



Down Syndrome
Western Australia

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

DSWAAN member,
Adam Crisp attending the
Telethon Family Festival



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Our Vision

All people are welcomed in an inclusive society, where their contribution is valued and they are supported to lead a meaningful life of their choice.

Our Purpose

Supporting a Life of Possibilities.

Our Values

COMMUNITY

As an organisation, we provide an environment where everyone feels welcomed, where our members are placed at the centre of our decision making

The services we provide build capability and opportunity

Our work is strengthened by the partnerships we form in the broader community

COURAGE

Our actions and decision making are forward thinking, innovative and empowering

We are brave, curious and optimistic in our pursuits

INTEGRITY

In all dealings, with all people we are open, transparent and accountable

Our communication and our actions reflect fairness, equality, trust and authenticity

RESPECT

We stand for the human rights of each individual and their right to inclusion and equality of opportunities

We treat each person with dignity and respect their uniqueness

SERVICE

Our services are informed by lived experience, knowledge and research and are underpinned by empathy and kindness

CONNECTION

We listen, support, and respond to the needs of individuals and those that support them

We proactively seek out and work collaboratively with the community, our service partners, and decision makers to support the life our members choose for themselves

We communicate openly, transparently, and frequently

CHAIR REPORT

Another year seems to have flown by in a flurry of activity, with a growing staff base to deliver the many projects and activities offered by Down Syndrome WA.

Our Life Skills Lab project, which offers workshops and activities for adults with Down Syndrome, and their families, has been a very exciting development over the past 2 years and has been well received by our community. Some activities are for our adults to improve their skills in areas such as well being and money management, some are designed to start conversations about big picture issues like employment and independent living.

We continue to enjoy great support from the Telethon 7, funding our family support team, playgroups (which have grown to 3 in number with the addition of Playgroup East) and our Regional Outreach programme. This support, together with grants from others including the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation and Scrapheap Australia, and larger government grants channelled via Down Syndrome Australia, provides the bulk of our income and therefore funds our budget. Any costs not directly related to a grant project, such as office rent and outgoings, CEO wages, promotional activities etc, must be funded through fundraising. I would like to thank all those individuals and families who have made a donation through the year, especially those who sold socks, made cupcakes or held another form of fundraiser- these activities help build awareness of the Association as well as contribute financially.

There have been many changes in the disability space following the Royal Commission and reviews of the Disability Discrimination Act and the WA School Education Act. The biggest upheaval of course has been the review of the NDIS. We are very aware of the impact current and future changes are having on our families



and the uncertainty is very unsettling. I urge all families to write to their local Federal Member and outline the impact cuts to their support will have on their loved one, as well as their family and wider community. We acknowledge some changes are necessary, however we do not believe that wholesale slashing of funding will be of benefit to the Down Syndrome community and in fact will be of great detriment to the quality of life lived.

The Board has been working hard to develop a new Strategic Plan. Our aim is to be bold, with a 40 year vision, broken down into 10, 20 and 40 year goals. Thank you to all those members of our community who have given input and a special thanks to Board member, James Shaddick, who has given much time and effort to meet with people and bring together ideas, comments and stray thoughts into a cohesive, workable document.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank our CEO, Cassandra Hughes, and her amazing team for the outstanding work they do for our Association. Their focus continues to be on people with Down Syndrome and those who care for them, helping everyone live their best life.

I work with fabulous people on the Board of Management and I thank them for their interest, drive and special mix of talents that they bring to the table.

Nia Parker
Chairperson



CEO REPORT

As we reflect on another year, I am increasingly proud not only of what Down Syndrome WA delivers, but of who we are growing to be.

This year we have continued to grow and strengthen our programs. The Life Skills Lab has developed an increasing range of practical resources and opportunities, supporting adults with Down syndrome and their families. Our new Coffee Club has continued to grow. There is increased engagement in our Playgroups, Kids Club and Friends for Life and connection with our Regions is growing. Employment is starting to thrive with a number of placements being secured in the latter part of the financial year.

We continue to embed a culture that is based on commitment to our membership across all DSWA programs. I commend our team for their outstanding contribution throughout the year. We are a small team, working within finite resources, and their commitment to our community and willingness to continually improve what we do is exceptional.

WE ARE A LEARNING ORGANISATION. WE DON'T ALWAYS GET IT RIGHT. WE LISTEN, REFLECT, IDENTIFY GAPS AND LOOK FOR BETTER WAYS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION, RESOURCES, OPPORTUNITIES AND SUPPORT.

This year has been a strong year for lived experience engagement, particularly in the Life Skills Lab. Every course created and delivered has had a high level of input from adult members with Down syndrome.

We finished the year on budget, with a neutral financial result. Fundraising and donations were lower than anticipated, resulting in no surplus for the year. This reinforces the importance of continuing to



diversify our income, strengthen fundraising and develop strategic partnerships with businesses and organisations that share our values and want to contribute meaningfully to the Down syndrome community.

We have invested in the systems that sit behind our work, including the considered use of AI to improve systems, support document and resource development and reduce administrative time, with one clear goal: to give our staff the maximum possible time to create opportunities and outcomes for our members.

The new DSWA Strategic Plan 2026-2066 will provide the framework for a long term view of DSWA's development. It reflects our ambition to be agile to the external environment whilst remaining responsive to the needs our community. It is underpinned by the imperative to ensure that the organisation remains strong, sustainable, connected and able to respond to changing opportunities and challenges whilst delivering the needs of our community.

Community engagement continues to be critical to achieving our objectives. We need to hear from you, and we need your participation to understand changing needs of the community. During this year we responded to requests for a number of workshop topics, but unfortunately in many instances interest did not translate to registrations or attendance.

The strongest outcomes are achieved when people with Down syndrome, families, staff, partners and our broader

A close-up photograph of a baby with light skin and blue eyes, wearing a pink long-sleeved sweater. The baby is lying on a colorful patterned blanket, looking towards the camera with a wide, joyful smile. The baby's hands are near some colorful toys, including a green and yellow star-shaped toy and a blue and yellow star-shaped toy. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the blanket and some blue and yellow toys.

community contribute together. Your experience, ideas and participation help us understand where the gaps are and what we should do next. Knowing what support you need, what matters to you and how best to address your concerns will continue to shape the meaningful outcomes we create together. Your support is key to our Association's future.

I wish to acknowledge and thank the many stakeholders, partners, donors, sponsors and volunteers who supported us this year. I pay special thanks to our Board members for their vision and courage to develop a bold strategy and constant support for the work.

To our community, from all of the staff, thank you for your generosity, attendance, feedback and engagement. And again to our staff, thank you. We are a heart led team, and your hearts are as big as they come.

Cassandra Hughes
Chief Executive Officer
Down Syndrome WA

TREASURER REPORT

The 2025/26 financial year has been a successful and positive year for Down Syndrome Western Australia (DSWA), underpinned by strong financial stewardship and a continued commitment to supporting individuals with Down syndrome and their families across Western Australia. Despite ongoing pressures facing the not-for-profit sector, DSWA achieved a year-end result considerably stronger than the budget, recording a modest deficit of \$9,123.

