



Growing  
our Impact  
**Annual  
Report**  
2021-22





# Acknowledgement of country

*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work and recognise their continued custodianship and connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and their Elders past and present.*

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Front cover image designed and painted by Lisa Sorbie (Sorbie collections), Keil Tillman and Bianca Taylor Andrews (Tillman Creative Co) and the Foyer Gold Coast residents



# Youth Foyers enable young people experiencing or at risk of homelessness to take charge of their futures.

**44,000**  
*young people*  
*present to specialist*  
*homelessness*  
*services alone*  
*each year.*



Learn more about  
Youth Foyers  
here

Too many young people in Australia are coping with experiences like homelessness, family breakdown or domestic violence during a critical time in their lives as they transition from childhood to adulthood. Young people need more than a roof over their heads to break cycles of trauma or crisis that are often intergenerational.

Foyers create a pathway to independence, offering a safe and stable home for up to two years, integrated learning and work supports, and a trusted community of peers and adults. When we promote their talents and aspirations, young people gain the confidence they need to realise their goals in life.

## Youth Foyers beyond homelessness



*A safe home*



*Learning and  
earning*



*Support*



*Investing  
for growth*

## Our commitment to young people

We value the knowledge and insights of young people who have lived in Youth Foyers and learnt how to navigate the broader service landscape to get the supports they need. In 2022, Foyer Foundation engaged and employed ten Youth Ambassadors to create the avenue for young people to influence our strategy, key programs and partners. Youth Ambassadors were involved in the preparations for our National Foyer conference, the development of the national outcomes framework, and the Foyer accreditation assessment process.

These agents for change are not just taking charge of their own lives, they are using their voices to positively impact the lives of others.

Youth Ambassadors from across our national Foyer network advocate on issues that matter to them: mental health, the representation of First Nations communities, LGBTQI inclusion, and growing the Youth Foyer movement so that more young people can experience the same opportunities. We respect and elevate their voices, creating supported experiences for Youth Ambassadors to speak at public events and shape policy and practice.

The Foyer Foundation is committed to ensuring young people are at the heart of our movement in Australia, and the Youth Ambassador program is the first step in our journey.





A portrait of Keith Bryant, a middle-aged man with grey hair, wearing a white shirt and a dark grey blazer, smiling. The background is a plain, light grey wall.

# Keith Bryant Chair

***The Foyer Foundation's journey and vision to grow the number of Youth Foyers for young people in Australia has been a focus for nearly a decade.***

In the last year we have made significant progress towards bringing this vision to life – by setting up what we need to be successful in any community in Australia where young people need us to be.

Growing Foyers is first and foremost about growing our impact for young people – so that as Foyers multiply we can see more young people creating their future.

In 2021, Foyer Foundation was emboldened by strong support from the Paul Ramsay Foundation.

This level of financial support makes Foyers forever stronger and along with the contributions made by Foyer 5000 – our family of supporters – the Foundation has set the scene for long term growth and sustainability with an ambition to grow to 50 Youth Foyers by 2030 – a shared vision we will drive with young people, Foyer communities and further investment from all levels of government and other partners.

A unified vision for Youth Foyers, where young people can be supported anywhere in Australia means we can celebrate the fact that we are growing the number of private sector funding partners. This type of financial support makes up 90% of our income. We are particularly proud in the year to June 2022 of the corporate partnership with Australian Finance Group, which I am pleased to report was extended in May this year for a further three years.

Growth of course is not our only focus. Working with community service organisations and Foyer operators, we have continued to build on our work in setting and improving standards that all accredited Australian Foyers work to.

With the Foyer network of community service organisations and providers, we have the knowledge, evidence and experience to grow at the right pace, with everything we do held against high standards and involving strong ownership from the young people we exist to support.

We are in spirit a learning organisation that sets out to support continuous learning with the Foyer movement.

“

*Growing our funding base to grow Foyers can only happen if we are true to the Foyer approach that sees young people at the heart of everything we do.*



# Liz Cameron-Smith CEO

*Every young person should have the opportunity to live life to their full potential and shape their own future.*

Many people we work with describe experiences that narrow young people's choices, undermine their sense of confidence and hope, and leave them feeling powerless.

By embracing a young person's sense of agency and power, providing a home and the supports needed to achieve learning and work goals, Foyers enable young people to take charge of their futures. Each young person learns how to navigate the complex web of support services, schools, TAFEs, universities and employment with confidence within two years. While a young person's stay in a Foyer is finite, it creates outcomes that last for the rest of their lives.

None of this would be possible without the hard work of every single case worker, manager and leader that practice Advantaged Thinking in Foyers across Australia, partnering with young people to unlock each person's potential in life. Without your dedication, optimism and depth of experience, the Foyer movement in Australia would not have the credibility and outcomes it is known for globally. Your work is changing the lives of over 500 young people each year, rewiring communities to create a sense of belonging for young people and see them for their talents and potential.

