

# 20

# 17-18

**Annual  
Report**

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**WACOSS**



**WACOSS**

WA COUNCIL of  
SOCIAL SERVICE

*Ways to make a difference*

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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»	ABOUT WACOSS	04
»	PRESIDENT'S REPORT	05
»	CEO REPORT	06
»	WACOSS BOARD	07
»	WACOSS STAFF	08
»	STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1	09
»	STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2	12
»	STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3	14
»	STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4	16
»	FINANCIAL SUMMARY	17
»	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND REPRESENTATION	18
»	MEMBERS	20

## 01

## About WACOSS

The Western Australian Council of Social Service (WACOSS) represents three hundred community service organisations and individuals, and more than 500 organisations involved in the provision of community services to the people of Western Australia.

**The work of WACOSS is underpinned by seven core values which lead our strategic direction: collaboration, Indigenous culture, diversity, ethics, innovation, human rights, and recognition.**

WACOSS is one of nine peak councils of social service, collaborating across Australia to bolster the united strength and weight of the work of each peak body, working collectively on campaigns of national significance.

The organisation is committed to genuine engagement, authentic collaboration, and building trusted relationships with members, communities, and governments. WACOSS is non-partisan, free from private interests, which allows the organisation to play a unique and objective role with the sector.

WACOSS tackles difficult issues, systems, behaviours, and attitudes that contribute to inequality and exclusion, and develops evidence-based social policy and research to inform and influence government policy to change the lives of those facing adversity.

## Vision

An inclusive, just, and equitable society.

## Mission

We advocate for social change to improve the wellbeing of Western Australians and strengthen the community services sector that supports them.

# 02 President's Report

WACOSS has been a leading voice in the sector for more than 60 years, and the impact of the work that we undertake is felt throughout the state. Throughout the year unprecedented reform and disruption have been constant companions for the Board. Amidst this the organisation has played a critical role in brokering relationships with government and other key stakeholders, ensuring that clear and compelling evidence and argument for change is articulated. Changes in the social, economic, and political space are needed to re-balance rising inequality in WA which underpins our key work, activities and advocacy.

This year the WACOSS conference was a highlight event for the community services sector, bringing together our vibrant community, showcasing our commitment to best practice and professional development. The conference offered a vision of connected, resourceful communities as critical success factors for individual and collective flourishing, and brought to the forefront the voice of lived experience. WACOSS is dedicated to harnessing the experiences of people facing diversity and improving the lives of all West Australians. Our power to achieve success is great and enduring, and this is testament in our members, alliances, and our individual supporters. The presence of numerous Aboriginal Elders sharing their wisdom,

knowledge, and humour in many ways over the conference days was a key contributor to the success of this event.

This year we bid farewell to Kathleen Gregory, following her departure from the Board in October 2017. During her time on the Board, Kathleen was awarded the Order of Australia Medal, a reflection of her significant dedication and commitment to not only WACOSS but the wider community sector, and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Kathleen's contribution to WACOSS.

We welcomed Dawn Wallam to the WACOSS Board in October. Dawn is a Wadandi woman of the Noongar Nation and the first Chairperson of the Noongar Child Protection Council (NCPC). Dawn has led Yorganop – WA's only Aboriginal foster care agency – for more than 20 years, and her skills and knowledge will be invaluable at WACOSS.

The WACOSS Board acknowledges that the success of the year is

not possible without the work of the CEO and team. I, on behalf of the Board Members, acknowledge the passion, commitment and dedication of this talented team lead ably by Louise Giolitto, and express our gratitude. The Board also acknowledges the WACOSS Members, who entrust the Board as their representative to ensure that we continue to work toward and fulfil our Vision and Mission, so that together we are the compelling voice for change, calling for and making happen, a more equal and inclusive Australia.



Debra Zanella  
President



## 03

## CEO Report

As we enter another year following immense change, reforms, and a tight fiscal environment, WACOSS continues to advocate for a Western Australia free of poverty, inequality, and disadvantage. We continue to strive to create a WA that is safe, healthy, resourced, connected, and thriving, where diversity is respected and celebrated.

