

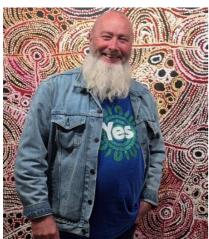
# ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025

"Serving young people since 1982"



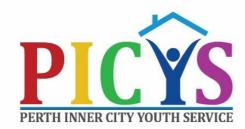








**Front Page:** Crabs on Darwin beach, waiting to switch into the bigger shell when the largest crab outgrows it and vacates. A shuffle of shell swapping. The housing market and homelessness!



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### **OUR CHAIRPERSON & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S**

Welcome to the 2024/2025 PICYS Annual Report. We are delighted to provide you an overview of a very busy period of work at PICYS. In the 43 years since PICYS was established, we have undergone tremendous development and expansion of the services provided to young people and are particularly thrilled to bring to you our history documentary "To Be and Become", charting PICYS birth and progress from the 1980s to the present. We are proud to report that PICYS remains true to the vision and wisdom of those early champions and continues to offer young people a service that is respectful, aware and responsive. Despite being able to grow the service to offer more housing options, PICYS remains as it ever was, an authentic, relational response to young people that recognises and honours the uniqueness of every person and their needs and interests.

The increased bed capacity made possible by negotiations with the Mental Health Commission and Communities WA in 2023-2024 has enabled PICYS to increase core sustainability funding for both Pillar and Household Network. This equipped Pillar to increase its service provision from 25 to 40 young people and Household Network to support up to 34 young people, with 28 being accommodated, adding 16 beds to the original service agreement for 12. These increases have supported a full year of both Pillar and Household Network operating at current optimal capacity. Both Household Network and Pillar are presently in Commissioning negotiations for future years funding with Household Network seeking to be resourced to support 60 young people with 45 being accommodated.

In March 2025, PICYS' proposal to further increase Household Network service capacity was supported by the Department of Housing and Works, who agreed to provide additional housing stock matched to PICYS proposal. PICYS offered to buy six (6) 2-bedroom units (12 bed capacity), if the State Government matched the offer with a further six (6) 2-bedroom units, adding a total of 24 new beds to respond to youth homelessness in the metropolitan area. This project is well underway, with PICYS' funds set aside, together with State Government matching purchases, we have currently added five new 2-bedroom units since 1 July 2025.

PICYS acknowledges our Community Housing Organisation partners in assisting this growth through recent years' negotiations - a big thank you goes to RISE, Vinnies, WA Salvation Army Housing and Foundation Housina.

PICYS continues to commit to collaborative solutions and has engaged in significant sector representations including the WA Homelessness Commissioning Reference Group, the Chief Psychiatrist and Mental Health Commission's Non-Government Funding Agencies Standards Group, Royal Perth Hospital Emergency Department Community Advisory Group, the City of Perth LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee and the ShelterWA Board.

In August 2024, PICYS Board and membership determined 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 legal entity status change provided more scope for options that best benefit the needs of the young people we serve and was finalised in December 2024.

In undergoing such significant growth and development, it was imperative that the Board consider future directions and the progression of these evolutions. The Board have been progressing the 2026-2030 Strategic Plan, which will be launched in early 2026 and provide a blueprint for the next 5 years. This is expected to be a period of consolidation as both the expanded service numbers and the unique nature of PICYS as an authentic, relational service are accommodated and maintained. The importance of this aspect of the PICYS philosophy was clearly demonstrated in the documentary we will screen for you tonight, where so many people - staff, service users and the community, past and present – consistently named this sense of belonging and intrinsic value as central to their positive experience with PICYS.

Of course, a key component of the nature of the PICYS experience is always the presence of skilled and sensitive staff, and we are grateful to acknowledge all of our team, including staff, volunteers and students, for their knowledge, dedication and commitment to providing authentic real relationships with young people experiencing challenging life scenarios.

From January 2025, there was a further staffing restructure to create two Youth Service Managers, Maddii Bovell was appointed as Youth Services Manager - Homelessness and Dani Wright Toussaint continued as Youth Service Manager - Mental Health. This dynamic duo have together been the core leaders in the Services team as Co-ordinators for several years and bring great knowledge, skills and ethical leadership to their roles.

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.

At PICYS we recognise that we are all stronger when we "work together bringing our collective knowledge, skills, experience and individual uniqueness focused on our agreed strategic directions". We look forward to PICYS collective strength and impact benefiting young people well into the future.

