



ANNUAL REPORT 2016 / 2017

Providing healthy and nurturing learning environments





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ANNUAL REPORT 2016/2017

Our Vision

Providing healthy and nurturing learning environments for our children, families and community.

Our Purpose

Through partnership and collaboration, deliver the highest quality care, education and services to our children, families and community.

We Value

- Being the best we can be
- Doing what we say we will do
- Accepting responsibility for what we do
- Recognising and celebrating achievement
- Providing great governance
- Our historical foundation of caring for our children, families and the community





Our Key Focus Areas



ACHIEVING BEST PRACTICE

Deliver the best quality care, education and services so that we can better serve our children, families and community.



BUILDING A POSITIVE REPUTATION

Consolidate our reputation as a leader in the Early Years and Community sectors.



BEING AN EMPLOYEE OF CHOICE

Being an employer that attracts and retains the highest quality of staff.



FINANCIAL STABILITY

Strengthening our long term and financial viability.



CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE



by Nick Wood


On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to report that 2016/17 has been another significant year for Gowrie Western Australia which has seen the organisation finish stronger and more committed to achieving our vision and mission.

The focus of Gowrie Western Australia's remains on delivering high quality, healthy and nurturing learning environments for our children, families and community – an outcome which continues to be affirmed by our stakeholders as being of paramount importance.

At the end of last year, we aspired to grow Gowrie and deliver our unique model of community-led childcare in other areas of Western Australia. The opening of Leeming Learning Centre this year was our first step forward in achieving this aspiration, with the foundation for new Centre coming out of strong local community demand and being built on the success of our long-established Kewdale and Karawara early years centres. Leeming Learning Centre provides families and children with a service that exceeds national quality standards and prepares a child for the transition to formal schooling.

The change of State Government in February 2017 has created a number of opportunities for Gowrie that we are actively pursuing. We were pleased to host the new Minister for Communities, the Hon Simone McGurk MLA, at our Karawara Centre in July this year and the Minister's visit created much excitement for our staff and children. We appreciated the opportunity to hear from Minister McGurk about the new Government's direction for community services in Western Australia and were also able to outline our ambitions and desires for the early years and community sectors. Gowrie Western Australia remains fully supportive of the direction that the new Government is taking within the community services sector in Western Australia and we look forward to continuing the positive and constructive working relationship we have built with the Minister and the new Department for Communities.

As I have stated in previous reports, I am sincerely grateful to all Gowrie Western Australia staff. Without their commitment, initiative, enthusiasm and dedication, Gowrie would not be able to provide the quality of care, education and services that we do. Attracting and retaining high quality educators and staff who are aligned with our vision and values remains a strong commitment for Gowrie. With an organisational culture of respect and excellence, we continue to seek out and welcome new staff to our



organisation that demonstrate a passion for the provision of high-quality services together with a strong alignment to the culture. Each staff member of Gowrie Western Australia has played a vital role in our accomplishments and triumphs throughout this year, and for this the Board is extremely appreciative and grateful.

On behalf of the Board, I would also like to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to our Chief Executive Officer, Tonia Westmore, for the incredible work she has done over the past 12 months in leading our organisation and continuing our shared commitment to innovation and continuous improvement in everything we do. Tonia has risen to numerous difficult challenges over the past 12 months and have consistently retained an unwavering commitment to ensuring that Gowrie remains focused on its vision and mission, stays strongly aligned with its values, and continues to deliver exceptional services to children, families and the wider community.

Its vision and mission stays strongly aligned with its values, and continues to deliver exceptional services to children, families and the wider community.

Financially, Gowrie once again ended the year in a very strong position due principally to strong financial management, sustainable growth and a commitment to achieving long term viability on our own source revenue. This position continues to enable the organisation to provide excellent facilities and learning environments, exceptional staff provisions and ongoing investment in professional development. The financial condition of Gowrie is a credit to the strong fiscal management of the CEO and her management team, together with the Board.