Many have been hit hard this financial year, with the State Government increasing household fees and charges. Passing costs on to consumers as a form of 'budget repair' is unacceptable, and our submissions and media on the Budget reiterate the need for concession exemptions so that stressed households are not pushed beyond breaking point.

WACOSS has wholeheartedly supported the Raise the Rate campaign, championed by the Australian Council of Social Service, to increase payments of Newstart, Youth Allowance, and other related payments. We need to change the political and media discourse from blame, punitive control, and judging people's character. We need to create a lens of fairness, humanity, and dignity, and above all a lens that values and protects our children, their families and communities.

We have seen some positive policy changes within govern-

ment, and I am proud of the influence that WACOSS has had on these decisions, and our impact throughout WA. Through the collective impact of the Councils of Social Service network across Australia, we have amplified the voice of people and communities to challenge policies, systems, behaviours, and attitudes. Together we have one purpose, one message, one goal, thousands of voices.

The organisation recently started a journey with the Looking Forward, Moving Forward project, to integrate Aboriginal culture into our thinking and work at WACOSS. We are excited to be working with Noongar Elders Auntie Charmaine Pell and Auntie Millie Penny, and their expertise moving forward will be invaluable to WACOSS and our stakeholders.

Our Elders were ambassadors of this at the WACOSS Conference *Making Place* this year. More than 100 speakers provided an invaluable professional development opportunity for more than 330 attendees, at the largest gathering of the community services sector in WA. From the opening Welcome to Country from Marie Taylor and other Noongar Elders, and the Smoking Ceremony from Uncle Ben Taylor, through to the close of the conference by the Noongar dance collective, the Middar Yorkras, the conference was a cel-

ebration of Place. I was particularly honoured to take part in the Women's Place panel, to explore Place from the perspective of female leaders in our sector, and consider the roadblocks many continue to face in their roles.

WACOSS is an organisation that must be fearless, and as a sector we must continue to challenge the systems, behaviours, and attitudes that create poverty, inequality, and exclusion.

We know that by harnessing the influence and collective knowledge of our members and the people with lived expertise, we have a strong and compelling voice for change that cannot be ignored. The proposition is simple—social and economic benefits flow from an Australia enriched and free of inequality and poverty.

Western Australians are recognising that WACOSS can be a voice not just for people surviving on the lowest of incomes and experiencing inequality and disadvantage, but for everyone who has a stake in a creating a more equal, prosperous, and inclusive nation.



**Louise Giolitto,**  
Chief Executive Officer





# 04

## WACOSS Board

Board Membership for 2017-18



**Debra Zanella**

President  
CEO | Ruah Community  
Services



**Mark Fitzpatrick**

Vice-President  
CEO | Telethon Speech Hearing



**Kathleen Gregory AM**

(until 27 October 2018)  
CEO | Foundation Housing



**Ashley Reid**

CEO | Cancer Council WA



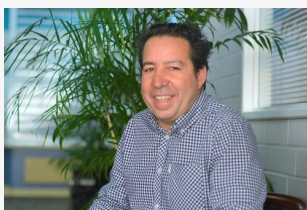
**Justine Colyer**

CEO | Rise Network



**Amanda Hunt**

CEO | UnitingCare West



**Juan Larranaga**

State Manager | Save the  
Children



**Jennifer O'Mullane**

CEO | Local Drug Action  
Groups Inc.



**Fiona White-Hartig**

Chair | Regional Development  
Australia Pilbara



**Michael Piu**

CEO | St Patrick's Community  
Support Centre Limited



**Paul McMullan**

CEO | Outcare



**Dawn Wallam**

(from 27 October 2018)  
CEO | Yorganop

## Finance Committee

**Juan Larranaga**, Chair  
**Jennifer O'Mullane**, Board Member  
**Fiona White-Hartig**, Board Member  
**Paul McMullan**, Board Member  
**Allison Leonard**, Co-opted  
**Siew Cheah**, Co-opted

## Governance Committee

**Mark Fitzpatrick**, Chair  
**Ashley Reid**, Board Member  
**Amanda Hunt**, Board Member  
**Jennifer O'Mullane**, Board Member  
**Michael Piu**, Board Member

