ms Ann Symonds

### Board of Management

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Helen Wiseman	Chair
Stephanie Lai	Treasurer
Jae Kang	Secretary
Paul Freeman	Deputy Chair
Jonathan Arthur	Director
Graham West	Director
Patrick Garcia	Director
Sue Woodward	Director
Carol Vale	Director
Gloria Larman	Chief Executive Officer

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## 6.2 Our staff\*

<b>Head office</b>	Gloria Larman Wendy Barnert Melissa Badrov Alex Maniquis Michelle Moxon Allirra Danks Kate D'Arney Karen Schubert	Chief Executive Officer Finance Manager Payroll Officer Manager, Corporate Services Executive Assistant to the CEO Receptionist Events Assistant Events Assistant
<b>Silverwater</b>	Robert Palmer Megan Shepherd Kylie Chemouni Benjamin Green Brett Cooper Nicole Weaver Samantha Rahal Ashley Nelson Danniella Yalda	Co-ordinator, Children's Supported Transport Program Team Leader, Mentoring & EIPP Casework Child and Family Worker Intake and Assessment Case Worker Café Manager Supported Transport Worker Supported Transport Worker Supported Transport Worker Supported Transport Worker
<b>Parklea</b>	Sharon Tooney	Child and Family Worker
<b>Windsor</b>	Susan Plunkett Lamia Robalino	Facilitator, Child/Parent Activity Days & 'Story Time' Child and Family Worker
<b>Bathurst</b>	Kelli-ann Buss Louise Arnold Trish Carr Aranni Page	Regional Team Leader, Child and Family Worker Carers Group Facilitator Education Worker Child and Family Worker
<b>Cessnock</b>	David Fitzgibbon	Child and Family Worker
<b>Wellington</b>	Michelle Clare Tanya March	Child and Family Worker Child and Family Worker
<b>Kariong</b>	Jakeoleen Carroll	Mentoring Project Worker Juvenile Justice
<b>June</b>	Kelly Reynolds Tamara Makeham Kath Withers	Child and Family Worker Child and Family Worker Aboriginal Elder 'Colourful Dreaming'
<b>Kempsey</b>	Barbara Cohen Lloyd Gibbs	Aboriginal Group Worker Aboriginal Group Worker
<b>Canberra</b>	Anna Cater	Prison Invisits Program, Homework Program
<b>Footscray</b>	Michael Wells	Manager Victoria

\* As at 30 June 2013

# Our programs & services NSW

## 7.1 Group Work NSW

### 7.1.1 Overview

Group Work involves the following range of programs:

- Schools Group Program
- School Holiday Program & Daytrips
- Central West Carers Group

### Aims of Group Work

Group Work is designed to:

- Enable the children to talk openly about their experience of having a parent in prison
- Validate each child's experience
- Explore some of the stigma and reduce feelings of isolation and shame associated with having a parent in prison
- Encourage healthy expression of difficult feelings
- Acknowledge and improve awareness of personal strengths and build on these strengths to fortify their resilience
- Identify and learn coping skills
- Identify local support networks.

The purpose of our program is to help each child identify and build on their strengths.

### How the programs operate

- Run separately for different age groups
- 6–10 children participate in each group
- Group sessions take place weekly for 1–1.5 hours
- Groups are facilitated by a trained SHINE for Kids Group Worker, who is generally supported by a school counsellor (where possible), or a SHINE for Kids student or volunteer
- Held in a range of community venues and schools

A variety of creative media are used to help the children express their feelings and experiences. The group work sessions are very interactive with a strong component of learning delivered by way of visual stimuli, art and craft activities and group interaction.

Just being part of a peer support group is therapeutic as children discover they are not alone, that there are many other children who have similar experiences.

### Her own treasure chest of strength

7-year-old Lucy was referred to the Group Work program by her school principal. In Lucy's first group work session she presented as extremely isolated, disempowered and was very withdrawn. Lucy had witnessed her parents' violent relationship and watched her father cycle in and out of prison. Her mother also suffered from mental illness and often struggled to offer Lucy the emotional support she needed.

Through gentle guidance and given a safe place to explore her feelings, Lucy became more confident and began to open up about her situation and how she felt. Lucy thoroughly enjoyed making a "personal strengths treasure chest" which she filled with words describing her own strengths and others she wanted to develop. The following week Lucy commented that when she was being yelled at at home and told she was stupid, she took out her "strengths box" and looked through all the words she had placed in there. "This made me feel better 'cause I know I am all those good things and not the bad things I get told."

### 7.1.2 Schools Group Program (Sydney)

During 2012–2013 the Schools Group Program operated throughout the Blacktown LGA. Held for 1.5 hours on a weekly basis over an eight-week period, the sessions are co-facilitated by either a SHINE for Kids volunteer or a staff member of the school, being either a specialist support teacher or a school counsellor.

The children attending group all have similar experiences of stigma and isolation, but group work connects them with supportive peers. At the end of the

program the children say they feel more connected, better understand their feelings, and actively seek out support when it's needed.

At the completion of each Schools Group an outing celebrates individual and group accomplishments. One group celebrated at the local ten pin bowling alley. The cohesiveness created during the program was obvious in the way the children supported and encouraged each other during their games.

### 7.1.3 School Holiday Program and Daytrips

The School Holiday Program and Daytrips allow children and young people to come together and enjoy activities with other children experiencing parental incarceration. They can build relationships and support networks with their peers, in activities which they may never otherwise experience due to financial issues and time constraints on their families.

Each child attending School Holiday outings is provided with transport, offered lunch and snacks throughout the day. SHINE for Kids funds the day's activities, which also give the children's carers some respite during the busy holiday period.

The program has recently supported an increasing number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

#### Learning about cyberbullying in Bathurst

The School Holiday Outing held over Easter 2013 saw 18 children invited to our Bathurst Child and Family Centre for a day of activities and fun. The outing, *Cyberbullying 2.0*, was resourced by cyber[smart:] and a local Telstra centre.

The content was tailored to suit the wide range of the children's ages, from 5-14. A special PowerPoint presentation demonstrated the causes and effects of cyberbullying. The children then divided into groups to write something positive about another group member; they then read out comments written about them by other children. At the conclusion of the activities the children had a great understanding of the impacts of bullying and cyberbullying, and practical strategies to employ if they experience them. Volunteers then guided the children through a variety of art and craft activities. The children also really enjoyed their very 'colourful' taco lunch: six different grated vegetables and a healthy lean mince.

Group Work Programs	Schools Group Program		School Holiday Program and Daytrips	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
*2011-2012 **2012-2013				
Number of times children attended	127	83	93	49
Number of individual children who attended	24	12	71	25
Number of groups facilitated	3	2	10	N/A
Number of group sessions	22	16	-	-
Percentage of children identifying as CALD	4%	0	8%	0%
Percentage of children identifying as ATSI	50%	16%	53%	76%

### 7.1.4 Central West Carers Group

Located in Bathurst NSW, the Central West Carers Group assists and supports carers of children with a parent or relative involved in the criminal justice system. Once a fortnight the group facilitator presents information to assist the carers with issues such as financial assistance, housing, transport, advocacy, child development and behaviour. This is prepared by a guest speaker, an agency visit or information given to the group gathering within the centre.

On the weeks between group sessions, one-to-one sessions focus on the needs of particular individuals and from these discussions the client may be referred to any local services that can assist them further. This carer's group provides the members with emotional support in a group setting with other members who have similar experiences, or that one-to-one time they need in an informal and non-judgmental setting where they can be comfortable.

# Our programs & services NSW

## Cooking for National Families Week

During National Families Week, the Carers Group embraced the 2013 theme of 'Getting the Balance Right' with a special cooking class on Monday 20 May in the kitchen of the Child and Family Centre Bathurst. A month before, a local dietician had provided each of the women with a 'healthy cooking bible', listing a range of recipes that were inexpensive and easy to make. The group prepared delicious, healthy dishes such as a

zucchini slice with a tossed green salad, and a Weetbix slice – a yummy, nutritious addition to their children's lunch boxes.

The women discussed different strategies they use within their homes to achieve a good balance between family, work and play. Leftovers were taken home to share with their families. The day has really inspired the women to get into the kitchen with their children and their new cookbooks!

## Supporting a grandmother with an unhappy teenager

A regular, long-standing group attendee is a grandmother to six children whose father is incarcerated. She has cared for all the children since they were very young, the eldest is now being 20 years old. Recently the youngest child, who had just turned 13, was skipping school, missing her mother who abandoned her as a baby, and was generally unhappy. The group facilitator set up a meeting with Youth Connections for the grandmother and young girl, but this was cancelled as the girl refused to attend.

Grandma often just comes to the Centre for a cuppa and chat to express her concerns and get much-needed feedback and advocacy to support her decision-making. The resulting confidence has allowed her to enrol her granddaughter in a new school to improve her attendance. They now have the girl in a special class that has improved her concentration and attitude dramatically.

## Bushy's Tucker Patch

Established last year, our community garden is now a memorial for a previous group member and elder who passed away last year. Two murals have been erected behind it: one is the name of the garden, "Bushy's Tucker Patch", the other a cultural painting with the client's grandchildren's hand prints on it. Group members were invited to place their hand prints on it as well to show their love and respect for their friend.



Central West Carers Group	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of times women attended the program	92	50
Number of individual women who attended the program	22	20

## 7.2 Child and Family Centres

### 7.2.1 Overview

Funding and buildings for the Child and Family Centres come from a range of sources including:

- Corrective Services NSW & Corrective Services Industries
- Family and Community Services NSW (Contribution to Bathurst Centre)
- The GEO Group (Junee and Parklea)
- Philanthropic donations
- ClubGRANTS

SHINE for Kids has eight Child and Family Centres located at Silverwater, Parklea, Windsor, Bathurst, Cessnock, Junee, and Wellington. The Kempsey Centre is due to recommence operations in early 2014.

All the Centres host a variety of services and are open Saturday and Sundays with Silverwater, Windsor and Parklea providing support seven days a week for children and families. Services include: pre-booked child minding, weekend activity and play sessions, and Drop-in Service (see below). The Centres also provide an important mechanism for promoting all the services and programs offered by SHINE for Kids.

#### Our Child and Family Centres are vital

Visiting mum or dad in prison can be a daunting experience. Many visits areas are not child-friendly nor are conducive to relaxed visits with Mum or Dad. Our Centres are designed to break up the visit for children and give them time out to “just be kids” and play with others in their situation. Children and young people can visit their parents before or after these play sessions and instead of becoming bored or restless, they enjoy the visit experience. And while their children are in our Centres, parents and carers in the visiting area are able to talk without their children overhearing. Our reputation allows parents to feel secure that their children are safe in our Centres.

On weekends our Centres offer play, educational and creative activities to children and young people of all ages. There is no need for secrets, no need to avoid talking about their mum or dad. This peer support helps reduce feelings of isolation and being alone.

Links with community agencies are vital, providing support to families who are often unaware of services available to them. Families have been referred to Aboriginal community groups, TAFE and university

support services, career centres and financial support networks and services.

During the year we celebrate a range of diverse events including the ever-popular Christmas Parties (see page 26), Mothers and Fathers Days with craft and card-making, NAIDOC Family Fun Days, Volunteers Week, Australia Day, Chinese New Year, Easter, ANZAC Day, Halloween, Moon Harvest, PolyFest (Junee) and Bathurst 1000 (Bathurst).

#### Drop-in Service

The Drop-in Service at our Child and Family Centres is well utilised by families visiting the correctional centres, who can drop in before or after a visit for a cuppa and a chat, and to discuss any additional services they may require as circumstances change from week to week. They have others to talk to, share stories with, and dispel feelings of isolation.

