

ANNUAL REPORT 2020 – 2021



Community Centres SA
Strengthening Local Communities

ABOUT

OUR FAST FACTS



Operating for
38 Years



103
Community Centres



170 Members
Sharing Our Ethos

WHAT WE CARE ABOUT



Inclusivity
Empowerment
Social Justice
Community Participation
Diversity
Collaboration
Integrity
Reconciliation



WHAT WE OFFER

Advocacy
Training & Professional
Development
Information & Advice
Community
Development Consulting
Services



OUR SECTOR

20,000+
Volunteering
Hours Each Week



1.5 Staff
40+ Volunteers
per Community Centre



35,000
Visitors
each week



300% increase
of weekly community participation
at Community Centres*

The data on this page is an average from the data collected via our Annual Survey

*This data is based on our Annual Survey, where quarter of respondents experienced this increase

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REFLECTIONS ON THE YEAR...

*“My social work, research background and community development ethos calls for strong reflective practice. I see it as a critical element of leadership, especially when it involves an organisation with values deeply embedded in social justice principles. Reflective practice is necessary in order to stay relevant, adaptive, build stronger alliances, and nurture a team's sense of purpose and satisfaction. One of CCSA's consistent key reflections relates to our sectors inclusivity. Overall I would say we are highly inclusive, but there's plenty of room for improvement. If a Community Centres' outdoor signage is only in English or their centre is not accessible by bus; or if CCSA is demonstrating unconscious bias in our hiring policies are we demonstrating inclusivity? **Reflection makes the invisible visible – and has the ability to address unconscious bias which is undeniably ever present.**”*

- Kylie Fergusen, CEO

'One of my highlights was when I organised the free ASO performances at various Community Centres. Meeting the amazing workers, volunteers and community was awesome. What they do, how they think and the difference they make, its inspiring and brings a smile to my face'

- Jessemy James,
Project Ninja

'I love the house, you come here and instantly feel calm. It doesn't matter if you come to attend a group or just for a cup of coffee, it's a welcoming and wonderful place.'
- Louise, Midway Road Community House visitor for 11 years.

'I enjoyed continuing to learn through a loan iPad. It provided me with an interest, something to do, and I often lost track of time. It made me feel included in the digital world as I can't afford to buy an iPad myself and don't have internet at home.'
- Dick, Millicent, Be Connected Participant 2021

"It's very hard for people to push through the challenges of feeling socially disconnected and say, 'I'm going to do something for myself'. It can take a lot of courage for someone to walk into a new place or activity for the first time, but that's where we can help and provide support through offering welcoming community spaces."

- Sharon Beech, ECH, partner with Cumberland Park Community Centre

'Managing an online presence and being able to interact effectively online became an important skill. Being able to quickly adapt to new technologies, services and environments was paramount to facilitate both formal and informal learning. Whilst it took a bit of time to be confident in front of the camera we were reassured by the engagement of participants and motivated by their feedback.'

- Tailern Bend Community Centre

"The constant reminders to each other to "ring me whenever you want to" have been heart-warming and amazing. Learning of people visiting each other in their homes to cook up surplus foodstuffs, attend to those who might have fallen and had injuries, shows constant care for all in the town, simply because they have met up at one of our coffee mornings and want to keep in touch."
- Robertstown War Memorial Community Centre

'The Community Learning project harnesses the skills, expertise, passions and existing connections of all partner organisations to deliver work skills, digital literacy and language skills training, directly impacting the future work possibilities of learners. I am excited to be part of it and see the students learn, grow, achieve and build a future they are proud of.'

- Sarah Lesses, Learning & Pathways Broker

'CCSA works with Flinders University and Community Centres to provide social work students with placements every semester. The COVID-19 lockdown at the beginning of Semester 2 was an unexpected challenge. CCSA coordinated an online learning, discussion and supervision program. Vanita and I witnessed a fast trajectory of learning and reflection in the students, as each one began to draw connections between the values and principles of social work practice and Community Centres. We saw how useful this introduction was to address the importance and invaluable experience of a placement at a Community Centre.'

- Jacqui D'Sylva, Community Development Practice Leader



“

AS A COUNTRY TOWN WE
HAVE BENEFITED FROM CCSA
PROVIDING MORE ONLINE
SESSIONS DUE TO COVID.
THE MOVE TO HAVING
FACEBOOK GROUPS FOR
ADDITIONAL CONNECTION IS
ALSO GREAT.

CCSA Member

”

“

WE HAVE APPRECIATED, THAT ALTHOUGH
BASED ON THE OUTER MOST REACH OF CCSA
WE HAVE STILL BEEN INCLUDED IN TRAINING...
THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR A COMMUNITY
THAT FEELS AT TIMES, DISCONNECTED FROM
EVERYONE ELSE.