I would like to again thank all members of the Gowrie Board for their outstanding contribution to the organisation and for their strong and unified leadership in navigating and effectively responding to a number of very challenging issues during the year. The professionalism of our Board is second to none,

and their commitment to ensuring that the highest standards of governance are delivered has enabled Gowrie to remain well governed and to respond effectively to the needs of our children, families and the local community and changes in our external environment. The tireless dedication of each and every Board member is greatly valued and appreciated.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

Her Excellency Lady Zara Gowrie opened The Lady Gowrie Child Centre in Western Australia in 1940, with the sincere intent of delivering best practice and high quality services for young children. We navigated this year with a passionate desire to uphold her vision, 77 years on, whilst endeavouring to continuously improve our performance and services.

As we reflect on this past 12 months, we proudly recognise the resilience and passion we upheld throughout a year that was not without its challenges. We navigated necessary change and encouraged progression as an organisation we experienced the twists and turns of the challenges faced. Through every challenge and triumph, we encountered, we did not compromise on our professionalism or standards of care as we are unyielding in our dedication to providing healthy and nurturing learning environments for our children, families and the community.

It is paramount to Gowrie WA that we meet the needs of our children, families and the community, and this genuine commitment was evident across each of our services this year. With a clear focus on our vision and purpose, our organisation drew on our passion and integrity to deliver the highest quality care, education and services. Our Early Years centres compromise on our professionalism or standards of care as we are unyielding in our dedication to providing healthy and nurturing learning environments for our children, families and the community.

Our early learning centres welcomed 352 children into our nurturing environments and our community centres had over 1000 people experience the enjoyable and safe locations. Although enrolment numbers at Gowrie, and across the early childhood sector, seemed to plateau this year, our dedication to continuous improvement and the hard work of



by Tonia Westmore



our Educators, support staff and leadership team never waned.

A milestone event this year was the opening of Leeming Learning Centre at our Leeming Family and Community Centre to accompany our fantastic Early Years services already established at Karawara and Kewdale. Our beautiful new service was opened on 1 August 2016 in response to requests and feedback from our community, and was developed with the aim to equip children over the age of three years, with the skills and abilities they require to commence formal schooling. Our high quality and qualified staff with a passion for early education and care assist the children to learn and develop through meaningful play experiences in the beautiful nature based environments. The response to the opening of our new service was overwhelming, with families providing us with humbling and positive feedback. In June, the Leeming Learning Centre was visited by the Department for Communities who undertook a two day ratings and assessment visit. The outcome was a rating of Exceeding Quality Standards. This was a true reflection of the quality service offered at Leeming Learning Centre, and the dedication of the Gowrie educators and staff.

Our Kewdale and Karawara centres rode some waves this year, mostly in relation to staff changes. The early childhood sector as a whole shares the challenges associated with staffing. The role of being an educator is often very demanding, and navigating quality standards and frameworks alongside internal policies, procedures and handbooks presents its own challenges. Gowrie has measures in place to attract and retain quality staff, such as paying above award wages, providing uniforms, normal working hours, weekly fruit bowls for staff, and the provision for professional development opportunities. This year a huge focus was placed on professional development

Children at the Karawara and Kewdale centres enjoyed many special days throughout the year, and many of these special times invited the inclusion of family members, such as the Mother's Day celebrations. Children's learning, as always, was embraced and our wonderful educators sought out exciting and new ways to provide children with fun learning experiences and opportunities. Children enjoyed caring for chickens and other animals, and learning more about sustainability, recycling and caring for our environments. The care of children at Gowrie is second to none, and it is a pleasure to witness the beautiful interactions our educators have with the children who attend our centres.

Our educators had access to copious amounts of professional development opportunities and experiences, all planned to improve our educator's knowledge and to improve their ability to better plan for the care and education of children at Gowrie, and beyond.





