



# **AYAC 2023-24 Annual Report**



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture. Most often, we work on the lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today. As the national peak body for young people, we also acknowledge First Nations young people as the future custodians of this land. We stay committed to supporting the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and to supporting the leadership and self-determination of First Nations young people.

## Acknowledgement of Sponsors

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC) receives funding and support from the Commonwealth Government, represented by the Department of Education, Office for Youth. AYAC also receives funding and support from the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation and the Myer Foundations.



# CONTENTS



**04**  
CEO Report

**05**  
Chair's Report

**06**  
Who we are

**07-11**  
Policy, Advocacy, and Research

**12**  
Sector Support

**13-16**  
Engagement

**17**  
Communications

**18**  
Membership

**19**  
Treasurer's Report

**20-23**  
Audited Financial Statements

# CEO REPORT

Joanna Rostami | AYAC CEO



**This year marks the second full year of AYAC's funding through the Department of Education's Office for Youth, and my first as CEO.**

Last year I wrote that 'It is obvious that AYAC's networks hold high aspirations and expectations for what the organisation can achieve going forward.' I hope that this report will evidence the AYAC team's commitment to strive towards achieving these expectations and to deliver as an effective national youth affairs peak body.

This year has been one of making sure our organisational foundations are set, with focus internally on our core operations, as well as developing our role as a national youth affairs peak body. This has included recruiting a full complement of staff; reviews of our financial systems and budget; revisions of policies and procedures; building our networks and relationships; and working to identify our priorities in the short term and into the future for policy, advocacy, sector capacity building,

youth participation and engagement. Whilst we have been busy re-establishing AYAC, I am very proud of the considerable work we have been able to achieve in policy, advocacy and engagement.

In the past year we have researched two reports, one on formal youth leadership and another on the government structures that best support youth policy ([see page 7](#)). We have also participated in many policy consultations, networks, submissions and inquiries. We have initiated our Youth Peaks Policy Network, the Spotlight Series on youth issues, as well as the beginnings of our National Youth Practitioners' Network (NYPN) ([see page 12](#)). The AYAC youth membership has been transformed into a Youth Brains Trust (YBT) - an active and dynamic network for young people to engage in policy and opportunities ([see page 13](#)). Further, we began planning for a program for young people to develop advocacy skills, as well as continued our support of various youth steering committees and advisory

groups, including with the Office for Youth and the eSafety Commissioner.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge AYAC staff. Thank you to Diana Amato - Interim CEO, Katie Cameron - Communications Officer, Reyhan Aksoyoglu - Business Support, Kirsty Kain - National Policy and Advocacy Lead, Nellie Wotherspoon - Project Officer, and Dean Farquhar - National Youth Engagement Lead, for your contributions across the year. Thank you also to Jeanine Orr, for Human Resources support, and Laura Crozier, for supporting our project work.

Thanks must also go to the AYAC Board of Governance for their ongoing support and commitment to our work. The Board has also had a busy year with reviews of the AYAC Constitution and governance policies taking place. This will continue into next year with the start of a strategic plan review. Several of our Board members concluded their terms with AYAC and we appreciate their support and contributions.

AYAC's work is very much dependent upon the support of our membership base, who support us to achieve our goals. This year has seen a 67% increase on our membership, many of whom are young people. This year has also seen the start of a considerable review of our membership engagement and strategy, and I look forward to seeing this preliminary work implemented in 2024-25.

We thank our funders and partners: the Department of Education's Office for Youth, the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, and the Myer Foundation for their support throughout the year. We also value our positive working relationships with Minister for Youth Hon Dr Anne Aly and her staff.

Thank you all for your continued support of Australian young people and we look forward to working with you to achieve our collective goals for young people across the coming year.

# CHAIR REPORT

## Stassi Austin | AYAC Chair 2023-24



**As we reflect on another year of advocacy, engagement and progress, it is with a great sense of pride that I present the 2023-2024 annual report on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition. This has been a year of growth, resilience and a continued commitment to amplifying the voices of the 4.7 million young Australians we represent.**

It has been a great honour to work alongside Vice Chair, Kate Munro OAM and learn from her years of experience in the youth sector. What a joy it was to see Kate receive an Order of Australia honour earlier this year. I would like to acknowledge the tremendous contributions of our Board of Directors - Anne Bainbridge (Treasurer), Caitlin Figueiredo, Jeremy Hunt, Sandy McKiernan, Taj Pabari, Sarah Ramantanis, Jemma Rule, Lucas Walsh and Shannon White - and thank

them for their ongoing commitment to ensuring that we continue to advocate for all young people in our country. I value their insightfulness, tenacity, dedication and the thoughtful conversations that occur throughout the year.

