Founded in 1903 by the Sisters of the Community of the Church

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Cover Photography: Patricia Golding
Design, Layout and Digital Artwork Construction: A Very Useful Design Service
Print Production: Optima Press

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Annual Report 2011
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Chairman and Chief Executive’s Report

The opening of Australia’s first Child Advocacy Centre by the Premier, The Honourable Colin Barnett, MLA on 1 March 2011, will be marked down as a momentous occasion in the history of Parkerville Children and Youth Care.

Located in Armadale, the George Jones Child Advocacy Centre is a place for children, young people and their families to attend that is welcoming, child friendly and supportive at a time when the need is highest for the child and family.

The building is only the first step forward in providing holistic multi-disciplinary services close to the homes of children and young people and families affected by trauma from abuse. There is much work and many challenges ahead of us to improve the way we deliver services to our client group.

In 2010, the Premier of Western Australia established the Partnership Forum comprised of State Government and Agency CEOs and senior community sector representatives. The Partnership Forum has developed a set of principles to govern and facilitate the Government-community sector partnership in the policy, planning and delivery of community services in Western Australia. Parkerville Children and Youth Care are fully committed to the Child Advocacy Centre methodology. We will support other organisations to take up this concept and join with the other 900 organisations globally that work in this way.

This past twelve months has also seen us expand into the Murchison with our Therapeutic Care Programme, providing services for out of home care placements. We look forward to working with our major stakeholder, the Department for Child Protection and the community of Geraldton in particular, as we strive to care for and treat more children and young people.

This year we embarked on our five year Strategic Plan, with the Board and Senior Management Group having worked together to determine our directions for the next five years. The previous five years has seen the Organisation double in size with expansions to metropolitan and regional areas, so planning for the future requires considered decision making.

Part of our five year plan sees the emergence of a Youth Village concept for at risk young people aged 14 to 17 years. Their needs include homelessness, disengagement from education, mental health intervention and a lack of work based opportunities for
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the future. Our Youth Village concept will address all these needs in one programme located on our Parkerville Campus.

We also look to extend our innovative and successful School Based Support Service programme to schools in another high needs metropolitan area. This early intervention/prevention programme has been in existence in seven schools in Armadale for the past four years.

Any success that we have had from our expansions is predominantly due to two major factors. Firstly, a strong Board willing to invest and a highly skilled group of staff willing to commit, both driven by a set of values that always puts the child first.

Secondly, a growing group of corporate and community philanthropic supporters that have become aware of the devastating effect of abuse on children and young people and are determined to join with us on a journey to make a difference.

This powerful combination drives us forward.

Our external events throughout the year continue to provide us with opportunities to raise the profile of the work we do.

Friends of Parkerville Dinner – Winthrop Hall, 26 May.

The Friends of Parkerville Dinner has risen to an extremely high standard in the last two years; this year’s event had a sellout crowd at Winthrop Hall.

The Annual Family Picnic Day on 1 May attracted our largest crowd for many years — the pioneer dress up theme, children’s entertainment and Irish band created a wonderful environment.

The Charity Lunch is in its seventh year and this year’s key speaker, General Peter Cosgrove, is guaranteed to stimulate and entertain.
Kids Helping Kids Fun Run held on 24 October last year had 468 entrants and is scheduled to increase in size and popularity this year with its new brand name “Spring Forward”.

We encourage you to join us at one of these events and learn more about our work and also visit our interactive website to see how you can make a difference.

Sincere thanks to our passionately committed staff and energetic board equally committed to the wellbeing of the children and families to whom we provide services. It has been a memorable year.
In 2007 Parkerville Children and Youth Care announced our intention to build and establish a Child Advocacy Centre in Armadale. The development of the Child Advocacy Centre model was strongly supported by the Department for Child Protection and the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee (2008) who recognised that the model would not only improve the level of support to children but also enhance the quality of information sharing, planning and multi-agency responses in the assessment of child protection concerns and criminal offences against children. Parkerville Children and Youth Care raised $4 million from philanthropic community minded people who believed in this innovative but simple concept. Lotterywest contributed $1.1 million to the capital costs and $400,000 to the fit out of the centre. The new building is 682 sqm in size and was built on 1000 sqm of land donated by government.