Gowrie Community Services continued the valuable offerings of programs and experiences for children, families and community members. Our Young at Heart program holds a special place within everyone involved. Children and young and older adults get so much enjoyment from the intergenerational experience. Hearing the laughter of the young and the not so young, is truly a sounds that resonates through all participants and keeps smiles on our faces for hours. The partnership Gowrie has with Stockland Bull Creek and City of Melville has seen Playdates become a date circled on the calendar of many community members who drive far and wide to attend. Gowrie takes toys, equipment and learning experiences in to an open space at Stockland Bull Creek Shopping Centre and facilitates an open and inclusive playgroup that can see approximately 40 children enjoy the one-and-a-half-hour experience. In addition, the other programs we plan and facilitate, such as Kaleidoscope for Tots, and Stay and Play continue to be utilised and enjoyed by large numbers of community members. Gowrie Community Services looks forward to new and exciting ideas becoming fruitful in the coming year.

In conclusion, heartfelt thanks are extended to the educators, support staff and leadership team of Gowrie WA for their commitment and passion throughout the year. I am thankful for their dedication to inspiring and caring for our children and we are indebted to their hard work, time and sacrifices. The Gowrie WA staff have been part of fundamental changes that have seen Gowrie WA continually improve and for this we thank them.

Additionally, with gratitude and deep respect, I would like to thank the Board of Gowrie WA. The support and dedication of each board member is sincerely appreciated, and I am indebted to the robust governance and business acumen they afford me and the organisation throughout the year. Each of the Board member's hold demanding roles outside of Gowrie and each has a family of their own. They each volunteer their time and expertise and invest themselves at Gowrie to ensure the vision, purpose and strategic plan of the organisation is lived each day and propelled well in to the future.

We are proud to continue to be an integral part of the early year's sector in Western Australia and Australia, and to offer safe and nurturing learning environments to our cherished families and community members. The future holds important and exciting growth and improvement for Gowrie WA and we look forward to the accomplishments we will achieve.





EARLY YEARS CENTRES

KARAWARA & KEWDALE

Our two Early Years centres in Karawara and Kewdale remained devoted to providing exceptional care and education to the 352 treasured children who attended these two centres this financial year period. Both centres displayed a strong commitment to exercising sound sustainability practices in accordance with the Early Years and National Quality Frameworks and our dedicated staff joined together to broaden their experience, knowledge and abilities through instructive workshops, to ensure they are continually affording the children with a high calibre of care.

At Gowrie, we believe teaching children about the natural world and how to care for it, is of paramount importance. Sustainability is embedded in the operations of our services and forms a foundation for much of our curriculum. Practicing sustainability empowers children to develop their knowledge, explore values and acquire an important appreciation for the environment and its relationship with their world. Gowrie believes that a holistic approach to sustainability is of great significance when fostering the children's ability to value and respect the broader environment, and understand the correlation between people, plants, animals and the land.

'Our dedicated staff joined together to broaden their experience, knowledge & abilities... to ensure they are continually affording the children with a high calibre of care'

This approach, fixed in our daily practices, will lay the foundation for environmentally responsible adulthood. To promote a sense of responsibility within the children, we place importance on full cycles of sustainability being put into practice.

This year, the children were exposed to sustainability by continuing to nurture and raise chickens. The chickens are fed food scraps from the kitchen, enlightening the children about not only sustainability, but recycling. In addition, the children discussed possible uses of the chickens with their gardener. Together, they concluded that the chicken's excretions would help their gardens to grow, so the waste from the chickens is placed on gardens to naturally provide nutrients to plants; a further sustainable practice. The eggs laid by the chickens are then sold by the children, to families of the centres for use at home. The children look forward to using the money earned from the selling of the eggs to choose new toys and equipment for their centre, but they have shown even greater enthusiasm towards their brilliant sustainable practices.

Throughout the year, food scraps were also used to feed the worm farms. The worm waste is used to fertilise the vegetable and herb gardens that children have planted and cared for. When the vegetables and herbs have grown, they are picked to be used in snacks and meals eaten by the children at the centre. The scraps from the preparation of those snacks and meals, and left over food is fed to the worms, and again we see the full cycle of sustainability unfolding and being maintained.



Moreover, educators work with the simple principle that sustainability is about reducing, reusing and recycling. The centre works to reduce water usage and energy consumption, reuse recyclable items such as pallets by creating new items such as shoe racks and rock climbing frames and recycle cardboard, paper, plastics and glass. All recycled materials are reused if possible, or disposed of correctly. The health and future of our planet and ourselves is reliant on sustainability, and we ensure we do our best to support our wellbeing through the foods we eat and provide children, the businesses we support and the way we plan our environments, including the types of trees and plants we plant and maintain.