Salli Higham Andrew Hall JP
Chairperson CEO











Captions ->

# 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

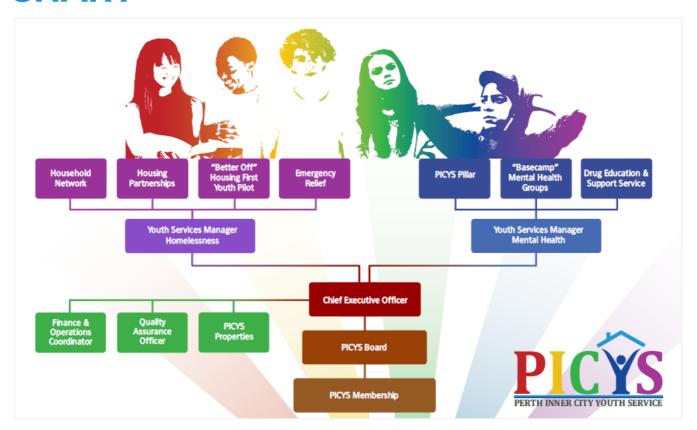
With young people and the community

#### **Care and Commitment**

Care for the environment, environmentally sensitive living



### **ORGANISATIONAL CHART**



### **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 -





### **SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

#### **Key Partners**

Advance to Zero - Ending Homelessness **ALIKE** 

Courtney Mills Style

Curtin University - Social work

Edith Cowan University Youth & Social Work

Foundation Housing

Homeless Health Care

Perth Children's Hospital Gender Diverse Unit

PLAG WA

**PRIDE Professionals** 

**Private Property Owners** 

Rise Network

**RUAH** 

Salvation Army Youth WA

Transfolk WA

The KIDS

University of WA

Vinnies WA

YouthLink

Youth Mental Health WA

Youth Reach South

#### **Funders, Sponsors and Donors**

City of Perth

Courtney Mills Style

Department of Communities

FoodBank

Individual Anonymous Donors

Local Residents

LotteryWest

Mental Health Commission

MinterEllison

Mill Point Rotary Club

**ORGsight** 

**PRIDE Professionals** 

Scarborough Rotary Club

Second Bite

Social Impact Leadership Australia

Street Smart

Subiaco Rotary Club

**United Way** 

Uniting Church Parish Floreat

University of WA Centre for Social Impact

West Perth Rotary Club



### **OUR SERVICES**

PICYS continues to be recognised as a leading specialist youth service focused on responding to the presenting needs of young people who are experiencing homelessness and disconnection from a stable supportive family and community. We see the young person as the primary focus and beneficiary of our services, with each young person self determining their own goals, commitments, pathways and pace at which they wish to progress. We also recognise that everyone's life journey has numerous unforeseen adventures and circumstances along the way, that is why acceptance and belonging within a safe community is a key aspect of the collective PICYS services.

PICYS' services include:

**Household Network** which has been operating since 1982.



**Pillar** which has been operating since 2006. <u>Information</u>

**Base Camp Drop-in** which has been operating since 2015. <u>Information</u>

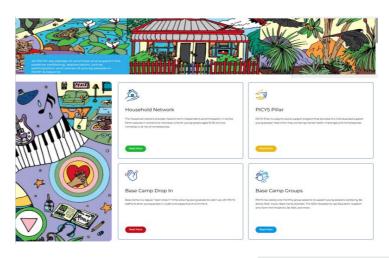
**Base Camp Groups** which has been operating since 2022. <u>Information</u>

**Drug Education Support Service** which has been operating since 2022.

Emergency Relief which has been operating since 1982.

All links to information can be found at our website: picys.org.au

The following annual report provides an overview of the engagement and performance of each of these services.



### **HOUSEHOLD NETWORK SERVICE**

A total of 64 individuals, including 55 young people and 9 dependant children, received tailored case management support this period.

Thirty-four (34) young people and 4 dependant children were accommodated in transitional housing through the Household Network Program this period.



#### **Ages**

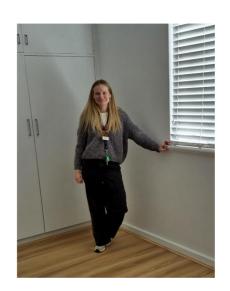
Age Range by Sex									
	Male	Female	Other	Total	Percentage				
0 - 2 years	6	1	0	7	10.9%				
3 – 5 years	1	1	0	2	3.1%				
15 - 17 years	0	5	0	5	7.8%				
18 - 20 years	6	7	8	21	32.8%				
21 – 25 years	2	17	10	29	45.3%				

Female	29	52.7%	Male	8	14.5%	TGD	18	32.7%
ATSI	13	23.6%	CaLD	23	41.8%	LGBTIQA+	27	49%

In the last 12 months, 39 of the 55 young people (70%) engaged in the Household Network had a prior mental health diagnosis, and during the period, 11 young people were admitted to the hospital for short-term psychiatric care. Twelve (12) of the young people we supported had fled a domestic or family violence situation and it was considered very unsafe for them to return. An overwhelming majority of young people who engaged with our service (90%) identified the current cost of living and housing crisis as a primary reason for accessing specialist homelessness support.

