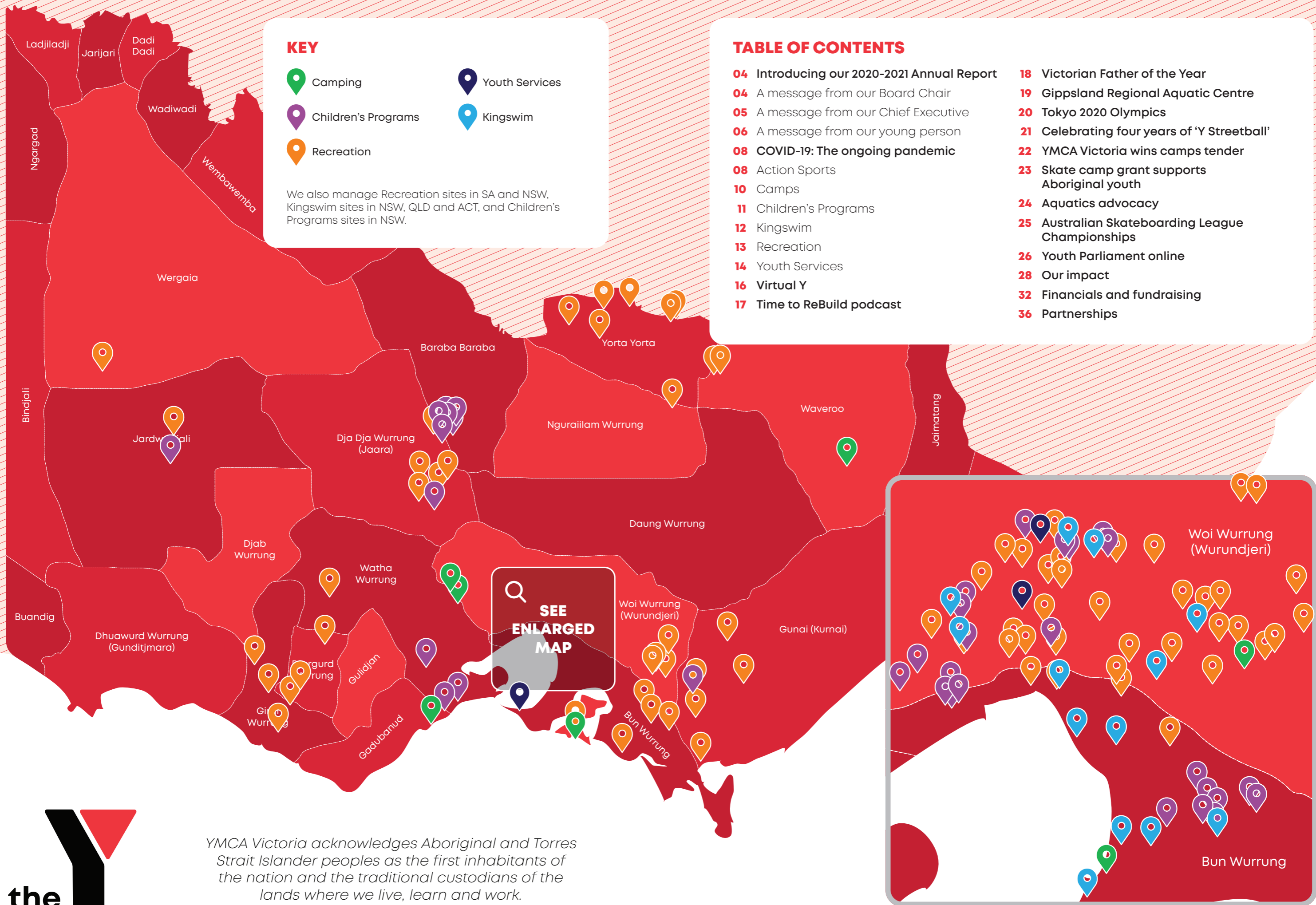




YMCA VICTORIA  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
2020-2021



YMCA Victoria acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of the nation and the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.

# Introducing our 2020-2021 Annual Report

This annual report covers the financial year of 2020-2021, where you'll find out how the Y was impacted by COVID-19. If last year was about survival and resilience, this year has been about patience and hope.

After 2020's extensive lockdown in Victoria, we ended the year with our programs and services open, welcoming the community through our doors and into summer.

By the time the weather cooled down, we had experienced a handful of short, sharp lockdowns. Then came another extended lockdown as the Delta variant of COVID-19 emerged and spread across the country in 2021.

During this time, the majority of our programs and services were once again closed and many of our staff were at home without a workplace to come to. This was a really emotionally exhausting time for us all. The novelty of baking sourdough had worn off long ago and we all just wanted to be able to start living our lives again.

But it hasn't all been bad news in 2021. We now have vaccines to help us protect ourselves and our community and the past few months have become a race to vaccinate the nation, so that we can begin to enjoy some freedoms again. Now in November of 2021, our vaccination rates across the country sit at over 80% double dosed. But we know it's not over yet and that there are more challenges to come.

Despite the challenges, you'll also find stories about how we continued to support the community in times of uncertainty. Here are just some of our highlights from this past year.

- Virtual Y (a free platform that we launched in 2020 to support the health and wellbeing of young people and the community during lockdown) has continued to grow as more and more people access our fitness, youth and family content.
- We launched a brand new podcast 'Time to ReBuild', which gives listeners a unique insight into people's journey from incarceration to positive transformation.
- Together with Latrobe City Council, we welcomed Latrobe Valley residents to the new Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre.

These are just some of the incredible stories from the Y. After such a big year, we couldn't keep some of the stories over the last couple of months saved until next year's report, so we have included them in this one.

Together with our incredible team of staff and volunteers, we have continued to make an impact in what was the most difficult year in the Y's 168-year history. We know that the Y will continue to persevere through the face of hardship. We will continue to do whatever it takes to ensure we can welcome the community back through our doors.



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

**During my first year as Board Chair, it quickly became apparent just how passionate, enthusiastic and committed our staff and volunteers are in their various roles. I was fortunate to visit a number of sites across Victoria in between lockdowns. It was inspiring to see first-hand the high valued relationships that exist between the Y and local communities.**

The power of relationships is enormous. I believe this feature differentiates our organisation from others – we truly care about the outcomes for young people and the communities we serve.

To state the obvious, this past year has been challenging on many fronts. The constant 'stop/start' and 'close/reopen' created uncertainty and for many, anxiety. Yet, through it all, we have heard some amazing stories of resilience and fortitude emerge. Many staff who worked throughout the pandemic took up the opportunity to donate a day of their pay to support their colleagues who were unable to work due to our sites being closed. This is an outstanding picture of what the Y is all about. It is about people who care for one another.

Our volunteers have also gone above and beyond this year. One of those volunteers is Barry Furness, who is retiring after 40 years. Thank you, Barry – the Y will miss your undeniable passion for helping the community. We value our volunteers immensely and thank you for your time and commitment to our mission.

Through Virtual Y, the Y has continued to support the community by bringing our programs and services to people's living rooms. Virtual Y will continue to be an important resource for people as we reopen – especially for those Victorians living in regional and rural areas. Furthermore, I am very confident our physical spaces in aquatics and recreation, camping, early learning and youth services will bounce back with the smiles, sounds and enjoyment of families, children, young people and communities as they reconnect with each other, staff and volunteers.

My connection with the Y is enduring in so many ways, as I grew up with the organisation. As a young boy, I participated in Saturday morning gymnastics and learnt how to swim at the old City Road Y in Melbourne. Back then, I could never have imagined that I would one day become the Board Chair of such a diverse, dynamic and inspiring organisation. Since commencing this role, my connection to the Y has only strengthened. In the coming year, I look forward to meeting you and getting back to doing what we do best – creating high valued and meaningful impact in our communities and in the lives of those we touch through our many activities and services.

In conclusion, I would like to thank my fellow directors who continue to volunteer and dedicate hundreds of hours to their role in governing the Y. Finally, Carolyn Morris and the Executive Leadership Team need to be elevated with our deep appreciation for their exceptional leadership over this past difficult year – your compassion, drive, professionalism and dedication to supporting our people is outstanding and certainly inspiring.

**Dr Lindsay McMillan**  
Board Chair of YMCA Victoria



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

**Saying this past year was challenging is an understatement. In Victoria and the other locations we operate in, we have endured multiple lockdowns since the pandemic started. Yet through every lockdown and every challenge that comes our way, it never ceases to amaze me how our staff, volunteers, partners, governments and the community rally together to support one another.**

Firstly, I'd like to thank all levels of government for their phenomenal support this past year. As a community not-for-profit organisation, the Y prides itself on being self-sufficient, in fact, generally government grants represent less than 3% of our income. This year, with the majority of our centres closed due to lockdowns, we simply would not have survived to turn 168 years old without the support by government.

