

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

*“Serving young people since 1982”*

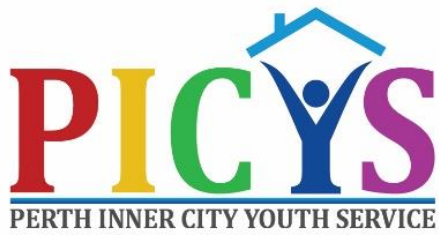




# WELCOME TO PICYS' ANNUAL REPORT



We acknowledge the Aboriginal peoples as the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. Specifically, we acknowledge the Whudjuk people of the Noongar Nation as Traditional Custodians of Boorloo (Perth) where we provide services. We pay respect to them and their cultures, and the Elders past, present and emerging.



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## OUR CHAIRPERSON & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

Welcome the 2023/2024 PICYS Annual Report, our forty second year of serving young people since 1982. This has been a busy and productive period, and we are delighted to provide you an overview of the past financial year's performance and achievements as well as a resolve to have a greater impact benefiting young people.

Although the post-COVID funding environment in mid-2023 saw some shrinking of PICYS Pillar capacity, with the service capacity scaled down from engaging with 40 young people to 25 and an associated reduction in our workforce, we were able to negotiate a return to increased funding with the Mental Health Commission. This enabled Pillar to again provide a service to 40 young people in our recurrent service agreement, commencing from 1 January 2024. In August 2023, PICYS lodged a proposal with the State Government funding to support increased capacity in the Household Network service, to support up to 60 young people, with 30 being accommodated. In June 2024 PICYS negotiations with Communities WA resulted in a recurrent increase to the core sustainability funding for Household Network to commence from 1 July 2024, to support a total of 34 young people and recognising the service's supported accommodation capacity of 28 beds, up from 12 beds in the original service agreement.

These successful negotiations are a testament to the positive regard in which PICYS is held in the field and with our funders and this was also reflected in PICYS being recognised in the Australia and New Zealand Mental Health Awards 2023, where we won the category for "Psychosocial Support", with special acclaim for our inclusive and affirming professional youthwork practices. PICYS has also held significant sector representations including the WA Homelessness Commissioning Reference Group, the Chief Psychiatrist and Mental Health Commission's Non-Government Funded Agencies Standards Group, Royal Perth Hospital Emergency Department Community Advisory Group, and the City of Perth LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee.

In line with this recognition of PICYS' impact in the youth homelessness sector and the tireless work of our staff, Andrew Hall was also selected to participate in the Social Impact Leadership Australia (SILA) cohort for CEOs from Western Australia and South Australia. SILA is a leading CEO development program funded through Sydney Myer Fund, The Myer Foundation, Paul Ramsay Foundation and Vincent FairFax Family Foundation, which provided as part of the programme a 3-month sabbatical leave from December to March 2024 for the CEO, financial recompense to the organisation to cope with the up-skilling of relevant staff, and a program aimed at upskilling Board members in line with CEO development. During this time Dani Wright-Toussaint stepped up as Acting CEO and other staff stepped into higher roles. Three Board members, Salli Higham, Ryan Fernandes and Taylah Sewell, participated in the workshop series with other Board representatives from the region.



As part of PICYS commitment to housing young people in a tightening housing and rental environment, and through careful fiscal management and generous donor support, the PICYS Board resolved in 2023 to reserve allocations of \$800,000 towards purchasing 2-bedroom units for inclusion in the Household Network properties. At the completion of 2023/4 financial year, the Board has determined to add a further \$300,000 to this purpose and to negotiate with the WA state government to match any PICYS funded property purchases.

In reviewing the use of PICYS funds and seeking the options that best advance the needs of the young people we serve, PICYS Board and membership determined, at a Special General Meeting on 6th August 2024, to pursue changing the legal entity status of PICYS from an Association Incorporated to a Company Limited, still retaining all of the constitutional objectives, values and charitable status benefits. This change is currently being undertaken.

There have been some operational changes, including staffing restructuring in March 2024 to introduce a Youth Services Manager position, to which Dani Wright Toussaint was appointed. This was also our first full year delivering all six diverse groups under the Mental Health Support Groups funding, with increased youth engagement and allowed flexible staff integration across the whole organisation, providing a whole-team collective participation, allowing for greater connectedness for young people. This restructuring, together with upskilling associated with participation in the SILA program, assists PICYS in retaining a strong and skilled workforce that is responsive to succession planning.

Although all these achievements are noteworthy, the key accomplishments are always the positive outcomes that each young person achieves. Evidence of these achievements can be seen throughout the following report and are the fundamental reason for which PICYS exists.

The Annual Report provides information to our membership, partners, supporters, donors, funders and stakeholders, and most importantly a transparent account of the work and endeavours of PICYS Board and staff.

In closing, we acknowledge the ongoing commitment and contributions of the elected Board Directors during the period who volunteer their knowledge, skills and time to the governance functions, a big thank you to Lucy Ledger (Deputy Chair), Taylah Sewell (Secretary), Ryan Fernandes (Treasurer), Alana Dowley, Zac Cawdron, Joanna Harper, Lisa Brown, Gee Anderson, and Mikayla McGinley.

We also acknowledge the staff team, volunteers and students who all provide authentic real relationships with young people experiencing challenging life scenarios.

At PICYS we recognise that we are all stronger when we "work together bringing our collective knowledge, skills, experience and individual uniqueness's focused on our agreed strategic directions".

We look forward to PICYS collective strength and impact benefiting young people well into the future.



**Salli Higham**  
*Chairperson*

**Andrew Hall JP**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

# WHO WE ARE

## OUR VISION

“Our vision for young people is that they will have the opportunity to make positive choices in their lives and realise their own potential”.

## OUR MISSION

PICYS is committed to working with young people in a non-judgmental and holistic way that fosters a belief in empowerment, integrity and collaboration, and which provides a safe and secure environment.

Youth work is a practice that places young people and their interests first.

