




YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

2016 ORGANISATION REPORT

INTRODUCING YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES



Some twenty years ago, our founder, Peter Marshman OAM, observed that young people were facing an increasing number of challenges in their crucial middle years of secondary schooling. He developed the Positive Empowerment Program, designed to help young people reach their full potential and become confident and resilient leaders. In 1997 the program was launched in the first school and Youth Opportunities was born.

Our mission is to empower young people to overcome challenges now and in their future.

To date, more than 11,000 year 10 students have participated in the ten-week program and have been further supported to achieve their educational and personal goals during our two year graduate follow-up service.

Throughout the training young people learn how to be happy, communicate more effectively, build their confidence and improve their wellbeing, set goals as well as increase their motivation for school. They leave the program equipped with skills and tools designed to prevent negative spirals from occurring throughout their lives; ensuring they don't just cope, they thrive!

Youth Opportunities gives young people the game plan they need to achieve their dreams.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



2016, what a year for Youth Opportunities!

Congratulations to our Chief Executive Peter Carey, the Youth Opportunities team and Board and our valued supporters on a successful year that included many highlights.

The number of **schools** we partner with continued to grow in 2016, with Playford International College and Christies Beach High School both introducing the Positive Empowerment Program for the first time and Wirreanda Secondary School coming back on board. Thirty-eight programs were run throughout the year with 544 students graduating.

The **results** reveal the incredible impact our program had on the lives of young participants. In keeping with our ongoing quality review of the program, data collection is aligned with PERMA theory, the internationally recognised measure of wellbeing. To find out more about our results see page five.

At several schools, trials continued on the new educator and student **online programs**. These programs are being developed through the excellent work of the Marshman Foundation (the development arm of our organisation). The student online program in particular, is exciting as it aims to extend our reach to a broader range of schools and year levels. We aim to commence sales of these programs in 2017, which will help secure financial sustainability for the future.

Financial sustainability is one of our key focus areas and I would like to thank the advisory committee for their great work in preparing a framework for a sustainable future.

Fundraising went to another level in 2016 with a number of outstanding events held throughout the year. These included our popular Golf Day, winsome Winter Feast and the fantastic Stars in the Garden, which broke the record for the most successful event ever held by Youth Opportunities. Thank you to our esteemed hosts, sponsors, volunteers and guests at these events; we could not have done this without you.

The **Stars 100 Club** launched in March. Our aim is to have 100 members commit to an annual donation of \$1000; giving Youth Opportunities an additional \$100,000 in funding each year. By the year end we were well over half way to achieving our goal of 100 members.

Partnerships play an important role in our successes. Our collaboration with the like-minded Operation Flinders continued in 2016 with students from Christies Beach High School taking part in our program to learn important life-long skills. Other valued partnerships have also enhanced our graduate engagement program. Days with the Army (7th Battalion RAR) and RAAF Base Edinburgh continue to give graduates extraordinary – and challenging – opportunities to put into action leadership and team-building skills taught in our programs.

Youth Opportunities has set a goal to **grow** to graduating 700 year 10 students with a further 1,300 graduates supported by 1 July 2018. This represents significant growth for our organisation and will make a profound and lasting impact not only on the young people we assist, but the communities in which they live. We are well established in both metro and regional SA with programs running in schools from the Eyre Peninsula to the Riverland. However, we want to do more for SA's youth. We are thrilled to announce that this year we laid the groundwork to expand to the South-East for the first time in our 19-year history. It's just one of our many exciting plans for 2017 – the 20th anniversary of this amazing organisation. We hope you will join in the celebrations.

Graham Hobbs
Chairman



OUR PROGRAM

Each of our Positive Empowerment Programs is delivered by two skilled and dedicated facilitators who work with groups of up to 18, year 10 students. Over a ten-week period, students participated in an adult learning environment that included: engaging facilitation, video presentations, group discussions, individual coaching, and coursework.

The program is built on a practical thinking framework aligned with positive psychology and personal development learning. It provides the tools and strategies that help enable young people to overcome challenges, reach their full potential, achieve and thrive.