And yet, with over 44,000 young people continuing to present to specialist homelessness services alone each year,

I know we still have much more work ahead of us.

Our bold ambition to grow the Foyer movement to 50 Youth Foyers by 2030 is an important marker of our shared commitment to the road ahead.

Young people, service providers, housing providers, philanthropists, impact investors and corporate partners are pooling their efforts, resources and data to expand the reach of Youth Foyers in Australia - so that more young people experiencing homelessness can shape their pathway to independence. The role of the Foyer Foundation is to join up this diverse network to catalyse growth of the Foyer movement in Australia.

When I joined the team in July 2022, I joined a national movement that has endured for over ten years and has now entered a catalytic chapter in its history. I have enormous respect for the work of the Foyer network to date, my predecessors, our Board, our partners and our small but mighty core team that drives this collective effort. Our Chair Keith Bryant has provided steady stewardship, leadership and continuity for over a decade.

We have so many of the right conditions in place for us to realise our bold ambition of 50 Foyers by 2030.



*As we grow, four key ingredients bind our network together:*



## Impact

We value the outcomes delivered by Youth Foyers across Australia and are building a national evidence base.



## Integrity

Quality standards and a robust accreditation process mean that the Youth Foyer approach can be trusted to deliver outcomes.



## Innovation

Recognising the need to adapt in response to the unique and evolving needs of young people and communities.



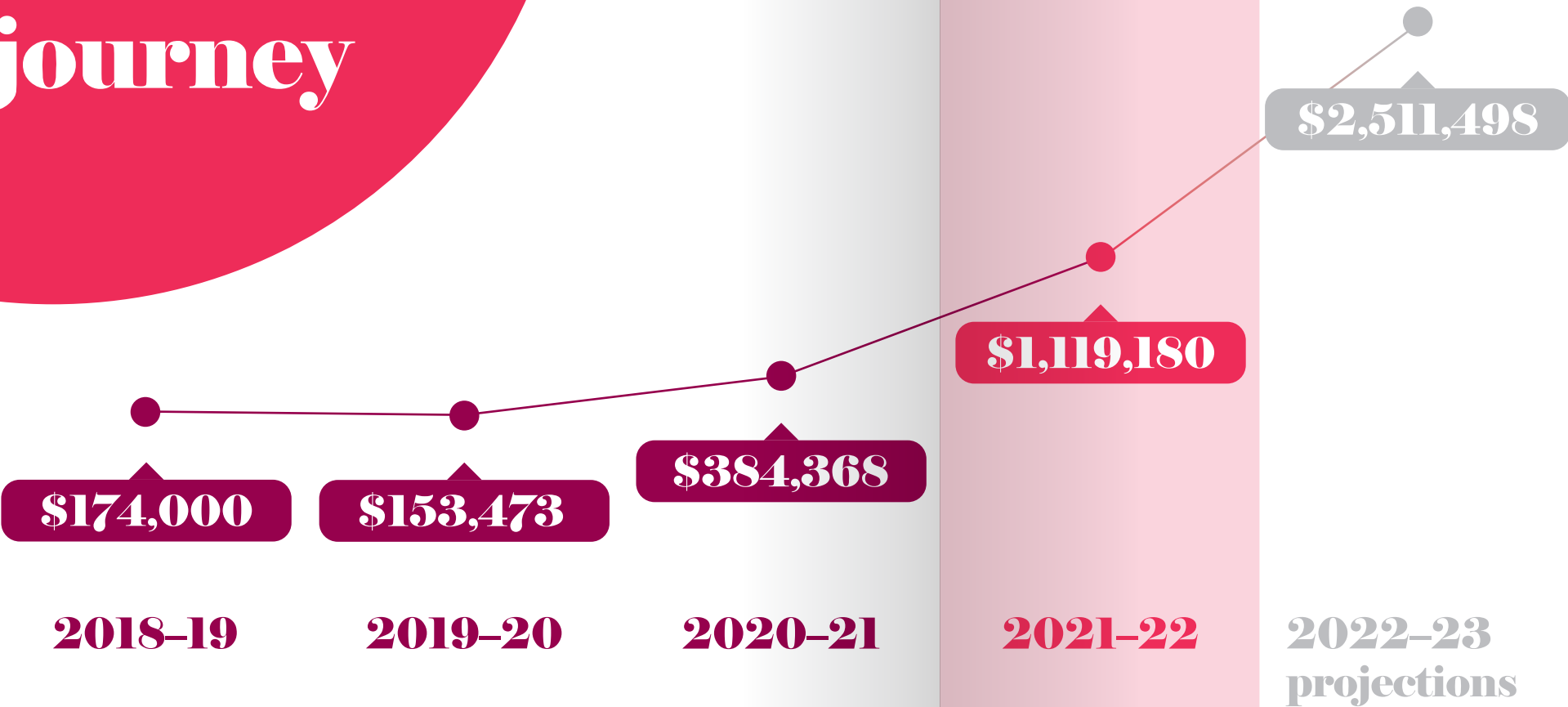
## New investment models

Bringing together public and private capital for greater impact.