The George Jones Child Advocacy Centre, the first of its kind in Australia, was formally opened by the Honorable Colin Barnett, Premier of Western Australia, on 1 March 2011. This first Child Advocacy Centre has been named in honour of George Jones who has served on the Board of Parkerville Children and Youth Care for ten years and is currently the Chairman of the Investment, Finance and Audit Committee. George was a boy at Parkerville in the late 50’s and his passion and commitment to this project and the work of our Organisation generally has led to significant community support.

The Child Advocacy Centre model is based on a well researched best practice model established in the USA in the 1980s in response to criticism of the further trauma abused children experienced during their contact with the various systems that were supporting them. The methodology is now well established, with over 900 centres around the world, including USA, Canada, most Scandinavian countries, South Africa, Egypt, Turkey, Poland and Belarus.

The George Jones Child Advocacy Centre physically represents a new way of planning innovative services for children and young people in Western Australia. In living our mission to bring child advocacy to...
Australia, involving children in the process has been important from the very beginning. We looked at the research nationally and internationally at what children said about services provided to them. We looked at service models and evaluations and we involved children and young people from Perth in planning the building and the artwork murals. The setting is child friendly and very comfortable; it has private waiting areas and is both physically and psychologically safe for children who attend the centre.

Anne, a mother, on her first visit to the George Jones Child Advocacy Centre was very emotional when shown around the building. She said she would bring her children in for services because “I can tell the people who built this place really care about children”

Young people receiving services across our programme areas designed and painted the urban art on the outside of the building. The young people involved in the urban art project said the dragon represents Parkerville, a strong creature who supports and guides children and helps the children to go on a journey of recovery from hurt and harm; the children are allowed to be in charge and tell the dragon how to help them.

They named the dragon Parky.

Now that the centre is operating we routinely ask children and young people what they think about our services. Did we listen to them? Did we show...
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them respect? Did we help them? We are also seeking their feedback through formal evaluation surveys. Our surveys are designed by a company experienced in children’s evaluations - they are computer based with games for the children and graphics that replicate the art work of the building.

We take seriously our commitment to involving children in all that we do so that as service providers, we learn from them and learn how to improve our services. Staff at the George Jones Child Advocacy Centre are committed to receiving feedback on services provided and to their own continual learning and professional development.

The purpose of the George Jones Child Advocacy Centre is to prevent and respond to child abuse by working together to meet the needs of each child and family with compassion, understanding and skill and uniting people and partners to strengthen our community’s response to the safety, treatment and well-being of abused children.

The role of our Child and Family Advocates is key to achieving this purpose. In essence, they help to provide a voice for the child and family during the forensic child protection responses of interview, examination, investigation and therapeutic interventions. The Child and Family Advocate is uniquely positioned to provide information and support to children and families, who often have a host of concerns and needs when accessing services across police, child protection, health and other agencies and during the legal process.

The Child and Family Advocate provides crisis intervention and support and asks families if they are hampered with stresses such as unemployment, single parenthood, inadequate housing, mental health issues, or drug and alcohol problems. Referral and linkages to other agencies will be made to strengthen the family or provide a prevention or early intervention service to reduce harm to children.
The advocates and all staff at the George Jones Child Advocacy Centre foster empowerment of children and young people and challenge attitudes about child abuse. This is done through client involvement in planning and decision making about services, client advocacy, support groups and community education.

Zoe (12) has been seeing an advocate at the George Jones Child Advocacy Centre for a couple of months. She had a forensic interview at the age of 5 years but was not able to give a lot of information to police at that point. The advocate supported Zoe as she decided whether or not to give another interview. Once the decision was made the advocate was able to provide emotional support and preparation.

What did Zoe think about her advocate? “She is perfect, she understands my problems and we do things to help deal with things from the past. I had been told I was lying at another place because all I did was play. Here my advocate believes me and doesn’t say I am lying and that makes me happy.”

With Proceeds of Crime funding received from the Department of the Attorney General, we have based one of our child and family advocate positions within the Police Child Assessment and Interview Unit in the city. This advocate sees families on the day of the forensic interview only and connects them to follow-up services as appropriate.