Across our services, we also encourage children to be stimulated and educated by the natural environment, and our Educators balance this with intentional teaching experiences. The indoor and outdoor environment is used as a third teacher. The layout of the areas are carefully considered and thought is gone into the provision of items such as easily accessible watering cans, tree cut offs, climbing tyres and branches to encourage independent and natural learning, and the promotion of sustainability.



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When sustainable practices are embedded into all aspects of service operations, and when there is an alignment of philosophies, ethics and beliefs in a service, sustainability becomes habitual and has a positive impact on children's learning and the wider community. At Gowrie, we implement sustainability into our program and every day routines, to ensure children develop a long-lasting understanding and respect for the environment. We believe that the way we educate a child about environmental practices and involve them in routines fostering and promoting sustainability, has a direct reflection on the level of understanding and lifelong learning the children will gain.

In 2016, the facets of Gowrie WA's work continued to be driven by our authentic desire to deliver healthy and nurturing learning environments. We place great value for our children, families and community

At Gowrie we encourage and value participation in educational workshops. This year, dedicated staff from across our services underwent Protective Behaviours training with Protective Behaviours WA, a course that assists Educators and carers to promote resilience in children and young people. As the financial year was drawing to a close, a selection of our enthusiastic and committed staff members also commenced Auslan training. This training will allow our Educators and support staff to teach the children an additional form of communication to increase our awareness of people with hearing impairments. By supporting the development of our staff's knowledge and skills, we are ensuring that we retain Educators with aptitude and understanding, to best serve our deserving children and families.

Our Karawara and Kewdale Early Years services thank all those who contributed to the joy of our children, families and community this year. We look forward to approaching the upcoming financial year with eagerness and optimism.



EARLY YEARS CENTRES continued

LEEMING LEARNING CENTRE

The opening of Leeming Learning Centre on 1 August 2016 was a milestone event for Gowrie this financial year. Our brilliant new service accompanies our already established Early Years services at Karawara and Kewdale, and was developed with the aim to equip children over the age of three years with the skills and abilities they require to commence formal schooling.

Leeming Learning Centre, located on the site of Leeming Family and Community Centre, supports children's needs through a range of stimulating learning experiences and spontaneous and structured activities tailored so children experience the joys of learning while preparing to transition to school. Within the safe play and nature based environments, the children are provided with opportunities to develop fine and gross motor skills and a sense of belonging. Leeming Learning Centre promotes lifelong sustainability practices through activities such as gardening and recycling. Role play, theatre and puppetry activities offered at our brilliant new service promote social and emotional skills, self awareness and literacy development, and daily cooking activities assist the children to develop mathematical skills and experience positive self-development.

As a new service, it has been important for Leeming Learning Centre to fortify itself as a high quality and leading centre in the Early Years sector. We are proud to have opened our doors and commenced building an excellent reputation by receiving a rating of 'Exceeding' in our assessment conducted by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority. The quality and character of our beautiful new centre is furthermore reflected in our increasing number of enrolments, and we anticipate the number of children attending the service will continue to rise based on eager interest expressed by families in the community.

To furthermore retain the highest standards in all aspects of the service, the Leeming Learning Centre Educators attended a number of workshops throughout the year, to improve their skills and deliver exceptional care to the children. A Nature Play workshop was attended and inspired and encouraged the use of natural elements indoors. The implementation of learnings from this course by our Educators has allowed the children to participate in fantastic experiences and grow an appreciation of their natural surroundings. A workshop regarding the management and relief of stress in the workplace was also attended by our staff to ensure they feel respected and supported. Furthermore, the Leeming Learning Centre Educators joined with their Karawara and Kewdale co-workers to begin the Auslan course, which we are excited to complete and

accordingly employ our learnings into our Early Years procedures, in the coming financial year.