So thank you to the Australian Government for supporting our staff and organisation through the JobKeeper Payment Subsidy and Child Care Support Package. Thank you to the Victorian State Government for providing the Y with multiple grants, which allowed us to continue delivering on our vision to inspire young people and support our community. Thank you to our local government partners, who ensured we could reopen to the community when restrictions allowed us to do so. Thank you also to our partners, including our suppliers. Your generosity and kindness in providing rent relief and other financial supports this year was crucial to our ongoing viability.

And now to our staff and volunteers, including our Board of Directors. Each year, I take this opportunity to thank you for your work and collective achievements, but this year I want to express my gratitude along with my thanks. For many of you, this past year has been the one of the most difficult years in your lives. You've been separated from your families and friends for months on end, your movement has been restricted and the majority of you were unable to work. I am grateful that through all of these challenges, you remained patient and kind to one another as we navigated our way through the pandemic. We still have a way to go before we reach some kind of normality, but I know that with your continued support, we will come out stronger on the other side.

It's easy to take for granted the impact the Y has in our community. Normally, 17 million people participate in our services each year, so with this impact halved to nine million this past year, we have been heartbroken to have our camps no longer filled with the sound of children laughing and our pools devoid of hundreds of wriggling learn to swimmers splashing. Our staff were sent home and we have been unable to live up to our promise of providing a career to believe in. Victorian children and young people in particular have missed out on too much.

Thankfully, a few areas of our organisation have continued

to operate. Thank you to YMCA Children's Programs, YMCA ReBuild, Virtual Y and our shared services. Many of you have worked without a break since the beginning of the pandemic, demonstrating your dedication and resilience.

While this year has been difficult, we managed to achieve some incredible things that you can read about in this report. We developed the inaugural virtual YMCA Victoria Youth Parliament program, we hosted another successful Australian Skateboarding League National Championships, we renewed a 20-year contract to manage five Sport and Recreation Victoria camps – the list goes on. I encourage you to take some time to read our stories from the Y and across the community, as they are a great reminder of why the Y exists.

Looking forward to the year ahead, I know that we will continue to work through every challenge that comes our way. We may have a long road to recovery ahead of us, but we will get there. To support the organisation on this journey, we have refreshed our Organisational Strategy 2025 and focussed our immediate efforts on recovery and rebuilding as we move into the 'living with' COVID-19 world. With vaccination rates increasing, we plan to reopen and stay open next year. We want to get back to doing what we do best – inspiring young people and supporting our community.

**Carolyn Morris**  
CEO of YMCA Victoria and Kingswim



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR YOUNG PERSON

“It has been such a privilege to be a part of the Y’s journey this year.”  
– Casey Majchrzak, Board Director at YMCA Victoria and Chair of Youth Affairs Subcommittee and Risk Subcommittee

**It is difficult to discuss 2021 without acknowledging the very real challenges faced by many of our staff, volunteers and community members. I do not want to gloss over this and I specifically want to acknowledge how very difficult it has been for so many of our people at the Y. Whether you’re a Y swim instructor at Wantira Kingswim, a camp leader at Camp Manyung, a childcare educator at Derrimut YMCA Early Learning Centre or a member of our shared services team at our head office in Box Hill – this year has thrown a series of obstacles. I want to thank all of our staff and volunteers for their incredible resilience, strength and commitment.**

As well as being a director on the board of YMCA Victoria, I am also the Chair of the Youth Affairs Subcommittee. 2021 is our first full year of operation and I am incredibly proud of everything we have achieved. The Youth Affairs Subcommittee was created to embed a youth voice in the decision-making process at the Y Victoria.

This year, the Youth Affairs Subcommittee asked itself some hard questions, trying to understand how we can add value to the governance process at the Y without adding in another layer of bureaucracy that does not meaningfully contribute to YMCA Victoria’s mission. After a consultation process, the Youth Affairs Subcommittee has reformulated its terms of reference to clearly articulate its purpose.

Firstly, we recognise our role in advocating for both youth internally within YMCA Victoria and externally within the community. Secondly, we considered that the Youth Affairs Subcommittee should play a key role in the formulation of YMCA Victoria’s Youth Strategy and monitor its implementation and impact and hold the organisation to account. The Youth Affairs Subcommittee’s terms of reference will also see the subcommittee approve business cases from within the youth sector and have input into business cases from across the Y, where we perceive a youth lens will add value to the decision-making process.

This year, the Youth Affairs Subcommittee has also been proud to be a part of the formulation of YMCA Victoria’s Youth Strategy. Some of the key initiatives of the Youth Strategy which we’re particularly excited about include the work being done around evidence-based social impact measurements – this will ensure that the Y maximises its ability to achieve its mission. The youth sector will also partner with the Y’s business units and shared service functions to understand and respond to the needs of the Y’s young people. Additionally, following feedback, the Youth Strategy will support the Y to maximise its impact by partnering with like-minded subject matter experts. I am really excited that the Youth Affairs Subcommittee will continue its work in monitoring the implementation of the Youth Strategy to ensure that YMCA Victoria achieves its full potential.

“It has been such a privilege to be a part of the Y’s journey this year. I am very proud of all that YASC and the Y has achieved over the last 12 months and I hope that we can continue to work together to empower young people to amplify their voice, contribute to better community outcomes and be a positive force for change in the world.”  
– Casey Majchrzak, Board Director at YMCA Victoria and Chair of Youth Affairs Subcommittee and Risk Subcommittee

Casey is a senior lawyer at an international firm. Casey is a Board Director at YMCA Victoria and Chair of Youth Affairs Subcommittee and Risk Subcommittee. She contributes to the strategic direction of the Y, ensuring the organisation delivers on its mission.

### Casey Majchrzak

Board Director at YMCA Victoria and Chair of Youth Affairs Subcommittee and Risk Subcommittee





# COVID-19: THE ONGOING PANDEMIC

## OVERALL AT YMCA VICTORIA

Similar to last year, in 2020-2021 we have had to reduce our physical services across all our business units due to the pandemic. Most of our staff were either stood down or de-ros-tered at some point, but thankfully, many were able to receive financial support through the Federal Government's COVID-19 Disaster Payments. Our financials and fundraising were also affected, but we have plans to move forward in the coming year.

Despite the many hardships this year, we're proud to report that **Virtual Y has thrived, supporting over 100,000 people to keep engaged and connected to the Y** through the continued lockdowns of 2021.

Here's how each of our sectors were affected by COVID-19.

## ACTION SPORTS

**Whilst the Y has been significantly impacted by the pandemic, our staff and volunteers have shown resilience in the face of adversity, allowing us to adapt throughout multiple lockdowns. Despite the challenges of this past year, our Action Sports team helped run over 232 skating sessions between our Skate Park League, Australian Skate League, All Aboard and Train the Trainer. These sessions were held both in-person and virtually and engaged over 13,250 participants.**

We started the year off by premiering our brand new administration and judging system nationally. It has decreased our paper use significantly and helped to improve the consistency and accuracy of our series ladders in Skate Park League and Australian Skate League.

The North East Tour was launched in Victoria bringing the fun and excitement of the Skate Park League program to a number of rural towns. These events provided much needed youth engagement and promoted positive use of council skate parks in areas that don't often see professional skate events.

We were fortunate to be able to deliver the Australian Skateboarding League Championships in March at Riverside Skate Park at Melbourne's Moomba Festival. Over 100 athletes competed across skateboarding, scoot and BMX including Olympians Hayley Wilson and Kieran Woolley.

The numerous lockdowns resulted in over 130 of our sessions being cancelled. As well as disruption to program delivery, another challenge has been attracting and retaining great quality coaches with inconsistent work over the last year.

## How we adapted

During lockdowns, the team adapted and provided young people with free and paid virtual skateboarding and scooter sessions. These sessions provided opportunities for skateboarders and scooter riders with different skill levels to build their confidence and explore new tricks and techniques. It also gave young people in the community the chance to learn safely in their homes, get exercise and have social interactions.

These sessions also allowed some of our coaches to keep working during lockdowns. Our coaches were also given professional development opportunities through a modified Train the Trainer program which included online learning opportunities for staff and volunteers.

Our All Aboard program has run throughout the year where possible, providing sessions in schools and local government areas. These programs are focused on giving foundational skills to young people who traditionally would not engage in skateboarding. We have had continued positive relationships with schools such as Beth Rivka whose program is run at St Kilda skate park, and given their female students the opportunity to engage at their local skate park and gain the confidence and skills to participate independently.