This position is in line with our commitment to improving advocacy for all children and even though the role is limited and not the comprehensive service provided at the George Jones Child Advocacy Centre, timely support and assistance is available to other families in the metropolitan area.
One family’s story...
Mandy and her five children were referred by the police family violence team when Mandy recently relocated to Perth to escape her abusive husband. When she first met the child and family advocate, Mandy was exhausted, scared and concerned for her own welfare and for her children.
When the advocate told Mandy she would provide her with support for as long as she needed it, Mandy burst into tears with relief. She told the advocate that two of her youngest daughters had disclosed sexual abuse by their father but neither of them were able to give enough information for police to proceed further. The advocate provided immediate emotional support to Mandy and helped her plan what she wanted to do.
The advocate liaised with the courts and other agencies to assist Mandy with establishing supervised access for the children’s visit with their father, applying for a violence restraining order and applying for Homeswest housing. Mandy’s children were referred to our Therapeutic Family Services team at the George Jones Child Advocacy Centre; four of them participated in protective behaviours training with a psychologist and are now having individual counselling sessions. Unlimited support for Mandy has been very important to her and will continue to be in the near future as her ex-husband is also relocating to Perth.

Evaluation
Evaluation of the Child Advocacy Centre in Armadale is planned and an evaluation of the Child and Family Advocate role in the Child Advocacy Centre and within the police team in the city will occur as part of this process. Evaluation frameworks and tools have been developed in conjunction with stakeholders and with guidance from Professor Martine Powell of Deakin University (Victoria) and Professor Mike Clare, previously of the University of Western Australia.
Where to from here?
The Board of Parkerville Children and Youth Care is excited by the opening of Australia’s first Child Advocacy Centre and is keen to develop opportunities to establish others in Western Australia. The evaluation of the centre’s service over the first 15 months is crucial to the sustainability of the model and the hopeful expansion nationally. Internationally, countries that have had most success with the model have been where federal financial support has been provided. Currently, the George Jones Child Advocacy Centre receives no federal or state financial support to the operational provision of services. It is a goal of the Board to influence political leaders as to the importance of this model for children, young people and families that have experienced trauma from abuse. Supporters of Parkerville Children and Youth Care can assist in many ways, by donating money, purchasing new clothes for children who have to hand in clothes as forensic evidence, volunteering, pro bono contributions or simply advocate the work we do to others.
Innovation...

Our Purpose

• Working together to meet the needs of each child and family with compassion, understanding and skill.
  • Unitig people and partners to strengthen our community’s response to the safety, treatment and well-being of abused children.

Our Strategies

• Child Focused Services • Holistic Effective Response to Families • Advocacy for Children and Young People
  • Community Education & Prevention • Enhancing Professional Capacity

Our Strengths

• Involving Children, Young People & Families • Outstanding People • Evidence Based Practice
  • Innovation • Collaboration • Community Support

Our Values

• Caring • Hope • Respect • Integrity

George Jones Child Advocacy Centre
School Based Support Services

In the past year this early intervention programme has been consolidated in seven primary schools in the Armadale area. In most of these schools, the worker is available two days a week to provide individual support and informal counselling to children and parents as well a group programmes in class settings or small groups. Group programmes include Keeping Kids Safe, protective behaviours, self esteem groups, bullying groups and separation, grief and loss groups. Workers link in with breakfast clubs and other school activities to build parent engagement and participation in the school setting and in their children’s learning and development.

Funding provided by the Department for Families and Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (Communities for Children programme) supports the programme in four primary schools and a further three schools pay a subsidised fee for the service.

At their annual dinner in June, the Friends of Parkerville announced their intention to support the expansion of the Schools Based Support Services programme to other geographic areas over the next twelve months. Under the banner “Nurture them and they will grow,” the Friends of Parkerville raised $165,000 to support a full time co-ordinator position (currently only 2 days a week). Our Friends recognise the importance of early intervention and prevention in the lives of vulnerable children and communities. The expanded coordinator’s time will allow the programme to be formally documented, marketed and implemented in other schools. Independent public schools with capacity to pay for services will be a key market area for this programme over the coming year and in keeping with our vision and mission, we will target schools in areas of higher need.
Since our optimistic beginning in 1997, Friends of Parkerville volunteers have slowly explored the aims of advocacy and fundraising for Parkerville. This year we saw a need to support seed funding for the expansion of Parkerville Children and Youth Care’s School Based Support Service. We were able to do this after our very successful Dinner held in Winthrop Hall at the University of WA, where over $165,000 was raised. Last year 1800 primary school children in the south east metropolitan area were taken through an early intervention/protective behaviours programme via the School Based Support Service.

