



Amity
Community Services Inc

Annual Report 2022-23



Strategic Plan 2023-2028

Purpose

Amity Community Services purpose is to provide a specialised service that supports all Territorians to achieve their full potential and to be a voice to influence change.

Mission

To be of value to and enrich the lives of all in the Northern Territory.

Values

Trust

To ensure the community feels valued, safe and a sense of belonging when accessing services.

Accountability

Amity will consider the needs and concerns of the community to ensure professionalism, compliance and competence.

Respect for all

Amity will respect everyone, and values difference and diversity.

Advocacy

Amity will endeavor to be a voice to help influence change and help create positive changes in society for all people.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

Amity would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which the organisation is based and where we serve the community, the Larrakia (Saltwater) people on Larrakia Land. We pay our respects to the traditional owners of the land, past, present and emerging.

Strategic GOALS

“what we want to do”

Strategies to ACHIEVE the goals

“how we will do it”

SUCCESS measures

“how we know we have achieved it”

Our People	Our Clients	Our Services	Our Organisation
Attract, develop and retain staff who develop the organisations culture. Our staff are committed, passionate and engaged in what Amity does and demonstrate exceptional practice.	Reach more individuals and families in our urban and remote communities.	Provide services that meet the everchanging needs of our communities.	Continually grow our organisations systems and quality.
Investing in our workforce.	Ensuring reliable and equitable access to our services.	Developing quality services that reflect client needs and demands.	Applying strong financial management and operational decision making while leveraging opportunities that are aligned to our goals.
A quality workforce with high staff satisfaction and wellbeing. High retention rate and positive feedback from satisfaction surveys.	Expanded service reach and increased client engagement. Improved quality of life indicators for our clients. Feedback from clients to indicate life changing outcomes.	Program and service evaluation demonstrating the positive impact our services are having.	Maintain continuous improvement and innovation. Evaluate the positive impact our services are having on community, with evidence to demonstrate this.

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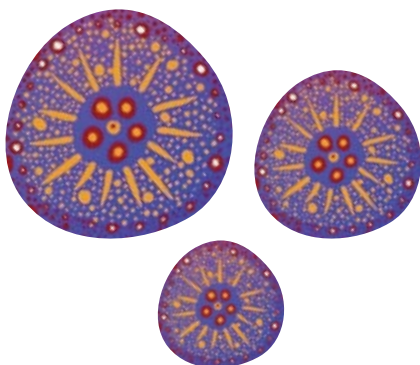
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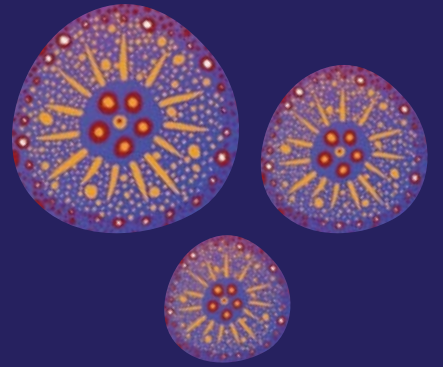
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Overview



About Us

Where we come from

Amity Community Services Inc. (Amity) has been providing services for people and the broader community for over 40 years.

Amity started out in 1976 as the Darwin and District Alcohol and Drug Dependence Foundation. The service was created to work with people who were experiencing harm from their drug and alcohol dependence.

During the late 80s as evidence became clearer the organisation's work focused on harm reduction and moved to align its understanding of behaviours of habit.

In the mid 1990s we recognised that because of increased availability and accessibility of gambling products – people, families and the community were experiencing harms from the behaviour and products and we already had knowledge and skills in behaviours of habit so we began to work within the gambling arena too.



Who we are

Amity is a for-purpose community organisation based in Darwin.

We have diverse funding sources that enable us to deliver a range of professional evidence-informed services and programs that encourage healthier habits and lifestyles. These projects and services are underpinned by harm reduction. We specialise in the areas of alcohol, other drugs, gambling and our associated mental health.

We see habits as a usual part of life and we understand habits have both benefits and costs. We appreciate people go through different stages when working to change behaviour and we work to support your change process with rational compassion and evidence informed practical tips and strategies.

We work with people to understand their needs, enabling us to work collaboratively in planning tips and strategies, building upon current skills and/or developing new skills that may assist people in practical ways when changing. Amity works in a manner that is non-judgemental, supportive and encouraging. We are recognised for our commitment, connection and contribution to our community.



Our People

Board Members

Name	Position
Ashley McManus	Board member
Brett Hagan	Board Treasurer
Jarrold Wee	Board member
Joanne Tilbrook	Board member
Karen O'Dwyer	Board Chairperson
Kerin Bolton	Board member
Mandy Pearce	Board member

Employees

Name	Position
Cassandra Makin	Health Promotions Officer
Darrell Brock	Chief Executive Officer
Fran Halse	Cleaner
Jessica Maris	Counselling Manager
Julie Seager	General Manager/Deputy CEO
Lauren Haines	Programs Manager
Lindsey Newman	AOD Project Officer
Margaret Hynes	Executive Assistant
Paul Turner	Counsellor/Educator
Phil Carroll	Gambling Project Officer
William Duncan	Counsellor/Educator