***Youth work is a relational practice, where the youth worker operates alongside the young person in their context.***

***Youth work is an empowering practice that advocates for, and facilitates, a young person's independence and participation in society, connectedness and realisation of their rights.***

**PICYS staff work under the Youth Work WA Code of Conduct**

## OUR VALUES

### **Respectful**

Of all young people and their individual differences

### **Empowerment**

Of young people about their own lives

### **Responsiveness**

Of service provision

### **Person-Centred Services**

Young people, inclusive of their families, partners, friends and environment

### **Equity**

Of access to services on a non-discriminatory basis

### **Collaboration**

With young people and the community

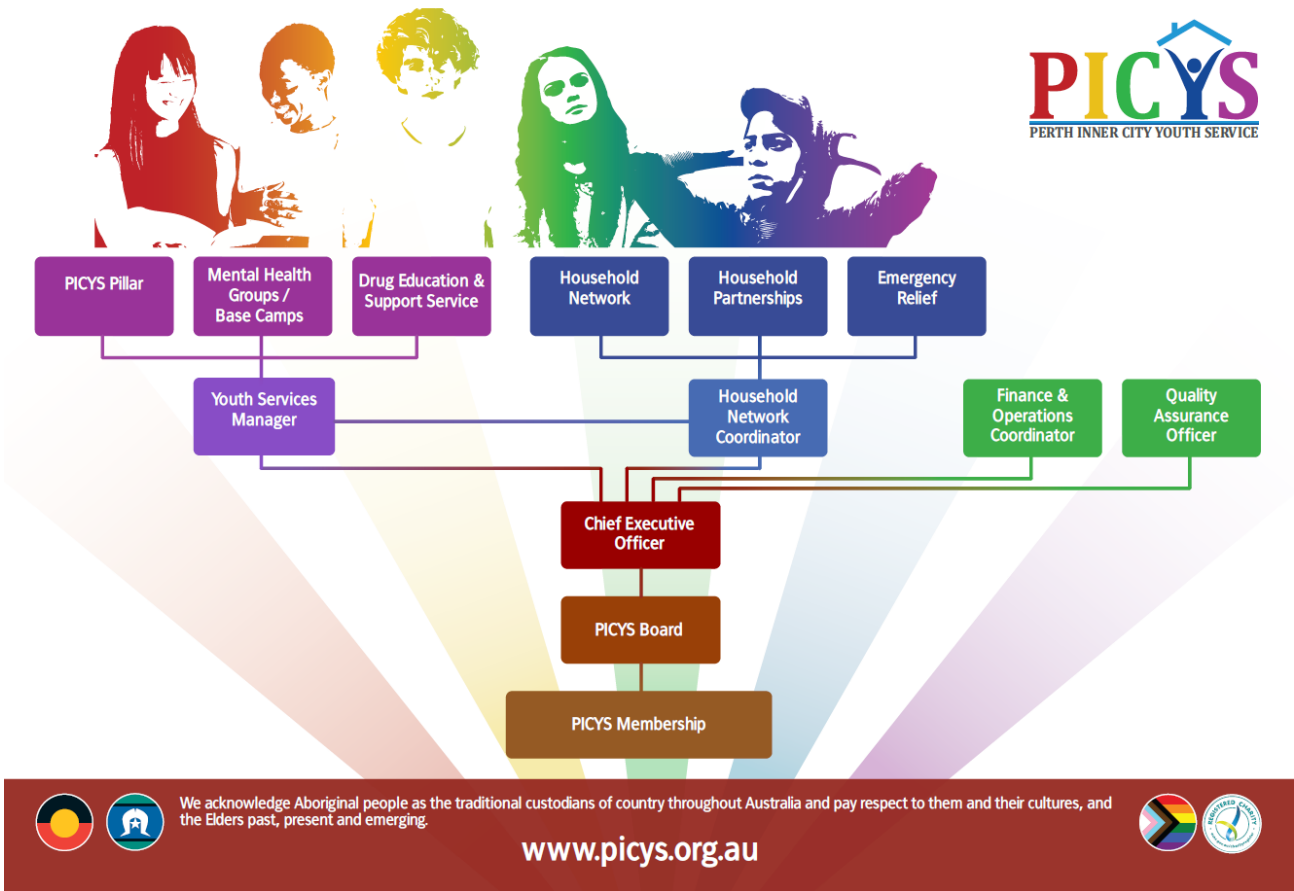
### **Care and Commitment**

Care for the environment, environmentally sensitive living

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of country and waterways throughout Australia and pay respect to them and their cultures, and the Elders past, present and emerging.



# ORGANISATIONAL CHART



We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia and pay respect to them and their cultures, and the Elders past, present and emerging.

[www.picys.org.au](http://www.picys.org.au)



## STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

### We will:

1. Provide young people with quality person-centred services, reflective and respectful of culture, lived experience and identity.
2. Provide safe and engaging places for young people, both environmental and relational.
3. Give "voice" to young people and their life journeys.
4. Continually improve services based on reflective practice, informed by evidence and research.
5. Seek revenue to strengthen our work and provide a sustainable service to young people.

**All our endeavours and activities pursue outcomes in the above Strategic Directions, working within our Values framework and focusing on our primary beneficiary – Young People –**

“THEY HAVE NEVER JUDGED ME FOR MY UPS AND  
DOWNS. I DON'T THINK I HAVE EVER FELT MORE  
SUPPORTED IN MY LIFE. SIMPLE AS THAT.”

- CHARLEY, 25 YEAR OLD, PANSEXUAL TRANS MAN

## SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Key Partners

Advance to Zero – Ending Homelessness  
ConnectGroups  
Courtney Mills Style  
Create Foundation  
CURTIN University - Social work  
Edith Cowan University  
Foundation Housing  
Homeless Health Care  
Perth Children's Hospital Gender Diverse Unit  
PFLAG WA  
PRIDE Professionals  
Private Property Owners

Rainbow Community House  
Rainbow Futures WA  
Rise Network  
RUAH  
Salvation Army Youth WA  
TransFolk of WA  
Telethon Kids Institute  
University of WA  
Vinnies WA  
Youth At Risk Network  
YouthLink  
Youth Mental Health WA  
Youth Reach South

### Funders, Sponsors and Donors

Castledine Gregory Law and Mediation  
City of Perth  
Courtney Mills Style  
Department of Communities  
FoodBank  
Individual anonymous donors  
Local Drug Action Group  
Local residents  
Lotterywest  
Mental Health Commission

MinterEllison  
Mill Point Rotary Club  
Neami National  
Novata Solutions  
Scarborough Rotary Club  
Second Bite  
Street Smart  
Town of Cambridge  
United Way  
Uniting Church Parish Floreat  
West Perth Rotary Club





Andrew Hall & Kath Snell CEO of Shelter WA

## OUR SERVICES

PICYS continues to respond to the presenting needs of young people who are experiencing homelessness and disconnection from a stable supportive family and community. Our services reflect a model of practice which sees, hears and values the young person as the primary beneficiary, focused on their identified goals, self-determination in all decisions and wellbeing. This has always been the way PICYS works to build safe relationships and places for young people to be affirmed, supported, belong, participate and leap into new opportunities.

**Household Network** has been operating since before PICYS incorporation in 1982 and has always been a primary and fundamental service within PICYS model of practice. Household Network continues to be a low threshold supported accommodation service enabling many young people to access a safe place to live and providing individualised support and case management during their experience of homelessness.

**PICYS Pillar** has been operating since 2006 initially as a locally initiated pilot youth mental health service integrated alongside Household Network, always focusing on the mental health and wellbeing of young people experiencing homelessness and benefiting from individualised psychosocial support. PICYS Pillar is well recognised for its unique specialist contribution as the only collocated and service integrated psychosocial youth mental health service in the specialist youth homelessness service landscape funded in Western Australia.

Similarly, PICYS **Drug Education Support Service** operating since 2022 is one of only two such services funded to operate in non-crisis supported accommodation services in WA.