”

CCSA Member

BOARD MEMBERS



KIM RITTER
Chairperson



KERSTIN MARTINS
Deputy Chairperson



SCOTT DOBSON
Treasurer



CRISTINA BLUMBERG
SECRETARY



BEC COX



ISAIAH OMAMOGHO



MARY AWATA



MICHAEL ARMAN



PAUL WRIGHT

“ON THE BACK OF WHAT CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER... CCSA HAS OFFERED SUPPORT [AND] ENCOURAGED IT'S MEMBERS TO ACTIVELY BE INVOLVED WHETHER IT BE OVER TEAMS OR ZOOM. THE SUPPORT FROM THE TEAM HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN US SUCCESSFULLY APPLYING FOR NEW FUNDING... YOUR TEAM DOES AN INCREDIBLE JOB REPRESENTING OUR SECTOR AND LIKE MYSELF YOU DON'T DO 'NO'S' AND THIS IS WHAT KEEPS OUR SECTOR GAINING MOMENTUM WHEN OTHERS TRY TO KEEP US IN THE BACKGROUND. KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK.

CCSA MEMBER



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT



I'm delighted to be reporting on a very successful year of achievement for Community Centres SA and are thankful we're able to reflect on the past 12 months feeling proud of all that has been accomplished. This is thanks to the dedicated contributions of the Board, members past and present, and the dynamic staff who are committed to the work this organisation undertakes.

At the last Annual General Meeting, we welcomed new Board members:

- Rebecca Cox
- Isaiah Omamogho
- Mary Awata
- Michael Arman, and
- Paul Wright

Cristina Blumberg also joined the Board during the year with a warm welcome.

I thank Susan Ross for six years of service to the Board and the broader sector, she provided strong leadership for a long period of time and we wish her well in her new endeavours. Also to Anne Minion, Deb Bates, Heather Hewitt, Jane French, Mike Dawson, Pam Simmons, Sophia Katari and Tricia Foster-Jones who left the Board at the end of the year, our genuine thanks for their contributions.

Every success story is a tale of constant adaption, revision and change and this year focussed on telling the story of Community Centres SA and our members. As written on our website, "We are all about community. It's our job to find strength, uniqueness and possibilities in communities".

A new constitution was adopted and alongside this, some changes to our membership types which allowed a broader range of organisation to become members of CCSA and identified some potential partnership opportunities. The broader range of new members assists CCSA to collectively tackle tough problems like loneliness, anxiety, unemployment, illiteracy and family breakdown by helping to create strong and healthy communities.

Some key achievements for this year include:

- Increasing our online presence with a new website and Community Learning hub,
- A new approach working with 10 selected Community Centres to delivery Community Learning collaboratively, supporting them and their 500 students,
- Working closely with DHS and various Community Centres to deliver the Community Connections Program which seeks to support people to connect with communities, social networks and services to develop greater independence and connectedness, and
- Successful delivery of the iDrive program, looking now to scale this up.

Board member contributions to sub-committees were contributable to the overall success of the organisation. These subcommittees included:

- **Finance** – development and monitoring of budget, restructuring of financial reports, grants, and risk management.
- **Governance** - Membership review and constitutional changes and adoption by membership, board evaluation and the commencement of the strategic plan process.

As we enter into developing a new strategic plan, the organisation will commence measuring and tracking the impact of our work as well as the sectors, using personal stories to provide context behind the measures of impact and benefit. The Board are very much looking forward to seeing this roll out.

I would like to thank members of the Board, the wonderful staff at CCSA, in particular the CEO - Kylie Ferguson, our government partners and all in the sector for the invaluable work they do delivering high quality and impactful programs and services to their respective communities.

- Kim Ritter

“EVERY SUCCESS STORY IS A TALE OF CONSTANT ADAPTION, REVISION AND CHANGE AND THIS YEAR FOCUSSED ON TELLING THE STORY OF COMMUNITY CENTRES SA AND OUR MEMBERS.”

TREASURER'S REPORT



The principal activities of Community Centres SA during the financial year was to work with and on behalf of communities and Community Centres in South Australia to improve community outcomes and build capacity and capability. There were no significant changes in the nature of the activities of the organisation during the year.

The Finance Sub-Committee is responsible for the oversight of the organisation's financial management including risk minimisation and assuring the Board that the appropriate actions are being taken to ensure the best use of resources. The Finance Sub-Committee met regularly, six times, along with key members of the management team during the 2020/21 financial year.

Despite the challenges and operational impacts of Covid-19 the 2020/21 financial year has proven to be a financially strong year for Community Centres SA (CCSA). This is indicative of the financial strategic initiatives which have been introduced to improve financial due diligence and systems coupled with additional government Covid-19 funding of \$121,500 which includes Covid Job Keeper of \$84,000 and Covid Cash Flow Boost of \$37,500.

For the 2020/21 financial year, the Finance Sub-Committee of CCSA is pleased to deliver an operating surplus of \$158,731 compared to an operating loss of \$13,913 in

2019/20, being an increase in the level of cash reserves and a strong ratio of current assets to current liabilities.

As expected, the largest expense for CCSA throughout the financial year was salary and wages and employee related costs.