Board Members



Karen O' Dwyer
Chairperson



Joanne Tilbrook
Secretary



Brett Hagan
Treasurer



Kerin Bolton
Board Member



Jarrod Wee
Board Member



Mandy Pearce
Board Member



Ashley McManus
Board Member



Darrell Brock
CEO



Julie Seager
General Manager/
Deputy CEO



Jessica Maris
Counselling
Manager



Lauren Haines
Programs Manager



Cassandra Makin
Health Promotion
Officer



Lindsey Newman
AOD Project Officer



Paul Turner
Counsellor/educator



William Duncan
Counsellor/Educator



Philip Carroll
Gambling Project Officer Executive Assistant



Margaret Hynes



Fran Halse
Cleaner

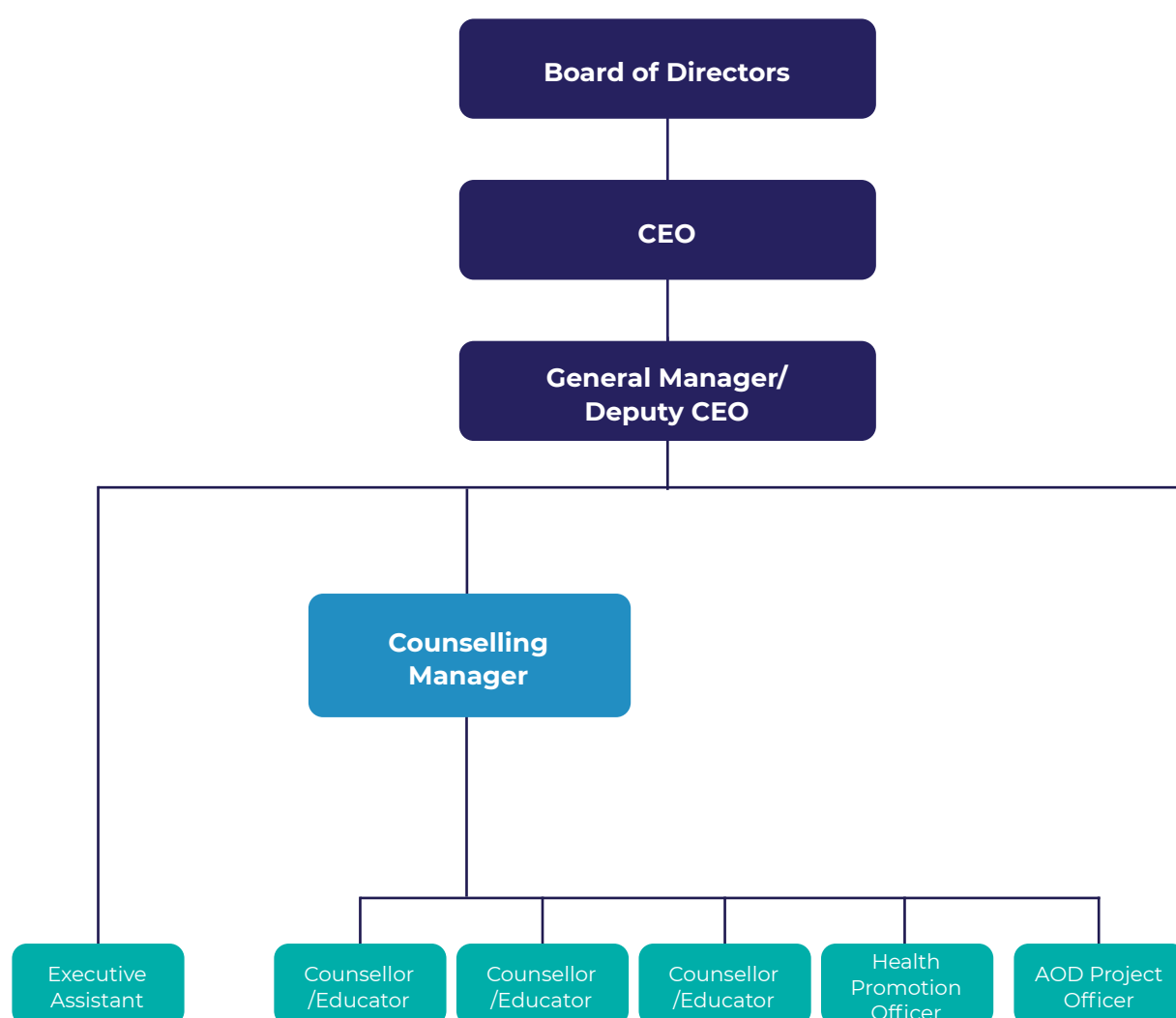
Employees

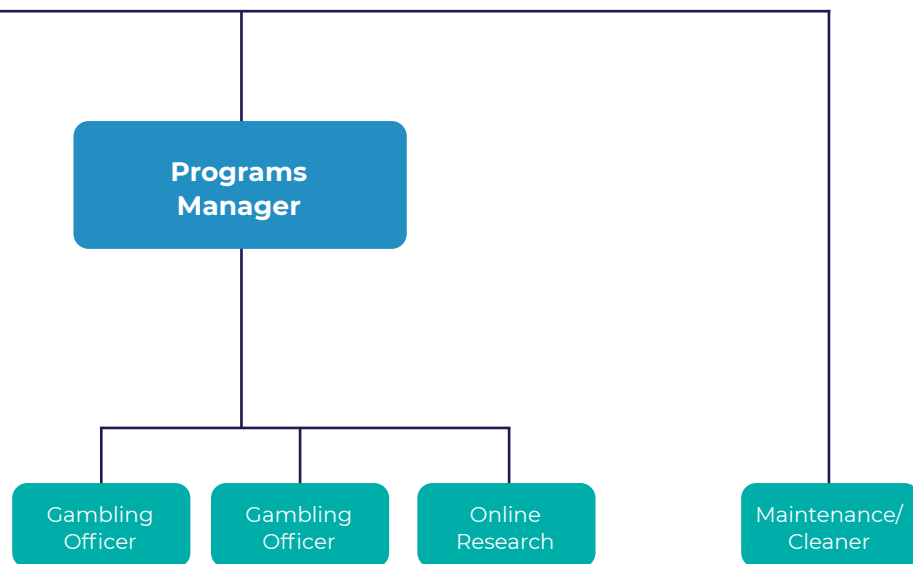


Structure and Management

Amity community Services Inc is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

Organisational Chart







Chairperson's Report

Once again Amity staff have shown their mettle in bringing to life amity's ethos of supporting harm reduction and positive change for our community. Supported by our CEO, Darrell Brock and General Manager Community Services, Julie Seager; Amity continues to grow to meet the varied needs of our community and clients.

When we read our local news, it seems our community faces increasing challenges with addiction and trauma and this is reflected in our increasing client numbers. While our staff have the skill set to guide and support those seeking support it became clear that we need to seek an additional councillor to reduce our wait list. This will place increasing pressure on our available space, however, our staff have worked together to find short term solutions to continue to care for our clients.