**Emergency Relief** from LotteryWest is woven into all the service models to assist young people to overcome their immediate financial challenges and to be sure they can get "a feed" so they are able to continue to work towards achieving their support plan and case management goals faster.

**Base Camp & Mental Health Groups** has grown from its unfunded inception in January 2015 to be a significant part of our Service mix and the strong "glue" between the service models which creates the community of PICYS. The expansion of our Base Camp model of engagement since gaining Mental Health Groups funding in 2022 has proven to be highly successful.

# HOUSEHOLD NETWORK SERVICE



Fifty (50) young people; forty-seven young people and three accompanying children were supported in this period.

Thirty-three (33) people; thirty young people and three accompanying children were housed in PICYS Household Network supported accommodation.

## Ages

Age Range by Sex				
	Male	Female	Other	Total
0 - 8 years	2	1	0	3
15- 17 years	1	2	1	4
18 years	1	1	0	2
19 years	0	0	4	4
20 years	1	4	6	11

Age Range by Sex				
	Male	Female	Other	Total
21 years	2	4	1	7
22 years	0	4	1	5
23 years	1	0	5	6
24 years	0	4	2	6
25 years	0	1	1	2

ATSI	6	CaLD	7	LGBTIQA	32	TGD/ NB/Gender Queer	21
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In the last twelve months, 44 of the 47 young people engaged in Household Network had a prior mental health diagnosis, during the year 13 young people had a period in a psychiatric hospital or unit and 14 young people had a period in hospital for general health reasons.

## Key Reasons for Seeking Assistance

Reason for Seeking Assistance	Young People
Mental health	36
Relationship/family breakdown	31
Lack of family and community support	30
Housing affordability stress	27
Financial difficulties	25
Housing crisis	24
Domestic and family violence	18
Inadequate/inappropriate dwelling conditions	18
Unable to return home due to environment	9
Employment difficulties	7

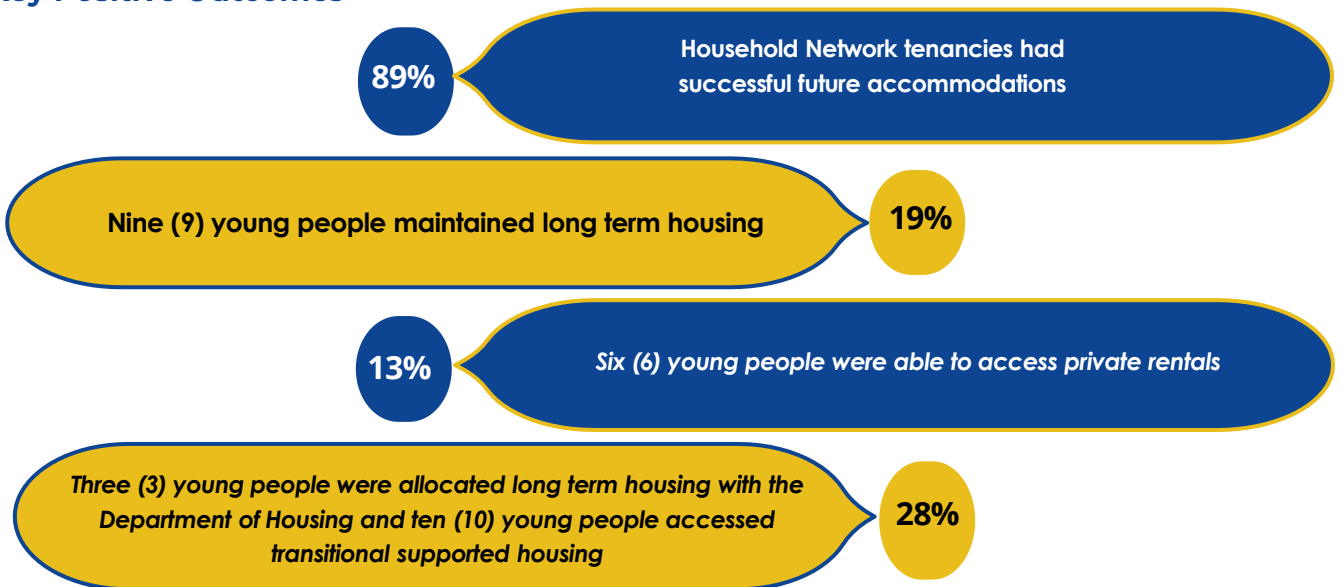


## PICYS Accommodation Partners



# HOUSEHOLD NETWORK SERVICE

## Key Positive Outcomes



Overall Household Network provided 47 young people with support to maintain or gain housing. Seventeen (17) young people engaged in Household Network were also able to access Pillar individualised psycho-social support and link with mental health clinicians enabling key therapeutic care partnerships to be maintained.

Twenty-one (21) young people also engaged one-on-one with the new Drug Education Support worker focused on education and reducing the impacts and harm related to problematic use of drugs and or alcohol, be that for the individual or their significant others and family.

Young people expressed the benefits of having skilled youth workers who helped them in their day-to-day life situations and worked together with them and their landlord to maintain their housing.

## Key Challenges



### CONFLICT

Young people experiencing high levels of family conflict, lack of family support, relationship or family breakdown. Mental Health also high



### SAFE

Young people seeking safe places and relationships where they can be valued, affirmed in their own identity/culture and supported in their mental health wellbeing



### SUPPORT

Many young people expressing their need for flexible individualised support to assist them navigate systems, gain and maintain stable safe accommodation and support their personal wellbeing and recovery journey



### COST

Accommodation affordability, in a housing market that has very limited opportunities for young people, and even less when entering the private rental market

# PICYS PILLAR SERVICE

Fifty-three young people were supported during this period, and of these, 42 young people engaged with a mental health clinician (79%).



## Ages

Age	Number of Young People	Age	Number of Young People	Age	Number of Young People
15	1	19	9	23	5
16	3	20	12	24	4
17	3	21	8	25	1
18	3	22	4	26	0

Female	16	30%	Male	8	15%	TGD	29	55%		
ATSI	5	9%	CaLD	9	17%	NDIS Entry with	3	NDIS gained	3	

## Key Reasons for Seeking Assistance

Reason for Seeking Assistance	Young People	%
Accommodation	23	43%
Suicide Ideation	17	32%
Homelessness	16	30%
Financial	14	26%
Drug use	12	23%
Self-harm	8	15%
Social Isolation	7	13%
FDV	7	13%

## Leading Presenting Diagnosis

Leading Presenting Diagnosis	Young People	%
Depression	16	30%
Anxiety	13	25%
Emotionally unstable personality disorder (EUPD)	7	13%
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	5	9%
ADHD	4	8%
Eating Disorder	3	6%
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	2	4%

## Periods of Hospitalisation

- A decrease in the number of ambulance calls and hospitalisations for young people
- An increase in young people seeking hospitalisation prior to acting on suicidal thoughts
- An increase in young people willing to develop safety plans and build their own coping skills
- Young people participating in psycho-education peer support groups to gain more knowledge and skills, and to share safely amongst peers



# PICYS PILLAR SERVICE

## Key Positive Outcomes

79%

Young people engaged with Pillar gained or maintained a connection with a mental health clinician

Young people accessing Pillar identified LGBTQ+ and found a safe and responsive place for their needs

77%



I know I can always go to my case worker when I'm struggling. They respect me. It makes life a lot less overwhelming to have Pillar.