# 05

## WACOSS Staff

### 2017-18 Staff Members

**Louise Giolitto**, Chief Executive Officer  
**Demelza Rogers**, Executive Support Officer  
**Jennie Gray**, Deputy CEO  
**Laurene Collier**, Communications Officer

### Social Policy

**Chris Twomey**, Research and Policy Development Leader  
**Sue Nye**, Manager, Policy and Programs  
**Graham Hansen**, Senior Policy Officer  
**Emma Hardy Rosa**, Program Support Officer  
**Carin McCashin**, Project Officer  
 Community Engagement  
**Felicity Townsend**, Program Support Officer (temporary contract)  
**Laura Beere**, Program Support Officer (temporary contract)  
**Leela James**, Community Relief and Resilience Coordinator  
**Stuart Reid**, Manager Projects and Business Development  
**Margaret Ugle**, Noongar Child Protection Council Coordinator (until June 2018)  
**Jack Thornton**, Consumer Representation and Research Coordinator (until February 2018)  
**Alison Bentley**, Project Officer (casual)  
**Sarah Wright**, Pilbara Manager

### Corporate Services

**Steve Crotty**, Director Corporate Services  
**Kylie Persak**, Finance Officer (until October 2017)  
**Debbie Heath**, Finance Officer (temporary contract)  
**Salil Koonja**, Finance Officer (from November 2018)  
**Maree Jones**, Event Coordinator  
**Bree Van Haeften**, Administration Officer  
**Candelle Nestor**, Communications and Membership Officer (until February 2018)  
**Gustavo Walker**, DropIN Project Officer (until July 2017)  
**Jaime Castilla Riasco**, DropIN Project Officer (from July 2017)  
**Julia Mendes**, Graphic Design Coordinator, Intern (until January 2018)  
**Nataly Valencia Bula**, Graphic Design Coordinator, Intern (from December 2017)  
**Vikas Singh**, Online Technologies Coordinator, Intern (from November 2017)

### Volunteers

**Callan Phillips**, McCusker Centre Intern  
**Shaneli Dias**, McCusker Centre Intern



## | Strategic Priority 1

# Championing social wellbeing for community resilience

**A champion for the social wellbeing of Western Australians, WACOSS engages its communities to lead debate, educate, and communicate experiences, to inform evidence-based strategic policy recommendations, with the aim of influencing decision-makers and leaders.**

### **A PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGE AND REFORM**

The peak body for community services sector in Western Australia, WACOSS plays a critical role in brokering and facilitating conversations between government and community service organisations. During an era of unprecedented reform in procurement processes, enhancing the sustainability of the sector, and improving outcomes for people and families accessing services is paramount.

The machinery of government changes have created an increased expectation and demand on the organisation's intermediary roles of sector communication, coordination, and capacity building with multiple stakeholders. Growing requests for the organisation's involvement is an inevitable outcome of rapid change, reflecting our very important role in the sector, and across government and non-government stakeholders.

Our ability to engage and support community capacity and engagement in planning and reform is often stretched beyond

capacity. It is widely acknowledged that the quantity and quality of WACOSS work belies the relatively small team that produces it. The success attributed to WACOSS influencing election commitments and reform agenda has created momentum for the organisation to maintain a high level of advocacy on policy, program, and service design issues, and the machinery of government changes will continue to stretch the organisation.

Despite this, aspirational opportunities for service reform, and prioritised sector education and consultation to proactively engage in change processes are important. This was particularly evident in our substantial submission to the Service Priority Review (SPR), of which many recommendations were adopted in the final SPR report.

Government changes have produced some potentially unforeseen consequences. Changing roles and remits in government departments, including staff turnovers and departures, have created a level of uncertainty in the sector, particularly

around engagement mechanisms. WACOSS members are simultaneously eager to participate in the opportunities that reforms create, and nervous about not knowing how reforms impact on their ongoing programs and services. This has meant an increasing demand on WACOSS to assist, interpret, and advise, and to amplify concerns from the sector.

### **PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HARDSHIP**

More and more we are hearing stories of people in our community who are struggling against systems that create barriers and hardship. People experiencing disadvantage, who are living at the fringe of society, and discriminated against, are most at risk of the impact of policy-makers' choices.