# Our journey

Foyer  
Foundation  
revenue and  
other income



Key facts

10th year anniversary of formation of Foyer Foundation in Australia

KPMG longitudinal study of Education First Youth Foyers commences

Redevelopment of accreditation framework

Chloe Shorten becomes Foyer Ambassador

COVID impacted on the national network

First corporate partnership signed with AFG

Foyer Foundation transitions to stand alone entity

Employment of 10 Youth Ambassadors

Paul Ramsay Foundation provides significant funding for 3 years

AFG partnership extended for additional 3 years

Launch of *Under One Roof*

Co-design of national strategy with young people and broader Foyer network

Corporate partnership with ANZ

Social and economic national impact analysis with Accenture

Recruitment of first COO to support growth

Foyers  
accredited

3

6

6

9

11

Foyers in  
accreditation

3

0

3

2

9

20  
By the end of 2023, we will have 20 accredited Foyers





# Our bold ambition



Learn about our  
*Under one Roof*  
campaign here

***Our bold ambition is to grow to 50 Youth Foyers by 2030. Under One Roof is our national campaign to make it happen.***

Growing the number of Youth Foyers in Australia will enable more young people who have experiences of crisis and homelessness to take charge of their futures, embrace their potential and flourish.

We have everything it takes to grow the Foyer movement in Australia, including a strong track record and a network of people across organisations and sectors who are committed to our common purpose.

*Under One Roof* enables us to join up our efforts and collaborate through:

- A community campaign to raise awareness and invite people to be part of our bold ambition for growth

- A powerful and growing national evidence base
- A new social and economic story of impact
- The collective knowledge, skills and experience across the Foyer Network
- A commitment to continuous learning and innovation.

Collectively we will advocate, co-design, and bring new evidence of the impact of Youth Foyers to life. We aim to raise awareness of the Youth Foyer approach and provide a platform to share the lived experience of young people who are advocating to build more Youth Foyers in their communities and across Australia.



# The Foyer landscape in 2022

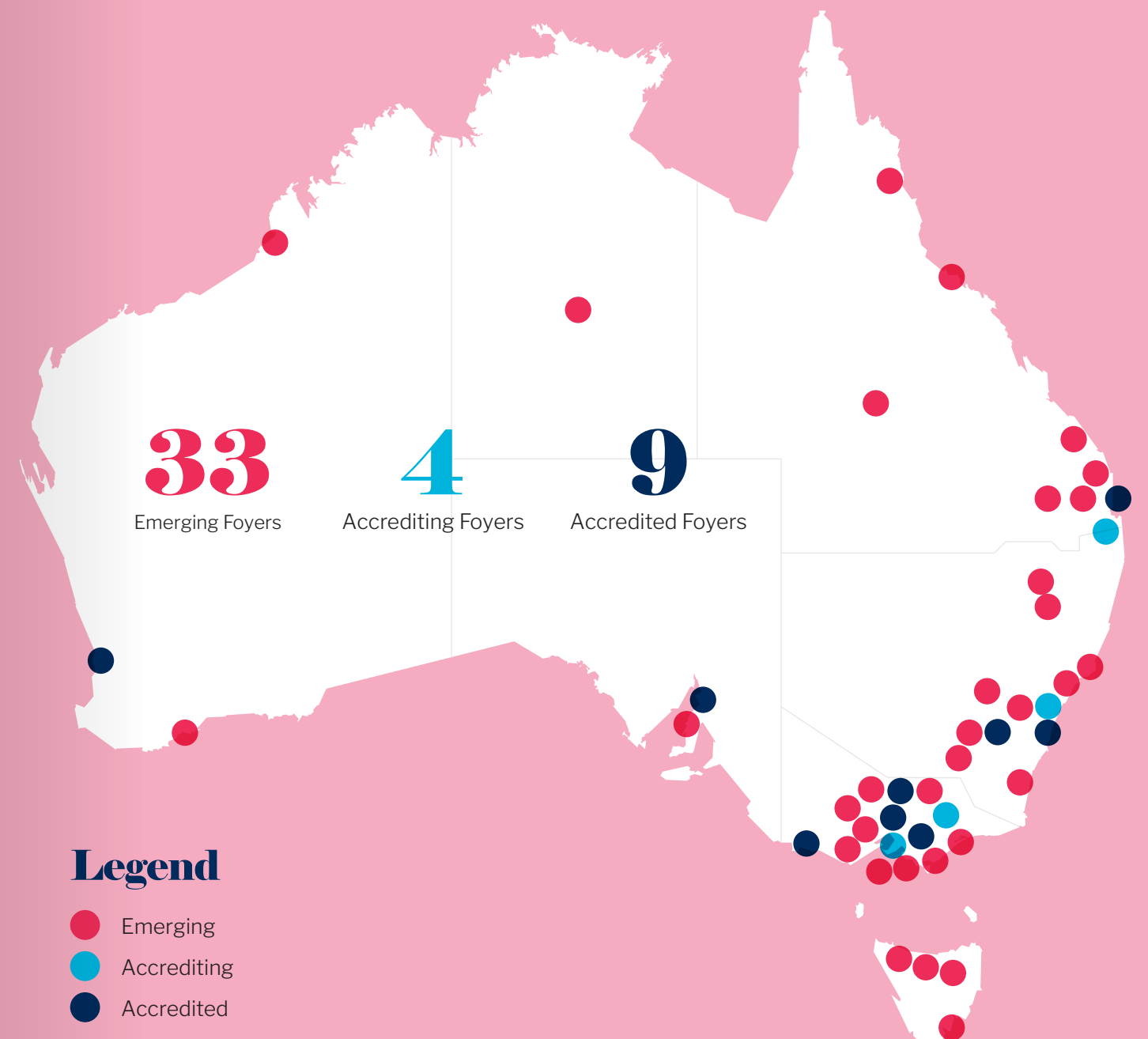
*There are 13 established Youth Foyers across Australia, with another 33 communities working hard to establish a Youth Foyer right now.*

