




*Annual Report* 2020



*The Family Inclusion Network of WA Inc. acknowledges  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians across this land.  
We pay deep respect to Elders past and present, and we recognise their spiritual relationship  
and connection to land, water and community.*



## CONTENTS

- 4 Mission
- 6 Committee Profiles
- 8 Chairperson Report
- 10 Executive Officer Report
- 11 Treasurer Report
- 12 Advocacy
- 14 Community Development & Family Partner (Peer) Work
- 16 Baby Bundles
- 18 Bringing Up Great Kids
- 20 Response to COVID-19
- 21 FIN Australia, Photo Snippets
- 22 Training
- 23 Systemic Advocacy & Legal Work
- 24 What's News?, Presentations
- 25 Morning Tea
- 26 Student Reflection
- 27 Thank you
- 28 Statistics
- 30 Financials

# Our Mission

---

*To have a child protection system that is respectful and inclusive of parents, family and community as key stakeholders*

## OUR OBJECTIVES

- » Enhance the valuable role and intrinsic value of parents and families within the child protection system.
- » Develop and sustain a viable, effective organisation based on best practice.
- » Empower parents and families to participate meaningfully in the child protection system.
- » Foster a collaborative and inclusive child protection system.

## OUR PRINCIPALS

- » Families are the experts in their own lives.
- » Families are central agents of change in their lives.
- » Families are to be encouraged and inspired to find solutions for their families.
- » Children may be separated from their family, however, they are intrinsically connected for life.
- » Families are to be included as equal partners in the assessment and decision making processes.
- » Dignity and hope must remain central to inspire families.
- » All stakeholders in the child protection process need to be treated with dignity, respect, inclusion and honesty.



## OUR VALUES

### *Inclusion*

Families of origin are a key stakeholder in the child protection process.

### *Equity & Justice*

Parents have the right to timely, accurate information, legal and other support during their time working with the child protection system.

### *Transparency*

Honest and open communication enhances all relationships.

### *Diversity*

We respect people's culture, age, abilities, sexuality, beliefs and life choices.

### *Independence*

Regardless of funding source, our commitment remains focussed on advocating for the rights of (and supporting) parents and families.

### *Partnership*

Working collaboratively and in partnership will achieve better results than working independently.

# COMMITTEE PROFILES

## JOHN BERGER

### *Chairperson*

John is a qualified Social Worker and is the Executive Officer of the 'WA End Homelessness Alliance'. John has spent a significant part of his professional career in Child Protection and Out of Home Care, both within government and the non-government sector. John's work has led him to believe, and advocate in, a system that is fair and just and to be inclusive of all – including families.

John has been a strong supporter and an advocate, and feels his experience and skills led him to take on the role of Chair of Fin WA ten years ago. In an era of consumer directed care, the need to give voice to parents with children in care is a significant issue for our society, and John is committed to working towards a more balanced system that recognises the importance of families, and their place within the child protection system and process.

John is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Fellow of Leadership WA.

## VICKI TATE

### *Vice Chairperson*

Vicki Tate is an experienced social worker having commenced her career with the Dept for Community Welfare in 1987 in the West Kimberley. Vicki has 17 years' experience working in the area of child protection with vulnerable families in WA.

Her passion is to work alongside families to empower them to be the best they can be in keeping their children safe. She has a strong commitment to social justice to ensure all is done to keep families together to build stronger communities.

Vicki transitioned into WA Health in 2015 and is currently the Head of Department Social Work at King Edward Memorial Hospital.

## ALLISON LEONARD

### *Treasurer*

Allison holds a Bachelor degree in Business and is a qualified CPA with over 20 years experience. Her career has encompassed manufacturing, the public sector and the not-for-profit-sector.

Allison is the Executive General Manager of Corporate Support for Anglicare WA. Her portfolio covers finance, IT, human resources, OH&S, facilities, corporate administration, quality and risk, op shops, and insurance. Allison's responsibilities also include attending Audit and Risk committee and board meetings. Allison is also a board member of the WACOSS Finance Committee.

## CHARLOTTE CAIN

### *Secretary*

Charlotte has over 16 years' experience in Out of Home Care as a Social Worker in both the UK and Australia. Charlotte recently finished working at Wanslea Family Services where she had been employed for close to 13 years, with the last seven and a half years as Operations Manager for the Out of Home Care team. Charlotte has recently gained a Professional Coaching Certificate and has also been involved in social work consultation projects.

She has been on the Fin WA Management Committee since 2009 and maintains her commitment to the organisation. Charlotte has an interest in supporting the development of new social workers and has been a Career Mentor for social work students at UWA since 2011.

## KYLE MARTIN

### *Committee Member*

Kyle Martin is an experienced lawyer in the Family Law Division of Legal Aid WA. He commenced his career in 2008 and has held a number of positions in the community legal sector.

Kyle has practiced extensively in the child protection jurisdiction, acting for both parents and children as separate representatives. He has a special interest in child protection matters, and has participated in various working groups in the child protection arena.

## SONJA PARKER

### *Committee Member*

Sonja is an independent social worker and child protection consultant from Perth, Western Australia. Sonja has worked in both government and non-government child protection roles, in investigation, children-in-care, as well as reunification and family preservation programmes. Through SP Consultancy, Sonja provides consultation and training to child protection organisations and practitioners around the world to support them in building their knowledge and skills in the 'Partnering for Safety' approach.

Sonja is passionate about supporting child protection workers, supervisors and child protection systems in the difficult work that they do, and about ensuring that family members, including children and young people, have a strong voice in planning for their future. Through this work, Sonja has developed a number of tools, processes and resources, to assist child protection professionals and family members in working together more effectively to build future safety for children.

## SHARLENE MCDONALD

### *Family Partner & Committee Member*

I have been associated with Fin WA since 2013 when I participated in the Parent Voice project which led to the publication of 'Our Life, Our Journey'. I have been a client of Fin WA, as I have three children in permanent out of home care. Following the pre-birth signs of safety process, I now have my one-year-old son safely at home with me and my husband.

I became a Family Partner so I can walk alongside families to help them navigate the complexity of being involved with the Department of Communities.

I became a committee member in December 2018 in the hope of influencing systemic change in policy and practice.

## RENNA GAYDE

### *Family Partner & Committee Member*

I am an Aboriginal mother of four beautiful girls, born in NSW, living in WA for twenty-five years.

I became involved with the Department fourteen years ago after the birth of my third child. She was apprehended at five days old from the hospital without prior consultation or discussion. My three-year-old was also apprehended at the same time.

Over the following ten years, while battling with the Department, I became involved in some research and spoke at conferences regarding removal of babies from their mothers. This work, alongside others, and the dedication of a collective of passionate advocates and parents, saw the birth of Fin WA.

I am currently studying Social Work at University and work part time as a lived experience educator/advisor. My role at Fin WA as a Family Partner has fulfilled the vision of supporting other families who are struggling with statutory intervention. The emotional and practical support Family Partners offer is everything I wished for when my family were experiencing the unique and devastating challenges of being separated from each other.

