



SouthPort  
Community  
Centre Inc.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018 - 2019



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# ORGANISATIONAL REPORTS

## Our Vision

We are at the heart of an active, vibrant, engaged community.

## Our Purpose

We connect with our community, particularly those experiencing disadvantage, by providing a welcoming and inclusive environment.

We develop and provide learning, social and recreational opportunities that are affordable and inclusive.

We advocate for community needs and change as we become aware of them.

## Chairperson's Report - Ariane Vrisakis

Transforming lives, helping people to find their voice, feeling connected to a community, creating art ...all part of what SouthPort Community Centre offers the community.

This has been a transformative year for the Centre. At last year's Annual General Meeting, a proposal to change our name to SouthPort Community Centre was approved by members. This change of name is in recognition of the broader community which we serve. This extends beyond Port Melbourne to South Melbourne. This has been a year of consolidation as we deliver against our 3 year strategic plan but also a year of expansion.

We were delighted to receive additional funding to expand our Waterfront Welcomers program and to continue Make Your Mark. We have also announced a new social enterprise initiative, "Made in Port Phillip" which is a partnership between SouthPort Community Centre and Elwood and St Kilda Neighbourhood Learning Centre and will provide sales training for disadvantaged learners to sell products that are made in Port Phillip or which feature images of Port Phillip.

We consider ourselves very fortunate to have so many talented people who work and volunteer at SouthPort Community Centre Thank you to all our wonderful team members and volunteers as well as our Board of management, all of whom volunteer their time. The Board had a number of changes over the year. Tristan Russell, Caroline Fitzgerald and Odette Angliss resigned due to personal circumstances and I thank them for their valuable contributions to the Board – Caroline in particular was a longstanding member. We welcomed Daniel Ferguson. We are fortunate to have a diverse Board who bring a wide range of skills.

I would like to make a special thank you to Kate Kelly for her ongoing excellent work and dedication to SPCC. Kate's advocacy and commitment to SPCC are fundamental to helping SPCC achieve our goals and to establishing new and exciting programs such as Made in Port Phillip. Thank you to our funders, especially our major backers the City of Port Phillip, DHHS and ACFE, and South Port Uniting Church Parish Mission. We very much appreciate their ongoing commitment, support and recognition.

## Manager's Report - Kate Kelly

SPCC brings people together to connect, build skills, and contribute in their community by using a variety of innovative training and community development approaches.

One approach is to help participants develop the capacity and skills they need to become active community leaders. Through an outstanding range of programs like Speaking Out and ARCS Customer Service we teach people leadership, community organising, advocacy, and project management skills, which they use to play active roles in community building. Another strategy uses place-making projects such as Waterfront Welcomers, Make your Mark, City of Voices, and Vossanova Choir to celebrate local history and culture and bring energy, creativity and vibrancy into community spaces. A third way is by developing programs such as Get Out Of Town, Monday Drop In, Voices, or Reading & Writing that reduce isolation, building resilience and skills in vulnerable and isolated communities.

Many thanks to our many project partners; including South Port Uniting Church, Elwood St Kilda Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Social Health Inclusion Port, Port Melbourne Business Association, Country Womens Association, and Rotary for working with us to make a stronger, more resilient and inclusive community.

My sincere thanks to the leadership, dedication and innovation shown by the SPCC Board, staff, and volunteers. Our people are ambassadors that embody respect, inclusion, and quality community development practice, making SPCC an inspiring place to work.

# EDUCATION AND TRAINING

## ARCS

SPCC continues to facilitate the successful Applied Reception and Customer Service (ARCS) program for those who are long term unemployed or facing barriers to volunteering, further study and/or paid work. Four x 21 week courses per year run across Port Melbourne and Elwood St Kilda sites with an average of 40 students enrolling each year. Students enjoy this unique, holistic and practical program, which involves weekly classroom sessions and on the job training, developing confidence and employability skills.

"This is a wonderful, balanced and holistic program, very enjoyable and informative. The best part is the applied learning - being in charge (under supervision) to develop skills in handling different situations related to work. A real confidence boost." (Student, 2018)

Our survey of past ARCS graduates indicates that 91% transition into either employment, further study, or skilled volunteering roles.