For the last three years our CEO and Board have been hoping for long term security of our leasing arrangements for our premises on the Stuart Highway. Amity Community Services have been a fixture on the highway for the last forty seven years, our clients present and past know that this is a place that provides education, counselling, and tools for change. They are reminded each time they pass of the help received. Ideally, in the future we will be able to invest in our growth on site to continue and grow this legacy for the next forty years.

I would like to thank the Board members for providing diverse and active contributions to guide our direction. It is the willingness of volunteers like you that enable the growth of helping organisations. The knowledge and direction provided by the Board members supports our fantastic staff. This makes Amity a pleasure to serve.

Kind regards,



Karen O'Dwyer
Deputy CEO





CEO's Report

The year in review

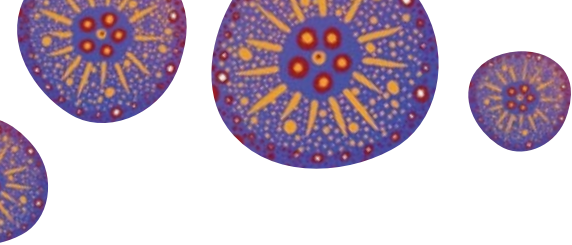
I am pleased to present this 2022-2023 Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Annual Report for Amity Community Service Inc. Amity continues to provide services for everyone who reaches out for support for their individual addictive harm behaviours and we also continue to provide relevant evidence-based health promotion resources to a wide consortium of the community, our services are provided free of charge given all Amity's programs are supported by both NTG and PHN funding streams and on occasion some much appreciated donations. Amity continues to ensure that all program deliverables are both culturally safe and responsive. The year again has demonstrated what Amity has accomplished and the outcomes achieved, this is clearly reflected in Amity's more detailed program reports.

Over the past twelve months it is clearly evident with acknowledging the struggles Australian's have had nationally with the increased living costs, namely inflation blowing out over 7.5% and subsequently as a result, interest rates being raised with 12 consecutive rate rises over the twelve-month period. This unfortunately has had significant impacts on those with mortgages and renters alike. These costs of living constraints have a greater impact on those with addictive behaviour patterns whether that be with Alcohol & other Drugs and/or Gambling. The added stressors linked to these adverse circumstances lead some people into more risky behaviours due to underlying stress.

Amity has ensured we have continued to be there to support these at-risk groups where possible and continue to take a non-judgemental approach by assisting clients to make healthy life choices in relation to their addictions.

During this reporting period Amity has continued to implement organisational development, our Aboriginal Town Camps (ATC) program was reviewed during this time and it was decided to make an informed decision not to continue post June 30th 2023, Although the program was primarily based on diversion intervention to mitigate the over use of Alcohol & other Drugs; Amity viewed that endeavouring to take a whole of community approach was not capturing the target groups and also acknowledged the over saturation of key-stakeholder services was having limited evidence based outcomes for the these communities.

I am strongly of the view that an individual person-centred wrap around action plan is the key to address adverse lifestyle choices. We tend to silo our attention to certain cohorts such as age and gender but not acknowledging that all these blend in to the bigger picture of social determinates for this marginalised population. Amity did seek to source alternative funding based on this concept and designed a program called the "Amity Individual Support Programme" which the objectives are to improve the health and lives of adults experiencing harmful effects from addiction to AOD through intensive case management, wrap around key-stakeholder multidisciplinary approach. To deliver on these objectives, Amity will promote individual wrap around supports that improve client wellbeing and reduce harmful substance use through the provision of culturally appropriate alcohol and other drug (AOD) prevention, education, treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare services for clients accessing theses services. Unfortunately to date we were unsuccessful with obtaining a grant to invest in this project.



It is with privilege to present Amity's Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) this year. This is the beginning of what we envisage a long-term commitment to supporting economic and social well-being and equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This is an important milestone in Amity's journey with recognising the importance of providing purposeful and sustainable outcomes that aim to enhance reconciliation and help Amity form mutually beneficial partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) peoples and communities both here in the NT and nationally. Our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for March 2023/2024 demonstrates Amity's commitment to the reconciliation process. Understanding that in committing to the actions that support reconciliation we will only strengthen our ability to provide support to the community. This Reflect RAP will provide an important foundation for demonstrating our actions over the next twelve months by ensuring we develop our existing relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities, key-stakeholders and organisations. Amity aims to ensure that we have a diverse and inclusive workforce which fulfils our employees', customers' and shareholders' expectations while building a sustainable future for our strategic goals. This Innovative RAP will help us to achieve these objectives by enhancing existing relationships and generating new opportunities. I encourage all employees, customers and suppliers to support us along this journey.

It is again unfortunate that we continue to have protracted delays with decisions pertaining to 153/55 NTG owned blocks at Amity. This continues to place Amity in a precarious position given it is challenging to forward plan infrastructure needs and program development when we have no certainty with surety of tenure. Amity continues to pursue a long lease to ensure strategic planning for the organisation longer term, the protracted delays has directly impacted Amity in securing office space for some program staff given both the current NTG buildings are still uninhabitable.

Moving forward

Amity will finalise the Strategic Plan to be presented at the October 2023 AGM. We will ensure that whilst Amity will continue to focus on its core program strengths those being the specialised counselling and gambling we will also seek to embrace new potential opportunities that will complement the existing work being done.

This year Amity have applied for additional funding for expansion of the Gambling program, Amity will be developing an online gambling training portal for gambling venue employees that cannot readily access this mandatory training requirement face-face. We also sought an amendment with our Illicit Drugs role which is funded by PHN, we sought to have this as an FTE Project Officer given previously this was .5FTE Counsellor/5 ID Project Officer.

Thank you

I would like to firstly say thank those for the two generous donations Amity received for the 22/23 reporting period, we do ensure that this kind gesture is directly put into service delivery needs which has overall outcomes for both Amity's sustainability and client's accessing these services.