At Windsor – which has three prisons in the complex – and Bathurst, Drop-in provides an important relief to visiting families facing limited public transport, long travel distances and often extreme weather. Families waiting for the buses to the railway stations are grateful to have shelter and somewhere safe for the children.

#### Volunteer involvement

SHINE for Kids staff are assisted week after week by a dedicated team of volunteers. Our volunteers are a major component in the success of our programs, as the value of their time has been estimated at at least \$104,000 annually. We rely on our team of volunteers to keep our doors open, offering their time, energy, ideas, play skills and generosity of spirit to support the children.





# Our programs & services NSW

## 7.2.2 Child and Family Centres around NSW

### Bathurst

At Bathurst, visitors appreciate the consistency of the Activity Sessions, Invisits sessions and Drop-in Service made possible by a talented team of 20 volunteers.

Newman's Own Foundation has very generously donated a new Kia Carnival to the Bathurst Centre. The Kia has already proven very beneficial to the School Holiday outings and other programs at Bathurst. The car will play an important role in allowing children and young people to partake in activities which enhance their connections with their community.

### Parklea

During each school holidays we hold Child/Parent Activity Days at the Centre, which are a great success and very popular with the participants. Activities are



both indoor and outdoor and we also provide morning tea and lunch. The inmate fathers have sole care of their children for four hours, getting to just be a dad.



### They even brought their friends along

A mother and her 5 children aged 5-17 travelled each weekend from Nowra to see their loved one in OMMPC in Windsor. SHINE provided our Drop-In Service and Activity Sessions to the family who all enjoyed visiting the Child and Family Centre. While the mother appreciated the refreshments, the older children would set up their own football game at Activity Sessions and would involve almost every other child in the fun. Indeed they enjoyed themselves so much the kids sometimes even brought friends along to the visit just for the Activity Sessions!

When the father was released, the whole family came to the Child and Family Centre the following Saturday to presented a bunch of flowers to staff as thanks for our support and encouragement to the mother and a respite from the impacts of isolation and stigma for the whole family

### 7.2.3 Christmas 2012 at SHINE

This time of year can be quite daunting and sad for our families due to the fact that they are separated from their incarcerated loved ones at a time when all those around them are planning special family occasions. SHINE for Kids always ensures that our Christmas Parties, held at various Child and Family Centres are events where families can support one another in a safe environment and have a lot of fun. The children who regularly attend our Christmas Parties identify them as the highlight of the year and this year was no exception.

The Bathurst Christmas Party was attended by over sixty people and nine volunteers. As well as the appearance of Santa, there was a jumping castle, while Bianca Video Disco provided music, dancing to Nutbush City Limits, and games like Pass the Parcel.

Through the generosity and support of Vodafone Australia, a combined event was held for families supported by the Child and Family Centres at Silverwater, Parklea and Windsor. 108 children arrived at the Child and Family Centre Silverwater with their carers, attended by 30 volunteers, including 26 from Vodafone Australia, and a number of SHINE for Kids staff. The Centre was transformed into Santa's Grotto, decorated throughout with balloons and streamers. Activities included: a jumping castle; a live animal kindifarm; face painting; a craft table

to make loved ones Christmas Cards and hanging decorations; cupcake decorating and a sideshow alley that included a ring toss, bowling alley, a 'hook-fish' game and a tug-o-war.

The sausage sizzle was very popular, as was the wide variety of other food, drink and snack options. The highlight was of course the arrival of Santa Claus, who gave every child an individually tagged gift bag containing gifts, toys and lollies. All the gifts were generously donated by a number of organisations that included the Salvation Army, Vodafone Australia and The Rotary Club 'Tree of Joy'.

During this Christmas Party many of the families were getting phone calls from their fathers inside the correctional centre, checking to make sure the children had got to the party safely, were having fun and asking them about the activities. One inmate had been calling his wife all morning to make sure they weren't late, as he did not want his children to miss such a fun, positive experience. He also told the children that he was Santa's helper and that he had helped to set up the party and organise their presents. His wife said that even though this was a party for the children her husband felt like it was a gift to him as well, as he was happy knowing his family were close to him and having such a good time.

Christmas Parties 2012	S'water*	Parklea*	Windsor*	S'water*	Bathurst		Cessnock		Wellington		Junee	
	2011	2011	2011	2012*	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Number of individual children who attended the events	35	13	16	108	40	42	17	20	87	N/A	17	4
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	57%	N/A	60%	38%	2%	2%	0%	10%	0%	N/A	0%	0%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	0%	N/A	13%	26%	30%	35%	0%	15%	62%	N/A	22%	100%
Number of volunteers assisting with the event	14	8	6	30	7	8	3	2	7	N/A	4	1

\* Families supported by the three Sydney Centres attended a combined party at Silverwater in 2012.



# Our programs & services NSW

## Wellington

Wellington Child and Family Centre has seen many changes this year. The centre closed for short time for building maintenance, and also had a significant staff change. Maree Thomas, our Child and Family Worker at Wellington for nearly 6 years, took up a new position as local Communities for Children co-ordinator. As Tanya March joined the SHINE for Kids family early in December 2013 the Centre resumed providing Activity Sessions, Prison Invisits and Drop-ins.

The correctional centre staff are very supportive; for Invisits they have providing a storeroom for the numerous tubs of games, crafts and other items used during the sessions. The grounds of the Activity Centre are maintained to a high standard with shade sails and within the cottage, the air conditioning is soon to be upgraded.

Our other exciting news is the commencement of volunteers who will allow us to hold Child and Family Days which have been much requested by inmates and their families.



### "I will never forget what you did for my family"

A family had become homeless and after some phone calls to a number of services our Parklea staff were able to get them emergency housing in a motel for two nights. The grateful mother had been bracing herself for a night in her car with her toddler son. While in the motel she secured a granny flat for herself and her child.

The next weekend she was with her son visiting her inmate husband, looking very happy. Her husband thanked us "for what you have done for my wife and son ... I was so worried that she would have to sleep in the car until she found a place of her own. You rescued them, and I will never forget what you did."

Although the inmate has been transferred to another correctional centre, the mother still rings us every two to three weeks just to say hello.

### Welcome to the fold!

Holding Prison Invisits and Activity Sessions on a weekly basis provides the consistency which builds relationships with children/young people and their families. A brother and sister aged 8 and 10 took part in an origami activity provided during Invisits at Wellington to mark Chinese New Year. During subsequent visits both children requested more origami activities and then also shared origami techniques with our Child and Family Worker. Now the children's mother donates the children's old toys to the Wellington Child and Family Centre.

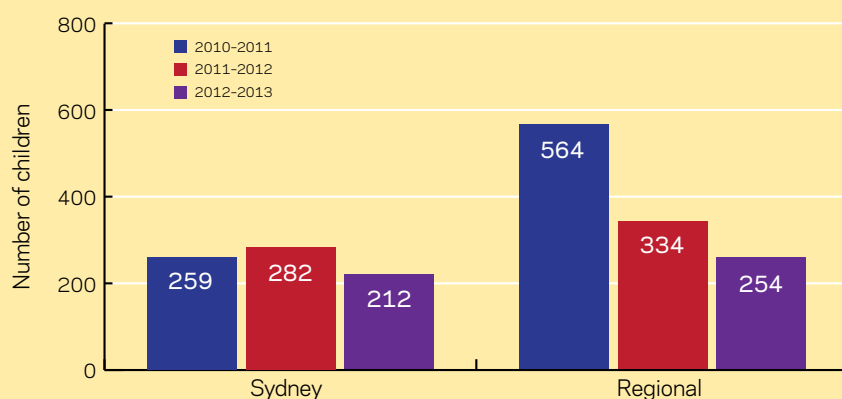
## Child and Family Centres - Individually

\* 2011-2012 \*\* 2012-2013

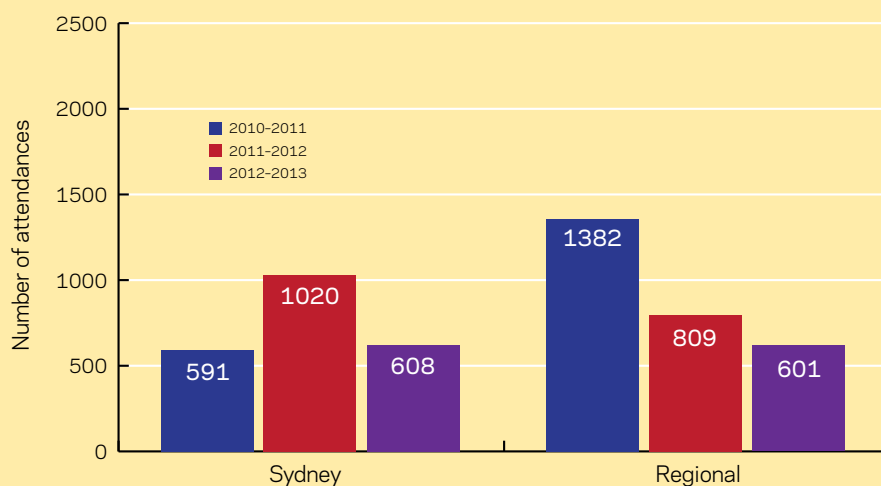
	Silverwater		Parklea	
	2012*	2013*	2012	2013
Number of times children attended the centre	728	387	96	24
Number of individual children who attended the centre	130	126	33	12
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	31%	9%	5%	1%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	7%	6%	1%	5%
Number of times adults dropped in for support	242	159	81	105
Number of times children dropped in with their carer	430	268	101	182

Child and Family Centres - Totals	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of individual children supported - Sydney*	259	282	212
Number of individual children supported - Regional**	564	334	254
Children's attendance at all our Child and Family Centres	1973	1829	1209

Numbers of individual children supported



Numbers of attendances



\* Sydney: Silverwater, Parklea and Windsor  
 \*\* Regional: Bathurst, Cessnock, Wellington and Junee

Windsor		Bathurst		Cessnock		Wellington		Junee	
2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
196	197	445	394	39	28	86	77	239	102
119	74	165	137	20	25	50	22	99	70
18%	18%	9%	2%	65%	20%	0%	0%	2.5%	2.5%
22%	18%	71%	8.2%	15%	4%	68%	10.7%	25%	37%
511	316	37	28	10	1	N/A	0	49	13
438	540	40	43	13	0	N/A	0	50	28

# Our programs & services NSW

## 7.3 Prison Invisits Program

### 7.3.1 Overview

This initiative provides activities within the visits area of correctional centres to occupy children while visiting a parent. This much-needed program complements the services provided by our Child and Family Centres.

In 2012-2013 the program operated in nine correctional centres in NSW:

- Metropolitan Remand & Reception Centre, NSW
- Silverwater Women's, NSW
- Parklea, NSW
- John Moroney, NSW
- Dillwynia Women's, NSW
- Bathurst NSW
- Cessnock, NSW
- Junee, NSW
- Wellington, NSW

The Prison Invisits Program allows children aged 0-17 years attending the prison's visiting area to participate in a wide range of age-suitable art and craft activities. This year children participated 7,663 times.

Children benefit from continuing their bond with their incarcerated parent by engaging with them in a board game, craft or simply interacting while playing with the toys we make available. This ensures the child has a positive, fun memory of their visit to their parent. Children also have the opportunity to create a special drawing, which SHINE for Kids sends to their parent.

The children are always happy to see our worker or volunteer and run to our activities area. On occasion, children may ask to take a stencil and colouring pencils back to the table where their mum, aunty, grandmother or friend would be sitting so they can still have that extra time with them. The inmates are very grateful for SHINE supporting their children during this difficult transition in their lives. The visit officers often comment on the good work being done by SHINE for Kids.

Prison Invisits also use craft and special activities to celebrate events like Mother's and Father's Days, NAIDOC Week, Easter, Christmas, Chinese New Year and Children's Week.