## Digital literacy

It has been another good year for the computer training department. Computers levels 1 & and IT for Customer service computer courses were created with different skill and experience levels in mind to cater for the needs of students from a wide range of backgrounds and exposure to the digital world. Password management and online security were also key points. With a passion to learn about new technology and use it to enhance their lives, students continue to come from different backgrounds, cultures and age groups. One emphasis has been on heightening the personal skills and employability of participants, many of whom achieved very successful learning outcomes through persistence and diligence. For some who had zero previous experience, their courage and determination shone through.

## English (ESL) & Literacy

Our ESL is where students learn locally in a friendly, supportive environment. Lessons are designed to successfully build the language, communication, confidence and employability skills of students to improve wellbeing, community connections and education pathways. While our students come from many cultures they work together and embrace diversity and respect in the classroom. Each student brings to class different skills, abilities and learning needs, and our class activities are designed with these in mind and aim to encourage positive engagement with classmates, volunteer tutors and teacher. Developing functional English is an important part of our ESL course and, to that end, topics covered this term include transactions, such as shopping, asking directions and giving personal information, as well as employment, health, housing and transport.

## Make Your Mark

MYM is a Street Art Entrepreneurship program for young participants between the ages of 14 - 25 years of age. Under the expert supervision of artist /entrepreneur Dråhtfunk, and Coordinator/artist Amanda Neville young people learn how to make stencil art and then how to sell their work using both digital and non-digital platforms. This year, students worked on a large public mural project at Edwards Park, had an exhibition for Youth Week, and secured a permanent exhibition space at St. Kilda PCYC. The people of MYM were also featured in the local Port Phillip Newsletter "Diversity", Youth Achievements Edition, which generated a lot of interest from the general public. The CWA have been providing us with delicious dinners every Thursday evening.

## Speaking Out

The Speaking Out course is a core part of the much larger Voices of The South Side Project. Speaking Out teaches community leadership, public speaking and communication skills to local residents who experience disadvantage. Graduates go on to play key roles in other programs and projects within VOSS and the wider community such as contributing to policy, sitting on a variety of committees and being ambassadors. A number of Speaking Out graduates also learn community research training and are able to participate in a small research social enterprise and consultancy run by the VOSS team.



# SOCIAL INCLUSION AND ENGAGEMENT

## Voices of the South Side (VOSS)

VOSS is an exciting network of programs, courses and projects for people who experience isolation and would like to connect to their local community. It is funded by the South Port Uniting Church and offers a range of leadership, skills development and creative projects and courses that help people build their confidence, leading to increased social, volunteer and employment opportunities. Courses this year have included creative writing, woodwork in partnership with the Port Phillip Men's Shed, Art therapy, choir and a range of social events. A number of participants have showcased the creative skills they have learnt at community events boosting their confidence to undertake more public performances and projects.

## Waterfront Welcomers

Waterfront Welcomers recruits and trains older Port Phillip residents as volunteers in a visitor greeting and information service to cruise ship passengers at Station Pier. This season 312 volunteers worked 936 hours and have met 72 cruise ships, and have assisted over 15,030 passengers. The busiest day being the 21st March, when 2 ships were in with a total of some 5000 passengers, the volunteers talking to 636 of them. The Port Melbourne Business Association have organised an Electric Bus this season as an easy way of getting passengers to Bay Street, Port Melbourne. This has proven very successful with getting over 4,000 passengers to Bay St. The Port Melbourne Bakery provide us with Lamington Cards to hand out to passengers and volunteers have handed out over 1450 Lamington cards to encourage visitors to Bay Street.