Our operations team, led by CEO Joanna Rostami, have worked extremely hard to ensure that the rights and best interests of our members and young people are upheld and brought to the forefront of all conversations. A full year of Joanna's employment has seen continued national advocacy efforts, collaboration with other peak bodies, a renewed media presence and strong partnerships with key stakeholders. With an enormous thank you to Kristy Kain, Reyhan Aksoyoglu, Nellie Wotherspoon and Laura Crozier. I commend our team for all their hard work exhibited throughout the year.

This year, we again have spent a lot of time investing in our internal operations, ensuring that we have set our staff and directors up for success. Now in our second year of funding, we continue to streamline our operations, increase our staffing capabilities, and build upon systemic advocacy through increased sector capacity building, and civic engagement for young people. We recognize the importance of ensuring that AYAC and its programs remain inclusive, equitable and reactive to the ever changing and diverse needs of all young people, regardless of their background or circumstance. We remain unequivocally committed to ensuring that young people are respected and have the power to lead the change that they want to see.

At the heart of AYAC's work is the strength of our networks, shaped by the work and insights from our valued members. We have been able to offer more opportunities for collaboration through our National Youth Practitioners Network (NYPN) and 'Campaign' our

fellowship program, as well as elevating youth voices through the Raise Your Voice Youth Blog and our youth leadership report entitled '*Councils, Committees, and YAGS: On Formal Youth Leadership*'. We look forward to increasing our collaborative efforts with our members in 2025 as we review our Strategic Plan and Constitution.

It would be remiss of me not to thank the ongoing support from our funding partners. The contributions from the Australian federal government, the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation and the Myer Foundation are truly appreciated as they enable AYAC to achieve real outcomes that benefit our members.

As we look to the future, AYAC is committed to always elevating and amplifying the voices of young people and all involved in the youth sector. Together, we are making significant change and I look forward to seeing what we can collectively accomplish in the upcoming year.

# WHO WE ARE

## AYAC Board Members at 30 June 2024



**Stassi Austin**  
**Young Person Representative**  
 Chair  
 Governance Subcommittee



**Kate Munro**  
**Youth Peak Body Representative**  
 Deputy Chair  
 Governance Subcommittee  
 Audit and Finance Subcommittee



**Caitlin Figueredo**  
**General Member**  
 Governance Subcommittee



**Lucas Walsh**  
**National Youth Organisation Representative**  
 General Member



**Anne Bainbridge**  
**Youth Peak Body Representative**  
 Acting Treasurer  
 Audit and Finance Subcommittee



**Jemma Rule**  
**General Member (Young person)**  
 Governance Subcommittee



**Sandy McKiernan**  
**Youth Peak Body Representative**  
 Governance Subcommittee



**Jeremy Hunt**  
**National Youth Led Organisation Representative**  
 Audit and Finance Subcommittee



**Shannon White**  
**National Youth Organisation Representative**  
 Governance Subcommittee

### PREVIOUS

**Taj Pabari**  
**Youth Led Representative**  
 Resigned 11 February 2024

**Sarah Ramantanis**  
**General Representative (young person)**  
 Treasurer  
 Resigned 07 February 2024

### AYAC Staff

**Joanna Rostami**  
 CEO

**Diana Amato**  
 Interim CEO (until September 2023)

**Kirsty Kain**  
 National Policy and Advocacy Lead

**Dr Dean Farquhar**  
 National Youth Engagement Lead

**Reghan Aksoyoglu**  
 Business Support

**Nellie Wotherspoon**  
 Project Officer

**Katie Cameron**  
 Communications Coordinator (to 14 June 2024)

With support from Jeanine Orr for Human Resources and Laura Crozier, for events project support.



# POLICY, ADVOCACY, AND RESEARCH

By Kirsty Kain, National Policy and Advocacy Lead, and Nellie Wotherspoon, Project Officer

AYAC has achieved a lot in the policy, advocacy, and research space this year. Key highlights include:

## Youth Policy Roundtable with the Academy of Social Sciences

**In November 2023, the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, together with the Monash Centre for Youth Policy and Education Practice and AYAC, held a joint youth policy roundtable.**

The roundtable brought together a stellar line-up from leading organisations including the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Melbourne Graduate School of

Education, Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network Australia, Orygen, Young and Resilient Research Centre, University of Technology Sydney, Australian Association of Adolescent Health, Tax and Transfer Policy Institute, Newcastle Youth Studies Centre, and Think Forward. Together, presenters and young people explored key themes relating to young people and youth policy, including **belonging, wellbeing, security, and leading practice in youth policy.** The report of the roundtable – *Shaping the future: A new approach to policy that works for young people* – showcases key recommendations that came out of these discussions and can be found on the AYAC website.