In our first year of operation, Leeming Learning Centre has already embedded strong sustainable practices in line with its affiliating services at Karawara and Kewdale. The children at the centre grow and harvest their own vegetable garden, and are proud to have garnered tomatoes, peas, beans, capsicum and watermelon. The vegetables and fruit grown are used in the children's afternoon snacks, including in homemade pasta sauce, introducing them to the important subject of sustainability, and environmentally friendly practices. The children devote time to tending to the garden to ensure the plants are thriving, furthermore educating them on responsibility and accountability, and encouraging a connection with their natural environment.

The wellbeing and education of the children is the focus of our high quality Educators at Leeming Learning Centre. To develop the children's social and emotional skills, they attend several programs based at the centre, which are also accessible to the public. Throughout the week, the Leeming Learning Centre children attend That's Sew Crafty, Yoga for Youngsters and Kaleidoscope for Tots. By involving the children in these programs and allowing them to interact with members of their community, we initiate positive intergenerational experiences and social interaction, and encourage of a sense of belonging and self-confidence. The children also procure the benefits of each program they attend, developing their creativity, imagination and physical wellbeing.

Gowrie is indebted to all those whom made the opening of Leeming Learning Centre a success. The excitement and anticipation we have for the future is unimaginable. We can't wait for the progressive and fruitful journey ahead.

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COMMUNITY SERVICES

With great focus on our vision and purpose, Gowrie Community Services demonstrated a strong commitment to providing excellent services to the valued community this year. Our dedication to better serve the public and afford them with beneficial and productive services is evident through our continued provision of high quality play groups, communal programs and valuable resources across our two family and community centres in Karawara and Leeming. This year, Gowrie also took further strides to strengthen our relationships with the community and consolidate with like-minded organisations to continue to provide our society with the top quality support, facilities and amenities.

Throughout the year, our family and community centres remained dedicated to providing for the community and staying true to our respected vision and purpose. After feedback from the community, which advocated a common desire for assistance to connect with other member of the community, Gowrie began working with a shopping centre to provide a new advantageous program, Play Dates. Play Dates offers a playgroup environment for babies, infants and young children in the convenience of a local shop, Stockland Bullcreek. Attending the program provides parents, guardians and carers with the opportunity to meet new people, which was expressed as a desire by the community, and seek information. Gowrie provides clean, safe and developmentally age appropriate toys and equipment at the sessions, and entertaining activities are provided for families to participate in each week. Fruit snacks are also provided, promoting healthy eating. With the support from Stockland Bullcreek and the City of Melville, Play Dates runs once a month at no cost to participants.

This excellent new program has inspired an instrumental partnership between Gowrie and Stockland Bullcreek. Our partnership is based on the mutual ambition to create a family friendly and supportive community hub that is effortlessly accessible to the community. The partnership and program has further allowed Gowrie to create invaluable community links and engage with a range of community members who have shared feedback and ideas and stimulated future opportunities for our organisations community services to extend and grow. We look forward to growing our rapport with Stockland Bullcreek, and are excited for the opportunities that will come before us in the future that will benefit our community.

It is also paramount to Gowrie WA that we fortify and strengthen the treasured relationships that we have already established within our community, and this was a major concentration of our community services in the 2016 to 2017 period. Gowrie continued to build on our partnership with the City of Melville, which was born as a result of our common desire to deliver high quality services and healthy and nurturing environments to the community. Our relationship with the council enables us to make linkages and connect with society, and has seen us become

regular stall holders at a City of Melville market, where we deliver fantastic free children's activities and assist parents and community members with information. We value our relationship with the City of Melville and nurture our common vision of providing for the community. Our partnerships with Southcare and the Department for Communities were also nurtured throughout the year and we continue to place great value on these relationships, which ensure we are able to afford the community with the most beneficial and helpful programs and support.