### 7.3.2 Operations around NSW

Cessnock typifies an Invisits Program schedule, running from 10.00am to 11.30am and again from 1.00pm to 2.40pm, or to 3.30pm if a volunteer is available, with a range of activities: art/craft, board games, puzzles, construction sets, cars, farm animals, dinosaurs, DVDs, books, baby/toddler toys. The program allows time for the children to be with their dad, do an activity and then return to their dad.

Wellington had a very busy Easter with Invisits full of children. As well as chocolate Easter eggs, we provided face painting and Easter crafts such as cards for the children to make for or with their families.

Prison Invisits at the Mid North Coast Correctional Centre are due to recommence in November 2013.

Prison Invisits Program *2011-2012 **2012-2013	MRRC		Silverwater Women's		Parklea	
	2012*	2013**	2012	2013	2012	2013
Number of times children attended the program	1189	560	17	187	2259	2230
Number of individual children who attended the program	360	280	14	99	625	615
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	12%	18%	21%	9%	21%	26%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	38%	9%	14%	9%	13%	14%

### Kings of the castle

For Father's Day the children in MRRC were busy creating cards and paper crowns, which had labels like "WORLD'S BEST DAD" or "KING OF THE CASTLE". Of course the children also made crowns for themselves. It was great looking out to the visiting area with so many dads and their families wearing their crowns. Over the next few weeks we received great feedback from the fathers, thanking us for sending through their cards. One father said it was very hard to be separated from his children on Father's Day but to receive cards made by his children was a very special surprise. This program benefits the children and carers – and the inmates.

### An opportunity to provide other help

A mum and her two daughters received support from SHINE for Kids Cessnock for approximately two and a half years in the forms of Prison Invisits, Activity Sessions and Child/Parent Activity Days. The mother also made use of the Drop-in Service to talk about her situation at home and the effect it was having, especially on the children.

Our services provided the dad with both quality time with his children, and time alone with his partner while the children were at our Child and Family Centre. During drop-in time SHINE provided contact details for community support agencies to try and help with her home situation. SHINE also provided a support letter for the father to help him obtain a transfer to Sydney where he would be closer to home. Both the mum and the dad personally thanked the Child and Family Worker for the help and support that they and the children had been given.

### Exhausted but happy

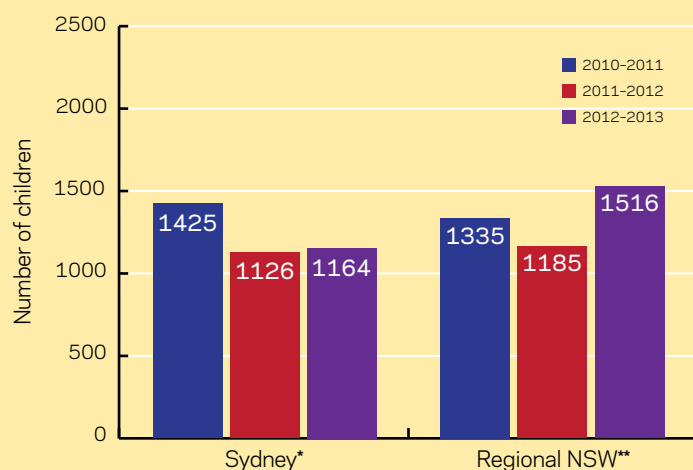
A father involved in the 'Colourful Dreaming' program at Junee had a child in the care of Community Services. The first time the inmate and child participated in a Child/Parent Activity Day, the child's carer and case worker attended while the father accompanied his child in the various activities. On the next Activity Day the Community Services worker did not attend, allowing the father to relax and enjoy the quality time with his child, being constantly engaged, rebuilding their relationship. At the end of the day, the father was exhausted, but his smiles continued long after the activities concluded.

John Morony		Dillwynia		Bathurst		Wellington		Cessnock		Junee		Mid North Coast	
2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
-	332	532	473	38	208	831	1374	794	1100	796	1199	344	-
-	102	127	68	24	102	320	511	197	263	562	640	82	-
-	10%	41%	6%	1%	4.5%	3%	12.3%	33%	22%	8.5%	6.8%	12%	-
-	9%	17%	3%	5%	13.5%	62%	37.3%	10%	27%	31.5%	11.6%	43%	-

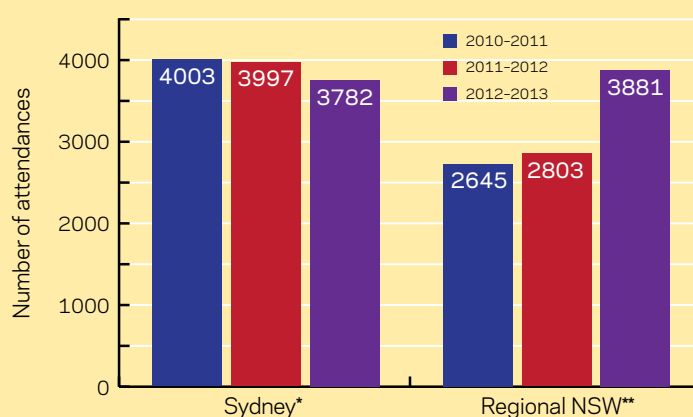
# Our programs & services NSW

<b>Prison Invisits Program</b>	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Total number of individual children supported in NSW	2760	2311	2680
Total number of children's attendances in NSW	6648	6800	7663

## Numbers of individual children supported, NSW



## Numbers of children's attendances, NSW



\* Sydney: Silverwater, Parklea and Windsor \*\* Regional NSW: Cessnock, Junee, Wellington and Kempsey

## 7.4 Contact programs

### 7.4.1 Children's Supported Transport Service

The Children's Supported Transport Program ensures that the precious parent/child relationship is not affected by the impact of incarceration. Through the provision of regular child-focused supported transport contact, feelings of isolation are reduced, allowing the child or young person to retain their sense of identity, continue with their personal development and maintain the essential parental bond.

When considering those seeking support priority has been given to younger children, to those that are suffering emotionally from the incarceration of their parent and to those children who would have no contact at all without the assistance of the program.

This year we were able to increase the number of casual Supported Transport Workers, who are trained to facilitate child-focused contact in a correctional centre environment, which will result in more children being offered support by SHINE for Kids in the future.

In February 2013 a long-standing supporter, fundraiser and client of SHINE for Kids passed away unexpectedly in February 2013. Tracylee Brannigan's two children had been supported by this program. Her friends and fellow inmates knew how much SHINE meant to Tracylee, so in place of flowers for the funeral they collected donations for SHINE for Kids. She will be sadly missed.

#### Seeing Mum really helps everyone

SHINE for Kids received a desperate plea for assistance from an incarcerated mother whose struggle to maintain regular contact with her three children was distressing the whole family. The children aged 14, 12 and 3, were living with their father. The family, whose first language is not English, are from a cultural background where incarceration is not spoken of in the community, exacerbating the isolation and embarrassment so typically felt by families referred to SHINE for Kids. With no family support, the father had to remain at home caring for the youngest child. He cannot drive and has only the use of a bicycle. He made every effort to try to maintain family contact with his partner but due to their distance from the prison and public transport and the financial strain, he was only able to arrange contact every three to four months.

On their first supported transport contact the children made very little eye contact with the transport worker, only spoke when spoken to, and were very withdrawn. When they saw their mother in the correctional centre they ran to her and hugged her for a long time. They turned back towards the worker with smiles from ear to ear as tears of joy ran down their mother's face. The demeanour of the children changed almost immediately and they did not stop talking or laughing. The two-hour contact passed all too quickly and although the children were sad to leave their mother they were consoled by the worker describing the fun they could have at the next visit four weeks later.

The supported visits have continued monthly and the children are now able to concentrate on their school work, maintain their social identity and continue their lives, confident they will see their mother regularly. During the school holidays the children also attend the Child/Parent Activity Days facilitated by SHINE for Kids. They spend four hours painting pictures, eating cakes, playing games or simply having fun – and for a short while they all seem to forget where they are.

Children's Supported Transport Service	2010-2011	2011-2012
Number of visits that were provided to children	221	188
Number of individual children transported to visit their parent in prison	101	57
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	8%	19%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	36%	28%
Number of kilometres travelled	19,743	18,368

# Our programs & services NSW

## 7.4.2 Child/Parent Activity Days Program

Funded by Corrective Services NSW and Clubs NSW, this ensures children maintain an essential parental bond despite the barriers presented by imprisonment. It emphasises the importance of the offender parents having sole responsibility of their children for four hours at a time.

SHINE for Kids provides craft and a range of age-appropriate games to encourage the interactive play between parent and child as well as lending support to the different stages of child development.

Participating NSW correctional centres include Dillwynia, Emu Plains, John Morony 1, Outer Metropolitan Multi Purpose Centre, Silverwater Women's, Parklea and Junee. In early October 2012 we re-commenced the program at Dawn De Loas (Silverwater Men's). We also held three Family Days at the Jacaranda Cottages in Emu Plains.

Special occasions marked by Child/Parent Activity Days during the year include Christmas, Easter, Mothers Day, Fathers Day and NAIDOC Day.

The program has been successfully operating in various correctional centres for many years and is embraced enthusiastically by offenders, their families and corrective services personnel. As the program continues it has seen an increase in timely responses from children's agencies as their managers and caseworkers have observed the benefits to children spending quality time interacting with their parent in far more positive environment than a normal visit.

Arranging the days requires effort from many people including the correctional management and welfare officers. All their hard work and goodwill is very much appreciated.

### "It feels like Christmas!"

Two children who'd not had any face to face contact with their mum in seven years attended the Dillwynia Child/Parent Activity Day with the support of a caseworker. They were very excited by the prospect of seeing their mum – the 12-year-old boy said "it feels like Christmas!" Both he and his brother spent a great four hours with their mother playing, talking and getting to know one another again. The caseworker, who was spending his last day on the job with the family, said that seeing the positive connection between the children and mother finished off his time on a high: "At the end of the day this what it's all about."

The children have since attended two more Child/Parent Activity Days and are re-establishing their relationship with their mother, whose goal after release is to maintain their contact with regular visits.

Child/Parent Activity Days Program	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of times children attended the days	285	428
Number of individual children who attended the days	217	273
Number of inmate parents who attended the days	106	133
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	17%	39%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	35%	37%
Number of children transported by SHINE for Kids to the days	63	62
Number of volunteers who assisted with the days	12	5
Number of children attended Jacaranda Cottage family days	25	34



### 7.4.3 Video Visits Program

Offenders are placed in correctional centres dependent on their classification and time left to serve, which can be a very long way from their families. Great geographical distance creates difficulties in maintaining the relationship between a child/young person and their incarcerated family member.

The Video Visits program supports this vital connection by providing video conference contact for one hour on a monthly basis. Following a Video Visit with her father after three months of only phone contact, one 6-year-old girl said, "Now I know Daddy is okay, 'cause I thought he was dead and that was just someone else on the phone." Video Visits reassure the child or young person that their loved one is alright.

Our Video Visits have presented an option for Family and Community Services when reconnecting children and young people with an incarcerated parent. This can often be a time of heightened anxiety and stress for both child and parent when re-establishing a relationship after long periods of separation. Video Visits provide a non-threatening environment in which this can occur.

Building on funding from Corrective Services NSW for Video Visits, we sought alternative options, utilising our own video conferencing equipment in Child & Family Centres. SHINE worked closely with Corrective Services NSW to ensure compatibility between the systems. Families are able to discuss any issues arising from the Video Visit with a SHINE for Kids caseworker afterwards.

#### A father sees his newborn for the first time

SHINE for Kids was contacted by a mother of three children whose partner was incarcerated in a Queensland correctional centre. Her family had lived happily for many years before her husband was returned to Queensland for old crimes he had committed. The mother, who described her children's suffering from not being able to see their father, had also given birth since her husband's incarceration and he had not been able to see his new son.