#### **Key Reasons for Seeking Assistance**

Reason for Seeking Assistance	Young People	%
Financial difficulties	55	100%
Housing affordability stress	50	90.9%
Housing crisis	50	90.9%
Mental health	39	70.9%
Lack of family and community support	33	60%
Relationship/family breakdown	28	50.9%
Unable to return home due to environment	17	30.9%
Employment difficulties	15	27%
Domestic and family violence	12	21.8%
Inadequate/inappropriate dwelling conditions	6	10.9%



#### **PICYS Accommodation Partners**



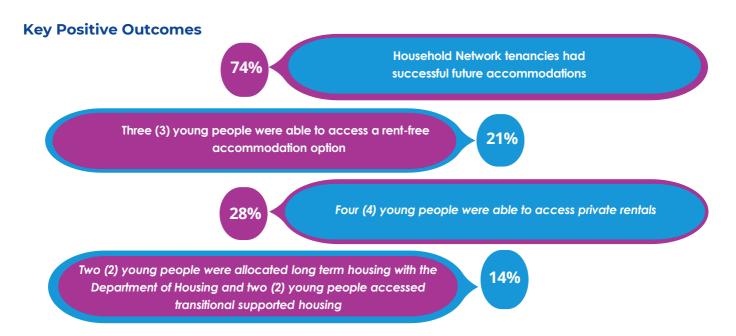








# HOUSEHOLD NETWORK SERVICE



Thirty-four [34] young people were accommodated through the Household Network's transitional housing program. Thirty-two [32] of those young people were successful in their tenancy and stayed for 12 months or vacated when they secured alternative accommodation. Five (5) young people safely returned to their family home.

Overall, the Household Network provided 55 young people support to secure and maintain housing.

#### **Key Challenges**



#### CONFLICT

Young people experienced high levels of family conflict and violence, a lack of supportive family networks, and a breakdown in the relationships.



#### **SCARCITY**

Young people
expressed deep
concerns and distress
around obtaining
housing due to the
flooded rental market
and lengthy wait times
for public and
community housing.



#### **SUPPORT**

Young people required flexible support without extensive barriers. The young people valued being met where they were at without being pressured into immediate change.



#### COST

Young people on income support payments are living below the poverty line and often unable to afford the essentials. This has caused significant financial stress.

### **PICYS PILLAR SERVICE**

Fifty-seven (57) young people were supported during this period, and of these, 44 young people engaged with a mental health clinician (77%).



#### **Ages**

Age	Number of Young People	Age	Number of Young People	Age	Number of Young People
15	1	19	11	23	3
16	5	20	13	24	5
17	5	21	6	25	1
18	3	22	4	26	0

Female	17	30%	Male	7	12%	TGD	33	58%	LGBTIQA+	44	77%
ATSI	6	10.5%	CaLD	12	21%	NDIS	Entry with	5	NDIS gained	5	

#### **Key Reasons for Seeking Assistance**

Reason for Seeking Assistance	Young People	%
Accommodation	28	49%
Homelessness	16	28%
Financial	14	25%
Suicide Ideation	14	25%
Social Isolation	13	23%
Drug Use	9	16%
FDV	8	14%
Self-harm	8	14%

#### **Leading Presenting Diagnosis**

Leading Presenting Diagnoses	Young People	%
Depression	14	25%
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	10	18%
Anxiety	8	14%
Emotionally Unstable Personality Disorder (EUPD)	8	14%
ADHD	3	0.5%
Eating Disorder	2	0.4%
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	2	0.4%

# PICYS PILLAR SERVICE

#### **Key Positive Outcomes**

77%

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

Young people accessing Pillar identified LGBTIQ+ 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.



Eighteen (18) young people engaged in Pillar were also able to access Household Network supported accommodation while supported by the PICYS Pillar service, with a number being able access long term housing outcomes.

#### **Key Challenges**



#### **ISSUES**

Young people
experiencing high
levels of suicide
ideation,
homelessness, limited
safe housing options,
and lacking
appropriate and
accessible support
from job service
providers.



#### **ISOLATION**

Many young people
experienced
heightened anxiety and
social isolation due to
lacking social and
familial connections
that affirm who they
are.



#### **ACCESS**

The negative impact of a lack of access to stable housing, longer term mental health clinical supports, and accessible health services and Justice system experiences and services.



#### **SAFE HOUSING**

This is the highest demand in the presenting issue for young people engaging with Pillar.

Insufficient safe affordable secure accommodation & or housing.

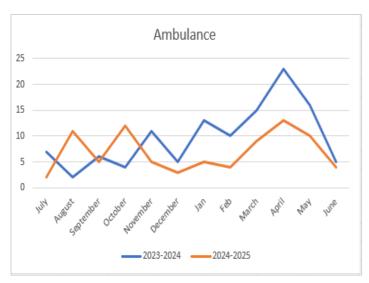
### PICYS YOUTH WORK SUPPORT **SERVICES**

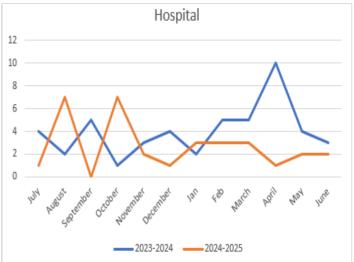
#### **Hospitalisations and Ambulance Calls**

Despite having a higher number of young people engaged, emergency intervention events dropped significantly (ambulance trips 117 to 83; total hospitalisations 48 to 32) compared to the previous year, demonstrating the success of staff-supported safety planning and facilitated admissions and accessible supports for earlier intervention.