Fin WA carries out the very vital and complex work of supporting and advocating for birth families with the deepest respect, compassion and integrity. The team have amazing capacity for building relationships and promoting empowerment. I feel very blessed to be a part of the team and on the Management Committee.

# CHAIRPERSON REPORT



**Fin WA continues to lead the nation in its attempts to provide a consumer informed child protection system and is achieved across a range of activities from:- direct engagement with families; training of the sector; parent consultations and input into policy and practice; and systems reform more generally.**

This is a testament to the commitment of the staff, committee, volunteers and supporters to ensure the voice of parents are central to all its work. The ability to truly hear and listen to the stories will not only improve outcomes for parents but also for their children and the broader system of child protection.

Fin WA has been focussing on its partnerships and relationships with various stakeholders including; Aboriginal Communities both locally and regionally; other service providers including the Legal system, to work collaboratively to further enhance the support of parents within child protection. It's been successful in engaging the Court system by hosting a Legal Symposium which was attended by stakeholders across the legal system and subsequently seen the advent of the trial of the Therapeutic Court.

In addition, a Legal Symposium for interested stakeholders involved in providing support to families going through the Child Protection System was organised by the Family Inclusion Network of WA Inc. (Fin WA) in March 2019. The purpose of the symposium was to 'raise the profile and experience of families facing statutory intervention in Children's Court proceeding with limited or no legal representation'.

At this symposium, a number of issues were identified, including overwhelming support for the concept of a specialist court list with therapeutic elements for protection and care proceedings. Discussion Paper – A Therapeutic Approach for Protection and Care in the Children's Court in WA.

This is a significant achievement for Fin WA in elevating the voice of lived experience and Fin WA has now been given the opportunity to provide an Advocate and Peer Worker for the Therapeutic work – well done to the team and parents!

Fin WA has now operated under the new management structure for the past year with the inclusion of the Operations Manager. This has allowed the Executive Officer to focus on the strategic opportunities and key relationships.

In terms of the committee, we have undertaken a review of the committee membership and skills capacity, and developed a plan for future appointments based on experience and skills required. This is in line with our constitutional changes where we have a commitment to have committee turnover in a gradual and planned manner.

This will be my last annual report as I will be standing down as Chair and Committee after a decade as Chair and a connection with Fin WA for 13+ years! It's been an absolute privilege to be part of the formation of Fin WA and to help steer the organisation over this time. I have valued the relationships with the team and parents who I have come to know during this time. You are the unsung heroes of making a more balanced child protection system.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Debbie and the staff, volunteers and Board members for their dedication and contribution to the work of the agency during this time. I would like to especially acknowledge Debbie's leadership of the organisation over the past decade – the success of the organisation is a testament to her commitment and hard work! I would also like to acknowledge the many individuals and families who have taken the courage to engage with Fin WA. We genuinely hope that your voice is heard and that your lives have benefitted from speaking up.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Berger". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**John Berger**  
*Chairperson*





*We acknowledge the individuals and families who  
have taken the courage to engage with Fin WA.*

*We genuinely hope that your voice is heard  
and that your lives have benefitted  
from speaking up.*

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT



**As we end the 2019/20 year I am pleased to say we have again been steadfast amidst significant sector and community upheaval. Whether it be riding the uncertainty and associated fear that COVID-19 brought, or the sector instability around reform and contracting.**

It is the commitment, skill and aptitude of the Fin WA staff that keeps the momentum and high level of effective work continuing with families.

At the end of 2019 we were still gaining traction from the Legal Symposium held in March which opened up many possibilities. Elevating the disempowering experiences of parents in the legal processes is a human rights issue and one we will adamantly continue to fight for.

The community sector, particularly out of home care, has been in a state of reform for many years and for various reasons the agenda keeps being delayed. While this unending process has been challenging, Fin WA has continued to participate and hold a firm voice representing parents and families through the turmoil. In particular, we now partake in the Independent Reference Group for OOHc and during COVID-19, we were strong participants in the State-wide Taskforce for Children in Care.

Given the size of our organisation I believe we responded to the COVID-19 crisis exceptionally well. Staff embraced the challenge of working from home, and interfacing with families and stakeholders via video platforms with speed and enthusiasm. This complicated and distressing time was managed well, with quick responses to disenfranchised families on an individual basis and on a systems level. Of note, our parent programme was arguably the first to set up workshops and individual sessions on line; as well as running playgroup on line within the first few weeks. The staff demonstrated creativity and courage to do so.

One of the consequences of COVID-19 was that our application to Lotterywest for a grant to develop our peer work could not be submitted. This was due to new criteria being set that were to meet the crisis of COVID-19. This change does not sway our commitment to the central role that parents can play as leaders and participants in child protection. Internationally there is growing evidence that parents as leaders is bringing about significant change in systems. To this end, we will stand strong in advancing this work and we appreciate our colleagues in the sector who are willing to do so with us.

Looking ahead, the challenge for Fin WA is meeting the demand for service set against our very limited resources. We remain focussed on ensuring a high quality standard of work, being relationship based, holding the voice of parents as central to all we do, being effective and purposeful in all our tasks, and ensuring our staff are cared for.

**Debbie Henderson**  
*Executive Officer*



**It is my pleasure to present the 2019/20 audited financial statements for Fin WA.**

Fin WA reported a surplus of \$38,963 for the 2019/20 financial year.

Income for the year is \$813,666, an increase of \$142,679 from 2018/19. Grant income makes up 88% of total income, other income sources include the Covid-19 cash boost, interest and membership dues.

Expenditure for the year is \$774,703. Employee benefits make up 80% of total expenditure and accommodation 7.4%. This is consistent with prior years and budget expectations.

The balance sheet remained steady over the financial year. Cash assets increased \$45,091k, reflecting the reported surplus. Employee leave provisions have increased \$16,538, a separate bank account has been established to ensure that leave provisions are cash backed at all times. Net Assets are \$245,240 compared to \$206,276 in 2018/19.

In summary, Fin WA is in a solid financial position with strong reserves and operational model.

The financial accounts were audited by Thornburys Accountants and Advisors, Chartered Accountants.

Allison Leonard  
*Treasurer*

**Advocates continue to strive towards providing a high quality of service and support to the families who we work with, within the Fin WA philosophy and framework of a non-adversarial, working-with approach.**

**Our achievements throughout this year include:**

- the facilitation of, or input into, several family-led safety plans that have supported decision-making for babies to go home safely with their parents, rather than into care, or to return home through the reunification process;
- assistance with understanding key documents like s143 proposals for parents with limited literacy/English and/or intellectual and cognitive disabilities;
- some care plan meeting support as well as support with care plan reviews;
- significant community sector networking and education about the child protection system and process in WA, as we work collaboratively with other professionals alongside families;
- phone and email-delivered information and advice to parents in regional areas;
- emotional support to grieving parents, particularly during COVID-19 when contact suddenly ceased;
- and underscoring all of this, our biggest achievement is our commitment to working relationally, respectfully, and inclusively, with all parents, families and workers. THIS is the standard we apply to all of our work.