## Support we received

During this difficult time, we received grants from VicHealth and the Surf Coast which will allow us to move forward and continue to provide and improve our programs.

It's been amazing to see the high demand for our programs and events from local councils and schools.

We look forward to finally being able to reschedule our programs and events to showcase our awesome athletes and continue making an impact on young people.



## CAMPS

**The Y manages seven camps situated in a variety of natural settings across Victoria – from alpine regions and rainforest, to bushland and coastal environments.**

In October 2020, five of our camps entered a new long-term contract with Sports and Recreation Victoria until 2041. The first year, with the impact of COVID, has meant that the transition to the new contract has not been that of a traditional year of program delivery, yet we have used the time to productively focus on and start delivering to the strategic commitments outlined in our tender document. These range across all areas of the business from operational and site development to marketing and program initiatives.

We have developed a new brand identity that will herald the new era for camps, celebrate its history and look to the future. The consultative process with stakeholders from all levels – Government, Camp Managers and Customers – delivered a strong brand strategy and visual identity to build a strong recognition across the Camp network and a strong visual connection between the Y and its key government contractual partner, SRV. This will be rolled out over the next 12 months.

The 2020-21 period was a challenging period for the camps, with metropolitan camps being closed for 164 days and regional 121 days. We had a total of 48,900 camp participants across the year which is a close to a 40% decrease on an average year.

Despite the hard times, the Y was fortunate enough to receive a \$300,000 grant from the Victorian Government to fund camps for young Aboriginal people, helping them reconnect to culture and Country. The funding has engaged over 320 young people in local communities at the various YMCA Camps.

### How we adapted

2021 started off really strongly, especially with the schools market. Lady Northcote Recreation Camp delivered its most successful March results in history! We were essentially booked for the entirety of the 2021 year, until COVID closures continued to cause disruptions and need for customers to cancel. Our team worked tirelessly with our customers to reschedule bookings to ensure that, as many as possible, could still plan for a future camp experience.

We have offered alternate, flexible programming solutions including day programs and under canvas options for groups to be able to have a camp experience whilst adhering to COVID-safe practices. We have also developed new programs that focus on building resilience (Resilient You), greater learning opportunities in nature (extension of the Kids Go Bush programs) and implementing an outcomes framework that are being rolled out with our customers.

We know that people are wanting to get back to camp as soon as it is safe and possible and are confident that we will recover better than ever.

### Our advocacy

Camps have been instrumental in working with the peak industry bodies to advocate to State Government on the impact of closures on the camps as well as demonstrating how they can be a positive solution to the community upon reopening for connection to self, each other and nature.

The Y are thankful for the close, collaborative working relationship we have with our government partners. We would also like to recognise our camps management and staff, as well as our customers, for their strength, support and positivity during this time. We are a passionate bunch who believe in the power of a camp experience and want everyone to be able to have their own journey of self-discovery at one of our sites soon.

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

**Our essential service throughout the pandemic was YMCA Children's Programs. It goes without saying that our passionate educators have had a tough year, working as essential workers in a challenging environment. The support they provided and continue to provide to families has been second to none – each and every staff member should be proud.**

We operate over 93 early childhood education and care services. Of these, we have 18 Early Learning Centres, 31 Before and After School Programs, 29 School Holiday Programs and 15 Occasional Care programs. In the last financial year, 221,740 children attended our Early Learning Centres and 221,875 children attended our Before and After School Care programs. In addition, we manage the hiring of community spaces at 11 local partner primary schools.

We were successful in bringing in new business in terms of Outside of School Hours Care (OSHC), with new sites at Trafalgar Primary School Marist College, Sacred Heart Yarrowonga and Warragul North Primary School.

During COVID-19, we temporarily closed three Early Learning Centres due to a positive COVID-19 test. All sites were back open and safely operating within a week of the closure.

### How we adapted

Our amazing educators provided remote learning to children staying home through online tools such as the video conferencing platform Zoom and the Story Park app.

Within the centres, we adapted to the new COVID-normal, limiting people on site, and the ceasing of incursions and excursions.

### Support we received

The government's Early Childhood Education and Care support package supported both our Early Learning Centres and OSHC programs.

We received the following support:

- Community Child Care Fund – Special Circumstance Grant to support our regional services;
- Business Continuity Payment – Viability Support Package.

We are incredibly thankful for the support we received for our children's programs, without it we would not have been in a position to provide important child care services for families. With all this support, we have been able to survive the year and while we saw a reduction in occupancy during lockdowns, we are seeing occupancy levels rise as we transition to COVID-normal.



## KINGSWIM

We operate 20 Kingswim sites across Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and ACT. Where we would normally peak each year at over 29,000 swimmers, this financial year, we peaked at just over 20,000 swimmers during our summer period – due to capacity limits across multiple states. We saw our highest enrolments in May, with just under 23,500 swimmers followed by a predicted decline over the winter months.

In addition, school group lessons have been significantly affected by multiple extended closures. Normally we would see just under 100,000 school lessons provided each year, but this financial year, we provided 21,193 lessons.

### How we adapted

We've continued to adapt to the ever changing and localised state restrictions after each reopening. We utilised the Nabooki booking system to adapt to smaller capacity programs (due to Government restrictions) upon reopening within each state. Similarly, we were able to provide families with a convenient, online booking method that ensured their place in our regular program remained for when our program numbers could increase.

Our Kingswim team continued to create resources for our online 'Activity Hub' for at-home activities and resources for swimmers and families. We had 4,805 people visit the activity hub this year.

We were also able to train 210 new swim teachers.

### Our advocacy

Kingswim has continued to advocate for the aquatics industry at a national level to ensure aquatic education is able to quickly return after lockdowns to keep young people safe in and around the water.

Families said they appreciated the considered and transparent approach of Kingswim's decision-making around returning to lessons, with over 80% strongly agreeing to all statements related to our COVID response in a survey conducted in May.

We have extended our online staff training modules to include pool deck supervision, basic aquatic rescues, evacuation and teacher upskill modules.



## RECREATION

It has been another challenging year for the Recreation team. With over 2,500 team members on stand down or de-rostered and over 40,000 members on suspension, we are more eager than ever to open all of our doors to the community again soon.

But in the midst of navigating six lockdowns, the Recreation team has made some milestone achievements. We are excited to have commenced a new contract term at City of Boroondara for further 10 years, secured an extension at the Y-managed South Australian Aquatic and Leisure Centre and successfully extended our footprint and community impact 'in regional Victoria including Gippsland Aquatics and Recreation Centre, Corangamite and Moyne, Mount Alexander, Horsham and Hindmarsh.

We welcomed Fiona Preston to our leadership team, to lead the Recreation business unit whilst Alexandra Ash was on parental leave. Fiona was a fantastic asset and now has joined as General Manager at Melbourne Sports Centres – MSAC. We thank Fiona for her tremendous leadership throughout the challenging COVID times.

### Meanwhile in South Australia...

The Y has a positive relationship with the South Australian Government via the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing. This was seen with the much-anticipated contract extension earlier this year, along with support in the form of COVID-19 grants from the Community Jobs support fund. This funding has ensured the team operating South Australian Aquatic and Leisure Centre could maintain and launch into a new COVID-19 era. This support has led to a remarkable recovery, a recovery punctuated by several more lockdowns, Emergency Services Direction changes and ending with the 2021 Australian Swimming Trials and Tokyo Olympic Swimming Selection Trials.

### How we adapted

To support our team and the community, we had to ensure that COVID-safe measures were firmly in place at our centres. We distributed 100 handheld thermometers, 181 hand sanitiser stations and 3,600 COVID direction floor decals, just to name a few!

We embraced our Virtual Y platform and our fitness instructors continued to deliver classes for all Y recreation members, as well as staff and volunteers across Australia. It was great to be able to offer classes with the Y instructors participants know and love.

### Road to recovery

The Y would once again like to thank our recreation staff and council partners as well as our members and casual visitors throughout this time. Despite the challenges we've had to (and will continue to) overcome, the positive attitude and support shown by you all has been incredible.

We look forward to operating at full capacity soon and have the full confidence that our recreation team will continue to provide a safe and welcoming environment for our members and the wider community.

## YOUTH SERVICES

YMCA Youth Services consists of four program areas: staff and volunteers, learning and leadership, social impact and Y Spaces. Collectively Youth Services' programs help young people to be heard and reach their potential in life.

Victorians experienced six separate lockdowns over the past year. Research has highlighted that young people have been the most impacted, particularly relating to mental health issues, job loss and financial security.

### How we adapted

During a time of significant disruption, the Youth Services team demonstrated commendable adaptability and flexibility. A number of existing programs were placed on hold (such as Youth Camp and UNO-Y). Other programs adapted to online delivery – Youth Parliament went online as well as our volunteer engagement. A handful of programs continued operating in very different circumstances, such as ReBuild.