The financial success of the Annual Dinner, Bridge/Mahjong Day, donations and membership subscriptions has meant we can enhance the lives of those who are most vulnerable.
CHILDREN’S PROGRAMME – OUT OF HOME CARE

The children’s programme continues the Organisation’s long history of providing care for children and young people who are vulnerable and have suffered the impact of abuse based trauma and broken relationships. Our children’s programme has changed significantly since its beginnings in 1903. A commitment to innovation and advocacy is at the heart of our current practice, in connection with our values of Caring, Hope, Respect and Integrity.

Over the last twelve months the children’s programme has continued to grow its out of home care services for children aged 0 to 17 years via a continuum of care model. The model now offers care for 77 children through the provision of community based care (Foster Care) and Family Group Care (Professional Care).

From twenty six metropolitan and two regional sites, a total of ninety five staff and volunteers continue the work of healing and building hope in the lives of children under the care of the CEO, Department for Child Protection requiring our placement services.

Additionally, this year saw, for the first time in the Organisation’s history, the delivery of out of home care services in regional Western Australia. The establishment of Family Group Care services in Geraldton has allowed the children’s programme to offer therapeutic care response to children as well as work with regional government and community based agencies to be part of a regional response to the needs of vulnerable children and families.

THERAPEUTIC CARE

Our model of therapeutic care is based on the recognition that many of the children for whom we care have experienced psychologically and emotionally distressing events. These events include family breakdown and fragmentation, often through family violence and substance misuse. Children have also been exposed to sexual and physical harm, chronic physical neglect and emotional abandonment.

All of these events have deeply and profoundly impacted the developing lives of the child. Of most significance is the effect of trauma. These traumatic events involve a sense of fear, terror and helplessness and completely overwhelm the child’s capacity to deal not only with the traumatic event but daily life. Trauma is not just an event but an experiential process.
Innovation...
...Advocacy
Complex trauma is exposure to multiple, prolonged or ongoing stressors (Van Der Kolk, 2005, 2006).

Long term, untreated trauma shapes the child’s developmental capacity, their sensitivities, the way they picture themselves, others and the world around them.

Given our belief that trauma is pervasive and has often occurred within the child’s own care receiving system, we continue to consolidate a model of care which is therapeutic in nature, collaborative and focused on the age, development and specific needs of the child.

This year we have sought to consolidate a model of care which is committed to the treatment and healing of children. The model is developed around care arrangements which bring change and are based upon a theoretical understanding of trauma and attachment based theories and interventions.

In particular, this commitment is evidenced in our model of care which is phase orientated. These phases include orientation/stabilisation and integration and consolidation. Each of these phases entail targeted actions and interventions by a committed multidisciplinary team of carers, respite carers, case managers, psychologists and occupational therapists. All interventions are aligned to a therapeutic care plan for each child in each part of our Out of Home Care Programme.

Our continued development in learning has seen innovative practice in the area of education and occupational therapy. The increase in direct intervention with children within their school environment and on an individual basis, which are sensory based, has assisted children reintegrate within their learning and living environments. These interventions have sought to assist children in their sensory processing patterns, strengthen their emotional, social and behavioural responses, adapt to new activities, routines and support their participation within school, home and social environments.
COMMUNITY CARE

Our Community Care programme offers a continuum of care response to children who require family based carer arrangements. We offer care to children within our existing services who have achieved a sense of consolidation within our Family Group (Residential) Care programme and who require a long term, permanent out of home care arrangement.

We also provide care for children who require family based, long term care who are referred to our Community Care programme directly from the Department for Child Protection.

Our commitment to be actively providing community care options for children requires the responsibility of ensuring we are growing our base of dedicated community (foster) carers.

We provide flexible options for carers ranging from holiday hosting children within our group care programme and providing respite care to other community carers. These are innovative ways for members of the community to be able to make commitments to children who need care and support.

OUR VISION FOR THE COMING YEAR

We see the year ahead being exciting as we stabilise our new service arrangements of providing care services in Geraldton. We are excited about the possibilities for the programme and the Organisation in this region.