The high demand for Fin WA service, set against our limited resources (less than 3FTE advocates), continues to present the biggest challenge. Although we have to prioritise clients (those who identify as Aboriginal, those with children under three years of age, those with an intellectual disability, those who were children in care themselves), the whole spectrum of families intersecting with child protection request support from Fin WA. Managing this demand, delivering what we can to whom, ensuring a high quality of relationship-based support to families - while also ensuring advocates are looked after - is the core challenge of our work.

The experience of family and domestic violence as a precipitating factor for families presenting to child protection and other systems, continues to emerge as one of the most pressing issues facing us in our work. The level and extent of family and domestic violence appears to present mothers, in particular, with a very complex set of circumstances as they navigate both the interpersonal violence and the additional layers of complexity that the child protection system presents.

*Caitlin Green,  
Senior Advocate.*



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & FAMILY PARTNER (PEER) WORK

## *Community Development Officer*

Despite the disruption of COVID-19, it has been a very busy and productive year with an increased sense of integration and flow between different work areas of Fin WA.

## *Family Partner and Volunteer training*

The family partner and volunteer work is continuing to develop with a growing sense of confidence that the depth and quality of both the training, and the organisational readiness, is producing Family Partners and Volunteers who are well prepared to support families in a variety of settings.

The second cohort of five Family Partners and one Volunteer commenced training in February, with four sessions delivered, before being interrupted by the COVID-19 restrictions in March. Not all families returned to complete the training when the Fin WA office re-opened, so two existing and five new people commenced training again in August. Even those people repeating the workshops reported a deeper understanding of the issues when participating in discussions with a new group of people.

We highly value the collaboration and relationships with Lifeline, Yorganop and Consumers of Mental Health WA (CoMHWA) through the delivery of training sessions. There has been mutual learning for all concerned.



*Zen drawings and other crafts*



*Suzi, Jacquie and Renna*



*A Parent Pack*




*Pamper Day – Emily receiving a hand massage from Suzi*



*Donations of clothes, bags and shoes for those who want them*



*Staff, volunteers and family partners in training with Yorganop.*



*“The experiences of parents with lived experience is central to us elevating their voices in systemic advocacy.”*

### *Family Partner and Volunteer Roles*

There has been an increase in the transition of families from the intense work of Advocacy to being connected to a Family Partner for more ongoing emotional support. We have created a growing number of tools that offer information and support to help families stay engaged and hopeful in their child protection experience:

- **Parent Pack** These packs include tips sheets, a diary, notebook and other information to guide parents through the child protection processes; it also contains helpful reminders about selfcare and has calming activities (mindfulness colouring). The packs are provided from parent to parent, and has been gratefully received by families, as well as helping other services understand the system a little more. The packs are really practical and helpful.
- **Art Space and Pamper Days** Friday mornings remain a drop-in support space, with art activities available each week. Volunteers have also offered massage and hand beauty treatments on Pamper Mornings, and this has brought more families to the office to receive support and connection.
- **Baby Bundles and Other Practical Support** have been a very concrete way to provide support to families experiencing poverty, and is a personal gift at a time when families can feel so alone.
- **Conversations with a Family Partner** increasing numbers of conversations are occurring between parents and Family Partners. Family Partners can speak to parents over the phone or in person. These conversations, with someone who has lived experience of the child protection system, provides reassurance, hope and clarification of priorities for families.

### *Family Partner and Volunteer Roles*

- **Training** During a trip to Bunbury in February, a Family Partner co-facilitated training to carers, and provided valuable input to the Finding Your Way training to lawyers. Feedback from these sessions indicated that hearing from someone with lived experience was a highlight of the training.
- A volunteer was working with an advocate at Perth Children’s Court one day a week, providing a very calm and supportive presence. This ceased due to COVID-19, and we are exploring how this can be reintroduced.
- Fin WA are continuing to explore roles for Family Partners with Key Assets to ensure the voice of parents is included in the recruitment and training of carers and other aspects of their work with children in care.
- Consultations: the experiences of parents with lived experience is central to us elevating their voices in systemic advocacy. Throughout this year various consults were held, usually over delicious lunches!

Jacquie Mayne  
*Community Development Officer*

## BABY BUNDLES

The idea for creating 'baby bundles' came from the vast amount of baby items I had that belonged to my baby Eli - they were in pristine condition and many were brand new. I didn't want to donate them to the Op shops as I wanted them to go to people who were in need. I sit on the Fin WA management committee, and after one of our meetings I approached Vicki Tate, who is the head of the social work department at King Edward Memorial Hospital (KEMH), and I asked how I could donate to the hospital - well, it took off from there! As I only had boy items I started looking on the 'free' pages on Facebook to start gathering girl items.

Seventy bundles were initially made and distributed. From there Jacquie contacted Fiona Stanley Hospital (FSH) and the next lot of sixty were divided between the two hospitals. When we delivered them to KEMH, the Social Worker was excited to have the packs and said how beautiful they were.

When we did the drop off at FSH, all the Social Workers came down to meet me and Eli - the co-founder! I explained how I started this and how it's something I will continue to do thanks to the support from the community and their ongoing donations.

There are mums who now contact me before they place anything they have on the free pages; they sometimes offer larger items like cots, change tables, bassinets etc. Items have been delivered directly to my home, and other times Eli and I go on treasure hunts to collect them!

We have been everywhere across the metropolitan area from Alkimos, Butler, Willetton, Attadale, Scarborough, Balcatta, Mullaloo, Joondalup, Midvale, Lesmurdie and places I can't even remember.

Each bundle includes a blanket, sleeping bag, 5-7 sets of clothing, nappies, soft toy, rattle, sample products, socks, beanie, bibs, and singlets - they are made up by size and season. The Fin WA advocates can make requests for families they are working with, including furniture items. One of my close friend's mum knits blankets ongoing as the wool is also donated - so far she has made approximately eighty blankets.

My donation ads are on Facebook and Gumtree.

Sharlene,  
*Family Partner & Peer Worker.*





*“Each bundle includes a blanket, sleeping bag, 5-7 sets of clothing, nappies, soft toy, rattle, sample products, socks, beanie, bibs, and singlets - they are made up by size and season.”*

**Please accept this gift from the Family Partners at Fin WA (The Family Inclusion Network of WA).**

Family Partners are families who have been involved with the child protection system and can offer support to others going through this process. We are here to help you find your inner strength and hold on to hope as you make this journey.

For more information about our support group and art space, please call Jacquie on 9328 6434 or check out our website: [www.finwa.org.au](http://www.finwa.org.au)

*Baby Bundle 1*

**Please accept this gift from the Family Partners at Fin WA (The Family Inclusion Network of WA).**

Family Partners are families who have been through the child protection system and can offer support to others going through this process. We are here to help you find your inner strength and hold on to hope as you make this journey.