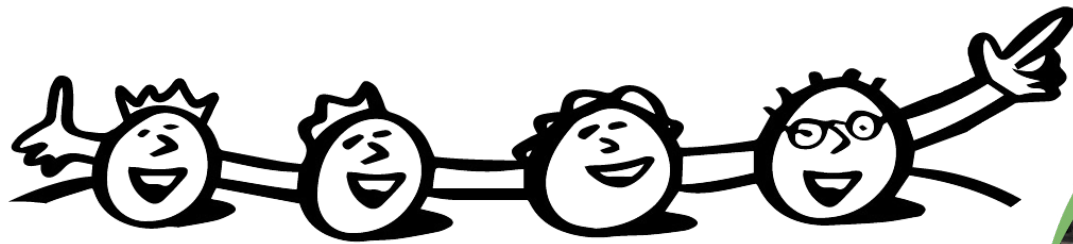
## Research Reports

During March and April 2024, AYAC conducted a focus group with members of the Australian Government's Youth Steering Committee (YSC) on the topic of formal youth leadership, and an online survey on the same topic, which was completed by 366 young people from across Australia. Together, the results from these consultations, along with findings from academic research, informed our report on youth leadership. The report, titled *Councils, committees, and YAGs (oh my!): On formal youth leadership*, presents a framework that organisations can use to inform their development of formal youth leadership programs, to ensure these opportunities are inclusive, empowering, and impactful; that they

contribute to positive social change; and that they meet the diverse needs of both current and future generations of young people.

The second research report AYAC produced in 2023-2024 was titled *Power to the (young) people: Embedding young people's needs and priorities in public policy*. This report explores a range of policy options that could be employed at the national government level to improve the quality and responsiveness of public policy to young people – including national youth strategies, youth impact assessments, national youth parliaments, and youth quotas within the parliament and/or political parties.



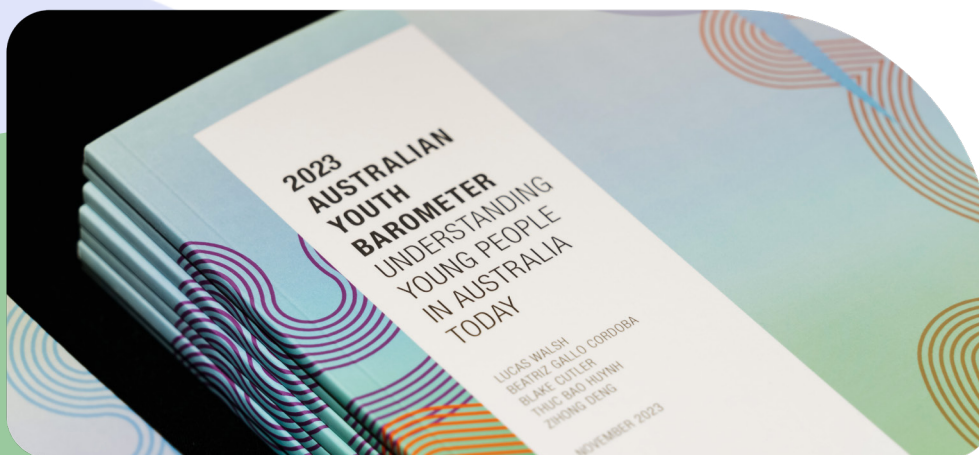


## Networks

This year saw the re-establishment of the Youth Peaks Policy Coalition. This group, convened by AYAC, consists of policy officers from each of the state and territory youth peaks. NTCOSS, who is working towards establishing a youth peak organisation in the Northern Territory, is also a member of the group. The focus in this re-establishment phase has been on getting to know each other, clarifying the purpose of the group, and setting up the group's Terms of Reference. AYAC looks forward to working more closely with the state and territory youth peaks to ensure young people's views and needs are better represented in national public policy.



The Parliamentary Friends of Young People (PFoYP) group, co-convened by Andrew Wilkie MP and Rebekha Sharkie MP, provides a non-partisan forum for MPs to meet and interact with youth sector stakeholders on matters relating to young people and youth policy. The November 2023 meeting, held at Parliament House in Canberra, brought together a dynamic group of parliamentarians, social scientists, policy makers, youth sector representatives, and young people to celebrate the launch of the 2023 Australian Youth Barometer by the Monash Centre for Youth Policy and Education Practice. AYAC thanks everyone who was able attend and looks forward to the discussions and collaborations that unfold in future meetings of the PFoYP group.



AYAC also sits on the policy working group of the Australian Child Rights Taskforce (ACRT). Made up of over 100 organisations, ACRT is the peak body for child rights in Australia, advocating for the promotion and fulfilment of child rights. As part of the policy working group in 2023-2024, we initiated a process for AYAC to support young people's input into key advocacy work of the ACRT and its member organisations, including advocacy around online safety, privacy, and social media; as well as their input into reporting to the United Nations on Australia's implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.



