



Backpacks  
4SA Kids

# Annual Report

2022 - 2023

*Doing it for the kids  
for 10 wonderful years*





# ABOUT US



## VISION

Backpacks 4 SA Kids exists to provide resources that contribute to the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people during periods of dislocation from home and routine care.



## MISSION

Backpacks 4 SA Kids exists to provide resources that contribute to the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people during periods of dislocation from home and routine care.



## HISTORY

Backpacks 4 SA Kids was launched as a result of two South Australian families supporting a QLD charity called Backpacks 4 Aussie Kids.

Through involvement in the charity, it became very clear that there was substantial support and demand in SA for a project similar to Backpacks 4 Aussie Kids and that creation of a locally based charity was not only viable but in fact would thrive within our amazing supportive community.

To this end, work was undertaken to adapt the project to suit the needs of children who have been displaced from their homes within SA, while also incorporating the provision of support to children accessing emergency services such as foster care, domestic violence shelters and youth homeless shelters.

Our initial thoughts were to do a few backpacks between our families with a goal of just 10 backpacks as a starter program. By the end of the first year so many people had joined our goal to make a difference we had supplied 564 backpacks to kids in need. Each year since we have grown and adapted to help fill the needs/demands of our emergency services community.



# CORPORATE PROFILE

**BACKPACKS 4 SA KIDS EXISTS TO PROVIDE RESOURCES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE CARE, SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE DURING PERIODS OF DISLOCATION FROM HOME AND ROUTINE CARE.**

Backpacks 4 SA Kids is driven by Rachael Zaltron who is an Adelaide mum with a background in nursing and a passion for helping children and young people.

Growing up, Rachael's family home always welcomed kids her parents were helping during times of family stress and trouble. It wasn't until she grew up that Rachael realised many of the kids were kept 'on track' thanks to her parents' practical help and welcoming home.

The death of Rachael's close friend Lucinda at the young age of 30 prompted Rachael to reflect on how we need to live each day in full and make a difference to someone else every day.

These factors have created a strong desire in Rachael to help others and this led to her volunteering with Backpacks 4 Aussie Kids. But she soon realised that the needs of South Australian kids were different, prompting her to establish Backpacks 4 SA Kids in 2013

With the knowledge that communities in SA are incredibly giving, Rachael committed to her goal of ensuring that no child going in to State-based care or facing homelessness would be without the immediate essential items needed for their physical wellbeing, plus the 'extras' such as a cuddle toy, to show that people care about them. Remaining committed to her original vision, Rachael and the team have widened the service offering to include Home Starter and Anchor packs to include an older cohort of young people and families who are facing homelessness and hardship.



Backpacks 4 SA Kids have approximately 200 regular individual and corporate volunteers who alone give a total of approximately 5,000 hours of work per year. We also receive donated goods including clothing, toiletries, baby needs, books and toys from community members across the State, via 45 drop off points at venues such as banks, schools, coffee shops and other businesses. In addition, we receive support from organisations, schools and community groups which donate goods and/or give employees time off to volunteer in our warehouse.

# OUR IMPACT



## Backpacks

For kids who leave home with little notice and often have no clothing or other essentials



## Anchor Packs

Designed for young people aged 12-25 who are experiencing homelessness



## Home Starter Packs

For families who are starting again after being affected by domestic violence



## Christmas

Providing newborn to 18 year olds Christmas presents when entering into emergency care

# OUR BOARD

We are proud to present the dedicated individuals who generously contribute their time, expertise, and passion to guide our organization towards achieving its mission. Our volunteer board members bring a wealth of diverse experience and unwavering commitment to their roles, ensuring the success and sustainability of our endeavors.