## Get Out Of Town

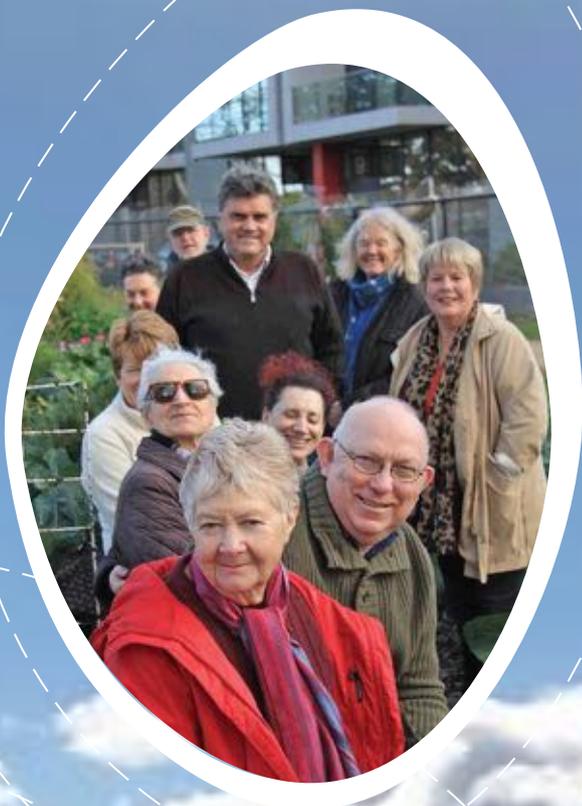
GOOT gives low income, socially isolated families from Port Phillip the opportunity to participate in exciting activities over the school holiday periods, without financial stress. This COPP funded program strengthens families, giving them the opportunity to spend time together as well as helping to form lasting friendships and community connections. This year our program has included excursions to Melbourne Museum, Bowling, Fly and Skate, Melbourne Zoo, the Aquarium, Don Bosco's Youth Centre and Movie outings. In 2018-2019, we delivered 12 activities over the 4 holiday periods involving 600+ participants.

## Recreation Access programs

Developing community and social connectedness is a vital component of our work. SPCC provides Monday Drop In and Women's Activity Group for local residents who experience mental health issues, disabilities, and social isolation. These groups provide a happy and safe place where people can enjoy a meal and activity whilst learning life skills and developing friendships. These programs also encourage participants' active participation in society and promote understanding and positive attitudes towards people of all abilities. This year we developed new engagement, wellbeing, education, and pathways strategies to further help isolated participants connect with other programs at SPCC and in the wider community. We thank COPP and South Melbourne Community Chest for their support.

## The Ambassadors Program

The focus is on connecting isolated groups into programs that will promote wellbeing and skills, and to build the leadership and engagement abilities of the ambassadors. This program has supported participants to take on an outreach community engagement role to connect with isolated groups and community members and facilitate pathways into SPCC programs. The Ambassadors have also been involved in engagement and training of workers and peers at other organisations. The model has been developed to provide ongoing support, debriefing, personal growth and to develop strong networks amongst local organisations.



# CREATIVITY AND WELLBEING

## City of Voices

City of Voices (COV) is an inclusive theatre company founded in 1992. We give all people, regardless of age, ability or income, an opportunity to engage in the creative arts. COV is an exercise in social empowerment - through theatre, members, many of whom live with disabilities, develop confidence and skills to gain employment and live independent lives. In 2018-19 COV performed a major new work, Carnival of Shadows. With funding from COPP Cultural Development Fund, Palais Theatre Community Fund and South Melbourne Community Chest, Carnival of Shadows was staged June 5-7th 2019 at Saint Martins Place, St Kilda. In the lead up, City of Voices performed excerpts from the Carnival of Shadows at the 2018 Port Phillip Community Ball, the 2019 St Kilda Festival, and the 2019 South Port Community Festival. 18 community members were in the cast, supported by staff and crew. The show was a huge success with two of the four shows sold out and 150 tickets sold.

## Vossanova Choir

The choir continues to grow and includes over 25 people from diverse backgrounds who meet weekly to sing together in a supportive and joyful environment. Vossanova has had a number of public appearances this year including the Southport Housing Festival, the Homeless Memorial, The South Melbourne Festival and the Seniors Festival. We also have a quintet breakaway group who practice regularly and sing at local nursing homes.

## Share and Care Entertainers

We provide affordable weekly tap dancing classes with a professional teacher. We welcome adults of all ages and backgrounds who love performing. Our group also provides community well-being by providing free public performances as entertainment and joy for those experiencing disadvantage or isolation. This year we have performed at the Community Festival, aged care, South Melbourne Ball and at CaspaCare in Seniors Week. So whilst members of our group are helping others, they are equally helping themselves. We provide companionship, exercise and fun.

## Drop In Art

Accessible art programs are identified as in the top 3 of classes desired by local residents. As this is one of only 2 accessible art classes in Port Phillip – this class plays an important role in meeting community need. Participants of all ages and abilities connect through their creativity in class. As the students learn about their arts practice, they share experiences that are informative and also enhance the experience of community. Sometimes, however people can communicate more effectively through their artwork. Students are working individually on the medium of their choice such as watercolour, pastel, acrylic or drawing.