In the September and May State Budgets, there was little relief for those doing it tough. The unfair increases to household fees and charges by 4.8 per cent (announced in May) equates to \$292 for the average household, on

top of the \$438 announced in the previous September. The Budget did not provide for an adequate future homelessness or housing strategy, and there was a lack of prioritisation of early intervention, particularly for children who are at risk.

The lack of action during the year on concession reform is cause for concern, and people living on the lowest incomes will continue to face further financial stress unless it is addressed. WACOSS has taken the lead on this issue in our media commentary and submissions to government, and has written and met with the Premier and Treasurer about the need for urgent reform. Concession reform remains a key policy area, and we will continue conversations and advocacy on this issue.

WACOSS has supported the efforts of the Australian Council of Social Service who are lobbying the Federal Government for an increase in Newstart, Youth Allowance and related payments, by \$75 per week. These social payments have not seen an increase in real terms since 1994, which every day sees thousands of people struggling to put a roof over their head, and food on the table with less than \$40 per day. Although welfare reform is a federal issue, State Government services and supports are currently required to cross-subsidise the inadequacy of income support. Briefings with the Premier, Treasurer and relevant Ministers have been progressing, however there is work still to be done in this area, and WACOSS looks forward to the release of a report in the new financial year that shows detailed economic modelling of the benefit of increasing these welfare payments.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

WACOSS consults with its members, and people with lived experience of hardship, to build sound, evidence-based policy recommendations on issues of pertinence to the sector, and those experiencing disadvantage. Each piece of policy work involves immense research, and the synthesising of experiences across the sector.

Although a small team, the organisation produced more than 20 submissions, produced more than six cornerstone reports and strategic events, and spoke in the media on many issues before Parliament.

**Here is a summary of some the policy work for the Financial Year.**

**22 Submissions**

**12 Reports or events**

**25 Media Statements**  
WACOSS stories in the media

### Budget Briefing Analysis

State Budget September 2017

### Remote Indigenous Housing, Federal Funding Commitment

Joint Submission with the Council of Social Service Network

### Statement on Mandatory Drug Testing

### 2017 Review of the Code of Conduct for the Supply of Electricity to Small Use Customers

Submission to the Economic Regulation Authority

### Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation

Submission to the Productivity Commission

### Making PLACE

Biennial WACOSS conference

### Closing the Gap Refresh

Submission to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

### Financial Hardship Policy Guidelines for Water Services and Review of Code of Conduct

Two Submissions to the Economic Regulation Authority

### The Public Sector's role in Effectiveness in Service Delivery (Interim Report)

Two Submissions to the Service Priority Review

### Introducing Competition and Informed User Choice into Human Services: Reforms to Human Services

Evidence and Submission to the Productivity Commission

### Delivering Community Services in Partnership (DSCP) Policy

Submission to the Department of Finance

### Budget Briefing Analysis

State Budget May 2018

### Supporting Communities Forum Terms of Reference Recommendations

Submission to the Department of Premier and Cabinet

### Social Services Legislation Amendment (Cashless Debit Card) Bill 2017

Submission to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation

### 2016/17 Review of the Water Services Code of Conduct (Customer Service Standards)

Submission to the Economic Regulation Authority

### 'At the Heart of our Community' Budget Submission

Submission to the Western Australian State Government

### Parent and Baby Tender

### Commonwealth Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse Bill 2017 and related bill

Submission to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

### Proposed changes to Charities and Not-for-Profits

Joint Submission with the network of Councils of Social Service

### Remote Indigenous Housing, Federal Funding Commitment

Joint Submission with the network of Councils of Social Service

### Statement on waiting periods for social security for new migrants

Joint statement released with the Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence WA

### Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Funding and Disclosure Reform) Bill 2017

Submission to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters

### Cost of Living 2017 Report and event

### Data Linkage Roundtable

### Statement on the Prime Minister's rejection of the Uluru Statement of the Heart

### Emerging Issues Forum

### Sustainable Development Goals

### Better Choices, Youth in WA

Submission to the Department of Communities

### State Wage Case 2018

Submission to the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission

### Ministerial Review of the State Industrial Relations System (Interim Report)

Submission to the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation, and Safety

## 2018 Early Years Network Forum

### The Future of Work and Workers

Evidence and Submission to the Senate Select Committee

### Statement on the outcome of the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory

## | Strategic Priority 2

# Sustaining a vibrant sector, responding to the needs of diverse communities

As peak body in the community sector, WACOSS seeks to enhance the capacity of the sector, to support its member organisations with solutions and consultancy in the ever-changing landscape. Building capacity and working collaboratively with partners is a strategic focus of the organisation.