Of great importance will be our need to continue to consolidate our overall care service. We do this to ensure that we are providing a quality service to children in our care. Commencing in the first half of 2011, this consolidation period includes:

- Working with our Chief Executive Officer, Executive Team and Organisational Development Manager in reviewing, changing and redeveloping our programme so that it reflects high standards of care for children, innovation and importantly, continues to advocate for the needs of each child in our care.
- Recruiting, building and maintaining a team of skilled and experienced staff.
- Providing our own training to all Therapeutic Care Programme staff including therapeutic care, therapeutic crisis intervention and staff supervision training.
- Clinical and practitioner team development via structured consultation with the Director Therapeutic Services.
- Locating services from an additional metropolitan site (Armadale) to provide a localised and timely response to our carers and children within our service.
- Participation in the ‘Better Care Better Services’ audit and review process, to ensure our service standards and practice align with the agreed sector standards and principles of best practice for children in out of home care.
- Continue to recruit and train community (foster) carers to provide long term family based care for children.
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Therapeutic Family Services

Support and Counselling Service
A change to Therapeutic Family Services over the recent months has been the movement of the Support and Counselling Service. This programme has been with Parkerville Children and Youth Care for over 8 years and provides intensive support to children who live with families in supported accommodation. The programme was successful in doubling its staff and services in 2010 and has seen positive therapeutic outcomes for the families with which they work. Staff have been completing mentoring, individual counselling, Protective Behaviours, tutoring, health appointments, court support, community links, school liaison, transport, behaviour management and parenting skills with the children and families. In the coming months Support and Counselling Services will be moving from the directorate of Therapeutic Family Services to the Child Advocacy Centre Directorate.

Early Therapeutic Intervention Programme
A new venture over the last year has been the placement of a psychologist within an independent public school with high child protection concerns. Therapeutic Family Services now provides services four days per week to Challis Primary School and its Early Learning Centre. This programme has been well received and offers both the testing and assessment capacity of a traditional ‘school psychologist’ role whilst also providing specialist skills to children who require intensive individual psychotherapy to help them overcome issues related to abuse, trauma and family dysfunction. It is hoped that the programme will expand into other schools in the coming year.

Child Sexual Abuse Therapeutic Services
We continue to develop our Child Sexual Abuse Therapeutic Services and have been successful in stabilising our service within the Wheatbelt. The Wheatbelt Therapeutic Family Service is based in Northam and has been in operation since early 2009. Although referrals are received from the whole Wheatbelt area, it has not always been possible to do significant outreach to other Wheatbelt towns due to staffing. With the recent addition of two new psychologists to the team, outreach has now commenced again in the town of Moora. One day per week the two psychologists travel 172km from Perth to provide therapy in this underserviced region.

Therapeutic Family Services continues to provide specialist psychological services to children, young people and adults who have experienced abuse and trauma. For some years, this has included providing highly specialised services related to child sexual abuse and to children and young people living in foster care. Over the past year, the programme has continued to grow and expand; we now support 10 psychologists of varying levels and have expanded services to include an independent public primary school with high child protection concerns.
Our work in the Therapeutic Care Programme:  
The story of Jenny

We have a team of psychologists who are specialists in providing services to children and young people who live in foster care. This requires intensive involvement, with assessment, individual psychotherapy and consultation at many levels. The following is the story of Jenny, a 12 year old girl who lives in one of our Tier 1 placements.

Jenny has spent many years in and out of foster care, has experienced sexual abuse, been exposed to significant domestic violence and poor parental mental health. At times she has even witnessed her mother attempt suicide. Since entering our Tier 1 programme, she has been provided with significant psychological support. Two primary psychologists work with Jenny - one attends fortnightly care teams and is completing a Comprehensive Assessment of her care needs, whilst the other provides her with individual psychotherapy.

A care team is developed around every child in our Therapeutic Care Programme at Parkerville and where required, a psychologist is a key member of this team. The care team meets weekly or fortnightly to discuss the child’s individual therapeutic placement needs and update their working care plan. This psychologist is able to provide recommendations on a range of care issues such as emotional regulation, behavioral management, mental health management and family of origin issues.

The second major piece of work involving the psychologist is the Comprehensive Assessment. This involves assessing a child or young persons’ needs and abilities across a range of domains. By understanding more fully a child’s abuse and placement history within the context of their level of development in regards to their academic, cognitive, emotional, behavioral and social ability, we can better understand and support the child in their placement. This is a major piece of work but is vital to providing the best therapeutic care possible to each child.

Lastly, as with Jenny, many children and young people receive weekly individual psychotherapy. This can be focused on a range of issues from being in care, family of origin relationships, abuse history, emotional regulation, social development, negative/unwanted behaviours and more common mental health concerns such as depression and anxiety. Providing such services in-house is a key feature of our therapeutic foster care model and the notion of a ‘care team’.