As at 30 June 2021, total consolidated assets of CCSA were \$735,044, up from \$576,313 at the same time last year. Total current assets were \$2.06 million, up from \$1.16 million in 2019/20, and remained well in excess of current liabilities of \$1.33 million. The Board and the Finance Sub-Committee seek to maintain cash reserves held in short-term deposits to ensure the ongoing liquidity and funding requirements of CCSA. CCSA Management has had continuing discussions with the Finance Sub-Committee about putting the cash reserves to work. The discussions have included getting a sense of CCSA's cash needs by looking at future cash flow requirements, capital expenditure plans and liabilities and identifying potential external and internal investment opportunities. Due to the known reliance on state government grants and the need for CCSA to diversify income streams to ensure CCSA is sustainable into the future the Finance Sub-Committee have approved for CCSA to invest in developing new income streams.

Galpins Accountants, Auditors and Business Consultants were the returning auditors for 2020/21. The Finance Sub-Committee and Board are delighted to receive an unconditional audit sign-off for 2020/21. The audited financial statements are available upon request.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank the Board, Kylie and the dedicated staff and contractors who worked diligently throughout what was a challenging and unprecedented year to support the Finance Sub-Committee.

- Scott Dobson

FINANCE SUMMARY

	2020-21 \$	2020-19 \$
INCOME		
<i>External Funding</i>	1,225,156	985,756
<i>Memberships</i>	15,661	15,720
<i>Interest Revenue</i>	5,970	9,054
<i>Other Income</i>	29,248	90,039
TOTAL INCOME	1,276,035	1,100,569
EXPENSES		
<i>Salary & Wages</i>	805,790	697,027
<i>Supplies & Services</i>	311,514	417,455
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,117,304	1,114,482
OPERATING PROFIT/LOSS	158,731	(13,913)

BALANCE SHEET SUMMARY

	2020-21 \$	2020-19 \$
ASSETS		
<i>Cash and Cash Equivalents</i>	2,056,249	1,099,429
<i>Accounts Receivable</i>	4,373	63,683
TOTAL ASSETS	2,060,622	1,163,112
LIABILITIES		
<i>Accounts Payable</i>	201,711	28,924
<i>Provisions</i>	85,712	75,706
<i>Other Liabilities</i>	1,038,155	482,169
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,325,578	586,799
NET ASSETS/EQUITY	735,044	576,313

OUR WONDERFUL MEMBERS AT 30 JUNE 2021

Our reason for being is to build the strength, capacity and influence of our sector as a contribution to progressing what we all value and believe in ... so our sincere thank you to our member volunteers and staff across South Australia who work with us, support us and work every day to strengthen local communities.



FULL MEMBERS

Aberfoyle Community Centre
ac.care - Millicent
ac.care - Mount Gambier
Adelaide South West Community Centre (Adelaide City Council)
Advancing Whyalla
Al Salam Community Centre
Al Salam Community Centre
Aldinga Community Centre
Artworks Inc.
Bagster Road Community Centre
Blackwood Community Centre
Bower Cottages Community Centre
Box Factory Community Centre (Adelaide City Council)
Burnside Community Centre
Camden Community Centre
Catherine House Inc.
Chaffey Community Centre
Cheltenham Community Centre
Christie Downs Community House
City of Mitcham (Cumberland Park Community Centre)
Clarence Park Community Centre
Community House Port Lincoln
Cooinda Neighbourhood Centre
Coonalpyn Community Hub
Coromandel Community Centre
Eastwood Community Centre
Elizabeth Community Connections Project Inc
Elizabeth House Positive Ageing Centre
Elizabeth Rise Community Centre, City of Playford
Employment Options
Encounter Centre
Enfield Baptist Church & Community Centre
Enfield Community Centre
Findon Community Centre
Fulham Community Centre
Fullarton Park Community Centre
Gawler Community House
Glandore Community Centre
Glenelg North Community Centre
Goodwood Community Services
Goolwa Community Centre
Greenwith Community Centre
Hackham West Community Centre
Henley & Grange Community Centre
Holden Hill Community Centre
Holdfast Bay Community Centre
Jubilee Community Centre - City of

Tea Tree Gully
Junction Community Centre
Kilburn Community Centre
LeFevre Community Stadium
Loxcare Inc Community House
Lutheran Community Care - Barossa
Lutheran Community Care - Blair Athol
Lutheran Community Care - Peachey Place
MarionLIFE Community Services
Marra Dreaming
Mid Murray Support Service Inc.
Midway Road Community House
Milang Old School House Community Centre
Mitchell Park Neighbourhood Centre
Morella Community Centre
Mount Barker Community Centre
Murray Bridge Community Centre
Nazareth Catholic Community
North Adelaide Community Centre (Adelaide City Council)
North East Community Assistance Project Inc
North East Community House
Northern Area Community & Youth Services
Our House Port Augusta Inc.
Overseas Chinese Association of SA
Pakistani Australian Association of South Australia (PAASA)
Paralowie R-12 Community Centre
Payneham Community Centre
Pooraka Farm Community Centre
Port Pirie Community Centre
Prospect Community Program
Reynella Neighbourhood Centre
Robertstown War Memorial Community Centre
Salisbury East Neighbourhood Centre
Southern Yorke Peninsula Community Hub
Strath Neighbourhood Centre
Surrey Downs Community Centre
Tailem Bend Community Centre
Taperoo Community Centre - Uniting SA
The Hut Community Centre
The Mawson Centre
The Paddocks Centre
The Summit Community Centre
The Welcome Centre
Torrens Valley Community Centre
Trott Park Neighbourhood Centre