Having a youth worker really helps me in so many aspects of my life, I think if I didn't have that 1-1 support with a youth worker, I'd be struggling a lot more with everything.



Seventeen (17) young people engaged in Pillar were also able to access Household Network supported accommodation with a number being able access long term housing outcomes.

PICYS' practice of affirming, trauma informed, strengths based, relational focused individualise psychosocial support was recognised in the Australian New Zealand Mental Health Services Awards.



## Key Challenges



### ISSUES

Young people experiencing high levels of suicide ideation, AOD use, homelessness and limited safe housing options.

The cost of living and housing crises have hit hard.



### ISOLATION

Many young people experienced heightened anxiety and social isolation due to lacking social and familial connections that affirm who they are, and a challenging employment and housing market



### ACCESS

The impact of lack of access to stable housing, longer term mental health clinical supports, and accessible health services



### SCALING CHANGES

PICYS scaled Pillar down to a capacity of 25 young people supported by July 2023 due to funding. From January 2024 Pillar's core funding was increased to 40 young people. This meant constant change and has been a challenge to both staff and young people



## DRUG

# EDUCATION & SUPPORT SERVICE

The Drug Education & Support Services (DESS) program commenced in July 2022 through the WA Mental Health Commission (MHC) funded program and has been a great complement to existing case management and support of PICYS young people. The DESS workers have been able to provide brief interventions during drop-in groups as well as work one-on-one with clients experiencing alcohol and other drug (AOD) related concerns.

Key DESS worker activities provided to young people during the last 12-months of operating can be found in the table below. The DESS worker provided AOD Group Education sessions called "The SESH" - Substance use Education, Support and Harm minimisation – fortnightly during the reporting period (see details in Base Camp Groups reporting).

The DESS worker also attended seven Community of Practice sessions with the other DESS workers throughout Youth Accommodation services in WA, and four training sessions provided by the Mental Health Commission. Twenty-nine young people actively engaged in DESS one-to-one support (individual counselling sessions, brief interventions and individual outreach support), 12 of that number were actively engaged in Household Network, and 17 were actively engaged in Pillar (2 were actively engaged with both programs over the financial year, hence were counted in both programs). A further two came from "friends of PICYS".

### DESS Individuals Demographics

Trans/GD	Female	Male	ATSI	CALD	LGBTIQA+
18	9	2	3	1	23
62%	31%	6%	10%	3%	79%

### DESS Worker Activities Summary

Activities by DESS Worker	Young People	in HHN housing	Sessions
Individual Counselling Sessions	13	8	67
Brief Interventions	11	3	11
AOD Assessments by DESS Worker	15	6	69
Outreach TOTAL (drop in & community)	87	Not avail	274
Outreach in community (only)	26	14	191

100% of young people who provided evaluation feedback reported that DESS increased their knowledge of AOD risk and protective factors to delay, prevent or reduce young people's own AOD harms and that it provides an evidence based, effective, supportive and quality AOD Education and Support Program.

A key outcome of DESS has been enhancing the capacity of PICYS Youth Support Workers to support service recipients with AOD concerns and build rapport with new young people through consultations with the DESS Worker and training sessions at the Mental Health Commission.

## EMERGENCY RELIEF



In 2023/2024, PICYS received a \$35,000 Grant to support young people at risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness with Emergency Relief. Thirty-four young people had financial support through PICYS Emergency Relief program for direct case management related support for items, such as, medication, food, baby supplies, ambulance cover, RAC, phone credit, bill support, ID documents, bedding and study fees. One-hundred and sixteen unique young people attended Base Camp in 2023/2024 and were able to access freshly cooked meals or food from our ER shelf during our drop-in sessions.

PICYS received a grant for \$61,758 from Lotterywest to upgrade the furniture in seven of our properties, which are in partnership with RISE, Foundation Housing and a private landlord.

At the beginning of 2024, PICYS received a further \$112,937 from Lotterywest. This has been used to purchase two new vehicles used to provide outreach support to case managed young people, new phones and laptops for staff and the remaining funds will be used to purchase furniture for properties we are currently negotiating to add to Household Network, as mentioned in Chair & CEO message.

**“BECAUSE OF THE ROCK THAT IS PICYS,  
THEY’VE ALWAYS PROVIDED ME A SENSE OF  
STABILITY IN WHAT CAN BE A CHAOTIC LIFE,  
ITS ONLY THEN THAT I’VE BEEN ABLE TO  
CHANGE MYSELF FOR THE BETTER.”**

- ARCHIE, 20 YEAR OLD, GAY TRANS MALE

## BASE CAMP MENTAL HEALTH GROUPS

This is the first full financial year PICYS has been delivering Mental Health Support Groups after being successful at being granted funding from the Mental Health Commission (MHC) in early 2023. This resources us to run Base Camp groups and drop-in at PICYS, formally establishing and expanding drop-in and other groups to support young people experiencing homelessness.

PICYS ran groups and drop-in open times with limited resourcing prior to being granted the MHC Groups funding, these were Base Camp Drop in, Base Camp aGender, Be Well, and Be Seen & Be Heard. Since the funding of the groups commenced in April 2023, PICYS were able to increase the range of groups provided. Be Active and Be Social has been added to the group list. The DESS Worker regularly provides an AOD Group Education sessions called “The SESH”: Substance use Education, Support and Harm minimisation.

## PICYS Base Camp Groups Activities Summary

Group sessions	Sessions	Visits by Young People	Unique Individuals			
			Total	Pillar	HHN	NCM*
Base Camp drop-in	146	907	116	32	19	65
Base Camp aGender	12	63	21	10	4	7
Be Well	21	34	12	4	4	4
Be Seen & Be Heard	7	7	4	2	1	1
The SESH	22	26	10	5	2	3
Be Active	29	71	19	8	4	7
Be Social	12	34	17	8	7	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>1142</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>70</b>

\*NCM = Not case managed in the reporting period. Be Seen & Be Heard is usually attended by young people who have been previously case managed in Pillar or HHN.

### Be Social and Be Active

Base Camp groups Be Active and Be Social built momentum and popularity during the 2023/2024FY. We have been fortunate to partner with UWA Thrive to assist in delivering some of the Be Active groups. We also utilised PICYS' RecLink membership to deliver Be Active and to engage youth worker supported young people in recreational activities at other times.