The recorded hospitalisation-to-ambulance trip ratio is at 38% this reporting period compared to 41% last period; the total hospitalisations figure (32) includes admissions facilitated by staff and others without the use of emergency transport.

The true conversion rate for young people arriving via ambulance is therefore significantly lower than 38%, providing strong statistical evidence that systemic pressures, such as ambulance ramping, are actively preventing vulnerable young people from accessing acute mental health care.





### 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 six Community of Practice sessions with the other DESS workers throughout Youth Accommodation services in WA, and six training sessions provided by the Mental Health Commission. Thirty-eight (38)young people engaged in one-to-one support through the DESS program, which includes individual counseling sessions, brief interventions, and individual outreach. Of these 38, 20 were actively engaged in Household Network (HHN), 15 were actively engaged in Pillar and 4 were actively engaged in the Better Off program.

It's important to note that 4 young people were involved in more than one program. Two (2) of them were counted in both HHN and Better Off, while another 2 were counted in both Pillar and Better Off. Additionally, 3 young people who are considered "friends of PICYS" also received support.

#### **DESS Individuals Demographics**

Trans/GD	Female	Male	ATSI	CALD	LGBTIQA+
10	14	11	8	8	17
27%	37%	29%	21%	21%	45%

100% of young people who provided evaluation feedback reported that DESS increased their knowledge of how to access AOD and mental health support and other specialist support services, and that it provides an evidence based, effective, supportive and quality AOD Education and Support Service.

#### **DESS Worker Activities Summary**

Activities by DESS Worker	# Young People	# in HHN housing	# Sessions
Individual Counselling Sessions	23	11	81
Brief Interventions	11	4	11
AOD Assessments by DESS Worker	23	8	108
Outreach TOTAL (drop in & community)	104	30	287
Outreach in community (only)	33	16	220

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. Additionally, we've seen increased engagement from young people in HHN supported accommodation, a trend we expect to continue as HHN grows.

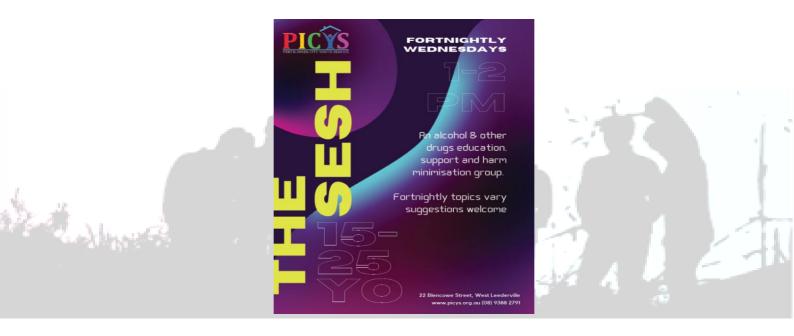




Contractual resourcing has been inadequate, and the CEO has been negotiating with MHC as the service annual funding level for the contracted deliverables is not sustainable and therefore is an "ongoing concern".

This is recognised for the entire statewide DESS program run by MHC.

Over this twelve-month period PICYS reported 26 notifiable incidents concerning 6 young people to the MHC. Four (4) of these young people, who engaged with the DESS worker, accounted for 22 of the notifiable incident reports.



### **EMERGENCY RELIEF**

In 2024/2025, PICYS received an annual \$35,000 grant to support young people at risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness with Emergency Relief. The funds provided 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.

Foodbank, Second Bite, Coles local Shenton Park, local churches and community groups also provided regular donations to supplement the funds available from LotteryWest.

In 2024/2025 PICYS received a LotteryWest grant for \$61,758 to upgrade the furniture for our existing Household Network properties.

PICYS has lodged a new LotteryWest grant application for furnishing the newly Household Network properties.



### "I FELT CARED FOR, PROBABLY THE KIND OF CARE MOST KIDS GET FROM THEIR PARENTS THAT I JUST WASN'T GETTING."





# BASE CAMP & MENTAL HEALTH GROUPS

As part of our Basecamp groups, PICYS hosts regular annual events designed to strengthen our community and promote wellbeing. These events also foster stronger working relationships between young people and staff, resulting in the high trust relationships that we have with young people. Key traditions include the PICYS Mental Health Week event in October and the Young People's Festive Lunch in December. Our events always have dedicated lower-sensory spaces and wheelchair accessible options and activities, allowing us to welcome young people with diverse support needs.