The program covers topics such as success and happiness, personal leadership, habits and neuroplasticity and the concept of the **4 Big Decisions** which promotes:

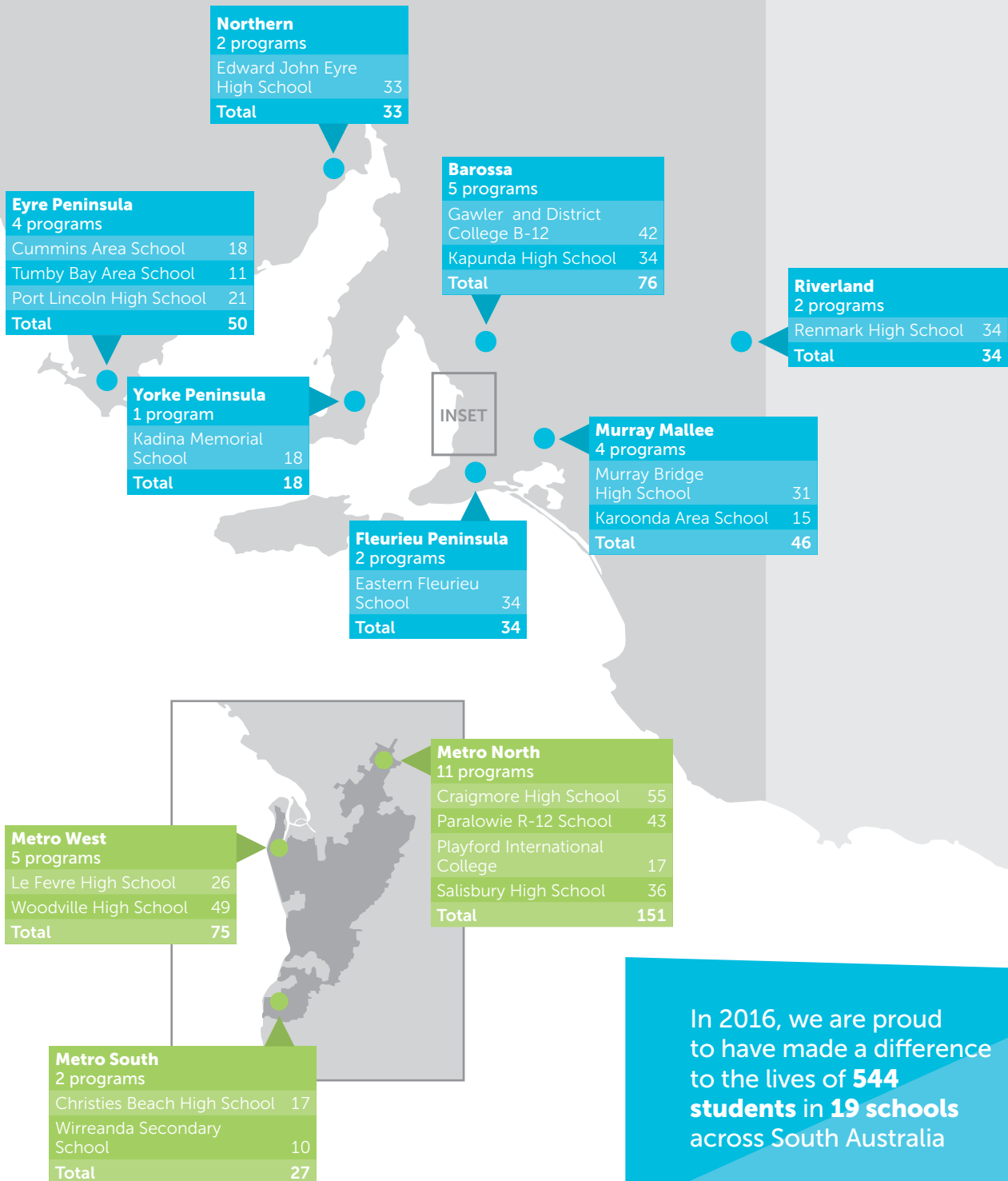
- Long term happiness
- Setting and achieving goals
- Positive communication skills
- Taking opportunities and choosing growth

It's through the content, coaching, supportive group environment and the actions students take in their lives that real and lasting positive change occurs. The student outcomes including greater confidence, motivation, clearer direction, higher levels of achievement and improved relationships, are evidence of the impact of this program.

Almost nine years after partaking in the Youth Opps program and I still use the tools I learnt on a daily basis. **Life changing experience.** 2008 Graduate



Our Reach



In 2016, we are proud to have made a difference to the lives of **544 students** in **19 schools** across South Australia

Our Results

Throughout the program students undertake self-assessment three times: at the start, mid-point and at the end. Data collected is aligned with Martin Seligman's internationally recognised wellbeing measure PERMA theory. PERMA theory contains five measurable elements of wellbeing: positive emotion, engagement, relationships, meaning and accomplishment. All indicators of student wellbeing showed significant improvement.