In addition, Be Social was able to take young people out in the community to the Nostalgia Box gaming museum, mini golf, ten pin bowling, Perth Zoo, golf, cinema, museum, Guildford taxidermy museum, Caversham Wildlife Park, Fremantle Prison Tour, and Art Gallery. Be Active was also able to take young people out to get active doing tennis, badminton, pickleball, squash, boxing, circuit training, ten pin bowling, volleyball, Kings Park walk, basketball.







### Base Camp aGender

Base Camp aGender continues to focus on engaging and supporting trans and gender diverse young people, facilitated by trans and gender diverse PICYS team members. At Base Camp aGender we are grateful to have Courtney Mills, local stylist, continue to attend each month to volunteer her time to talk with young people about how they style themselves to affirm their identity, celebrate who they are and meet any needs they may have. This might include their first item of gender affirming clothing, or an outfit for job interviews, for a special occasion they have coming up, or for seasonal or sensory needs. This year Courtney has facilitated a special event with Karrinyup Shopping Centre to support the work of Base Camp aGender, Courtney will speak about this at the AGM.





“PICYS UNDERSTANDS THE LINK BETWEEN MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH AND THE INTIMIDATING ASPECT OF INDEPENDENCE. THESE ARE THE THINGS YOUNG PEOPLE NEED HELP WITH, WHICH CANNOT BE DONE IN A ‘TYPICAL’ PSYCHOLOGY SETTING.”

13

- RENEE, 22 YEARS OLD

PICYS' Base Camp and Mental Health groups are mapped to the enhanced Maslow's Hierarchy of needs focused on the five primary individual needs flowing from Physiological, Safety, Love & Belonging, Esteem and Self actualisation through to the further developments of Human actualisation, Shared actualisation, and Planetary actualisation.

It is important in our relationships and work with young people that they develop their citizenship and participation beyond their own survival and immediate presenting personal needs and interests. This reflects the values of PICYS as a collective of people working for individual and collective benefits whilst also recognising the stewardship and wellbeing our planet that we all inhabit, share and depend upon.

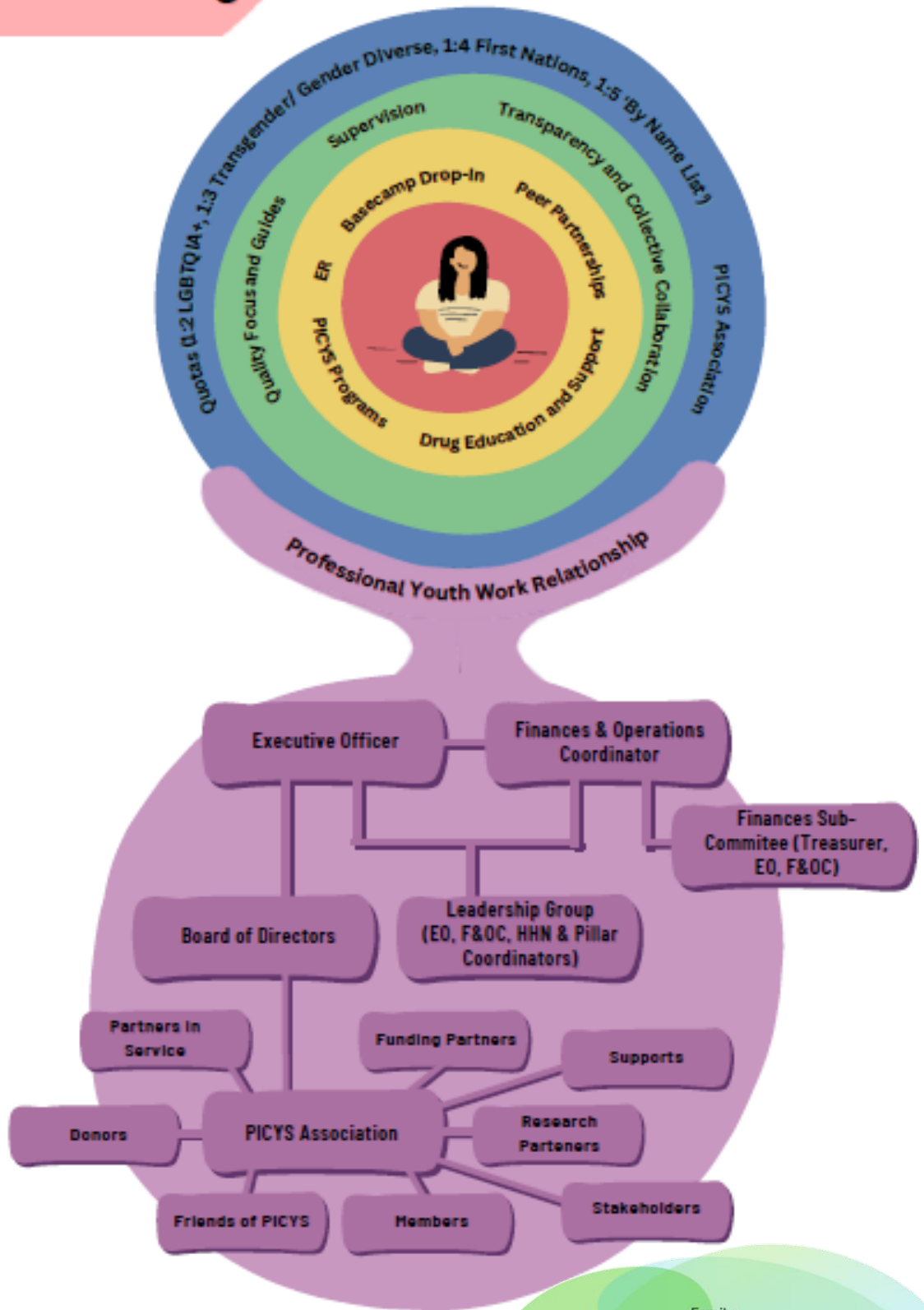
Our Base Camp Model is an important part of the overall PICYS Ways of Working.





# PICYS Ways of Working

- Young People's Achievements
- Results-Based Accountability Most Significant Change
- Professional Development
- Youth Work Code of Ethics
- Workplace Health and Safety
- Organizational Development
- People and Culture
- National Mental Health Standards Accreditation
- Governance
- Constitution
- Strategic Directions



# From Crisis to Recovery



# RESULTS BASED ACCOUNTABILITY

Trying Hard  
Is Not  
Good Enough

How To Produce Measurable Improvements  
For Customers and Communities

Mark Friedman

## Combined Program Annual Headline Performance Measure Results



85%

Young people feel they can better communicate their needs to others (individual & services)



88%

Young people can identify healthy, safe and supportive relationships

97%

"Young people were asked if they felt PICYS is culturally safe and appropriate and 97% answered yes"



78%

Young people said they had a better understanding of how to maintain a home



80%

Young people felt connected to communities that understood their experiences, identities and interests



75%

Young people said they know more about managing their own money



75%

Young people said their ability to physically care for themselves has improved



78%

Had a better understanding of drug & alcohol use and its impact on a person's well-being



74%

Know more about how to access education, employment and training services



97%

Young people who feel they can trust PICYS workers

"Young people said they have a better understanding of mental health and how it can impact on well-being"

88%



# MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE

“PICYS JUST MAKES ME FEEL SAFE AND LIKE I’VE GOT HELP WHEN I NEED IT. THIS IS IMPORTANT TO ME BECAUSE I DON’T HAVE OTHER SUPPORTS LIKE THAT IN MY LIFE. THEY ARE LITERALLY ALL I’VE GOT.”