SHINE for Kids liaised with the correctional centre to set up a video conference utilising SHINE for Kids conferencing equipment.

The family arrived early for their appointment at SHINE's Kempsey office and waited anxiously. During the Video Visit the father was able to see his youngest child for the first time, and his eldest child was crying as the family was 'reunited'. There was much joy and laughter during their 50-minute Video Visit, and tears and sadness as it drew to a close. The family are now looking forward to the opportunity to link up again.

Video Visits Program	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of times children participated	58	90
Number of individual children who participated	56	53
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	7%	11%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	39%	33%
Total number of requested Video Visits	63	79

# Our programs & services NSW

## 7.5 Casework services

### 7.5.1 Overview

SHINE for Kids has a centralised intake, referral and assessment system across the organisation, allowing effective case management of children and families.

The case management model provides sustained, individualised care and support to children, young people and their families. The casework service at SHINE for Kids is based on 'what is in the best interest of the child'. Families experience a range of common

issues and these may include drug and alcohol dependency, domestic violence, lack of parenting skills, limited education levels and homelessness.

Different aspects of casework support are tailored to each individual. Casework can involve: external referrals to specialised services within the child or family's local community; counselling, advice and general support; advocacy; and early intervention assistance.

### 7.5.2 Early Intervention Placement Prevention (EIPP)

EIPP supports families by way of case management, external referrals and parenting.

The program offers case management for ongoing family support, home visits for more intensive support, external referrals for mental health issues for the child or carer, and parenting workshops to enable the carer to feel more confident in their parenting role.

One mother contacted SHINE for Kids to ask how to tell her three children that their father would soon be serving a custodial sentence. She was very distressed and explained that her husband had never been in trouble with the police prior to this incident. Our assistance

included advice on age-appropriate conversations with the children, and support to cope with the many changes that take place when one parent goes to prison. The mother was extremely grateful, saying how reassuring it was that there was an organisation she could turn to where the people would not judge her.

SHINE has collaborated with two correctional centres, Biyani and the Parramatta Women's Transitional Centre, to run three-week parenting workshops. Feedback from correctional is that the participants are much more confident in their parenting role after completion, and both centres have requested that the workshops continue on an ongoing basis.

#### We can learn together

While she served a 12-year sentence, Jackie's five children had been placed in the care of Family and Community Services (FaCS) and she had not been able to raise them as a 'hands on' mother. Near the end of her sentence, Jackie came to the parenting program at Parramatta Women's Transitional Centre.

Jackie was extremely apprehensive about rebuilding her relationships with her children after release. Her 16-year-old son Billy was hoping to come and live with her and FaCS were supporting the decision. Jackie had told Billy, "I don't know how to be a mother," and he had replied, "That's alright 'cause I don't know what a mum's meant to be, so we can learn together." Jackie attended each session with an eagerness to learn as much as she could. She gained many valuable skills and an understanding of the importance of regulating her own emotions should stressful situations arise with Billy. Jackie says she feels much more confident to be able to listen to her son's needs, communicate with him appropriately, and to set healthy boundaries.

Casework	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of times children received assistance	325	not available
Number of individual children who received assistance	153	not available
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	27%	not available
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	30%	not available

### 7.5.3 Intake Services

The Intake and Assessment role is multi-faceted and integral to the running of SHINE for Kids. The role is to provide information to a range of people seeking support and services. Families, inmates, children, welfare officers, community services, legal representatives and schools all contact Intake and Assessment for assistance.

The Intake and Assessment Case Worker is the first person that prospective clients come into contact with when connecting with SHINE for Kids. Many families that contact us are highly distressed by their situation. Having a family member go to prison can result in social isolation and a feeling of being alone, so when our Case Worker displays a non-judgmental and compassionate understanding of their needs, a client will have a huge sense of relief and comfort that they are not alone. Knowing that people do care about them allows them to move forward with hope.

Each new referral is assessed by the Case Worker to determine whether the family meets the criteria for the various SHINE programs and services, and work with the family and appropriate external agencies to build relationships and provide the best support possible. If a family does not meet the criteria it is provided literature, resources or external referrals. This important process ensures that any family contacting SHINE for Kids will benefit from doing so.

The Case Worker must possess a high level of interpersonal and organisational skills. On any given day they will speak with carers, inmates, lawyers, psychologists, correctional staff, teachers and a host of other people. It is crucial to be adaptable, patient and understanding so families will get the respect and service they require. Building positive working relationships creates a solid foundation and enables us to give the children the support they deserve.

#### Guiding a grandmother through the administrative maze

A referral came through to the Silverwater cottage one afternoon from a midwife at Westmead hospital. This referral was particularly interesting because there were no children listed – just “UNBORN – due 16.6.2013”. Alarming, a young inmate was due to give birth and the baby immediately placed with her boyfriend.

The Intake and Assessment Case Worker was asked to assess the referral and determine what services might be available to the child. Midwives, nurses, social workers, counsellors and welfare workers were all contacted to provide information about the referral. Perhaps most importantly, Intake connected with the young man (J) who was due to become this baby’s carer.

Over the ensuing weeks the case was internally referred into the Early Intervention Placement Prevention program. The Intake worker stayed on as the case manager and, after building up a very strong rapport and trust with J, saw that he was passionate and determined to succeed in his new role. J was honest and open about the limitations of his parenting skills, so Intake linked him in with parenting programs and community nurses who would support the new family. J grew in confidence and was very grateful to have someone who was looking out for him leading up to the changes in his life.

When the little girl arrived, her father was full of enthusiasm. He accessed the support services we’d suggested and updated us weekly on how he and the baby were doing, which was extremely well. On the phone one afternoon J was extra excited – his partner had been released on compassionate grounds. He said, “I’m just so happy that we can be a family and move on with our new life.” J thanked SHINE for Kids for being there for him and supporting him through the journey.

Intake Services	2011–2012	2012–2013
Total Number of referrals to SHINE for Kids	790	508

Note: This excludes referrals for children who attended Child and Family Centres, Prison Invisits Program, Child/Parent Activity Days, Schools Group Program, Bathurst Carers Group, Victoria and ACT programs.

# Our programs & services NSW

## 7.5.4 Bathurst Education Program

The Education Program in Central West NSW works to support children affected by parental incarceration within their schooling environment. The Education Support Worker and with a team of volunteers work within local state primary schools providing one-on-one assistance to children needing educational support. The targeted outcomes include:

- improved academic performance
- increased self-esteem
- confidence with learning
- improved engagement with education
- increased homework/assignment submission.

The children are encouraged to excel at school by practical assistance with home reading, homework and assignments, incomplete class work, and any areas identified as needing improvement. Weekly communication with key people within the school ensures that any other barrier to the child's education such as behavioural issues, bullying, or any other social concerns can be addressed within sessions with the child. Case management services enable the child to be fully supported socially, emotionally, and academically.

Case plan goals are determined based on the needs of the child and their family and are revised on an ongoing basis.

The program has been operating within a three-day capacity this financial year which has seen for a slight decrease in the number of attendances. The high rates of ATSI children enrolled in the program are indicative of the prevalence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander incarceration.

This year the children in the program were given the chance to learn some Wiradjuri language when a local community member taught them some commonly used words and the correct pronunciation. The children and their families were very pleased to have this opportunity.

The education program also participated in the 'Woolworths Earn and Learn' promotion where staff, families, and other networks were asked to collect all of their Earn and Learn points towards purchasing much needed-educational resources for the organisation. The Education Program will participate again next year, and hope to make it bigger and better!

### Hayden's school days improve

Hayden is in Year 4 at school. In February 2012 his mum, grandmother and aunty were arrested and taken away from Hayden and his six siblings. When Hayden commenced the Education Program shortly afterwards he was struggling academically with D and C school grades and, while his attendance was acceptable, he rarely submitted homework and assignments. His behaviour had also started to deteriorate. SHINE for Kids worked intensively with Hayden, his classroom teacher, the principal and his father, to implement and monitor behaviour management strategies during this extremely difficult adjustment period.

As Hayden continues in the program this year the benefits are evident in his mid-year school report, with dramatic improvements in both effort and achievement, regular submission of his homework and continuing good attendance. Hayden is always encouraged to discuss his education with his mum on visits to the prison or when she rings on the phone, enriching his relationship with her.

Bathurst Education Program	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of times children attended the program	671	495
Number of individual children who participated	37	25
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	0%	0%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	70%	76%

## 7.6 Mentoring Programs NSW

### 7.6.1 Sydney and Central West NSW (Bathurst)

The Community Mentoring Program provides a structured and trusting relationship between a young person and a caring adult outside the family unit. A volunteer mentor is matched with a young person between the ages of 8-18 years to be a positive role model and spends time with their mentee on a fortnightly basis offering guidance, support and encouragement.

Many of the children referred to the program suffer from feelings of isolation, stigma, and low self-esteem and lack the support of a positive role model. Through a young person having one viable adult to whom they can look up to and rely on, they are able to gain a sense of belonging, increased self-esteem and a chance of breaking the cycle of intergenerational incarceration.

During 2012-2013, 14 children in Sydney and 12 children in the Central West were matched with a mentor with a further 15 siblings being supported through case management. This practice ensures that effective and positive outcomes are achievable not just for the mentee but holistically for the whole family.



#### Why is mentoring so important?

The consistency of fortnightly outings between the child or young person and mentor provides the necessary framework needed to increase self-esteem, self-worth, establish a trusting relationship while also developing a sense of connectedness to their local and wider community. The child or young person is supported throughout their many challenges.



# Our programs & services NSW

## Jerome's journey

By the time Jerome was seven his dad was in prison yet again, this time serving four years. Due to his mother's abuse of drugs and alcohol and criminal offending behaviours she was not in contact. Through Family & Community Services Jerome was placed in the care of his paternal grandfather.

When Jerome was nine his grandfather contacted us seeking with Jerome's extreme depression. The grandfather had read about mentoring on the SHINE website and felt Jerome would benefit from having a female mentor as he'd never really had an effective mother figure in his life. The assessment process revealed that Jerome would comfort-eat through his bad times, so he was bullied by his peers for being overweight.

Jerome was matched with a female mentor whose very healthy boundaries early in the relationship were the foundations for a very trusting and supportive relationship. Jerome quickly felt confident enough to discuss his weight with his mentor. During their outings at SHINE in Bathurst they would look up quick and easy but healthy recipes, purchase ingredients at a local store and return to the Centre to cook and eat a healthy meal together. It wasn't long before Jerome was bringing recipes that he had found throughout the week to what had become his favourite outings.

Although Jerome was happy that his father was released some months ago, he was apprehensive and struggled with the changes that arose with having his father back in his daily life. The SHINE mentor was a great support for Jerome throughout this difficult period with regular phone contact and outings.

Having achieved all the outcomes set within his case plan, Jerome is now working towards the exit phase of his mentoring. He is no longer bullied at school, is making healthy life choices, has increased self-esteem and community connectness. Jerome's relationship with his father has also improved and he feels more confident to express his own needs within the relationship. No longer struggling with depression, this young man looks forward to what his future may hold.

Mentoring Programs NSW	Sydney		Central West NSW	
	2011-2012	2012-2013	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of children in the program	49	22	56	19
Number of children actively matched	20	14	21	12
Number of mentoring outings attended	204	114	205	55
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	2%	7%	2%	0%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	77%	78%	46%	50%

## 7.6.2 'Stand As One' Juvenile Justice Mentoring Program

In 2012–2013 the 'Stand As One' mentoring program supported 27 juvenile offenders serving a custodial sentence, with 23 detainees being matched with a mentor prior to release.

Three mentor recruitments have taken place this year with mentors diverse in age, culture and background. The mentors undergo stringent recruitment and intensive training to prepare them for supporting their mentees. The mentors also bring with them a wide variety of personal qualities and experiences to the mentoring relationships, assisting the mentees to meet their personal goals and outcomes within the community.

