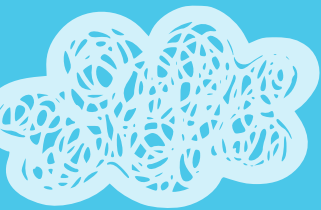
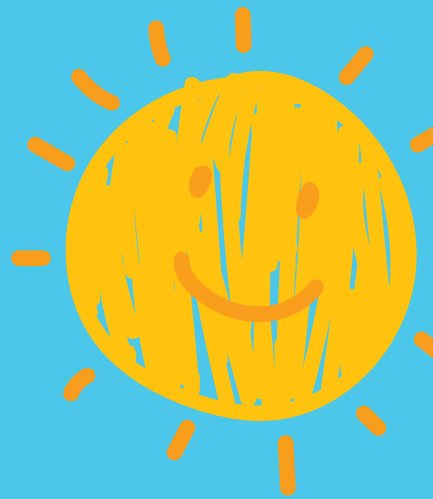




Backpacks
4 SA Kids



ANNUAL iMPACT report



2024 - 2025

Our Why

Because... they're worth it!

Every child deserves to feel safe, valued and cared for. Yet for many children across South Australia, life can change in an instant. When families experience crisis, domestic violence, homelessness or sudden hardship, children are often the ones who carry the quiet weight of uncertainty. At Backpacks 4 SA Kids, our purpose is simple but powerful: to make sure no child facing these challenges feels forgotten.

We believe that practical support can also be deeply emotional support. A backpack filled with essential items, a pair of warm pyjamas, a book to read at bedtime, or the small comforts of a home starter pack can help restore a sense of dignity, stability and belonging during an incredibly difficult time. These items may seem simple, but to a child experiencing crisis, they can mean everything. Our work is driven by compassion and strengthened by community. Every backpack packed, every item donated, and every hour volunteered reflects the collective belief that children in our state deserve better - they deserve to feel seen, supported and hopeful about the future.

Because behind every pack we provide is a child with a story, a future, and limitless potential. And that is why we do what we do.

Because they're worth it.



Chairperson's Statement

It is a privilege to present this Chairperson's Statement for Backpacks 4 SA Kids for 2025.

2025 has been a significant year for Backpacks 4 SA Kids, and we continue to be guided by our strategic priorities of Program Delivery, Community Engagement, Sustainability and Governance.

Program Delivery

Demand for our services remained strong across all programs which we continue to adapt and improve to meet the needs of the children and families we support.

We are very proud to have achieved a 69% increase in our Home Starter Pack program this year with a total of 612 packs being delivered. Home Starter Packs were created in 2017 to support families who are starting again after being affected by domestic violence. Since then, this program has evolved to support various personal situations, such as families starting again after facing homelessness and kids transitioning to independent living after aging out from out-of-home care.

Our impact continues to grow. As recognised during the year, Backpacks 4 SA Kids has now supported more than 110,000 South Australian children since inception.



Community Engagement

Backpacks 4 SA Kids is a community of volunteers, donors, partner agencies and corporate supporters. We continue to leverage our social media and communications channels to mobilise supporters, share current needs, and promote drop-off locations across South Australia.

In October 2024, Government House hosted a reception acknowledging the remarkable work of Backpacks 4 SA Kids and the community behind it.

Sustainability

Securing suitable warehousing has been a major organisational challenge for several years. I am delighted that in June 2025 we relocated operations to our new warehouse at 120 Cross Keys Road, Salisbury South. This move enables us to keep receiving donations and to continue operating at scale while we plan for long-term, affordable warehousing solutions.

In response to the volume of community support—and to ensure we maintain dignity and quality for the children we serve—we also refreshed our donation guidelines in April 2025, providing clearer guidance on what we can accept and the standards required.

We remain committed to ethical fundraising practices and disciplined cost management to maximise the impact of every donated dollar.

Governance

Strong governance underpins every program we deliver. During the year, the Board and management team maintained a focus on:

- Workplace health and safety for staff, volunteers and visitors;
- Compliance with legislative, regulatory and reporting obligations; and
- Active risk oversight aligned to our strategic priorities.

Looking Forward

As we look to the year ahead, we will continue building a sustainable operating model that can meet rising demand while preserving the care and dignity that sits at the heart of every pack.

On behalf of the Board, I thank CEO Rachael Zaltron OAM and the entire Backpacks 4 SA Kids team, along with our volunteers, donors and partners. Together, we are ensuring that when a child or young person experiences crisis, they receive not only essential items, but also a clear message: you are valued, you are supported, and you are worth it.