This result reflects the collective efforts of our Board, leadership team, staff, volunteers, members, donors and funding partners. Throughout the year, DSWA continued to deliver a broad range of supports, programs, advocacy activities and community initiatives while maintaining a disciplined approach to financial management. The organisation's ability to substantially outperform its budgeted result while continuing to invest in services demonstrates a commitment to balancing impact with long-term financial sustainability.

At year end, DSWA remained in a sound financial position, with net assets of \$402,179 and healthy cash reserves. Liquidity measures are currently above target levels, providing the organisation with the capacity to respond to future opportunities and challenges while maintaining confidence in its ability to meet ongoing operational commitments.

While grant funding continues to provide the foundation of DSWA's income, the Board remains conscious of the changing funding landscape and the importance of building a diversified and sustainable revenue base. Continued fundraising, philanthropy and community engagement will be important in ensuring DSWA can continue to grow its impact and support the evolving needs of our members and their families.

The organisation's financial position provides a solid foundation as we look ahead. It enables DSWA to continue delivering quality services, advocacy and social initiatives while maintaining appropriate reserves to support future sustainability and resilience.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of our staff, volunteers, members, donors, funding partners and fellow Directors. Their support and contribution continue to make a meaningful difference to the lives of people with Down syndrome and their families.

Jemma Henderson

Treasurer

Down Syndrome Western Australia



DSWA BOARD AND STAFF 2025-2026

BOARD

Chair: Nia Parker

Deputy Chair: Hayley Warren

Treasurer: Jemma Henderson

Secretary: Kelly Wake

Board Members: Emily McCain

James Shaddick

Daniel Spencer

STAFF 2025- 2026

Chief Executive Officer: Cassandra Hughes

Senior Coordinator: Nikki Schwagermann

IT and Communications: Rachel Slevec

Family Support Officer:

Paula Salgado and Jemma Ross

Playgroup Coordinators:

Anita Saxby & Renee Whiskin

Playgroup Assistants:

Paula Salgado, Anna Currie &
Nicole Campher

Employment Coordinator:

Isabelle Quinn

Life Skills Lab Coordinator:

Kern Routley

Aim High Coordinator: Kern Routley

FrienDS for Life Coordinator: Jemma Ross

Kids Club Coordinator: Siobhan Painter



2025/2026

TOGETHER WE DELIVERED

TOTAL CONTACTS

Total Contacts 3675
broken up into:
Affiliates - 1270
Families - 2082
Individuals - 151
Non-Members - 172



CHRISTMAS PARTY

Approx. 166
people at our
Christmas party



FACEBOOK FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Total Interactions 5974
broken up into:
Total Posts - 615
Total Comments - 1732
Total Reactions - 3627



EVENTS



1277
Attendees
at our
WDS
events

DS MEMBERS



665
Members
with Down
Syndrome from
599 to 665

BABY VISITS



21
Visited 21
new babies
and their
families

SOCIAL FOLLOWERS



531,099 visits



SOCIAL GROUPS



Ran 22 social
groups for
people with
DS with
281
attendees

KIDS CLUB



Provided 9
events for
170
attendees

PLAYGROUPS

Ran 102 playgroup
sessions with

1107
attendees



StepUP ATTENDEES

StepUP!
for Down
syndrome

345
attendees

Events



Christmas Party



Christmas Party



Friends for Life



Down Syndrome Day - Take the Leap for Down Syndrome



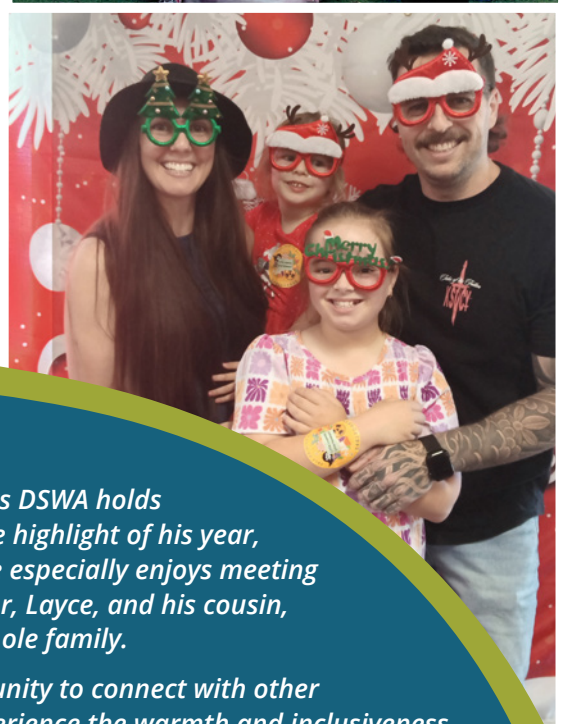
CHRISTMAS PARTY

The DSWA Christmas Party brought together 166 attendees, including 64 people with Down syndrome ranging in age from just 6 months to 56 years, for an afternoon filled with fun, laughter and connection.

There was something for everyone to enjoy, with soft play and a sensory area for our youngest members, alongside dancing, giant bubbles, outdoor games, face painting and a popular photobooth that delighted children and adults alike.

Families relaxed together on the lawn over a light afternoon tea, enjoying the opportunity to reconnect with familiar faces, welcome new families and strengthen the sense of community that makes DSWA so special.

The excitement reached its peak with the arrival of Santa, who greeted everyone with high-fives, smiles and plenty of festive cheer before posing for photos from his throne. Every child and adult with Down syndrome had the chance to meet Santa, and receive a small Christmas gift, creating treasured memories to end the year together.



'Ryder looks forward to all the wonderful events DSWA holds throughout the year, The Christmas Party is the highlight of his year, he gets to see all of his favourite people and he especially enjoys meeting Santa and sharing the experience with his sister, Layce, and his cousin, Kayden, making it a memorable day for our whole family.'

The Christmas party provides an opportunity to connect with other families, celebrate together, and experience the warmth and inclusiveness of the DSWA community.

We are so grateful to DSWA for the care and effort that goes into organising such fantastic events throughout the year. We also sincerely appreciate the inclusion of siblings, as it allows the entire family to share these special experiences together. This thoughtful approach makes a lasting difference and strengthens the sense of community that makes DSWA so special.'

- Ryder's mum, Paula



STEPUP 2025

Step Up and Dance for Down Syndrome 2025 was a vibrant celebration of inclusion, community and the talents of people with Down syndrome and other disabilities. The event brought together members, families, friends and the wider community and provided an opportunity to raise awareness, celebrate achievements and fundraise to support Down Syndrome WA's ongoing programs and services.

A total of 345 people attended, including families who travelled from regional Western Australia, with one of our market stall holders making the journey from Albany. The event featured seven dance groups, showcasing the confidence, creativity and passion of performers with Down syndrome and other disabilities.

"Our dance school loved performing at Step Up and Dance for Down Syndrome this year. It is such a special day for not only our three students with Down syndrome but all of our students and their families. We would love to be involved again next year."