**GAVIN WOOLFORD**

**Chairman**

Member since July 2018



**KARYN LEICESTER**

**Treasurer**

Member since Oct 2022



**VICKI SHEARER**

**Secretary**

Member since 2017



**KERRY PAGE**

Member since June 2017



**TONY TAYLOR**

Member since May 2021



**PAUL JEVNIKAR**

Member since March 2022



# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am pleased to present to you the annual report for Backpacks 4 SA Kids for the 2022-23 financial year. I am proud to share our achievements and financial standing with you, in this our 10th year of supporting children in need across South Australia.

Throughout 2023, Backpacks 4 SA Kids continued to fulfill its mission of providing essential items and support to vulnerable children, ensuring they have the resources they need to thrive. Our dedicated team has once again worked tirelessly to expand our reach and impact, despite the challenges presented by the current cost of living crisis, limited warehouse capacity and the logistical challenges operating out of two locations.

Financially, despite an overall decrease in funding received by way of donations and grants, our efforts to keep overheads to a minimum whilst maintaining stability have enabled us to remain in surplus for the 2023 financial year. Thanks to the generosity of our community - donors, partners, and supporters, we were able to meet the growing demands on our services.

Our dedicated team ensured we allocated resources efficiently, maximizing the impact of every dollar and goods donated.

Thanks to the generosity of our community - donors, partners, and supporters, we were able to meet the growing demands on our services. Our dedicated team ensured we allocated resources efficiently, maximizing the impact of every dollar and goods donated.



## KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2023 FINANCIAL YEAR INCLUDE:



10th year anniversary: From humble beginnings, it was important we took this opportunity to celebrate all that has been achieved over our 10 years by the entire Backpacks 4 SA Kids community, whilst also reflecting on what needs to be done in the future to ensure sustainability and further invest in our programs to reach more children in need.



Launch of Tin to Titanium: Aligned to our 10th Anniversary, we launched this building works campaign with our objective being to raise \$2m to fund the sourcing of a suitable warehouse to help us operate efficiently and serve a larger number of children, young people and families across South Australia.



Strengthened partnerships: Collaboration has always been at the heart of our work, and we are committed to forging new partnerships and strengthening existing ones to maximize our impact and reach.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to our mission of supporting vulnerable children in South Australia. Despite the uncertainties posed by the current environment, we are confident in our ability to adapt and continue making a difference in the lives of those who need it most.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our donors, partners, volunteers, and staff for their unwavering dedication and support. Together, we have achieved great things, and I am excited to see what we can accomplish in the year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Garin Woolford*



# CEO REPORT

It is heart-wrenching to see that an organisation like ours are still needed because of the high demand for support for kids in crisis in SA.



What an incredible year it has been! Backpacks 4 SA Kids has seen a significant increase in volunteers joining us, corporate sessions being booked out for the year, and a consistent flow of donations of stock and support for our programs.

This year, we celebrated our 10th year anniversary of Backpacks 4 SA Kids. While we are incredibly proud of our achievements, it is heart-wrenching to see that an organisation like ours are still needed because of the high demand for support for kids in crisis in SA.

## EVENTS

We hosted a volunteer celebration to acknowledge our long-serving volunteers and the awareness that is being built within this community.

We also launched 'Tin to Titanium', a drive to raise awareness about Backpacks 4 SA Kids in a more corporate setting, and to ensure the sustainability of our essential crisis response organisation.

To achieve this, we need to source a sustainable warehouse, whether that be through ownership, lease, land lease, or opening discussions to find any possibility.

Both events were incredibly successful and reinvigorating to myself and our phenomenal community.



## WHS

To ensure the safe and effective work environment of our warehouse, our team sourced an independent WHS audit namely Moore & McPhee. I am extremely proud of our team who had no high-risk issues noted, and we will now start working on the necessary procedures and policies to meet the highest level of compliance with WHS legislation.

## HOME STARTER

Our Home Starter Program faced some challenges this financial year due to limited access to grant funding. It was therefore restricted in its availability to those who need it most after facing and starting again following from domestic violence.