Gavin

Gavin Woolford
Chairperson



Our Impact

Making a difference, one pack at a time



At Backpacks 4 SA Kids, every child matters – and every number tells a story.

This year, thanks to our amazing volunteers, donors, and community partners, we've been able to support thousands of children across South Australia, helping them feel safe, valued, and seen.

From backpacks filled with school essentials to comforting pajamas, toys, and personal care items, our programs provide more than items – they provide hope, confidence, and a little bit of joy when it's needed most.

The following statistics show the real impact of our work – the children reached, the lives touched, and the smiles created.



Backpacks

5,467



Home Starter Packs

485



Anchor Packs

542



Christmas Gifts

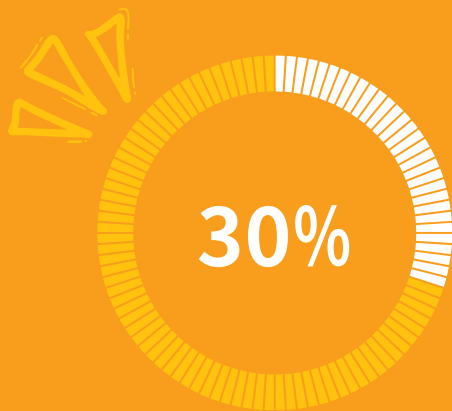
4,926

Countless Smiles



Regional Smiles

At Backpacks 4 SA Kids, we believe that no child should go without, no matter where they live.



In the 2024/25 financial year: 30% of our program's products were distributed to regional Australia, reaching children in remote and rural communities who need support the most.

That's

3426

Backpacks, Home Starter Packs, Anchor Packs, Christmas gifts and other essential items sent beyond metro areas.



“

Without these backpacks, many children in our care would arrive with nothing. The support reaching our regional area is invaluable.

Caseworker

CEO Report

Sustainability



Backpacks 4 SA Kids continues to grow with purpose, heart led in strong community support and a shared commitment to sustainability.

While demand for our programs remains high, our focus has been on ensuring we can continue to meet both current and future needs. A key priority remains securing a suitable, low-cost warehouse space that allows us to operate efficiently, grow responsibly and, in time, collaborate with smaller not-for-profits needing storage and support.

We are grateful to the City of Salisbury for providing an interim home within their Operations Building for 2025–2027 that will allow us to reunite our programs and strengthen our volunteer community even further while we work towards a permanent base.

Programs



Our programs exist to support children when they need it most and every year we continue to learn, listen and adapt.

Program usage was slightly below expectations this year, highlighting the importance of strong relationships and consistent relationships with referral agencies, reminding them of the availability for support to create consistency despite changing staff levels and challenging workloads.

Through agency surveys and direct engagement, we received valuable feedback that has helped us refine our programs and ensure our support remains relevant, responsive and impactful. These insights strengthen frontline services, support the kids where we are needed most and provide confidence to our donors that their generosity is going towards their intended focus, making a real difference for children across South Australia.

We took a moment to acknowledge the support of 100,000 packs provided to kids in need since our 2012 inception at Government House with the support and encouragement of Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC. An incredible achievement of our community, but also a heart-breaking moment with the knowledge that 100,000 kids needed our support at moments of crisis in their life.

CEO Report

Community



Connection sits at the heart of everything we do.

Throughout the year, we have engaged with ministers, business leaders and community groups to raise awareness of the growing needs of children in crisis and the importance of sustainable support. Conversations with Blair Boyer reinforced the critical role schools play as frontline environments and the need to ensure educators know they are not alone in supporting children.

Each conversation, presentation and partnership strengthens the collective response needed to ensure every child knows they are valued and worthy of care.

Volunteers



In a time of national decline in volunteering, our volunteer community continues to grow, a powerful reflection of the heart behind Backpacks 4 SA Kids.

This year also reminded us that caring for our people matters just as much as caring for our mission. When our team faced personal health challenges, they rallied together with compassion, resilience and unwavering support for one another.

I am incredibly proud of the strength, kindness and commitment shown by our staff and volunteers, who continue to show up every day to ensure our kids and each other are never alone.

Rach

Rachael Zaltron OAM
CEO & Founder



Our Board

Leadership that builds community

We are pleased to acknowledge the committed individuals who generously share their time, knowledge, and passion to help steer our organisation forward. Our volunteer Board members offer a broad range of skills and perspectives, along with a deep dedication to our purpose, strengthening both our impact and long-term sustainability.