- ADRIAN, 20 YEAR OLD, TRANS MALE

In 2024 PICYS produced an electronic report on LGBTQIA+ Young People’s Most Significant Change Stories. You can read the publication on our website. Click on the QR Code.



“PICYS saved my life. My youth worker and the staff at PICYS supported me with transport, housing, counselling, food, toiletries, and more. They also arranged fun activities for me to take part in. They boosted my mental health and helped me access other services with ease.”

*A aged 19*

“Since being linked in with PICYS I have started looking towards the future a lot more and can see a path forward for myself in the world. I have been able to find my direction and I am excited about achieving things.”

*Jazza aged 20*

“When I first joined PICYS, I was having major issues with my AOD use, was homeless and in unsafe situations. I was self-destructive and impulsive and had difficult relationships with my family and ex-partners who were abusive. I did not have any motivation or life skills to live on my own, such as using a washing machine.

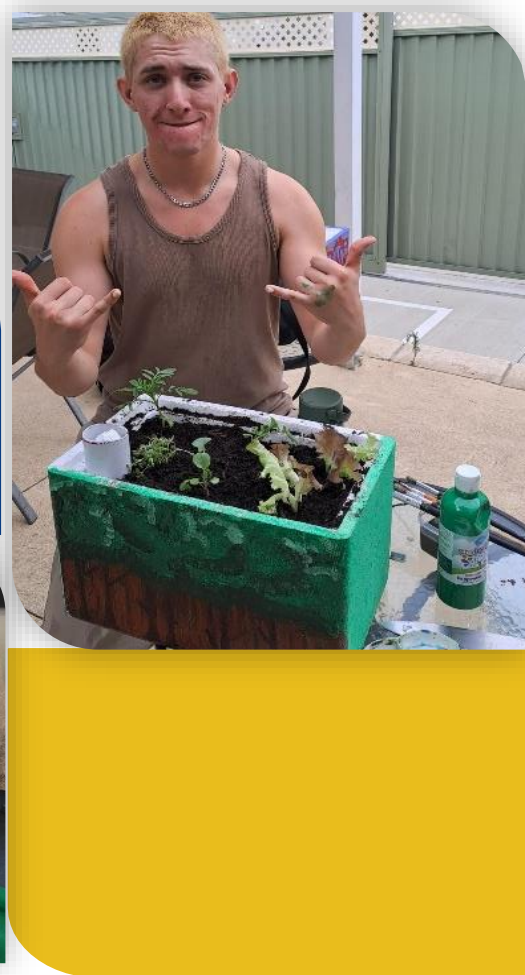
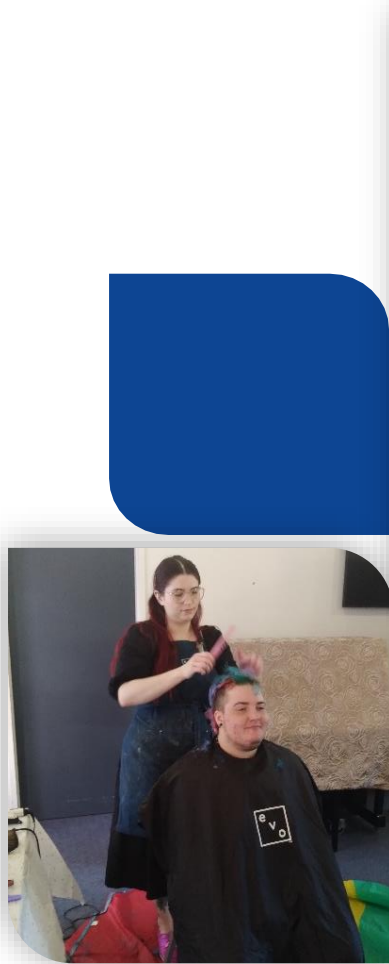
PICYS was able to get me stable housing, which was life changing. During my stay at the apartment, I was able to learn how to live independently and financially while navigating challenges. I got out of bad living situations, learned how to set boundaries in my relationships, among many other skills that I will be able to carry for the rest of my life.”

*Z aged 18*

“At PICYS, I find myself surrounded by like-minded individuals, who don’t judge me for being myself. I have had the opportunity to learn appropriate social skills; specifically, how to act around people of all ages, and ethnicities. This is something I struggled to understand whilst living with my family, because of their values.

PICYS youth workers have played a big role in helping me feel accepted for who I am. I feel that the staff here show genuine concern for my wellbeing. The youth workers have always been accommodating and responsive towards my concerns whilst living in PICYS shared housing.”

*Paper Crane aged 20*



## MOST SIGNIFICANT IMPACT PARTNERS & FRIENDS

Without the partnership and collaboration of our core impact partners, PICYS would not be able to see the number of young people achieve their stable accommodation and progress on a healthy recovery journey that we current do.



PICYS has supported these groups with sixty-three free venue hires during the year, with 476 people attending peer support groups and activities at 22 Blencowe Street property. A PICYS in kind donation value of \$2,465.





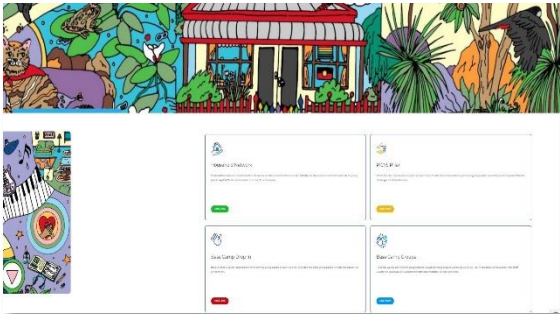


## OTHER ACTIVITIES & POINTS TO NOTE



### NEW PICYS Website!

PICYS was grateful to get pro bono support from **Novata Solutions** to create a new website and train the PICYS Team to be able to keep it updated!



### City of Perth LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee

PICYS has been endorsed to continue our representation on the City's advisory committee for a second two-year term.

Dani Wright Toussaint and Andrew Hall continue to share the position.





# OTHER ACTIVITIES & POINTS TO NOTE

## Rotary Clubs

PICYS continues to benefit from the support of West Perth, Scarborough and Mill Point Rotary Clubs.



**The Australian and New Zealand Mental Health Services Awards and Conference. In August 2023** PICYS won the Award in the Psychosocial Support category for our "Affirming and holistic approach to working with disadvantaged young people."

**PRIDE Professionals** selected PICYS as their chosen charity again in 2024 with opportunities to participate in the mentoring and alumni events. PRIDE professionals have now been a significant donor three years in a row.