- 

93% of students increased in confidence
- 

89% of students felt their self-worth had increased
- 

86% of students felt happier
- 

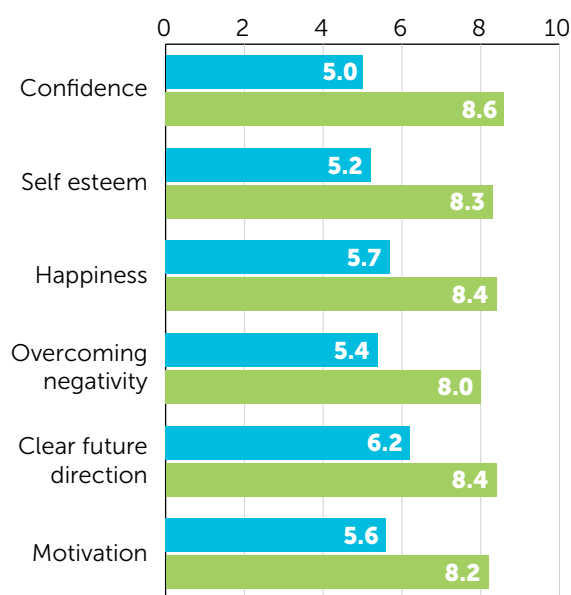
84% felt they could overcome negativity
- 

87% of students felt they had increased motivation
- 

77% have a clear future direction

97% of 2014 graduates are engaged in school, further study, or employment two years after graduating from the program.

2016 participants' wellbeing ratings before and after program

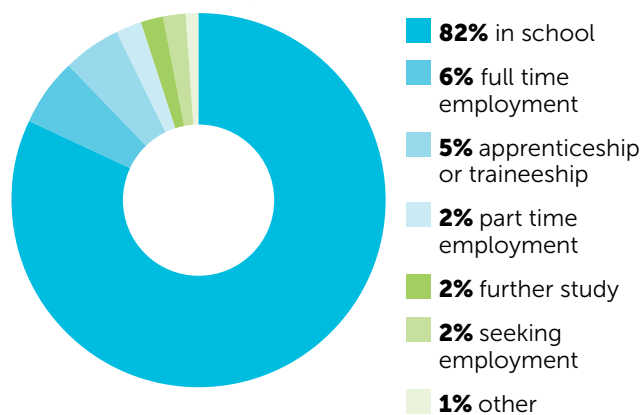


Average rating, on a scale of 1-10, where 10 is high
■ Before program ■ After program

2014 graduate retention results

The ongoing impact Youth Opportunities has on the lives of young people is shown through our high retention rate two years post program.

Of the students surveyed (n=453) from class of 2014



Graduate Engagement

Graduate Engagement sees Youth Opportunities trainers maintain contact with graduates for a two-year period after completion of the program. Graduates receive varying levels of support, ranging from monthly phone calls to mentoring and termly updates, depending on their needs and wants. We also provide a calendar of events filled with opportunities for them to reinforce the concepts learnt in the program.

I never knew that one little thing, like **being positive**, would change so much.

2016 Graduate



We secured a National Youth Week grant to produce a short film of graduates sharing their thoughts and experiences regarding diversity, community and acceptance. The film is now a pivotal part of a regular forum that allows graduates to reconnect with our program's concepts through ideas explored in the film.



(Above and bottom left) Graduates don camo gear to put their leadership and teamwork skills to the test during 'a day in the life' with the RAR 7th Battalion and RAAF Base Edinburgh.



We secured sponsorship to take 150 graduates to the 2016 Halogen National Young Leaders Day. The students heard from inspiring leaders in the community and took part in leadership workshops that showcased the skills they had learnt in our program.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Fundraising at Youth Opportunities incorporates a range of activities from events and lotteries to grants and appeals. Highlights from 2016 included:

Golf Day

At our ninth annual golf day, 132 golfers teed off and along with lots of laughs and camaraderie raised a record **\$80,000** towards our programs. Our thanks go to the keen golfers, organising committee, volunteers and especially the sponsors led by presenting partner Tanti Constructions. We hope to have you back on the greens for all the fun of the 10th Youth Opportunities Golf Day, 12 May 2017.

Winter Feast

Over 200 guests braved a winter's night to enjoy this unique event held in the imaginatively transformed showroom of our presenting partner Audi Solitaire. In another success for the fundraising team, the event, which included a raffle to win six nights in a Paris apartment, raised over **\$50,000**.