With the community and their needs in mind, Gowrie attended various community events to connect with our community, develop new, strong networks and to offer our wonderful services. Numerous school fetes and local fairs were attended, including the West Leeming Primary School Fete and Willetton Rotary Fair, which allowed us to acquire an understanding of the needs and desires of our society by developing relationships with those we had the opportunity to connect and communicate with. We also continued to foster our relationship with our local shopping centre, Waterford Plaza, who gave us the chance to advertise our exceptional services and provide activities for children during the school holidays. We again took this opportunity to bond with our community and to procure an awareness of what we need to deliver to best serve them. Additionally, we attended the shopping centre's Community Day in April 2017, where we joined other community groups and organisations to participate in a productive day of engagement and advertising. Gowrie WA used this opportunity to reach out to potential new users by distributing information on the fantastic programs available at our centres. Events like this have assisted us to engage with community members who are now regular and valuable users of the services we offer.

Without the support and encouragement, we receive from our appreciated community and accordant organisations, Gowrie would not be able to serve the public as we do. As we understand and recognise the value of such support, we place great importance on giving it back to our community. With this always in the forefront of our minds, Gowrie made a conscious and passionate effort to support, contribute to and nurture a range of programs, organisations and bodies. Our staff and community employed commendable efforts to support the Leukaemia Foundation this year through the World's Greatest Shave, and the Alopecia Foundation with our second annual Alopecia High Tea. Each of these events raised much needed funds and awareness for their respective foundations and Gowrie is proud to have contributed to such deserving causes. As previously noted, our philanthropic activity lends a pathway for our young users to learn about generosity and solidarity, whilst allowing us to give back to the deserving community and broader society.

We also had the opportunity to support our local community and like-minded organisations through referrals and recommendations. Gowrie worked with, assisted and supported a range of community and non-





for-profit organisations and workshops that are greatly beneficial to society, throughout the year. Included in these organisations was Meerilinga and NGALA, which Gowrie WA has been delighted to support by referring families to their services that assist in parenting. Meerilinga has been a key organisation when recommending workshops for parents, families and guardians. The organisation supports families and guardians from East Fremantle through to Rockingham with parenting courses and services. NGALA is a valued and like-minded organisation, which we have confidently referred a number of community members to. Arthritis WA is a further organisation we have cheerfully supported by holding a six-week course at our Leeming Family and Community Centre. The valuable course allowed community members to gain information regarding managing arthritic pain. A two-monthly yoga course stemmed from these workshops, which assists sufferers. We are delighted to have consolidated with organisations whom share our goals of serving the community and providing important and high-quality services. By giving back to our community through support and encouragement, we have been fortunate to develop wonderful connections that will continue to be nurtured and cherished. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of those whom have encouraged and placed confidence in Gowrie throughout the year. We are indebted to your support.

Though Karawara Family and Community Centre and Leeming Family and Community Centre achieve exceptional things whilst working together in unison, each centre has persevered and accomplished their own individual endeavours this year.



COMMUNITY SERVICES continued

LEEMING FAMILY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Leeming Family and Community centre remained devoted to providing a harmonious and safe hub for the community throughout the 2016 to 2017 year. The centre was highly committed to sustaining the high quality and welcoming facilities that proved valuable to the community last year, and were dedicated to continuing the positive and constructive programs that the public found effective.

The centre demonstrated its focus on community needs this year, by responding to feedback from users and the wider community. Leeming Family and Community Centre are proud to have commenced the new program, That's Sew Crafty, in reaction to the community disclosing their desire for a session that allows them to express their creativity and imagination. That's Sew Crafty is a fantastic arts and craft group open to children and adults that not only promotes the desired outcome of creativity, but also stimulates social interaction by bringing together diverse members of society. That's Sew Crafty affords a safe and supportive environment where participants can partake in their craft activities in a shared and common space, giving them the opportunity to share ideas and learn from fellow members of their community. This terrific new program furthermore provides a beautiful intergenerational experience. Whilst That's Sew Crafty is only new, we have already received optimistic feedback. We look forward to welcoming new participants and developing additional valuable connections with our community in the sessions ahead.