## Yoga & Exercise programs

Participants of all ages and abilities find the classes highly rewarding. The Yoga program promotes deep, profound rest and healing and serves as a tool in the reduction of stress, physical, emotional and mental tension. In the exercise program, participants note the great benefits to their strength and balance, and overall wellbeing, which is invaluable to their daily lives. Participants are motivated and eager to challenge themselves in class, therefore building confidence, physical strength, balance, bone density and health benefits. Participants are encouraged to build social connections and have formed blossoming friendships with community members.

## DigIn Community Garden

Dig In Community Garden continues to provide pleasure to the 79 plot holders who grow various vegetables throughout the year. We now care for around 100 plots across 2 sites. Currently all plots are fully occupied and our monthly working bees including a popular pizza & BBQ lunches are well attended. Our chooks continued to happily lay eggs for the people who fed them and gave enjoyment to any visiting children. Our Bee Hive project continues to provide honey to the gardeners. We also continue to raise garden beds higher to assist those gardeners who find it difficult to garden at ground level, and are currently building a hot house to propagate seeds and plants. We organised a very successful Open day on 14 October as part of Seniors Week and now look forward to our spring vegies, and celebrating Christmas.



# PEOPLE

## SPCC Board

Ariane Vrisakis (Chair), Haresh Ratna (Deputy Chair), Odette Anglis (Secretary), Nick Capes (Treasurer), Steve Pennells, Tristan Russell (resigned), Jenny Whineray, Daniel Ferguson

## SPCC Staff

Kate Kelly - Manager, Robyn Szechtmann - Voices of the South Side, Deb McIntosh - Voices of the South Side/Inclusion Coordinator, Joanna Kozakiewicz - Events and Marketing Coordinator, Deb King - Finance Manager, Karen McKnight - ARCS Training Coordinator, Amanda Neville - Make your Mark, Brian Hanlon - Volunteer & Waterfront Welcomer Coordinator, Myf Powell - Artistic Director - City Of Voices & Vossanova, Vicky Premkumar - Made In Port Phillip, Alicia Hancock - Inclusion program worker, Geoffrey Thorsen - COV & Vossanova, Rachel Edwards - COV, Isabel Robinson - COV, Dave Turner - Make Your Mark, David Nicholas - IT Teacher, Bill Tsialtas - Community Researcher, Linda Neill - ESL & Literacy, Carla Gigliotti - Trainer/Reception, Lynette Soldatic - Trainer/Reception, Elaine Wilkinson - Trainer/Reception, Jason Curry - Casual Trainer/Reception, Helena Kallaur - Trainer/Reception, Liz Milsom - Drop In Art, Fillipa Valente, Heather Williams, Karen Manwaring - Voices of the Southside, Annie Croake, Chrissy Weetra, Maree Montebello - Exercise programs, John McEwan, Marietka McMahon - Roarhouse.

## SPCC Volunteers

Lulu Cooney, Sue Dockrell, Elizabeth Eadie, Richard Eisenbise, Barbara Fisher, Ben Galutera, Ann Grant, Rosalind Izod, Russell Griffiths, Lauren Klinkhamer, Tim Martin, Christine Griffiths, Gale Forward, Rachel McVean, Pam Montgomery, Debra O'Farrell, Sue Page, Suzie Sloan, Penny Torok, Susan Schmeja, Robyn Conti, Guilia Mastromo, Robert McAlister, Denise Stone, Liz Jecks, Rose Marie Szulc, Regina Santamaria, Michael Baker, David Bampfield, John Enoke, Liz McArthur, Kishor Dongre, Stephanie Haddow, Denise Farrugia, Christiana Akinci, Stephen Brennan, Kathy Chater, Sally Coop, Mary Wityk, Donna Taylor, Sherryn Danaher, Frank Lee, Dianne Hollis, Rochelle Bell, Tyrone Glewis, Helena Wilson, Michelle Campbell, Jason Curry, Bill Tsialtas, Jane Dee, James Hughes, Sasha Edwards, Elspeth Ferguson, Michael Hinchcliffe, Stacey Hanley, Caroline Muir, Lynette O'Grady, Henry Michaelson, Chris Ellard, Chris Farmer, Mauriya Bouradanis, Valentine Diaz, Anna Gould, Chris Wright, Megan Wright, Ross Mitchell, Russel Edwards, Semi Edwards, Jillian Edwards, Tor Bettanin, Brad Ross.