Adopting an agile and 'fail-fast' approach, Youth Services piloted a number of new online initiatives. These included the Youth Voice and Resilient You programs on Virtual Y, the ReBuild online shop and the Time to ReBuild podcast. The initiatives supported, connected, equipped and created spaces for young people to engage in whatever way they needed.

- The YMCA Victoria Youth Parliament held five online training sessions, 18 meetings with members of Parliament, department staff and industry leaders, and had 18 bills submitted to the Minister for Youth.
- Volunteer engagement saw 80 participants at Camp VOLLIE, and over 300 online Y-Space sessions.
- UNO-Y 2021 was developed and run by nine volunteers and had 18 young people participate.
- Youth Camp was a great success, with 45 participants.
- Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Future Leaders event did not go ahead.
- Two Youth Hubs (located in Bendigo and Rye) have 3,500 participants engaging online per month.
- YMCA ReBuild employed 29 young people between July 2020 to July 2021, with 66 young people completing the work Readiness and Life Skills Program.
- YMCA Bridge Project life skills training developed six online modules, secured 27 employment places and completed 41,165 hours of sport and recreation sessions in prison.
- YMCA Peninsula Youth Services has finished construction of a new purpose-built wellbeing sanctuary 'Jimmys's'. This Y Space is for marginalised, disengaged and disadvantaged young people on the Mornington Peninsula and is open to the public.

### Our advocacy

Over the past year, we have been fortunate to be able to connect and collaborate with a significant cohort of young people during the difficult times of lockdown. We used this time to collect data and invaluable feedback from young people to gain greater insight into what they thought about our programs and the level to which the Y (and more specifically Youth Services) have felt welcoming and inclusive.

The feedback provided positive initial results, while identifying areas for improvement. Across our programs over the past year and with our help, our young people have increased their knowledge and skills, improved their connection to the community and have had their voices heard. Although mental wellbeing has not been a key focus of the Youth Services team, most of our programs have positively contributed to participants' mental wellbeing. This process has highlighted how important it is for us to continue collecting data, so that we can improve and understand the needs of our key audience – young people.







# STORIES FROM THE Y

## OVERALL AT YMCA VICTORIA

In this section, we take you through the biggest stories of 2020-2021 at the Y. As always, we have many stories to tell. Whether it be winning a 20-year camps contract, opening the brand new Gippsland Recreation and Aquatic Centre, launching our Time to ReBuild podcast, to persevering in the face of COVID-19 lockdowns – it’s been another big year.

## VIRTUAL Y

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020, YMCA Victoria launched Virtual Y, an online platform to support the health and wellbeing of young people during lockdown. We wanted to give our young people and communities access to the services we no longer could provide face-to-face.

We’re proud to report that Virtual Y has thrived this past year, with many people turning to it as a way to stay active through the continued lockdowns of 2021.

**Virtual Y has supported over 100,000 people to keep engaged and connected to the Y.**

More specifically, in the past year, Virtual Y has been:

- visited 181,190 times;
- by 103,061 people;
- 10,945 people registered as users;
- who collectively spent 12,648 hours engaging with content on the platform.

By offering fitness, nutrition, wellness, family, education and a youth resources, we’ve been able to meet the needs of a wide variety of people, especially young people who this pandemic has been especially hard for. This is why we partnered with VicHealth to produce the CoDesign series, which features content for young people that is relevant and tackles pertinent topics. This content was created for 12-25 year olds and covered topics such as mental health, gender equality and consent.

Our fitness content proved to be the most popular, since the recreation centres we manage have been closed for the majority of the past year. We’re thrilled to be able to support our recreation members with quality content, free of charge, during this time of hardship for many. Our most popular content included ‘Strength & Cardio’ and ‘Yoga & Meditation’, with 130 users tuning into Alison’s Yoga & Meditation classes.

The continued success of Virtual Y resulted in a \$500,000 grant from the Department of Health and Human Services to go towards improving youth mental health. We plan to use this additional funding to amplify our Youth Voice platform, which gives young people a safe space to express themselves, engage in the community, share lived experiences and learn from each other.

We hope to continue to expand and evolve Virtual Y over the next year to benefit all of our customers across Victoria.

## TIME TO REBUILD PODCAST

The Time to ReBuild podcast was launched in December 2020 and has already released two seasons. Based on the stories of YMCA ReBuild participants, the podcast aims to break negative stereotypes by amplifying the stories of people who have been on the journey of incarceration to positive transformation.

In each episode, the Y’s Mick Cronin and Mark Wilson chat with someone who has broken the mould and gone on to achieve incredible things after serving prison time. Their stories give audiences an insight into what circumstances led to them offending, how they survived prison time and how they got to where they are now. Encouraging us as a society to learn, understand and prevent similar experiences from happening to those around us.

In our second season, we released eight episodes, each highlighting a unique story and experience. These conversations were challenging and emotional, but it’s uplifting to hear about the effect positive intervention has on the interviewees and the fulfilling lives they’re leading now.

Since launching in December 2020, Time to Rebuild has:

- released 15 episodes;
- had 3,147 total listens;
- been listened to 172 times in one day;
- been streamed in 17 countries;
- ranked 10th in Australia, 7th in Ireland and 12th in Denmark as the Top Documentary Podcast on Apple podcasts.

Time to ReBuild reminds us that ex-offenders shouldn’t be defined by their past actions and mistakes. A lot of the time all they need is support and an opportunity to turn their life around and be the best version of themselves. This in turn reduces recidivism and creates safer communities for us all to live in.



## VICTORIAN FATHER OF THE YEAR

For the past 15 years YMCA Victoria has helped the Father's Day Council search far and wide for the state's top dad and father figure to name them the Victorian Father of the Year. The award celebrates the important role dads and father figures have in the lives of young people and their communities.

Over this time the two organisations became so symbiotic and mutually reliant that the board decided to merge the organisations in late 2020 to be within the YMCA umbrella. The Father's Day Council is now a voluntary advisory committee within the Y, with all committee members still involved in the award process.

In a step towards evolution, the 2021 award wanted to recognise the amazing work that traditional and non-traditional fathers do to support young people. We also wanted to acknowledge that DNA alone doesn't make a dad and that you can have no children yet still be a father figure.

We really emphasised the concept of a father figure in all of our promotional materials and actively encouraged nominations of partners, community leaders, relatives, role models, non-biological and biological fathers.

As a result of this campaign, we received 74 nominations from a diverse range of categories and 44.6% of them were for father figures of non-traditional families (blended, broken, widowed, adopted etc).

"We hope this shift in perspective invited more nominations from young people across Victoria who previously didn't think the deserving father figure in their life was eligible. We want to acknowledge and celebrate all the father figures who believe in, support and inspire young people in their own unique way."  
– Carolyn Morris, YMCA Victoria and Kingswim CEO and Father's Day Committee Member.

We were delighted to announce that Sam Chew was named the 2021 Victorian Father of the Year.

**“Over the past 15 years, the Father's Day Council and YMCA Victoria have been working together to champion ordinary dads with extraordinary stories. It's been great collaborating with them over the years to elevate all the amazing father figures in Victoria based purely on impact and values rather than education, privilege and status. We can't wait to see how the award evolves in the future.”**

– Barry Novy  
Chairperson of the Father's Day Committee

In 2020 Stephen Curran was unanimously chosen for this prestigious award by YMCA Victoria in association with The Father's Day Council of Victoria.



## GIPPSLAND REGIONAL AQUATIC CENTRE

Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre (GRAC) opened its doors to the public on 25 March 2021. The new state-of-the-art facility has been warmly welcomed by Latrobe Valley residents and fulfils the long-awaited need for a recreation centre in the area.

The \$57 million centre was funded by the Victorian Government's Latrobe Valley Sports and Community Initiative and is owned by the Latrobe City Council and managed by YMCA Victoria.

"We are so pleased to have been successful in our tender to operate GRAC, an exciting and innovative facility that will be a vibrant and inclusive community hub for fitness, aquatics and social connection."

– Carolyn Morris, CEO of YMCA Victoria and Kingswim.

Construction began in 2019 and the world-class facility now leads the way for regional public pools in accessibility and energy efficiency. Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre is the first public aquatic facility in Victoria to incorporate a geothermal heating system. The heating system will significantly reduce the centre's carbon footprint, along with operational costs.

The pools have been designed with inclusion and accessibility at the forefront. Walk-in ramps support patrons with disabilities, along with water-friendly wheelchairs, hoists and high-care needs shower. Similarly, the gymnasium consists of wheelchair friendly gym equipment alongside spacious group fitness rooms.

