Aussie Hands Annual Report 2018-2019

Board of Management

Ms Colleen Birtwistle Ordinary Board Member
Ms Larah Cornthwaite Ordinary Board Member
Ms Josephine D’Ambrosio Ordinary Board Member & NSW Coordinator
Ms Helen Halliday Ordinary Board Member (resigned Feb 2019)
Ms Toni Ireland-Hay Ordinary Board Member
Ms Karen Macdonald Vice-President
Ms Lynne Matheson Ordinary Board Member
Mr Ian McNally Ordinary Board Member (resigned May 2019)
Mr Areeb Ovais Treasurer (from July 2019)
Ms Elizabeth Serpell Secretary (present) Treasurer (until July 2019)
Ms Olga Skalidis Ordinary Board Member
Ms Amanda Williams Ordinary Board member
Ms Brooke Young Chairperson & President


‘Our mission is to support people with a hand difference, provide networking and information and co-fund the Australian Hand Difference Register.’ Brooke Young, Chairperson

Membership

Registered Aussie Hands Membership grew from 164 (2018) to 188 (2019) ie: Total households who have a child or adult born with a hand difference. By state are as follows: NSW 141, QLD 21, SA 34, TAS 15, VIC 244, WA 60. Overall, 292 total households (including health professionals, financial and in-kind supporters, administrators/volunteers).

A membership report is available by contacting info@aussiehands.org

Grants, Major Donors and Sponsors

Aussie Hands gratefully acknowledges major donations made by Nuttelex, and the generous ongoing support from the Sentinel Foundation, Print Obsession and Pixel Salad Studios. In 2018-2019, the following grants were received in the 2018-19 financial year: Mazda $2,750; Calvary $3710, Transurban $1400, DHS $8600, Sentinel Foundation $5,000.
Fundraising

Members were busy this year with fundraising activities, including a social Night at the Movies in Melbourne that raised $910 for the Australian Hand Difference Register (AHDR).

Thanks to Charet Garcia VIC who taught Tai Chi at Ross House as a fundraiser for Aussie Hands raising a total of $325, and Curulli Seafood Market WA for fundraising $122. Birthday Fundraisers via Facebook – VIC Petra’s 2nd Birthday $200 and VIC Surila’s 50th Birthday $520.

Dave Serpell inspired us all with his campaign to climb to Mt Everest Base Camp and raised much needed funds for the Australian Hand Difference Register. He achieved his fundraising and his trekking goal. Thank you to Dave and his generous supporters who raised $7249.

Financial Report

Special thanks to Edwin Taitz, EzyAccounts for his service as Finance Officer, and also to Treasurer Areeb Ovais. An independent audit was conducted by Mathew Simon (registered CPA No. 9527342) for the 2018-2019 financial year.

The audited report is available on request prior to Board of Management approval.

2018-2019 Summary

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total income</th>
<th>Total Expenses</th>
<th>Surplus/Deficit</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$91,468</td>
<td>$123,289</td>
<td>($31,821)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>Non-current assets</td>
<td>Total Assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$67,367</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$67,367</td>
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Australian Hand Difference Register (AHDR)

Launched in May 2018 at the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute, AHDR is a database of children born with a hand difference and/or arm difference. During the past year the AHDR has been extended within Victoria and Australia-wide.

The AHDR aims to find out

- how many children are born with a hand/arm difference in Australia
- Learn more about possible causes and risk factors
- Gain information to help plan services
- Identify areas for future research

The AHDR is funded by Aussie Hands and the Australasian Foundation for Plastic Surgery. Funding organisations do not have access to any individual or confidential information contained on the AHDR. For more information and the AHDR Annual Report, please visit [https://www.mcri.edu.au/ahdr](https://www.mcri.edu.au/ahdr)
The Aussie Hands Patron, Kate Doughty (triathlete) is training hard for the 2020 Tokyo Paralympian Olympics.

We were delighted to appoint Ambassadors in New South Wales, Tasmania and Victoria.

Lauren Booth served as NSW Ambassador from January – June and showed us that she has never let her hand difference define who she is.

Dave Serpell is the VIC Ambassador and attended 2019 Aussie Hands event, mentoring young members, fundraising and helping to promote Aussie Hands through social media and magazine articles.