For more information about our support group and art space please call Jacquie on: 9328 6434 or check out our website: [www.finwa.org.au](http://www.finwa.org.au)

*Baby Bundle 2*



### THE JOSEPH FAMILY

---

*“Harriet was empowered to identify her own strengths which she found to be a very unique and positive experience. This supported her to make a slight shift in her self-perception which further motivated her towards the path of reunification”.*

**A referral was received from the Department for an African family with three young children who had recently been taken into care on a time limited order. The Department identified safety concerns related to differences in how the parents’ cultural practices were impacting the children – specifically their discipline measures, and their limited understanding of the Australian laws and our child protection system.**

Mr & Mrs Joseph, and the Department, were all committed to working together to address the safety concerns so that reunification with the children would occur as soon as possible. Bringing Up Great Kids (BUGK) parenting programme was able to provide the six week parenting workshop to the couple as an individualised, intensive programme. Over a two-week period, Mr & Mrs Joseph attended all six sessions.

Through the process of sharing their cultural beliefs, values, and hopes for their children’s future, they identified which BUGK strategies would work well for their family and be able to address the safety concerns. They adopted new strategies which effectively helped them to establish boundaries by using loving communication, an understanding of their children’s developmental stages, and appropriate behaviours.

Mr & Mrs Joseph also increased their knowledge and understanding of the Australian laws (specifically the Children and Community Services ACT) and the requirements for statutory intervention.

They noted that this information was particularly useful for them personally and also for their African community. They will share their learnings with other community members and suggested they would be keen to share it more formally through a collaboration between Fin WA and their local church congregation.

The BUGK programme is very flexible in its delivery. By adapting the series into an intensive programme, the family were able to work towards a speedy reunification with their children, reducing the length of time the children were in care, and minimising their traumatic experience of separation.

The programme is sensitive to each parent’s individual parenting journey, and unique cultural beliefs. It can provide a range of strategies that parents can incorporate to meet their personal style. This adaptability was important for Mr and Mrs Joseph, who found themselves in a challenging position, doing their best to raise their children across two very different cultures and judicial systems.

Two days following the end of the workshops, they were reunited with their four children. The timing of this meant they were able to spend the upcoming two-week school holiday together as a family and begin to settle back into life as a family unit.

*\* Names have been changed*



## OUR COVID 19 RESPONSE

As the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic became more certain, Fin WA responded swiftly and thoughtfully to the needs of staff and our clients. This was a challenging and difficult time, none more so than for vulnerable families who faced uncertainty and heartache as contact with their children ceased, inconsistent messaging to parents regarding contact and meetings, cessation / delay of meetings with DoC (including pre-birth Sos meetings, other Sos meetings, care plan meetings), significant delays to reunification, and disruptions to court processes. Fin WA transitioned quickly to delivering advocacy and support services via online platforms such as Zoom and by telephone.

The staff at Fin WA promptly liaised with other organisations and the department to advocate for the families and challenge the decisions being made about parents. Collective advocacy occurred with our legal, health and judicial colleagues, that challenged and overturned Departmental policy and practice decisions regarding contact. This was not an easy task but highly significant.

To ensure the safety of staff and clients, all staff were working from home as of 30/03/2020. We immediately set up a daily check in to support each other and keep on top of developments, as information was changing daily.

In order to keep the team well connected and supported through working from home, each morning we connected via 'zoom' for a check in: 'what self-care strategy will you undertake for yourself today, what did you achieve yesterday and what tasks do you need to achieve today?' One day, our musically gifted staff member, Lyndsey, played the piano and sang for us; on other days we were introduced to children, grandchildren, husbands, pets; and other times we viewed gardens and other interests such as crafts.

In response to COVID-19 restrictions, Fin WA created the following resources to assist parents with children in care and other stakeholders:

- Tip sheet for parents answering children's questions about Coronavirus
- Tip sheet for parents and others getting the most out of video chats
- Tips sheet for case workers
- Creative ways to keep connection with infants and babies under one year
- Online contact activities for toddlers
- Online contact activities for preschool aged children
- Online contact activities for school aged children

These resources were shared with key stakeholders and are still available on Fin WA's website.

As the risks and concerns regarding COVID-19 lessened, Fin WA gradually returned to 'business as usual'. Staff were office based again by the end of April and able to attend meetings with parents, the Department and court, in person.



*Staff member Jo's work from home space*

Debbie Henderson, Fin WA's Executive Officer, continues in the chairperson role for FIN A. Most of the year has been consumed with making changes to the constitution which now allows 'allies' of FIN A to join the membership base. Our monthly teleconferences continue where we provide updates from our respective regions, share experiences and expertise about our system advocacy. As the majority of FIN entities is run by volunteers, progressing our collective work for a national voice is challenging.

At the commencement of COVID-19, all the FIN entities rallied to support each other as we all grappled with the punitive strategies of our state and territory governments implementing blanket responses of no 'in person contact' between birth parents and their children in care; reunification processes were halted, children in care were not being seen by case workers and many other concerns.

FIN A documented these concerns which was circulated to the state and territory governments and community leaders.

At an international level the formation of the International Parent Advocacy Network (IPAN) was to be launched in New York in June. Again due to COVID-19, this was postponed indefinitely. Fin WA represented by Renna and Debbie, participates on the steering group for IPAN. We have contributed to an international on line resource being developed for parents to become advocates. A website is under construction and a range of other resources will be made available in coming months.

## PHOTO SNIPPETS

*FIN WA Team day*



*OOHC Consultation*



*Thank you gift from a parent*

## TRAINING

In February this year, we delivered our first country training session in Bunbury. Our Family Partner Renna and Executive Officer Debbie, delivered training to 12 foster carers and staff of Key Assets. It was a very engaged group, that all responded exceptionally well to hearing directly from a parent with lived experience of child removal. Some comments were:

'I enjoyed the training very much; thank you for your time and the honest conversations. I've always felt that together both biological parents and foster carers can work together to love and care for the children in our care.'

'A joy to hear the heart of the parent.'

'This is the best training I've ever been to, and I'm a teacher!'

**Debbie also delivered the 'Finding Your Way' training - to a group of 10 community legal centre lawyers. These comments included:**

'This was a most informative training, being both practical for my everyday practice, and a huge benefit for my clients ... I can convey information about the department guidelines and procedures. It helped me understand some of the decisions they make.'


**Fin WA is now delivering the 'Finding Your Way' training to the Mirrabooka community as part of the Communities for Children contract. It is intended to upskill key stakeholders in the local area regarding child protection interventions, policies and legislation. Comments received included:**

'Valuable information - it broadens perspective on how the system works and how to navigate the space'

'This training helps to simplify the Department processes and highlights what workers can do to really support parents'

'The Department has some very "hard-line" rules, and all respect to Fin WA who give incredible support, advocacy and hope to parents; helping to get better outcomes'

'The presentation was incredibly insightful, authentic and honest.'



*“ It broadens perspective on how the system works and how to navigate the space”*

# SYSTEMIC ADVOCACY & LEGAL WORK

Throughout the year Fin WA has contributed significantly to system reform in several areas.

**We consulted widely with parents and our membership providing written submissions in relation to the proposed Specialist Child Protection Unit, the Pilot Therapeutic Court, the Children and Community Services Act review, and the Out of Home Care Reform (particularly the co-design process).**

We have continued to advocate for respectful inclusion of parents in all aspects of child protection and legal processes, doing so on the; Independent Reference Group for the OOHRC Reform, the Children's Policy Advisory Council (WACOSS), the Child and Family Alliance of WA (formerly The Alliance for Children at Risk and CYFAA, amalgamated in July 2020), and the COVID-19 Taskforce for Children in Care.