We uphold high standards of integrity in the Youth Foyer approach through our Foyer accreditation process, which assesses many aspects of a service from the physical environment through to the team, culture, practice and policies. This process ensures all Youth Foyers embed an Advantaged Thinking philosophy and practice, promoting people's strengths rather than defining them by their deficits. Australia's 13 established Youth Foyers include 9 that have been accredited and 4 in the final stages of accreditation.

The 33 communities seeking to establish a new Youth Foyer recognise and value the Foyer approach as an evidence-based, integrated solution for young people in their local area. Moving from local appetite for a Foyer through to the implementation of a high quality, accredited Foyer does not happen overnight. All communities will take a different path to get there based on their local context and resources.

In partnership with the Brotherhood of St Laurence, we identified five common stages in the development journey to better understand the emerging Foyer landscape and provide more targeted supports to communities throughout this journey.

Supporting communities to build investment readiness and accelerate their Foyer development journey will enable thousands more young people at risk across Australia to reach their potential.



## Emerging Youth Foyers



### Community scoping

Communities are interested in establishing a Foyer. They are investigating the approach, building a business case, seeking investment.



### Developing

A community has funding approval and is now in the process of developing/ converting the service model and building.



### Embedding

Doors to the emerging Foyer are open! The service is actively using the Advantaged Thinking model, collecting data, and working towards the Foyer accreditation journey in 12–18 months time.

## Established Youth Foyers



### Accrediting

After at least 12 months of operation, the Foyer is ready and committed to the 13 month accreditation process. This is a phase of active learning, reflection and continuous improvement.



### Accredited

An accredited Foyer is trusted to deliver high-quality outcomes for young people through a robust approach.



### Re-accreditation every 4 years

Foyers apply for re-accreditation every four years after their initial accreditation was confirmed and have up to 12 months to complete the process.



# The Youth Foyer Network

*Young people, communities, service providers, community housing providers, governments, philanthropists, private investors and corporate partners. These are some of the different players involved in establishing and sustaining Youth Foyers at the local, state and national levels.*

*Every part of this network has an important role to play so that more young people experiencing crisis can transition to independent, thriving futures.*



Thanks to our service delivery partners that operate Foyers across Australia

Anchor  
Anglicare  
Barnados  
Berry Street  
Brophy Family and Youth Services  
Gold Coast Youth Service  
Launch Housing  
Melbourne City Mission  
Southern Youth and Family Services  
St John's Youth Service  
Uniting  
Wesley Mission QLD

Special thanks to the **Brotherhood of St. Laurence**



Brotherhood of St. Laurence



**53**  
units

## Foyer Central **NSW**

“

*Foyer has assisted me to find a better job by learning new skills through workshops and focusing on my dreams and goals with my youth development coach.”*

— Tyrrah



Foyer Central opened 2021



64 young people supported since opening



65% of students have completed the internal TAFE life skills course



A Psychological intervention program has been implemented to support mental wellbeing





98  
units



40  
units

# Foyer Oxford

# Education First Youth Foyer Shepparton



Foyer Oxford  
opened 2014



75 young parents  
supported since  
opening



714 young people  
supported since  
opening



93% of residents are  
either in study  
or education at any  
one time



Foyer Shepparton  
opened 2006



Seven young people  
have purchased  
a house in the last  
six years



260 young people  
supported since  
opening



75% of residents  
are aged 16-19

“

*Foyer has helped me to  
set career goals and has  
helped me get closer to  
getting my license so I  
can be independent.”*

— Nexus



20% of residents  
are Culturally and  
Linguistically Diverse

“

*Foyer has helped me re-build my confidence within  
myself and my decision making and provided  
me with the life skills and knowledge in being  
independent and I seriously couldn't of gotten this  
far without the Foyer.”*

— Chrystal







26  
units



16  
units

# Foyer Our Place **ACT**

# Foyer Warrnambool **VIC**



“Foyer Our Place was a turning point to change my life in an upwards direction. I now see myself growing and having a positive impact on the community.”