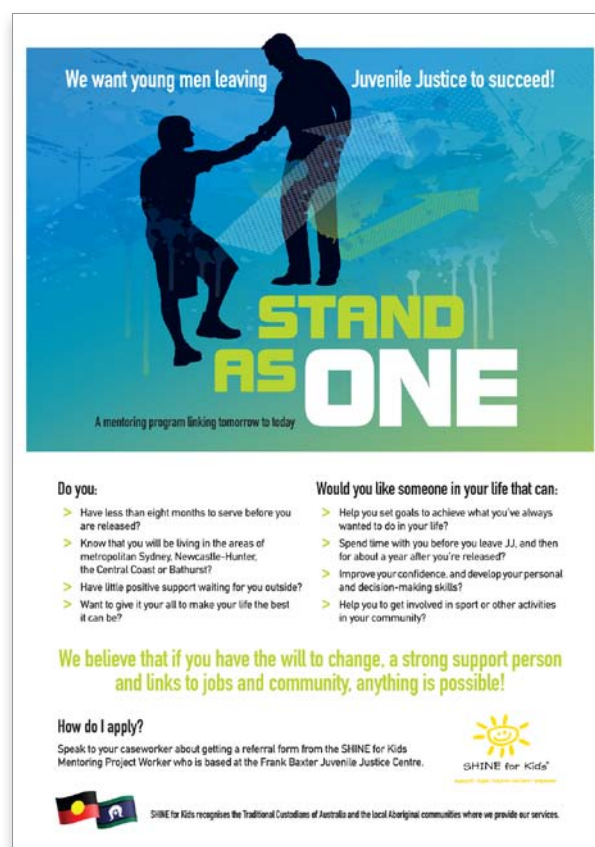
Many of the inmates in the program have suffered severe childhood neglect and abuse and suffer from mental health issues, and poor social and interpersonal skills, and are often unable to form trusting relationships with an adult. In 'Stand As One', each inmate is matched with a mentor 4–6 months prior to release. The foundation of a pre-formed trusting relationship enables better long-term outcomes as the mentee is more open to support from his mentor as he adjusts to life back in the community.

Intensive case management is also a component of the program. Home visits are undertaken by the project worker prior to the detainee being released from custody to assess the needs of the family and ensure a supported transition for the detainee back into the family home.

The project worker also attends all the discharge case conferences and works very closely with the Juvenile Justice officers at the time of release and during their parole. Strong networks have been built by the project worker within both the Frank Baxter Detention Centre and the community, with good interagency collaboration between government and non-government organisations.

### Other support offered

Many detainees in juvenile justice are a long way from their families and so cannot readily access their support. Four detainees of Frank Baxter were placed on the program and although they were not matched with a mentor, they were supported informally by the mentor project worker. On day leave from the centre they were assisted to open bank accounts, establish ID and to readjust generally into life in the community.



They also met fortnightly with the project worker to discuss concerns about their impending release, set goals and obtain service agency referrals in the areas where they were to live after release.

For one detainee this support has been extremely beneficial; he was able to express a desire to change his offending behaviour and gain employment upon his release. The project worker accompanied him on day leave to an information day at a TAFE college where he signed up for a six-week welding course, which he completed. His TAFE teacher reported that he settled well into the TAFE environment and was extremely respectful in the classroom setting and with his peers. Frank Baxter staff approved his participation in the work release program, and he is currently working full-time locally for the remainder of his sentence. He is "looking forward to a future without offending and is ready to change his life for the better".

# Our programs & services NSW

The year's fundraising events included two arranged by Gurrakool School at Frank Baxter. At a morning tea, detainees baked muffins and made coffee for staff; the second was a sports day at the Centre where staff, sponsored by the local community, played touch football and basketball against the detainees. The funds raised are assisting the young men on the program to transition from detention back into the community, paying TAFE fees, purchasing work clothes and assisting one young man with household items for his home. Also, in October 2012 The Rhythm Hut in Gosford was the venue for a dance party 'Shine Aid 1' as a fundraiser for the program.



## From Frank Baxter to the Australian Museum

After his father passed away due to illness, Elijah emigrated from New Zealand with his mother and younger sister at the age of 9. Elijah had been very close to his father and grieved terribly; Elijah's mother became depressed. Seeking other male connections, Elijah became involved with a local gang and became entrenched in that lifestyle. After a fight with a rival gang he was sentenced to 4 years with another 4 years of parole.

During his custody at Frank Baxter Elijah reconnected with his cultural identity through art. With the support of the Centre's art teacher Elijah began to show considerable artistic talent. The 'Stand As One' project worker worked closely with the teacher to help Elijah gain an internship at the Australian Museum working with the Maori artefacts - a rare privilege.

Elijah was matched with a 'Stand As One' mentor six months before his release and their bond became such that Elijah nominated his mentor as the one to collect him from the Centre on the day of his release.

Elijah and his mentor clarified the changes he needed to make in his life, and set achievable goals for Elijah's release. Back in the community he has stayed close to his mentor, who has helped him connect with a job service provider.

Due to shortly commence a traineeship in graphic design, Elijah has assumed a leadership role on youth projects at the Australian Museum, where he explains Indigenous and Pacific Arts displays to visiting youth groups and speaks about his own life journey. He has also given talks to inmates at the Waratah and Frank Baxter Detention Centres.

Mentoring Program - 'Stand As One'	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of youth in the program	28	27
Number of youth actively matched	22	23
Number of mentor outings attended	169	214
Percentage of youth who identified as CALD	50%	29%
Percentage of youth who identified as ATSI	32%	18%

# Our programs & services Victoria

## 8.1 Overview

Despite the challenging times, this year has seen the expansion of SHINE's presence in Victoria. Casework support, financial assistance, Video Visits and advocacy services were provided to affected children and their carers and families on a needs and capacity basis. In many cases, the Victoria office has provided timely support for children either experiencing parental incarceration for the first time or in some cases, there has been an ongoing issue of recidivism.

Casework support/financial assistance included covering costs to enable children to play football and basketball with their local sporting club to improve their self-esteem and community connectedness. More than 15 education packs were given out to children to assist them with their schooling; some children have received other educational assistance for special tuition or special assistance to help cover uniform costs. Another initiative involved 15 children receiving refurbished second-hand bikes and new helmets which for these socially and economically disadvantaged kids represented a wonderful new freedom. Special thanks go to Riviera Apartments in Richmond for donating the bikes and Beasley Cycles, Footscray for making them roadworthy.

On 11 occasions we have assisted children from Indigenous backgrounds to travel considerable distances to visit their inmate parent over two days, either from remote Victoria to Melbourne, Sydney to Melbourne or Melbourne to Western Australia.

Our advocacy included submissions and supporting letters for Interstate Prisoner Transport applications, Immigration Department matters, letters to Prison Management concerning the rights of children to improve access to visit parents due to the carers becoming banned visitors or changes in their status, e.g., box visits only status.

During 2012-2013 fifteen students from various disciplines either commenced or completed a placement at SHINE for Kids.

Finally, solid progress has been made in the past 12 months from a fundraising and capacity perspective, coupled with a passionate and dedicated team of staff and volunteers.

- Michael Wells  
Manager, SHINE for Kids Victoria

### Helping children and families across interstate boundaries

SHINE for Kids was approached by an Aboriginal grandmother, Dianne, on behalf of her distressed 10-year-old grandson Travis. Since his mum was arrested and remanded in custody in another State six months before, he dearly missed her company, so much so that he was determined to win his primary school chess competition so the prize money would buy enough petrol for he and his grandmother to drive from Sydney to Melbourne.

To maintain this important family connection we collaborated with a range of different services across two States. We arranged with the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre for the boy to have an extended visit over a Saturday and Sunday. Flights were booked for Travis and his Grandma and a night's accommodation found. SHINE for Kids collected Travis and Dianne from Melbourne Airport on a Saturday morning, presenting him with an AFL football, education pack and scrapbook to journal his great adventure and reconnection with his mum. The visit was timed so that Travis could join his mother in the special activities of our Prison Invisits Program.

This emotional but happy reunion reassured Travis that his mum was coping okay and immediately reduced his anxiety. On the way to their accommodation on the Saturday evening, Travis was loudly telling our worker how he'd 'face-painted' his mother. The next day, Travis and Dianne had another visit experience before being escorted back to the airport.

Even though it is not known when the inmate will be released, SHINE for Kids offered vital support to a child and family at their point of need. Useful information has also been given to the family to help them cope better and understand the criminal justice system. Access to video conferencing visits and advocating for an interstate prisoner transfer are also future considerations for this family.

This case study highlights the benefits of an organisation that provides supports for affected children across different state boundaries and jurisdictions.

## Our programs & services Victoria

### 8.2 Prison Invisits Program

The Prison Invisits Program operates in three Victorian prisons. In addition to the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre and Barwon Prison, in May 2012 it expanded to the Metropolitan Remand Centre. It conducts purposeful, engaging activities for children visiting their parent in prison each weekend with a variety of arts and craft, games and facilitated play. During the visit, the program also provides a supportive, positive, encouraging and stimulating space for children and young people to enjoy creative and diversionary activities in a difficult and challenging environment. Longer-term benefits include the development and deepening of the child-parent bond, peer support, reductions in social isolation and overall improvements in the emotional health and wellbeing of children.

The warm child-friendly space created within each prison visits area is due in no small part to the welcoming

SHINE staff and our trained volunteers. Highly visible to various stakeholders in the correctional setting, it also provides an important catchment for us to help the children and their families in other ways.

On Mother's Day this year, more than 20 children and their mums spent the afternoon making and decorating cup cakes with different coloured icing sugar. Facilitated by SHINE staff, this was a beautiful event for all to participate in – and the cakes tasted great too!

The Easter Egg Hunt at Dame Phyllis Frost saw excited young children roam the visits area in search of chocolate Easter eggs to share with their mums. The End of Year parties at Dame Phyllis Frost and Barwon Prison were wonderful occasions that involved more than 120 children across both locations. SHINE staff had a very busy time face-painting!

<b>Prison Invisits Program Victoria</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>
Total number of individual children supported	462	746
Total number of children's attendances	1186	1950
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	27	196
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	9%	10%



### Painting with their father

Rebecca and Daniella have been visiting their father at Barwon Prison for more than two years every fortnight. Like many inmates in the open space of the prison visitor's centre, it did not come naturally to their father to engage in play with their children in front of their peers. But while the parents remained at their table, before long Rebecca and Daniella were painting and drawing in the SHINE for Kids area. The sisters were shy and did not talk much with other children; they were also intent on their art, expressing their feelings creatively with a paint brush.

The SHINE program workers encouraged the sisters to persuade their father to join them in their creativity. After a few months of persistence, their nervous father finally sat down at the SHINE table with his daughters and they painted together. It was moving to see the girls' appreciation of this simple action. Since that day, their father has regularly joined them and recently said: "My kids look forward to the program. They have a lot of fun. My children loved the paintings. Thanks for the support and all the hard work you all do."

In the past six months, both Rebecca and Daniella have blossomed, particularly with their interpersonal skills. They've become such talented painters that they take a lead role in helping other children do to similar artwork. Their parents reported that the girls are coping much better at school and in everyday life.

Our Prison Invisits Program benefits children like Rebecca and Daniella by alleviating the stress of visiting their parent in prison, in turn feeling less socially isolated and more confident.

### "A better situation for families trying to be a family"

7-year-old Tom has been visiting his father in Barwon Prison most fortnights for the past six months with his primary carer, his grandfather, who told us that Tom had been diagnosed with ADHD. Tom presents as very hyperactive with a short attention span. Young Tom loves the Prison Invisits Program and its variety of diversions. On arrival Tom runs to the SHINE area, giving his Dad a high-five on the way. He moves from one activity to the next in quick time.