Stars in the Garden

The third annual Stars in the Garden was an outstanding success. Hosted in the glorious garden of Melanie and Robert Champion de Crespigny, the fundraising lunch featured an enthralling guest speaker, Flight QF32's pilot Richard Champion de Crespigny.

A record-breaking **\$241,000** was raised at the event. This included the giving opportunity, the matched donation by the Champion de Crespignys and over \$60,000 from the lively and amusing auction, with grateful thanks to our auctioneer Bernard Booth and MC Keith Conlon OAM. We would like to thank our 240 guests, new presenting partner Omega Communities and a multitude of generous sponsors and donors including Hand Made Catering and Maxwell Wines for their support. You are all **'stars'** in our eyes and we hope to see you back in the garden in 2017.



Community Fundraising

In addition to our own events we are fortunate to be recipients of funds raised by several of our valued partners. This year the Adtrans Group continued to support us via their Charity Golf Day as well as sourcing a new Ford Mustang thanks to BS Stillwell Ford and David Holst. Through a raffle to win the Ford Mustang we raised an amazing \$34,000. Once again Brighton Foodland and The Hwy held their successful Derby Day event with all proceeds going towards our program. We were excited to be the charity of choice for the Carbine Club's V8 lunch in March. Together these initiatives generated over **\$91,000** in income.

Images: (Above) Winter Feast; (below) On the green at Youth Opportunities Golf Day; (bottom) Guests enjoy themselves at Stars in the Garden.



Donors

We'd like to thank our many corporate and individual donors for their valued support in 2016, especially our major contributors.

Principle Donors

Department of Education and Child Development
 Living Choice
 Eureka Group Holdings
 Robert and Melanie Champion de Crespigny Clubs SA
 AHA
 A.P. Eagers Limited – Adtrans
 The Rali Foundation
 Morialta Trust Inc.
 BankSA Foundation
 Thyne Reid Foundation
 Perks Foundation
 Scanlon Foundation

Major Donors

Carthew Family Charity Trust
 Craig Brown and Julie McLellan Variety SA
 CBA Staff Fund
 Future2 Foundation
 HenderCare Foundation
 Graham Hood – Memoriam
 Rotary Club of Hyde Park Charitable Trust
 Bardie Simpson

Program Donors

Lions Club of Glenside
 Donald Cant
 Coca-Cola Amatil – Workplace Giving
 Scholle – Workplace Giving
 Equity Trustees
 Stephen Hicks
 Macquarie Group
 Roof Seal
 Rotary Club of Campbelltown
 Office for Youth
 Price Waterhouse Coopers
 B.L. Shipway and Co.

Network 10
 Rotary Club of Holdfast Bay
 Bannershop Australia
 Rotary Club of Prospect
 Westpac
 Jackpots on Hindley
 Annette and John Burkett
 Coopers Brewery Foundation
 Fiona Pashley
 Rotary Club of Salisbury
 Anthony Stracci
 Malcolm and Elizabeth Thompson

Stars 100 Club

The Stars 100 Club is a group of business and community leaders who have committed to preventing negative spirals and creating positive changes in the lives of young people.

Through an annual donation of \$1000, each Stars 100 Club member helps to raise an additional \$100,000 in funding each year; giving a further 100 students the opportunity to take part in the Positive Empowerment Program.

Our members to date include:

Geoff Day
 Greg Perks
 Ian Stewart
 Mark Lewis
 Andrew and Julie Venning
 Anthony Carrocci
 Bardie Simpson
 Belinda Rugless
 Ben Barclay
 Bernard and Sharyn Booth
 Bill Whiting
 Brian Nash
 Carthew Family Charity Trust
 Colin and Jan Rugless
 Colin Causby
 Craig Brown and Julie McLellan

Ed and Lola Betro
 Frank Vounasis
 Graham Hobbs and Karin Harris
 Greg and Sarah Columbus
 Harry Perks
 Helen and Legh Davis
 HenderCare Foundation
 Horace Bila
 Ian and Julie Carman
 James and Anna Rackham
 Jim and Bronwyn Whiting
 John and Dawn Eastwood
 John and Julie Tanti
 John and Rosemary Cornish
 Josephine Cooper
 Joy Kelly
 Julie Cook
 Julie LeCornu
 Ken and Marg Russell
 Kevin and Liz Scarce
 Kristian Livolsi
 Mary Lou Bishop and Joe Verco
 Matthew Boase and Zoe Yu
 Melanie and Robert Champion de Crespigny
 Melissa and Guy Barrett
 Michele Gayler
 Nick Chigwidden
 Nino's Smallgoods
 Peter and Jane Nelson
 Peter and Laura Hood
 Robert Chapman
 Robin Johnson
 Skye McGregor
 Stephen and Gill Hicks
 Steven Bosley
 Tim and Kelly Rugless
 Tony Martin
 Trevor Wortmeyer
 Wayne Phillis