Gavin Woolford

Chairman
Member since July 2018



Karyn Leicester

Treasurer
Member since October 2022



Vicki Shearer

Secretary
Member to December 2024



Kerry Page

Secretary
Member since June 2017



Tony Taylor

Member since May 2021



Paul Jevnikar

Member to March 2025

Community is Strong



At Backpacks 4 SA Kids, our impact is only possible because of the incredible support we receive from our community. Every pack we provide is a direct result of the generosity, dedication, and kindness of those who believe in our mission.

Volunteers

Our dedicated volunteers are the driving force behind everything we do. From packing backpacks to sorting donations, coordinating logistics, and assisting with fundraising efforts, our volunteers give their time and energy to ensure children in crisis receive the essentials they need. This year, our volunteer community contributed thousands of hours, demonstrating the power of collective compassion.

Financial Donors

We are deeply grateful to the individuals, businesses, and community groups who provide financial support to sustain and expand our programs. Whether through one-time gifts, regular contributions, workplace giving, or major donations, every dollar allows us to reach more children in need. Their generosity ensures we can continue providing essential resources to children who need us.

Grant Providers

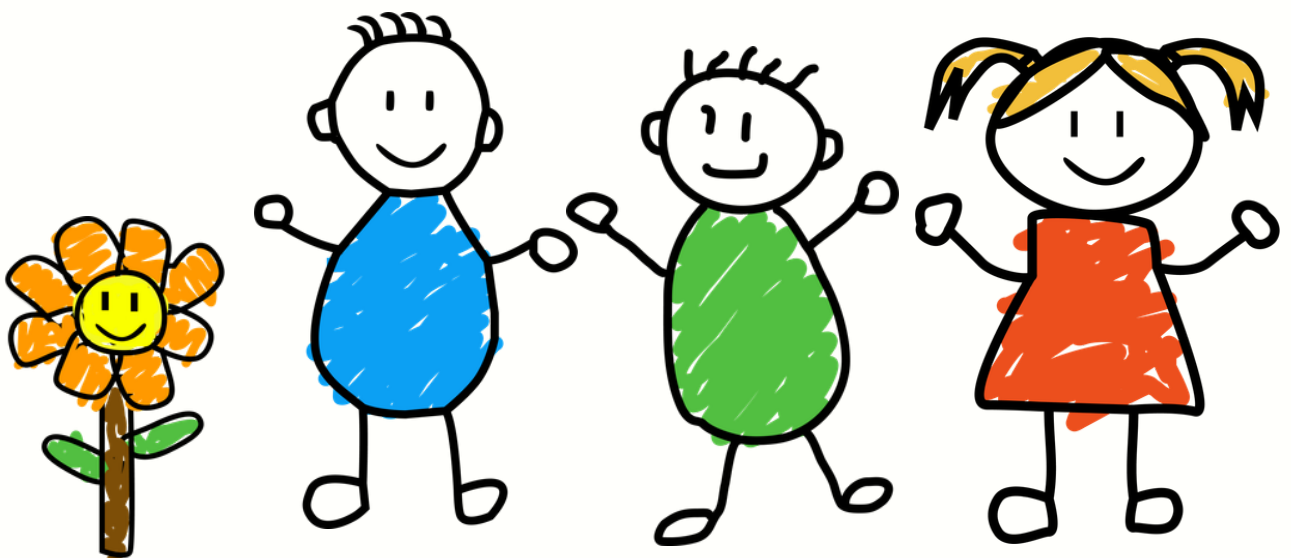
Grants from government bodies, foundations, and philanthropic organisations enable us to enhance our operations and extend our reach. These critical funds help us invest in infrastructure, purchase bulk supplies, and develop new initiatives to better serve vulnerable children and young people across South Australia.

In-Kind Providers & Goods Donors

The generous contributions of businesses, retailers, and individuals who donate items and/or services play an essential role in fulfilling our mission. These donations make it possible for us to pack and deliver care to children who need support, reminding them that they are seen, valued, and loved.

Agencies & Partners

We work closely with social workers, foster care agencies, emergency services, and community organisations that promote and utilise our services. Their advocacy and collaboration ensure that backpacks and other essential resources reach children at their most vulnerable moments. These partnerships are vital in creating a strong network of care and support for children who need it most.



Sustainability

This year, we secured a temporary home in the City of Salisbury for the next two years, giving our team the space to keep supporting children and families without interruption.

While this provides short-term stability, our goal is a permanent warehouse or purpose-built facility to meet growing demand and ensure Backpacks 4 SA Kids can continue thriving for years to come.

Sustainability means more than stability – it's about creating lasting solutions that allow us to grow, adapt, and keep making a difference for the kids and community who rely on us.