Unley Community Centre
Vietnamese Community in Australia
Wakefield House Positive Ageing Centre
Wandana Community Centre
Woodcroft Morphet Vale Neighbourhood Centre
Yankalilla Youth & Community Centre

Twelve25 Salisbury Youth Enterprise Centre
Uniting Communities
Victim Support Service
Wakefield Regional Council
West Coast HomeCare

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

AAcacia Housing Association
Anglican Diocese of Willochra
Australia Day Council of SA
Australian Refugee Association
Barossa Lower North Futures
Caritas College
Centacare Catholic Family Services
City of Charles Sturt
City of Marion
City of Mitcham (Mitcham Cultural Village)
City of Onkaparinga
City of Playford
City of Playford/Grenville
Community Connections Hub
City of Salisbury
City of Tea Tree Gully
City of Victor Harbor
Clubhouse SA Inc - Diamond House
DOME
FocusOne Health
Grandparents For Grandchildren
Health and Immunisation Management Services
Health Consumers Alliance of SA Inc
High Street Social Club
Holiday Explorers inc
Islamic Society of South Australia Inc
Mission Australia
Muslim Women's Association of South Australia
Northern Volunteering SA
Port Augusta Youth Centre
PsychMed
Rockit Performing Arts
SA Country Carers
South Australian Council for Adult Literacy
Southern Volunteering
Survivors of Torture & Trauma Assistance & Rehabilitation Service
The Brocas
The Food Centre
The Wyatt Benevolent Institution Inc

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Alison Cain
Ben Jackson
Christine Blumberg
Diane Graham
Gabby Jones
Georgy Zachariah
Isaiah Omamoghlo
Mary Awata
Megs Lamb
Michael Arman
Olivia Sorre
Pam Simmons
Sue Balcock
Trish Burden

HONORARY MEMBERS

Andrew Keightley
Ann Brown
Cassandra Gibson-Pope
Clare Dilliway
Ellen Jezierski
Gill McFadyen
Glennys Lehmann
Heather Hewitt
Jan Brown
Janet Chambers
Karyn Bradford
Kirsten King
Leighton Boyd
Lyn Walkley
Maggie L'Estrange
Maralyn Blake
Marion Wilson
Mairi Spedding (deceased)
Pam Dale
Rille Walshe, OAM
Rosemary Neal
Rosemary Rodrigues
Sue Goldsworthy (deceased)
Sue Ross

HOW DID WE DO?

HOW MUCH

Number of member organisations

165

Number of capacity building initiatives provided

68

Number of members participating in consultation and advocacy activities

103

Number of participants in consultancy/advocacy or capability building activities

7381

HOW WELL

93.3% OF MEMBERS SATISFIED IN OUR PERFORMANCE

KEEPING THEM INFORMED

Providing a range of training and other supports (e.g. governance assistance) that meet their centre's needs

91.7%

Capturing the voice of our sector (i.e. our engagement and consultation)

91.6%

Government policy and legislation

93.4%

Grants and funding opportunities

96.6%

Supporting their organisation to do its work

93.3%

Full members visited at least once in the past year

43.7%

Training and professional development opportunities

98.3%

Networking and collaboration opportunities

93.33%

“ I WOULD LOVE TO FEEL MORE CONNECTION BETWEEN CENTRES, BUT I FEEL THERE IS ALREADY A REALLY GOOD START TO BUILDING THAT GAP. REALLY APPRECIATE THE "TOUCH POINTS" WE HAVE VIA PHONE CALLS, EMAIL AND THE OCCASIONAL PERSON DROPPING IN. ”

CCSA MEMBER

BETTER OFF

85% Report that your organisation is better able to support its community as a result of Community Centres SA's work.

