

SOCIAL FUTURES

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



The year that was

We live in an era of uncertainty. This year, our focus is resilient communities. For Social Futures to continue achieving positive social change, we need to empower communities to build resilience.

Social Futures' programs support several pillars of resilience.

By connecting people to the support they need, when they need it, we are:

- building social connectedness and inclusion
- strengthening and improving public access to health and social services
- building sector capacity
- expanding communication and collaboration across the community
- engaging at-risk individuals and the programs that serve them
- achieving better outcomes for people in the communities we serve.



2022–2023 Highlights



27,402

people supported on their journey to inclusion, wellbeing and independence



15,388

participants supported through our Disability Inclusion programs



381

staff delivered 28 programs and services



5,868

participants supported through 8 Mental Health and Wellbeing programs



2,555

community engagement events



715

culturally and linguistically diverse

481

LGBTIQSB+ participants



2,947

participants supported through 7 Housing, Homelessness and Employment programs



2,740

children, young people and their families supported through 8 Children, Youth and Family programs



2,969

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants supported across our footprint



28,675

persons engaged at community events



459

participants at community and sector leadership workshops



87,128

occasions of service

Message from the Chair and CEO

Over the past 12 months, we've seen some remarkable steps towards achieving stronger, fairer and more resilient communities.

We would like to thank everyone who has been part of this journey: the 27,000+ people that we worked for; our supportive communities; our amazing staff and dedicated Board.

Throughout the year, we focused attention on pressing social issues such as the current economic challenges and impact of extreme weather events. We started the year in recovery from floods, supporting affected communities in Northern and Western NSW, aiding staff and re-establishing in Lismore.

We advocated for more social and affordable housing as a central pillar to solving the nation's homelessness crisis.

We presented to the Senate Select Committee on Australia's Disaster Resilience, advocating for a framework to guide not-for-profits and community groups in working with, and supporting government and communities in the aftermath of extreme weather events.

We presented at national homelessness conferences in Canberra and Darwin. We shared the impact of weather events with the sector and policy makers and showcased our Tweed Homelessness Outreach service, explaining how this wrap-around service meets the health, social and mental health needs of people who have experienced long-term homelessness.

Through multiple programs, Social Futures is helping people to recover from trauma and thrive post-flood. Families with young children impacted by the 2022 floods are supported through our Strong Minds in the Early Years program, which delivers play-based therapy.

Our housing team launched the new Recovery Connect program. Support workers walk alongside individuals affected by the floods, assisting them to access services and disaster assistance packages. Despite losing four offices in the February 2023 floods, in October 2022 we celebrated the return of 120 Social Futures staff to Lismore's Central Business District with the opening of a new office. As one of the first major employers to return, this marked an important milestone in the recovery for the region.

“ We advocated for more social and affordable housing as a central pillar to solving the nation's homelessness crisis.”

Our mental health work expanded with the launch of Veterans Connect on the Central Coast, a service dedicated to connecting former Australian Defence Force members and their families with the health, wellbeing, and community services they need. Another exciting new program is the care finder service in central western New South Wales. This provides crucial support to senior community members struggling to find suitable care services.

Social Futures' ongoing work to empower people with disability to live life on their own terms and drive positive social change continues to be a core focus. Our team with lived experience is designing and delivering life-changing disability inclusion programs to workplaces and schools.

“ Our dedicated people on the ground are making a tangible difference in the lives of individuals, supporting resilient communities and thriving individuals.”

We celebrated the one-year anniversary of the Waves Inclusive Dance Parties, a popular Central Coast event where young people with and without disability can feel safe and welcome and be themselves.

We launched Milkiri, an Inclusion in Culture program for schools. It looks at how First Nations communities approach disability, how everyone has a place in community.

Our commitment to strengthening relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations is evident through our Reconciliation Action Plan. In 2023, we had our largest involvement yet in NAIDOC celebrations, participating in many events from Broken Hill to the Northern Rivers.

We take great pride in presenting this year's annual report, highlighting the impact our programs have in our community. Our dedicated people on the ground are making a tangible difference in the lives of individuals, supporting resilient communities and thriving individuals.

Pat Grier

Pat Grier, AM - Chair

Tony Davies

Tony Davies - CEO



Financial snapshot

As highlighted elsewhere, this year Social Futures opened our new service hub in Lismore, replacing our previous Lismore sites rendered unusable due to flooding. The new hub has ensured our ongoing ability to deliver services vital to our communities. We also completed the implementation of the human resources platform which has reaped benefits from consistent and efficient approaches to our processes including delivery of training, recruitment and ongoing care and management of our staff.

The total comprehensive income for the year of \$7.34m has seen our reported equity position increase to \$14.61m, however this has been heavily influenced by the receipt of an Anchor Business Support Grant from the federal and state governments of \$899k, a further \$1.09m from headspace National via Healthy North Coast and several other contributions totalling \$605k, all of which we greatly appreciate and acknowledge as central to Social Futures' and the community's path to recovery in delivering the Lismore service hub.

Service delivery funds received in advance of services provided during the year totalled \$3.82m. This takes the total value of services yet to be provided to \$5.06m. This appears as restricted cash in our financial statements and is included in the reported net equity figure.