Both inmate and carer are appreciative of the important opportunity to have some time with each other as well as some respite from Tom's behavioural issues. They praise SHINE's professionalism and genuine care. "If it was not for you providing such a great service, we would not be able to enjoy long visits and wonderful periods of fun and family time with little Tom in the visitor's centre. We have been in other prisons with no toys, books, nothing much at all and no SHINE and Tom could not sit still for much more than thirty minutes. This is a better situation for families trying to be a family".

Tom's grandfather has learned from SHINE for Kids about respite care and other services available in the community to support him and Tom.

## Our programs & services Victoria

### 8.3 Community Mentoring Program

While new funding opportunities are sought, our Community Mentoring has continued on a reduced scale. We maintained casework support for the five existing mentee children, their carers and families, and further support was extended to more than 40 other children, including those on the waiting list to be mentored or their younger siblings. We also processed 15 volunteer mentor applications from suitable people, many of whom are currently volunteering in the Prison Invisits Program.

Those children being actively mentored were able to achieve their case plan outcomes and develop stronger levels of resilience to assist them in coping with the stress and trauma of having a parent in prison. All affected children reported improvements in their overall emotional health and wellbeing and this has been corroborated by their carers and mentors. Mentoring activities included: go-carting, attending sporting events, movies, museums, bowling, ice skating and even manicures!

Mentees and those children on the waiting list have also benefited from our other peer supports and

coordinated group outings. In September 2012, 50 children and their carers/mentors attended the Royal Melbourne Show and in December 2012, we had our End of Year Party in a local park attended by more than 50 children from our client group. Other group events included approximately 20 children, their carers and mentors attending 'Meet the Music', a Melbourne Symphony Orchestra event at the Melbourne Town Hall; 20 children attending an AFL football game; and 15 children experienced the magic and joy of Circus Oz. Other smaller co-ordinated events were at places of fun and education such as Scienceworks and the State Library, parks and gardens, and activities such as walking and bike riding.

During a 12-month review, 12-year-old Jack described his mentoring as " ... all perfect, mentoring has made me feel more confident and skilled about life." Jack's grandmother, his carer expressed her gratitude. "My grandson has a terrific mentor ... mentoring is very beneficial and helpful to the child, particularly when they get such a great mentor who spends quality time with him".

<b>Mentoring Program Victoria</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>
Number of children supported	26	45+
Number of children in mentoring relationships	8	5
Number of mentor outings occurred	47	not available
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	23	not available
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	15	not available



## 8.4 Video Visits

In one case, the mother and two children aged 2 and 3 years used our office for a Video Visit to a Western Australian prison. This was an important opportunity for the family to see each other due to the impossibility of travel to the prison. A few months later, this family received the good news that we were all working

towards: a successful application to the Attorney General's office for an interstate prisoner transfer. SHINE for Kids supported this vulnerable family throughout this process and assisted them with their first contact visit when the father was transferred to Victoria.

### Helping children and families across interstate boundaries

A single Aboriginal father, the primary carer of two teenagers from West Melbourne, was arrested and extradited to Western Australia for a 20-year-old breach of parole warrant while the children were on school camp. The children were devastated as their father had no current offending behaviour. SHINE created a voice for these children, linking them to their father via a Video Visit. We also advocated to the Western Australian parole board in a written submission to the hearing officer. After two months in custody, the father was paroled.

## Our programs & services ACT

### 9.1 Prison Invisits Program

This program runs several days a week in the visits area of the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), staffed by a SHINE worker and several volunteers.

A range of activities occupies children from a diversity of backgrounds and a range of ages, participate in art

and craft activities, read books, do puzzles, play games, and engage in imaginative play using the toys provided.

The children attending these sessions do so on a regular basis and build friendships with one another.

<b>Prison Invisits Program ACT</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>
Total number of individual children supported	106	482
Total number of children's attendances	274	1050
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	5.3%	8.7%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	18%	10.6%



## 9.2 Child/Parent Activity Day

Four Child/Parent Activity Days were held at the AMC this year. Children and young people spent four hours with their detainee parents, engaging in outdoor activities, art and crafts, games and face painting. They also shared morning tea and lunch. The extended visiting time and relaxed atmosphere allowed them to

build and maintain strong familial bonds. One father was pleased to celebrate his daughter's 6th birthday with her, the first one that he had been able to be part of. SHINE for Kids organised a birthday cake and some of the families gathered around to sing happy birthday and share the cake.

### Parents watch and learn

Two children and their mother visited their father several times a week during the year. Each time they played board games together, read stories and did arts and craft activities together. The father took pictures back with him each time and explained to the children that his walls were full of their pictures. We noticed a dramatic change in the children's behaviour during this time, as well as the parents' relationships with them. The parents appeared to be modelling the way that SHINE staff and volunteers interacted with the children, and the children really seemed to benefit. A short time ago the father was preparing to be released from custody and told us he could see how his family really needed him at home and that he was determined to continue to work on their bond. The family thanked SHINE staff and volunteers for their support.

Child/Parent Activity Days Program ACT	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of times children attended the days	21	51
Number of individual children who attended the days	18	51
Number of inmate parents who attended the days	12	32
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	15%	5.9%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	20%	2%
Number of children transported by SHINE for Kids to the days	0	0
Number of volunteers who assisted with the days	1	4



# 9

## Our programs & services ACT

### 9.3 Homework Program

The aim of the Homework Program is to help facilitate a closer relationship between children and their parents by engaging in educational activities together on a regular and consistent basis. Not only does this contribute to the educational outcomes for the child, but it also strengthens the parenting ties which can reduce the likelihood of the detainee re-offending upon their release.

Marginalised and often highly disadvantaged in the wider community, children of prisoners often suffer a decreased ability to focus on education or participate in other child- or youth-focused activities. The Homework Program specifically addresses this marginalisation by increasing educational outcomes for the children.

After approval of the program by the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) in January, a skilled volunteer, a retired primary school teacher, was engaged to assist. Throughout February the program was promoted to families and detainees who access SHINE for Kids other programs, and to AMC staff.

The first session in March saw three children and two detainee fathers engage in ball games, reading and completing workbooks. Two further sessions were run before a break for school holidays. The program continued to be promoted to families who access our services during this time. SHINE staff and volunteers also made contact with the teachers of these children to discuss how the program could best assist them.

#### "Needed at home"

A five-year-old girl who had recently started school participated in all of the Homework Program sessions this year. The child had recently started to learn to read and the program allowed her to bring in her 'home readers' and her favourite books from home to read with her father. The dad used SHINE's new workbooks to help the daughter learn letters and learn basic addition and subtraction. The pair also enjoyed playing educational board games together and wound down with outdoor ball games.

The inmate was grateful for the one-on-one time that the program allowed him to spend with his daughter and said that the program strengthened their bond by providing him with a role in her learning. Upon his release in July the father expressed his gratitude to SHINE staff and volunteers and he mentioned how much he was looking forward to continuing the same types of activities. This one-on-one time with his daughter had helped him to realise that the children "needed him" at home.

Homework Program ACT	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of sessions held	-	4
Number of individual children who participated	-	3
Number of children's attendances	-	9
Percentage of children who identified as CALD	-	0%
Percentage of children who identified as ATSI	-	0%
Number of detainees who participated	-	3
Number of detainees who applied but were unable to participate	-	9

## Aboriginal programs & services

### 10.1 'Belonging to Family'

'Belonging to Family' (BTF) is a culturally appropriate Aboriginal through-care program. It services families in the 12-month post-release period from as far north as central Queensland down to the southern border of NSW.

BTF is grounded in an open, honest approach without shame or blame. Each group consists of the offenders, their children and their partners along with their extended families and Elders.

BTF encourages communication between offenders and their partners to establish a workable relationship prior to their release. The program consists of ten weekly group sessions of two hours where participants move through an exploration of the repercussions of their imprisonment on themselves, their families and their communities. In turn the ex-offenders and their partners have displayed less resentment and aggression towards authorities.

With strengthened family cohesion and broader community support, the offenders take more positive steps towards a better future. In showing that they can change, they raise the expectations of their community as a whole. Traditional values are reinforced in the realities of life through the participation of Elders, a number whom have volunteered from outlying communities from which the inmates have come, strengthening the 12-month post-release period support.

In the past BTF has targeted male inmates housed at the Mid North Coast Correctional Centre (MNCCC). In mid-2012 female inmates petitioned the MNCCC for the program, and at the end of that



year they were given this opportunity, with the program being tailored to meet their needs.

BTF is showing promising outcomes with enhanced communication between offenders and their families and a better approach to the authorities. Reductions of greater than 50% have been noted in recidivism in BTF participants who have been habitual offenders.

SHINE staff member Lloyd Gibbs gave a presentation on the 'Belonging to Family' program at the 'Reintegration Puzzle' forum in Canberra on 26 July 2012. The presentation was so well received by the forum that they allowed extra time.

Lloyd had also attended the Attorney General's Forum in Canberra on 17 April 2013 and met with service providers from all over Australia.

'Belonging to Family' Program	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of children involved in program	169	83
Number of offender parents who attended the program	51	29
Number of Elders/volunteers who assisted with the program	18	36
Referrals received but offender transferred or released	10	13

# Aboriginal programs & services

## What's this program going to do for me?

An inmate of the MNCCC approached SHINE for Kids staff asking, "What's this program going to do for me?" We gave him an overview and he expressed interest. His partner, who lived about 500km from the MNCCC, was contacted by phone. Each week the inmate became more involved as his partner too became more involved, and he engaged with the Elders giving him the opportunity to see things a different way and sharing stories. When he completed BTF the inmate said, "I'm really glad I did this as it helped so much with me and my family and I feel better equipped this time getting out." He'd been communicating better with his family, who were making arrangements for his release. He is now living with his partner and children, and the family receives regular telephone calls for support, referrals and appointments. The man's partner confirmed after talking extensively with her about their future, that he had "said no to his mates with grog" and is sharing a lot more time with her and the children.

## Setting her life straight

An female inmate who attended all sessions of the BTF program at the MNCCC was observed by our staff to have emotional disturbances and intellectual difficulties. After completing BTF she was transferred to Emu Plains CC to attend other programs. From there she was released to Boronia COSP. While we liaised with correctional centre staff we continued to work with her. To address her drug and alcohol issues the woman was approved to enter a rehabilitation centre near Kempsey where BTF staff continue regular contact by visits and by phone.

## Standing on her own two feet

An offender with 100% BTF attendance identified family problems, drugs and alcohol issues along with depression. During the program she became a prop for some of the other participants in the group. Upon release she moved to be closer to her child and started standing on her own two feet. When she found herself slipping back into old ways, SHINE staff liaised with Probation and Parole and health services at Lismore to link the woman with appropriate agencies. To help her prove consistency in her desire for successful detox, we assisted her to draw up a follow-up plan. She is currently on the waiting list for a rehabilitation centre.

## 10.2 'Colourful Dreaming' Program

### 10.2.1 Overview

This program targets both the children of inmates at Junee Correctional Centre and the inmates themselves. It uses art to help connect imprisoned fathers with their children while expanding their view of themselves and the possibilities in their lives. It has been instrumental in elevating the self-confidence of the men in the program, with some now employed in various roles by their correctional centres.

By creating artwork in a diversity of media, the children also benefit with a renewed connection to community as they learn about their rich culture. When the program is undertaken in the school holidays, the program has seen some real highlights for the children attending.