It is important to acknowledge and recognise the people that make Amity what it is, during the 22/23 calendar year Amity has continued to have a dedicated Board to support me and has continued to support decision making and ensure accountability across the organisation given this is pivotal to future sustainability. Again, I would sincerely like to acknowledge and thank all the Board members for their dedication and voluntary contribution to Amity, and I need to acknowledge and thank the A team. Of I need to acknowledge and thank the A Team. It takes time to mould the right mix of staff into any organisation, I feel confident that we now have both the skills mix and passionate staff to facilitate all our program activities moving forward. Amity has ensured we focus on providing a supportive, collaborative and positive environment, commencing the EA process this year is testimony to this given the staff an opportunity review the current agreement.

Amity continues to review its service provision strategies and seeks to streamline systems to both support and improve working tools for the team.

Amity is now in a good position to both grow its services to clients and seek to become more innovative with program concepts that have evidence based best practice outcomes. Again, Amity is a somewhat smaller service provider that warrants future expansion of both its specialist service provision to the community and its overarching organisational capacity. Amity will be continuing to be reaching out to the funding bodies to support with its longer-term vision.

D. Brock

Darrell Brock
Chief Executive Officer



AGM Meeting Minutes 2022

Location:

Amity Training Room

Date:

20th October 2022

Time Commenced:

5.08PM

Time Concluded:

5.27PM

Group Members Present:

Karen O'dwyer (Chair), Joanne Tilbrook (Secretary), Brett Hagan (Via Teams), Kerin Bolton, Jarrod Wee, Ashley Mcmanus, Darrell Brock (Amity Ceo)(Via Teams), Julie Seager (General Manager/Deputy CEO), Mags Hynes (Admin Officer), Joe De Luca (Amity CSM)

Staff Members Present:

Lindsey Newman, Paul Turner, Lauren Haines, Luke Nox, Philip Carroll

Stakeholders Present:

Andy Balfe - NTPHN Strategic Planning Coordinator

Apologies: Mandy Pearce

Minute Taker: Mags Hynes

Previous Minutes: Yasuyo Patel

ITEM 1 – Opening & Welcome

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge and pay respects to Traditional Owners of the lands on which we breathe, walk and live today. We acknowledge the Stolen Generation and their trauma, lived experiences and the ongoing impacts this has today. We acknowledge and respect the strength of Traditional Owners and will walk alongside in their journey today.

Karen O' Dwyer welcomed everyone to this year's AGM.

Thanked all staff for giving their time to attend the meeting.

ITEM 2. – Confirmation of Minutes of the 2021 AGM

Moved: Joanne Tilbrook

Seconded: Karen O' Dwyer

ITEM 3 – Presentation of Organisational reports and Audited Financial report

Karen O' Dwyer said it was a pleasure to be in her 2nd year as Chairperson of the Amity Board. It has been a pleasure watching staff develop and grow. She said Darrell Brock has created new opportunities and involved staff in this. She thanked Darrell Brock and Julie Seager for the growth and involvement of staff and Board Members. She then spoke of Amity's rich history and future opportunities to come.

Karen O' Dwyer thanked all leadership and staff of Amity.

CEO Report:

Darrell Brock spoke in his report about the strong team Amity has had for the past year. He acknowledged achievements and milestones that have been met.

He spoke to counselling now being paper free with using our new REdiCase software which is now fully operational.

He spoke to ATC: that we now have funding bodies more involved and interested. Amity recognises where ATC currently stands as a program. 21/22 funding will be structured differently.

He thanks staff which are 80% new staff this year. There have been a lot of challenges this year which have been met by staff.

Our BSI audit was held in August, we are looking at new systems and will keep improving on this.

We are confident that SharePoint will be up and running before the end of the year. This is a big milestone for Amity.

Darrell Brock said he proud of the varied skillset among new staff members and the great ideas that are being brought to the table by them.

Our new strategic plan has a clear vision of where Amity wants to go in the next 5 years.

Darrell Brock wants to work on our partnerships and collaboration with other organisations so that we can build on what we currently do.

He thanks everyone for supporting him over the past year.

He thanks Julie Seager for all her hard work and support.

He thanked Joanne Tilbrook for being on the interview panel for Amity.

He thanked KO'D for all her support.

Moved: Karen O' Dwyer

Seconded: Ashley McManus

Financial Report:

Joe De Luca spoke to the financials.

Page 24 & 25 of the Annual report show financials.

Page 26 & 27 show financial audit.

Amity has a responsibility to being both an NFP Organisation and a Charity.

Moved: Joe De Luca

Seconded: Karen O' Dwyer

ITEM 4. – Election of Office Bearers

Chairperson: Karen O' Dwyer

Deputy Chair: Mandy Pearce

Secretary: Joanne Tilbrook

Treasurer: TBD

Board Member: Brett Hagan

Board Member: Kerin Bolton

Board Member: Jarrod Wee

Board Member: Ashley McManus

Moved: Karen O' Dwyer

Seconded: Joanne Tilbrook

ITEM 5. – Appointment of Auditor

Karen O' Dwyer moved to have this discussed at next Board Meeting.

Moved: Karen O' Dwyer

Seconded: Joanne Tilbrook

ITEM 6. – Other Business

Darrell Brock apologised for not being present in person for the AGM.

He thanked all staff for attending.

ITEM 7. – Meeting Closed

Meeting closed: 5.27pm

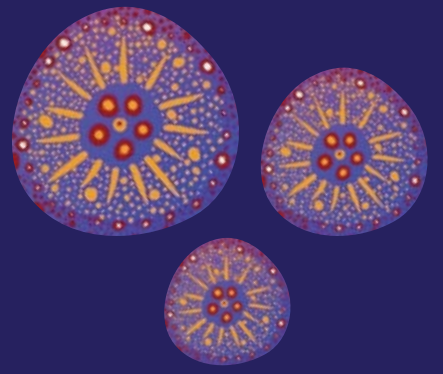
Next Meeting:

Chaired by: Karen O'Dwyer

At: Amity meeting room

NAIDOC March







Corporate Services Report

Over the past twelve months Amity has continued to ensure corporate governance systems are meeting the requirements of organisational growth and development. Amity made the decision to restructure the organisational flowchart following the departure of the CSM mid-year. This role is now absorbed by the Executive Assistant, General Manager and the Chief Executive Officer.

The corporate services portfolio continues to address finance management, administration, Quality Management System (QMS), Fleet vehicle management, infrastructure/Assets, Auditing and information technology. Amity has continued to review systems and processes over the last year, which has improved outcomes across the organisation. Amity's new QMS was designed, and has replaced LOGIQC. This is progressively being built however acknowledging it still requires further development to comply with Amity's unique service delivery model, we will be seeking to have this addressed in 2023 given the costs associated with this further platform development.

Amity's online HR platform, Employment Hero has been a great asset given it is designed for an organisation the size of Amity and allows for user friendly usage for both individual staff requirements and our Corporate Services area. Over the past twelve months Amity has seen a number of staff recruited to new roles and has ensured improved process with the onboarding.

It is unfortunate to highlight we have gained little ground with our ongoing NTG 153/155 Lot infrastructure issues. Over the course of the year building 155 has been gutted due to the presence of asbestos thus making it uninhabitable. Unfortunately given the poor

condition of the 153 building an executive decision was also made for staff to vacate this premise as well resulting in Amity having to be creative with office space. It is unfortunate that we have had to relocate our core reception role to the counselling building at 7 Stokes street which again is seen as disruptive. The impact that this protracted issue is having on Amity is very negative and we are hoping to have some future resolution by NTG in the near future.

This year has seen the closure of the ATC program, given such the assigned ATC fleet will be sold given they will no longer be fit for purpose for the 2023/2024 period. Amity put in a further funding application for a gambling project which may result in the need for an additional fleet vehicle in 2023. Amity has over the past twelve months improved the management of our fleet vehicles by ensuring a digital calendar booking system is made available to staff and that all vehicles have user log book monitoring and maintenance checks.

Over the past twelve months Amity has improved overall budget management by ensuring all program managers have both access to their individual program budgets but also that they have regular monthly meetings with our independent finance bookkeeper. This strategy has ensured that budget expenditure over the twelve months is kept on track and is aligned to program outcomes.



Julie Seager
General Manager/Deputy CEO



Work Health and Safety Report

Amity's Work Health and Safety Group meets monthly to ensure that Amity complies with any duty or obligation under the work health and Safety Act. This is achieved by exercising due diligence, which means the group:

- Acquires and keeps an up to date knowledge of work health and safety matters;
- Ensures that communication processes are in place between the entirety of Amity staff to enable hazards to be identified and risks to be eliminated or minimised; and
- Ensures that information regarding incidents, hazards and risks is received, documented, considered and responded to in a timely way.

The Work Health and Safety Group regularly review policies, monitor First Aid kit maintenance and responds timely to feedback.

Current Work Health and Safety practises include:

- Ensuring that the work environment is a safe environment
- Incorporating Work Health and Safety updates and information into regular reporting provided to the Board of Management
- Ensuring that regular hazard inspections of the workplace occur
- Having Work Health and safety as a standing agenda item for each staff meeting



Counselling Report

The Counselling team has undergone significant changes throughout the year including the promotion of Jessica Maris to the role of Counselling Manager, and the addition of William Duncan, Counsellor. Members of the Counselling team utilise a variety of counselling modalities, ensuring effective support for individuals seeking strategies to assist with behavior change, as well as affected others including family members and friends.

Following on from changes introduced in 2022, Amity continue to provide counselling to clients aged 14 onward, in addition to delivering Gambling Go Easy for clients of residential withdrawal facilities, including FORWAARD, MAARTS and Sunrise.

Amity saw an increase in referrals throughout 2023, which can be attributed to promotion of the service through networking undertaken by the Alcohol and Other Drugs Project Officer. Margaret Hynes, Executive Assistant, continues to support the Counselling team with triaging of referrals and managing the Counselling calendars.

Lastly, we celebrate Paul Turner, Counsellor, becoming an ambassador for R U Okay.

Alcohol and Other Drugs Project Officer

Lindsey Newman has collaborated with NTC and the Pharmacy Guild to develop and distribute a retailer's pack aimed at reducing harms associated with volatile substance use, this includes safe storage, understanding of legislation and reporting requirements, and ways to effectively respond to someone who is under the influence of volatile substances. Lindsey has also ensured existing stakeholder relationships were maintained, as well as fostering relationships with additional stakeholders. Furthermore, we celebrate Lindsey having

completed her Certificate IV in Alcohol and Other Drugs, which compliments her existing Diploma of Community Services.

Health Promotion

Cassandra Makin stepped into the role of Health Promotion Officer and has been overseeing the implementation of Amity's Reconciliation Action Plan, with support from the broader team. Cassandra and William went to Milikapiti on Melville Island to support Outback Tracks, Victims of Crime NT, and students from Milikapiti School to write a song and create a video aimed at reducing harms associated with gambling.

The NT wide Dual Diagnosis Network was established in May, running quarterly online networking and professional development opportunities. Speakers to date include Dr David Mitchell (Chief Psychiatrist), Leon Gailitis (NT Health: Senior Policy Advisor), and Headspace Darwin / Palmerston.

The Year Ahead

Given the increase in Counselling referrals to Amity, the Chief Executive Officer, Darrell Brock, and Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Julie Seager, will explore funding options to employ additional staff, thus reducing wait times, and allowing Amity to provide outreach support. This will enable Amity to collect data on the prevalence of substance use treatment required for clients whom currently reside in correctional facilities, such as Holtze and Don Dale.

Amity will continue to expand their youth support services by developing further psychoeducation programs, targeted at prevention and early intervention.

Staff remain encouraged and supported to participate in professional development opportunities that increase their knowledge and skills, to assist with improved outcomes for clients and the broader community.

Statistics

254 people attended the service

For a total of **1052** sessions

62% were male

37% were female

40% presented for alcohol concerns

46% presented for other substance use

14% presented for gambling related concerns

37% of clients had co-existing mental health diagnoses

22% of clients identified as Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander

78% of clients identified as non-Indigenous

Figure 1: Indigenous Status

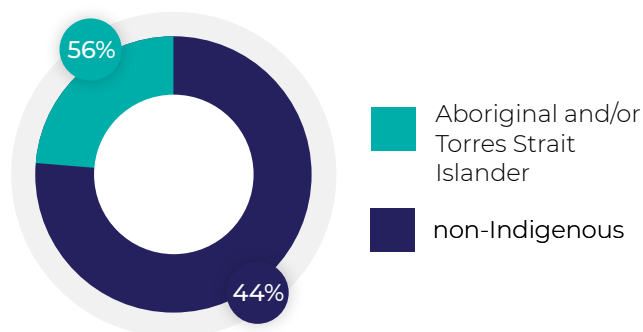


Figure 2: Gender

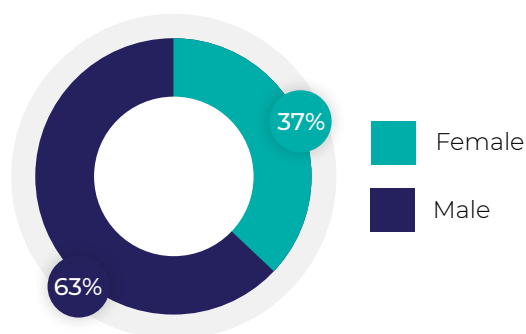
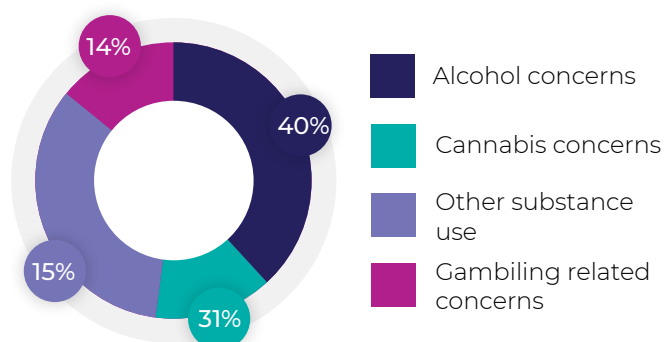


Figure 3: Principal Drug of Concern





ATC Report

The Aboriginal Town Communities Program (ATC) operated as an early intervention and diversionary initiative within three Town Communities spanning Darwin and Palmerston. The primary goal was to reduce the impact of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) use in these communities. However, after a 14-year run, the program officially concluded its operations in June 2023.

Throughout the 2022/2023 period, we undertook comprehensive community consultations. The objective was to design programs tailored to the specific needs of women, men, and youth in these communities. The aim was to gain insight into their daily challenges, learn from their past experiences, and identify activities that would be beneficial for the community. This feedback played a pivotal role in developing culturally appropriate programs for each cohort.

The programs encompassed a range of activities such as healthy cooking classes, engaging in art and crafts, fishing, sports and participating in on-Country outings. These activities fostered an environment for participants to connect, engage in meaningful conversations, strengthen their ties to their Country, and deliberate on choices that contribute to a healthier lifestyle.

This approach involved addressing the immediate challenges participants faced in their daily lives. It included delivering interventions, sharing information, aiding in their connection with relevant service providers, and guiding them towards appropriate referral pathways. The underlying principle was the need for a

comprehensive, all-encompassing strategy that not only tends to the health and well-being needs of participants but also works to reduce the prevalence of AOD within these communities.

Furthermore, we sustained the practice of organising quarterly Community Stakeholder meetings within these communities. These gatherings provided a platform for stakeholders to communicate the available services to the communities, understand the concerns of the communities, and explore potential collaboration opportunities. This endeavour received significant positive responses from the community, government bodies, and stakeholders alike. Presently, these meetings have been entrusted to the communities to continue, with support from the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet, and Children's Ground.

The ATC program officially ceased its operations at the end of the 2022/2023 financial year. Amity has a longstanding history of assisting these communities, and we are hopeful that ongoing funding will sustain programs to empower the communities in achieving their goals.

73 Programs

39 Participants

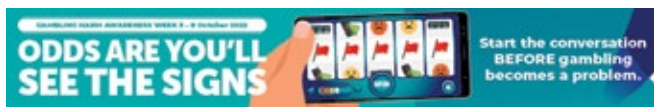
4 Community
Stakeholder
meetings

Gambling Report

Gambling Harm Awareness Week 2022

We were privileged to collaborate with Jay Robinson, a renowned international gambling consultant, to shape the theme of the 2022 Gambling Harm Awareness Week (GHAW) campaign. The theme, 'Odds are you'll see the signs,' was designed to encourage open discussions within the community about gambling-related issues before they escalate. The transition from Responsible Gambling Awareness Week (RGAW) to GHAW, is intended to better capture the varying degrees of gambling harm. We aimed to emphasise that individuals don't have to be classified as "problem gamblers" to experience harms associated with gambling.

Our goal has been to promote safer gambling practices among both gamblers and gambling service providers. By doing so, we aspire to cultivate an environment where gambling can be a recreational activity with minimal risks to players, providers, and the broader community. We extend our gratitude to Mindil Beach Casino for hosting our GHAW 2022 launch event, which provided an excellent platform for venues and community organisations to meet and gain insights into gambling harm minimisation, training, and available support.



Service Delivery

Community Education

This year, we conducted a comprehensive review of our Gambling Go Easy program, resulting in distinct versions for clients and staff. The client version covers topics including addiction, gambling risks, potential impacts of gambling harm, strategies for harm minimisation, the "Stages of Change" model for addiction recovery,

and available support resources. We successfully delivered 18 sessions to a total of 264 participants.

The staff version builds upon this foundation by delving into signs of problematic gambling, current statistics, and assessment tools that can be employed to aid clients dealing with gambling-related harm.

Our school sessions have also undergone review and updating. These sessions, targeting year 8 cohorts and above, focus on gaming and its similarities to gambling. The curriculum covers aspects such as adolescent brain development, emotional regulation, impulse control, addiction mechanisms, and protective factors. We have noted a growing interest from schools to expand these sessions to year 10 cohorts. We successfully delivered 8 sessions attended by a total of 162 participants.

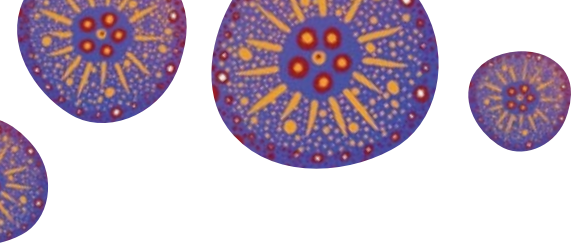
Involvement in Community Activities

The Gambling team participated in health expos alongside the Illicit Drugs Program (IDP) to raise awareness of our services and provide education on gambling harm minimisation to students. Additionally, we partnered with Victims of Crime to produce the "All Bets Are Off" video in Milikapiti, contributing to our efforts in community engagement.

Responsible Service of Gambling Training

We conducted Red Flag Behaviour training sessions for NT gambling providers, equipping their staff with the necessary knowledge and tools to address gambling-related concerns and support responsible gambling environments. We successfully delivered 33 sessions attended by a total of 163 participants.

Feedback from gambling providers highlighted the need for more flexible, on-demand training delivery. This led to the proposal of an online Red Flag Behaviour training module, which will be an interactive module available to staff at their convenience.



Looking Ahead

Collaborating with Jay Robinson and video production company, VMP, we have begun developing the online Red Flags Behaviours training module, improving access to Industry partners and supporting responsible service of gambling practices. We are delighted the proposal received funding and look forward to rolling out this project in 2023/2024.

To further improve service delivery outcomes, we will be implementing a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to gauge program effectiveness. Engaging external consultation will be a key focus to ensure our training and education packages are of the highest possible standard and effective in addressing the current needs of the community.

Having access to current research in the areas of gaming and gambling within the Northern Territory are critical to Amity's ability to successfully implement impactful programs to support the community, and safeguard against the harms associated with these activities. A major focus in the coming year is participation in gambling research within the Northern Territory to reinforce our goal of improved service delivery outcomes.

We are committed to enhancing and expanding our community education efforts, appointing a Gambling Project Officer to bolster our team and service delivery capabilities. Pivotal to this vision is the review of health promotion materials and launching a translation project to enhance accessibility for the Northern Territory's Indigenous populations.

Dedication to our mission of minimising gambling-related harm and fostering a safer environment for our community is what drives us. We look forward to continuing to contribute to better outcomes for all Territorians in the year ahead.

33 Red Flags sessions

163 Red Flags participants

18 Gambling? Go Easy sessions

264 Gambling? Go Easy participants

8 School sessions

162 School session participants



Statistics by Month

Figure 4: Red Flags Training

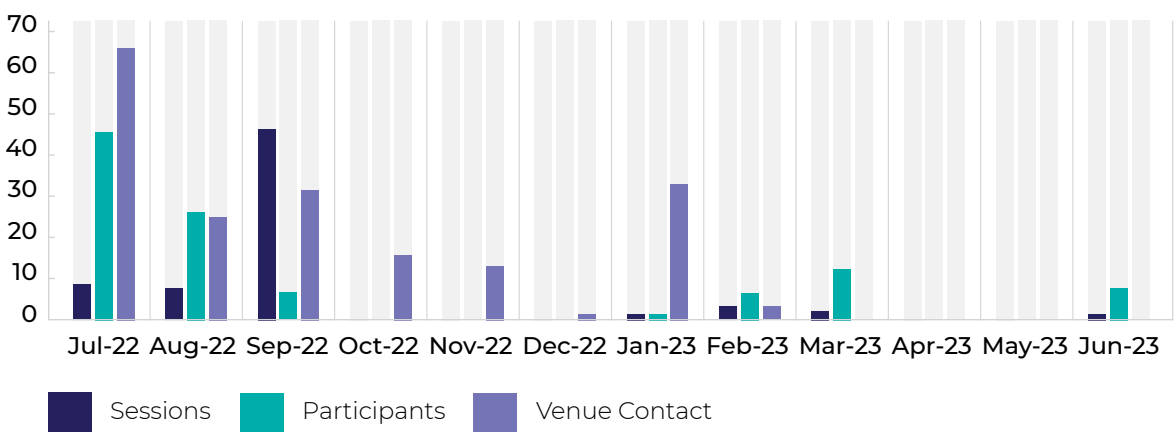


Figure 5: Gambling Go Easy

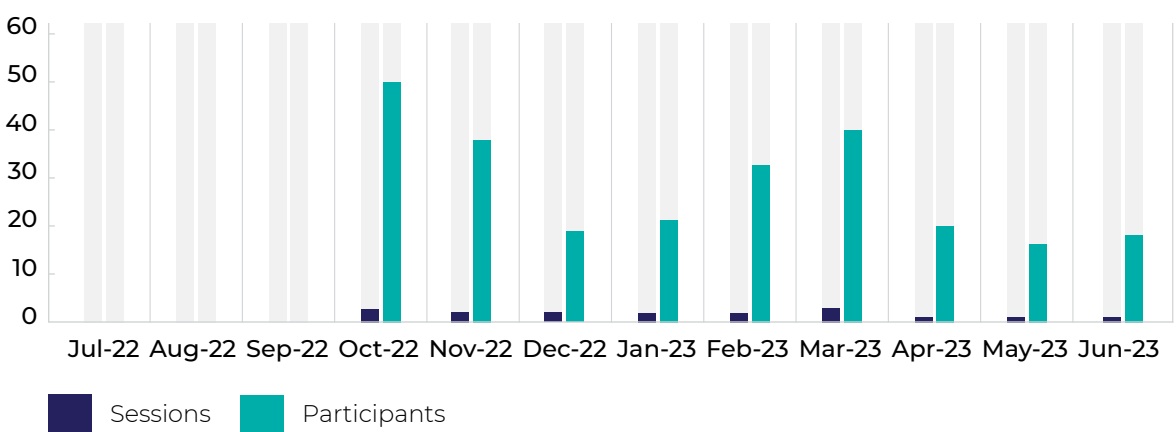
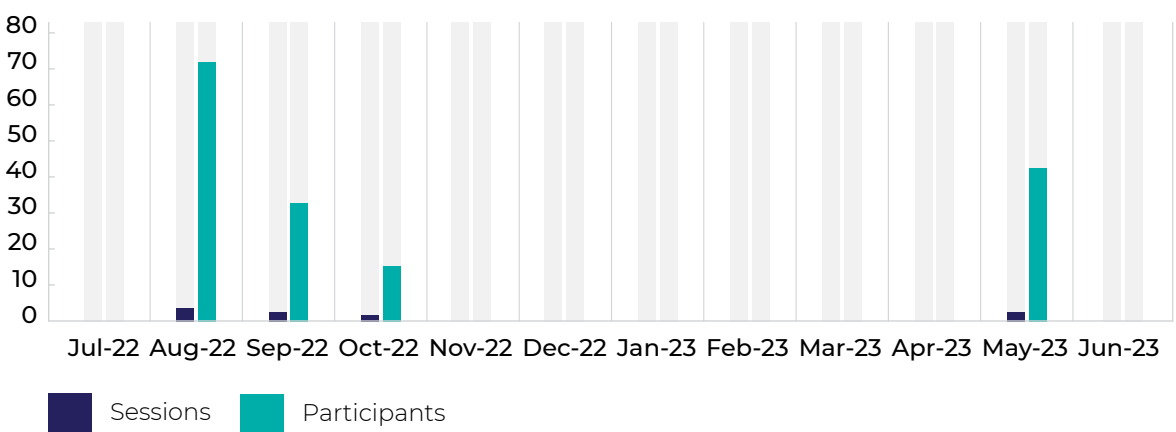
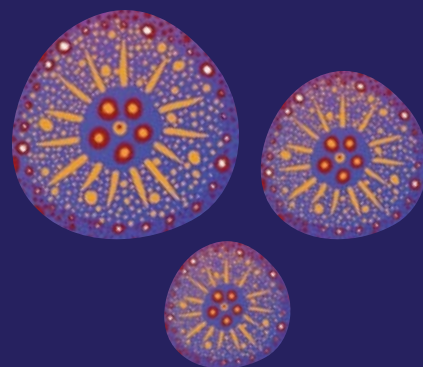


Figure 6: School Sessions



Our Finances



Financial Statements

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue			
	3	1,934,089	1,917,720
	4	155,388	46,091
		<u>2,089,477</u>	<u>1,963,811</u>
Expenses			
Employment expenses	5	1,424,968	1,388,196
Depreciation		43,699	42,850
A/H free call (Helpline)		18,263	18,263
Professional fee		53,525	50,054
Computer related expenses		55,901	66,908
Membership/subscriptions		20,191	8,581
Legal costs		33,932	13,417
Insurance		81,953	62,708
Gambling awareness week expense		11,483	12,868
Project supervision		14,428	7,636
Program resources and running costs		75,415	189,884
Training/professional development		18,140	18,997
Electricity		11,150	10,548
Water/rates		10,050	9,540
Financial expenditures		17,023	23,509
Telephone/Fax/ISP		17,666	15,874
Printing, publishing and stationery		14,279	13,698
Repairs and maintenance		29,174	31,430
Travel and accommodation		11,089	13,053
Vehicle costs		12,064	11,672
Other expenses		4,841	1,292
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	14	110,243	(47,167)
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		110,243	(47,167)

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of financial position

For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	2,028,835	2,028,835
Trade and other receivables	7	12,589	791,379
Other	8	123,719	81,400
Total current assets		2,165,143	2,831,382
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9	804,861	857,105
Total non-current assets		804,861	857,105
Total assets		2,970,004	3,688,487
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	10	231,877	1,030,422
Borrowings	11	-	4,136
Provisions	12	283,688	309,733
Total current liabilities		515,565	1,344,291
Total liabilities		515,565	1,344,291
Net assets		2,454,439	2,344,196
Equity			
Reserves	13	950,000	950,000
Retained surplus	14	1,504,439	1,394,196
Total equity		2,454,439	2,344,196

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of Amity Community Services Incorporated

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Amity Community Services Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial report, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Committee Member's declaration.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report of Amity Community Services Incorporated, is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) Giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022*.

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 *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and 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 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Association's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



Responsibilities of committee members for the Financial Report

The committee members of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and the Northern Territory of Australia Association Act 2003. The committee members' responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee members are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee members either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website (<http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>) at:

http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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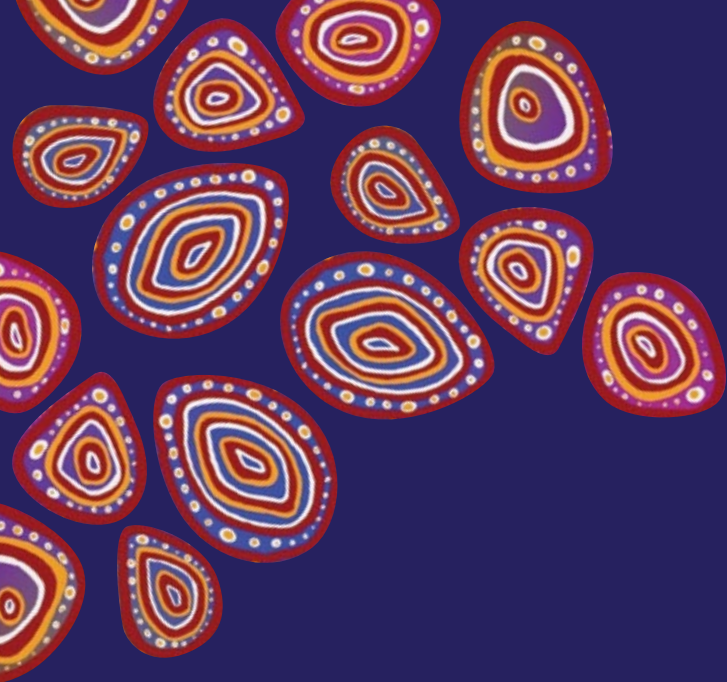
BDO Audit (NT)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Casmel Taziwa'.

Casmel Taziwa
Audit Partner

Darwin, 17 October 2023





Amity

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