**Leveraging and Collaborating**

WACOSS seeks out ways to link and leverage opportunities to achieve positive impacts, most notably through facilitation and coordination of the WA Peaks Forum, the Children's Policy Advisory Council, the State Emergency Relief Committee, and the Community Relief and Resilience Forum. In addition to these, WACOSS was this year also asked to support and coordinate the Noongar Child Protection Council, and the 100 Families WA Project.

**| NOONGAR CHILD PROTECTION COUNCIL**

Funding secured in the last financial year enabled formation of the Noongar Child Protection Council (NCPC), a committee formed by leaders in the Noongar community, to protect the rights of Aboriginal children on Noongar Country, and to ensure they remain connected to families, communities, culture, and country. The inaugural Board and NCPC

Coordinator were appointed, and throughout the year played a key advocacy role in child protection, ensuring a strong voice for Aboriginal children in Western Australia.

Laying the groundwork, the inaugural team have developed and implemented a Membership Strategy, Terms of Reference, engaged with young Aboriginal women who have lived experience in the child protection system in six metropolitan Perth communities through Yarning Sessions, and gathering feedback to inform the development of Parent and Baby Services within the Department of Communities.

The NCPC has been a strong voice against the lack of Aboriginal leadership positions in the Department of Communities following the machinery of government changes, and against the closure of the Perth Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre, and continued to speak out against inflammatory and racist media commentary on the placement of Aboriginal children in care.

**| 100 FAMILIES WA PROJECT**

In collaboration with nine partners, WACOSS was awarded a grant for the three-year 100 Families Project – a major research study into entrenched disadvantage among families in Perth. Collaboration between Anglicare WA, Jacaranda Community Centre, Wanslea Family Services, Centrecare, Ruah Community Services, MercyCare, UnitingCare West and the University of Western Australia (UWA) Centre for Social Impact, and Social Policy Practice and Research Consortium, will see local families partnering with service providers to contribute powerful and compelling stories, which will help service providers understand their circumstances, and improve service design and delivery. A Project Manager will commence early in the 2018-2019 Financial Year to oversee the project, and will be located at WACOSS with frequent travel to each of the partner organisations.





## **FUNDING CHALLENGES**

Since its introduction in February 2015, the Connecting Early Years Networks Support Program (CEYNISP) has had an impact on 49 Early Years Networks (EYNs) across the state, and improved outcomes for children as a result of the collaborations and actions of the networks.

Independent evaluations have demonstrated the success of the project. It is critically important to resource community-based networking, coordination, and capacity building, and leverage opportunities for strong and strategically important networks to deliver services and support to young children during the most critical and formative years of their lives.

Another area where WACOSS has been called on to negotiate is the sector's ability to maintain existing service levels and quality, in light of its rising Equal Remuneration Order (ERO) obligations. In principle, there is an expectation that service providers will contract for the true cost of service delivery, however a significant service viability problem has arisen in practice because of the

large number of longer-term contracts predating changes to policy and indexation arrangements that have been rolled-over many times since, without increased funding or an opportunity to renegotiate.

WACOSS, alongside Community Employers Western Australia (CEWA), coordinated a response to the Premier, Treasurer, Minister for Communities, and other Ministers and CEOs, highlighting the impact the ERO has on the sector. With the increase scheduled to apply in full by 2020, we hear of the strain the ERO places on services, and will continue to work with the State Government to address this in future State Budgets, to ensure adequate pay for staff while not compromising the delivery of services to the community.

## **A COORDINATED FOOD RELIEF SECTOR ON THE ROAD TO FOOD SECURITY**

During the year, extensive regional and metro sector consultations contributed to the development of a Food Relief Framework, to review the way in which organisations intersect with one another

to provide food relief to those experiencing food insecurity. The promotion of partnerships and collaboration to enhance the efficiency and efficacy of the food relief sector will be embedded in the final recommendations and strategy, which will translate into improved outcomes for service users.