However, this highlighted the importance and impact of the Home Starter Pack in our domestic violence response community, and specific measures will be focused on in the new financial year to ensure we have more opportunities to meet the demand to support families affected by domestic violence in our community.

## POLICY

We have commenced the process and policy management for strong financial and warehouse management to ensure a sustainable future for our organisation.

*Rachael Zaltron*



I am, as always, incredibly proud of our Backpacks 4 SA Kids community and honoured to have the opportunity to continue to make a difference to the kids who need us most in South Australia.



# TIN TO TITANIUM

**In October 2022, as part of our 10th Anniversary celebrations, we launched our Tin to Titanium Building Works campaign.**

Our public campaign objective is to raise \$2 million dollars. For Backpacks 4 SA Kids to be able to fulfill current and future demands we need to raise \$2 million to either build or customise an existing 1500 square metre space in Adelaide's Northern suburbs.

Companies, organisations and individuals can contribute to our Building Works to ensure no child is left without support.

A big thank you to two major South Australian companies who have already donated \$300,000 (out of our current total of \$450,000) towards our goal, helping us transition from Tin to Titanium.

If you're interested in getting involved, we'd love to talk to you about our vision.





# OUR PEOPLE



## STAFF

### Rachael Zaltron

Founder & CEO  
From 2016

### Kelly Barker

Operations Manager  
From 2017

### Therese McAuley

Administration  
From May 2021

### Suzy Farley

Donor Relations  
From March 2022

### Kym Farley

Warehouse Manager  
From March 2022



## KEY VOLUNTEERS

### Ali Collins & Gaynor Furnell

Dedicated Teachers and lovers of all animals. Coordinators of sessions held in the warehouse on the weekends and during school holidays. Ali and Gaynor ensure effective sessions and direct all roles within the warehouse during those session times.

### Heather Weyland

Retired worker and Mum of 3 adult children and grandma to 2 gorgeous grandkids. Heather coordinates our sorting and checking station as the first step in the Quality Assurance program for all donations.

### Maxine & Malcolm Nicks

Long term volunteers who support us by coordinating the stationery program, maintain quality assurance with ensuring the final check of backpacks is at standard and ready for the kids to receive.





# IN KIND DONATIONS

**WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING PROVIDERS OF IN-KIND SUPPORT:**



## Eagers Foundation

Another year of incredible support providing funds supporting the demand for a warehouse to ensure the sustainability of our charity



## Cochranes Transport

Arranging deliveries from their base in Thebarton and more recently Wingfield to anywhere within South Australia. The support of Cochrane's Transport has saved Backpacks 4 SA Kids thousands of dollars in freight costs and allowed our regional partners to feel secure in our ordering process and that they will receive their packs at no cost.



## SA Power Networks Employee Foundation

For donating an incredible amount of volunteer hours to pack programs, sort stock, but also donating skill set volunteer hours supporting our core staff to ensure Backpacks 4 SA Kids staff skills remain up to date and relevant.



## Pinchapoo

Providing toiletry items such as roll on deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, hairbrushes and soaps to place into our Backpacks and Anchor Packs programs.



## Share The Dignity

Providing Feminine Hygiene Products.



## Minter Ellison

Providing adhoc legal support including advice relating to our constitution, contracts, patent advice etc



## William Buck

William Buck have provided an in depth review and audit process on our financials again throughout this period of time. Their support and expert reviews provides a confidence to our donors all measures are taken to meet the required guidelines.



# TREASURERS REPORT

The Backpacks 4 SA Kids team of volunteers, donors, staff and board members have continued efforts to deliver support to recipients across all programs while juggling process improvements and fundraising.



We remain grateful to all donors - individuals, community groups and corporates for both their cash donations and also substantial goods and services provided in-kind

The focus for the year has been on maintaining capacity to meet current demands as much as possible, while also planning for the future.