Throughout the difficult COVID-19 period we participated in the statewide response sitting on the Taskforce for Children in Care which included sub working groups for legal and education issues.

Participation on advisory research projects continued with the Telethon Kids Institute: on 'Infant removal and the experience of mothers in the process'; 'The experiences of grandparents raising their grandchildren' conducted by Wanslea and Edith Cowan University; and 'Enhancing safety in working with families affected by family violence' by Curtin and South Australian Universities. We also worked with Legal Aid WA to expand the 'Keep em Safe' resources, simple language and graphics explaining child protection and children's court processes.

**Due to COVID-19 our planned second legal symposium had to be postponed until December 2020.**

**The influence of our first symposium in March 2019 has seen significant developments in a range of areas. The formation of the Protection and Care Advocacy Network (PCAN) meets regularly to; (1) elevate the issue of the lack of legal representation has and the impact on children, young people, their families and communities (2) to support each other in quests to advance the need for legal representation for parents and families (3) to keep abreast of changes and advancements in this space and (4) to plan for the next symposium.**

At the time of writing this report there were various projects underway advancing the need for legal representation. These include, but not limited to:

- The formation of the Alliance of Lawyers Practising in Protection and Care (ALPPACA) - a network for lawyers working in protection and care matters, chaired by barrister, Laura De Maio. The purpose is to support and encourage each other, especially those new to PC; as well as consult on particular issues, and identify areas of professional development. They also contribute to issues of law reform and legal practice relating to P&C.
- Negotiations between Women's Legal Services WA and Ashurst Lawyers to establish a small pro bono pilot project
- An article being written by Celine Harrison (lead author) on 'Infant Removal and Legal Representation'; another paper on a 'Contact Tool Kit'
- A partnership between Ruah and Mental Health Law Centre seeking funding to establish a protection and care team of lawyers and support workers
- Influencing the establishment of a Therapeutic Court
- The promotion of pro bono legal representation particularly through Law Access.

## WHAT'S NEWS?

- **Finding Your Way Through the Child Protection System** document is in the final stages of being updated and professionally printed
- **'Charter of rights for parents and families involved with statutory child protection in WA'** is in its final draft. We hope it can be launched in the very near future
- **The Fin WA website** is in the process of being updated – keep your eye out in the next few months!
- **Networking with a difference** events were held in November 2019 and March 2020 to provide a reflective space for workers from various services to connect and support each other, in the hope of building our collaborative work. A total of twenty-one people from twelve organisations attended the two events
- **A new database is being developed to cater for our specific needs**

## PRESENTATIONS

Fin WA staff and Family Partners have delivered presentations about the history, philosophy and work of Fin WA to various organisations such as; Cyrenian, Zonta, Women's Health and Family Services, Palmerston, and the Indigenous Health Info Network.

The main purpose is to raise awareness of our service, the complexities that families encounter when they are intersecting the child protection system, and referral pathways for their clients. We also talk to the importance of keeping parent's voices elevated and to encourage their staff to participate in our 'Finding Your Way' training.



*Presentation to the Indigenous Health Info Network*



## MORNING TEA

### *With Foster Care Association WA & Create*

A special meeting was held at Fin WA in February with the staff from FCAWA and CREATE. All of our organisations represent the three key groups of those involved in the out of home care system – all work towards supporting children, young people, their families and carers to be listened to, and to influence systemic change to achieve better outcomes for children. It was a wonderful opportunity to talk about our shared concerns as we all seek to maintain positive and meaningful relationships between children, parents and carers.

We discussed the importance of relational permanence no matter where a child is living, and of the imperative to help everyone feel heard, respected and included in planning and decision making.



*“It was a wonderful opportunity to talk about our shared concerns as we all seek to maintain positive and meaningful relationships between children, parents and carers”.*



## 2019 SOCIAL WORK STUDENT

### *Reflections from Pauline Johnstone ...*

I am a Curtin University student, and completed my first social work placement at Fin WA. I was both apprehensive but excited at being on placement, and learning on the job about people from diverse backgrounds in a system which is highly stressful and challenging for families. I got a variation of exposure from the very beginning which was energising and great for my development. This was done with the utmost dedication from the staff.

I have found myself in a very dynamic, empowering and challenging environment where the staff showed high level skills in engaging in deep reflective practice. Staff listen deeply to the voices and experiences of the families, acknowledging the complexities in working in a system that at times has resulted in parents stating that they have felt ignored and excluded. Parents who contact Fin WA receive a great deal of support and advocacy where needed, having very strong values in accordance with the AASW and the organisation. The values are inclusive of transparency, respectful attitude towards everyone, acknowledging and appreciating diversity, promoting partnerships and working culturally safe.

In the first few weeks I worked alongside Jacquie in the family partner's training and felt privileged to be involved and was given the chance to hear what families' experiences were like for them. I was highly aware of my presence within this space and observed in the first session, some high-quality relationships developing between the family partners and the staff. There was a sense of trust and parents could open up and tell their story without fear of judgement. This was brilliant work and I believe I have developed wisdom around the intricacies in families' situations, recognising the barriers that they face.

I attended meetings with all three advocates in various scenarios, recognising differences in the way they do their work, from taking notes to communicating with the client.

Staff develop safe and trusting relationships, starting work from where the person is in their life at that time. The work is relational which requires engaging with individuals and acknowledging people's distress with an understanding of the limitations they experience which hinder them in moving forward.

*“There was a sense of trust and parents could open up and tell their story without fear of judgement.”*



# Thank you

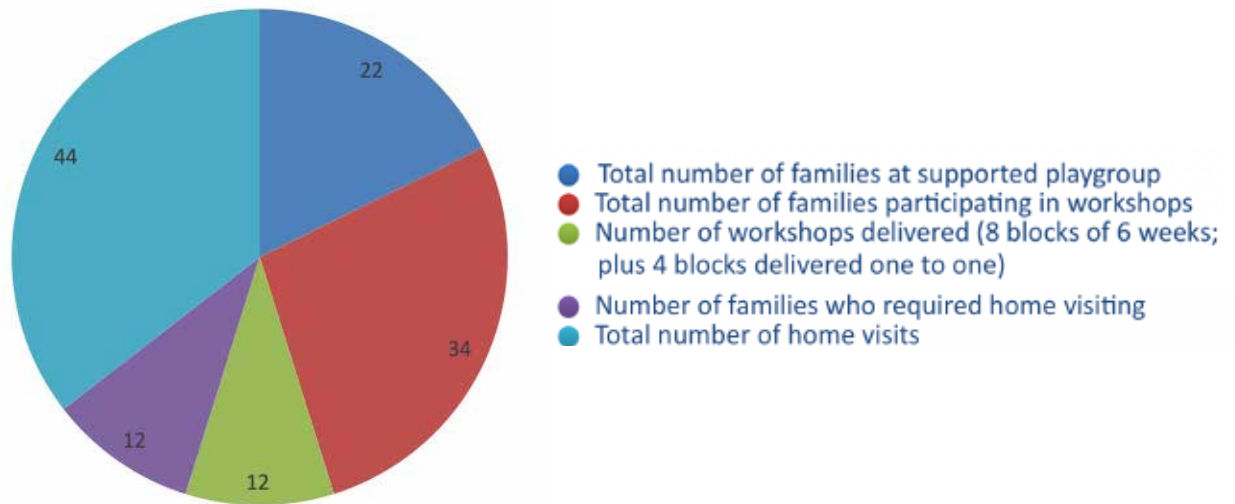
The work of Fin WA is supported by parents, our volunteers and friends. Some key people who have helped significantly include the work of Celine Harrison who has provided assistance to parents and grandparents to write a responding affidavit for the Court. Families receive affidavits from the Department that include evidence as to why their children need to be in the care of the CEO. Families who have legal representation sometimes have lawyers who will write the responding affidavits, but many do not. Alongside our advocates, Celine has been a regular volunteer sitting alongside parents helping them to write their response, and to tell their story of their life circumstances. This takes many hours of work so Celine's contribution to parent's participation in the court process is extremely beneficial.