## Government Advocacy

An important part of AYAC's role in advocating for the rights and needs of young people is to draw the Australian Government's attention to the impact that current or proposed legislation and policies have, or are likely to have, on young people. To this end, we made several submissions to government in the 2023-2024 financial year, including:

- a joint submission with Orygen to the Senate Select Committee on Cost of Living;
- a joint submission with youth affairs peak bodies across Australia to urge the government to raise the rate of JobSeeker and Youth Allowance in the 2024-25 Federal Budget;
- a submission to the National Skills Passport consultation; and
- a submission to the Inquiry into Civics Education, Engagement, and Participation in Australia.

Following our submission to the National Skills Passport consultation, AYAC was invited to participate in a co-design workshop, led by the Department of Education; and following our submission to the inquiry into civics education, engagement, and participation in Australia, we were invited to give evidence at one of the associated public hearings.

In addition, AYAC contributed to the National Housing Supply and Affordability Council's consultation on the preliminary findings of the State of the Housing System Report, and supported three young people to travel to Canberra to speak at a hearing of the House of Representatives Select Committee on Workforce Australia Employment Services. These were valuable opportunities for AYAC to engage directly and in person with key decision-makers on these issues. In May 2024, we also released our analysis of the 2024-2025 Federal Budget, where we unpacked the good, the bad, and the 'meh' for young people. AYAC's CEO, Jo Rostami, shared some of these insights in an interview on ABC News Radio.

Throughout the year, AYAC has continued to meet with members of parliament – including Minister for Youth, Hon Dr Anne Aly; Shadow Minister for Youth, Angie Bell; and Australian Greens Spokesperson on LGBTQIA+ and Youth, Stephen Bates – to discuss issues impacting young people and advocate for more to be done to address key youth concerns.





## Other Advocacy

Guided by the leadership, courage, and wisdom of Australia's First Nations peoples, AYAC has been proud to support the Uluru Statement from the Heart and its call for Voice, Treaty, and Truth since 2017. AYAC declared a resounding 'YES' to amend the Australian Constitution to establish an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. We remain committed to the Uluru Statement, including the establishment of the Makarrata Commission and the ongoing Treaty and Truth-telling process which is essential for national healing and unity. As the national peak body for

young Australians, AYAC will continue to provide a platform for First Nations young people to lead positive change, as we move forward with empathy, respect, and an unwavering dedication to reconciliation and self-determination for First Nations communities. In June 2024, AYAC participated in a consultation led by the OECD Youth Organisations Sounding Board for Governance's (YOUNG) to inform the development of a youth policy toolkit. This was an exciting opportunity for AYAC to contribute our expertise and to ensure that the experiences, views, and needs of young Australians are represented at an international policy and resource level.



AYAC also invested support in the Home Time campaign this year. Launched in March 2024, Home Time seeks to unlock Australia's housing system for the almost 40,000 children and young people who have nowhere to live. AYAC is proud to be part of this coalition – comprising more than 150 supporting organisations at time of writing – that is advocating for dedicated and coordinated investment and policy change to end youth homelessness.

**AYAC is committed to continuing to advocate with and for young people's needs, interests, and rights.**



# SECTOR SUPPORT

By Dr Dean Farquhar, National Youth Engagement Lead

**Throughout the year, AYAC has been reviewing its approach to sector support. AYAC has met regularly with sector stakeholders to review its role in building sector capacity, as well as work together on developments in the youth policy and engagement spaces.**

Through its monthly newsletter and social media channels, AYAC has kept the sector updated on its work, while also supporting other organisations to disseminate information on upcoming opportunities and research. Seeking to deepen its connection with sector, AYAC set in motion a series of new initiatives to enable further collaboration and knowledge sharing across states and territories.

In February, AYAC launched its Spotlight Series aiming to create opportunities for utilising youth sector knowledge and experience by bringing together individuals and organisations for guided discussion, collaboration and capacity building.

For the launch, AYAC hosted Professor Tim Corney for a discussion among practitioners on the enduring

significance of the organisation's national definition of youth work (see AYAC, 2013). This promoted reflection on how the definition can be best maintained as a living statement, responsive to ongoing debate, discussion, and the evolving needs of young people and the youth work sector. In total, 80 stakeholders attended the event.

A further Spotlight Series event was held in May. This time, Professor Mike Seal led a discussion on Intersectional Perspectives on Youth Poverty and Economic Disadvantage. This helped open up reflection on the intricate dynamics of youth poverty, homelessness, and the justice system, promoting a more nuanced understanding of how various aspects of young people's identities intersect to shape their experiences. In total, 29 stakeholders attended the event.

Building on the foundations of the Spotlight Series, towards the end of the year AYAC moved to establish a National Youth Practitioner's Network (NYPN). The NYPN will hold quarterly events that facilitate knowledge sharing and sector capacity building.

It will mainly facilitate two types of events:

- Practitioner Workshops – These events will provide practitioners with a space to discuss models of practice and emerging issues at the national level
- Roundtables – These events will involve practitioners in broader consultations with young people and experts to advance and broaden understanding around salient issues.

