



Our youth, their future.

CASE FOR INVESTMENT

Supporting children and young people in the Northern Sydney and Inner West Sydney regions.



In the 2020 to 2021 financial year we increased our capacity by 600 percent!

Children and young people experiencing isolation and homelessness due to a variety of reasons can be very difficult to reach.

We provide accommodation, care and support and go the extra mile to support our young people and their families.

We find a way.

Our vision is that all children, young people and their families are empowered and supported to develop their full potential and have the life skills and opportunities to lead a full and active life in our community.

For the past 10 years we supported more than 3,140 young people and their family members.*

*(Based on CYMS, referral data & our own statistics).

Highlights 2020/2021



58 young people in our Out of Home Care Program.

93 young people were provided with 1:1 general outreach support and information, referral, support or crisis intervention.



64 young people were provided with secure housing.

This is the equivalent of 11,916 nights of a safe and secure home for young people.



ABOUT US

We are a Housing, Support and Community Intervention service, providing support to children and young people between the age of 9 and 24.

We currently deliver services through three key programs:

Out of Home Care – a range of accommodation and support options for children and young people 9-24 who are or have been under the care of the Minister.

Youth Housing – housing options for young people (17-24) at risk of homelessness or currently homeless.

Family and Community – working proactively with individuals and community groups to prevent homelessness, family breakdown, out-of-home placements and supporting reconciliation of family relationships.

Our **Model of Care** is innovative and based on extensive research and an understanding that the needs of the young people we assist are far greater than providing safe accommodation.

It is the Burdekin model proposed by Professor Brian Burdekin in the seminal 1998 report: "Our Homeless Children".

The different facets of the model was supported over 37 different research studies and papers conducted around youth housing issues.

"The fact is that there are homeless children and young people dying in Australia, some from suicide, others from neglect. That is not something our nation can ignore". Professor Brian Burdekin, AO



WHY WE ARE NEEDED

Our core offerings are centred on the support of children and young people aged between 9 and 24 at risk of homelessness. We know the key drivers of this risk are related to school disengagement, family breakdown, mental health, drug and alcohol as well as financial pressures.

Our program areas are therefore focused on disrupting the risk factors within our community and family intervention program and the delivery of accommodation and support for those in need.

An integrated approach to issues of child and youth housing, intervention and support.

Overall we wish to build resilience and capacity in young people to prevent the risk factors from emerging or taking hold.

We also aim to ensure our young people are supported and equipped with the necessary tools to pursue their goals and only leave the organisation once they have reached a sustainable level of independence.



We are in touch with the needs of our local communities. Many of our staff and board reside in the local communities we work in. This enhances the delivery of informed and relevant programs.

The cost of NOT doing anything.

It is estimated that youth homelessness costs Australia an estimated \$626 million per year in health and justice service costs. At the time of the report, it was estimated that this cost was greater than the total spend on homelessness services for all age groups.

The costs to the Australia economy of health services associated with young people experiencing homelessness is an average of \$8,505 per person per year or \$355 million across all young people aged 15-24 accessing Specialist Homelessness Services.

STATISTICS



Youth Homelessness

28,000 young people aged between 12-24 are homeless on any given night in Australia.

NSW

Around 9,000 young people aged 12-24 in NSW are homeless on any given night.



25%

While people aged 12 to 24 years make up just under 20 per cent of the Australian population, they comprise 25 per cent of individuals experiencing homelessness.



42,400 self presented

Almost 42,400 young people aged 15-24 presented on their own to Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) agencies during 2019/2020.



Within 4 years

54% of young people experience homelessness within 4 years of leaving care.



Link with being in state care

And in 2015 a national homelessness survey found that 63% of homeless young people had been in "state care".



Mental health and youth homelessness

Mental illness is by far the principal cause of disease for people aged 12-25 years with at least 50% of young people experiencing mental health problems.

Almost 19% of people aged 15 to 24 experienced anxiety and 14% experienced depression in 2020-21.

Studies of homelessness risk factors have continually identified mental illness as a significant risk factor, which can lead to a young person experiencing homelessness.

It has been estimated that the prevalence of mental illness is at least 300 to 400 % higher among people experiencing homelessness compared to people in stable housing.

Mental health and youth homelessness is bidirectional.

Young people experiencing homelessness face increased challenges with their education. A combination of difficulties attending school, meeting academic demands and the lack of adequate support services mean many young people experiencing homelessness are at risk of disengaging or have disengaged from education.

Poverty and youth homelessness

Structural causes of homelessness include poverty, housing and labour market conditions.

The average person on Youth Allowance would have to pay 83% of their income on a single room in Sydney.

Overcrowding is the most common form of youth homelessness (18%).

A National Union of Students, YOUNG Campaigns, and the Australian Council of Social Service survey of almost 900 young Australians on welfare found that more than 90 per cent of them skip meals weekly.

Anglicare's Annual Snapshot found that there were no affordable options for people on youth allowance, and only seven properties – all sharehouses – that were affordable for single people on jobseeker.