Margaret Hales has been training as a volunteer and has attended the Children's Court alongside our advocates; she is providing emotional support and information to parents. Margaret was just about ready to attend court alone when COVID-19 restrictions meant this work had to cease, but we expect to reinstate this role very soon.

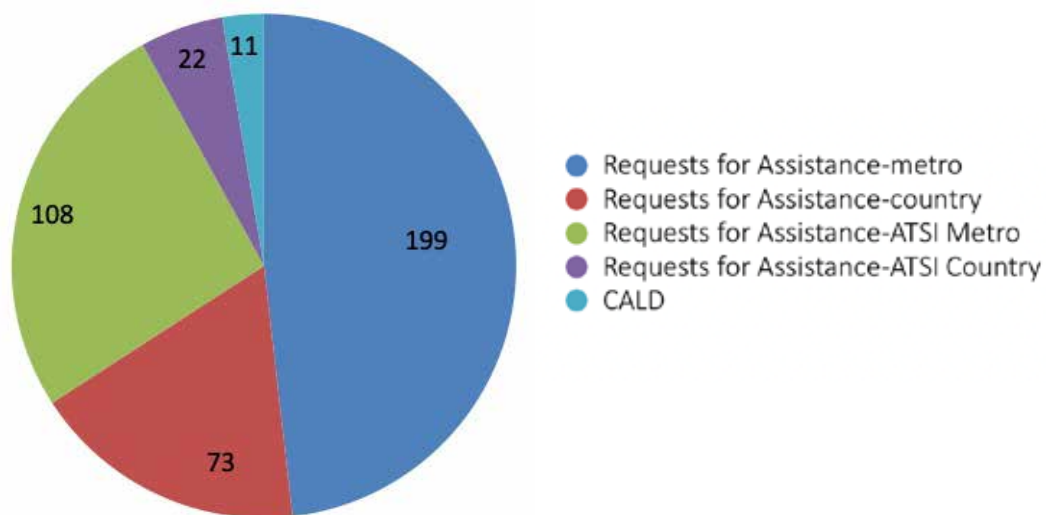
Obviously our Family Partners – Renna and Sharlene, have been contributing on our management committee as well as being available at the office for parents to drop in; and have made connections with parents at the request of advocates. Renna and Sharlene have met with parents face to face or had chats on the phone, helping parents to keep strong and hopeful when all seems lost.

THANK YOU to all our supporters, friends and allies

## BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS



## FAMILIES

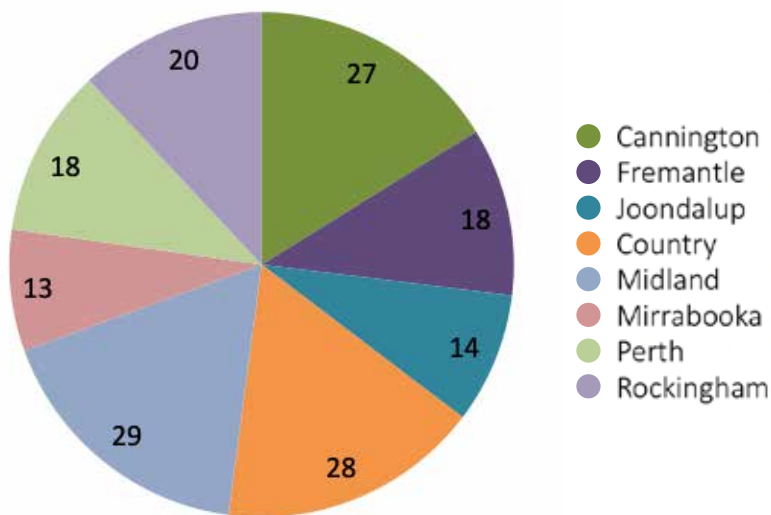


## FAMILIES WHO RECEIVED SUPPORT

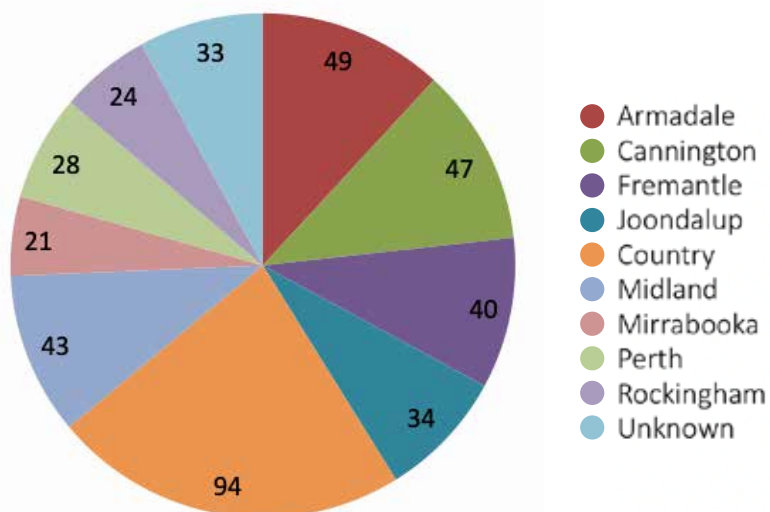


# STATISTICS

## DEPARTMENT DISTRICTS – OPEN CASES



## DEPARTMENT DISTRICTS – REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE



*Supporting Families Involved in the Child Protection System*



**THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

---

The Family Inclusion Network of WA Inc.

156 Vincent St, North Perth WA 6006 \* PO Box 140, Perth WA 6906

T 08 9328 6434 F 08 9227 9052 E [info@finwa.org.au](mailto:info@finwa.org.au) W [www.finwa.org.au](http://www.finwa.org.au)

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## CONTENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

Committee's report	1
Income statement	2
Balance sheet	3
Statement of changes in equity	4
Cash flow statement	5
Notes to the financial statements	6
Statement by members of committee	13
Auditor's review report	14

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## COMMITTEE'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

Your committee members submit the financial report of The Family Inclusion Network of Western Australia for the financial year ended 30 June 2020.