These events will be complemented with AYAC's new platform for sharing knowledge across the youth sector, NYPN Briefing. This platform will publish monthly briefing papers providing summaries of roundtables, models of practice and research past and present. In so doing, it will serve as a point of reflection on both emerging and neglected issues within the sector.



# ENGAGEMENT



By Dr Dean Farquhar, National Youth Engagement Lead

**AYAC has made significant strides in its youth engagement work this year and has sought to develop and expand the range of opportunities it offers young people. This has involved reconfiguring our methods of youth outreach, cultivating partnerships, and formulating new youth engagement workshops.**

Struck by the desire among our young members for a more expansive outreach approach, AYAC formed the Youth Brains Trust (YBT). As at June 2022 the YBT included 1260 young AYAC members, keeping them abreast of emerging opportunities with focused monthly alerts.

To ensure that the YBT are kept informed of developments, AYAC has used monthly YBT alerts to direct members to its various social media channels. Through Instagram and LinkedIn, the YBT can avail themselves of the latest AYAC updates as they wish. This has helped increase young members' awareness of opportunities with AYAC, while avoiding information overload.

Recruitment to opportunities from the YBT has been strong this year, with applications exceeding the number of spaces available for all opportunities.

The YBT has further proved a useful platform for promoting AYAC's blog, *Raise Your Voice*. Over the year, AYAC has published 17 submissions from young people.

In terms of youth engagement, early in the year AYAC has continued to support the federal government deliver its flagship youth engagement strategy, *Engage! A Strategy to include young people in the decisions we make* (Office for Youth, 2023). This work has involved supporting the 14 members of the Youth Steering Committee (YSC) charged with guiding the formation and implementation of the strategy. AYAC has played a role in recruiting, onboarding and facilitating sessions for the YSC.





In March, AYAC helped facilitate a 3-day face-to-face meeting with 11 YSC members. During this meeting, AYAC involved the YSC in a consultation on formal youth leaderships initiatives. Committee members shared the following highlights of their work to date:

***“Being invited to genuinely contribute to the consultations.”***

***“That there were lots of opportunities to contribute.”***

***“Having a positive and safe environment to voice ideas.”***

***“Contributing to a positive change to how government departments work with young people”***

***“Learning more about how to work and advocate in a professional manner.”***

AYAC has continued to build on this positive work with the YSC in recent months, supporting a further 3-day face-to-face meeting in Canberra and series of online sessions.

To further support with the implementation of *Engage!*, AYAC has supported the Office for Youth manage its honorarium payments for its Youth Advisory Groups (YAG). This included 6 YAGs, working across First Nations Education, Creative Industries, Employment, Prevention of Gender-Based Violence, Civic Engagement and Safe and Supported. AYAC believes that it is imperative that the contributions of YAG members are adequately recognised on such important work and is thankful to be playing a small role in helping to facilitate this. AYAC has processed 336 honorarium payments for this period through its partnership with the Office for Youth.





During the last financial year, AYAC has continued to work with the eSafety Commissioner's team to develop its youth-led model of engagement for its 17-member Youth Advisory Council (YAC). As part of this work, AYAC has delivered an introduction to facilitation session, which offered guidance to YAC members on safeguarding and deploying interactive facilitation methodologies.

Some feedback from the group was:

*"I learnt some signs that people might be uncomfortable and how to support them."*

*"There were different parts on what makes a good facilitator. You made us think about it all."*