- Dance School Owner

StepUP! for Down syndrome



Six market stalls, all connected to the DSWA community, highlighted the creativity and entrepreneurship of our members. Families also enjoyed the generous donation of a sensory container from the All-Abilities Football WA and an inflatable soccer pitch from Football Futures, providing fun and inclusive activities for children and adults alike.

StepUP! Remains the key social and fundraising event for DSWA each year.





WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD) was a special celebration for the Down Syndrome WA community this year, marking the beginning of celebrating 40 years of DSWA. DSWA introduced a new event, Take the Leap for Down Syndrome — an unforgettable zipline fundraiser that encouraged members, families and supporters to step outside their comfort zones while raising vital funds to support DSWA.

A total of 22 DSWA members took the leap, including 8 with Down syndrome, participating across two zipline sessions and together raising an incredible \$14,000. The courage and enthusiasm of our zipliners inspired the community, with families and supporters gathering at the WDSD Family Picnic to cheer them on as they reached the finish line.

The Family Picnic provided a relaxed and welcoming environment for families of all ages to come together, connect and celebrate the achievements of people with Down syndrome. With 145 people attending, the day was filled with connection, encouragement and community spirit. We welcomed new members who had just moved to WA and a mum that was still pregnant and wanted her daughter to meet other people with DS.

This year's celebration also saw 52 local councils and governments across Western Australia light up in yellow and blue, helping to increase awareness and recognise World Down Syndrome Day throughout the state.

The day created meaningful opportunities for families to build connections across all stages of life.

World Down Syndrome Day continues to be an important opportunity to celebrate inclusion, strengthen community connections and showcase the incredible contributions of people with Down syndrome.

One family shared -

"What an amazing way to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day. My family and I had a great day at the picnic, meeting other families and watching the brave people do the zipline. It was wonderful to meet families with children of different ages and stages to my child."

GALA DINNER 2026

Our DSWAAN members took centre stage as MCs, leading the evening with confidence, humour and personality. We were thrilled to welcome back The Dry Cleaners, whose performance was again generously donated and again kept the dance floor full.

The night was supported by an amazing collection of prizes and generous contributions from our community and supporters, including an incredible donation from Red Sands Campers.

More than a fundraising event, the Gala is a celebration of people, connection and community. The 2026 event was a wonderful way to begin celebrating 40 years of Down Syndrome WA and the community that has shaped our story.





COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Although 'behind the scenes' our Communications and IT team continue to play a vital role at DSWA by keeping our community informed and up to date, building lasting relationships with stakeholders and contributing to Down syndrome awareness and advocacy.

Our major promotional campaigns this year were StepUp! for Down syndrome, the Matagarup Bridge zipline fundraiser, EOFY fundraiser, and the Gala.

One of our main communication objectives this year has been more content focussed on member stories, which people enjoy and where we see a high engagement. These stories promote and advocate for our members, as we promote what members are participating in and achieving.

Our public Facebook page and Family Support private group are our most used Facebook pages, and our email newsletter continues to have a very high open rate. Our 14 private community Facebook groups continue to support specific communities and build connection, particularly in regional areas.

OVER THE YEAR WE SAW:

531,099
FACEBOOK
VIEWS

19,930
LINKEDIN
IMPRESSIONS

111,045
INSTAGRAM
VIEWS

POSITIVE FEEDBACK

We have received positive feedback about the new Events email which updates members with DSWA events, activities and workshops in between newsletters. It has an average unique open rate of **28%** and an average total open rate of **54%**.

WEBSITE

The DSWA website, along with the public Facebook page, are the main ways new and returning members connect with DSWA. The website had a total of **106 516** views across our website information pages and news posts.

E-NEWS

We sent to **892** e-News subscribers with an average unique open rate of **25%** and an average total open rate of **46.3%**. *(Our members return to our eNews as an information source)*

SUMMARY

Our website and email newsletters are particularly significant for older members of our community who do not engage with social media.



Communications, including social media, enews, events emails and the website, continue to grow. We see peaks in all communications in March for World Down Syndrome Day and in October for StepUp!

DSWA is a member of the Down Syndrome Australia National Resource Group which meets regularly to create and review content including printed informational resources, online guides and the website. The DSWA team attended ten meetings last year with other staff from around Australia. We share state created resources and highlight areas in need of new resources and review current resources. These are printed and shared on the Down Syndrome Australia website under the Resource Hub. This is part of the Australian Down Syndrome Alliance's role as the premier organisation to provide contemporary Down syndrome information in Australia.

Our Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) also responsibly manages the online security, member database, Microsoft 365 including Sharepoint sites and the DSWA website. Our staff onboarding and training continues to be an important part of the teams focus. We onboarded four new team members and training continued for all staff in DSWA systems.

The ICT focus this year was on strengthening the security of our systems. We upgraded to a new Optus security which ensures our laptops and mobile phones are always secure regardless of where they are used.

This improved system underpins our ICT security objectives.

Looking forward into the next year there are plans to refresh the website, in particular the Resource Hub to increase access to the Australia wide materials on the resource hub.

Here at DSWA we are strengthening our media campaigns to include national and international days of awareness that are relevant to our community. We will continue with a focus on our members in all content, supporting the culture and values of the DSWA community. ICT training is imperative as the area changes rapidly. It is important that staff stay up to date with developments in ICT including security and AI. Most importantly we will continue to keep the DSWA community informed and connected and promote the inclusion and rights of people with Down syndrome and people with disability in the wider community.



FAMILY SUPPORT

The family support team consists of Nikki Schwagermann, Paula Salgado and Jemma Ross.

We are so grateful for the continued support and funding from Telethon 7 and the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation, which enables us to support our members aged 0-17 and their families.



STAN PERRON
CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION

The team delivers a broad range of programs and services, including:

-  Hospital Outreach including PCH, King Edward Memorial Hospital, Joondalup Hospital, Fiona Stanley Hospital
-  Key Association Events- including StepUp! And Dance for Down Syndrome, World Down Syndrome Day, Christmas party
-  Regional Outreach program
-  Parent and Bubs morning teas
-  Overseeing Playgroups, Kids Club and Friends for Life
-  Workshops and presentations for families and professionals
-  Connecting with new families from a prenatal diagnosis to a post-natal diagnosis and anyone who connects with DSWA between the age of 0-17.

The growth of our team has enabled us to have a dedicated Family Support team member available in the office every day the office is open. This has strengthened our ability to respond promptly to member enquiries, ensuring emails and phone calls are acknowledged and followed up in a timely manner.



HOSPITAL OUTREACH

The Family Support Team has had a busy and rewarding year providing support and connection to children and families during their hospital journeys. The team has continued to visit families at Perth Children's Hospital (PCH), while also extending support to new parents at Joondalup Health Campus, King Edward Memorial Hospital (KEMH) and Fiona Stanley Hospital.

One particularly memorable day highlighted the importance of timely connection and peer support, when Nikki visited three families at KEMH, all with babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). During these visits, she was able to introduce two of the families to each other, creating an early opportunity for connection and reassurance as they navigated similar experiences together.

FATHER'S DAY

In 2025, DSWA Dads hosted their first Father's Day event, creating a new opportunity for dads in our community to connect, share experiences and build friendships.

Thirteen dads from across Perth came together at Flight Club in the city for an evening of two rounds of darts, good food, drinks and plenty of friendly (and competitive!) banter. The dads represented families with children ranging in age from 6 months to 26 years, with attendees travelling from as far as Pinjarra, Alkimos and Bullsbrook to be part of the event.

The evening provided a relaxed and welcoming space for dads to connect with others who share similar experiences, strengthen their support networks and enjoy time together outside of their usual family and work commitments.



Fathers Day

MOTHER'S DAY

In 2026, DSWA hosted its second Mothers' Day event, and it was wonderful to see the strong attendance and enthusiasm from our community.

Thirty-two mums from across Perth came together for a fun-filled evening of "Balls Up Bingo", with plenty of laughter, cheeky moments and opportunities to relax and connect. Congratulations to Irene, who was one of the lucky bingo winners on the night!

As the evening progressed, it was fantastic to see mums settling in, sharing stories, making new friendships and reconnecting with familiar faces. For some, it was their first opportunity to connect with other parents in the DSWA community. One mum attended on her own after recently moving to Perth and was warmly welcomed by the group. By the end of the evening, she had made new Facebook connections, gained contacts for future friendships for her son, and felt more connected to the DSWA community.

Following the event, she enrolled her son in the next Friends for Life program, where he had the opportunity to build confidence, have fun and develop new friendships.



Mothers Day

These events highlight the importance of creating spaces where parents can connect and feel supported. The impact extends beyond the mums themselves — these connections help create pathways for friendships, inclusion and belonging for their children too.

PRESENTATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Presentations and professional learning opportunities are an important part of the work DSWA provides to build understanding, confidence and inclusion across the wider community. Through sharing knowledge, lived experience and practical strategies, we support professionals to better understand Down syndrome and create more inclusive environments.

This year, DSWA delivered our Educators Professional Learning Day, welcoming 49 teachers and education assistants from across Western Australia. The event was delivered in a hybrid format, combining face-to-face and online participation to ensure regional schools could access the learning and connect with the broader education community.

DSWA was proud to bring together a range of professionals with expertise in their fields, alongside DSWA staff and DSWAAN member Jessica Toster, who shared valuable insights from her own experiences. Participants valued the practical and relevant nature of the sessions, with feedback including:

"The activities with Brie from JESC were really helpful, practical and relevant to students with Down syndrome."

"Loved Jessica Toster's experience, especially her experience in a country school."

DSWA was also invited to present to 27 swimming teachers through VenuesWest, sharing strategies to support the inclusion of swimmers with Down syndrome. The session received very positive feedback, with one attendee commenting:

"I can use a lot of the strategies learnt today with so many of my other students, not just those with Down syndrome."

Continuing our strong partnership with Curtin University, DSWA staff member Nikki, alongside DSWAAN member Adam Chrisp and his mum Liz, presented to 72 second-year medical students. This longstanding relationship provides students with the opportunity to learn not only about Down syndrome, but also directly from a person with Down syndrome about their experiences and how they would like to be supported within the healthcare system.

The impact of lived experience was clear, with many students staying after the session to speak with Adam and Liz, ask questions and deepen their understanding. These conversations are an important step in supporting future health professionals to provide more respectful, informed and person-centred care.





PARENTS AND BUBS MORNING TEAS

Parent and Bub Morning Teas continue to be highly valued events, providing new families with opportunities for connection, support and shared experiences. The program delivered four face-to-face catch ups and introduced its first online session in 2026, engaging 17 babies with Down syndrome and 40 parents and carers.

The introduction of an online session helped extend support to families who may face barriers due to distance, health concerns, or the early challenges of welcoming a new baby. The first online session was attended by a new mum from Bunbury who had recently returned home from hospital with her baby. She shared how grateful she was for the opportunity to connect with the Family Support Team and other mums from across Western Australia from the comfort and safety of her own home. This allowed her to build relationships and access support while reducing her baby's exposure to germs during a particularly vulnerable time.

Following the success of this first online session, the team is working towards embedding online catch ups as an ongoing option, ensuring more families across WA can access connection, support and the reassurance of a community that understands.



