WACOSS strives for an inclusive, just and equitable society.

Download the **Full Report**



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

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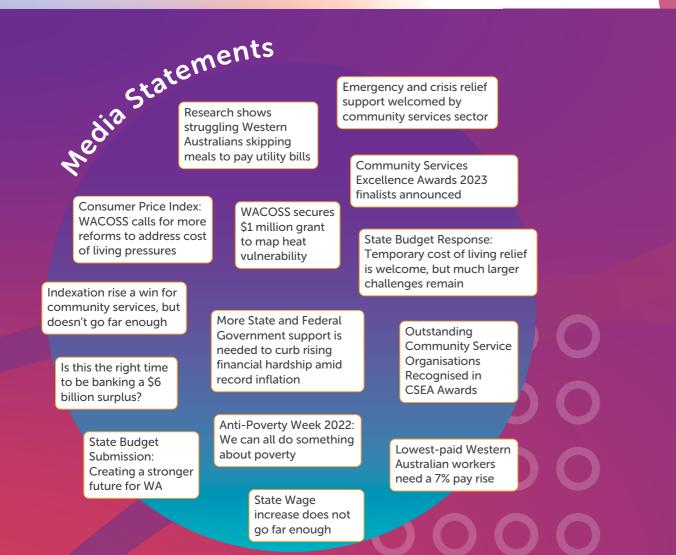
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F WACouncilofSocialService **WACOSS** In Western Australian Council of Social Service WACouncilofSocialService



SNAPSHOT

Annual Report





Event		0
nild Noment No	ew Year Sector Breakfast Tough Times and the Caring Workforce Webinar	0
sion Planning fo Partnership	Workshop	0
reduce disa prepare fo sion WA Webin		0
gn ne Gap: Road etermination	Community Services Excellence Award	0
Pilbara Family Domestic Violence Conference	Community Relief & Resilience Utility Hardship Forum	

On reflection of the past year, we are reminded that our commitment to our community and its wellbeing is more vital than ever. In the face of ongoing challenges, WACOSS has continued to stand as a beacon of hope, and as a driving force for positive change in the community sector.

The widening gap between those with, and those without, underscores the importance behind most of the campaigns we have supported this year, and the importance of advocating for fair and equitable systems for those who need it most.



& Giolitto

Louise Giolitto **Chief Executive Officer**

11/ pluson

Mark Glasson President

Campaigns We Actively Support











Advocacy Wins

It is important to recognise that the work we do is ongoing and often takes years to achieve. They require a sustained effort by dedicated individuals and organisations, if we are to overcome the systemic barriers that stop access to basic human rights and services.

We know that we are stronger together, and collaborative policy develop and advocacy are at the heart of what we do. **Residential Tenancies** Act Reforms - nogrounds evictions are still a focus in the coming year

As always, the strength, resilience and

capability of our members sustains us,

as does the unwavering commitment

We look forward to new challenges

efforts, but knowing there will always

be work to do, to drive real positive

and opportunities, proud of our

change in our communities.

from our Board and staff.

Reviewing Bond Assistance to support renters on low incomes

Increase in the Hardship **Utility Grant (HUGS)** limits by 10%

Commitment from the State Government to ban LGBTQIA+ conversion practices and protect against conversion ideology

Indexation: Increase to 4.51% and review to the formula

Increase in social housing in the Budget

Abolishment of **Parents Next**

Resources and reimbursement for additional COVID-19 cleaning

2 **Electricity Code of Conduct** Reforms

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Resourcing to support organisations to become child safe

Conference and Awards Ceremony

In early 2023, WACOSS hosted the biennial Conference and Community Services Excellence Awards. These events were made possible thanks to our generous partners, supporters and evet sponsors. A very special thanks goes to Lotterywest for their support of the event.

The three-day event brought together our sector, with lived experience experts, Government, industry and academia. On the banks of the Derbarl Yerrigan we gathered, met, shared stories and experiences, celebrated, and listened.

In the evening we celebrated the immense work of the sector in the Community Services Excellence Awards. Congratulations to the 2023 Awards Winners across the eight categories:

















Man Up WA - Small organisation providing collaborative, innovative or creative programs or services

Starick - Medium organisation providing collaborative, innovative or creative programs or services

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation – Large organisation providing collaborative, innovative or creative programs or services

Busselton Hospice Care - Regional Organisation providing collaborative, innovative, or creative programs or services

Social Reinvestment WA - Outstanding community-led collaboration leading to better community outcomes

Derbarl Yerrigan Health - Outstanding achievement by an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (leading to better community outcomes)

Winnie Hayward -Above and Beyond

Elena Petrici -Excellence in Leadership