RESILIENT AND THRIVING

OUR SECTOR:

HAS THE CAPACITY TO
RECOVER AND LEARN
FROM ADVERSITY

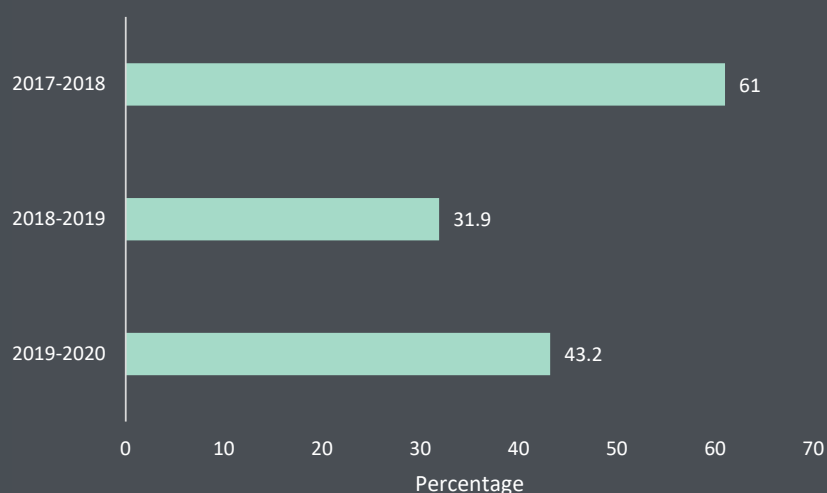
CONNECTS TO SOURCES
OF SUPPORT WHEN
NEEDED

IS OUTWARD-LOOKING

IS PROACTIVE AND
ADAPTABLE

PRIORITY SECTOR INDICATORS

WHAT PERCENTAGE OF MEMBERS HAVE DIVERSE INCOME SOURCES?



% of members who have at least 20% of their funding independent of government.
Figures based on Annual Member Survey with 60 responses.

Agility and flexibility is at the heart of best practice community development. Helen Keller's inspirational words "alone we can do so little, together we can do so much" is the foundation of our sector's ethos, and one translation of this is our success in nurturing new partnerships.

This is strengths based work at its heart – recognising the strengths and expertise in other organisations, and partnering with them to bring increased benefits to our communities.

Pleasingly, this year 60% of our members nurtured up to 5 new partnerships. However 26% of our members have not managed to introduce any new partnerships into their work. With COVID19, declining funding and increased community needs, this is not surprising – building meaningful new partnerships takes considered time and strategic foresight. CCSA's new Strategic Plan identifies the building of respectful and sustainable partnerships as a core goal. We will continue to devote resources to building the sector's ability to achieve this.

CASE STUDY

NARACOORTE COMMUNITY CENTRE POP UP (NCPop)



Creativity transcends language barriers in Naracoorte.

The Naracoorte township and region is rich in community heart but the local community lacked a centralised hub – a Community Centre for everyone – and sought CCSA support to explore what would be involved in establishing one.

Through NCPop, CCSA had multiple conversations with local employers, Elected Members, Council administration, service agencies, residents, businesses, local champions, State and Federal Government Departments, and others to further understand the need and opportunities. It culminated into two intensive days of workshops, creative pop ups, connections across culture and language. Like-minded individuals came together forming an ongoing and committed Working Group and developed an Action Plan of 'next steps.' Reflective practice suggests the sustainability of any community hub should be a key element of planning and co-design processes.

ENGAGED AND RESPONSIVE

OUR SECTOR:

IS CONNECTED TO NETWORKS

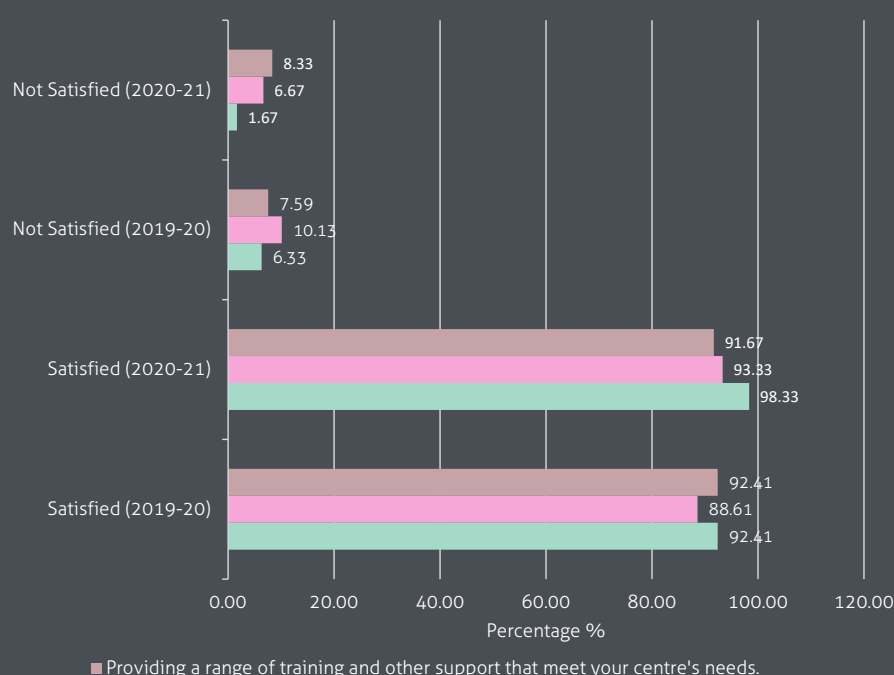
IDENTIFIES AND RESPONDS TO NEEDS, OPPORTUNITIES AND BARRIERS

SHARES INFORMATION, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

PARTICIPATES IN CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

PRIORITY SECTOR INDICATORS

CCSA'S LEVEL OF ENGAGEMENT & RESPONSIVENESS TO THE SECTOR



98% of our members are satisfied that we keep them informed about best practice, benchmarks and capacity building opportunities; this has increased by 6% from the previous year. Dissemination of information is an extremely important part of our role because we know how challenging it is for those working in the front line to manage the fast flow of new information such as legislation, grant opportunities, new evidence, policy updates, trends in CD and advocacy. We do this through regular e news and social media posts. Similarly, 93% of our members tell us that this year they are extremely satisfied with our networking and collaboration opportunities including placemaking, iDRIVE, partnerships and alliance training, community needs analysis, our Loneliness Warrior Awards, digital training and our Community Learning Consortium. We are reflecting on feedback that our members seek more networking opportunities and will build this into 2021-22.

Figures based on Annual Member Survey with 60 responses.

CASE STUDY

IDRIVE



iDrive mentors after completing their training.

A community driving program that offered a pathway for those in Adelaide's South to gain driving hours required to achieve a P Drivers' license. Many people lack access to a fully licensed driver who has the time or means to supervise them in their car, and/ or a safe vehicle to practice in. iDrive sought to break this cycle of disadvantage. iDrive matched learner drivers with volunteer driving supervisors.

But more than this, it provided 3 day training to volunteers to become mentors, and connected both mentors and drivers to local places of community support. These driving mentors supported the learner drivers as they moved towards attaining their required seventy-five hours of driving experience to graduate to their provisional license (P-plates).

From late February 2021 to the end of June, the program clocked up over 5000 learner driver minutes with 10 amazing volunteers! The program operated with the support of MarionLIFE, Glandore Community Centre and Get Home Safe Foundation.

INCLUSIVE

“WITH EXTREMELY HIGH LEVEL OF TRUST IN COMMUNITY CENTRES, INCREASING NUMBERS OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING LONELINESS OR MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES SEEK THEIR SUPPORT.”

OUR SECTOR:

HAS A STRONG SENSE OF BELONGING

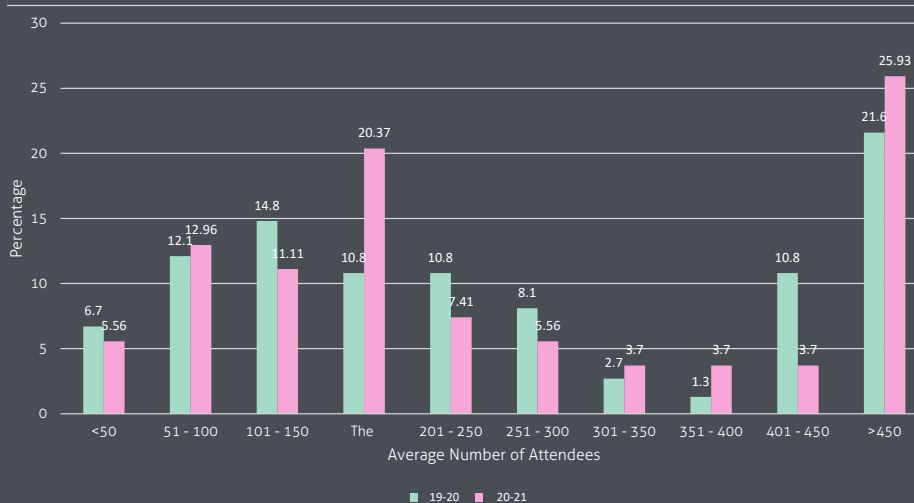
CREATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION IN AND CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITIES

SUPPORTS DIVERSITY

HAS THE CAPACITY TO BE INCLUSIVE

PRIORITY SECTOR INDICATORS

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE COMING TO EACH CENTRE PER WEEK



Figures based on Annual Member Survey with 60 responses.

A key requirement of our members is that they are open and inclusive to all, they offer participants acceptance, belonging, and freedom from stigma and judgment. "You don't have to tell them your life stories, or give them your birthdate or government ID or your gender or employment status. It doesn't matter. No stigma. Nothing. There's lots of things here where you can just be." With the extremely high levels of trust in Community Centres, very large increases in the number of people who are lonely or experiencing mental health challenges are seeking their support. The number of centres who are attended by 151 – 200 people each week has doubled. The number supporting 350 - 400 people each week has tripled. Those supporting more than 450 people each week has grown to nearly 26% of members.

The impact on centres and CCSA to continue to support over 35,000 people each week and growing is extremely challenging. Going forward, CCSA will increase its advocacy in this space.

CASE STUDY

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Community Centres SA's Oli Carlton delivering a training session. The smile says it all!

The Community Connections program is a statewide program with the specific aim of ending loneliness, building individual capacity, and fostering a more connected community.

