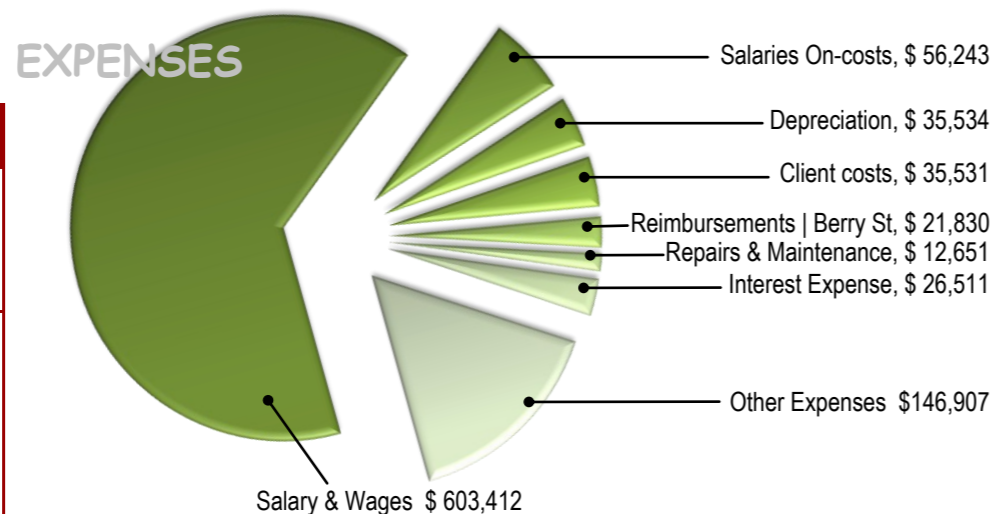
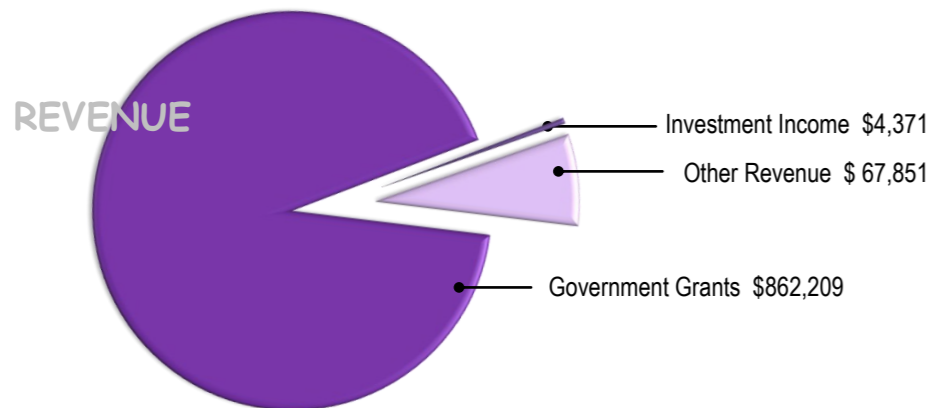


# Annual Report 2013 - 14



## Finances

The Summary Statements have been derived from and are consistent with the full audited Financial Statements which are available on request from the Executive Officer



BALANCE SHEET	
As at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2014	
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Property, Plant & Equipment	\$ 890,980
Other Assets	\$ 203,778
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 1,094,758</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Bank Loan	\$ 473,229
Other Liabilities	\$ 102,313
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 575,542</b>
*The loan is secured by a registered first mortgage over the property owned by the Association at 125 Eureka St	
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 519,216</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 519,216</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 519,216</b>

## The Future

Family Violence is being placed firmly in the public arena in 2014 and beyond. To this end **strategic planning at WRISC has begun for 2014—2017**. The WRISC Board has identified the following key result areas and goals. From these, program plans and work plans are being developed.

### Key Result Areas

1. Governance and Sustainability
2. Workforce
3. Service Offering
4. Stakeholder Collaboration

### Goals

1. Strengthen all aspects of governance, leadership and sustainability
2. Improve all aspects of workforce capacity
3. Increase understanding and uptake of services in the community
4. Increase opportunities for stakeholder collaboration

www.wrisc.org.au

## Our Vision

Safety, equality and opportunity for all people

## Our Mission

To promote respectful relationships through services which enhance the safety, autonomy and wellbeing of women and children

## Our Values

The organisation works from a feminist perspective, and values : Respect, Integrity, Responsibility, Engagement. Innovation, Diversity, Leadership, Trust, Optimism, Creativity, Co-operation, Acceptance and Knowledge through learning

## Acting President Report

I took over the role of Acting President after our President resigned. It was an honour for me to take on this role at a crucial time for our organisation, which has been regarded as "leading in the family violence sector".