GRAC's stand out feature would have to be the 50 metre indoor swimming pool. Surrounded by 500 spectator seats, this facility is the perfect host for major recreational events.

For local families looking to keep the kids busy during school holidays, GRAC is the perfect solution. With great facilities including an indoor play zone, two large water slides, learn to swim pool and café, children are entertained for hours.

There's something for the adults too. Alongside a modern gymnasium, GRAC also features a wellness centre, comprising of a warm water pool therapy pool, spa, sauna and steam rooms.

GRAC has created over 70 jobs, proving to be a great boost for the Traralgon community. Similarly, the construction provided a huge economic boost for local contractors with over 500 workers engaged in 10,000 hours of labour on site.

Come visit us at Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre!



## TOKYO 2020 OLYMPICS

The Tokyo 2020 Olympics finally went ahead earlier this year and the Y, Kingswim and our wider community were involved in more ways than one.

### Hosting the Australian Olympic Swimming Trials

The Australian Olympic Swimming Trials were held at the South Australian Aquatic and Leisure Centre (SAALC) on 12 to 17 June 2020. Heats and finals ran all day and organising them was not small feat.

SAALC was the first aquatic facility in the world to reopen and host a large scale aquatic event since the start of the pandemic. Due to the constantly changing restrictions and recurring lockdowns, the facility created 37 iterations of a COVID-19 management plan to ensure the trials ran as safely and efficiently as it possibly could.

“We chose to look at this event like the Indigenous Australian Black Swan Dreamtime story of Guunyu. Shaped by his past and terrible event, Guunyu has used his steadfastness and spirit to survive and fight on to become a wiser and beautiful, humble, and more robust bird. This view of the event taught us how to learn and transform.”

– Adam Luscombe, SAALC’s General Manager

This would not have been possible without the support of the South Australian Government, Swimming Australia, Swimming South Australia, the City of Marion, Amazon Prime and NEP Australia. Together, the event was a huge success and 37 swimmers got their tickets to Tokyo 2020.

### Supporting young Australian skaters

The Y, in partnership with Skate Australia, hosts the only skate events across the country that includes qualifying points for the Olympics. Tokyo 2020 was the first time skateboarding was included in the Olympics, making it an extra special event for our Aussie skaters – all of whom competed in the Australian Skateboarding League (street and park) and National Championships in 2020 (both events were hosted by the Y).

“Our YMCA Action Sports team works tirelessly to run skate workshops and events across the country to support all young people to get outdoors and get active. Watching the young skaters who came up through the Australian Skateboarding Leagues and Skate Park Leagues compete at the Olympics is really inspiring. We can’t wait to support the next athletes vying for a place in Paris 2024.”

– Alice Hogan, YMCA Action Sports Manager.

Shane Oneill and Hayley Wilson competed in Street Skateboarding, Natalya Diehm and Logan Martin in Freestyle BMX, and Poppy Olsen, Keiran Woolley and Keegan Parmler in Park Skateboarding – with Keegan winning Australia’s first gold medal for skateboarding!

### Cheering on our own staff member

We also saw Bec Henderson, Kingswim Narre Warren Swimming Instructor, make her Olympic debut in the 20km Race Walk in Tokyo. At just 20 years old, the postponement of the games worked in Bec’s favour as only this year was she able to qualify as a senior and make it to Tokyo.

“For me, the cancellation was a good thing. You can improve so much in a year, so I stayed motivated and trained in order to be better.”

– Bec Henderson, Olympic athlete and Kingswim Narre Warren Swimming Instructor

Bec was the youngest athlete in the event and came 38th out of 58 competitors, which is an amazing achievement. We wish Bec all the luck in her future race walking career and hope to see her in Paris 2024.



## CELEBRATING FOUR YEARS OF Y STREETBALL

Over the past four years, Y Streetball has supported adults experiencing homelessness or disadvantage in North Melbourne.

The program runs every Tuesday and Sunday at North Melbourne Community Centre (NMCC) and gives participants a place to blow off steam playing basketball, as well as taking a shower, sharing a filling meal and socialising with friends. It’s a vibrant community program that welcomes all people, regardless of their age or socio-economic background.

“At Y Streetball, everyone works together to have a good time. It’s a safe space where everyone can be relaxed and get away from the world for a bit. The togetherness is great for our mental health and gives us a family vibe.”

– James\*, a Y Streetball participant

Luckily, in April 2021 we were able to celebrate the program’s four-year anniversary during our break between lockdowns. It was a great way for the community to reminisce on how far they and the program had come. Many participants started attending the program while facing homelessness, disadvantage and lack of social connection. Seeing them now thrive under the guidance of program founder and umpire Dave “Disco” Gunstone is heart-warming.

During the celebration, participants talked about how Dave had mentored them through their various situations and how they are now doing better – in part thanks to Dave and the program.

“I was so excited that we could have this celebration! During lockdown I felt super isolated, but Dave and the Y Streetball group was always there for me over the phone or at our BBQs. I’m keen for more regular hang outs again.”

– Pete\*, Y Streetball participant

Y Streetball is funded by YMCA Open Doors. Usually funds go towards court hire, but in 2021 we were able to provide the participants with exclusive Y Streetball t-shirts and inclusive basketball equipment to support the All Abilities session for those with varying disabilities.

“We hope that by having to attend multiple sessions to get a t-shirt, it encourages people to stay in the program for longer, which then gets them away from those habits and gives them a renewed hope, outlook and sense of community.”

– Chris Harding, former NMCC Centre Manager

The addition of these new t-shirts and equipment has only amplified the sense of community, pride and support felt by the participants and their community.

“I’m so excited to be living my dream of expanding Y Streetball. I hope by doing this, more people feel supported and empowered.”

– Dave “Disco” Gunstone, Y Streetball Founder

Dave and the Y Streetball team have plans to expand the program to other recreation centres once restrictions ease in Victoria.

\*The names of participants have been changed to protect their anonymity.



## YMCA VICTORIA WINS CAMPS TENDER



In October 2020, Sports and Recreation Victoria awarded the Y a renewed 20-year contract for the management and operation of five camps:

- Anglesea Recreation Camp;
- Camp Manyung;
- Howmans Gap Alpine Centre;
- Lady Northcote Recreation Camp;
- Mt Evelyn Recreation Camp.

YMCA Camps has managed these sites for the past 15 years and we're excited to continue strengthening this partnership, as well as fostering our connection with local communities.

"We're extremely pleased to continue our partnership with Sports and Recreation Victoria. Over the last 15 years, the Y has transitioned the five SRV camps from primarily a traditional school camping model to creating additional significant community based offerings. We are deeply committed to working with SRV to make a difference in the lives of those students and community groups who visit the sites. This includes providing more accessible outreach programs to the most in-need and under-representing groups."

– Carolyn Morris, CEO of YMCA Victoria and Kingswim

The camps team kicked off a challenging but strong start to the new contract in 2020, experiencing a high level of occupancy when the sites were open and progressing many of the projects outlined in the tender proposal.

The Y has redefined the traditional camping experience through hundreds of new programs designed for a variety of visitors, as well as tailored programs for specific groups and community needs such as the Indigenous Skate Camp and Access All Terrain program.

Various renovations across all five sites has increased the accessibility of the Y's camping experience for the community. This includes the addition of the Alpine Accessible Accommodation Centre at Howmans Gap (AAA building), which allows all-abilities winter sports athletes, as well as their families and support people, to hone their skills on some of Victoria's best ski slopes.

"Through local partnerships and by building strong relationships with community groups, we have grown the number of community group participants from 12,000 to 44,000 per year – a growth of over 250%."

– Carolyn Morris, CEO of YMCA Victoria and Kingswim

The Minister for Community Sport, Ros Spence, said she looks forward to continuing a strong partnership with the Y over the next 20 years.

"Our camps are inspiring more young people to embrace a healthier and active lifestyle, get connected with nature and importantly, have fun. We're proud that the YMCA will continue to lead these important programs and we look forward to more innovative outdoor programs and initiatives leading to more healthy outcomes for Victorians."

– The Hon. Ros Spence

The renewed contract will see an opportunity for the Y to continue activating communities through unique learning frameworks and community programming. The Y will also continue to focus on sustainability, inclusive communities and outdoor communities.

## SKATE CAMP GRANT SUPPORTS ABORIGINAL YOUTH

The Aboriginal Camping and Active Recreation Project is delivered in partnership with local Aboriginal organisations to provide an educational, spiritual and recreational experiences that reconnects Aboriginal young people to culture and Country.

With a tailored program designed for Aboriginal young people and their unique experience, this funding creates opportunities to connect participants with one another, form new friendships, build self-confidence and identify and hone new skills.