## THANK YOU

Cr Bernadene Voss, Cr Marcus Pearl, Cr Ogy Simic, Mr Martin Foley MP, Southport Uniting Church, Elwood St Kilda Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Emma Blackford, Sharyn Dawson, Laura Cattapan, Alicia Hooper, Cathy Horsley, Denise Tsoukalas, Jacek Przybylski, Danni McCaffrey, Phil Brandon, David Leeuwenburg, Rotary Port Melbourne, Marjetka McMahon, Kosdown Printing, Neighbourhood Houses Victoria, Community House Network Southern, Star Health, Port Phillip Community Group, Southport Daylinks, Port Melbourne Historical Society, SHIP, Mini Maestros, Pat Grosse, The Alex Theatre, Judith Jackson, National Protective Services, Friends of Westgate Park, Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation, Port Melbourne Business Association, CWA Port Melbourne.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Income statement for year ended 30 June 2019

A full set of audited financial statements is available at  
[www.southportcc.org.au/documents](http://www.southportcc.org.au/documents)

	2019	2018
<b>Income</b>		
Membership	\$ 580	\$ 578
Fees	\$ 35,305	\$ 25,480
Centre Class Funding	\$ 18,537	\$ 7,940
Admin Fee Recovered	\$ 60,426	\$ 43,7567
Room Hire	\$ 6,394	\$ 9,380
Grants - ACFE Award	\$ 128,402	
Grants - DHS	\$ 110,988	\$ 105,685
Grants - ACFE		\$ 106,912
Grants - City of Port Phillip	\$ 177,001	\$ 154,837
Grants - Balances brought fwd	\$ 205,619	\$ 189,517
Grants - Department Social Services	\$ 7,980	
Grants - Others	\$ 159,500	\$ 203,913
Grants - Carry fwd	\$ (189,210)	\$ (205,619)
Sundry income	\$ 1,754	\$ 2,381
Donations received	\$ 353	\$ 1,600
Interest received	\$ 5,293	\$ 7,255
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$ 741,758</b>	<b>\$ 666,199</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Administration Costs	\$ 60,426	\$ 51,696
Advertising and promotion	\$ 5,114	\$ 7,710
AGM Expenses	\$ 2,931	\$ 1,088
Annual Leave	\$ 23,654	\$ 15,863
Audit fees	\$ 1,895	\$ 2,034
Bank Fees And Charges	\$ 0	\$ 0
Catering	\$ 15,966	\$ 23,916
Class Support	\$ 18,537	
Consultants fees	\$ 102,266	\$ 92,828
Equipment	\$ 8,018	\$ 20,759
Group Activity Costs	\$ 18,008	\$ 18,101
Insurance	\$ 1,048	\$ 1,624
Long service leave	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,542
Materials	\$ 5,867	\$ 7,514
Membership	\$ 3,880	\$ 3,566
Postage	\$ 424	\$ 383
Printing & stationery	\$ 5,389	\$ 3,223
Repairs & maintenance	\$ 2,491	\$ 1,975
Salaries	\$ 379,079	\$ 329,277
Sick Leave	\$ 9,356	\$ 3,564
Sundry expenses	\$ 1,155	\$ 3,325
Superannuation	\$ 40,621	\$ 34,838
Telephone & Internet	\$ 5,694	\$ 5,554
Training & Development	\$ 373	
Travelling & Accommodation	\$ 2,676	\$ 10,090
Volunteer costs	\$ 12,830	\$ 5,595
Workcover	\$ 4,202	\$ 4,251
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 731,897</b>	<b>\$ 655,314</b>
Surplus from ordinary activities before income tax	\$ 9,861	\$ 10,885

## TREASURER'S REPORT

For the year ended 30th June 2019 SouthPort Community Centre made a surplus of \$9,861 (2018 - \$10,885).

SPCC enters the new year with a healthy cash balance and accumulated members funds of \$121,848.

As in prior years I would like to thank all the staff and volunteers at SPCC for their dedicated work during the year.

I would also like to thank our major funders, namely DHHS, ACFE, City of Port Phillip and South Port Uniting Church, without whose support we would not be able to support our community in the manner we do.

N A Capes  
Treasurer

## FUNDERS & SPONSORS

Department of Health & Human Services,  
 ACFE (Adult, Community & Further Education)  
 City of Port Phillip  
 South Melbourne Community Chest  
 Rotary Port Melbourne  
 CWA Port Melbourne  
 Kosdown Printing  
 The Palais Theatre Community Fund  
 Department of Premier & cabinet



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