### 10.2.2 Gala Charity Auction in Wagga Wagga NSW

More than 100 works of art went under the hammer at the Gala Charity Auction held at TAFE Riverina Institute's Gallery 43 on 1 May. Several high-profile identities including Member for Riverina, Michael McCormack, Colonel David Hay, commandant of Kapooka Army Recruit Training Centre and the Institute's director, Kerry Penton, worked with teachers from the Wagga Wagga campus to contribute pieces for the auction. One major piece measuring 4x3 metres was painted by all of the participants of the 'Colourful Dreaming' program at Junee Correctional Centre under the tutelage of our own Auntie Kath Withers, Aboriginal Elder of the Wiradjuri people. The artwork was the prisoners' gift back to the program, which encourages imprisoned Aboriginal dads and their children to experience connection, expansion of thought and experience through art. The mother and daughter



SHINE for Kids<sup>®</sup>  
support · hope · inspire · nurture · empower




## Colourful Dreaming

Calling Aboriginal kids aged 8 to 15 years

**Come and experience ART in its many forms!**  
**Painting ... screenprinting ... weaving ... and more!**  
**Come and have fun while learning new skills!**

For more information phone (02) 9714 3000

SHINE for Kids supports all children of parents who are in Correctional Centres



[www.shineforkids.org.au](http://www.shineforkids.org.au)

Colourful Dreaming has been made possible with financial support from the Australian Government's Indigenous Cultural Support (ICS).

who placed the winning bid were so impressed by the work that they intended to put it on public display in the area. Supported by members of the local business community and beyond, the event raised over \$5,000.





## Aboriginal programs & services

### 10.2.3 The Hub at Ashmont NSW

Aunty Kath Withers, Aboriginal Elder of the Wiradjuri people and the 'Colourful Dreaming' program at Junee Correctional Centre, has come one step closer to helping children in the Wagga Wagga region reconnect with their cultural heritage.

Aunty Kath commenced a holiday and after-school workshop at the Hub at Ashmont for children and adolescents who showed interest in this reconnection. Wagga Wagga Council generously supported this program by providing the venue.

The first workshops were held during the April 2013 school holidays for children aged 8-16. Creating artwork in a diversity of media, the children renewed their connection to their community while learning more about the rich culture of the Wiradjuri people.

These workshops led to another series held each Tuesday afternoon after school for children aged 12-16. In addition to art and craft these workshops also include a survival cooking program which teaches the participants how to make use of common pantry items.

Officeworks Wagga Wagga, Spotlight Wagga Wagga, IGA Ashmont and Ashmont Butchery provided some of the workshop materials.



### 10.2.4 'Comin' Home Soon' in Goulburn NSW

'Comin' Home Soon' was an exhibition of artworks by Aboriginal inmates at Goulburn Correctional Centre and children from SHINE for Kids. Conceived and co-ordinated by playwright and multimedia artist Alana Valentine, it was held at the Goulburn Regional Art Gallery from 26 October to 17 November 2012.

Created over a series of visual art workshops, a drawn thread linked both the prisoners and the children of prisoners in a unique collaboration that encompassed both art and storytelling.

The art exhibition was then turned into a play performance of the same name by Alana Valentine. Running from 26 April to 11 May at the Lieder Theatre in Goulburn, the play featured a cast of 9 children and 8 adults.



'Colourful Dreaming' Program	2011-2012	2012-2013
Number of Aboriginal and Islander men participating	39	83
Number of Aboriginal children participating	10	65
Number of Aboriginal Elders participating	2	2





## 10.3 NAIDOC Week celebrations

NAIDOC Week was celebrated this year at Child and Family Centres throughout NSW. With the much-appreciated financial assistance of the Indigenous Coordination Centres at Dubbo and Wagga Wagga, more expansive NAIDOC Family Fun Days were held at Bathurst, Wellington and Junee.

NAIDOC celebrations were held in conjunction with the Mid North Coast Correctional Centre on 6–10 August 2012 with the fantastic support of Aboriginal Elder Aunty Raylene Ballangarry. Inmates from all sectors enjoyed the traditional food, dancing and painting. The

MNCCC General Manager, Mr Greg Sneddon gave clearance for all Sector 1 Inmates to join in as one group.

At Parklea NAIDOC Family Fun Day the children were shown some pictures by Aboriginal artists and the kids were surprised that they didn't need to use a paint brush. Fun was had by everyone doing their own dot paintings.

At Cessnock the children enjoyed painting their own boomerangs.

# 11

## Research & advocacy

### Mental Health and Children of Prisoners Forum

Held on 25 October 2012, this forum shone a light on the impact and prevalence of mental health and co-existing problems for children of incarcerated parents, their carers and families in NSW. MHCC and Forum Partners invited attendees from across the public and community managed human service sectors, including the criminal justice system to participate in an opportunity to learn about research, policy and service developments in the field. The forum resulted in the 'Mental Health & Children of Prisoners (MHCoP) Forum Report & Recommendations'.

### Chairman's Lunches 2013

SHINE for Kids Chairman, Helen Wiseman recently hosted two luncheons at the Shine Café in the Silverwater Correctional Complex to highlight the plight of the invisible children – those who have a parent incarcerated in the criminal justice system – and how SHINE aims to alleviate their suffering and break the cycle of intergenerational crime.

Guests from the business, government, academic and not-for-profit community were treated to a delicious buffet lunch prepared by our Shine Café Manager, Brett Cooper and his hardworking inmate team.

### Supporting Children with Parents in Prison

A series of one-day interactive education seminars was held during May and June 2013 in Kempsey, Taree and western Sydney. These were designed specifically for community workers who come in contact with children who have been affected by having a parent or other family member in prison in NSW, Victoria or the ACT, and aimed to provide attendees with:

- increased professional competence
- an awareness of the impact and stages of parental imprisonment on the child
- positive strategies for working with the child to minimise the impact of parental incarceration
- an overview of the prison system and the linkage to SHINE for Kids and other services
- aligning services in the community for best outcomes.

Attendees also received a certificate of completion and a directory of resources.

### 'Belonging to Family' program evaluation completed

A final evaluation of our 'Belonging to Family' (BTF) program was also completed by Matrix on Board this year. Commencing in 2010, the study analysed the outcomes and experiences of Aboriginal inmates, their families and community Elders resulting from their participation in the program, key community stakeholder observations and collected data in reference to the Attorney-General's performance indicators. Pleasingly, the program was found to perform positively in reducing recidivism and intergenerational offending based on the three-year evaluation. Specific findings include:

- Over the three years, the program has built a solid profile for its positive impact on the families and through its contact with external agencies. SHINE has also developed a strong relationship with the Mid North Coast Correctional Centre.

- BTF has improved monitoring program through systematic group activities report and case management. Groups are well attended, case management was provided to inmates and their families before and after their release. The

HOW DO YOU **REALLY** MAKE A DIFFERENCE?  
**SEE THE INVISIBLE.**

**Challenge your thinking** and join us for lunch in the pleasant surrounds of Shine Café in the grounds of Silverwater Correctional Centre.

You're invited to see how **you can make a difference** by glimpsing the invisible – the kids who, when their parents are sent to prison, experience profound life changes. We never hear about them, and they don't make it their business to stand out. **They're the forgotten ones in the justice system.**

But it's not all doom and gloom, because for over 30 years **SHINE for Kids** has been helping them. And with these children, a little does a lot. There are **plenty of happy endings** to their stories and we think you'd enjoy hearing them, especially from a parent/carer.

Those of us who've never been near a prison will be astonished just how many children and their carers know intimately what a prison visits area is like.

If you want to experience what it might be like for a child to lose a parent to prison, let SHINE's Chairman **Helen Wiseman** host you and your friends at one of the more interesting lunches you'll have this year!

Lunch generously sponsored by 

  
**SHINE for Kids**



**Shine Café**

**Date:** 18 June 2013  
**Starts:** 12pm  
**Lunch:** 12.30pm  
**Finishes:** 2pm

**Cost:** Nil (but donations warmly welcomed)

**Parking:** Slough Business Park, entrance on M4 side of Holker Street, turn left into carpark (right turn prohibited), almost opposite Newington Rd

**Finding the café:** Go through main entrance of the Correctional Centre on Holker St and follow the signs to Shine Café.

**RSVP and contact:** Helen Wiseman, 0413 275 324, helen@helenwiseman.com.au

Renee, a mother and Brenda, a grandmother spoke about the impact that imprisonment of a family member had on their children and how SHINE for Kids supported them when they had felt silenced and shamed by the stigma. Everyone present was touched by their stories.

participants felt an increase in connectedness and belonging to their families and their communities, had a greater understanding of the effects of their imprisonment to their kids. Their children also felt an improved sense of belonging in response to the program. The inmates and their partners on the other hand had greater understanding of the needs of their children.

- The program has successfully involved Elders teaching tradition and encouraging cultural pride which in turn has improved the participants' understanding of their culture and disempowerment.
- Stakeholders agree that BTF had positive impact on the inmates, their families and the community. They supported the program and its continuation and recommended that BTF be offered in women's prisons and eventually be rolled out across other correctional centres.

### 'Sesame Street' character prompts ABC interview

'Sesame Street' has been talking to children about tough topics for 40 years – having a brightly coloured furry friend talk to kids is a soft way of handling difficult issues. Recently the show featured a character called Alex – the first Muppet to have a dad in prison.

This piqued the interest of 612 ABC Local Radio in Brisbane. 'Evenings' host Rebecca Levingston sought the perspective of SHINE CEO Gloria Larman in an on-air interview about the impact of parental imprisonment on children in Australia.



### SBS 'Living Black' documentary

SBS Indigenous current affairs program 'Living Black' comprehensively covers issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Larteasha Griffen interviewed SHINE for Kids staff and 'Belonging to Family' participant Terence Smith for a five-minute documentary 'How do kids cope with their parents in prison?' [www.shineforkids.org.au/latest\\_news/living\\_black.html](http://www.shineforkids.org.au/latest_news/living_black.html)



## Treasurer's Report

The more children SHINE for Kids is able to assist through the delivery of services and programs, the greater the potential positive impact to their lives, their communities and our society as a whole.

Our ability to deliver much-needed services and programs is entirely dependent upon the generosity of our financial partners. They are critical to the wellbeing of the children we support and the communities where we work. In 2013, we received funding from Government, individual donors, charitable trusts and foundations and private philanthropists. I wish to sincerely thank our financial partners for continuing to provide funding to SHINE for Kids during the year.

In 2013, SHINE for Kids continued to deliver a range of services and programs funded by existing financial partners and also welcomed funding from a number of new financial partners. Total funding income was \$2,144,311 in 2013. Unfortunately, this represented a \$226,591 (10%) decline from the prior year, resulting in a reduction in the reach of certain services and programs for which funding had been concluded. In response, staff resources and administrative costs were also reduced. The SHINE for Kids team works tirelessly to replace funding that has concluded, but this is not always possible, particularly in economically challenging times. The SHINE for Kids team continue to monitor closely the quantum of operational expenses and the efficiency of processes so that SHINE for Kids can effectively manage costs and deliver the optimal level of services and programs with the funding available.

I also wish to sincerely thank each of the 334 volunteers who, by reducing labour costs and enhancing our skills base, enabled us to deliver more services and programs and to reach more children than our funding alone would otherwise allow. With their help, we have been able to stretch each dollar our financial partners generously provide even further.

Opened in August 2012, our Shine Café continues to achieve gradual sales growth as we maintain our investment in it. I thank the many businesses, financial supporters, customers, staff and volunteers for their many forms of assistance to the café.