Amanda Williams is the TAS Ambassador and has shared her story through social media and promoting Aussie Hands through professional and personal networks in Tasmania.

PATRON & AMBASSADORS

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Attending events were a highlight for children, parents, friends and supporters alike.

New South Wales
- Winter Event, Concord, 1 July 2018
- Spring Event, Concord, 16 September 2018
- End of Year Event, Camden, 25 November 2018
- Chocolate Egg Hunt, Concord, 7 April 2019
- Winter Event, Concord, 30 June 2019

Queensland
- End of Year Event, Wynnum, 25 November 2018
- Autumn Event, Brisbane, 31 March 2019

South Australia
- Spring Event, Marleston, 23 Sept
- End of Year Event, Adelaide, 9 December 2018
- Chocolate Egg Hunt, Adelaide, 20 April 2019

Tasmania
- End of Year Event, Launceston, 2 December 2018

Victoria
- Superhero Training, 22 July 2018
- Mini Olympics, 9 September 2018
- End of Year Event, Port Melbourne, 25 November 2018
- Summer Event, Port Melbourne, 10 February 2019
- Fundraiser - Tai Chi classes, Melbourne, 1, 12, 19 February 2019
- Fundraiser - Movie Night, Northcote, 11 February 2019
- Chocolate Egg Hunt, Port Melbourne, 31 March 2019
- Winter Event, Port Melbourne, 23 June 2019

Western Australia
- Superhero Event, Sorrento, 8 September 2018
- End of Year Event, Joondalup, 2 December 2018
- Chocolate Egg Hunt, Belmont, 13 April 2019

‘We went to our first Aussie Hands South Australia event in 2018 and it was so great to be around other families in the same situation. Being rural can be very isolating, so it was great to not feel alone. I look forward to going to more events in the future.’

Acknowledgement to Aussie Hands Interstate Coordinators who coordinated various activities, for which their efforts have benefitted members enormously.

Social and Traditional Media (Analytics)

Social media platforms used to communicate with members, promote awareness about hand/limb differences and share information include LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook. A new-look website project was undertaken from January-June 2019 and launched in September.
- LinkedIn: 48 followers
- Instagram: 632 followers
- Facebook: 833 members
- Website: aussiehands.org

Dec 2018
VIC Ross House Annual Report (pg 21)
Aussie Hands – Australian Hand Difference Register – feature article

Feb 2019
TAS Calvary Hospital, Hobart
Heartbeat (pg 10)
Aussie Hands – Grant Recipient for the Community Grants Program

April 2019
VIC Linkt
Aussie Hands – Grant Recipient for the Transurban Community Grants Program

May 2019
TAS Calvary Hospital – Tasmanian Health Service – General Practice Liaison Newsletter, Issue 3 (pg 3-4)
Aussie Hands – Raising Awareness to GP’s in TAS

June 2019
Ross House Newsletter (pg 4)
Aussie Hands – DAVE Dave’s Aspiring Venture to Everest – feature article
Fundraiser for the Australian Hand Difference Register

Volunteers
Thank you to the many volunteers who give of their time and expertise. Aussie Hands is a volunteer led organisation, each person provides invaluable assistance to the achievement of our objectives.

Staff and Board Professional Development
Staff and Board members participated in the following professional development activities:

Webinars
How NFP’s can make the most of our Mobile future
The Future of Social Media
Understanding and Exceeding Funding Expectations
What you need to know about GoogleAds
Data Laws: The must know for NFP
The Magic of Social Fundraising
10 Online Fundraising Best Practice for small Not for Profits
Surviving the Facebook Apocalypse

Seminars / Workshops
AWS & Connecting Up Not for Profit Technology Event
Sustainable / Fundraising Planning
Marketing for Community Groups
Info Session: Disability Discrimination Legal Services
Public Speaking
Change the World
MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018-2019

- NATIONAL ROLL-OUT OF THE AUSTRALIAN HAND DIFFERENCE REGISTER
- APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADORS IN 3 STATES
- TARGETED CONFIDENCE BUILDING WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN WITH A HAND DIFFERENCE
- INCREASED MEMBER ENGAGEMENT ON FACEBOOK
- RESEARCH ON MEMBER NEEDS TO GUIDE FUTURE PROGRAMS
- WEBSITE REFRESH PROJECT