In addition to the direct psychological services provided to Jenny, as with all children in our care, the Director Therapeutic Services also attends the weekly Multidisciplinary Team meeting and provides monthly training to the carers on therapeutic parenting and abuse related topics.
Youth Services

The Directorate of Youth encompasses residential, outreach, early intervention, community development and education and training programmes for young people aged 12-25 who require a range of support needs. Of the individuals that access our services, 85% are aged 12-17. The majority of these programmes are primarily concerned with addressing youth homelessness which remains a challenge at both a state and federal level. As such, a number of the youth residential programmes are funded through the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness and the National Affordable Housing Agreement.

Residential Services

The youth residential services have continued to expand with the successful acquisition of the contract for the Armadale Youth Accommodation Service which commenced under the Organisation’s management in October 2010. Armadale Youth Accommodation Service provides emergency accommodation for up to three months for six homeless young people, three females and three males, whilst catering for an additional four young people in two transitional accommodation units. These units are longer term accommodation for up to twelve months for independent living, though young people still receive support from the staff at Armadale Youth Accommodation Service on a weekly to fortnightly basis depending on the clients’ needs. The service has a drug education support worker who undertakes alcohol and other drugs assessments on every young person that accesses the service. This individual also provides weekly drug education group sessions, informing young people about the harms of alcohol and drug use while also providing harm minimisation strategies.

Armadale Youth Accommodation Service joins the Wearne and Variety Units as youth residential services that the Organisation provides in the Armadale area. The Wearne and Variety Units provide accommodation for homeless young women who are leaving the care of child protection,
many of whom have suffered past trauma through abuse. These units are equipped to provide 12 placements for young homeless women, with or without children. The young women are supported by unit coordinators and a case manager to access therapy, education and employment opportunities, increase their independent living skills and obtain more stable long-term accommodation in the future. Staff also provide support with parenting for those young women with children.

Through the expansion of the youth residential services, the Organisation is now able to provide 6 emergency and 25 medium term supported accommodation placements for homeless young people. Residential Services continue to receive an increasingly high number of referrals which, unfortunately, is continually more than can be accommodated, despite the noted expansion. This is further evidenced by the 147 young people who had to be turned away due to no placements being available. Across the accommodation sites, the Organisation accommodated and supported 81 young people in the residential services during the 2010/11 financial year.

Reconnect and Moving Out Moving On
Our two outreach services worked intensively with 138 young people and their families who were homeless or at risk of homelessness in the 2010/2011 financial year. The services achieved a number of successful outcomes through ongoing advocacy and support of the young people with whom they work. These successes included several young people returning to live with family (one of whom relocated overseas to be with her only remaining family member), another young person being placed with a culturally appropriate family within the community as well as a number of young people being supported to move into independent accommodation.

While the main focus of both services is to repair family relationships and help young people return to live with their family, issues including mental health, disengagement from education and/or employment, alcohol and drug misuse, legal issues and financial difficulties can make this goal difficult to achieve in all cases. In cases such as this, programme staff seek to help these young people find other stable accommodation. Both Moving Out Moving On and Reconnect have worked closely with the Organisation’s youth residential services to provide accommodation to these young people when available and appropriate; this has served to further strengthen the relationships within the youth directorate. The challenge of supporting these young people to obtain stable, long-term, independent housing is an ongoing one due to the limited availability of affordable accommodation opportunities.
Innovation...

**Seen and Heard**

Parkerville Children and Youth Care has delivered the Seen and Heard programme since its inception in 2001 and in 2011 the programme was put up for tender. Five organisations were given the opportunity to apply for the new tender and after a thorough governance process our Organisation was successful in its application to manage the contract for the next three years. In a major change, the Seen and Heard programme will now be based at the new Swan View Youth Centre. This change of location presents a significant shift in the demographic of the young people accessing the service.

Funded by the Shire of Mundaring, the Seen and Heard programme utilises the principles of community development to enhance the wellbeing of all young people aged 12-20 years who reside within the Shire of Mundaring. It incorporates a number of components including an outreach service to all areas within the Shire to improve social, health and educational outcomes for the young people.

The formation of the CREW was key in the successful delivery of this youth focused programme. The CREW is a group of young people who volunteer to organise, facilitate and run events for other young people whilst supporting the Shire’s existing cultural festivals and events. The CREW help deliver a range of school holiday activities, adventure camps, regular dance parties which continue to be very popular and also work closely with other local organisations and schools to provide programmes that address issues of self-esteem, health, develop leaderships skills and prevent alcohol and drug misuse. A challenge for programme staff in the near future will be to determine how the service may need to be modified to meet the needs of the new demographic of young people.