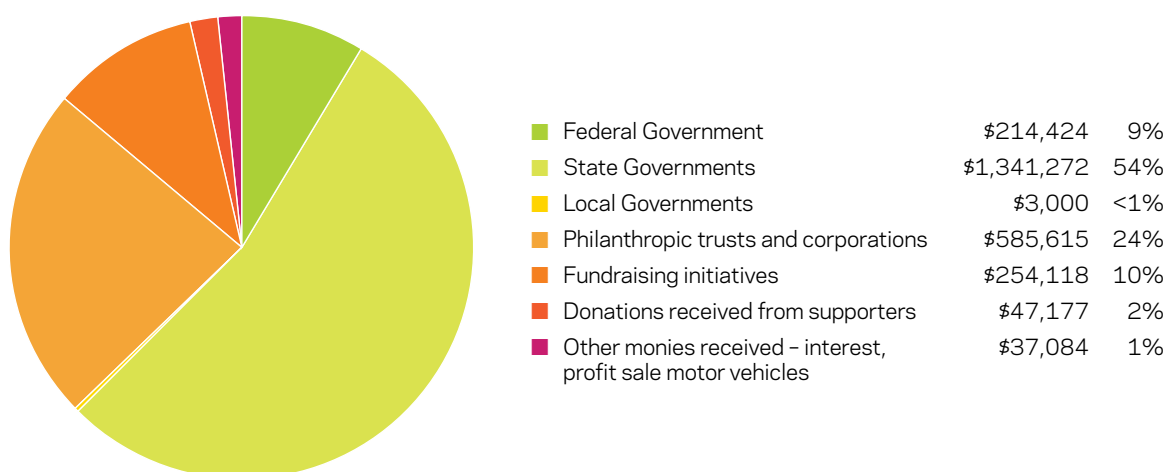
A key focus of the SHINE for Kids team, and the Board, has been on ensuring that SHINE for Kids is in a financially sound position so we can continue to extend assistance to as many children as possible over the long term.

I am pleased to report that SHINE for Kids achieved a modest surplus in 2013 of \$97,713. As all program funding provided to SHINE for Kids is applied to the delivery of services and programs, this surplus can largely be attributed to the exceptional fundraising efforts of the SHINE for Kids team, our energetic volunteers and of course the many businesses and individuals who kindly participated in Golf Days, bought sausages from one of our barbecues, purchased chocolates, made cash donations and attended fundraisers throughout the year. In total, these events and fundraising initiatives raised more than \$160,000. This additional fundraising income was a key factor in enabling SHINE for Kids to realise a modest surplus in 2013. The 2013 surplus will be added to the reserves of SHINE for Kids, which totaled \$349,141 as at 30 June 2013, enhancing the financial stability of SHINE for Kids and providing it with an important "safety net" to draw on in the future when deemed necessary.

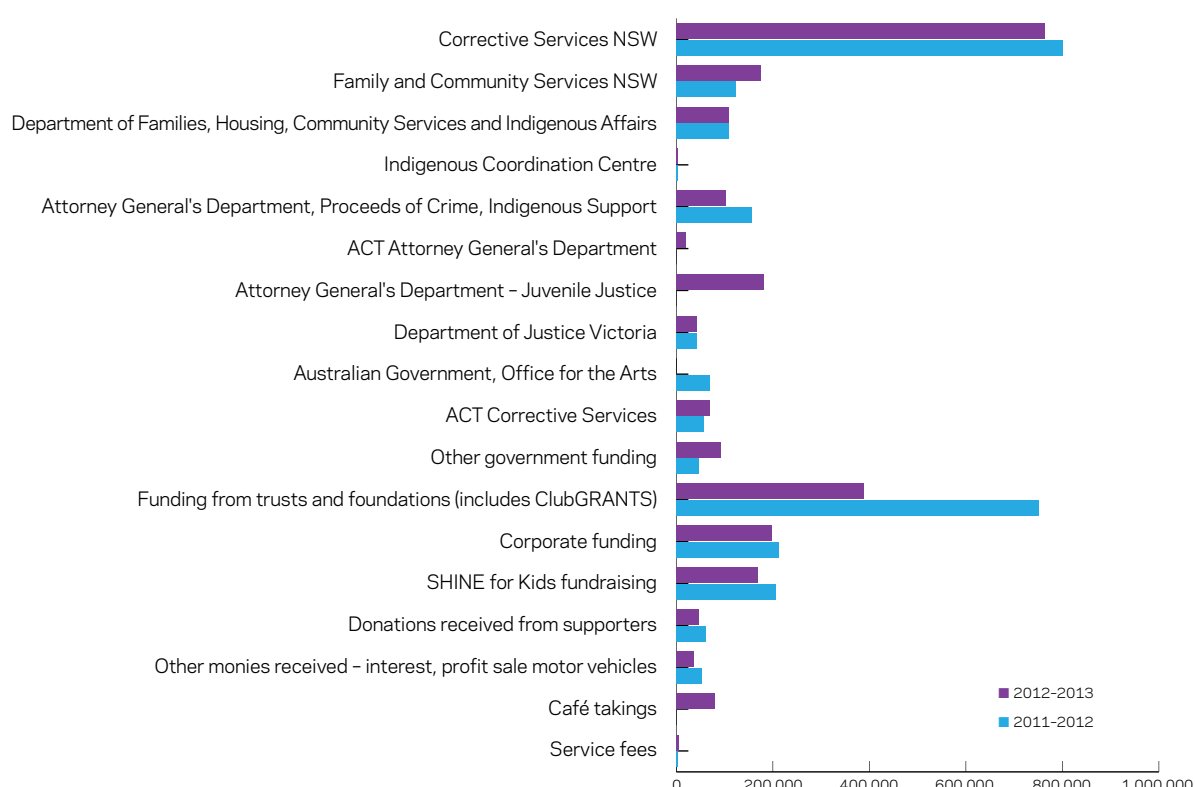
The financial report has been summarised in this annual report. A copy of the complete statutory accounts is available on the SHINE website [www.shineforkids.org.au](http://www.shineforkids.org.au). Our auditor, Myers & Naumburger, has issued an unqualified report.

- Stephanie Lai  
Treasurer, SHINE for Kids  
November 2013

## 12.1 Consolidated Income 2012-2013



### Income comparison 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 financial years





# Abridged Financial Statements & Audit Report

SHINE FOR KIDS CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED ABN 60 662 072 775

## Statement of Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Revenue	2,482,688	2,694,852
Advertising expenses	(4,871)	(841)
Auditors' remuneration	(20,100)	(29,500)
Cafe cost of sales	(54,522)	-
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	(36,924)	(51,206)
Employee benefits expenses	(1,630,598)	(1,966,327)
Rental expenses	(17,131)	(16,473)
Repairs, maintenance and vehicle running expenses	(3,352)	(127)
Staff training expenses	(1,592)	(1,863)
Fundraising expenses	(67,491)	(129,150)
Other expenses	(548,394)	(619,583)
<b>Total comprehensive income / (loss) for the year</b>	<b>97,713</b>	<b>(120,218)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income / (loss) attributable to members of the entity</b>	<b>97,713</b>	<b>(120,218)</b>

SHINE FOR KIDS CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED ABN 60 662 072 775

## Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2012

	2013 \$	2012 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	461,458	421,065
Trade and Other Receivables	80,270	94,575
Inventories	4,814	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>546,542</b>	<b>515,640</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>		
Financial Assets	1,055	675
Motor Vehicles, Equipment & Fixtures	124,235	107,591
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>	<b>125,290</b>	<b>108,266</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>671,832</b>	<b>623,906</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade and Other Payables	154,120	253,258
Provisions	118,792	79,754
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>272,912</b>	<b>333,012</b>
<b>Non-current Liabilities</b>		
Finance Contract	39,512	-
Employee Provisions	9,557	39,137
<b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b>	<b>49,069</b>	<b>39,137</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>321,981</b>	<b>372,149</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>349,851</b>	<b>251,757</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Reserves	710	330
Retained Earnings	349,141	251,427
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>349,851</b>	<b>251,757</b>

# Abridged Financial Statements & Audit Report

SHINE FOR KIDS CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED ABN 60 662 072 775

## Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

	Retained earnings	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2011	371,646	315	371,961
Surplus / (Loss) attributable to members	(120,218)	15	(120,203)
Balance at 30 June 2012	251,428	330	251,758
Surplus / (Loss) attributable to members	97,713	380	98,093
<b>Balance at 30 June 2013</b>	<b>349,141</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>349,851</b>

SHINE FOR KIDS CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED ABN 60 662 072 775

## Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
<b>Receipts</b>		
Donations	47,177	61,084
Grants - Government & Private	2,144,311	2,360,402
Interest Received	12,929	8,065
Other	266,862	794,687
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,471,279</b>	<b>3,224,238</b>
<b>Less payments</b>		
Employment Costs - Salaries & Superannuation	(1,535,892)	(1,979,595)
Suppliers	(852,836)	(1,444,510)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(2,388,728)</b>	<b>(3,424,105)</b>
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>82,551</b>	<b>(199,867)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment	36,000	41,474
Payments for property, plant & equipment	(78,158)	-
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<b>(42,158)</b>	<b>41,474</b>
<b>Total cash provided operating &amp; investing activities</b>	<b>40,393</b>	<b>(158,393)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	40,393	(158,393)
Cash at 1 July 2012	421,065	579,458
<b>Cash at 30 June 2013</b>	<b>461,458</b>	<b>421,065</b>

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF SHINE FOR KIDS CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED  
ABN 60 662 072 775**

**Report on the Financial Report**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of SHINE for Kids Co-operative Limited (the Co-operative) which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2013 and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

**Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report**

The directors of the Co-operative is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) the NSW Co-operatives Act 1992. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

**Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Independence**

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.





**Auditors' Opinion**

In our opinion:

The financial report of SHINE for Kids Co-operative Limited is in accordance with the NSW Co-operatives Act 1992 including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the Co-operative's financial position as at 30 June 2013 and of its performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
- ii. complying with the Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the NSW Co-operatives Act 1992.

We also report that:

- i. the financial statements show a true and fair view of the financial result of fundraising appeals conducted during the year;
- ii. the accounting and associated records have been properly kept during the year in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and the Regulations;
- iii. money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted during the year has been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and the Regulations; and
- iv. at the date of this report, there are reasonable grounds to that the Co-operative will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

**Name of Firm:** Myers & Naumburger  
Chartered Accountants

**Name of Partner:** Sharon Myers  
Sharon Myers B.Bus. ACA 25888 Registered Company Auditor 4547

**Address:** Suite 8, 50 Great North Road, Five Dock NSW 2046

**Dated this** 5th **day of** November, 2013



SHINE for Kids®

support - hope - inspire - nurture - empower

phone

fax

## NEW SOUTH WALES

<b>Head office, Silverwater</b>	02 9714 3000	02 9714 3030
<b>Child and Family Centre Silverwater</b>		02 9714 3033
<b>Child and Family Centre Parklea</b>	02 9933 7900	02 9933 7977
<b>Child and Family Centre Windsor</b>	02 4573 3900	02 4573 3933
<b>Child and Family Centre Bathurst</b>	02 6328 9900	02 6328 9933
<b>Child and Family Centre Cessnock</b>	02 4993 6800	02 4993 6888
<b>Child and Family Centre Wellington</b>	02 6845 5000	02 6845 5055
<b>Child and Family Centre Junee</b>	02 6934 6000	02 6934 6006
<b>Child and Family Centre Kempsey, Aldavilla</b>	02 6561 3800	02 6561 3833
<b>Frank Baxter Juvenile Justice Centre, Kariang</b> - Worker located	02 4340 3836	02 4340 3862

## VICTORIA

<b>Victoria office, Footscray</b>	03 9688 2900	03 9688 2977
<b>Barwon Prison, Lara</b> - Prison Invisits		
<b>Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, Ravenhall</b> - Prison Invisits		
<b>Metropolitan Remand Centre, Ravenhall</b> - Prison Invisits		

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

<b>Alexander Maconochie Centre, Canberra</b> - Prison Invisits	02 6207 2572	-
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[mylifenow.org.au](http://mylifenow.org.au)  
[facebook.com/shineforkids](https://facebook.com/shineforkids)