In the role of capacity builder, CCSA has delivered a blended training program to 100+ practitioners, representing 27 organisations. Focusing on a person-centered approach and community development best practice, the training outcomes have led to a renewed focus on working in collaboration for the betterment of the community. As one attendee said, 'Community Connections is a new way of working together. I think we'll all look back and think "we were the start of a new way of working" in years to come.'

CCSA will continue to build relationships, advocating for Community Centres as the vibrant and inclusive spaces that we know they are.

INFLUENTIAL

OUR SECTOR:

DRIVES POSITIVE
CHANGE

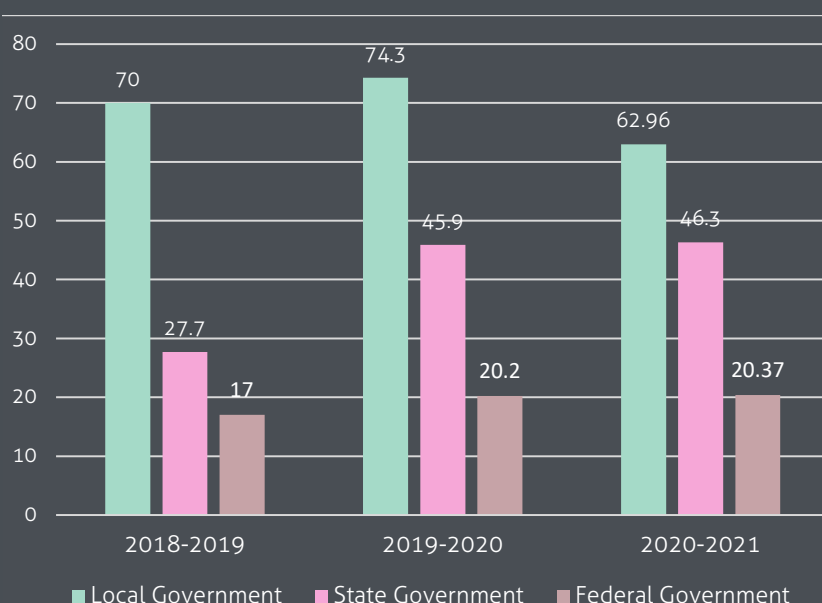
HAS A VOICE WHICH
INFORMS DECISIONS
THAT IMPACT THE
COMMUNITY SECTOR

IS A PERSUASIVE
ADVOCATE

IS INVITED TO
REPRESENT OUR
COMMUNITIES

PRIORITY SECTOR INDICATORS

% OF MEMBERS WHO FEEL THEY CAN INFLUENCE POLICY THAT IMPACT ON THEIR CENTRES



Figures based on Annual Member Survey with 60 responses.

At 93% satisfaction rate, our members have a very high degree of confidence that we are capturing their voice and advocating on their behalf. Notwithstanding this, our members own confidence in their ability to influence government policies at the local, state and federal level remains low. Community Centre's worth and value is well evidenced, and they should have a highly valued voice in the political landscape. However, over this last year their confidence that they can meaningfully influence local and state government has declined significantly. With changed funding requirements by State Government relating to adult community education that has seen many centres ethically opposed to funding that no longer supports those community members who are not work ready and the decline of funding offered by Grants SA; and at a local government level the amalgamation of centres into more generic community hubs, this is not surprising. CCSA's advocacy role as the voice for the sector remains more important than ever.

CASE STUDY

LONELINESS ADVOCACY



Panel discussion at the Overcoming Loneliness Forum.

This year, CCSA authored over 13 submissions on behalf of our sector, ensuring that local, place based community development approaches are consistently at the front of policy, legislative and strategic considerations. These included the SA Volunteer Strategy, DHA Migration Program, SA's Water Security Statement, SA Youth Action Plan, the DHS Disability Access Inclusion Plan.

A core focus of our advocacy is on Loneliness – in which our sector has powerful insights. We told the sector's story through the media, this year including interviews on ABC Radio and Television. Our voice is even louder when we partner with other organisations; this year we ran the Overcoming Loneliness Forum with Uniting Communities – attended by over 180 people, and with presentations by Kangaroo Island, Elizabeth Rise and Marion Life Community Centres. The day of informative presentations and group discussions identified many Calls to Action, leaving attendees invigorated to make changes.

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS

THERE ARE MANY OTHER PEOPLE & ORGANISATIONS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED OUR WORK THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WHO WE WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE...WE CAN ACHIEVE SO MUCH MORE TOGETHER!

Federal, State and Local Government politicians who have supported their local Community and Neighbourhood Centres and Community Centres SA.

Organisations with which we have formal partnerships – The Good Things Foundation – 'Be Connected' program, CBS, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Guild Insurance, Flinders University, Renewal SA and Fay Fuller Foundation.

The other peak bodies and not-for-profits we work closely with include SACOSS, Volunteering SA&NT, Multicultural Communities Council of SA, Carers SA, Shelter SA, Australian Refugee Association, Purple Orange, South Australian Network of Drug & Alcohol Services, Child & Family Focus SA, Youth Affairs Council of South Australia, Community Housing Council of South Australia and Mental Health Coalition of SA.