*"The discussion time was good. It was good that it was interactive."*

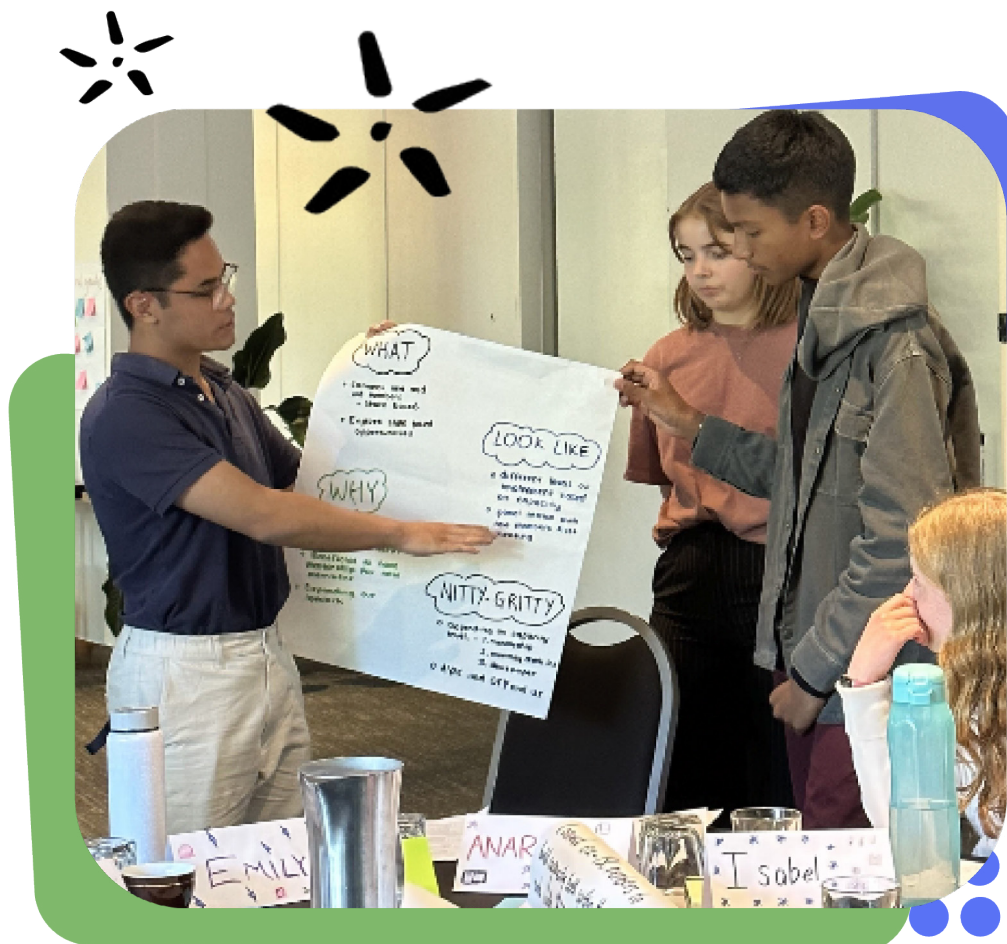
AYAC is looking forward to continuing to support the YAC as they move forward with their work.

# PARTICIPATION

AYAC has also moved to update its range of youth engagement resources. AYAC now offers updated training modules in:

- Introduction to Facilitation
- Civic Values
- Structures of Government
- Engaging Critically with Policy Channels
- Understanding Advocacy
- Developing an Advocacy Campaign

AYAC has since drawn on these modules to provide bespoke fee-for-service workshops to new partners.





# COMMUNICATIONS

Throughout 2023-24 AYAC worked to build our profile with sector and young people through regular e-newsletters. This promotes an opportunity for information and resource sharing, updates on policy and reports, and cross sector collaboration. 22 e-newsletters were sent out over the year, with a 10% increase in subscribers during this time.

Early in the year, AYAC worked with The Y (WhyNot) on a digital series that provides a multi-media platform to 4 young Australians to get their voices heard on issues that mattered to them. As part of this work, both organisations shared video and written content from the young people across their respective socials.

AYAC also introduced the Youth Brains Trust newsletters. As of June 30, 1260 young people signed on to be Youth Brains Trust members of AYAC and begun receiving YBT e-newsletters. This includes opportunities to engage and advocate and provides information for young people.

Whilst media was not a key focus for AYAC this year, AYAC continued to receive requests from media to comment on youth affairs and where possible, participated in these.

AYAC was active across social media during this period, with posts directed at both the youth sector and young people on multiple platforms. This included 116 posts on Instagram of which included a total of 3802 likes, 84 Facebook posts, 66 LinkedIn posts, and 59 X (Twitter) posts.



# MEMBERSHIP

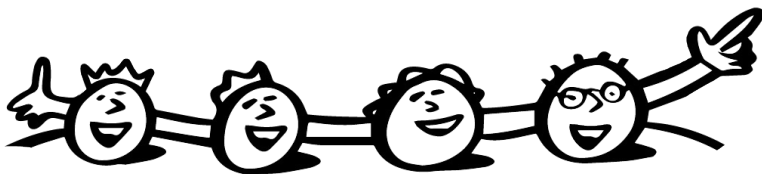
AYAC relies on the support and engagement of our members in order to achieve our goals. Members are invaluable to our work through their input into policy development, sharing of information and support for advocacy.

AYAC has members that include peak bodies, youth organisations, youth-led organisations, youth workers, and young people.