We have farewelled Board members and staff members whom have resigned through the year. We also farewelled Jacinta Wainwright our Executive Officer who after 2½ years resigned to travel the world with her partner and son. Grateful thanks to Jacinta for her dedicated and passionate work in the family violence sector.

For me, some WRISC highlights this year include:

- We all enjoyed the showing of "I am a Girl" which was an excellent fundraising event for the organisation and the community sector with Rebecca Barry (Director) to answer questions after the film
- We prepared for the mid-term quality improvement audit during this financial year.

WRISC continues to experience very high demand with which dedicated staff continue to manage in a caring and efficient manner, intent on helping as many women and children as possible.

*Marjorie Pickford*

## Executive Officer Report

On behalf of Ms Jacinta Wainwright the immediate past Executive Officer, I am pleased to submit the Executive Officer Report for the period July 1st 2013 to June 30th 2014.

During this time a number of events occurred, the most significant being the resignation of Ms Jacinta Wainwright as the Executive Officer. Jacinta began this role in August 2010. Jacinta's leadership at WRISC during this time ensured that WRISC maintained its strong presence in the Family Violence sector both regionally and at a State level. A sincere thank-you to Jacinta for her contribution at WRISC. Additionally sincere thanks is extended to Juelz Sanders who resigned as Project worker during this financial year.

Throughout the year the Indigenous, Women's and Children's Case Management, Intake, Outreach, Court Support, Financial and Administration and Children's Counselling teams all delivered strong and consistent services despite being overwhelmed by demand. A huge thank-you to all staff and volunteers for their time and dedication. WRISC continues to be one of the leading services to support women and children who are or have been victims of family violence in the Central Highlands region. On behalf of the whole team at WRISC, supporting these women and children has been an honor and a privilege.

*Elizabeth Jewson*

## WRISC Team Member

We feel privileged to work with children who utilise creativity and play to recover from the impacts of family violence. Their courage, insight and desire to heal provide us with inspiration and hope. The most heartbreaking part of our job involves hearing stories of children who need counselling and being unable to meet their needs due to resourcing. *Sally Goldstraw*

## WRISC Women

I was grateful to have the support from WRISC. I was very frightened and overwhelmed by the court system and I was glad to have Gayle with me, as she knew the process. *Client*

## WRISC Child

"My family is getting better." *12 year old boy*  
 "If my Dad came back I would tell him that there is no violence at our house anymore." *10 year old girl*

## WRISC Women for Safety and Justice Group

As a participant in the WRISC group, I have found it to be s-o-o-o beneficial. At last I am not just a voice in the dark, I am with a beautiful group of women who understand "the journey". Thank you! *Group Member*

## WRISC Volunteer

*Why Volunteer?* We relocated to Ballarat in July 2012 and knowing no-one, decided that volunteering was a good way to meet people. I also have a love for people and wanting to do "my bit" for the community.

*Why WRISC?* I was told about the Uniting Care website which is a very useful tool when new to an area, and was able to choose areas where my interests lay. Well, joining WRISC has been wonderful! Just love all the beautiful people working at WRISC and my time here has been extremely rewarding. *Sue Macquet*

## WRISC Board Member

"We are a dedicated and diverse group of women that govern WRISC! In these uncertain economic times we often have to make tough decisions but we face such challenges together, pooling our energy and resources in the best interests of WRISC's clients, staff and volunteers. It's a consistently exciting Board to be on that actively supports the organisation to eradicate violence against women and children, one of the largest problems facing society today. I can't wait for the monthly meetings which makes a refreshing change from other Boards I've been on." *Ingrid Irwin*

2014 Victorian Election

**NO MORE DEATHS**

Keep women and children safe from family violence.



## Contributors

### Grants:

United Way | Safety Assist  
 United Way | Children's Art Therapy Group  
 United Way, Ballarat Foundation | Website Development  
 Ballarat City Council | Space & Time  
 StreetSmart | 'Free to be me' Children's Counselling  
 Uniting Care | HEF Reimbursements

### Partnerships | Joint Projects

Women's Health Grampians | ACT @ WORK

### Donations:

Country Women's Association  
 Private Donations  
 Soroptimists Melbourne  
 Stefan, 61 Design  
 Rotary Club Ballarat Sth & Beaufort  
 Ballarat Community Health | WD Event  
 'I am a girl' fundraiser  
 Wendouree Lions Club  
 Ballarat Grammar | WD Event  
 La Vie en Rose Massage & Spa Therapy