CREW membership has grown from 77 in 2009/10 to 93 members in 2010/11, which is symbolic of the programme’s success in the local community. The CREW was nominated as a finalist for the WA Youth Awards in April this year and whilst not successful in taking out the prize, reaching the finals was a significant achievement. This is in addition to previous awards including:

- 2004 – Finalist in ‘Community Services Industry Awards’
- 2007 – Finalist in ‘WA Youth Awards’
2007 – Winner ‘Active Citizenship Award’
2008 – Winner ‘WA Young People Who Care Award’

Education, Employment and Training
The Education, Employment and Training programme is a unique programme that works at preparing young people aged 14 to 16 who are disengaged from mainstream education and at risk of failing school, for the world of work. Since its inception in 1984, the programme has developed a reputation in the community as an effective model for giving disaffected young people the opportunity to turn their lives around and become positive contributors to their society. The programme aims to prevent the slide into unemployment by instilling in these young people, a desire and an expectation to work, as well as providing them with the knowledge and skills to seek apprenticeships and traineeships which in turn provides them with stable and prosperous employment for their entire working lives.

The 2010/2011 financial year has seen 20 young people participate in the Education, Employment and Training programme, 14 of which have completed an educational qualification in Certificate II of General Education for Adults (CGEA) or the Gaining Access to Training and Employment (GATE). Of these participants, five have gone on to apply successfully for TAFE and four others gained employment, three of which were apprenticeships.

This year, the Education, Employment and Training programme has rolled out the GATE course, which has been written especially for participants by the programme’s teacher. This certificate is targeted at those participants who have missed a significant amount of schooling and do not meet the requirements of the CGEA Certificate II. The GATE is a year 9 equivalency certificate course that enables participants to either gain entry level pre-apprenticeships at TAFE, enter the workplace or go onto further education. The course aims to strengthen participant’s literacy and numeracy skills and integrates practical work into all the units.

The course has been specifically written for the needs of Education, Employment and Training programme participants, targeting job readiness, mental health, self-care, budgeting, money, information technology skills and healthy living. Outcomes thus far indicate that GATE is proving to effectively engage previously school resistant students and teach them valuable skills.

In the Education, Employment and Training programme classroom it is recognised that:

- trauma limits children’s response flexibility and adaptability to change.
- trauma disrupts memory functioning in children and effects children’s ability to generalise learning from one setting to another.
- trauma significantly alters baseline physiological arousal levels in children.

Due to this knowledge, participants benefit from a variety of different strategies that foster predictable and repetitive learning opportunities.

With the announcement of the Youth Village, our Education, Employment and Training programme will amalgamate under this new, exciting and innovative concept, merging the provision of accommodation, mental health intervention and mentoring support with this highly successful work based education...
programme, which we hope will reignite the hope and passion in these young people’s lives.

**Youth Village**
The Youth Village will offer a work based education and training programme that incorporates therapeutic intervention, independent living skills and accommodation that will aim to change the lives of young people who have suffered significant disadvantage. In line with our Mission, the Youth Village will target young people between the ages of 14 -17 who have experienced abuse, trauma or neglect. There are currently no services available to young people in Perth which offer the range of characteristics that the Youth Village will provide. Due to our extensive experience in working with children and young people who have experienced abuse, trauma or neglect, we are aware how marginalising this can be to children and young people throughout their lives. The public view them as negative, disruptive, are sometimes scared of them and avoid interacting with them. Their disadvantage leads to disengagement which leads to poor life outcomes.

A unique characteristic of the Youth Village is the ability to accommodate young people on campus whilst providing work based education and therapeutic intervention. The campus will provide young people with a break from the environment that led them to entering into the programme in the first place, as it is ideally located in an area with minimal outside interferences. The Parkerville campus offers calming, secluded and historical surroundings that inherently demonstrate the work ethic and culture of our Organisation. It will also allow the young people to become involved in a mini community to which they can belong.

The young people will have access to a case manager, psychologist and mental health worker whilst also being provided with the high level of care for which Parkerville is renowned, through a full-time carer and respite carer. The Youth Village will incorporate a holistic approach to working with young people that will optimise their outcomes for the future. Utilising the existing tools and approaches such as a Therapeutic Care Plan, Care Teams and a Multi-Disciplinary Team approach already used by many Parkerville Children and Youth Care (inc) programmes, the Youth Village will have an established and proven approach to working with young people.
Corporate Volunteering

Many of our buildings and gardens received a revitalisation this year, through the hard work of over 300 Corporate Volunteers. Groups as large as 100 to smaller groups of just 4 have given up a day in the office to put on their work boots to help us provide the best environment we can for our children and young people.