In 2020, research by the Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) found of the three million people living in poverty in Australia, 731,000 are children and a total of 1.2 million are under the age of 24.

Disadvantaged students are on average 2-3 years behind in reading and maths by the time they are 15 years old.

The reading gap between the lowest socioeconomic students and the highest are equivalent to almost three years of schooling.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU BECOME HOMELESS?

Coping with
constant change –
you move schools,
sometimes you stop
going.

Missing out – you
miss out on basics
like food, clothes
and doctor visits.

Coping with
isolation – it is
lonely and
frightening on the
streets, you feel
rejected and often
become ill –
mentally and
physically.

Surviving – you do
what you can to
survive including
numbing the pain
with drugs and
alcohol.

CASE STUDIES

Bridget

“Bridget” is 13 years old and a shy and withdrawn young lady who was not engaged at any educational institution. She participated in lessons in literacy, numeracy and other key learning areas at the learning space 5 days per week and expressed that she felt seen, safe, and supported whilst attending. The teacher advocated for her to receive an individual education plan at her new school and an after-hours tutorship. “Bridget” is now attending school every day and feels supported in all aspects of her education.

Kayla

Prior to engaging in the Learning Space “Kayla” 16 years old had disengaged from all education. Now she actively participates in lessons at the learning space and her attendance is 100%. The teacher has assisted “Kayla” in writing her resume and cover letters and she has applied for part-time employment. She has also been supported to apply to TAFE as she wants to achieve her RoSA Certificate and has an interview in the coming weeks to commence in semester 2.

HIGHLIGHTS AND AWARDS

NSW CREATE Foundation Case Worker Award
for TBA Case Worker.

2022

Honours from the Tibetan community for our
approach to working with young people.

2021

We commenced managing a residential care
program in the Inner West of Sydney.

2020



We became the lead agency for the Avalon
Youth Hub.

2019

Our CEO Justene awarded with
Pittwater Community Service Award.

2018

Our CEO Justene awarded - Warringah
Citizen of the Year

2016



We received a Certificate of
Registration as a community
housing provider under the
Housing Act 2001 (NSW) as a
class 4 provider.

2009

OUR NUMBERS

On any given night we house up to 38 young people in bedsits, one and two bedroom homes across the Northern Sydney region. We provide case management support to ensure these young people are equipped to develop life skills required to move into independence upon exiting our service.

We directly support a further 20-40 children, young people and their families in any given month with the aim of preventing homelessness through intervention strategies that look to address the key risk factors that can result in homelessness, such as family breakdown, disengagement from education, mental illness and drug and alcohol abuse.

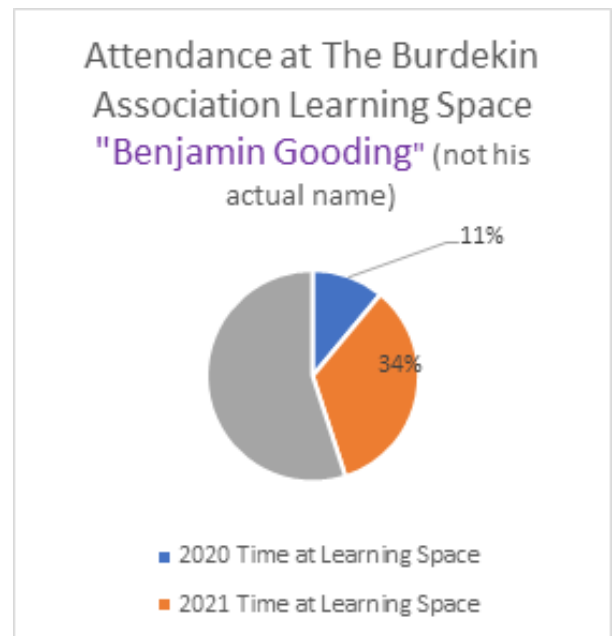
Young people at a glance:

- 40% of our young people are engaged in school or high school (including Distance Education).
- 5% are enrolled in, or in the process of enrolling in TAFE.
- 4% are studying at University.
- 16% are employed.
- 11% are seeking employment.
- 24% are disengaged from school and employment.

Length of time in accommodation

- Up to 14 weeks 7.7%
- 14-26 weeks 15.4%

Case Study



The above chart shows the increase in Benjamin's attendance from over two years. His attendance increased considerably. Prior to commencing the education program Benjamin had only attended school a handful of times.

Top Five Reasons for Presenting to our Youth Housing Program:

- Relationship and family breakdown
- Current issue with housing (eviction/lease ending/affordability)
- Mental health
- Financial difficulties
- Lack of family/community support

Age of Young People Supported in Youth Accommodation:

- 0-5 years 2.3%
- 16 years 3%
- 17 years 15.8%
- 18-19 years 36.1%
- 20-24 years 42.8%

WHY INVEST IN OUR WORK ?

Because what we do works. We successfully supported more than 3,140 young people.