I have learnt that happiness is not defined by what's happening around me; **happiness is my choice.**

2016 Graduate

OUR PEOPLE

The Board

There were a number of changes to our Board this year. Des Wauchope resigned during the year and Darryl Cross tendered his resignation at the end of 2016. We thank them for their years of support. We also said farewell to long-time champion of Youth Opportunities, former Willunga High School Principal and recent Board member Janelle Reimann who resigned due to illness and sadly passed away in October.

We welcomed two new Board members: Nicky Brand and Matthew Fisher.

Nicky has a background in psychology and 12 years experience in the development, delivery and management of evidence-based youth programs in some of the most deprived areas of the UK. Currently she runs her own consulting business specialising in assisting the not-for-profit sector to measure the impact of their programs.

Matthew is a practicing commercial lawyer with experience across a broad range of commercial matters bringing expertise to Youth Opportunities in the areas of risk assessment, management and governance. He also established the charity committee of the firm for whom he works, DMAW. This committee oversees the firm's charitable activities and initiatives.

Chairman

Graham Hobbs

Vice Chairman & Treasurer

Dennis Laundry

Board Members

Peter Marshman OAM
Melanie Champion de Crespigny
Conrad Guerra
Nicky Brand
Erin Faehrmann
Matthew Fisher
Janelle Reimann (resigned)
Darryl Cross (resigned)
Des Wauchope (resigned)

The Team

To support our planned growth for 2017 and beyond, in 2016 we finalised a revised organisational structure. We also welcomed new members to the team including Tarsh Turner, Clare Stevenson and department heads Orio Denti (Training & Business Development), Emily Martinella (Finance & Operations) and Libby McMichael (Marketing & Fundraising). We congratulate them for hitting the ground running and our existing team members for achieving a brilliant and successful 2016 in all areas of the organisation.

The Volunteers

As a small organisation doing big things we rely on the support and dedication of our volunteers. Thank you for your time, input, ideas and passion that help make our events and programs so successful.

Events

Melanie Champion de Crespigny
Helen Davis
Sharyn Booth
Pam Hobbs
Julie Cook
Melissa Barrett
Lee Newton
Bob Loveday
Joe Paparella
Tim Rugless
Christine McAuliffe
Eddie Bell

Advisory Network

Erin Faehrmann
Sarah Miller
Jeffrey Wong
Shaun McCarthy
Antoinette Fantinel
Tessa Hume
Karina Albanese
Daryl McMahan
Olaf Borutz
Ailsa Young
Ben Barclay
Brit Pennings
Sophie Hampel
Hope Taylor

Administration Support

Lisa Pomfret
Justin Holstein



OUR FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

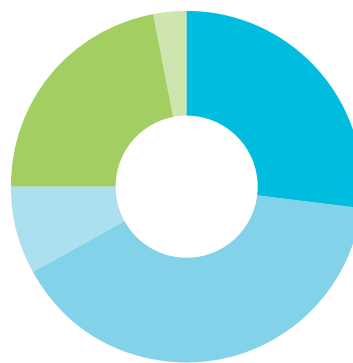
At the end of 2016, we achieved a surplus of **\$103,476**. Combined with our retained earnings from previous years gives us a total reserve of **\$567,192**. Once again this was achieved by the generosity of our corporate, community and individual supporters.

2016 Total Income



- Training Income (Schools) **20%**
- Events and Fundraising **30%**
- Grants **31%**
- Donations **19%**

2016 Donation and Grant Income



- Businesses **27%**
- Trusts and Foundations **40%**
- Individuals **8%**
- Government Funding **22%**
- Service Clubs **3%**

Allocation of expenses



- Training **58%**
- Office and Administration **18%**
- Fundraising **24%**



GET INVOLVED

Stars 100 Annual Thank you 19 March

Youth Opportunities
Golf Day 12 May

Starry, Starry Night –
Celebrating 20 years of
Youth Opportunities 25 August

Stars in the Garden
December
(date TBA)

I leave my house now with a **smile** on my face and I don't feel anxious.

2016 Graduate



Youth Opportunities

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