It was also of paramount importance to Leeming Family and Community centre that the centre's treasured and most consumed services continued to operate for the benefit of our cherished community. Kaleidoscope for Tots excitingly continued to flourish this year and we welcomed a number of new valued families to the weekly sessions. The brilliant and well-received program offers children under school age, and their significant carers, with a morning of supervised and facilitated creative, physical, nutritional and well-being based activities and experiences. The children and guardians are encouraged to develop their social skills, and though this gain a sense of belonging. Leeming Family and Community Centre staff also use these sessions as an opportunity to support and assist families with challenged and issues they may be facing, and refer them to the appropriate services if necessary.

We continue to note that mothers and female care-givers are the primary adult attendees attendees of Kaleidoscope for Tots, with up to five grandmothers and two aunties attending regularly with children. Dads, Grandfathers and other significant male guardians often accompany their partners to the sessions, however we would like to welcome more male partakers in the future, as we are dedicated to creating an inclusive and openhearted atmosphere.





Leeming Family and Community Centre is committed to working with families to provide a supportive and compassionate environment. Our programs allow us to bring families together, encourage social interactions, provide support and connect caregivers. The invaluable time we share with guardians and families at our programs allows us to respond to their queries and concerns. We also have the valuable opportunity to assist them with learning guidance techniques for matters such as negative behaviour in their children, and we work with them to identify areas where they may be challenged as parents. We take this opportunity to subsequently work with like-minded organisations within our community to seek assistance with educational sessions and support for our cherished families.

Throughout this financial year, Leeming Family and Community centre continued to be well utilised over weekends and during the week. We accepted a positive number of bookings for birthday parties and private groups. Farrington Playgroup, Stitchin Sisters, Leeming Heights Playgroup, Chinmaya Mission and Puppy Pre-School were amongst our appreciated regular users.

Leeming Family and Community Centre, with gratitude, extends a heartfelt thank you to all of our users and the community for their support and optimism this year. We look forward to continuing to provide you with a vibrant facility in the coming year.

KARAWARA FAMILY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Karawara Family and Community Centre faced a steady year that placed great importance on upholding a dependable and warm facility for the members of our valued community. Furthermore, the centre focussed on building positive relationships within society and giving back to the deserving community.

The centre provided a reliable and friendly venue for an assorted range of cultural groups, organisations, workshops and families. The diversity of our users reflects our goal of being an all-embracing and affable facility and our vision of providing healthy and nurturing learning environments for our children, families and community.

Karawara Family and Community Centre remained a hive of activity with the continuance of several fantastic programs this financial year. Young at Heart, a wonderful intergenerational program whereby seniors and grandparents are presented with the opportunity to engage and connect with the beautiful children from our childcare centre, and the local community, remained highly popular and a delightfully treasured program. Young at Heart aims to reduce loneliness and isolation sometimes experienced by seniors by providing them with opportunities to reconnect with their childhood memories and create new ones with the children they visit. The program welcomes clients from Southcare in Manning, and Grandparents and their grandchildren of our community. We are overjoyed at how well-received Young at Heart continues to be and we cherish the ability to brighten the days of all of those whom witness this beautiful occurrence. The benefits of this program continue to be evident through the feedback we collect from the senior participants, the carers and the parents of the children attending. We honour the reactions and comments we have received, such as “the joy you see on the elderly’s faces is priceless, their eyes sparkle!” and “the children cannot wait to see their ‘friends’ on Thursdays, the happiness it brings to all involved is truly beautiful.” Southcare staff have spoken about how individuals who rarely speak or show emotion, completely change when they reach the Karawara Family and Community Centre, bursting into cheerful chatter and smiles. Through the sharing of memories, the excitement of games and activities, and the joy of singing, the children and the seniors are able to build a sense of self-worth, connectedness and belonging.

Stay and Play has furthermore demonstrated its popularity amongst our community and remains a highly utilised program at the centre. The weekly sessions offer a playgroup environment for babies, infants and young children and gives guardians the opportunity to interact with their child, meet new people and seek information. Whilst the undertaking of activities and the supervision of the children is the responsibility of the parents and guardians, we do provide safe and clean indoor and outdoor environments and developmental and age appropriate equipment. In addition, a staff member partakes and is available for the entirety of the session to guide and support it and interact with the participants. The Stay and Play sessions provide the opportunity to gain valuable information on other services, uncover experiences to enjoy at home and to participate in important social interactions.