We believe when parents can't or won't look after their children we have a shared responsibility to step up.

We also believe that every young person has the right to a life that offers opportunities to fulfil their potential.

We comprehensively understand the issues related to pathways into homelessness including trauma, parental mental illness, domestic and family violence poverty, mental health issues, parental rejection of young persons sexual orientation and gender identity.

Using innovative and industry-leading support practices we help guide young people aged 9-24 to fully functional adulthood.

Our programs are designed to improve mental health, build resilience, overcome anxiety and depression, increase employability, life and financial skills. We also provide counselling, outreach work and aftercare support.

We provide accommodation, care and support and we go the extra mile to support our youth and their families.

Be part of the solution

Being part of Burdekin offers a unique opportunity to have a considerable impact on youth homelessness.

Being part of our community offers local engagement and networking, whilst also fostering social justice and meeting your social responsibility goals.

Together we can have a bigger impact, together youth homelessness is solvable.

There are limitless ways in which you can support Burdekin. The first and most obvious is financial. We also seek community and corporate partners who can support us with products, services, volunteering and fundraising so that more young people have access to our services.

By supporting our work, you are also supporting local families, the local community and economy.

Our current partnerships are sustainable and rooted in relationships with a shared interest in equal access to opportunities.

Ways in which you might like to become involved:

- Financial donations
- In-kind donations - eg products, services, time.
- Sponsorship
- Payroll giving
- Staff fundraising
- Gala events
- Publicity

Together we save lives and improve well-being and ensure each dollar is maximised for impact.

COMMUNITY

Community Partners



Fundraising



Annual Charity Golf Day

One of our primary fund - and friend raising events - held annually.

Youth Development Fund

A campaign to fundraise money for a number of initiatives across the organisation. Such as cost for education, uniforms, tools for work, glasses, lessons etc.



Education Inclusion Pays Off

A campaign to fund our Learning Space and continue to employ Education Specialists offering targeted support for young people.



Other Events:

- Home Sweet - Link Housing
- Peninsula Pals Melbourne Cup
- Manly Splash n Dash
- Beach 2 Beach fun run
- Get Fit for Homeless Youth
- Local Artists Trail
- Christmas Giving

Fundraising rationale

We are funded to provide the core requirements such as shelter, food, clothing, pocket money, phone credit and the likes.

We require additional funding for provisions we believe ALL children and young people should have access to so they can reach their full potential. Just like we any other child growing up in a supported family environment.

This extends to the provision of targeted educational support for the children and young people who are unable to engage in their local school but excel when provided customised support.

In-kind giving



Property Industry Foundation (PIF)

PIF connects us with other organisations all the time to help alleviate child and youth homelessness.

King Living

King Living help us to furnish some of our properties making them immediately feel like home.

Bunnings

Bunnings have provided a number of volunteers to support our community days, they also very generously donate products for our properties - such as fire safety .

BINGO Bins

The people over at BINGO Industries have been a huge support to TBA, providing about \$10,000 - \$15,000 worth of bins in the financial year 2020/2021.

Other supporters

Norton Rose Fulbright, Johnson, Wintery and Slate, Charterhall & Flick MacQueen Designs, Multiplex Constructions, SMLXL Projects and Bridge Housing.

WHAT OUR SUPPORTERS SAY



"The transparency, efficiency, passion and outcomes that The Burdekin Association achieve is to be applauded. To work with them on a housing project and see how they diligently and efficiently achieved value for money, which in turn ensured the children and carers were awarded with an amazing home was a credit to the amazing staff."

Ian Menzies, National Director, Quantity Surveyor, WT Partnership

"The work you (and team) are doing looks amazing. A big congratulations to all involved. Keep doing what you are doing as it inspires and gives hope to many."

Mr John Pradel, Director, SJB Architects

"You are the true heroes and give kids with little hope an understanding that they still matter. Thank you for what you do. Because of your work kids can chase their dream."

Former NSW Premier, Mike Baird via facebook

"Just wanted to say a huge thanks for all of your help this year. It has really made a difference."

Parents supported by TBA.

"Thanks so much for your amazing support this year! We would not have been able to get through it without the weekly chats we had with you. Please know that we are very grateful."

Parents supported by TBA.

WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY

"They are great at helping young people get on their feet in awful times in their lives."

Ava, Female, 22



"I've really enjoyed my time with Burdekin, I feel like I've matured quite a bit."

Anastasia, Female, 16



"It has been very good so far."

Salote, Female, 14



"I feel well supported and am extremely grateful for being put with the organisation."

Gabriella, Female, 19



"The most caring and supportive bunch, definitely happy with everything that's happened."

Female, 21



The Burdekin Association has become my second home and I am forever grateful."

Male, 26



IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD...

We are keen to forge new partnerships, small and large, aligned with our mission and vision aimed at assisting young people to reach their full potential. If you share our vision and would like to work with us, please get in touch.







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TAP OR SCAN TO DONATE