The Mental Health Week event is delivered in partnership with NEAMI, a longstanding supporter of PICYS. We are also fortunate to receive contributions from Thread Together, and from Courtney Mills Style and her Glam Squad from Rainbow Room, who provide free gender-affirming and gender-explorative haircare, nail art, and fashion styling services for young people. Alongside these activities, young people enjoy arts and crafts, casual lawn games, and lively music with staff, making this event a highlight of the year.

#### **Base Camp Groups Activities Summary**

		# Visits by	# Unique Individuals				
Group sessions	# Sessions	# Sessions Young People		Pillar	HHN	NCM*	
Base Camp drop-in	141	875	137	36	38	63	
Base Camp aGender	12	66	22	11	1	10	
Be Well	10	17	9	4	2	3	
Be Seen & Be Heard	4	17	11	5	3	3	
The SESH	11	24	11	6	2	3	
Be Active	28	68	21	12	5	4	
Be Social	12	57	25	15	5	5	
TOTAL	218	1124	146	38	41	67	

<sup>\*</sup>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.

We recognise that many young people experience challenging relationships with family and community, whether due to their identities, health challenges, or other circumstances may not feel comfortable disclosing. In response, PICYS hosts an annual Festive Lunch, offering young people a safe and welcoming space to celebrate the holiday season with friends who may also be their 'chosen family.' Staff join in the celebrations, sharing food, activities, and connection. Each receives young person handpicked gift from PICYS and enjoys a festive meal, topped off with a surprise visit from Mx Santa.



# **BASE CAMP** A PLACE TO BE AND BECOME SOCIAL BELONGING & ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP SOCIAL INCLUSION & INDIVIDUAL ACKOWLEDGMENT OPEN ACCESS DROP IN. FOOD. HYGIENE. SHOWER

#### **Base Camp aGender**

This year Base Camp aGender has continued to run monthly for trans and gender diverse young people experiencing/at risk of homelessness.

PICYS' trans and gender diverse staff facilitated 12 Base Camp aGender sessions that were attended 66 times by 23 trans and gender diverse young people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. l† has the highest average number of attendances per session of all PICYS Base Camp groups sessions (see table previous page).

We have also been grateful to continue to have support from Courtney Mills, Perth based stylist who volunteers her time each month to provide style consults with young people visiting Base Camp aGender. Courtney Mills has sourced ORGsight as a donor to fund a budget for us to purchase items that young people need and want, as identified through her style consults.

Thanks, ORGsight & Courtney Mills!

# ALIGNED TO THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

### PICYS PROGRAMS -ALIGNED TO THE UN SDGs



#### HOUSEHOLD NETWORK

Provides medium-term supported housing for 16 to 25 year olds at risk of homelessness



### PILLAR PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT

Individualised support for youth struggling with mental health, wellbeing and stable housing



### BASE CAMP/DROP-IN SERVICES

Emergency relief (food, hygiene, material aid), peer support groups and safe meeting spaces



### ALIGNED TO SUSTAINABLE GOALS



Poverty is a major risk factor for housing instability. By providing housing, case management, and tailored support to vulnerable youth, PICYS helps build pathways to education, employment, and independence. This plays a vital role in breaking cycles of poverty and promoting long-term wellbeing.



PICYS promotes food security and helps combat hunger and malnutrition among youth at risk of homelessness through its Base Camp / Drop-In services, by direct provision of meals, food vouchers, and connections to community food resources like Foodbank and SecondBite.



The Pillar program provides trauma-informed, youth-centred mental health and wellbeing support. Through its services, PICYS addresses complex mental health needs, promotes emotional resilience, and provides access to healthcare, contributing to improved health outcomes – as recognised in <a href="The Mental Health Services Awards">The Mental Health Services Awards</a> for Psychosocial Support (Aug 2023).



PICYS helps young people to build valuable life skills and re-engage with education and training opportunities via Pillar, empowering them in their journey towards independence.

HOUSEHOLD NETWORK



PILLAR PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT



BASE CAMP / DROP-IN SERVICES



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### ALIGNED TO SUSTAINABLE GOALS



LGBTQIA+ youth are 5 times more likely to experience homelessness. The Household Network program achieves an 85% success rate in helping young people including access safe, long-term stable housing and ongoing wraparound support.



Access to water, sanitation and hygiene is a human right. PICYS Base Camp Drop-In and Housing Network provides access to clean water and sanitation for those experiencing housing insecurity.



PICYS provides stable accommodation and individualised psychosocial support, enabling young people to build life skills, improve mental health. By fostering independence and social inclusion, PICYS contributes to economic growth and pathways to further education and decent work for vulnerable youth.