In addition to nurturing the excellent programs already established at the centre, it was important for Karawara Family and Community Centre to create and offer new programs that appeal to the community and provide an array of benefits. Yoga for Youngsters began in response to this commitment and allows young children to participate in friendly yoga sessions. Through the activity, the children are able to holistically improve their sense of calmness and concentration whilst physically enhancing their flexibility, strength, coordination and body awareness. The children are free to express themselves through body movements and are able to engage with their peers. The sessions not only encourage physical and mental wellbeing, but confident and involved learners.

With the ambition of delivering respected amenities to our community in mind, a brilliant new Lending Library was installed at Karawara Family and Community Centre. The libraries are constructed from recycled materials, including old wooden pallets and garden edging, and are accessible to the public. The Lending Library allows members of the community to donate, borrow and read a book available from the library. It has proven highly popular among families who attend the programs and we have received optimistic feedback regarding the new installation. A Lending Library can also be found at Leeming Family and Community Centre.

Karawara Family and Community Centre is enthusiastic for the financial year ahead. We are optimistic about the growth we hope to experience and look forward to welcoming new users and families to our centre.

FINANCIALS

THE GOWRIE (WA) INC FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017


STATEMENT BY THE BOARD

The Board have determined that Gowrie (WA) Incorporated (the "Association") is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

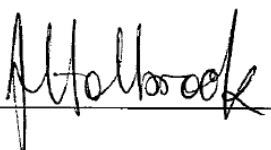
The Board of the Association declare that:

- 1 The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 3 to 14, presents fairly the financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
- 2 There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- 3 The financial statements are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:



Chairperson



Board Member

Perth, Western Australia

November, 2017

FINANCIALS

THE GOWRIE (WA) INC FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2017 \$	2016 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,144,710	2,491,917
Trade and Other Receivables	116,185	117,967
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	3,260,895	2,609,884
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant and Equipment	1,193,503	1,247,918
Financial Assets	194,270	172,188
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	1,387,773	1,420,106
TOTAL ASSETS	4,648,668	4,029,990
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and Other Payables	146,446	94,251
Grant Revenue in Advance	-	28,313
Unamortised Capital Grants	21,675	21,672
Provisions for Employee Entitlements	52,781	61,322
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	220,902	205,558
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Unamortised Capital Grants	948,638	970,316
Provisions for Employee Entitlements	9,568	9,584
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	958,206	979,900
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,179,108	1,185,458
NET ASSETS	3,469,560	1,185,458
MEMBERS' FUNDS		
Retained Earnings	3,469,560	2,844,532
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS	3,469,560	2,844,532

FINANCIALS

THE GOWRIE COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

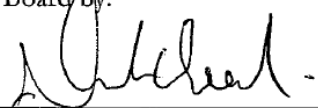
STATEMENT BY THE BOARD

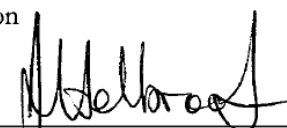
The Board have determined that Gowrie Community Services (WA) Incorporated (the "Association") is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The Board of the Association declare that:

- 1 The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 3 to 14, presents fairly the financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
- 2 There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- 3 The financial statements are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:


Chairperson


Board Member

Perth, Western Australia
November, 2017

FINANCIALS

THE GOWRIE COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

STATEMENT OF FINANCIALS

	2017 \$	2016 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	147,193	168,556
Trade and Other Receivables	13,153	12,214
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	160,346	180,770
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant and Equipment	56,948	60,972
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	56,948	60,972
TOTAL ASSETS	217,294	241,562
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and Other Payables	18,350	17,810
Provisions for Employee Entitlements	32,119	37,814
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	50,469	55,642
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions for Employee Entitlements	18,896	11,911
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	18,896	11,911
TOTAL LIABILITIES	69,365	67,535
NET ASSETS	147,929	174,072
MEMBERS' FUNDS		
Investment from Gowrie (WA) Inc.—related party	194,270	172,188
Retained Earnings	(46,341)	1,839
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS	147,929	174,027