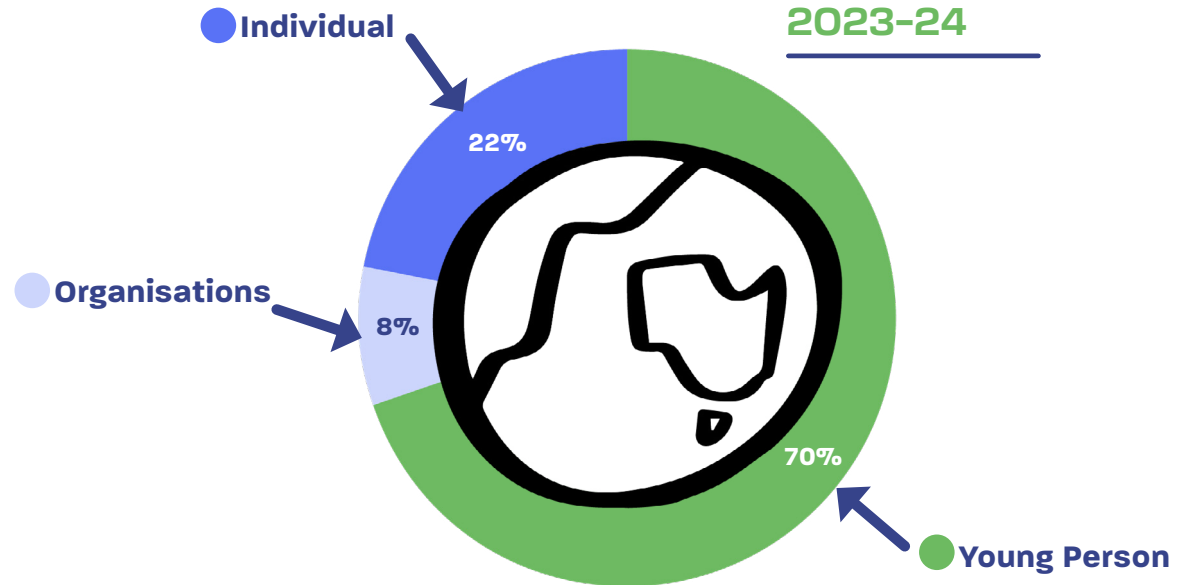
In the 2023-24 period, AYAC's membership grew 67 % to 1561 members.

As at the end of financial year our membership consists of 1089 young people, 130 organisations of which 30 are youth-led organisations, 342 individuals (excluding young people).

During this year, the AYAC Board undertook to review the organisation's membership structure and began work on a membership strategy. This work will conclude in the 2024-25 year period with the introduction of a membership statement, engagement survey and the re-introduction of a membership fee schedule.



## Membership 2023-24



# TREASURER'S REPORT

By Kate Munro (Acting Treasurer)



Dear AYAC Members,

We are pleased to present the financial report for the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition Inc. (AYAC) for the year ended June 2024.

This year marks AYAC's first full year of operation, and with that the first full year of staffing, projects and programs since the organisation was refunded.

Considerable efforts were made in the planning and setting of the budget, although it was necessary to make numerous revisions during the quarterly budget review process.

This year, AYAC has been informed that it is required to comply with regulatory requirements set by the Portable Long Service Leave Authority. These obligations are retroactive, extending back to March 2022.

Overall, the organisation was able to track well against the budget and AYAC was able to achieve a small surplus.

Our current year financial results include the following:

- \$509,000 in government support for youth engagement reports and initiatives
- \$121,000 in philanthropic grants to support core operations

We express our sincere gratitude to the Australian Government and our philanthropic partners for their continued financial support. We are also pleased to confirm that these partnerships will continue into the next financial year.

**Thank you for again for your continued support of AYAC and Australian young people.**



# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



## Board Members' Report

### Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Director's Report

Your board members submit the financial report of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

#### Board Members

The names of board members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Board Member	Position	Date Started	Date Ended
Caitlin Figueiredo		9/12/2020	
Stassi Austin	Chair	30/11/2021	
Shannon White		18/12/2023	
Lucas Walsh		18/12/2023	
Kate Munro	Deputy Chair	30/11/2021	
Jemma Rule		18/12/2023	
Jeremy Hunt		30/11/2022	
Sandy McKiernan		18/12/2023	27/09/2024
Sarah Ramantanis		30/11/2022	7/02/2024
James Delaney		3/05/2022	30/11/2023
Justin Barker		30/11/2022	30/11/2023
Anne Bainbridge	Treasurer	1/07/2023	26/07/2024
Maddison O'Grady-Lee		30/11/2021	30/11/2023
Paul McDonald		30/11/2022	21/08/2023
Rana Ebrahimi		30/11/2021	30/11/2023
Taj Pabari		30/11/2022	11/02/2024
Katherine Ellis		30/11/2021	11/08/2023

#### Operating Results

The surplus for the financial year is \$9,436. (2023: Surplus of \$97,055)

#### Principal Activities

The Associations objects are to pursue the following charitable purposes:

1. To promote and protect the human rights of young people
2. To promote respect, tolerance, and inclusion of young people
3. To advance education by providing leadership training, support and opportunities to young people
4. To advance the health and welfare of young people
5. To promote laws, policies and practices which advance charitable purposes for the benefit of young people

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#### Board Members' Report



The entity is incorporated under the Association Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT) and is an incorporated association. If Australian Youth Affairs Coalition is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$0 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity. As at 30 June 2024, the total amount that members of the entity are liable to contribute if the entity is wound up is \$0.