# OUR KEY STRATEGIC GOALS FOR 2024/2025

1

## Grow Household Network

Consolidating the provision of the increase of up to 28 low threshold supported accommodation places through community and private partnerships.

PICYS has secured funding from Communities WA to 31 December 2026.



2

## Rebuild and consolidating PICYS Pillar at 40 young people

PICYS Pillar now has core multiyear funding through the Mental Health Commission since January 2024.



3

## Implement PICYS Better Off pilot service

PICYS will be piloting a Youth Housing First service in the inner-city area from January 2025 to 31 December 2026 funded through Communities WA.



4

## Review the Base Camp & Mental Health Groups

Review and explore further enhancements to the delivery of BaseCamp drop-in sessions and the variety of mental health/social emotional wellbeing groups.



5

## Deliver key developments in organisational capacity

1. PICYS Board will facilitate a Strategic Planning process building on the current 2021-2025 plan.
2. Actively explore opportunities to grow housing stock available to young people engaged with PICYS, through PICYS purchasing properties and partnerships.







## OUR PEOPLE

### Our Board Members

Salli Higham (Chair) | Lucy Ledger (Deputy Chair) | Ryan Fernandes (Treasurer)  
Taylah Sewell (Secretary) | Mikayla Jay McGinley | Alana Dowley | Joanna Harper | Lisa Brown  
Gee Anderson | Zac Cawdron

### Our Employees

Sherniece Andrews | Maddii Archer | Rhubarb Baptist | Hannah Bregger | Thomas Garvey  
Addy Georges | Courtney Goold | Andrew Hall | Ashley McHutchison | Krystal Soo  
Hina Stevens | Judith Summers | Nick Tran | Jennifer Van Der Ende | Sadie Ward | Adam Why  
Dani Wright Toussaint | Amscha Yogaraj

### Our Students and Volunteers

Hannah | Heather | Ashley | Courtney M. | Lauren | Maddy

# PICYS MEMBERS

As at August 2024



## Organisation Members

Anglicare WA  
City of Perth  
CREATE Foundation  
Earthwise  
Foundation Housing  
Living Proud  
Magenta  
Mission Australia  
Palmerston Association  
Peer Based Harm Reduction WA  
PFLAG WA  
RDP Enterprise Solutions

RISE Network  
RUAH Community Services  
Salvation Army  
St George's Cathedral  
St. Vincent's de Paul WA  
Starick Services Incorporated  
TransFolk of WA  
Victoria Park Youth Accom  
WAAC (formerly WA AIDS Council)  
WANADA  
Youth Affairs Council of WA  
YouthLink

## Individual Members

Alana Dowley  
Ashleigh Lin  
Clay Morse  
Damien Smith  
Danica Scott  
Denaë Basley  
Frankie Valvasori  
Gee Anderson  
George Davies  
Jane Knox-Robinson  
Joanna Harper

Lisa Brown  
Lucy Ledger  
Mat Jovanou  
Mikayla-Jay McGinley  
Misty Farquhar  
Ryan Fernandes  
Salli Higham  
Taylah Sewell  
Vanessa Harvey  
Zac Cawdron





## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Overview of Fiscal Year ended 30 June 2024

I am pleased to report that for FY24, PICYS achieved a surplus of \$323k, despite the expansion of services and increased operational costs. This positive outcome was largely due to continued donations, including a generous \$250k contribution from a private donor. As a result, our cash position has strengthened to \$3,327k as of 30 June 2024.

In our efforts to future-proof PICYS and ensure a robust foundation, we held a Special AGM on 6 August, where it was resolved to convert PICYS from an association to a company limited by guarantee. This strategic move will enable the Board to utilise our reserves as follows:

1. Allocate \$1,100k for the purchase of new properties to expand our bed capacity.
2. Invest \$1,000k into a share portfolio to generate an income stream for future years.

Securing funding remains a challenge, particularly given the current economic climate in WA. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our donors for their unwavering support. With the expansion of our services, we are well-positioned to negotiate additional government funding in the next round of grant renewals.

Our primary government-funded programs operated efficiently within their means, continuing to deliver the valuable services for which PICYS is recognised. I am also pleased to report an extension of our Household Network Program to 31 December 2026 and the Pillar Program to 30 June 2026.

### Summary

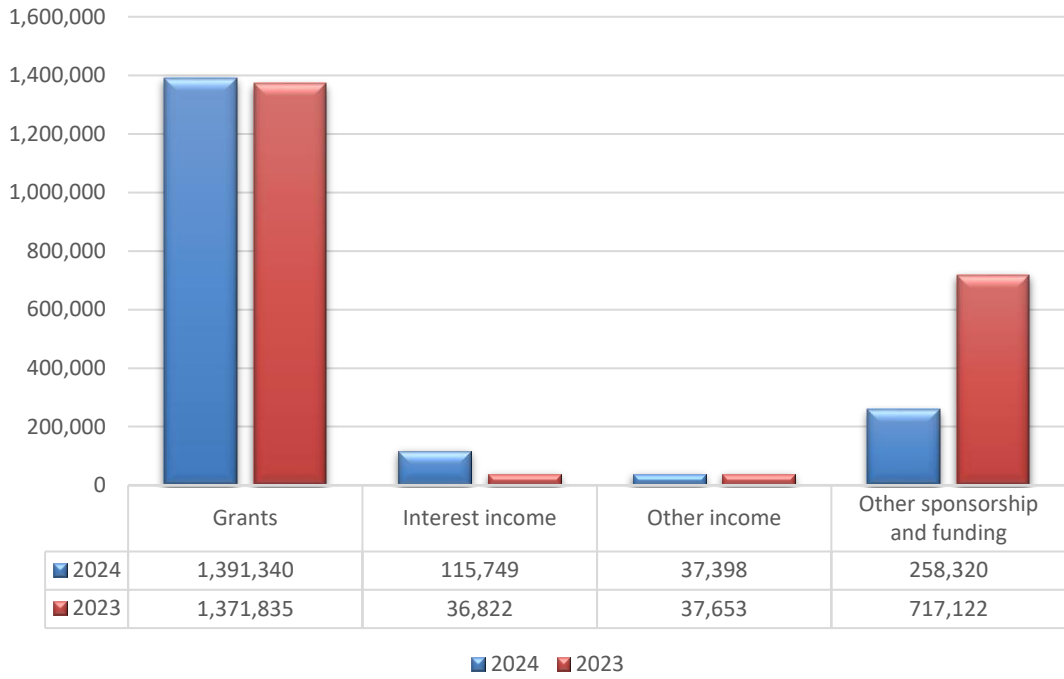
Overall, PICYS' financial performance met the Board's expectations as we continue to enhance our service delivery and customer service capacity. We acknowledge the ongoing uncertainty in the current market environment and the rising costs we face. Therefore, it is crucial to broaden our funding sources. We have secured continued state government funding for FY25, ensuring our operations can continue smoothly throughout FY25. The Board are confident our financial policies, procedures, and management will support both everyday operations and the progression of PICYS' strategic directions.