### Committee members

The names of the committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

John Berger - Chairperson  
Charlotte Cain - Secretary  
Allison Leonard - Treasurer  
Sonja Parker  
Vicki Butcher  
Renna Gayde  
Kyle Martin  
Sharlene McDonald

### Principal activities

The principal activity of the association during the financial year is:

to promote the enduring rights and benefits of a child to have their parents, family and community involved in respectful and inclusive processes within the child protection system

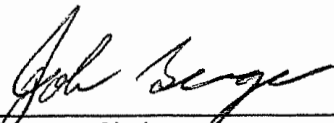
### Significant changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

### Operating result

The surplus (deficit) of the Association for the financial year amounted to \$38,964.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the Committee:



John Berger - Chairperson



Allison Leonard - Treasurer

Dated \_\_\_\_ September 2020



# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Income</b>			
Revenue		813,666.47	670,987.56
	<b>10</b>	<u>813,666.47</u>	<u>670,987.56</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Accountancy & audit fees		10,010.00	9,200.00
Depreciation		3,284.16	4,330.00
Employee benefits expenses		618,750.84	478,338.12
Other expenses		142,657.94	180,016.62
		<u>774,702.94</u>	<u>671,884.74</u>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>		<u>38,963.53</u>	<u>(897.18)</u>
Retained surplus at the beginning of the financial year		206,276.44	207,173.62
<b>Retained surplus at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>9</b>	<u>245,239.97</u>	<u>206,276.44</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	324,664.25	279,573.36
Trade and other receivables	4	30,607.74	21,771.46
Other current assets	5	7,033.55	5,850.52
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>362,305.54</u>	<u>307,195.34</u>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Trade and other receivables	4	5,000.00	5,000.00
Property, plant and equipment	6	16,656.89	17,791.05
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<u>21,656.89</u>	<u>22,791.05</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>383,962.43</u>	<u>329,986.39</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	7	71,045.05	72,570.29
Provisions	8	37,080.71	29,393.76
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u>108,125.76</u>	<u>101,964.05</u>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Provisions	8	30,596.70	21,745.90
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<u>30,596.70</u>	<u>21,745.90</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>138,722.46</u>	<u>123,709.95</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>245,239.97</u>	<u>206,276.44</u>
<b>Members' funds</b>			
Retained surplus	9	245,239.97	206,276.44
<b>Total members' funds</b>		<u>245,239.97</u>	<u>206,276.44</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

Note	Retained earnings \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2018</b>	207,174	207,174
(Deficit) attributable to members	(897)	(897)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2019</b>	206,277	206,277
Surplus attributable to members	38,963	39,630
<b>Balance at 30 June 2020</b>	245,240	245,906

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from customers		798,525.05	710,737.40
Payments to suppliers and employees		(750,899.64)	(680,909.70)
Interest received		1,850.30	2,999.35
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>11</b>	<u>49,475.71</u>	<u>32,827.05</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payments for plant and equipment		(2,150.00)	(1,265.00)
Loans advanced		(2,234.82)	-
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>		<u>(4,384.82)</u>	<u>(1,265.00)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from borrowings		-	1,604.07
<b>Net cash provided by financing activities</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>1,604.07</u>
Net increase in cash held		45,090.89	33,166.12
Cash at beginning of financial year		279,573.36	246,407.24
Cash at end of financial year	<b>3</b>	<u>324,664.25</u>	<u>279,573.36</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

The financial statements cover The Family Inclusion Network of Western Australia as an individual entity. The Family Inclusion Network of Western Australia is a not-for-profit association incorporated in Western Australia under the Associations Incorporations Act (WA) 2015 ('the Act').

The principal activity of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2020 is:

to promote the enduring rights and benefits of a child to have their parents, family and community involved in respectful and inclusive processes within the child protection system

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

#### 1 Basis of preparation

The Family Inclusion Network of Western Australia (the Association) is a community based not-for-profit organisation. The address of the Association's registered office is 156 Vincent Street, North Perth WA 6006. The Association's aim is to promote the enduring rights and benefits of a child to have their parents, family and community involved in respectful and inclusive processes within the child protection system.

The Committee of Management has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

In the opinion of the Committee of Management the Association is a medium size charitable entity. The financial report of the Association has been drawn up as a special purpose financial report for distribution to the members and for the purpose of fulfilling the regulatory requirements of the Charitable Collections Advisory Committee of the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety under the Charitable Collections Act (WA) 1946 and thus of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 (ACNC), the Associations Incorporation Act (WA) 2015 and the Association's Constitution.

#### Statement of Compliance

The special purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 (ACNC) and the recognition, measurement and classification aspects of the applicable Australian Accounting Standards (AASBs) adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and listed below:

The financial report does not include the disclosure requirements of all AASBs except for the following minimum requirements: AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, AASB 1048 Interpretation and Application of Standards and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures to the extent deemed appropriate by the Board.

#### Basis of Measurement

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

The financial statements cover The Family Inclusion Network of Western Australia as an individual entity. The Family Inclusion Network of Western Australia is a not-for-profit association incorporated in Western Australia under the Associations Incorporations Act (WA) 2015 ('the Act').

The principal activity of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2020 is:

to promote the enduring rights and benefits of a child to have their parents, family and community involved in respectful and inclusive processes within the child protection system

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

### 1 Basis of preparation

The Family Inclusion Network of Western Australia (the Association) is a community based not-for-profit organisation. The address of the Association's registered office is 156 Vincent Street, North Perth WA 6006. The Association's aim is to promote the enduring rights and benefits of a child to have their parents, family and community involved in respectful and inclusive processes within the child protection system.

The Committee of Management has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

In the opinion of the Committee of Management the Association is a medium size charitable entity. The financial report of the Association has been drawn up as a special purpose financial report for distribution to the members and for the purpose of fulfilling the regulatory requirements of the Charitable Collections Advisory Committee of the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety under the Charitable Collections Act (WA) 1946 and thus of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 (ACNC), the Associations Incorporation Act (WA) 2015 and the Association's Constitution.

#### Statement of Compliance

The special purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 (ACNC) and the recognition, measurement and classification aspects of the applicable Australian Accounting Standards (AASBs) adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and listed below:

The financial report does not include the disclosure requirements of all AASBs except for the following minimum requirements: AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, AASB 1048 Interpretation and Application of Standards and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures to the extent deemed appropriate by the Board.

#### Basis of Measurement

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

### 2 Summary of significant accounting policies

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

#### **Income tax**

The Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*. The Association is endorsed as a Registered Charity with ACNC and has Income Tax Exemption, including GST and FBT concessions with ATO.

#### **Deductible Gift Recipient**

The Association is approved as a Deductible Gift Recipient by the ATO as a Public Benevolent Institution. Gifts to the Association are tax deductible.

#### **Revenue and other income**

Revenue (including Grant income) is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Association and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below (see note 10), has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

Interest and other income is recognised when received.