We hope to secure a permanent home - either an existing warehouse or purpose built facility

Sourcing a permanent location

The City of Salisbury provides us with a temporary space for the next 2 years

Temporary home secured

We're home and growing

Fully operational from new home & expand programs to help more kids in need

2027

2026

2025

Treasurers Report

Backpacks 4 SA Kids continues to grow, in demand for our programs, with volunteers from across the community and with organisations committed to making a difference by assisting the delivery of support to displaced children and families within South Australia.

Donations of funds, goods and services and grants have remained strong resulting in a surplus for the 2024-25 year of \$427,864. Much of this surplus is assigned to the warehouse reserve fund, now totalling \$1 million as at 30 June 2025. Further fundraising for the warehouse continues to meet this high-cost requirement for organisational sustainability. Close overall management is maintained as costs pressures exist for a range of program inputs.

Due to its effectiveness, demand for Home Starter Packs has remained high and this is a particularly costly program making donations and grants to support this program continuing as a high priority.

The varied support provided to vulnerable South Australians through the programs of Backpacks 4 SA Kids originates from a range of individuals, community groups, small and large corporates, is remarkable, and we extend sincere thanks to all donors, fundraisers and grant providers - large and small, cash and goods.

Our organisation is supported by major donors

- Eagers Automotive | \$98,000
- Team Cherry | \$40,000
- ALH Group | \$32,000
- The Lewis Foundation | \$25,000
- RAA | \$18,000
- Intelligent Foundation | \$16,000
- SAPN Employee Foundation | \$15,000
- Alexander Symonds | \$10,000
- Parafield Airport Corporation | \$10,000
- Spence Dix & Co | \$10,000

Grant funding for specific purposes and programs has been welcomed from the following:

- Morialta Trust | \$16,000
- People First Bank | \$15,000
- Smartgroup | \$15,000
- CMV | \$10,000
- Sandvik Mining | \$10,000
- Bank of Sydney | \$10,000
- Grifols | \$9,000
- Aurizon | \$8,000
- Liquor Industry Golf Club | \$5,000

A range of successful fundraising activities include:

- Tipping Point – Anna Meares | \$8,000
- All Japan Day | \$21,000
- Walk the Yorkes | \$22,000
- SAFM | \$46,000
- Myer Community Fund | \$17,000
- Educators SA | \$15,000



Karyn
Karyn Leicester
Treasurer

Finance Report



Income Summary

Donations - Cash

\$812,860

Donations - Goods & Services

\$675,291

Grants

\$90,586

Fundraising

\$140,172

Interest Income

\$45,586

Other Income

\$3,540

Expenses & Deductions

Program delivery costs \$894,893

Depreciation and amortisation \$48,512

Employee benefits expense \$345,963

Administration costs \$41,132

Warehouse costs \$8,464

\$1,338,964

Operating Surplus
for the year

\$427,864



Operating Results

For the year end 30 June 2025



	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	1,439,246	1,027,346
Trade and other receivables	4	31,888	22,514
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,471,134	1,049,860
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	5	21,194	19,482
Right of use assets	6	32,294	41,325
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		53,488	60,807
TOTAL ASSETS		1,524,622	1,110,667
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	7	14,695	25,674
Employee benefits	8	18,072	16,509
Lease liabilities	9	16,261	41,793
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		49,028	83,976
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefits	8	33,425	28,323
Lease liabilities	9	15,937	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		49,362	28,323
TOTAL LIABILITIES		98,390	112,299
NET ASSETS		1,426,232	998,368
MEMBER'S FUNDS			
Accumulated funds		998,368	716,523
Surplus for the year		427,864	281,845
TOTAL MEMBER'S EQUITY		1,426,232	998,368



Auditors Report

For the year end 30 June 2025

WilliamBuck
ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

Independent auditor's report to the members of Backpacks 4 SA Kids Incorporated

Report on the audit of the financial report



Our opinion on the financial report

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Backpacks 4 SA Kids Incorporated (the Association) has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022*.

What was audited?

We have audited the financial report of the Association, which comprises

- the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025,
- the statement of the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year then ended,
- the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended,
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended,
- notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and
- the committee's report
- the statement made by the members of the committee.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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 **PRAXITY**
Empowering Business Globally

Auditors Report

For the year end 30 June 2025

WilliamBuck
ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of matter – Basis of accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Association's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Committee Members for the financial report

The committee members of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and the needs of the members. The committee members responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee members are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Association either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The are committee members responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

Thank you



We are deeply grateful to everyone who has been part of this journey. Your collective support allows us to continue creating joy for children and young people when they need it most.

Together, we are making a lasting difference - thank you.



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Find out more here:

