

A YEAR OF

Learning...

2016-
2017
ANNUAL
Report



Macarthur Disability Services



10

MDS babies were born



11

staff were promoted



23 staff celebrated their 5 year anniversary with MDS

3 staff celebrated their 10 year anniversary with MDS

2 staff celebrated their 15 year anniversary with MDS



104

new employees were hired

MDS

successfully transitioned

295

existing participants over to the NDIS.



50 BISS plans

were developed for NDIS funded participants



We supported **113** Carers

PIR

6

had consumers transition to the NDIS

PHaMS

7

had consumers transition to the NDIS

91 students

completed a nationally recognised qualification through MDS Training



135 people

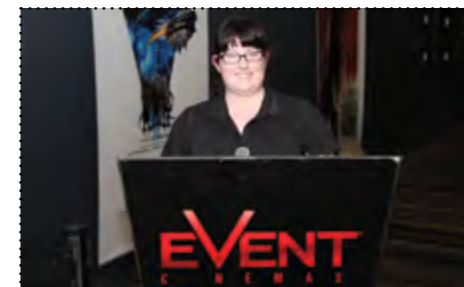
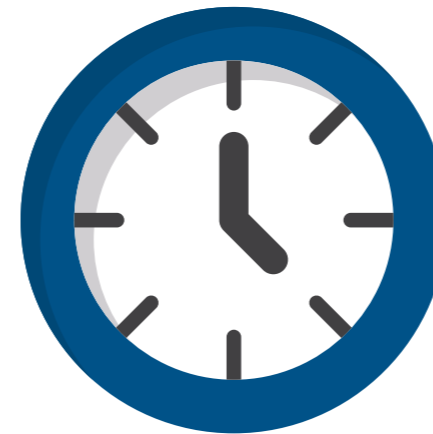
participated in the Elders Olympics

We delivered **92,241 hours** of day program services across 14 sites.

Individualised Services delivered **18,668 hours** of support

16,348 hours of support were delivered in our employment preparation services

452.5 hours of training were delivered by MDS Training



26

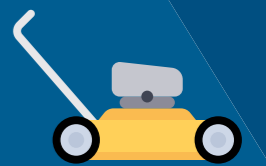
participants completed work experience

70

participants performed in our End of Year Concert

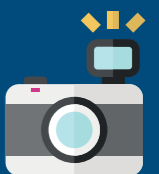


Our Pathways to Employment participants made **349** coffees and **414** lunches



2512

lawns were mowed by Complete Property Services



The Marketing Department took **6588** photos



Our Facebook posts reached a total of **263,176** people and had **21,732** likes, comments or shares

AMANDA'S Story

I began as an office volunteer for a couple of weeks and now I am here as a supported employee.

Working at MDS has been the best thing that has happened to me. I love everything I do and I have gotten to know so many people and make new friends in all different departments. Everyone I work with takes good care of me and gives me the right support and guidance that I need.

I help out with Individualised Services and Children's Services & Recreation. I have also done jobs in Marketing when a major event is coming up. I feel like I have grown a lot and have learnt a lot working at MDS.

I am also a participant in the Pathways to Employment program which sees me helping out in the Training Cafe every Thursday. This has helped with my cooking skills. I also go to the Gym Buddies and Living Skills Programs which means I have a very busy life and I have never been happier.

MDS is like my second family and I am very grateful to be here.

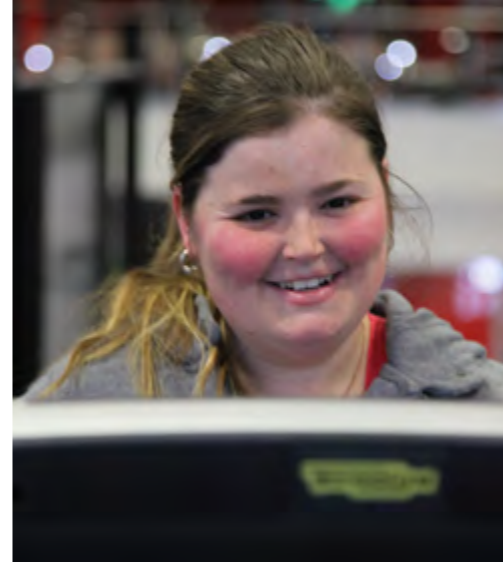
CEO'S Report

Another year is over, but what a year it was. This year, we saw the much anticipated National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) implemented in the Macarthur area and the Southern Highlands. For some people with a disability, the transition to the NDIS was relatively straight forward delivering life changing benefits, for others the journey was more difficult. As reported in previous years, the team at MDS worked feverishly in preparation for the NDIS, providing information to the people with a disability living in our community; implementing new systems and so much more. As I look back at this year, I am very thankful that we worked so hard on our preparation – sitting back and waiting for the changes associated with the NDIS to hit is not the MDS way. As always, we adopted a front foot attitude and met the challenges head on.

This year was a year of learning for MDS. The NDIS presented us with many opportunities as well as challenges which meant that we needed to learn new ways of working; new ways of delivering supports and new, more business-like approaches to running MDS.

The year was also a period of learning for the MDS service participants and their families/carers. During the early stages of the NDIS implementation, there was much angst and confusion for people at the centre of the new scheme. There were many unknowns, so members of the MDS team worked with individual participants and their families/carers to find answers – we worked in partnership and we learnt together.

As the transition to the NDIS continued, so did MDS's work on its business processes and the allocation of its resources – as the operating environment changed, so did MDS. At times it was a white-knuckle ride, but the strength and commitment of the MDS team ensured that we continued to focus on our core purpose, supporting people with a disability to achieve their goals and enjoy a good life.



It is always difficult to select a few highlights for the year and with so much to choose from, this year is no exception. However,

- Amanda started at MDS in the Pathways to Employment program with a strong desire to work and become independent. Initially Amanda volunteered her time and assisted MDS with administrative tasks, but before long she was able to demonstrate her value to the team. Amanda now has part time employment with MDS performing a range of duties including receptionist. With the support of MDS she continues to learn new skills and has become a great member of the team.
- Stacey is a woman who came to MDS having not previously accessed disability supports. She had a number of goals including learning to travel independently on public transport and learning to cook. Thanks to the support of the MDS team, she can now use public transport and has for the first time, prepared a meal for her parents – what an achievement. Good support can be life changing.
- For the past few years, MDS service participants have been supported to enter various competitions at the annual Camden Show – baked goods, photography, cut flowers, vegetables and handicrafts. This year, the work of service participants was recognised by winning an impressive 17 awards – what a fantastic accomplishment.

This year, MDS has learnt many new things and made many changes to the services we deliver. MDS will continue to learn and adapt our service offerings into the future to ensure we are able to deliver the best support to the people in our community.

Finally, I would like to thank Justin Thornton (President) and all members of the MDS Board of Directors for their wisdom, support, guidance, commitment and vision during this year of rapid change. As always, the Executive Team and all MDS staff deserve recognition and praise for their tremendous work this year – they have, despite the many challenges, continued to deliver excellent services and supports in our community.

JEFF SCOBIE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



CAMDEN SHOW

Success

Once again, MDS has exhibited some phenomenal award-winning entries at the Camden Show. Participants from Tahmoor Training Centre and Jacaranda collected a whopping 17 Awards over the categories of Flowers and Pot Plants, Photography, Cooking, Craft and Produce.

Months of diligence and maintenance in the garden led to an incredibly colourful display of dahlias, pot plants and roses securing MDS participants an impressive 8 awards in the Flowers & Pot Plants category.

Participants showed their creative skills through photography whilst others took to the paints and glue guns to create mixed media craft projects.

In the months prior, participants had been perfecting their banana bread, shortbread and scone recipes ready for the big day. Barbara, a facilitator in the Tahmoor Training Centre kitchen credits the Easy-Read cookbook system as the 'biggest success' in helping to create the award-winning chefs. The Easy-Read cookbook system has given participants ownership and independence in the kitchen.

MDS CEO Jeff Scobie said, "Once again I have been overwhelmed by what people involved with MDS have achieved. To all of those who entered the various competitions in the show, and the staff that provided the support – a huge congratulations."



Camden Show Awards

FLOWERS & POT PLANTS

First; 1 Vase Mini Decorative, 1 variety - **Amber**

First; 1 Vase Mini Decorative, 1 variety novice - **Daniel**

First; 1 Vase any other variety, not specified - **Colin**

First; Flowers & Pot Plant, Succulents - **Daniel**

Second; 1 Vase Mini Decorative, 1 variety novice - **Steven**

Second; 1 Vase Collective, 1 variety - **Tina**

Third; Flowers & Pot Plant, Succulents - **Daniel**

Third; Flowers & Pot Plant, Cactus - **Daniel**

Highly Commended; 1 Rose, novice **Tina** (x2)

CRAFT

Third; Other Category Jacaranda MDS Team

PHOTOGRAPHY

First; Flowers / Plants - Div 2 **Carleigh**

Steward Award; Special - Div 2 **Daniel**

Highly Commended; Animals - Div 2 **Amber**

COOKERY

First; Shortbread, Round **Carleigh**

VEGETABLES

First; Six Cherry Tomatoes **Chris**

First; Two Gourds **Daniel**



STACEY'S Story

I have learnt a lot through Pathways to Employment especially with Anna in the kitchen. I have learnt how to make cappuccinos and the barista side of things as well as how to cook lots of different recipes. I take those recipes home and cook them for my family. On the weekend I cooked vegetable pasties.

I also volunteer and do administration work at MDS. Working with Sandra is really great; she is a lovely lady that helps if I have a problem. I also enjoy working with Christinne and Amanda. The entire team are wonderful. I love the fact that everyone helps one another and supports one another.

MDS staff have taken us to different places for travel training including the City, Cockatoo Island and Sculptures by the Sea. Kathryn and Joanne from MDS are there to help us on the trains. I love that when we are doing travel training everyone has a chat and a giggle. I now feel confident to catch public transport on my own and I now catch the bus to MDS each week which was a big goal of mine.

Thank you to MDS for their support.



PRESIDENT'S Report

The National Disability Insurance Scheme was officially rolled out in South West Sydney in July 2016. As anticipated, the introduction of the NDIS has brought about opportunities for people with a disability, their families and carers, however it has also brought with it considerable challenges.

Over the last year, MDS has been working extremely hard to address those challenges as they arise, at times on a daily basis, in order to ensure that the organisation continues to be able to provide the best service it can to its participants, while remaining sustainable in the new NDIS environment. At times that has meant making difficult decisions and making changes to MDS and how it operates.

The Board is confident that the changes that have been made, and which continue to be made, will allow MDS to succeed in providing the best possible services to its participants within the NDIS framework, notwithstanding the considerable challenges presented by the NDIS.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to thank and congratulate CEO Jeff Scobie, his Management Team, and indeed all members of staff, for their consistent performance over the past year. The Management Team has again achieved some outstanding results and MDS continues to be one of Australia's leading service providers in the disability support sector.

I would also like to thank the Board of Directors for their personal support during the year and for the voluntary contribution they have made to the success of MDS.

Further to that, I intend to step down as President of MDS at the end of this year (although hope to remain on the Board as a Director) and I would therefore like to thank the Board for their support and effort during my term as President. MDS is extremely lucky to have the strong Board that it does and the strength and stability of the Board during that time has been something that has assisted MDS in dealing with the challenges presented by the introduction of the NDIS.

JUSTIN THORNTON
PRESIDENT



The Board

Justin Thornton PRESIDENT

Diploma Law, Accredited Specialist in Business Law

Justin is a qualified solicitor and is a partner of Marsdens Law Group with extensive experience in business and company law. Justin has an interest in providing opportunities, support and training for people with a disability.

Bill Kuchta VICE PRESIDENT

C.A. (Fellow)

Bill is a former partner of Pricewaterhouse Coopers with experience in emerging businesses and the global mobility of Human Resources. Since retirement in 2007, Bill has served as a board member in the not for profit sector, specifically in the medical research of brain diseases.

Daniel Kuchta TREASURER

B. Commerce (Accounting), C.A.

A Director since May 2009. Audit Partner of Kelly + Partners. Member of Institute of Chartered Accountants and a Director of Mater Dei Camden. Daniel provides financial audit and assurance services to a diverse range of businesses from large companies to the not-for-profit sector.

Kristie Leopardi

B. Arts, B.Commerce

Kristie is a Senior Manager Human Resources Strategy with Westpac Group. Kristie has an interest in social equity and in providing opportunities for community participation and employment for people with a disability. Kristie is a recent graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Vanco Djoneski

B. Engineering (Electronics), Postgraduate in Digital Telecommunications, Dip. Community Services Work, Business & Management

Vanco was a teacher/lecturer, engineer and the manager of a research laboratory for 18 years. He also was a community member of the Guardianship Tribunal / Guardianship Division of NCAT for 6 years. Vanco currently works as a Team Leader and an Advocate with a multicultural disability advocacy organisation that provides advocacy to people from diverse backgrounds with all types of disability and their families/carers.

Mark Kofahl

B. Ec (Accounting), Macquarie University, MAICD

Mark has an accounting background and is a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Mark has founded a number of successful companies in the I.T. Industry and specialises in digital and web technologies. Mark has particular interest in promoting social justice as well as delivering services and opportunities to the disadvantaged. Mark is also a Director of Mater Dei Camden, a school serving the needs of developmentally delayed children.

Krystle Wolthers

Diploma Law

Krystle is a Senior Associate with Marsdens Law Group practising in Estate Planning. Currently completing her Masters in Law, she is a volunteer solicitor with the NSW Cancer Council, the Macarthur Legal Centre and St Vincent De Paul. Krystle has an interest in human rights, social justice, assisting people with disabilities and volunteer work.

Daniel Murphy

B.App. Sci (Sports Ex Sc), M.Physiotherapy

Daniel is a Physiotherapist and Exercise Scientist, currently working as the Senior Physiotherapist at Bounce Back Physiotherapy in Narellan. Through his work and socially, Daniel has developed an interest in the correct care and social integration of people with a disability.

Thanks
TO THE GENEROUS PEOPLE &
BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORTED
US IN 2016/2017

- Around the Clock Pest Control
- Ausure Insurance Brokers Macarthur
- Belly Dance with Belinda
- Blind Sports NSW
- Blue Toro
- BOQ Campbelltown
- BRAS Networking Group
- C City Lawyers
- Campbelltown Catholic Club/ Aquafit
- Campbelltown Chamber of Commerce
- Campbelltown City Council
- Campbelltown Ladies Golf Club
- Campbelltown Monarch Blues AFL Club
- Campbelltown Raptors
- Carrington Nursing Home
- Coutts Solicitors and Conveyancers
- dVT Group
- East Campbelltown Eagles Football Club
- Embroidme Macarthur
- Emily Dodd
- Empower Golf Australia
- Esteem Carpet & Tile Cleaning
- Event Cinemas Campbelltown
- Fastlane Karting
- Fitzpatrick Group
- Fleur & Scott Anderson
- Forte Equipment Finance
- Games2U Macarthur
- Hair Flair
- Haven Air Conditioning
- Helzi Presents Dance Fitness
- Hire a Hubby Campbelltown
- Ingleburn RSL Club
- Insurics
- Jims Mowing Macarthur
- JJJ Business Coaching
- JMC Academy
- Just in Signs
- Kelly + Partners
- kikki K Macarthur Square
- Lend Lease Macarthur Square
- Macarthur Advertiser
- Macarthur Natural Health Clinic
- Macarthur Property Specialists
- Marsdens Law Group
- McDonalds
- McLaren Real Estate
- Meg Oates
- Minto Indoor Sports Centre
- Mullen Electrical Contracting
- Prelude Press
- Rapid Relief Team
- Shafer Auto Body
- Southwest Automotive
- Special Olympics ACT & NSW
- SunX Macarthur
- Target at Campbelltown Mall
- The Greater Narellan Business Chamber
- The Lighting Centre
- The Organised Cleaning Specialist
- United Cinemas Narellan
- Wakeling Automotive
- West's Leagues Club
- Wollondilly Shire Council
- Your Life Financial Services

TREASURER'S Report

Macarthur Disability Services adapted well to another challenging year where the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) had seen the team faced with a number of significant industry changes that has directly impacted on our funding model. Revenues were down 3% from last year, but the planning and ability to adapt to change ensured that MDS returned a positive surplus and continues to be a sustainable organisation even under the new funding model. While we still face real challenges as the NDIS evolves and old programs come to an end, the modest surplus and cash revenues gives us the opportunity of time to make considered decisions on how best we can continue to serve our participants under the NDIS.

While coming to terms with the NDIS the team has not lost sight on exploring new opportunities to better the MDS experience. We used cash revenues and committed to investment in existing and new facilities to provide a great experience for our participants and a pleasant place for our team to work.

The finance team who have greatly assisted me in this role have also worked beyond what is required. They have introduced new software; come to terms with a new funding model and re-designed budget and reporting tools to continue to assist the client facing team. They have also supported the Board with key financial information for informed decisions to be made. I would like to thank Alan and his team for their exceptional work.

Once again, our financial success and our ongoing achievements in service delivery are directly attributable to the teamwork of MDS. I would like to thank Jeff and the team for their dedication, professionalism and commitment throughout the year even in the times of uncertainty. Where most would have complained it all being too hard the team at MDS have challenged themselves to find a way.

I would like to thank the carers and people with a disability for choosing MDS and making it what it is today. We trust that you



continue to look toward MDS as your service provider and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow Board Members under the leadership of our President Justin Thornton. This year we worked through the risks and opportunities of the new funding model to make MDS a sustainable organisation into the future.

DANIEL KUCHTA
TREASURER



Financial Highlights

A summary of the significant items appearing in the financial report and the comparatives for the 2016 year are as follows:

Item	2017	2016	\$ Increase/ (\$ Decrease)	% Increase/ (% Decrease)
Total revenue	\$16,704,795	\$17,187,191	(\$482,396)	(2.81%)
Total expenses	\$16,101,115	\$16,635,260	\$534,145	3.21%
Net Surplus	\$603,680	\$551,931	\$51,749	9.38%
Current assets	\$5,359,356	\$4,722,629	\$636,727	13.48%
Total assets	\$10,383,538	\$9,314,259	\$1,069,279	11.48%
Current liabilities	\$3,125,224	\$3,217,800	\$92,576	2.88%
Total liabilities	\$3,790,178	\$3,859,454	\$69,276	1.79%
Net assets	\$6,593,360	\$5,454,805	\$1,138,555	20.87%



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