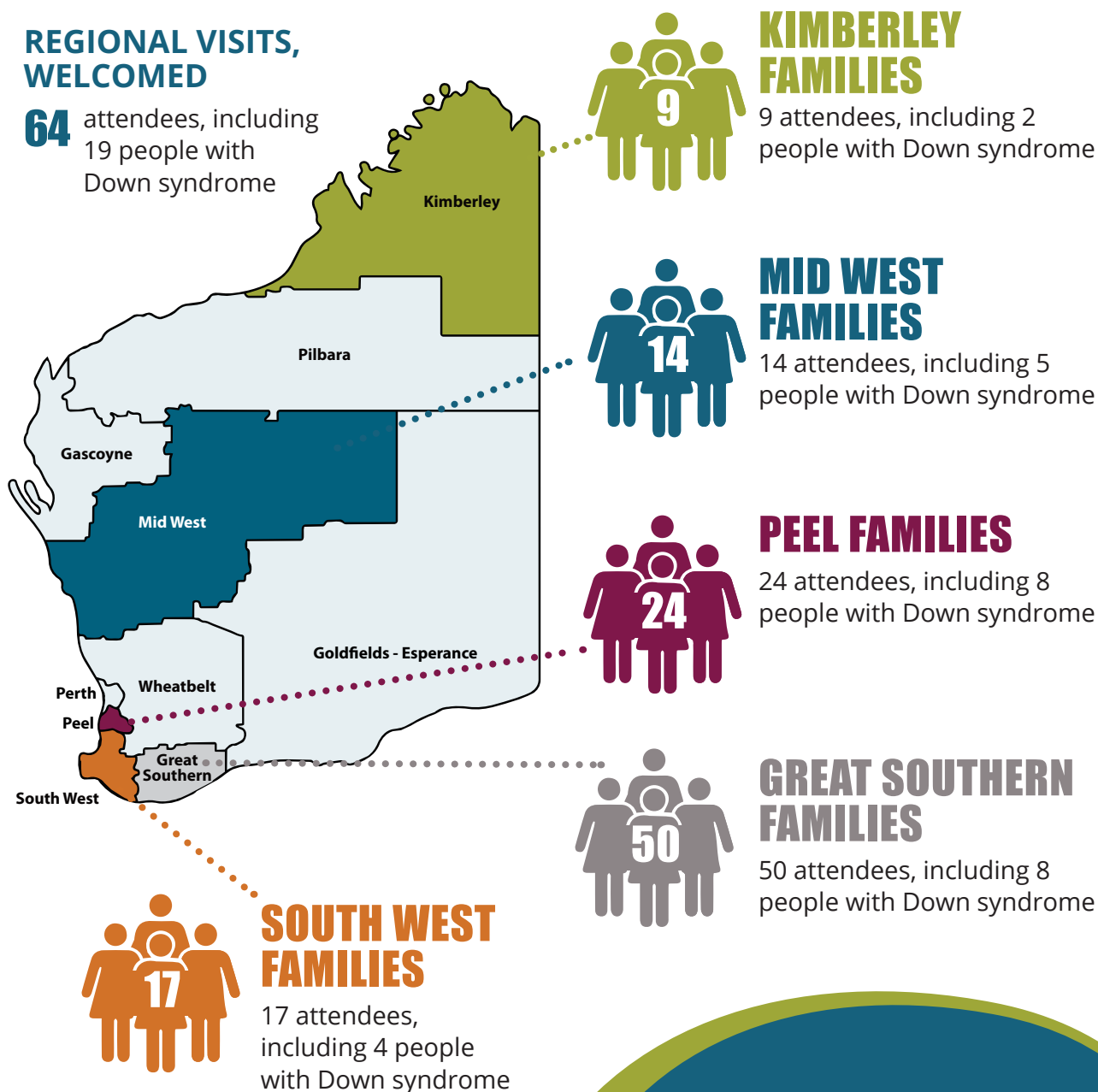
REGIONAL OUTREACH

DSWA recognises that for families living outside the Perth metropolitan area, staying connected to services and other families can be challenging. The Regional Outreach Program is intended to bridge that distance by creating opportunities for people with Down syndrome and their families to connect, learn and feel part of the wider Down Syndrome WA community.

Through a combination of regional visits, online workshops and dedicated Facebook groups, we provide the opportunity for members across Western Australia to access information, build relationships and receive ongoing support.

REGIONAL VISITS, WELCOMED

64 attendees, including 19 people with Down syndrome



These gatherings provided valuable opportunities for families to meet others with shared experiences, strengthen local networks and access support closer to home.

This year, we continued to support members and families across the Peel, South West, Midwest, Great Southern, Pilbara and Wheatbelt regions. Five regional community catch-ups were delivered, with Nikki and Cassandra travelling to meet families in person, while online workshops remained accessible to members throughout the state. Dedicated regional Facebook groups also provided a welcoming space for families to share local information, celebrate achievements and stay connected between visits. In addition Ready for Work was delivered in Peel, and it was intended to deliver our Living our Best Life program for adults in the South West, however uptake was low. Finding ways to connect and deliver in the regions continues to challenge us to find new ways to engage with regional families.



A highlight of the year was Cassandra and Nikki travelling to the Pilbara and Kimberley to meet members and families in Broome and Kununurra. Spending time together in their local communities allowed us to better understand the unique opportunities and challenges experienced by regional families, while strengthening relationships and ensuring members felt seen, heard and valued.

PLAYGROUPS

DSWA Playgroups continue to provide a warm, welcoming space where children with Down syndrome aged 0–6 years and their families can learn, play and connect. Through play-based experiences, children build communication, social, sensory and motor skills while parents and carers develop lasting friendships and valuable support networks.

**FOR MANY FAMILIES,
PLAYGROUP IS MUCH MORE
THAN A WEEKLY ACTIVITY, IT
IS A PLACE WHERE THEY FEEL
UNDERSTOOD, SUPPORTED AND
PART OF A COMMUNITY.**

Throughout the year, we delivered three regular Playgroup sessions each week during school terms. Each session incorporated sensory play, creative experiences, music, fine and gross motor activities, and keyword sign to encourage early communication and language development. Themed sessions, including ocean adventures, farm animals and messy play, kept activities engaging while creating meaningful learning opportunities. Families regularly participated together, strengthening parent-child interactions while building connections with others on similar journeys.



This year saw exciting growth across our Playgroup program. Playgroup East successfully transitioned from a monthly gathering in 2025 to a weekly session in 2026, which has been enthusiastically embraced by families, with regular attendance from five to six families and many others joining whenever they can. We also welcomed many new families across all three Playgroups, helping to strengthen our growing community and reduce the isolation often experienced following a diagnosis.

Thanks to generous grant funding from Telethon, families enjoyed a range of specialist guest sessions delivered by Made To Be Messy, Sensorium Theatre, music therapists, allied health professionals and keyword sign specialists. These experiences provided children with exciting new ways to learn while giving parents practical strategies to support their child's development at home.



One family beautifully captured the importance of Playgroup, sharing,

"We've been coming to Playgroup since our child was six weeks old and it's been a fantastic thing for us to go to every week. It's difficult to articulate just how important connection with other Down syndrome families is. The combination of songs, signs, craft and play makes this group such a great place to be and I'm ever so grateful it exists."



“Playgroup has given us a place where we feel understood. It’s the first-time we haven’t had to explain our child’s needs. We just belong.”

- Playgroup South family

The impact of Playgroup extends far beyond the activities themselves. Children demonstrated increased confidence, participation and use of keyword sign as they engaged with peers and explored new experiences. Parents and carers formed meaningful friendships, shared knowledge and supported one another through the joys and challenges of raising a child with Down syndrome.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to growing our Playgroup community, expanding opportunities for parent connection, strengthening partnerships with local services, and continuing to provide engaging sensory, creative and outdoor experiences that help every child and family thrive.

“Everything was so nicely organised, (our child) had lots of fun...he could play there the whole day”

- Playgroup North family



KIDS CLUB (6-11 YEARS)

The Down Syndrome WA KiDS Club is a social program for children with Down syndrome aged 5 to 11, their siblings, parents, and caregivers.

We are very grateful to the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation for their generous funding, which has enabled the continued growth and success of the program throughout the year.



The KiDS club held monthly events, on weekends to promote attendance of primary school aged children. Parents or caregivers attend for the duration of the event, and siblings are encouraged to attend, to promote whole family involvement and connection.

Throughout the year, participants enjoyed a variety of activities including disco, cooking, yoga, science workshop, basketball, Perth Zoo and circus and Parkour session. The disco was the biggest session with 58 attendees. Over the 12 months we had 238 attend including members with DS, siblings and their parents or carers.

DSWA EXTEND OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE TO THE **STAN PERRON CHARITABLE FOUNDATION** AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY FOR THEIR INVALUABLE SUPPORT



**STAN PERRON
CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION**





One of the most rewarding outcomes of the programme has been seeing participants' confidence grow throughout the year, particularly in physical-based activities. Participants who have initially been hesitant to join in, have become more comfortable, engaging with peers, and trying new things. Friendships have developed not only amongst children with Down Syndrome, but also amongst siblings, strengthening the connection within the community.

KiDS Club has also provided opportunities for parents and caregivers to connect with one another. With our funding we provide morning or afternoon tea, allowing parents an opportunity to sit with all families and build connection. It's true what they say, community is built around the table. Families who have shared life experience have been able to provide advice, resources, and encouragement to each other. These connections continue to strengthen the community and allow families support whilst navigating their journey.

A highlight of this year in KiDS Club, was the opportunity to support local businesses connected to the DSWA community. Participating in a Capoeira session with Capoeira Australis, and enjoyed a pizza-making experience with FYI Everybody Cooks.





FRIENDS FOR LIFE (12-17 YEARS)

FrienDS 4 Life continued to be a place where teenagers could come together, meet new people and grow in confidence through shared experiences. The program is all about helping members build friendships that last, strengthen their social skills and feel connected to the community.

There was strong attendance throughout the year and wonderful to see familiar faces returning each month, while also welcoming new members into the group and watching friendships grow.

Throughout 2025 and 2026, we delivered eight events across both north and south of the river, giving families plenty of opportunities to get involved. Activities included bowling, karaoke, volleyball, story-making workshops, acting sessions and cooking sessions, all giving our teens the chance to try new things, have fun and spend time together. A total of 67 teenagers took part in the program throughout the year. It was especially encouraging to see one of our regional members travel from Wongan Hills to attend five events over the year, showing just how much these opportunities for friendship and connection mean to our families.

We were fortunate to work alongside some wonderful partners throughout the year, including FYI Everybody Cooks, DADAA, Dance Heroes, Volleyball WA and Act Up. Their support allowed us to provide a wide range of activities that helped our members to create some fun memories together.

The best way to show the impact of these programs is through the words of the families themselves. Here are just a few of the lovely comments we received throughout the year from some of our parents

-  **Bowling:** "Daisy loved reconnecting with some of her friends and had a fantastic time. Her highlight of the day was getting a strike!"
-  **Cook, Bake & Celebrate:** "This was the best cooking class we've attended through Down Syndrome WA."
-  **Act Up:** "My daughter, Savannah, had the best time ever. Thank you!"
-  **Dance Heroes:** "This was a great success. I think all of the kids had a wonderful time."

As we look towards the future, we are excited to continue growing this program by introducing new engaging activities, reach even more families and create even more opportunities for our teens to connect with each other and build friendships that will last well beyond our events.



ADULT SOCIAL PROGRAMS

AIM HIGH 18-35

Aim High has continued to be a place where people can come together, try new things, have fun, and build friendships. Throughout the year, we have hosted monthly social events, welcoming 26 adults with Down syndrome aged from 18 to 57. Each event has provided an opportunity for people to connect, share experiences, enjoy each other's company, and feel part of a welcoming community.

This year, a key focus has been encouraging people to attend independently where possible. We have seen this create a wonderful change within the group, with more natural conversations developing and people feeling more confident to share their thoughts, stories, and personalities.

Finding and maintaining friendships can sometimes become challenging as we enter adulthood. Aim High provides a space where people can meet others with similar interests, share a laugh, and form connections that can grow into lasting friendships. Seeing these relationships develop has been one of the most rewarding parts of the project.

The activities are important because they provide a relaxed and welcoming environment where people can choose to attend independently, spend time with their peers, enjoy a meal or a drink, and simply be themselves.



COFFEE CLUB OVER 35'S

Coffee club, introduced this year, offers a calm space to catch up, chat, and connect without the pressure of structured activities or feeling like they need to keep up with a younger group.

Coffee Club has run for six months and has developed a lovely regular group of attendees. Some members have shared that it has become one of the highlights of their week. Together, we talk about old friends, new experiences and everything in between. Most importantly, we have plenty of laughs.

Over the next year, we will continue creating opportunities that build confidence, encourage independence, and strengthen social connections and encourage more and more members to attend. We look forward to another year of friendships, laughter, new experiences, and creating a community where everyone feels valued, included, and supported to live the life they choose.



Aim High program
Holey Moley outing

EMPLOYMENT

The Employment Connections Service supports adults with Down syndrome to achieve meaningful, sustainable open employment in inclusive workplaces across Western Australia. The program empowers members to develop confidence, workplace skills, and independence while supporting employers to build accessible and supportive work environments.



Through the Ready for Work program and individualised employment support, members receive assistance with discovery, resume development, interview preparation, workplace readiness training, job matching, and ongoing mentoring. The service also provides employers with guidance on workplace adjustments, inclusive recruitment practices, accessible resources, and on-the-job support to ensure successful employment outcomes for both employees and businesses.

The Employment Connections Service supported:

-  Adults with Down syndrome aged 18 years and over seeking employment opportunities
-  Families and carers supporting members throughout their employment journey
-  Participants engaged in Ready for Work programs
-  Employment mentors assisting members to develop workplace independence
-  Employers committed to inclusive employment practices

During the reporting period, the Employment Connections Service continued to expand its reach across metropolitan and regional Western Australia.

KEY STATISTICS

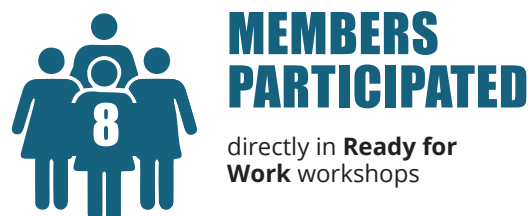


through **Ready for Work** programs, resume development, individual consultations, home visits, and workplace mentoring



READY FOR WORK PROGRAMS

were delivered across metropolitan and regional locations



MEMBERS PARTICIPATED

directly in **Ready for Work** workshops

REGIONAL EXPANSION SUPPORTED



3 members through the **Ready for Work** program



1 member through ongoing employment planning and support delivered via online meetings



1 member through workplace mentoring in Mandurah



1 member securing open employment with a local fitness centre

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Employment Connections Service achieved several significant milestones throughout the year:

- 1 placement in open employment with the Apprenticeship Support Australia, a division of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA
- 1 placement in open employment with Emirates Leisure and Retail at Little Creatures Café and Bar, Perth Airport
- 1 placement in open employment delivering weekly dance fitness classes at Florida Beach Fitness in Mandurah
- 1 placement secured open employment with IGA Hamilton Hill
- Four weeks of paid work experience were secured with Transperth for ten members
- Successful delivery of Ready for Work programs in both metropolitan Perth and the Peel region
- Development of Employment Connections handbooks for employers, employees, and workplace mentors
- Establishment of a pilot employment initiative with Kmart Joondalup
- Partnership event organised in collaboration with Dress for Success
- New relationships established with Venues West and local government partners to support future employment pathways
- Employment event opportunities secured through the City of Belmont
- Sophia's employment journey will be featured in an Ability WA video case study highlighting inclusive employment outcomes



OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

The Employment Connections Service continued to create meaningful pathways while strengthening relationships with inclusive employers across Western Australia.

This year saw increased engagement from businesses seeking to create accessible and supportive workplaces. Through personalised employment support, workplace mentoring, and employer education, members were empowered to build confidence, develop workplace skills, and achieve greater independence.

Key outcomes included:

- 4 members secured new employment opportunities
- 3 members progressed towards independent employment with reduced support requirements
- Increased employer awareness of inclusive employment practices and workplace accessibility
- Strengthened partnerships with businesses and community organisations to create future employment opportunities
- Development and implementation of Employment Handbooks for employers, employees, and employment mentors

Beyond employment outcomes, members reported increased confidence, social inclusion, financial independence, and greater participation within their communities.

JESSE'S EMPLOYMENT JOURNEY

Jesse commenced employment with Emirates Leisure and Retail at Little Creatures Café and Bar, Perth Airport Terminal 1, working as a Kitchen Hand Assistant.

With initial support from an employment mentor, Jesse developed the skills and confidence required to work independently. Her responsibilities include food preparation and front-of-house duties, and she has since requested additional working hours as her confidence has grown.

Operations Manager Travers O'Rafferty reflected on Jesse's contribution "Having Jesse as part of our team continues to be an extremely rewarding experience for everyone. Jesse is a valuable member of the team and brightens up everyone's day."



Jesse at Little Creatures

"Having a job makes me feel happy. I love coming to the airport and everyone talking to me. I was nervous to start but now enjoy my work. I make croissants and clear tables on my own now." - Jesse

SOPHIA'S EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS

Sophia commenced employment with the Apprenticeship Support Australia April 2026.

Sophia supports a range of administrative functions, including stock management, kitchen restocking, and data entry. Her commitment, attention to detail, and professionalism have made her a valued member of the team.

Candice Mallon, Apprenticeship Administration Manager, shared:

"Sophia has been a pleasure to have as part of the team. She is hardworking, incredibly thorough, and takes great pride in completing her tasks to a high standard. We very much appreciate the effort and care she puts into everything she does."



FAMILY FEEDBACK

Fraser secured employment with Florida Beach Fitness in Mandurah, leading weekly dance fitness classes, supporting the coaches and keeping the gym floor space clean and organised.

Following Fraser's successful commencement, his mother Sarah shared:

"I was told by Fraser's Transition Officer at school that it was very unlikely Fraser would ever gain paid employment in Mandurah, so I was over the moon when you called. You have made the impossible possible."

These stories demonstrate the transformative impact that meaningful employment can have on individuals, families, workplaces, and communities.



Fraser at Florida Fitness

CHALLENGES

We continue to seek partnerships with business to increase opportunities for members to find meaningful open employment.

At times there is also family concerns regarding increased independence and transition into employment

These experiences reinforced the importance of relationship-building, employer engagement, and maintaining strong communication with members and families throughout the employment journey.



Coffee Club

THE LIFE SKILLS LAB

The Life Skills Lab continued to empower adults with Down syndrome, with meaningful life skills workshops that were co-designed and co-delivered by adults with Down syndrome. Combining classroom-based learning with practical experiences, the project has created opportunities for people to build confidence, develop new skills, and apply them in everyday life.

This year, the program delivered over 100 hours of educational workshops to more than 50 adults with Down syndrome aged from 16 to 57. We also provided sessions for parents and carers, reaching 63 people who support their loved ones in their daily lives. Through online sessions, we have been able to include five regional families, ensuring that more people can access these valuable opportunities.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR



LIFE SKILLS TOPICS COVERED

including online safety, self-defense, mental health, and money management



Adam Cooking



PUBLIC TRANSPORT COURSES

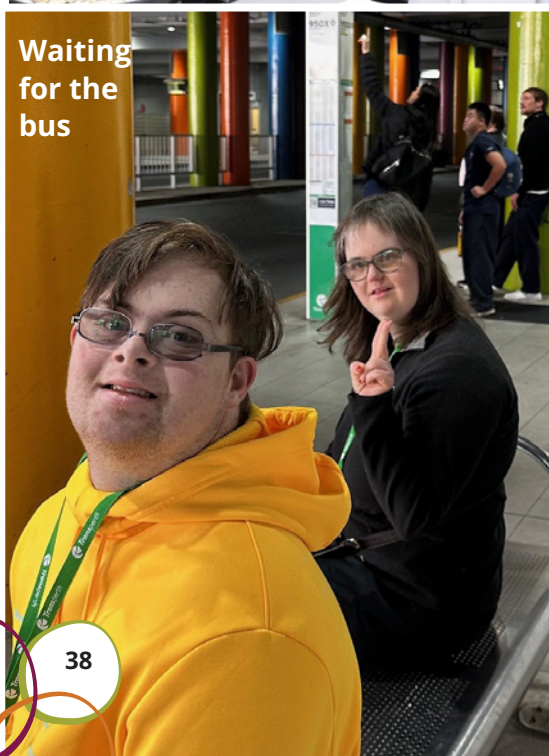


of the full-day Living My Best Life program

FORUM 2.0



attended by 25 people



Waiting for the bus



HOUSING & LIVING WORKSHOPS



Mental Health Course

The outcomes and feedback demonstrate the positive impact of the Life Skills Lab. The Public Transport course is an excellent example. Before attending, 80% of participants shared that they did not regularly use public transport. Through the course, participants had the opportunity to travel on the network, speak with transport officers, ask for help, and build confidence in navigating unfamiliar situations. These practical experiences helped to reduce anxiety and increase the likelihood that these skills will be used independently in everyday life.

A key to the success of the Life Skills Lab is the contribution of the DSWAAN. Their knowledge, lived experience, and feedback guide the development of workshops and resources, ensuring they are relevant and meaningful. The DSWAAN allows us to test ideas, refine resources, and make improvements well before workshops are delivered to larger groups.

DSWA now has a significant collection of resources and will continue developing more throughout the coming year, including a video library of helpful life skills resources featuring members of the DSWAAN.

We are grateful for the support of our partner organisations, including Jan de Jong Martial Arts, fyieverybodycooks, Transperth, The Office of the Public Advocate, The Growing Space, and Take Charge Wellbeing. Their expertise and collaboration help strengthen the opportunities we provide.



Rachel & Tilly

Acting Class



COLLABORATION & SUPPORT

MAJOR DONORS

The Dry Cleaners Band
Red Sands Campers

SUPPORT & PARTNERSHIPS

All Abilities Football WA
Football Future Foundation
CCIWA
The Boxman

Synergy Graphics
Glenway Signs
Murdoch University
Perth Centre of Photography

FUNDERS

Telethon 7 Perth
Stan Perron Charitable foundation
Down Syndrome Australia

EMPLOYMENT PARTNERS

Strong partnerships remain central to the success of the Employment Connections Service. Key collaborations during the year included:

Emirates Leisure and Retail
Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA
Apprenticeship Support Australia
Transperth
Kmart Inclusion Team
VenuesWest
Florida Beach Fitness Mandurah

IGA Hamilton Hill
City of Belmont
City of Melville
City of Cambridge
Falcon Fire Station
Perth Children's Hospital
Curtin University
The Box Man



Down Syndrome
Western Australia

Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION OF WA (INC)

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee have determined that the association is not-for-profit and is not a reporting entity.

The committee have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion the financial report:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Down Syndrome Association of WA (Inc). as at 30 June 2026 and its financial performance for the year ended on that date;
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Down Syndrome Association of WA (Inc) will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due; and
3. The financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Association Incorporation Act 2015 (WA), Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulation 2013.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Dated this day ____7 September 2026_____



Jemma Henderson
TREASURER

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Assets	2026	2025
Bank Accounts		
Cheque Account	209,281	207,124
BOQ Unspent Grants Reserve	308,206	233,326
BOQ Special Purpose Reserve	44,192	42,827
BOQ General Reserve	203,761	185,310
Term Deposit	146,440	140,000
Total Bank Accounts	911,879	808,587
Current Assets		
Clearing Accounts	11,804	6,881
Accounts Receivable	5,576	3,674
Prepayments	8,733	10,755
Computing Equipment	15,657	15,657
Less Accumulated Depreciation - Computing Equipm	(15,657)	(15,657)
Office Equipment	10,456	10,456
Less Accumulated Depreciation - Office Equipment	(10,456)	(10,456)
Total Current Assets	26,113	21,309
Total Assets	937,993	829,896
Liabilities Current		
Accounts Payable	11,431	9,805
PAYG Withholding	11,138	6,923
Superannuation Payable	12	1,630
GST	7,792	12,103
Provision for Annual Leave Liability	44,977	33,819
Provision for Long Service Leave Liability	22,386	14,443
Prepaid Revenue	642	25
Grant Funding Unspent	437,438	339,847
Rounding	(1)	0
Total Liabilities Current	535,814	418,595
Net Assets	402,179	411,302
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	(9,123)	55,545
Retained Earnings	411,302	355,757
Total Equity	402,179	411,302

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Income	2026	2025
Grants Revenue	805,827	571,197
Donations Received	109,594	73,879
Trading Activities		
Sales - Merchandise		
Merchandise Sales	10,416	8,057
Total Sales - Merchandise	10,416	8,057
Total Trading Activities	10,416	8,057
Operating Activities		
Fees & Charges	7,066	6,951
Training & Support	14,985	13,636
Program/Peer Support Fees	123,843	269,367
Sponsorship	0	909
Total Operating Activities	145,894	290,864
Other Income		
Interest Unrestricted	11,433	9,334
Total Other Income	11,433	9,334
Total Income	1,083,164	953,331
Expenses		
Personnel		
Wages Salaries & Super	765,924	582,255
Volunteer Costs	18	0
Staff Training & Development	1,681	8,307
Total Personnel	767,622	590,563
Fees/Charges & Licenses	3,116	2,345
Operating Costs		
Events & Activities	130,809	130,929
Travel & Accommodation		
Travel Expenses	22,514	10,625
Total Travel & Accommodation	22,514	10,625
Advertising & Promotion	824	1,305
Total Operating Costs	154,146	142,859
Administration		
Office & Executive	62,347	80,345
Audit Fees	5,080	7,899
Rent - Property	29,423	24,507
Professional Services	32,153	34,985
Insurance Public Liability & WC	19,300	14,284
Total Administration	148,302	162,020
Provision for Annual Leave	11,158	0
Provision for Long Service Leave	7,943	0
Total Expenses	1,092,287	897,786
Operating (Deficit) / Surplus	(9,123)	55,545

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Equity	2026	2025
Opening Balance	411,302	275,757
Current Year Earnings	(9,123)	55,545
Retained Earnings	0	80,000
Total Equity	402,179	411,302

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Operating Activities	Notes	2026	2025
Receipts from customers		1,072,974	974,008
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,107,715)	(905,312)
Cash receipts from other operating activities	2b	21,661	30,618
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities		(13,079)	99,313
Investing Activities			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		0	2,940
Payment for property, plant and equipment		0	(19,878)
Other cash items from investing activities		1,391	5,648
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities		1,391	(11,290)
Financing Activities			
Other cash items from financing activities		119,904	163,667
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities		119,904	163,667
Net Cash Flows		108,215	251,691
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		815,468	563,777
Net change in cash for period		108,215	251,691
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	2a	923,683	815,468

NOTES TO AND PART OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

ATTACHED NOTES FORM PART OF THE STATEMENT

NOTE 1 – STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirement of the *Australian Charities and Not-for- Profits Commission Act 2012 and Australian Charities and Not- for Profits Commission regulations 2013*. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and therefore there is no requirement to apply accounting standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in the preparation of these statements.

The association is a not-for-profit entity, and the statements are prepared on an accrual basis.

a) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

b) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

c) Trade and other payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

d) Trade and other receivables

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

e) Employee Entitlements

The provision for employee benefits relates to the amount liable to be paid for the long service leave and annual leave resulting from employee services provided to balance date. All entitlements are calculated at their nominal amounts using remuneration rates and expected to be settled within one year.

f) Comparative Information

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

g) Operating Grants and Donations

When the Association received operating grant revenue and donations.

It assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the Association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations. Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Entity:

NOTE 1 – STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT)

- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the Entity recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

NOTE 2 - CASHFLOW INFORMATION

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and at bank.

a. Reconciliation of Cash

Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	2026	2025
Cash and Cash Equivalents	923,683	815,468

	2026	2025
b. Profit	<u>-9,123</u>	<u>56,595</u>
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	-26,113	26,113
Interest Expense	-	-
(Increase)/ Decrease in trade and other receivables	120	25,496
Increase/ (Decrease) in trade and other payables	<u>143,331</u>	<u>63,490</u>
Cash flow used in operations	<u>108,215</u>	<u>171,690</u>

NOTE 3 - CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS

The association has no capital commitments as at 30 June 2026. The Association has a lease in place for the rental of office space at U5, L2, 213 Wright St, Cloverdale WA. The three-year lease commenced on 9 December 2024 and will expire on 8 December 2027. The annual rent is \$37,000 inclusive of GST.

NOTE 4 - POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT

No matters or circumstances has arisen since 30 June 2026 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the association's operations, the results of those operations or the association's state of affairs in future financial years.

NOTE 5 – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Related party	Relationship	Nature of transaction	Amount	Balance at 30 June 2026	Terms
The Box Man	Brother of CEO	Supplier	\$236.98	\$0.00	Ad hoc

At year end, amounts receivable from related parties were **nil** and amounts payable were **nil**, all unsecured. No impairment was recognised on related party receivables. All related party transactions were declared, considered and approved by the Board, and the decisions were recorded in the board minutes. All related party transactions during the year were conducted on normal commercial terms and conditions at arm's length.

**Down Syndrome Association of Western
Australia Inc.**

**Independent Audit Report to the members of Down Syndrome
Association of Western Australia Inc.**

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Down Syndrome Association of Western Australia Inc. (the Association), which comprises the statement of assets and liabilities as at 30 June 2026, the statement of profit or loss, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by members of the committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2026 is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Associations Incorporation Act (WA) 2015.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the Corporations Act 2001. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Association and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the Association. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Associations Incorporation Act (WA) 2015, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

**Down Syndrome Association of Western
Australia Inc.**

**Independent Audit Report to the members of Down Syndrome
Association of Western Australia Inc.**

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.

Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial reporter, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the management with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

**Down Syndrome Association of Western
Australia Inc.**

**Independent Audit Report to the members of Down Syndrome
Association of Western Australia Inc.**



Daniel Papaphotis CPA
Registered Company
Auditor
- 410503
Francis A Jones Pty Ltd
154 High Street
Fremantle WA 6160

8 September 2026



KIDS CLUB
COOKING



Down Syndrome
Western Australia

www.downsyndrome.org.au/wa