#### **Goods and services tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

### **Property, plant and equipment**

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Property, plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the Association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

### **Employee benefits**

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits, together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave, have been measured at their amounts.

### **Impairment of non-financial assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the association determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

### **Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

### **Covid-19 Disclosure**

The ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the operations of the Association is unknown. The Board acknowledges the positive impact of the Federal Government's Covid-19 Support Package.

The Board acknowledges that the broader community may be impacted and this could affect the ongoing operations of the Association, in particular in regards to the cost of additional cleaning and social distancing affecting operations including working from home arrangements. The Board considers this impact is likely to be minimal and is unlikely to have significant effect on the ongoing viability of the Association operations.



# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>3 Cash and cash equivalents</b>			
Cheque account		52,297.79	35,978.20
Interest bearing account		194,208.72	166,947.26
Term deposit		77,912.31	76,602.47
Petty cash		245.43	45.43
		<u>324,664.25</u>	<u>279,573.36</u>
<b>4 Trade and other receivables</b>			
<b>Current</b>			
Accounts receivable		22.19	123.75
Deferred income		13,514.00	13,299.90
GST paid		17,071.55	8,347.81
		<u>30,607.74</u>	<u>21,771.46</u>
<b>Non-current</b>			
Rental bond		5,000.00	5,000.00
		<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>5,000.00</u>
<b>5 Other assets</b>			
<b>Current</b>			
Prepayments		7,033.55	5,850.52
		<u>7,033.55</u>	<u>5,850.52</u>

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>6 Property, plant and equipment</b>			
<b>Electrical appliances</b>			
Electrical appliances		1,000.00	-
<b>Office equipment</b>			
Office equipment		10,117.00	10,117.00
Office equip accum dep'n		(4,757.40)	(4,524.00)
		<u>5,359.60</u>	<u>5,593.00</u>
<b>Office furniture</b>			
Office furniture		4,762.00	4,762.00
Office furniture equip accum dep'n		(4,437.76)	(4,330.00)
		<u>324.24</u>	<u>432.00</u>
<b>Computer Equipment</b>			
Computer hardware		22,194.05	21,044.05
Computer accum dep'n		(12,221.00)	(9,278.00)
		<u>9,973.05</u>	<u>11,766.05</u>
		<u>16,656.89</u>	<u>17,791.05</u>
<b>7 Trade and other payables</b>			
<b>Current</b>			
Credit card		692.89	2,927.71
PAYG payable		12,266.81	4,798.81
Superannuation payable		7,546.11	3,997.10
Income in advance		51,096.81	56,095.92
Trade creditors		(557.57)	4,750.75
		<u>71,045.05</u>	<u>72,570.29</u>

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>8 Provisions</b>			
<b>Current</b>			
Provision for annual leave		28,820.14	23,144.69
Annual leave provision SGC		3,217.05	2,198.75
Annual leave loading		5,043.52	4,050.32
		<u>37,080.71</u>	<u>29,393.76</u>
<b>Non-current</b>			
LSL provision - provision		27,942.20	19,859.27
LSL provision - SGC		2,654.50	1,886.63
		<u>30,596.70</u>	<u>21,745.90</u>
<b>9 Retained surplus</b>			
Retained surplus at the beginning of the financial year		206,276.44	207,173.62
Net Surplus (Deficit) attributable to the association		38,963.53	(897.18)
Retained surplus at the end of the financial year		<u>245,239.97</u>	<u>206,276.44</u>

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>10 Income Reconciliation</b>			
<b>Grant - Dept for Child Protection</b>			
Funding from DCP		613,259.80	583,125.41
Last year deferred income brought back		56,095.92	-
This year deferred income carried forward		(51,096.77)	(56,095.92)
		<u>618,258.95</u>	<u>527,029.49</u>
<b>Grant – Communities for Children</b>			
Funding from CFC		137,000.00	133,000.00
Last year deferred income brought back		-	6,650.00
Return of underspent funds		-	(2,333.04)
This year deferred income carried forward		13,513.96	-
		<u>150,513.96</u>	<u>137,316.96</u>
<b>Other Revenue</b>			
		<u>44,893.56</u>	<u>6,641.11</u>
		<u>813,666.47</u>	<u>670,987.56</u>

In deferring income received from the Department for Child Protection, the Board has applied the recognition and measurement criteria of AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts, having determined that the performance obligations associated with the grant conditions are sufficiently specific to do so.

## 11 Cash Flow information

### Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with surplus for the year

Surplus (Deficit) for the year	38,963.53	(897.18)
<b>Non-cash flows in surplus</b>		
Loss on disposal of property, plant & equipment	-	-
Leave provisions	16,537.75	(9,291.22)
Depreciation and amortisation	3,284.16	4,330.00
<b>Changes in operating assets and liabilities</b>		
(Increase)/decrease in trade receivables	101.56	(43.35)
(Increase)/decrease in other current assets	(9,906.77)	(2,431.87)
Increase/(decrease) in trade payables	(5,308.32)	(3,647.25)
Increase/(decrease) in other current payables	5,803.80	44,807.92
	<u>49,475.71</u>	<u>32,827.05</u>

# THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

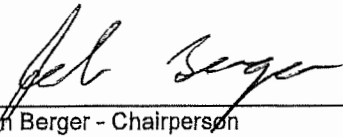
## STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE


The Committee of Management has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 2 to the financial statements.

The Committee of Management declared that in the Committee's opinion

1. there are reasonable grounds to believe that The Family Inclusion Network of Western Australia is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
2. the financial report and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012; and
3. the Committee has complied with the Governance Standards of the ACNC.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Berger - Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Allison Leonard - Treasurer

Dated \_\_\_\_ September 2020

## AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

#### Report on the financial report

We have reviewed the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of The Family Inclusion Network of Western Australia (the Association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2020, the income statement, summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by the committee.

#### Committee's responsibility for the financial report

The Committee of the Association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) Act 2012 and the Association's constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Committee's responsibility also 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.

#### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Auditing Standard on Review Engagements (ASRE) 2415 Review of a Financial Report: Entity Reporting, under the ACNC Act, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report does not satisfy the requirements of Division 60 of the ACNC Act including giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and its performance for the year ended on that date, and complying with any Australian Accounting Standards applicable and the ACNC Regulations 2013. ASRE 2415 requires that we comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the review of the financial report.

A review of a financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Association's financial reporting obligations under Division 60 of the ACNC Act 2012 and Division 60 of the ACNC Regulations 2013 and disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

# AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT

## TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY INCLUSION NETWORK OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABN: 79 120 328 061

### Conclusion

Based on our review, which is not an audit, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report of The Family Inclusion Network of Western Australia does not satisfy the requirements of Division 60 of the ACNC Act 2012 including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of their performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) complying with the Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

### Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the responsible entities' financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Harding & Thornbury Pty Ltd

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



7 King William St, Bayswater WA 6053

24 September 2020



*Stay in Touch...*

---

156 Vincent Street North Perth WA 6006

T: +61 08 9328 6434 F: +61 08 9227 9052 E: [info@finwa.org.au](mailto:info@finwa.org.au)

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