Adjusting for these items the result from operations for the 2022-2023 year delivered a \$1.43m surplus. Adjusting the equity position for the amounts held in restricted cash results in an adjusted position of \$9.55m.

We continued to explore options for our McKenzie Street residential property impacted by flooding.

We extended our residential property holding by acquiring 1 Phillip Street, Goonellabah. This will enable us to continue our planned expansion of the housing solutions we are able to provide as a Community Housing Provider.



\$50,133,003

Total revenue

\$7,242,876

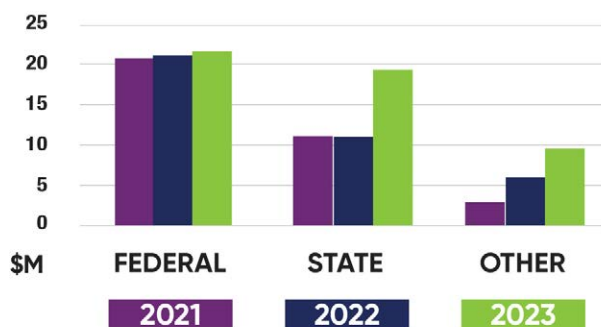
Surplus

\$14,616,827

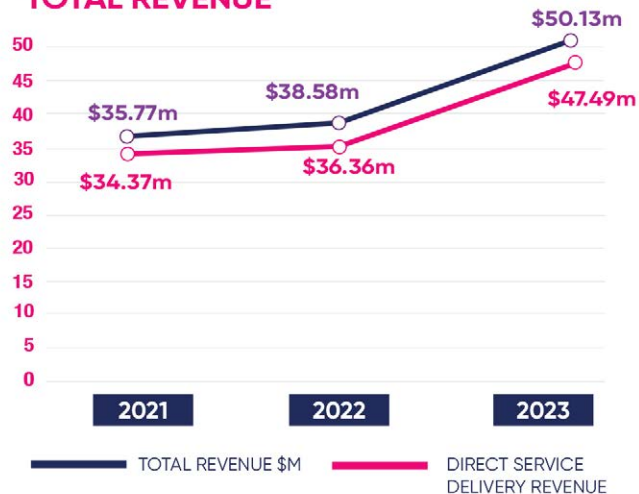
Net equity



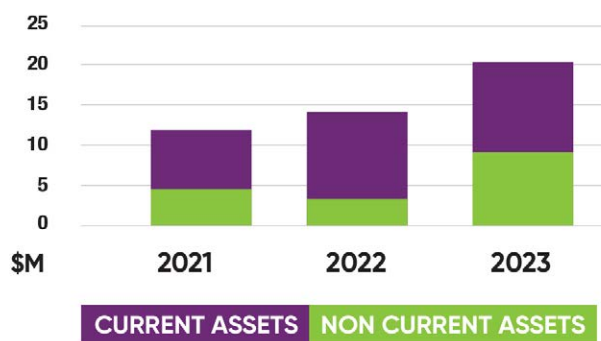
Funding source



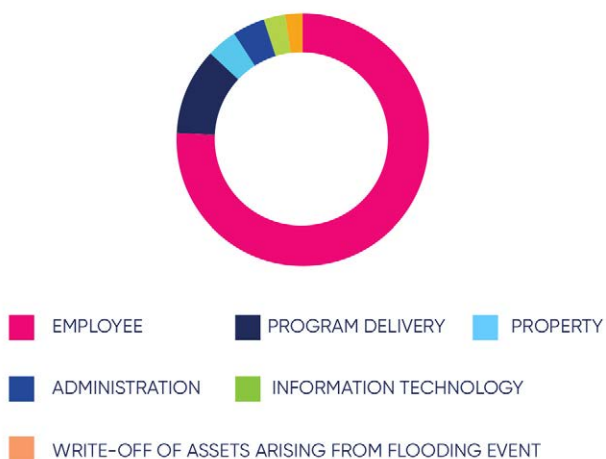
TOTAL REVENUE



Assets



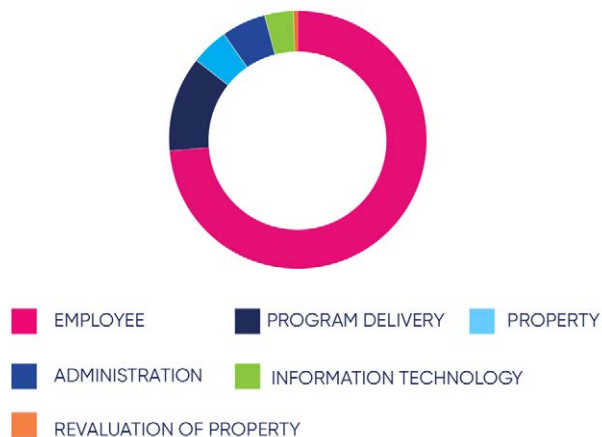
EXPENSES 2022



Equity



EXPENSES 2023





Positive Social Change

**Inclusion is about the
actions we take every day.
We welcome, support,
and celebrate diversity.**

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Join us on



Ashmore | Ballina | Bathurst | Broken Hill | Byron Bay | Coffs Harbour

Dubbo | Gosford | Grafton | Kempsey | Lismore | Maitland | Orange

Tamworth | Taree | Tweed Heads | Wyong

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