— Nick



Foyer Our Place opened 2011



219 young people supported since opening



10% of residents identify as ATSI



Each year, ACT Housing provides paid internships to support four Foyer residents



*The Foyer helped me by creating a safe and stable environment to raise my child. I was given support with opportunities to study and future pathways into employment that I would not have thought possible.”*

— Brianna



Foyer Warrnambool opened 2013



127 young people supported since opening



Creation of a new Advantaged Thinking program to replace unit inspections called, ‘Housing & Living Skills Check Ins’ supporting independent living



48% of young people who resided at the Foyer in 21–22 FY identified as part of the LGBTIQ+ community





23  
units



40  
units

## Foyer Port Adelaide SA

“

*Foyer was a stepping stone between the darkest part of my life and the beginning of a bright new chapter.”*

— David



Foyer Port Adelaide opened 2011



234 young people supported since opening



90% of young people were in education, training, or employment at exit, including 17% who had recently graduated from Year 12

## Logan Youth Foyer QLD



Logan Youth Foyer opened 2009



24% are of ATSI background



260 young people supported since opening



74% are aged 17–19yrs old

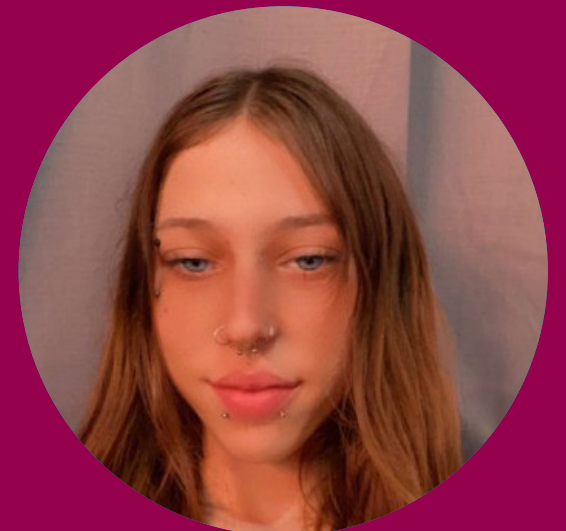


Regular weekend cooking sessions are building independent living skills with really positive impact for young people

“

*Living at Foyer has given me a sense of safety, independence and life skills for my journey I would not have had otherwise.”*

— Jess







40  
units

## Foyer Gold Coast **QLD**



Foyer Gold Coast opened 2021



46 young people supported since opening



83% of Foyer Residents have achieved half or more of their goals



Gold Coast Foyer piloted a six month mentor program with a diverse range of 10 mentors including State MPs, local business owners and CEO's



*Living at the Foyer has given me the security and confidence to find out what I was good at and to take the opportunities offered."*

— Abi



40  
units

## Education First Youth Foyer Broadmeadows **VIC**



Foyer Broadmeadows opened 2014



255 young people supported since opening



Large culturally diverse demographic, with over 40% of students born overseas and close to half the students speaking another language



100% of our students transitioned into private rental arrangements after completing the program with over 80% engaged in employment activities



*Whilst living in Foyer, I have gained independence, personal growth and have been supported to be creative in a safe space."*

— Amira





40  
units



60  
units

# Education First Youth Foyer Glen Waverley **VIC**

# Southern Youth Foyer **NSW**



Foyer Glen Waverley opened 2013



194 young people supported since opening



Almost 10% of young people supported identified as either Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; and almost 30% were born overseas



*I came into Foyer with an A4 size sheet of paper full of goals and I can see I will have achieved all of them when I have transitioned out of Foyer."*

— Sakshi



Southern Youth Foyer opened 2003



442 young people supported since opening



100% of residents gained/improved living and social skills



697 referrals for 2021–2022 with 18 being the average age of referral



*As a proud Aboriginal man of the Yuin nation, Southern Foyer motivated and encouraged me to become more confident in myself. I am often given the opportunity to open events with my rendition of Acknowledgement of Country. I am really grateful for Foyers and all the opportunities its given me."*

— Lincoln



# Growing our impact



*80% of residents exit Foyer  
into stable housing, with 72%  
of young people exiting into  
private housing.*

Accenture 2022

*The Foyer Foundation led the formation of FoyerInvest to accelerate the growth and impact of Youth Foyers, bringing together committed service providers with others across the network.*

This Consortium aims to support the Foyer network by securing ongoing funding needed to drive the expansion of the Foyer approach, unlocking private investment and combining it with funding from Federal, State and Territory Governments.