Our national body Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association (ANHCA) and our friends and colleagues in the state peaks ANHCA represents.

....all the other people and organisations we work with.

Thank you to our State Government Funding Partners for 2020-2021.

Department for Human Services

- Sector Support and Advocacy
- Placemaking Project
- Grants SA
- iDrive
- CCP
- Project Motherboard

Department for Innovation and Skills

- Building Capabilities Funding
- Community Learning

Office for Ageing Well

- Abuse Prevention Hub
- Loneliness Warriors

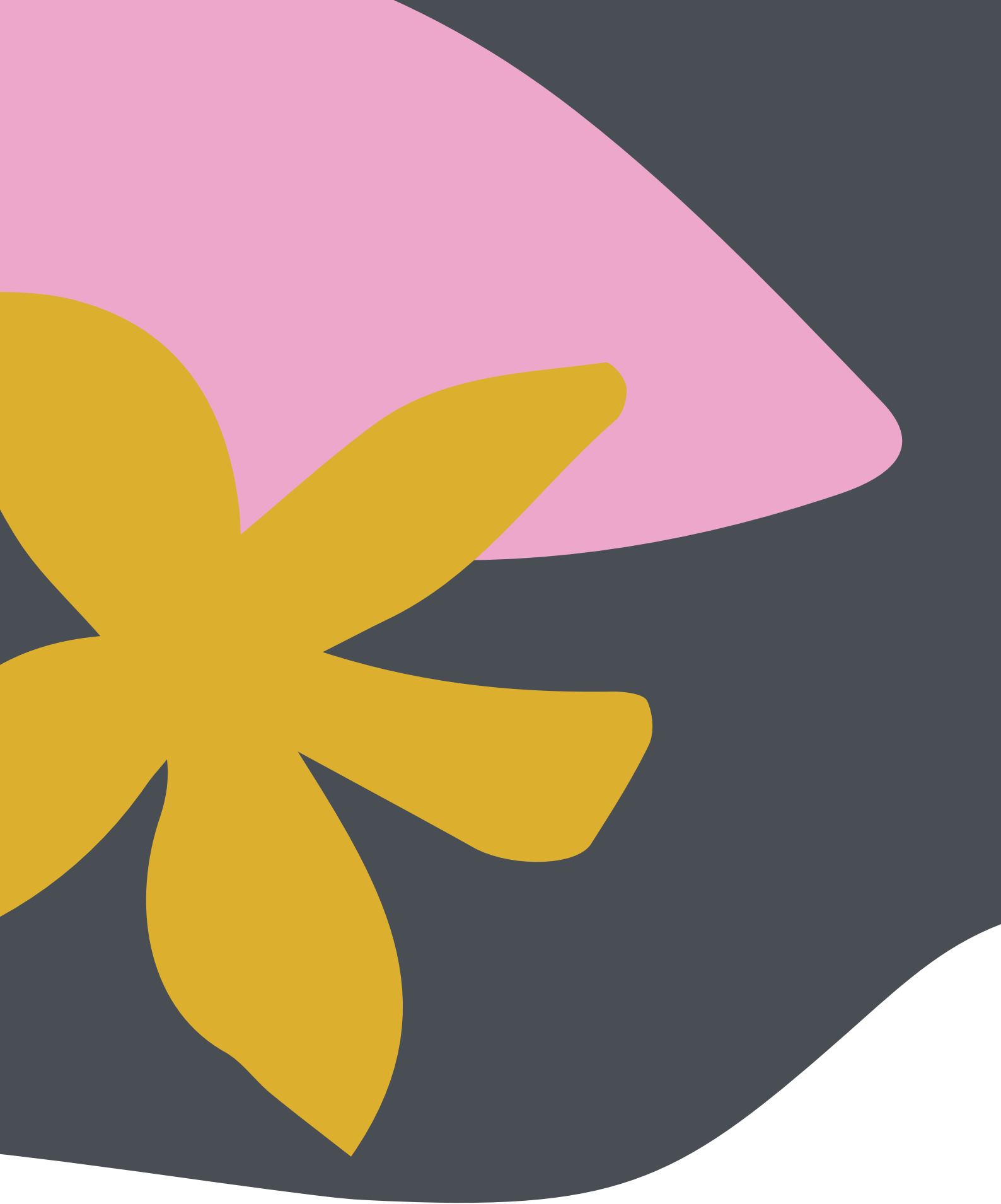
Department of Home Affairs

- NCPop Up





“ I AM VERY HAPPY WITH THE LEVEL OF COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORTS YOU OFFER ME AND MY CENTRE. I FEEL THAT IF I NEED HELP WITH ANYTHING IN OUR CENTRE'S WORLD AND I CANNOT GET IT DONE FROM WITHIN MY OWN ORGANISATION, I CAN FIND ANSWERS AND SATISFACTION THROUGH CCSA. ”

CCSA MEMBER



Community Centres SA

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Community Centres SA
Strengthening Local Communities