It is widely acknowledged that food insecurity is rarely a one-off emergency, and is more likely to be entrenched. While creating linkages and collaboration is important, the project will also seek to develop a deeper understanding of why food insecurity exists and how working together can change the equation for our communities. Once completed, the Framework will be central to ensuring that the sector has an influential and coordinated role on policy, services, systems and advocacy as appropriate, and provide leadership across the sector.

We must acknowledge the funding we receive from Lotterywest for projects such as the 100 Families WA and Food Relief Framework. Without this support these projects would not be possible.



## | Strategic Priority 3

# Supporting collective efforts of our members to shape society

Diversity among WACOSS member organisations represents the broad scope of the organisation's work. Engagement with our members, networks, and committees helps focus our work, and supports the efforts of the community services sector.

## COLLABORATION WITH PEAK NETWORKS

Collaboration is a strong theme carried through all of our work, to amplify the voice of the community sector as a whole. We are committed to genuine and authentic collaboration through shared resourcing approaches, and building strong networks of advocacy on issues that impact people facing inequality and disadvantage.

An example of the success of such collaboration was our work with other peak organisations to strategically analyse, synthesise, and disseminate comment on the State Budget in May, through the lens of the whole community services sector.

Joining WACOSS were representatives from Shelter WA, Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia, Financial Counsellors' Association, Western Australian Association for Mental Health, Western Australian Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies, Council on the Ageing Western Australia, and the Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services.



## WACOSS CONFERENCE

The biennial WACOSS conference theme *Making Place* centered around the empowerment that communities develop when given the opportunity to co-design, and that comprehensive, responsive, and localised approaches are more likely to meet a community's priorities and aspirations.

The conference featured a dynamic program of local, national, and international speakers with experience in place-based solutions. Government representation and the Supporting Communities Forum at the Networking Day attracted more than 200 attendees from the sector, while each of the conference days was attended by more than 320 people each day, from more than 160 organisations, 52 of which were from regional and remote locations in WA.

**WACOSS was proud to have strong representation from Noongar Aboriginal people, who welcomed Aboriginal Rangers from the Kimberley Land Council and Martu Elders from the Pilbara to speak to their place-based experiences on country.**

Across the conference, we heard examples of how place-based co-design, and providing peo-



ple with the tools to break down barriers that create isolation and disadvantage, are fostering networks, helping people connect to community, and dismantling the systems that stand in their way.

In light of this, WACOSS has seen a positive move towards co-design from several State Government departments, whose language and approach has been shaped by the work and advocacy of the conference, and towards capacity building of those in the sector to bring these principles to their own advocacy work.

## PRACTICAL TOOLS, WORKSHOPS, AND RESOURCES

Providing events and professional development opportunities, is a chance to build the professional capacity of the community ser-

vices sector. Thanks to a Federal Government grant, an opportunity to reach regional community organisations was achieved through the Natural Disaster Resilience Workshops. From Busselton to Kalgoorlie, Geraldton to Kununurra, WACOSS delivered 17 workshops across the state, to help organisations improve their preparedness for a natural disaster. The workshops coincided with a Lotterywest grant for regional sector-identified training, where communities identify gaps in capacity or skills, and WACOSS delivers training to meet these needs. A further benefit of this has been WACOSS building stronger relationships and professional networks with more regional community service organisations.



## | Strategic Priority 4

# Leading a strong, innovative, and sustainable organisation

WACOSS encourages leaders that build and progress the long-term objectives of the organisation and the sector, and empowers staff to participate in the sustainability and viability of the organisation, and the role it plays as the peak body of the community services sector.

## COMMITMENT TO ABORIGINAL CULTURE

This year WACOSS partnered with the *Looking Forward, Moving Forward* project, which aims to grow the capacity of organisations to be flexible, confident, and competent in understanding and supporting Aboriginal culture, and to integrate Aboriginal culture in our working environment and thinking.

WACOSS staff have been involved in storytelling sessions with Noon-gar Elders Aunty Charmaine Pell and Aunty Millie Penny, under the facilitation of Dr Michael Wright, Lead Investigator of Looking Forward, Moving Forward Systems Change Project.