Co-convenors Keith Bryant and Jan Owen AM launched FoyerInvest in late 2021. Since then, our FoyerInvest partners have shaped the national ambition for 50 Youth Foyers by 2030, channelling the efforts of each organisation towards three shared priorities:

- Strengthening the evidence base through a national outcomes measurement approach

- Developing new investment models through impact investment
- Aligning the way we communicate and advocate for change.

These three workstreams are brought together through our national campaign, *Under One Roof*, creating a compelling case for growth. A sequence of advocacy materials is in development that will include a national evidence base led by the Brotherhood of St Laurence; analysis of the social and economic return on investment of Youth Foyers led by Accenture; and a viable model for impact investment led by For Purpose Investment Partners.

## FoyerInvest

Our FoyerInvest partners have contributed significant time and resources to this collective effort. We celebrate their commitment to collaboration, learning and innovation in pursuit of better life outcomes for young people across Australia. The momentum for expanding the Youth Foyer movement in Australia is now well under way, and we welcome more organisations across Australia to join in.

**MISSION  
AUSTRALIA**

**paulramsay  
FOUNDATION**

**st john's  
youth  
services**

**Launch  
HOUSING**

**AnglicareWA**

**Brotherhood  
of St Laurence**

**FOR PURPOSE  
INVESTMENT PARTNERS**

**Uniting**

**ANGLICARESA**

**foyerfoundation**





# Beyond Foyer

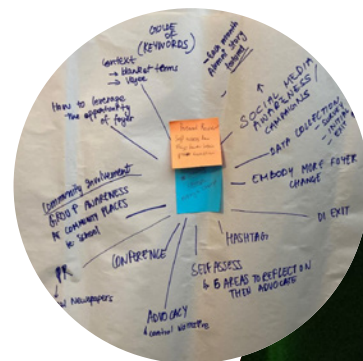
*Foyer residents remain a valued and loved part of the Foyer community after transitioning to independence, often saying that living in a Foyer provided them with a sense of belonging and connection.*

After graduation, some residents stay in touch with their youth worker and local Foyer, but yearn for opportunities to maintain this sense of connection with peers and the broader Foyer network as they navigate independent life.

In 2022, we began scoping and piloting a Foyer alumni program that could respond to this gap: *The Beyond Foyer Project*. This project is designed to provide a way for alumni to maintain connection with a national network of peers post-Foyer, create leadership development opportunities, and offer work placement and employment experiences. Foyer alumni would have opportunities to play a central role in shaping the ongoing development and strategy of the Foyer Network – even after leaving their Foyer.

We are piloting this project in Victoria, with ambitions for a national alumni network. We are exploring possibilities to harness the insights and knowledge of the alumni network to better understand the evolving needs of young people as they move through the Foyer program and track life outcomes over time.

With the appointment of a project manager and four youth consultants, key highlights in 2022 include a co-design day with Foyer alumni and co-hosting and presenting at the National Foyer Conference.



“

*I say this day in, day out that if it was not for the Foyer I would not be here today. Four safe walls around me to call home, and an amazing team of staff to refer to as family. A forever sense of connection and independency skills I will carry with me through the rest of time.”*

— Brea



## Foyer Foundation alumni program



Transitional support



Community connectedness



Employment opportunities



## Alumni Mission

Long-term support and transitional network for students post-Foyer

Stay connected to Foyer and community

Memories, events, engagement

Build future networks

Remembrance

Safety net



# Our Supporters



*Our work is only possible with the generous support of our corporate partners, philanthropic funders, foundation friends, and individual supporters. Thank-you for contributing to our impact.*

## Philanthropic Partners

- Paul Ramsay Foundation
- Australian Finance Group
- Grant Family Philanthropy
- Jim & Fiona McKnight of the McKnight Family charity at the APS Foundation

- Houlihan Lokey
- Street Smart Australia
- Baly Douglass Foundation
- Thyne Reid

## Foyer 5000

- Keith Bryant
- Peter Crossing
- Mark Ashton

- Peter Kingston
- Anthony Sweetman

# Paul Ramsay Foundation Partnership

*Our partnership with the Paul Ramsay Foundation (PRF) has spurred a new phase of maturity and growth for the Foyer movement in Australia.*

PRF’s commitment to breaking cycles of disadvantage has led to their investment in Youth Foyers as an evidence-based solution with potential to scale. Contributing \$4 million over three years, PRF’s grant supports the ongoing evolution of the Foyer Foundation and the establishment of the FoyerInvest Consortium as a catalyst for growth.

Core to our partnership with PRF is the development of a national outcomes framework that will provide a rigorous evidence base now and into the future. PRF’s contributions will also support a robust impact investment mechanism and engagement with policymakers at state and federal levels.

We value the opportunity to partner with a philanthropic organisation that is deeply committed to improving long-term outcomes for young people and understands how complex the service landscape is for a young person experiencing homelessness or crisis.