#### Auditor's Independence Declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2024 can be found in this financial report.

This Board Members' report is signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Governance on:

  
[www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/dfat/special/signatures/signatures.html](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/dfat/special/signatures/signatures.html)

Name: Stassi Austin

Position: Chairperson

Date: 22-Nov-2024



Name: Kate Munro

Position: Deputy Chair

Date: 22-Nov-2024

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

## Statement of Profit or Loss

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition  
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	NOTES	2024	2023
<b>Income</b>			
Government Grants		509,000	363,636
Other Grants		121,218	111,881
Service Income		18,182	6,156
Other Income		1,239	28,658
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>649,639</b>	<b>510,331</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Employee Benefits		356,027	286,407
Program Expenses		79,812	26,352
Administration Expenses		57,147	15,181
Participation and Volunteer Expenses		50,730	29,152
Travel Expenses		39,987	24,537
Occupancy Expenses		17,878	23,581
Communications and IT Expenses		15,265	7,758
Meeting and Event Expenses		14,873	276
Governance Expenses		7,974	32
Depreciation		510	-
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>640,204</b>	<b>413,277</b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		<b>9,436</b>	<b>97,055</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditor's report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

## Statement of Financial Position

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition  
As at 30 June 2024

	NOTES	30 JUNE 2024	30 JUNE 2023
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash & Cash Equivalents		411,727	321,512
Trade and Other Receivables		26,316	4,320
Prepayments		23,224	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>461,267</b>	<b>325,832</b>
Property, Plant, Equipment		3,969	-
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>465,236</b>	<b>325,832</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables		101,426	21,264
Contract Liabilities		162,135	120,619
Leave Entitlement Provision		8,290	-
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>271,851</b>	<b>141,883</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>193,384</b>	<b>183,949</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Accumulated Funds		193,384	183,949

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditor's report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

## Statement of Cash Flows

### Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2024

	NOTES	2024	2023
<b>Cash flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Receipts from grants, contributions and donations		671,734	518,636
Receipts from customers		23,741	47,710
Payments to suppliers and employees	(593,187)	(400,936)	
Finance costs	(94)	(239)	
Cash payments from other operating activities	(7,500)	-	
<b>Total Cash flows from Operating Activities</b>		<b>94,694</b>	<b>165,172</b>
<b>Cash flows from Investing Activities</b>			
Payment for property, plant and equipment	(4,479)	-	
<b>Total Cash flows from Investing Activities</b>	(4,479)	-	
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</b>		<b>90,215</b>	<b>165,172</b>
<b>Cash Balances</b>			
Opening cash balance		321,512	156,340
Closing cash balance		411,727	321,512
Movement in cash		90,215	165,172

## Movements in Equity

### Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2024

	NOTES	2024	2023
<b>Equity</b>			
Opening Balance		183,949	86,894
<b>Increases</b>			
Surplus for the Period		9,436	97,055
<b>Total Increases</b>		<b>9,436</b>	<b>97,055</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>193,384</b>	<b>183,949</b>

## Board Members' Declaration

### Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2024

In accordance with a resolution of the Board of Governance of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition, the directors of the Registered Entity declare that, in the board members' opinion:

- The financial statements and notes, as set out in the previous pages, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:
  - comply with Australian Accounting Standards; and

(b) give a true and fair view of the financial position of the registered entity as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.

2. In the board members' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subs 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022.

  
Stassi Austin (New SR, 2024 BR 18 0471-01)

Name: Stassi Austin

Position: Chairperson

Date: 22-Nov-2024



Name: Kate Munro

Position: Deputy Chair

Date: 22-Nov-2024

## Auditor's Independence Declaration Under the ACNC Act

### Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2024

To the board members of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition

In accordance with Subdivision 60-C of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, I am pleased to provide the following declaration of independence to the directors of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition. As the lead audit partner for the audit of the financial report of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition for the year ended 30 June 2024, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2024 there have been no contraventions of:

(i) the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and

(ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



William Jonathan Griffin

APL Financial Pty Ltd

32 Business Park Drive  
Notting Hill, Victoria 3168

Dated: 2-10-24

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Board Members

### Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (the registered entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, 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 board members' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the registered entity is in accordance with the Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (the ACNC Act), including:

1. giving a true and fair view of the Registered Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
2. complying with Australian Accounting Standards

#### Basis of 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 Registered Entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ACNC Act, 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.

#### Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The board members are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the registered entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Responsibilities of the Board Members for the Financial Report

The board members of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACNC Act and for such internal control as the board 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 board members are responsible for assessing the registered entity'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 board members either intend to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative

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but to do so.

#### 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 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Registered Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the board members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the board members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the board members regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



William Jonathan Griffin  
APL Financial Pty Ltd

32 Business Park Drive  
Notting Hill, Victoria 3168

Date: 2-10-24

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