



Annual Report 2022 - 2023



Menzies Vision & Mission

To strategically invest in programs that directly support disadvantaged young people and or those in out of home care, at risk of being in out of home care or transitioning from out of home care in Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula in order to ensure they are safe, educated and lead fulfilling lives.

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President's Report

This concludes my eighth year as President of Menzies Caring for Kids. Many of you know I have had a long involvement on and off for over 66 years with Menzies and I continue to be in awe at the achievements of this very rewarding and caring organisation.

As a Committee of Management (CoM), we continue to be excited by the amazing results the projects funded by Menzies Caring for Kids are having on the lives of disadvantaged young people in our community. Menzies continues to fund four very significant projects that align with our vision and they continue to produce outstanding results.

In the shifting circumstances due to Covid-19 most of our programs adapted to the new challenges and continued to offer support to disadvantaged young people in our community. Following the end of the pandemic and the associated lockdowns, all programs have now resumed.

Greg Lacey (Menzies Vice President) and I continue to oversee Menzies involvement with the innovative **Paediatrician In Schools Program** supported by Menzies and in partnership with Peninsula Health and local government schools. Our work, and the progress of the project has been greatly supported by Kathy McMahon, formerly from the Paediatric Department of Peninsula Health. The Paediatric In Schools Program successfully expanded in 2019 beyond the initial Coalition of Frankston North Schools hub at Mahogany Rise Primary School, to include a hub of schools in Rosebud, Hastings and Mornington. As well as adding additional schools to all four hubs, the program expanded into the Karingal area with strong involvement in early childhood centres, an exciting addition to the program. The program now services in excess of 40 schools and several early childhood providers.

Menzies funding provides Paediatrician Fellow's (GP in training) and Occupational Therapists, with the Paediatrician in Schools program providing an organised and structured response to meet the wide ranging educational, physical and psychological well-being needs of children and families in these disadvantaged communities. The integration and connection between families, educators and health professionals is seamless, greatly increasing successful participation of the children and families in effective health services, and the provision of these services significantly enhances life outcomes for students and families. We are indeed indebted to Daryl Henwood from Mainline Developments and David Brewster of Brewsters Property Group for their generous financial support to our Paediatrician in Schools program. Thank you gentlemen!

Greg, Kathy and I continue to contact numerous politicians and government departments presenting the positive results of the Paediatrician in Schools Program and the opportunities for future support to continue the success of the program and/or replicate the success to benefit disadvantaged children and families in other regions without success.

Kim Jackson (CoM Member) oversees the **Menzies Youth Minibus Project**. The Menzies Bus Project partnership with Salvo Youth Care's Tools of the Trade Program commenced in July 2019 and operated successfully until impacted by Covid-19. This project was initiated following research and feedback from experienced Youth Resource Officers who identified that lack of transport was a limiting factor for youth involvement in connecting with training opportunities, community activities and services. Menzies provided the use of the Bus and operating costs to Salvocare and their partner youth agencies to facilitate positive community engagement for young people.

Our newest CoM Member, Murray Geddes has recently been appointed to oversee our funding of the **Create Your Future Program** (CYF) with the Create Foundation. Now in its seventh year, the CYF program provides young people aged 15 – 25 with the relevant skills and knowledge to effectively transition from care into independence. CREATE adapted quickly in early 2020 to the pandemic and continued to deliver workshops and activities for young people.

Kathy McMahon (CoM Member) has overseen our funding of the **Sparkways Mentoring Program**. We have seen how mentoring changes lives. Sparkways successfully connects young people aged 7-20 years old who are experiencing adversity, with a positive adult role model, and supports volunteers to empower, guide and listen to young people as a fully trained mentor across Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula. This is achieved through 1:1 mentor program that involves matching one mentor with a young person on a one-to-one basis.

Alan Splatt (CoM Member) continues to advise on legal and compliance issues on behalf of Menzies. His dedication and time has been invaluable to our organisation.

While not directly responsible for a Menzies funded project, the efforts of **Stuart Shaw** (Menzies Treasurer) throughout this 2022/2023 should be recognised in overseeing our financial obligations.

We express our sincere gratitude to the members of Menzies and to the supporters and donors for their contributions, both financial and in-kind, that ensure we can continue to pursue our vision to make a difference to the lives of disadvantaged young people in the region.

I recognise the **Menzies Home Association**, and their Committee, who remain a valued part of Menzies and an important connection to the history of Menzies in the community.

The Members and Committee of Management of Menzies Inc were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Life Member Graham Menzies in August last year. We thank Graham for his long term support of our organisation dedicated to supporting young people in Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula.

My sincere thanks and appreciation to each **Menzies Committee of Management** members for their time, valued input and expertise, which they give voluntarily and their shared dedication to make a real difference to the lives of disadvantaged young people in our community.

The Menzies Committee of Management is excited by what the future holds in working with our project partners, donors and supporters, to make a real difference to the lives of disadvantaged young people in Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula.

We look forward to keeping you informed of our progress as we continue our philanthropic efforts in;

‘Working with Kids the Menzies Way’.



Kevin Johnson
President

Treasurer's Report

Financial year ended 30 June 2023

We finished the financial year with cash and investments of \$3.09 million, compared to \$3.75 million at the end of 2022.

Our main expenditures continued to be that of funding grants of \$233,455 to the following projects:

- Peninsula Health, Pediatricians in Schools
- Create your Future
- Sparkways
- Menzies Mini-bus

Our grants were less than previous years due to a range of factors (review of the programs and the COVID years enabled some programs to bank some funding). All four programs are continuing to be funded by Menzies for the next few years and we are extremely proud of the results being achieved by our partners. Additionally, our commitment to the schools programs has been increased to meet emerging issues with schools.

Our other major expenditure was for legal expenses under the Legal Redress Scheme implemented by the State Government. This expenditure declined this year however it is subject to the claims made on throughout the year.

Total expenditure for the year including administrative costs was \$462,845 (2022: \$844,468). During the whole of 2023, as in 2022, Menzies Inc. did not have any employees. Your Committee of Management continued to provide their services voluntarily.

We received income of \$226,825 (2022: \$170,688), including bank interest, donations and net investment income.

Our financial assets provided a small surplus on revaluation of \$74,430 (loss on revaluation in 2022: \$251,366). The stock market throughout the world was more stable throughout 2022 / 23 which enable more certainty in holding investments.

We were extremely fortunate to again partner with Brewsters Property Group and Mainline Developments to have a charity auction for a new house built by Brewsters and Mainlane and their teams. The result of the auction was a cheque forwarded to Peninsula Health for over \$330,000 to support our Pediatricians in Schools programs.

Based upon our current commitments for our programs, our expenditure over the coming 3 years will total around \$1.5 million. Menzies will be able to continue to maintain our funding of our existing programs for the next 4 years.

Lauren Bicker continues to provide professional company secretarial and accounting services to Menzies during the year and we are extremely grateful for Lauren's contribution. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 have been audited by Shepherd Webster O'Neill. Their audit report for the 2022/23 year contains an unqualified audit opinion and we are grateful for their contribution to our work.

We have started the 2023/24 financial year with a clear view of our commitments for the year and will continue to support our sponsored programs the Menzies way.



R. Stuart Shaw CPA, MACID, JP
Treasurer

Paediatrician in Schools Program, supported by Menzies

Frankston North

Funding Provided:

\$22,000 per annum

Rosebud, Hastings

& Mornington

Funding Provided:

\$177,216 per annum

Karingal and Community

Kinders

Funding Provided:

\$155,813 per annum

Program Overview

Menzies continues our partnership with Peninsula Health and government schools and early childhood centres in Frankston North, Rosebud, Hastings, Mornington and Karingal to reduce the significant gap in the area of health support and servicing these schools, with access to general practitioners, occupational therapy, social work professionals, speech pathology and physiotherapy.

These are recognised as some of the most disadvantaged suburbs in Victoria, with high rates of unemployment, criminal convictions, disability, low education, child maltreatment, and family violence.

Menzies provides funding for Paediatrician Fellow's (GP in training). The Paediatric Outreach program provides an organised and structured response to meet the wide-ranging educational, physical and psychological well-being needs of children and families in these disadvantaged communities. The integration and connection between families, educators and health professionals is seamless, greatly increasing successful participation of the children and families in effective health services, and the provision of these services significantly enhances life outcomes for students and families.

The program also links back to the Frankston Hospital, creating a lifelong link with the public health system. It is a model of care that has never been trialled

before and can be easily replicated across other identified areas.

The hubs act as education and health service centres for surrounding schools, including pre-schools and secondary schools. In this way, it is accessible to all children in these disadvantaged communities.

Program promotion

Efforts continue to promote the program across a wide audience. In 2022, Menzies Vice President, Greg Lacey, recorded a podcast on Viewpoints with Henry Grosseck. Greg spoke more broadly about school leadership but focused on the Paediatric Outreach program, and its positive impact on students. The podcast can be accessed at on Apple Podcasts at: <https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/school-leaders-in-focus-with-greg-lacey/id1487703099?i=1000588987300>

Currently, a second podcast is planned for later in 2023, hosted by the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership, with Greg interviewing a Principal and Paediatrician involved in the project. That will also be available on Apple Podcasts.

Program Activities

The School-based Paediatric Clinics operate one day a week at each hub school or centre, during the school term. Services provided at the School-Based Paediatric Clinics include consultations and physical examinations, developmental and behavioural assessments and treatment of medical, behavioural, and developmental issues. Other necessary investigations and referrals also occur as needed.

A School-based Paediatric Clinic brings with it the opportunity to engage the community and become a part of the community. It has been previously identified that, through building a stronger relationship with a school, the community engages in a positive way.

Communication between parents and teachers is also improved. Evidence suggests that there is often incongruence between parents and teachers for children with behavioural problems. Communication protocols within the program reduces this incongruence. Often, alternative and additional diagnoses were shown when teachers met with the clinician after a child's medical appointment with a parent/guardian present. Our school-based clinics co-ordinate case conferences following consultations so educators, allied health professionals and paediatric medical staff can discuss the child and their on-going management in a timely and collaborative way.

We have partnered more broadly with the Frankston North Coalition of Schools as well as the Department of Education and Training and other philanthropic organisations to integrate the Paediatric Outreach into the very significant Frankston North Project. For a range of reasons, the Frankston North project has stalled but we are hopeful that the Frankston North project will progress in 2024. Overall, the program has reached and helped in excess of 3000 children.

Project Research

A significant advance in the program development in 2022 and extending into 2023, has been the start of a research project. Peninsula Health has been very active in this space and we are hopeful that some genuinely representative data will be produced in 2022-23 to support us in our conversations with potential supporters and funders to ensure the on-going viability of this innovative and effective program.

Sample performance data for 2023

Menzies have continued to finance the service following disruptions during the COVID years, during which much of the program operated as an out-patient program through Frankston Hospital. The Outreach Service across all hubs, has seen a large number of children. Of these, approximately one quarter are new appointments and three quarters are review appointments. Non-attending children (about 15% of appointments) are still an issue with which we continue to grapple. Reducing non-attendance numbers would make the program more effective both for the non-attendees and the wasted appointment times.

Program expansion:

We are constantly researching how we might expand the program to include other school clusters. We are particularly interested in supporting students through their transition to secondary college, to improve the continuity of care. We have been approached by a group of schools in the Langwarrin area to extend the program across their cluster. The proposal includes schools partially funding the program. We continue to assess the readiness, community need and appropriateness of this cluster submission and we continue to support the Langwarrin cluster with support and advice. With limited funds and finite resources, the financial implications of any proposal needs to be considered before any expansion goes ahead.

School Clusters

1. Mahogany Rise Primary School: incorporates Aldercourt Primary School, Seaford Park Primary School, Kananook Primary School and Monterey Secondary College

2. Hastings Primary School: incorporates St Mary's Primary School, Wallaroo Primary School

3. Mornington Park Primary School: incorporates Kunyung Primary School, Mornington Secondary College, Mornington Special School, Somerville Primary School, Kingsley Park Primary School, Langwarrin Park Primary School

4. Rosebud Primary School: incorporates Eastbourne Primary School

5. Karingal Primary School: incorporates Frankston East; Ballam Park, Karingal Heights, Kingsley Park Primary Schools



Menzies Youth Minibus Project

Funding Provided: \$20,000
per year (bus and running costs)

Project Term: extended a further term

Program Overview 2023

The Menzies Bus Project partnership with Salvos Tools For The Trade (TFTT) Program. This project was initiated following research and feedback from experienced Youth Resource officers who identified that lack of transport was a limiting factor for youth involvement in community activities and services. Menzies provides the use of the Bus and operating costs to the TFTT Program and supports youth agencies to facilitate positive community engagement for young people.

TFTT is a nine-week trade orientation program aimed to assist young people aged 16-21 who are disengaged from education, training, employment and from community linkages. The program seeks to reengage youth in the Frankston Mornington Peninsula (FMP) regions with the education and training sectors and/or assist them to secure traineeships, apprenticeships or paid employment. The program has a strong focus on supporting young people to develop general life and social skills via skill development sessions, volunteering, and community participation activities. The link between early school leaving (including low educational achievement) and subsequent long-term unemployment and other social disadvantage (including poverty, homelessness, substance abuse and poor mental/physical health) has long been established. This early intervention program recognises the importance of young people being engaged within their community and in some form of education & training to gain employment and assist in the prevention of further social disadvantage.

The Salvation Army have developed this program to have a strong focus on assisting young people to develop their general life and social skills via multiple skill development sessions, volunteering, leadership and mentoring activities. TFTT is facilitated four times a year, each school term, for up to forty young people per annum.

The program is supported by several community services organisations including the following:

- Holmesglen TAFE
- Foresite Training Group
- Richies IGA supermarkets
- PARKS Victoria
- Victoria Police
- CVGT Australia – Employment Services
- The Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Civil Training Australia CTA
- Mount Martha YMCA
- Bunnings Warehouse
- Frankston Youth Central
- Concern Australia – Handbrake Turn program
- Commonfolk – Home Ground program
- Lendlease – industry tour
- Mornington Peninsula Nursery – The Briars
- Ladder
- Nissan – Nissmap program
- The Ranch
- Frankston Lifesaving Club
- Bayside Rock
- RSEA workwear
- Sup Fit
- Javelin (first aid , food handlers, white card)
- Holmesglen (electro tec, sport and rec and st Kilda football club next year 2024)
- Tunnels project (civil con)
- Task force Kate Brotherhood St Larewance new building at task force
- Holmesglen TAFE
- Foresite Training Group
- Richies IGA supermarkets
- PARKS Victoria
- Victoria Police
- CVGT Australia – Employment Services
- The Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Civil Training Australia CTA
- Mornington Peninsula Shire Youth Services (MPYS) Shed11

Program Activities

The criteria for use of the Menzies Minibus is that it must be a program aimed at supporting youth and run with the support of a youth agency. Each time the Menzies bus is used the organisers are asked to record how many young people have benefited from the use of the bus.

The Menzies Minibus is used regularly during each school term by The Salvation Army TFFT program. Unfortunately, Covid19 restrictions meant facilitation of the program was limited during parts of 2021 and for the entire 1st Term of 2022. The various program components of TFFT include: Chisholm Trade Tasters, Certified Training (First Aid, White Card, Warehousing, Food Handlers, Traffic Control certificates), Skills Development Sessions, Health & Wellbeing and Team Building, Leadership and Mentoring days, Industry Tours and Work Experience.

The Minibus is also used by Frankston City Council (Youth Central) to assist in transport for their various School Holiday Activity Programs.

Program Outcomes

During financial year 2022-2023 the Menzies Minibus was utilised by The Salvation Army and Frankston Youth Central to transport 142 young people. These numbers were lower than previous years due to various Covid19 restrictions during this time. Use of the Menzies Bus is a crucial component of the program – as well as enabling transport and subsequent engagement with services it offers young people opportunities for informal bonding with their peers and staff alike.

A recent case study for our Tools For The Trade program:

Tools for the Trade Program - Term 2 2023 Case Study

Bob is an 16 year old male who was referred to the Tools for the Trade Program by a Youth Resource officer with Victoria Police. Bob had been involved with criminal activity and was in the process of having a Case Conference set up. A level of substance use, trauma from a succession of out-of-home care relocations and frustration with day-to-day activities had led to this situation. Interaction with YRO during recreational activities throughout the program improved Bobs outlook on the support and involvement of the police. YRO attended Bob graduation and stated the program does have a positive benefit to participants.

During the Tools program Bob was actively involved in many of the hands-on activities and interested in building relationships with peers and facilitators. He was supported through his court process by an experienced Tools facilitator as he was assigned to a youth justice worker prior to his case conference and would have regular appointments with services including Berry Street and MacKillop. Workers from the Tools program maintained communication and advocated for Bob during the program as he was transitioned into independent living.

He was enrolled at Frankston Secondary College but was not attending. With some extended case management and liaising with services such as Jesuit Social Services, Chisholm Institute, Better Futures and Youth Justice, Bob was enrolled into alternative education at Oakwood School in Frankston.

Bob will begin looking for part time work when his enrolment at Oakwood is complete. He gained qualifications during Tools that will assist with this. They include Food Handlers certificate, Responsible Service of Alcohol, First Aid and his White Card.

Assistance Bob received during and post the Tools program related to study and career exploration, , recreation activities to build social skills and self-confidence and positive social outings, financial assistance for work clothes and transport, relationship-building skills and employability skills. Introduction to AOD services was of benefit during the program. Bob justice involvement has been managed well and he has improved anti-social behaviour and reduced interactions with some negative influences.

Future Direction

The Tools For The Trade program has recently been successful in a grant to enable the program to replicate and expand to the Rosebud region and there is subsequently even more demand for suitable transport for young people to enable engagement.

The Salvos are most appreciative for the use of the Menzies Minibus and we would be incredibly grateful for the opportunity to extend the partnership & agreement to ensure continuity of program.

Create Foundation

Create your Future Program

Funding Provided:

\$100,000 per year

From 2015, Menzies has funded CREATE Foundation to deliver the CREATE Your Future (CYF) Program in Victoria. CYF provides young people with a care experience, aged 14 – 25, with valuable skills to support their transition from care into independence. Through Menzies funding, CREATE reaches around 100 young people annually, and has delivered this package to almost 700 young people since the program first began in Victoria.

CREATE Your Future is a portfolio of interactive life skills, community and self-awareness workshops that support young people to successfully manage the challenges of everyday life. The CYF program uses an experiential approach to learning, encouraging young people to explore their own knowledge, beliefs and experiences. The workshop modules are designed to engage young people of all learning styles by balancing visual, auditory and tactile activities and approaches within the program. In addition to achieving skill-based competencies, such as managing finances, being healthy and navigating the rental housing market, young people are also guided through the steps required to think critically, make informed and independent decisions and understand their identity and role in the community.

Where possible, a CREATE Young Consultant co-facilitates the workshop alongside a CREATE staff member. This provides a great leadership opportunity for the young person, and has a positive impact on the group dynamics between participants.

The program is also supported by a detailed website (www.createyourfuture.org.au) and offers an annual grant scheme.

Considerations and Progress

Over the last few years, in-person engagement with children and young people has been challenged by the restraints and implications of the pandemic. During this time the team moved delivery of the workshops to an online environment encompassing the Frankston Mornington Peninsular and across the state to encompass a wider range of young people.

Prior to this reporting period, CREATE underwent a restructure to integrate our state, advocacy and influencing team to improve CREATE's capacity to advocate for and engage with children and young people, to provide further positive opportunities for children and young people, and increase the number of children and young people attending our programs and activities, to include an: internship and mentoring program, national, and First Nations youth advisory groups.

Although CREATE acknowledges change, particularly to staffing that young people are familiar with, may be difficult, the team worked together to engage children and young people during the implementation of an enhanced staffing structure, which resulted in redeployment opportunities. During this reporting period, Victoria underwent a phase of recruitment and induction of new team members.

Post pandemic, and restructure the team have been strategically rebuilding in-person engagements, and participating in networks and interagency meetings within the Frankston Mornington Peninsular region. Working towards reinvigorating connections and rekindling recruitment of participants to workshops, the team have planned and offered full day - school holiday workshops, and delivered shorter sessions over 2 afternoons to engage young people after school.

Workshops

In this reporting period, the team have delivered 7 in-person workshops: 1 full day workshop during the school holidays, and 3 workshops held over 6 afternoons to young people living independently, in residential care, foster care and kinship care. Workshops were conducted in an art studio, or in the Ebdale Community Hub in Frankston.

During the reporting period, 13 children and young people completed modules, with 2 identifying as culturally and linguistically diverse, and 7 identifying with a disability. To provide leadership opportunities for young people, a CREATE young consultant engaged within the group to support positive dynamics alongside newer CREATE staff members, and to contribute lived experience to the delivery.

During the reporting period, modules held included:

Legit Wellbeing: offered over a full day in July school holidays, within an art therapy studio. The workshop engaged young people to explore the different aspects of wellbeing, create a wellbeing plan, and learn about where to find support for their own wellbeing issues. Young people shared a healthy lunch and beach activity.

Selfhood: provided over 2 afternoons, provided young people information, activities, and ideas about their personal identity, and how having a strong sense of identity can contribute towards achieving their life goals.

You and Your Peeps: provided over 2 afternoons, provided young people activities, information, skills, and ideas about healthy, equal and supportive relationships, in order to help them to identify and establish positive relationships throughout their lives.

Rolla Casholla: provided over 2 afternoons, provided young people information on budgeting and banking skills to help manage their money, and understand the benefits of doing so. The young people shared their own personal tips and tricks that they use when it comes to budgeting and making informed financial decisions.

The current CYF contract is funded until end of January 2024. During this reporting period, a full day school holiday workshop for Legit Wellbeing is scheduled on 27th September. The team are engaging PARC: Frankston Pool & Gym - Recreation and Aquatic Centre, and CORE24 gym, who have a lot of experience working with youth in the area, as an activity and guest speaker.

The following workshops are planned over the next few months:

Create Ur Crib – Housing and Independent Living: over 2 afternoons, scheduled for 10th and 11th October, to provide young people who are in or transitioning out of the care system towards independent living with Information, ideas and resources about their housing / accommodation needs.

Learn to Earn – Employment: over 2 afternoons, scheduled for 24th and 25th October, to provide young people who are making the transition from care to independent living with skills and knowledge that will assist them to understand, explore and plan for their future employment options.

Call Your Shots – Participation and Inclusion: over 2 afternoons, scheduled for 14th and 15th November, to provide young people who are in or transitioning from out-of-home care towards independence with an understanding of the term “participation” and some of the ways that young people can participate in organisation, communities and society.

Further workshops are scheduled for 28th and 29th November, 12th and 13th December, with a celebration planned for 15th January encompassing:

Great Race 4 Life! – Accessing Support Services to provide young people who are in or transitioning from out of home care with information about a range of support services that may be useful to them in their transition to independence; and to give them a positive personal experience of accessing these services.

Feedback

Workshop participants shared they really enjoyed the opportunity to be able to connect in person, stating ‘It was a lot of fun!’ – female 16 years. Highlighting just how important these workshops are in creating connections between young people, the community and providing practical information and tools to help with everyday life skills. At the end of each workshop, young people provided feedback. 100% of young people either ‘agree’ or ‘strongly agree’ that they:

- Understand what makes up their identity
- Feel confident to set goals for their future
- Learnt new skills to overcome challenges that impact on them being able to reach my goals
- Feel more confident in identifying what a health and positive relationship
- Understand the difference between equal and unequal relationships
- Feel more confident understanding the different types of behaviour (passive, assertive and aggressive)
- Have learnt some new ways of handling conflict
- Feel more confident to access support from others, with 100% of young people either ‘agree’ or ‘strongly agree’ that they would recommend this workshop to other young people.

The team have observed young people empowering each other, and many conversations between young people encouraging each other to achieve their goals. One carer reported that her young person has been ‘enjoying herself’, and the team have noticed this young person coming out of her shell, and feeling more confident each workshop.

Create Foundation cont.

Engagement

To foster increased interest and participation in workshops, the team continues to strategically rebuild in-person engagements. The team continue to engage in networks and interagency meetings within the Frankston Mornington Peninsular region, to reinvigorate connections and rekindle recruitment of participants. In the last week, 3 new young people have signed up for next week's workshop over the school holidays, and the team is positively rebuilding participation numbers in the region. Once a young person has attended one workshop, they have consistently been coming back if they are available to attend.

In addition to sharing flyers on Victoria and National CREATE facebook and social media pages, and generating enews letters to ClubCREATE members, the team continues to advertise workshops within the community and networks. The team continues to attend Frankston Community Services Networking meetings, to share upcoming workshop information to sector workers including Berry St, Allambi Care, Anglicare, Melbourne City Mission, DFFH, Brotherhood of St Laurence, VACCA, and Centre of Excellence for Child and Family Welfare, with particular emphasis on residential care providers. With increased engagement the team is hopeful the opportunity will present further engagement of local guest speakers, and future opportunities.

Considerations

By offering workshops in two delivery methods (over 2 afternoons, and full day over the school holidays), the team are exploring strategies of engagement with a wider range of young people in the Frankston Mornington Peninsula. Based on feedback from local young people, services and organisations, considerations into future workshop planning will review the duration between workshops to enable more time to advertise, and attract more attendance in sessions, offering more variation and options over school holiday and afternoons.

The team look forward to continuing to build local partnerships and develop further opportunities in the area, and are grateful for the opportunity to ensure the ongoing positive impact on young people with a care experience, supporting their transition from care into independence.



Sparkways

The Sparkways Mentoring Program

Funding Provided:

\$46,260 per year

The Sparkways Mentoring program provides young people aged between 7 and 20 years, with a consistent, supportive and positive adult mentor, to enable and guide them to engage more broadly in their local community, explore new things, learn about themselves and build positive relationships.

The Pilot Peer Mentoring Program implemented at Monterey Secondary College in 2023 is progressing well. A summary of the program is as follows:

Participants:

1. Year 7 students needing support in their transition to high school – to be selected by school staff. 24 young people in total.

2. Year 10 & Year 11 students with current or potential leadership skills who are in overlapping classes.

Program updates:

- We started in term one spending 5 weeks with student leaders helping equip them with leadership, presentation and facilitation skills to work with the Year 7 students.

- In that first 5 weeks they also came up with what content and topics to focus on delivering to the Year 7 students to help them feel more comfortable at school and assist with their transition e.g. social skills, accessing wellbeing, self-care strategies, adapting to change, communication, leadership, empowerment, etc.

- In last term we had the year 7s join the program and the student leaders and Sparkways staff to deliver content/topics and do activities to increase connection and community with year 11/12s. These sessions have been going really well and everyone engaging well with the content.

- The program is continuing running until half way through term 3 and will continue to deliver on topics not covered yet.

- It's been great seeing the year 7s come out of their shell and feel more comfortable around senior students, the senior area and engagement with school itself.



Committee of Management

President

Mr. Kevin Johnson

Retired Australian/New Zealand CEO of NYSE listed company. Founding Member and Secretary of Proudly Frankston. Member of the Frankston Wranglers Charity Club for over 35 years. Committee Member of Lords Taverners Victoria for more than 20 years "Giving the Young and Disadvantaged a Sporting Chance". Founding Chairman/current Vice President of the Frankston Wine & Food Society, Joined Committee of Management in 2010. Life member Of the Lords Taverners, Honorary Life Ambassador of the Frankston Wine and Food Society.

Vice President

Mr. Greg Lacey

Foundation Principal, Lyndhurst Primary School
Bachelor of Education
Graduate Diploma Computer Education
Accredited Executive Coach: Growth Coaching International
Joined Committee of Management in 2008.

Treasurer

Mr Stuart Shaw

Certified Practising Accountant (CPA) with over 40 years experience. Member of the the Australian Institute of Company Directors (MAICD) over 10 years. Presenter on governance and management nationally and internationally over 20 years. Previously Treasurer of Menzies for a number of years and rejoined as Treasurer in 2020.

Members

Mr. Alan Splatt

Consultant and former Principal of Taylor Splatt & Partners Lawyers. Past President Mornington Peninsula Solicitors Association. Convenor and past Chair Dandenong Family Court Family Law Chapter (1991-2010). Past Chair and member for 12 years of the Family Law Advisory Committee, Law Institute of Victoria. Life Member Heatherton Cricket Club. Life Member Long Island Cricket Club. Honorary solicitor Victorian Country Cricket Association and Mornington Peninsula Cricket Association. Joined Committee of Management in 2007, having been Honorary Solicitor for Menzies from 1992.

Members

Ms. Kim Jackson

Registered Nurse, Accountant and Chief Executive Officer at The Village Baxter where she has worked since 2000. Bachelor of Nursing degree from Monash University and an MBA(Accounting) from Southern Cross University. Member of Institute of Company Directors, Australian College of Nursing, Institute of Public Accountants and Committee for Greater Frankston. Joined Menzies Committee of Management in 2017.

Assoc Prof Kathy McMahon

Clinical Director of Paediatrics and Special Care Nursery at Werribee Mercy Hospital. Formerly Clinical Director of Paediatrics at Peninsula Health.
Chairperson of Director of Paediatrics group for Victoria. Joined Committee of Management in 2019.

Mr Murray Geddes

Executive Principal of the South East Victoria LOOKOUT Centre for young people in statutory care and Youth Justice. Passion for social justice and ensuring that postcode should not determine life's trajectory. Bachelor of Education – Melbourne University. Diploma of Education – Phillip Institute of Technology. Former founding Principal of Berwick Chase Primary School. Former Principal of Doveton North Primary School. Joined Committee of Management in 2022

Patron

Stan Alves OAM

AFL coach, elite athlete, media personality entrepreneur and successful businessman. Stan Alves is one of those rare individuals whose multifaceted ability has taken him from the sporting arena, into hat of business management. Patron of Menzies Inc since 2010.

Supporters

Corporates

Dench McClean Carlson
Digital Reprographics
Dunsford Financial Planning
Frankston International Motel
Pacific Laboratory Products
Ritchie's Supa IGA
Taylor Splatt & Partners
Brewsters Property GroupM
Mainline Developments

Community

Frankston Wranglers Charity Club
Frankston Dolphins VFL Football Club

Trusts & Foundations

Andrews Family Charitable Fund
Daniel Trust Fund

Major Donors



Life Members

Broome, Mr V
Burge, Mrs H
Byrne, Mr AW
Davies, Mrs S
Forster, Mrs N
Hildebrand, Mr D
Jones, Mr P
Luby, Mr A
Luby, Mrs J
McLeod, Mr R
Menzies, Mr G
Read, Mr D



Donating to



As you will have seen in this Annual Report, many people support the work of Menzies Caring for Kids. There will always be the need for generous financial support, such as yours, for the benefit of some of the most disadvantaged children in our community.

Many methods exist to show support:

- Make a tax deductible donation.
- Become a Member of Menzies Caring for Kids.
- Workplace Giving
- Donate in lieu of flowers in memory of your loved ones
- Support fundraising events held by Menzies.
- Make a bequest in your Will.*

To make a bequest, the following wording may be added to your Will:

"I devise and bequeath unto Menzies Caring for Kids the sum of \$_____ (or percentage or residue of my estate as appropriate) to be used for its work amongst children and families in necessitous circumstances."

The young people and Committee of Management express their gratitude to each person who has assisted us during this financial year.
Thank you very much.

**To make a donation or discuss other means of giving,
please email Menzies Caring for Kids at admin@menzies.org.au
or visit the website at www.menzies.org.au**



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