The organisation has been working closely with Aunty Charmaine and Aunty Millie, ensuring First Nations peoples have a significant and collaborative role in the organisation's strategic direction.



## REGIONAL REPRESENTATION AND SUPPORT

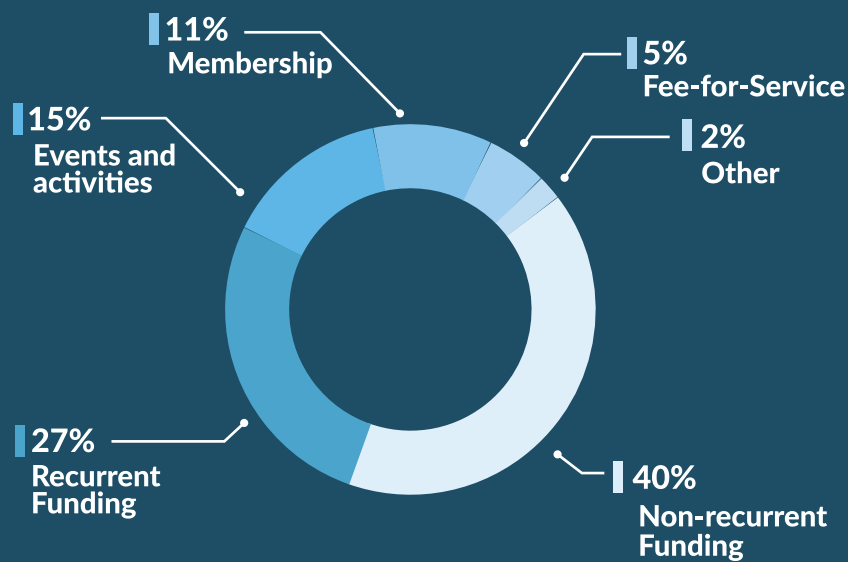
One challenge of an organisation representing the views of people across an area as large as Western Australia is being present and on-the-ground to respond to local needs, and understanding the local context. With the support of Lotterywest, and in partnership with Regional Development Australia, WACOSS welcomed an inaugural Pilbara Manager, to lead and support coordinated community service delivery in the Pilbara region, play a key role in

the identification and implementation of new partnership opportunities and innovations in local service provision, and contribute to ensuring that the needs of the sector and Pilbara are known and represented at state and national levels.

Based in Karratha with travel throughout the Pilbara, the role will hinge on the success of WACOSS's engagement with the community services sector in the Pilbara, and act as a model which could be achieved in other regional areas of WA.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2017-18

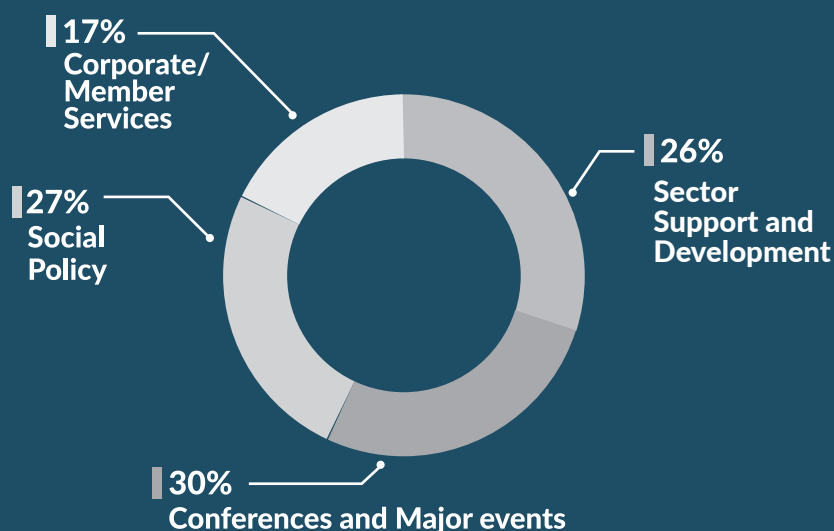
The financial position of the Council remains stable with net assets of \$1,039,990, an increase of \$137,158 on the previous financial year. At balance date, 92 per cent of total assets were held in cash or receivables. Current assets coverage of current liabilities is 1.8 : 1.