## Brokerage

Housing Establishment Fund	23
Safe At Home	54
Safety Assistance (United Way)	32
Private Rental Brokerage	15
Uniting Care Accommodation	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>134</b>

*Total Number of Women Assisted : 86*

## Farewelled 2014

### Staff:

Jacinta Wainwright | Executive Officer,  
 Juelz Sanders | Project Worker

### Volunteers

Fayth Andrews | WRISC Board President  
 Dianne Jacono | WRISC Board Member  
 Rebecca Van Hemert | Volunteer Admin  
 Maree Ives | Reception | Volunteer Admin  
 Talitha Prendergast | Reception

## Organisations WRISC works with:

- ◇ Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-operative (BADAC)
  - ◇ Ballarat Community Health
  - ◇ Ballarat Health Services
  - ◇ Berry Street
  - ◇ Brimbank Melton Community Legal Centre
  - ◇ Budja Budja Aboriginal Cooperative
  - ◇ Centacare
    - ◆ Family Law Pathways Network
    - ◆ Family Relationship Centre
    - ◆ Integrated Family Services
  - ◇ Centre Against Sexual Assault (CASA) | Ballarat
  - ◇ Central Highlands Community Legal Centre
  - ◇ Central Highlands Primary Care Partnership
  - ◇ Child and Family Services, (CAFS) |
    - ◆ Ballarat
    - ◆ Hepburn
    - ◆ Moorabool
    - ◆ Men's Family Violence Programs
    - ◆ PACT Community Support
  - ◇ Child First
  - ◇ Courts Victoria
    - ◆ Ballarat
    - ◆ Bacchus Marsh
  - ◇ Department of Human Services
    - ◆ Child Protection
    - ◆ Engagement Officers Program
    - ◆ Local Connections Community Participation
    - ◆ Youth Justice
  - ◇ Department of Justice
  - ◇ Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative
  - ◇ Grampians Community Health
  - ◇ Grampians Integrated Family Violence Committee (GIFVC)
  - ◇ Grampians Indigenous Family Violence Regional Action Group (GIFV RAG)
  - ◇ Karinya | The Salvation Army
  - ◇ Karrung | Housing
  - ◇ Meminar Ngangg Gimba
  - ◇ UnitingCare
    - ◆ Opening Doors
  - ◇ United Way and the Ballarat Foundation
  - ◇ Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service (VALS)
  - ◇ Victorian Legal Aid
  - ◇ Victoria Police
    - ◆ Ballarat
    - ◆ Bacchus Marsh
  - ◇ Wimmera Uniting Care
  - ◇ Women's Health Grampians
- Local Government
- ◇ Ballarat
  - ◇ Golden Plains Shire
  - ◇ Hepburn Shire
  - ◇ Moorabool Shire
  - ◇ Pyrenees Shire

Please note: this list is not exhaustive.

## Programs

### Women's & Children's Case Management Program

It has been another busy year for support workers in the Women's and Children's Support Program. The program continues to provide case management, advocacy, safety planning, court support (Ballarat and Bacchus Marsh), housing/accommodation support and financial assistance through various programs to assist women and children to remain safely in their home. WRISC provides outreach support to the Ballarat, Moorabool, Hepburn, Pyrenees and Golden Plains Shires.

### Indigenous Program

We are now working in a holistic way with our families and whilst this has its challenges we are finding there is a lot of benefit to our families by doing this. Our program has grown and we are seeing some great outcomes for our clients along with improved relationships with other services for the clients. 78 Aboriginal women and their families were provided with assistance through the Indigenous Program. This is a 100% increase in support periods compared to the previous financial year.

### Children's Counselling and Group Work Program

The children's program employ 1.5 workers (full time equivalent) and are funded to provide services for 88 clients. The counselling program had 174 referrals and of these 168 utilised one or more of individual play or art therapy, drumbeat or art therapy groups, child focused single sessions or parent support services.

Of the 168 clients, 92 were children predominantly of primary school age who were offered counselling and 76 women received advice around ways to support their children following exposure to family violence. Five women and eleven children identified as aboriginal.

Twenty three children participated in four drumbeat groups, eleven women attended 'women for safety and justice' group and nineteen children attended the children's art therapy group over the year.

### Women's Group

The ongoing women's group continued in 2013-2014. The group meet on Tuesday mornings here at WRISC. The aim of this group is to help women to care for themselves and to stop feeling alone in living with family violence. Although each woman's story in the group is unique, there is always a common thread, and that is why sharing stories and ways of responding to family violence can be so powerful.

## Some Statistics