The camps are delivered in partnership with local Aboriginal organisations, such as Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association, Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-Operative, Dhudhuroa Waywuru Nations Aboriginal Corporation and the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency.

**“ Willum Warrain is very excited to be partnering with the Y in offering jointly run camps for our Aboriginal youth on the Mornington Peninsula. It is so important for our young people to have opportunities like this to have fun, make friends, learn new skills tackling physical challenges together, at the same time deepening cultural knowledge and identity. ”**

– Peter Aldenhoven, Executive Officer for the Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association

As part of the camp program, the YMCA Action Sports team delivered skateboarding lessons to young Aboriginal people. Participants received take-home skateboards and they were introduced to local sporting groups so that they can continue their new-found skill in an inclusive environment without barriers like fees, uniforms and training.

"Our Aboriginal partner organisations deliver a large portion of the programming, providing opportunities for participants to meet Aboriginal elders and learn more about the culture and land they meet on. The Y provides all the recreational and camping activities, healthy food and fun that comes with a Y camp experience."

– Alice Hogan, YMCA Action Sports Manager

The funding has engaged over 320 young people in local communities at the following YMCA Camps:

- Anglesea Recreation Camp in the Surf Coast Shire;
- Camp Manyung in the Mornington Peninsula Shire;
- Howmans Gap Alpine Centre in the Alpine Shire;
- Lady Northcote Recreation Camp in the Moorabool Shire.



## ADVOCATING FOR AQUATICS

Around the world, Australians are well-known as a nation that loves its beaches, sports, BBQs and pools. Distressingly, one of the unforeseen outcomes of the pandemic was the increased drownings during 2020/21, the highest number in almost two decades.

These statistics are a major concern for all Victorians and especially parents of young children who missed out on establishing the basic foundations of swimming and water safety.

The Y is committed to supporting families and communities to get back in the pool and enjoy the beach safely as we focus on making up for the lost time.

To advocate and build awareness of the importance of the aquatic and recreation industry to the health and well-being of Victorians. The Y has created a number of initiatives to support the industry during the past year.

- Launched Virtual Y with information on swimming and water safety education.
- Promoted Virtual Y resources with swim customers through local government partners' e-newsletters.

- Created swimming lesson activity books to engage with our young patrons so they can keep learning and boost knowledge of dangerous water situations.
- Posted social media campaigns on swimming safety and swim instructor shortage on YMCA Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.
- YMCA Victoria and Kingswim joined the newly-formed Victorian Aquatic Industry Alliance (VAIA), which was established in May 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to advocate for a clearer path to recovery for the aquatics industry.

We miss teaching children to swim and look forward to seeing Victorians safely back in the pool and on the beach this summer.



## AUSTRALIAN SKATEBOARDING LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS



This year, the Y was fortunate to be able to host the Australian Skateboarding League Championships, in partnership with Skate Australia. The event took place at Riverside Skate Park during Melbourne's Moomba Festival on Saturday 06 and Sunday 07 March 2021.

The Y has been hosting the championships for the past ten years, however this year's event was different – it was the first event that the Y hosted after months of lockdown. This meant the YMCA Action Sports team needed all hands had to be on deck to implement our COVID-safety plan, ensuring that participants and the community were kept safe.

Chloe Covell was one of the many young skaters who participated. The 11-year-old Tweed Heads local was the athlete to watch at this year's championships after coming second in the female opens last year. Chloe not only impressed the judges and spectators throughout the weekend, she was also interviewed by many news broadcasters and media outlets who were equally impressed by the talented young star.

After months of practising multiple days a week and perfecting her tricks, Chloe went head to head with some of Australia's best skaters, including future Olympian Hayley Wilson and ended up winning the championships in the female division.

"I'm so happy and excited that I won the championships. I'm going to continue practising and perfecting my tricks so I'm ready for the Olympic Games in Paris 2024."

– Chloe Covell, female winner of Australian Skateboarding League Championships 2021

Former YMCA Action Sports Manager, Paul McPherson, said the weekend was a great way for locals to support athletes who were unable to compete in any competitions last year due to COVID-19.

**“ We feel incredibly lucky that the Australian Skateboarding League National Championships went ahead, and that skaters from across the country finally got a chance to showcase their incredible talent and skills after months of lockdowns and event cancellations. ”**

– Paul McPherson,  
former YMCA Action Sports Manager

We look forward to next year's event and continuing to provide more opportunities for young people to get active and learn how to skate across the country.

# YOUTH PARLIAMENT ONLINE

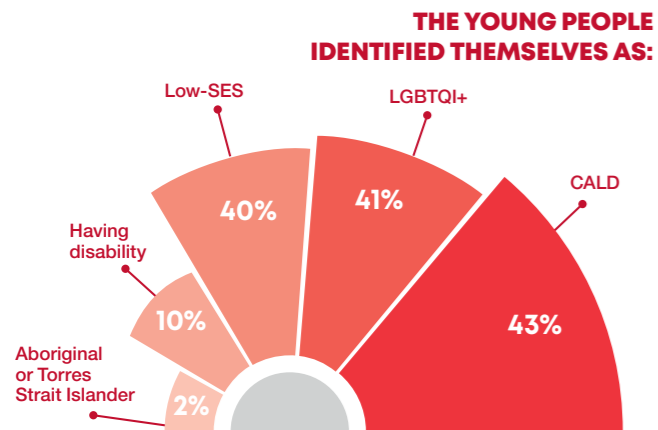
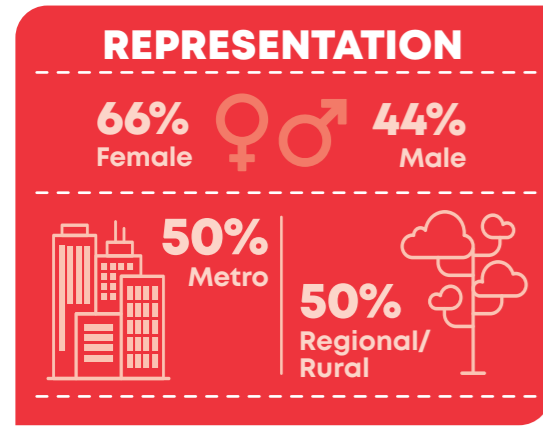
Since 1987, YMCA Victoria Youth Parliament has brought together over 100 young people every year.

These young people are passionate about social justice and our Youth Parliament program gives them a platform to be heard at the highest levels of the Parliament in Victoria.

The program exists to give young people a voice in a space where they traditionally aren't represented (in age or identity), with the majority of participants bringing forward solutions to some of our greatest and most prevalent issues.

## Participants

Last year saw our most diverse cohort yet. Participants identified as:



## The process

The process of bill development and formation to sitting at Parliament House usually spans around six months. Due to the pandemic, last year was the first time the program was delivered entirely online and this process lasted nearly 10 months. This didn't diminish the passion, drive and voice of the participants who were all still given a platform to have their ideas championed.

This was facilitated by the program's incredible volunteer Taskforce, with support from the Victorian Electoral Commission, Parliament House and The Office for Youth and Equality.

## The results

In the past year, YMCA Victoria Youth Parliament has had:

- 18 meetings with Members of Parliament, Department staff and industry leaders to help teams develop their bills.
- 18 bills submitted to the Minister for Youth for government consideration.

## Moving forward

The pivot in delivery to a virtual program inadvertently provided avenues for us to make YMCA Victoria Youth Parliament more accessible and effective going forward. We hope this will provide even more inspired young people with the opportunity to use their voice to enact change.



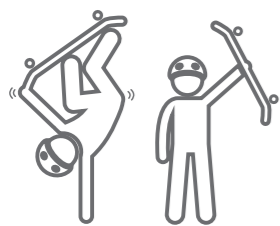


# OUR IMPACT

Normally, 17 million people use our services each year. This past year, this halved to nine million. In spite of COVID-19, our programs have still impacted the lives of our fellow Victorians. Here's a snapshot of our impact in 2020-2021.

## ACTION SPORTS

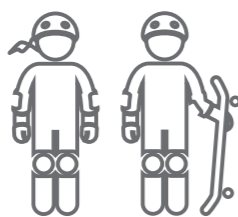
This year, our Action Sports team helped run over **232** skating sessions across our various programs. These sessions engaged over **13,250** participants in-person and virtually. We also delivered the Australian Skateboarding League (ASL) Championships in March 2021, where over **100** athletes competed including Olympians Hayley Wilson and Kieran Woolley.