Together with the Chairperson, I would like to once again thank all our donors and supporters for their continued support. PICYS is making a significant difference in the local youth community here in Perth, and our strong financial position ensures we can continue to support them in the future.

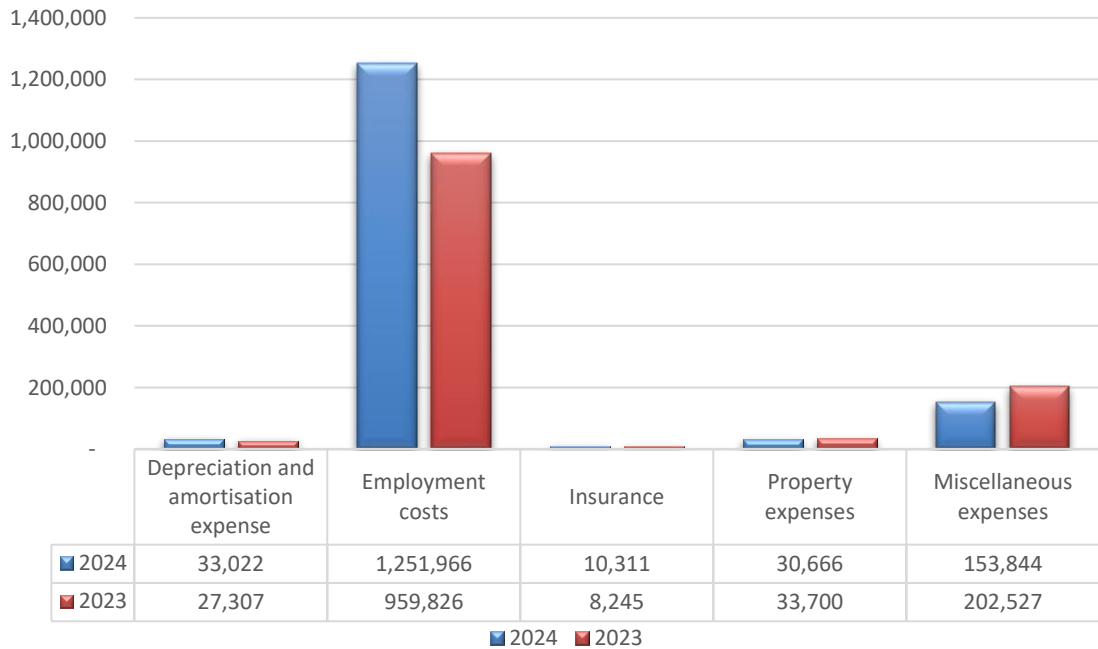
**Ryan Fernandes**  
*Treasurer*

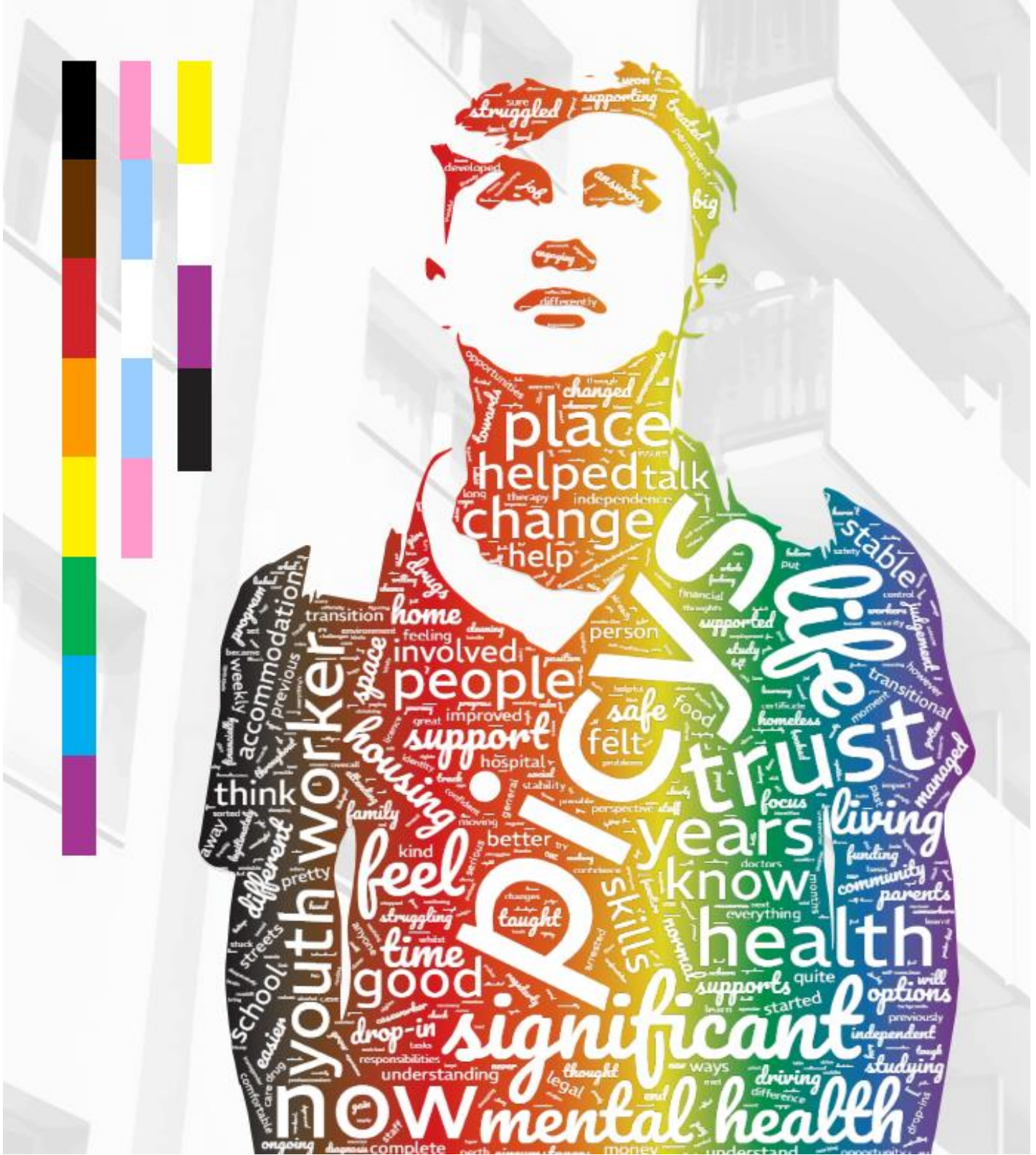


## Revenue



## Expenses





## CONTACT US

📍 PO Box 1062  
West Leederville WA 6901

☎️ (08) 9388 2791

✉️ [info@picys.org.au](mailto:info@picys.org.au)  
[www.picys.org.au](http://www.picys.org.au)