These efforts have resulted in a surplus of \$82,056 for the 2022-23 financial year which will boost the organisation's reserves for future warehouse costs and help towards the goal of long-term organisational sustainability. This surplus has been achieved despite an overall decrease in donations and grants.

We remain grateful to all donors - individuals, community groups and corporates for both their cash donations and also substantial goods and services provided in-kind (totalling approximately \$665,000). Many are regular donors, and it is encouraging to have these ongoing contributions to support children and families impacted by displacement.

*Karyn Leicester*



# OPERATING RESULTS

FOR THE YEAR END 30 JUNE 2023

INCOME	2023	2022
Donations	\$657,005	632,245
Other Income	\$13,825	\$86,184
	<b>\$670,830</b>	<b>\$718,429</b>
EXPENSES	2023	2022
Program delivery costs	\$134,387	\$197,357
Depreciation and amortisation	\$48,259	\$48,414
Employee benefits expense	\$338,895	\$307,026
Administration costs	\$58,556	\$52,438
Lease Interest	\$5,226	\$2,225
Warehouse costs	\$3,451	\$1,998
	<b>\$588,774</b>	<b>\$609,458</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>\$82,056</b>	<b>\$108,971</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>\$82,085</b>	<b>\$108,971</b>

# OPERATING RESULTS

FOR THE YEAR END 30 JUNE 2023

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	773,434	661,197
Trade and other receivables	4	6,811	10,025
Other Assets	5	6,320	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>786,565</b>	<b>671,222</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	6	18,506	21,272
Right of Use assets	7	61,172	97,772
Intangible assets	8	-	1,380
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>79,678</b>	<b>120,424</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>866,243</b>	<b>791,646</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	9	24,489	14,990
Employee benefits	10	32,167	29,652
Lease liabilities	11	37,710	34,285
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>94,366</b>	<b>78,927</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Employee benefits	10	28,323	13,511
Lease liabilities	11	27,031	64,741
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>55,354</b>	<b>78,252</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>149,720</b>	<b>157,179</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>716,523</b>	<b>634,466</b>
<b>MEMBER'S FUNDS</b>			
Accumulated funds		634,467	525,496
Surplus for the year		82,056	108,971
<b>TOTAL MEMBER'S EQUITY</b>		<b>716,523</b>	<b>634,467</b>



# AUDITORS REPORT

## WilliamBuck

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

### Backpacks 4 Kids Incorporated

Independent auditor's report to members

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Backpacks 4 Kids Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the committee's report and the statement made by the members of the committee.

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

- a. giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

#### 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.

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 to 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.



# AUDITORS REPORT

**WilliamBuck**  
ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

## 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 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 committee members either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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 the 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of these financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

[http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf)

This description forms part of our independent auditor's report.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'William Buck'.

**William Buck (SA)**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'G. Martinella'.

**G.W. Martinella**  
ABN 38 280 203 274  
Partner

Dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.

# CHALLENGES



## **COST OF LIVING**

Backpacks 4 SA Kids, like many charitable organisations, has been impacted by the cost of living crisis.

With the growing pressure on families struggling to make ends meet, we have seen an increased demand across all of our services. Sadly with rising operational costs and challenges in fundraising, our ability to be able to meet the growing need, has been challenged.

In response to these challenges, Backpacks 4 SA Kids have explored alternative fundraising strategies, sought partnerships with other organisations, and actively engaged with the community to raise awareness of our mission and the needs of the families they serve.

## **WAREHOUSE**

Bursting at the seams, we were lucky during 2023 to have secured a second warehouse in Salisbury to provide us with additional space for our growing programs.

However, with this expansion came logistical hurdles of managing multiple locations - it's been a balancing act between servicing those in need with the practicalities of space, resources and co-ordination. Collaboration and communication is key!

Despite these challenges we are ultimately grateful for the opportunity to extend our reach and impact however, remain focused on reaching our goal of a new building in the near future.



We thank you for your  
continued support to  
help us make a difference  
to kids in need in SA

## CONTACT:

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