“*Breaking cycles of disadvantage for young people requires collaboration across communities, services, governments, investors and more. As philanthropists, we are interested in the role the Foyer Foundation can play to convene this network, scale a solution that works, and create pathways to independence for more 16–24 year-olds experiencing homelessness and crisis.*”

— Yasmin Narielvala, Head of Partnerships, PRF





**Partnership  
extended for  
additional  
3 years**



“

*After seeing how impactful the Foyer Foundation’s work has been over the last year, we have extended our support. It is so important to have a place to call home. Access to stable and secure housing via Foyer’s integrated learning and accommodation can put young Australians, at risk of disadvantage, on track for a brighter future, and we are proud to be part of that journey.”*

— David Bailey, CEO, AFG

**AFG**

## Australian Finance Group

*In early 2022 The Foyer Foundation was delighted to extend the partnership with Australian Finance Group Ltd (AFG) for a further three years.*

AFG, one of Australia’s largest networks of mortgage brokers, will provide \$600,000 to the Foyer Foundation from 2022–2024, building on the \$200,000 provided when they became principal partner in 2021.

The sponsorship focuses on three key pillars of support – strategic growth, Foyer learning and development, and the AFG Independence Fund.

AFG CEO David Bailey said the new funding aims to give the Foyer Foundation the added certainty and security it needed when planning into the future.



Over 140 young people supported by Independence fund to date

## Grant Family Philanthropy

*The Foyer Foundation has a deep relationship with Grant Family Philanthropy (GFP) that spans five years and multiple donations, beginning with a \$25,000 contribution that enabled the Foundation to appoint our first Executive Director in 2017.*

GFP’s founder John Grant strongly believes in the Foyer approach to backing young people and his visit to the Shepparton Foyer in 2019 was instrumental to his decision to provide ongoing support.

From 2019, GFP offered to contribute \$100,000 per annum for three years if the Foundation could leverage a matching contribution from another philanthropist. This incentive sparked additional donor relationships and enabled the Foundation to reach new working capital targets.

GFP’s contributions have enabled the Foyer Foundation to build our core capabilities and deliver a national Foyer conference in Perth in 2018. Most recently, GFP’s generous donations enabled The Foyer Foundation to undertake the first Australian analysis of the social and economic return on investment in Youth Foyers. This evidence base provides critical building block for our case for growth and investment in Youth Foyers and will have ripple effects for years to come.



“

*I have an interest in the health and wellbeing of communities and in providing young people with ways out of homelessness – Youth Foyers enable young people to be in the drivers seat.”*

— John Grant AM





# Treasurers report and financials

## Treasurer

### Peter Kingston



*The Foyer Foundation continued to operate on a sound financial footing during the FY 2022 with appropriate and prudent controls in place. The Foundation receives no government funding. Total revenue for the year was \$1.1m, total comprehensive income was \$0.23m and total equity was \$0.46m.*

The last financial year challenged us all within the Foyer Foundation – the impact of COVID-19, the corresponding deferral of our national Youth Foyer conference, and changes in the executive team – however, our focus on supporting existing Youth Foyers and our work towards 50 accredited Youth Foyers by 2030 remained unchanged.

The past financial year saw us continue to invest in people as a priority. Our overall financial situation was enhanced by the Paul Ramsay Foundation investment, the support of AFG and the AFG Independence Fund that provided microgrants to over 140 young people in 2022. The generosity of philanthropists and the Foyer 5000 donors were central in all our efforts.

2023 promises to be another strong year with the same focus on disrupting the cycle of disadvantage by emphasising the inherent talents within each and every person in the Foyer network.



Click here to read  
our audited financial  
accounts by McBain,  
McCartin and Co.

## Financial Reports

### Statement of Financial Performance

	30 June 2022	30 June 2021	30 June 2020	30 June 2019	30 June 2018
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue and Other Income from operating activities	1,119,180	384,638	153,473	174,000	175,000
Expenses to operating activities	887,271	305,465	199,470	111,000	49,000
<b>Operating Result</b>	<b>231,909</b>	<b>79,173</b>	<b>(45,997)</b>	<b>63,000</b>	<b>126,000</b>

### Summary Statement of Financial Position

	30 June 2022	30 June 2021	30 June 2020	30 June 2019	30 June 2018
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Assets	1,378,573	574,378	155,426	198,000	135,000
Total Liabilities	915,489	343,203	3,423	0	0
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>463,084</b>	<b>231,175</b>	<b>152,003</b>	<b>198,000</b>	<b>135,000</b>
<b>Net Equity</b>	<b>463,084</b>	<b>231,175</b>	<b>152,003</b>	<b>198,000</b>	<b>135,000</b>
	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)

(1) Taken from audited annual financial statements

(2) Taken from results uploaded to ACNC



# Our Board

## Keith Bryant



Keith is Chair of the Foyer Foundation, Chair and CEO of the Open Dialogue Centre, (an organisation that supports the adoption of Open Dialogue across mental-health and community services) and Chair of the Constellation Project, a partnership between PwC, the Centre for Social Impact, Mission Australia and The Australian Red Cross, with the goal of 'ending homelessness in a generation'.

Former roles include Chair of the Board of Wentworth Community Housing; CEO of the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons, managing a team that trains and supports the 500 RACS-accredited Australian-based Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons; a senior Executive at The Benevolent Society as Chief Operating Officer, and General Manager Social Initiatives; a partner at Bain & Co and a Director at Deutsche Bank Australia between 1989 and 1999, where he led investment banking teams in London, Milan, Singapore, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Melbourne and Sydney.

Keith has Bachelor degrees in Laws and Economics from the University of Sydney and a Masters of Business Administration from Macquarie Graduate School of Management.

[LinkedIn](#) ►

## Michelle Hoad



Michelle Hoad is the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of North Metropolitan TAFE, the largest government training provider in Western Australia. She has been in the role since April 2016. Prior to this appointment Michelle was the Chief Executive Officer of West Coast Institute of Training 2013–2016. Over the last 20 years Michelle has held a number of senior roles in vocational education and training. She has worked with diverse clients in regional and metropolitan Western Australia, collaborating across government and the private sector to maximise training opportunities and outcomes. With a Masters in organisational psychology, Michelle is passionate about the role of training in strengthening business capability, and supporting people to achieve their potential. Michelle joined the Foyer Foundation board in 2018.

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## Bevan Warner



Bevan Warner is the Chief Executive Officer of Launch Housing – one of Victoria's largest providers of housing and homeless support services, reaching over 15,000 Victorians each year and the operator of two Education First Youth Foyers. As a former Managing Director of Victoria Legal Aid, Bevan arranged legal advice and advocacy services for over 90,000 Victorians each year. Central to each role has been a concern for equity and respect for the lived experience of people in crisis or who face adversity. Bevan's roles have focused on placing clients at the forefront of service design while leading a workforce challenged by interactions with multiple and often unfair service systems. He joined the Board in 2019.

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## Peter Kingston



Peter Kingston worked as an investment banker for more than 30 years in Melbourne, Sydney and Hong Kong. But it was his early love of running that blossomed again that allowed him to combine racing in harsh conditions with fundraising for social causes. Three trips to the Sahara desert, a race across the Kimberleys in NW Australia and races across Arizona & Utah, across Hawaii and through parts of New Zealand and elsewhere allowed him to raise money and support causes for Oxfam and the Benevolent Society. He is a strong believer that placing a small dent in a cycle where people experience disadvantage can lead to lifelong change for people, their families and communities. Peter joined the board of the Foyer Foundation in October 2017.

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## Melissa Wilton



Melissa Wilton is the current Head of Communications and Engagement for the Butterfly Foundation, a national organisation which raises awareness about eating disorders and negative body image and provides support to people and families. Melissa has more than 20 years' experience in communications, marketing, branding, fundraising and membership, in a broad range of industries around the world. Over the last ten years she has focused on the not for profit sector, including disability, health, housing, and mental health. She works with Boards to develop strategies to effectively support the vision and strategic direction of the organisation. This includes creating and growing revenue streams; delivering effective awareness and advocacy campaigns; and achieving marketing objectives. Melissa joined the Foyer Foundation Board in April 2019.

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## Rhys Edwards



Rhys Edwards is a consultant and board director working with governments, universities, social enterprise and the private sector to create new models for change and growth.

Rhys had a career in government including six years as Secretary of the Department of Premier and Cabinet in Tasmania. He is an honorary senior research fellow at the LH Martin Institute at The University of Melbourne and Chair of UTAS InVent (an early-stage commercialisation company) and a Director of the Blue Economy CRC (offshore renewable energy and food production focus).

Rhys is a Rhodes Scholar, a Fellow of the AICD, a Salzburg Global Fellow and a member of the Economics Society of Australia.

Rhys became board member in September 2020.

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## Jenny Samms

*Retired*

Jenny Samms was a Director of the Foyer Foundation between 2018 and 2022. She is a member of Monash University Council, a Director to the Council to Homeless Persons and consults to government and organisations. She brings a strong understanding of public policy with expertise in social housing, Aboriginal affairs and Aboriginal housing and homelessness and was previously the CEO of Aboriginal Housing Victoria.

Jenny's professional career spans the Commonwealth and Victorian public services including Departments of Education, Labour, Aboriginal Affairs, Premier and Cabinet and Planning and Community Development. She has held senior executive positions at Deputy Secretary and Executive Director level, focusing on improved social, educational and employment opportunities for Victorians.

She holds a Bachelor of Economics from Monash University and is a Fellow of the Institute of Public Affairs and Administration.





# Thank you

**Our Ambassador**

**Chloe Shorten**

*An enormous thank you to  
Chloe Shorten for her passion  
and commitment to the Foyer  
Foundation and our young people.*



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