Graphic 1. Income by type

### INCOME

Total income for the financial year was \$2,768,425. Government funding (67%) remains the primary source of revenue for the organisation. Other significant sources of revenue were Events & Activities (15%) and Membership (11%).



Graphic 2. Expenditure by Program

### EXPENDITURE

Total expenditure for the financial year was \$2,631,266 presented here in the four primary activity areas of the organisation. It should be recognised that the nature of the organisation's activities are such that individual projects and major events have the capacity to alter individual expenditure areas materially year-on-year.

# 07 Stakeholder Engagement and Representation

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

6718 Balagarni Group  
(Parenting & Children Stream)  
ACOSS Climate and Energy  
ACOSS Housing and Homelessness  
ACOSS Income Support and  
Employment Policy Network  
ACOSS Media & Communications  
ACOSS Community Sector Policy Network  
ACOSS Directors  
ACOSS National Emergency Management  
Project (NEMP)  
Anti-Poverty Week State Committee  
AEMO Consumer Forum  
ACNC CSI Advisory Group  
Centre for Social Impact (CSI)  
Advisory Board  
CEOs for Gender Equity  
Child Safety Director's Group  
Child and Parent Centre Steering  
Committee (CPCSC)  
City West Lotteries House Board  
Community Employers WA (CEWA) Board  
Community Sector and Development  
Industry Reference Committee  
Community Services, Health & Education  
Industry Training Council Board (CSHEITC)  
Community Sector Roundtable for Child  
Protection (DCPFS)  
Connecting Communities for Kids Joint  
Commissioning Committee  
Consumer Advisory Committee  
Council on the Ageing WA Policy  
Exchange Group  
Department of the Premier and Cabinet -  
Data Sharing Advisory Group  
Department of Corrective  
Services - Youth Justice Services  
Program Delivery Strategy Forum

Disability Access & Inclusion Committee  
Elders Yarn (Roebourne)  
East Pilbara Interagency meeting  
East Pilbara Youth Engagement Partnership  
Meetings  
Economic Regulation Authority Consumer  
Consultative Committee (ERACCC)  
Electricity Code Consultative Committee  
Enabling Social Innovation for Local Climate  
Adaptability  
Hardship Utility Grants (HUGS) Steering  
Committee  
HART (Housing Advisory Roundtable)  
Hedland Early Years Network  
Hedland Youth Stakeholders Action Group  
Karratha Early Years Group  
Karratha Network  
Local Government Act Review  
Looking Forward and Ngulluk Koolunga Ngulluk  
Koort Translation Group  
Law Access Stakeholder Advisory Group  
Midland ER Network  
Noongar Child Protection Council (NCPC)  
National Consumer Roundtable on Energy  
Newman Early Years Network  
North Metro Emergency Relief  
Pilbara for Purpose  
Pilbara Health Workforce Working Group  
Aboriginal Health Workforce Subcommittee  
Regional Youth Stakeholders Network Meeting  
Social Reinvestment WA Campaign Committee  
Steering Committee for the Centre for  
Parenting Excellence  
Shelter WA Advisory Committee on  
Homelessness  
State Emergency Management Committee  
(SEMC) Recovery and Community Engagement  
Subcommittees  
South East Metropolitan Emergency Relief Forum  
State Training Board's Steering Committee  
Social Ventures Australia - WA Fund Advisory





Committee  
 South West Metropolitan Partnership Forum  
 Supporting Communities Forum  
 UWA Social Policy & Practice Research Consortium  
 Western Australian Council on Homelessness  
 Water Code Consultative Committee  
 Water Corporation Customer Advisory Panel

## WACOSS REFERENCE GROUPS

Children's Policy Advisory Committee  
 (Children's PAC)  
 Connecting Early Years Networks Project  
 Reference Group  
 Community Relief and Resilience Forum  
 Peaks Forum  
 State Emergency Relief Committee (SERC)  
 WACOSS Strategic Reference Group

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We advocate for social change to improve the wellbeing of Western Australians and to strengthen the community services sector that supports them.

## Western Australian Council of Social Service

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