**232**

skating sessions

+



**13,250**

participants

=

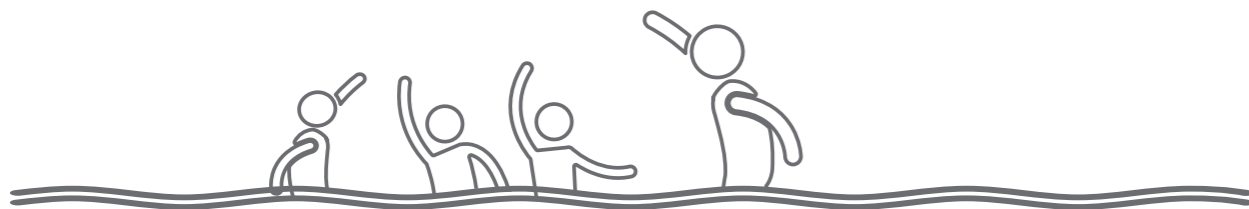


**100**

athletes at ASL Championships

## AQUATICS AND SWIMMING

In the year 2020-2021, we employed **4,870** staff, with **47%** of them being under the age of 25. We had **29,964** swimming lesson students across our sites and **71,000** school participants through our YMCA Swimming Lessons school program.



**29,964**

swimming lessons students

**71,000**

school program participants

## CAMPING

Our regional campsites were open for **244** days and our metro campsites were open for **201** days in the past year. During this period, we had **48,900** campers attend and **250** staff members employed across our seven campsites.



**244**

regional campsites days

**201**

metro campsites days

**48,900**

campers

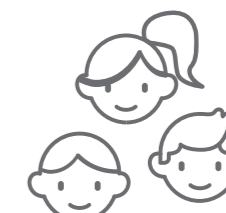
## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

We operate **93** early childhood education and care services with **18** Early Learning Centres, **31** Before and After School Programs, **29** School Holiday Programs and **15** Occasional Care programs. In the last financial year, **221,740** children attended our Early Learning Centres and **221,875** children attended our Before and After School Programs. In addition, we manage the hiring of community spaces at **11** local partner primary schools.



**221,740**

attended Early Learning Centres



**221,875**

attended Before and After School Programs

## RECREATION, HEALTHY LIVING AND FITNESS

We operate more than **80** aquatic, recreation and stadium facilities. In the last year, we had **36,612** health and wellness members and **3,788** gymnastics members across these facilities.



**36,612**

health and wellness members



**3,788**

gymnastics members

## KINGSWIM

We operate **20** Kingswim Learn to Swim schools across Victoria, Canberra, New South Wales and Queensland. We employ **650** staff across these schools to teach **23,379** kids per week to be competent and safe in and around water.



**23,379**  
participants per week



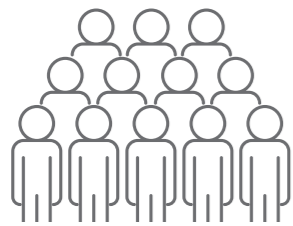
**650**  
staff

## OPEN DOORS

YMCA Open Doors helps people experiencing disadvantage by subsidising access to our programs and services. Due to the closure of our centres, we have not had the opportunity to hold face-to-face events or fundraise at a site level. This has had a significant negative effect on the Y's revenue and YMCA Open Doors accounts which meant we were unable to provide this service. When our centres are back open, we look forward to helping vulnerable community members participate in our programs.

## STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

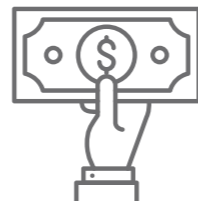
In the year 2020-2021, we employed **4,870** staff, with **47%** of them being under the age of 25. Our dedicated team of **643** volunteers gave up **9,060** hours of their time this year, and while this is invaluable to us, that amounts to an incredible **\$371,460** worth of time.



**643**  
staff and volunteers



**9,060**  
volunteers hours



**\$371,460**  
worth of volunteers' time

## VIRTUAL Y

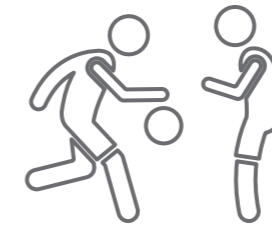
Virtual Y (a free platform that we launched in 2020 to support the health and wellbeing of young people and the community during lockdown) has continued to grow and support over **100,000** people virtually. We've kept our communities engaged and connected to the Y during these difficult times.



**100,000**  
virtual participants

## YOUTH SERVICES

Our YMCA Youth Services and skate parks engaged **565** people. YMCA ReBuild employed **29** young people between July 2020 to July 2021, with **66** young people completing the work readiness and life skills program. YMCA Peninsula Youth Services also finished construction of a new purpose-built wellbeing sanctuary 'Jimmys'. Of the **\$8,039,925** YMCA Victoria spent to help people in need, **96%** was used to help young people and children across Victoria



**565**  
people engaged



**\$8,039,925**  
spent to help people in need







# FINANCIALS AND FUNDRAISING

## Financial summary

YMCA Victoria had a consolidated net surplus of \$1.18m for the year ending 30 June 2021. During the year, the board made the strategic decision to sell the Disability Services business and freehold at Macey Heights. The COVID-19 pandemic continued to have a significant impact, not only financially but also on our customers, suppliers, council partners and staff.

| BALANCE SHEET               | Current year<br>30 June 2021 | Prior year<br>30 June 2020 (restated) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Current assets              | 41,453,128                   | 38,802,358                            |
| Non current assets (1)      | 73,624,032                   | 84,197,882                            |
| <b>Total assets</b>         | <b>115,077,160</b>           | <b>123,000,240</b>                    |
| Current liabilities (2)     | 41,550,165                   | 53,881,102                            |
| Non current liabilities (3) | 45,901,090                   | 42,479,256                            |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>    | <b>87,451,255</b>            | <b>96,360,358</b>                     |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>           | <b>27,625,905</b>            | <b>26,639,882</b>                     |

**NOTE:**

(1) Non current assets: FY21 includes right of use asset of \$37.1m, adoption of new accounting standard AASB16 in FY20.

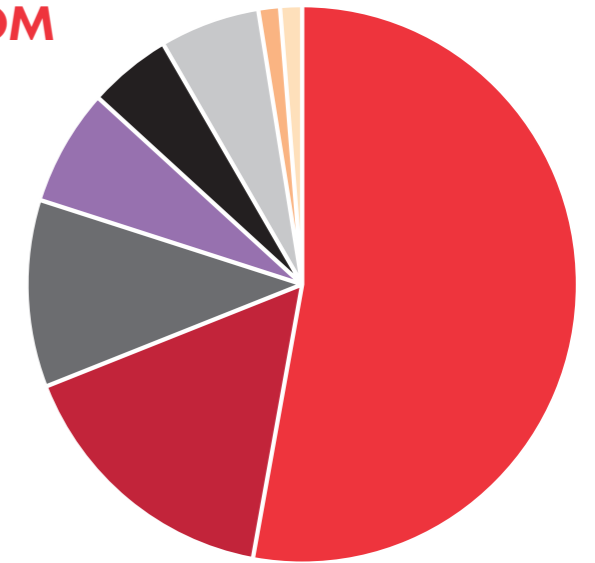
(2) Current liabilities: FY21 includes lease liabilities of \$7.8m, adoption of new accounting standard AASB16 in FY20. Also included in FY20 is a loan of \$6.7m for Aquatic Education (reclassified to Non-Current in FY21).

(3) Non current liabilities: FY21 includes lease liabilities of \$35.3m, adoption of new accounting standard AASB16 in FY20, and loan for Aquatic Education of \$6.7m (reclassified from Current in FY20).

## WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

- Recreation and local government 53%
- Children's Programs 16%
- Kingswim 11%
- Camping 7%
- Youth and family services 5%
- Shared services and governance 6%
- Disability 1%
- Student Accommodation 1%

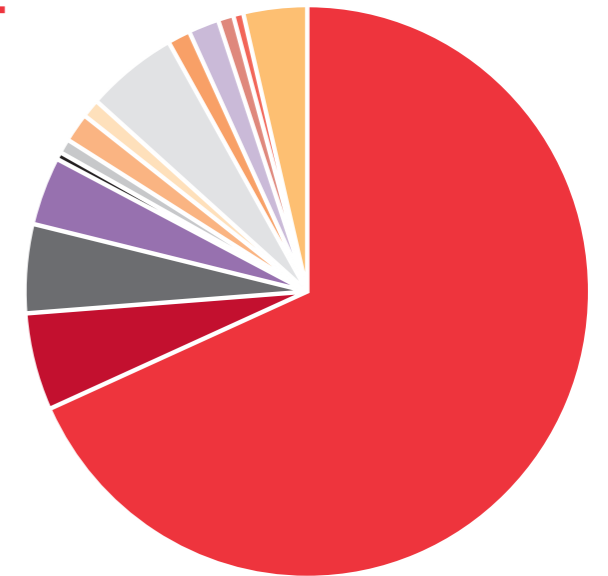
Total revenue \$181,941,235



## WHERE THE MONEY WAS SPENT

- Employee benefits 68.8%
- Other expenses 5.6%
- Utilities 5.1%
- Repairs, maintenance, equipment lease 3.9%
- Rent, rates and taxes 0.4%
- Contract partner expenses 0.8%
- Consumables and program costs 1.7%
- Stock purchases 1.1%
- Depreciation and amortisation 5.3%
- Finance costs 1.3%
- Licensing 1.8%
- Insurances 0.9%
- Marketing 0.6%
- Contractors and consultants 3.7%

Total expenses \$181,213,521

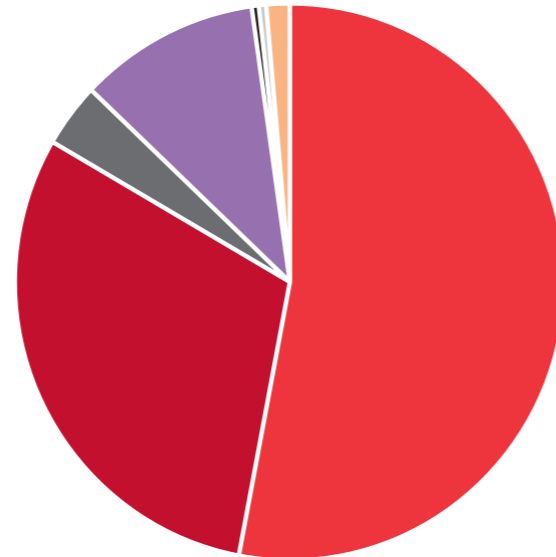


## Fundraising overview

Due to the closure of our centres, we have not had the opportunity to hold face-to-face events or fundraise at a site level. This has had a significant negative effect on the Y's revenue and YMCA Open Doors accounts. YMCA Open Doors helps people experiencing disadvantage by subsidising access to our programs and services. Due to COVID-19 lockdown restrictions, we were unable to provide this service.

## HOW FUNDS WERE RAISED

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| ■ Major gifts           | 52.98% |
| ■ Grants                | 30.42% |
| ■ Major events          | 3.73%  |
| ■ Local YMCA activities | 10.64% |
| ■ Bequests              | 0.42%  |
| ■ Workplace giving      | 0.43%  |
| ■ Individual giving     | 1.38%  |



When our centres are back open, we look forward to helping vulnerable community members participate in our programs. The Philanthropy team is looking forward to launching new fundraising initiatives once our sites have reopened fully.

## Support we received

From a grants perspective, despite the restrictions having a direct impact on our ability to pursue grants of a programmatic nature, we were still able to achieve more grants than last financial year. This is largely due to an increase in business support available to our organisation from the government in response to the lockdown restrictions.

A new grants system has been implemented which has made capturing and tracking the progress of grants available to the Y much easier moving forward.

## Moving forward

The Philanthropy team is currently developing some projects that will be ready for launch in the financial year of 2021-2022.

**Workplace giving:** We are updating the current process with a digital system that allows staff to sign up with just a few clicks! Once this is complete, we can ensure a steady and consistent stream of income for YMCA Open Doors. Workplace giving enables employees to make regular charitable donations from their pre-tax pay, resulting in an automatic tax benefit.

## Campaigns

**Get Outdoors for Open Doors:** This event asked participants to swap their slippers for sneakers and join the YMCA Open Doors 5km virtual fun run from Saturday 30 to Sunday 31 October 2021. Thank you to the 92 fundraisers who signed up and raised over \$1,840 for YMCA Open Doors.

**27 for 27:** The launch of our new '27 for 27' campaign can resume at metropolitan sites once reopening occurs. This campaign gives supporters the opportunity to add a donation of \$0.27 to their daily purchase at the Y, to support 27% of young people experiencing disadvantage in Australia.

**Streamlined fundraising:** We have implemented a new process for sites to inform the Philanthropy team of their upcoming fundraisers and grant applications. This gives staff the opportunity to outline their plans, ask for assistance and enables the philanthropy team to monitor compliance.

There will be a centralised process to fundraising with an annual philanthropy fundraising calendar to outline the upcoming events and dates to remember. All sites have the opportunity to align with the calendar and run their own events, to their preference.



# ENTITIES

**The Young Men's Christian Association of Victorian Inc**  
 ABN 81 174 456 784 / A0026728G  
 Community non-profit charity providing support to the community.

**Victorian YMCA Community Programming Pty Ltd**  
 ABN 75 092 818 445 / ACN 092 818 445  
 Offers recreational and childcare services across the state.

**YMCA Aquatic Education Ltd**  
 ABN 88 151 552 322 / ACN 151 552 322  
 Provision of learn to swim programs offered under the King Swim brand.

**YMCA Aquatic & Event Services Ltd**  
 ABN 16 148 092 148 / ACN 148 092 148  
 Management of the South Australian Aquatic & Leisure Centre on behalf of the SA government.

**Victorian YMCA Accommodation Services Pty Ltd**  
 ABN 94 081 270 706 / ACN 081 270 706  
 Management of student accommodation.

**Victorian YMCA Youth & Community Services**  
 ABN 42 858 439 742 / A0046043N  
 Ensures benevolent access to programs and services for people in need.

**YMCA Camping Limited**  
 ABN 77 606 062 793 / ACN 606 062 793  
 Management of camping facilities.

**Activating Communities Ltd**  
 ABN 31 619 359 590 / ACN 619 359 590  
 Retirement Living – project sold during the year and entity no longer trading.

# PARTNERSHIPS

**The Y's incredible work could not be done without the support of our generous partners and contributors in the community, especially over the past year.**

Whether you're an individual, a charitable trust or foundation, a corporate sponsor, a council partner or government partnership - we are so grateful for your generosity and support.

We rely on contributions from people like you to continue our vital work in the community.

**Thank you to all our supporters below.**

By donating to or partnering with YMCA Victoria, you are helping to support local people who are doing it tough, giving them access to our life-changing programs and services. We appreciate your support in helping us give everybody the chance to be healthier, happier and better connected to their community.

## TOP CONTRIBUTORS

- Bendigo and District YMCA
- Fiona Gray and James Gray
- Grosvenor Foundation
- Maria Lui
- Melinda Crole
- The Dowd Foundation
- The Russell Foundation
- Victorian Correctional Infrastructure Partnerships Pty Ltd
- Wylie Foundation

## GRANTS

- AGL Loy Yang
- Gandel Philanthropy
- Westpac Foundation

## PARTNERS

- AFL SportsReady
- APD Projects
- Arena REIT
- Australian Childhood Foundation
- Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority
- Brimbank Lifestyle Properties Pty Ltd
- Beyond Blue
- Canberra Airport
- Carlton Football Club
- CERES Sustainability Hub
- Community Child Care Association
- Coles Supermarkets Australia Pty Ltd
- Cypcil Pty Ltd
- Early Childhood Australia
- eWater Systems
- Family Planning Victoria
- Fitness & Lifestyle Group (Fitness First and Goodlife)
- Golden Luke Pty Ltd
- Gowrie Victoria
- Healthy Eating Advisory Service
- Healthy Together Victoria
- IPAN - Deakin University
- KIDDO
- Learning Communities Victoria
- Lendlease Real Estate Investments
- Les Mills Asia Pacific
- Modern Teaching Aids
- Monash University BrainPark
- n4 food and health
- Parents' Voice
- Ravenhall Correctional Centre
- School Sport Victoria
- Skate Australia
- Skate Queensland
- The Obesity Collective
- Trend Well Investments Limited
- Tymorn Property Pty Ltd
- VicHealth
- Victorian Electoral Commission
- Victorian School Building Authority
- Victorian Skateboard Association
- Westgate Neighbourhood Fund
- Zoos Victoria

## GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY

- Aquatic and Recreation Victoria
- Australian Government
  - Department of Education, Skills and Employment
  - Department of Health
- Disability Sport and Recreation
- Fitness Australia
- Government of South Australia
- Life Saving Victoria
- Nutrition Australia
- Parliament House of Victoria
- Sport and Recreation Victoria
- Sport Australia
- Swimming Australia (Olympic swimming trials)
- Victoria State Government
  - Department of Education and Training
  - Department of Health and Human Services
  - Department of Premier and Cabinet



YMCA Victoria acknowledges the support of the Victoria State Government given to YMCA Children's Programs.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



**the Y**  
 YMCA Victoria  
 Annual Report 2020-2021

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