By developing personalised, flexible solutions such as the Household Network program, PICYS contributes to building inclusive infrastructure and fostering innovation in community-based support systems to support vulnerable youth. HOUSEHOLD **NETWORK** 



**PILLAR PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT** 



**BASE CAMP / DROP-IN SERVICES** 



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### ALIGNED TO SUSTAINABLE GOALS



Through inclusive, non-judgmental support and advocacy, PICYS helps reduce inequality by empowering young people facing homelessness, mental health challenges, and family breakdown to access housing, healthcare, education, and employment, promoting their full participation in society.



Through the Household Network, PICYS provides safe, supported housing options and fosters a sense of belonging for young people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. This contributes to more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable communities where vulnerable youth can live with dignity and stability.



PICYS advocates for young people who are often excluded from systems of support. Through trauma-informed, person-centred care and collaboration with other services, PICYS promotes inclusive decision-making, access to justice, and stronger, more accountable support structures for vulnerable youth.



PICYS actively collaborates with government, community organisations, health services, members and supporters to deliver integrated care and advocacy for young people. These partnerships strengthen the PICYS impact and reflect a shared commitment to achieving sustainable outcomes through collective action.

HOUSEHOLD **NETWORK** 



**PILLAR PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT** 



BASE CAMP / **DROP-IN SERVICES** 



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### **RESULTS BASED ACCOUNTABILITY**

**Annual Headline Performance Measure Results** 



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



Young people can identify healthy, safe and supportive relationships



Trying Hard Is Not **Good Enoug** How To Produce Measurable Improvements For Customers and Communities Mark Friedman

100%

"Young people were asked if they felt PICYS is culturally safe and appropriate and 100% answered yes"



79%

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

82%

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



64%



Young people said they know more about managing their own money



77%

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



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

67%



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



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"



### MOST SIGNIFICANT **CHANGE**

"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

"The most significant change for me is how independent I have become since working with PICYS. I now feel confident in attending appointments and going grocery shopping by myself. I also have better living skills, such as using a washing machine and cleaning. I have developed especially impressive toilet cleaning skills. I also have a better understanding of tenancy related tasks, such as budgeting, paying rent, and leases. I can set goals better. Being in a healthier environment has put into perspective where I want to be in life. I can set goals better. I am now studying at university, and I have attained a part-time

job."

**ELLEN** 

18-YEAR-OLD NON-BINARY PERSON Most Significant Change 2024 publication

"Getting housing changed everything, it allowed me to work on my goals. I made friends at PICYS, the friends are better influences, who are also working on goals and are more like minded. I was able to be admitted into hospital for a long-term stay. During my stay I was able to work on my mental health, get stable, stay away from drugs and people that were bad influences. Between hospital and Ngatti PICYS helped keep me stable by always talking to me, showing me someone cares and helping me get to appointments. I love who I am now."

**SMASH** 

22-YEAR-OLD NON-BINARY PERSON Most Significant Change 2024 publication

"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. My youth worker and the others were kind and listened to everything I had to say without rushing my recovery. Not being pressured into making quick decisions and fast changes was so important to me."

DORY

19-YEAR-OLD LESBIAN FEMALE Most Significant Change 2024 publication



### **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.











In 2024/25 PICYS has supported these groups with 42 free venue hires during the year, with 317 people attending peer support groups and activities at 22 Blencowe Street property. A PICYS in kind donation value of \$2,505.00.









### **OTHER ACTIVITIES & POINTS TO NOTE**

#### City of Perth LGBTIQA+ Advisory **Committee**

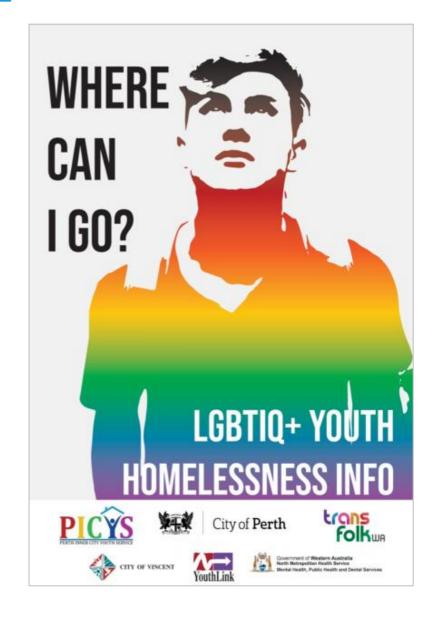
PICYS continues our representation on the City's Advisory Committee through to December 2025 when we have encouraged YPN to join as a youth representative body.

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

#### Where Can I Go? - Directory

The City of Perth provided funding to update the directory, a great resource for young people, the public and professionals. This is available through the QR code below:





### **OTHER ACTIVITIES & POINTS TO NOTE**

#### **Rotary Clubs**

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





**Social Impact** Leadership Australia

Social Impact Leadership Australia WA and SA cohort conferencing in Adelaide.

This SILA cohort provides the CEO a professional peer network of like minded and highly skilled CEOs determined to make a significant and lasting Social Impact.

#### **PRIDE Professionals**

PRIDE Professionals continue to have PICYS as their nominated charity for its fifth year.

PRIDE Professionals have embarked on raising PICYS \$400,000 for properties.

Together, Empowering Homeless LGBTQIA+ Youth: In partnership with Pride Professionals and PICYS



### BUILDING A LEGACY: 24 NEW BEDS FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

#### OUR GOAL: RAISE \$400K+

- To fundraise \$400k+ to contribute to the purchase of an additional 2bedroom unit to expand the PICYS Household Network Program.
- This unit will directly house 2-4 vulnerable LGBTQIA+ and at-risk youth each year.

#### PROGRESS TO DATE

- PICYS is delivering a staged 2-year strategy to purchase 6 x additional 2bedroom units.
- PICYS has already raised enough funds to purchase 3 units.
- PICYS is now fundraising to purchase the next 3 units to complete the initiative.

#### MATCHING INITIATIVE

- An application has been approved by the Department of Communities to match the provision of properties.
- This matching will result in a total of 12 units and 24 new beds for vulnerable young people in Perth.



of Help us reach our \$400,000+ goal to create safe, affirming homes for LGBTQIA+ youth - All donations received beyond our \$400K target will go directly toward the purchase of future units for the PICYS Household Network.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES & POINTS TO NOTE**



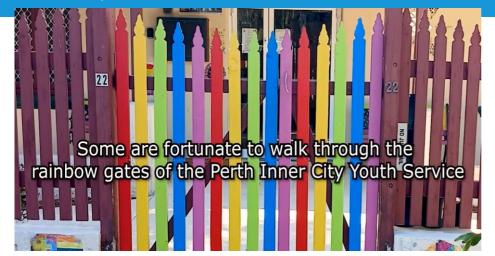
StreetSmart provided specific grants to PICYS during the year to cover student support materials and enrolments fees for young people experiencing homelessness, plus also a grant to assist young LGBTIQA+ folks with their specific support.





#### PICYS Documentary "To Be and Become"

PICYS Board commissioned Deborah Kennedy to create a documentary recording PICYS' early days and the enduring values, purpose and social impact. The documentary will be hosted on PICYS website post the launch on 11 November 2025 at the University of WA Centre for Social Impact.





### **OUR KEY STRATEGIC GOALS FOR 2025/2026**

#### Grow Household Network to 45 supported accommodation.

Consolidating the provision of up to 45 low threshold supported accommodation places through community and private partnerships.



PICYS to successfully plan to negotiate increased Annual Funding Level to sustain the additional service capability.

Consolidate PICYS Community Housing Partnerships' enabling the increased supported landlord functions.

Including endeavours to build housing pathways for young people beyond the Household Network service.



Look for additional Private owner partnerships.

Further Integrate PICYS Pillar expertise with the Household Network Service and Housing partnerships actively.

Consolidate the service capability to engage with 40 young people and enhance Partnership with YouthLink and other Youth Mental Health Services.



Further integrate the Drug Education & Support service expertise within the expanded Household Network service and young tenants.

Build opportunities for Base Camp & Mental Health Groups to continue to meet high levels of engagement with young people.



#### Deliver key developments in organisational capacity.

- 1. PICYS Board will finalise and launch the 2026-2030 Strategic Plan.
- 2. PICYS will purchase a number of two-bedroom properties to include in the Household Network expansion.
- 3. Strategically invest PICYS' reserves.
- 4. Focus on workforce development and capabilities.





### **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 Bovell | Rhubarb Baptist | Hannah Bregger | Shourodip Chatterjee Thomas Garvey Addy Georges Courtney Kim Zac Gibson Andrew Hall Ashley McHutchison Joseph Keszi Rebecca Morris - Ferrari Alicia Ngatia Krystal Soo Hina Stevens Bethany Stutt Judith Summers Sarah Treloar Nick Tran Jennifer Van Der Ende Adam Why Dani Wright Toussaint Amsha Yogaraj

#### **Our Students and Volunteers**

Cara Courtney M. Heather Maddy Nuala Libby

# PICYS MEMBERS

As at August 2025



### **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

Queer and Diverse Pathways

**RDP** Enterprise Solutions

**RISE Network** 

**RUAH Community Services** 

Salvation Army

St George's Cathedral

St. Vincent's de Paul WA

Starick Services Incorporated

Transfolk 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

Denae Basley

Frankie Valvasori

Gee Anderson

George Davies

Jane Knox-Robinson

Joanna Harper

Lucy Ledger

Mat Jovanou

Mikayla-Jay McGinley

Misty Farquhar

Ryan Fernandes

Salli Higham

Taylah Sewell

Tom Hall

Vanessa Harvey

Zac Cawdron





# TREASURER'S

#### Overview of Fiscal Year ended 30 June 2025

I am pleased to report that for FY25, PICYS achieved a surplus of \$523k (FY24: \$323k), reflecting both prudent financial management and the continued trust of our funding partners. This strong result was driven by a 31% increase in total revenue to \$2.37 million, primarily from expanded government grant funding, while maintaining disciplined cost control as our services grew. Our cash position strengthened further to \$3.87 million as at 30 June 2025.

During the year, PICYS completed its transition to a company limited by guarantee, positioning us for greater strategic flexibility and long-term sustainability. This structure has already supported significant investment decisions, including the acquisition of four residential properties in Tuart Hill, Subiaco, and Highgate after year-end. These assets will expand our accommodation capacity and provide a secure base for future service delivery.

In line with our investment strategy endorsed at the September 2025 Board meeting, the Board authorised the opening of a Commonwealth Securities (ComSec) trading account, with signatories being the CEO, Treasurer, Chair, and Deputy Chair. This account will enable PICYS to prudently invest a portion of our reserves in line with our risk appetite and governance framework, creating an additional income stream to support our programs into the future.

Securing ongoing funding remains a priority in the current economic climate. We are grateful for the continued support of our donors and government partners, with our major programs — including the Household Network and Pillar Programs — operating efficiently within budget and delivering the highquality services for which PICYS is known.

#### **Summary**

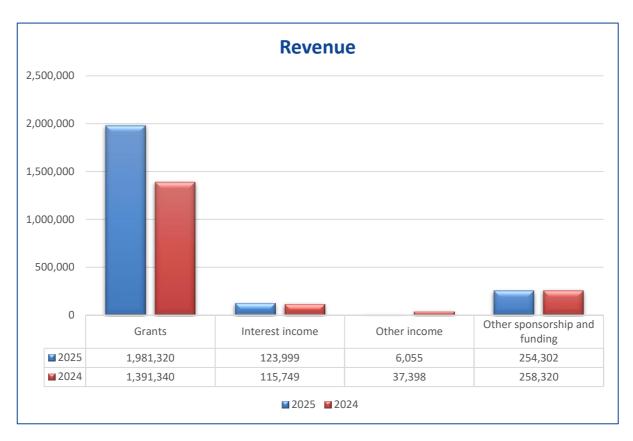
Overall, PICYS's financial performance exceeded the Board's expectations, enabling us to strengthen our asset base while continuing to meet the needs of young people in our community. We remain mindful of rising costs and the need to diversify income streams and will continue to pursue opportunities for sustainable funding.

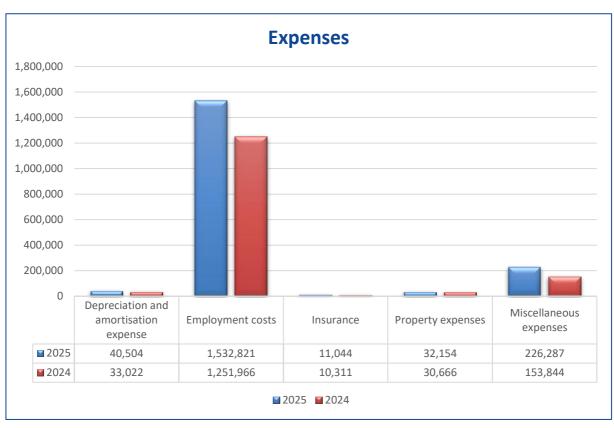
The Board is confident that our strong financial position, combined with sound governance and strategic investment — including the establishment of the ComSec account — will ensure PICYS can continue to deliver meaningful outcomes for Perth's inner-city youth.

Together with the Chairperson and CEO, I extend my sincere thanks to all our donors, partners, and supporters. Your commitment enables PICYS to provide safe spaces, life skills, and hope for young people — and ensures we can continue to stand alongside them in the years ahead.

#### **Ryan Fernandes**

Treasurer









Together, Empowering Homeless LGBTQIA+ Youth: In partnership with Pride Professionals and PICYS

### LET'S CONNECT

For more information on how you can get involved or to discuss donations or partnership opportunities, please don't hesitate to reach out.

- admin@prideprofessionals.com.au
- https://prideprofessionals.com.au
- https://picys.org.au

### DONATE TODAY

We invite you to join us in building a brighter future for LGBTQIA+ youth in Perth. Your support, no matter the size, will create a lasting legacy of hope, belonging, and opportunity. Donate here or using the QR below.





Perth Inner City Youth Service Inc (PICYS) is a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee registered with the ACNC. Charity Collections Licence: 17939. PICYS has Deductable Gift Recipient (DGR) status with the Australian Taxation Office as a Public Benevolent Institution (PBI), meaning donations are tax deductable for individuals and businesses and organisations.

#### INDIVIDUAL DONATION

Make a single contribution to help us reach our fundraising goal.



#### **CORPORATE DONATIONS & SUPPORT**

Support us via corporate donations, grants and in-kind support.



#### FUNDRAISING PARTNERSHIP **OPPORTUNIIES**

Explore opportunities to promote our fundraising efforts.





## CONTACT US

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- info@picys.org.au www.picys.org.au