This year we saw Armadale Youth Accommodation Service receive a complete makeover inside and out; the children in our cottage in Armadale have a new garden, picket fence and a freshly painted home. The children who utilise our Mirrabooka office have a lovely new outside play area with an ‘Under the Sea’ theme and the historic Blue Cottage on Parkerville Campus is finally painted Blue!

The Corporate Volunteering programme at Parkerville grows in size every year, as old friends return and new friends join us. We cannot thank them all enough for their ongoing commitment and motivation in helping us provide our children and young people with bright and happy environments in which to live, grow and play.
Our Values, Vision and Mission

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<tr>
<th>Caring</th>
<th>Hope</th>
<th>Respect</th>
<th>Integrity</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Caring is...</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hope is...</strong></td>
<td><strong>Respect is...</strong></td>
<td><strong>Integrity is...</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>✦ Ensuring that children, youth and families feel safe and supported.</td>
<td>✦ Believing what we do can make a difference.</td>
<td>✦ Embracing the difference in all people.</td>
<td>✦ Doing what we say we do.</td>
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<td>✦ Developing positive working relationships to create an enhanced and supportive team environment.</td>
<td>✦ Working with people’s strengths to instil a belief that change is possible.</td>
<td>✦ Promoting and upholding the rights of children, youth and families.</td>
<td>✦ Communicating openly with people ensuring they are well informed and fully involved.</td>
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<td>✦ Acknowledging the challenging environment in which we work and providing access to emotional and practical support for staff.</td>
<td>✦ Having the patience to await positive change to occur.</td>
<td>✦ Being open to the experience and knowledge of others.</td>
<td>✦ Being transparent and ethical in our work and always striving to improve.</td>
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<td>Parkerville Children and Youth Care has cared for children since 1903; caring is our core value and is central to our purpose.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✦ Treating all things with care, including our buildings, gardens, furniture, equipment and personal belongings.</td>
<td>✦ Being responsible, accountable and consistent in the work we do.</td>
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<td><strong>Vision</strong></td>
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<td>✦ Always upholding our values.</td>
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<td>To be at the forefront of innovative and best practice in caring for and treating children, youth and their families who have experienced trauma from abuse.</td>
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<td><strong>Mission Statement</strong></td>
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<td>We strive to protect, care and advocate for children, youth and their families who have experienced trauma from abuse and to provide a therapeutic environment that will assist their recovery and potential for growth.</td>
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Coming Events 2012

Parkerville Picnic

Spring Forward

Friends of Parkerville Dinner

Charity Lunch

Annual General Meeting
The financial year concluded with an operating profit, increased capital revenue from philanthropic supporters and increased service provision to children and young people who have suffered trauma from abuse.

During the year Australia’s first Child Advocacy Centre, the George Jones Child Advocacy Centre in Armadale, was officially opened and commenced operations. This project has taken three years to come to fruition and has been made possible by generous donations from supporters and grants from Lotterywest and Telethon.

In the 2010/11 financial year the Organisation had income of $12.6 million; the graphs above show the sources of that income and how it was spent.
**Donation Page**

**Your Details...**

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**Donations (Your donation over $2 is tax deductible)**

**One off Donation**

- $50.00
- $100.00
- $250.00
- $500.00
- $ My Choice

- Cheque (payable to Parkerville Children and Youth Care)
- Credit Card (Please complete Details Below)

**Regular Giving Request**

To make a regular donation via direct debit or credit card, please complete the details below:

- I wish to donate $ per month
- Commencing 1st (first) day of (Month) (Year)
- Last Donation 1st (first) day of (Month) (Year)

(Please leave blank if donations are to continue indefinitely)

**Payment Instructions**

**Direct Debit**

I/We request Parkerville Children and Youth Care (Inc) to arrange for funds to be debited from my/our nominated account at the financial institution shown below.

**Name and Branch of Institution:**

- BSB No: Account No:
- Signature: Date:

**Or:**

**Credit Card**

- Name on Card:
- Card Number: Expiry Date:
- Visa □ Mastercard □

- Signature: Date:

Did you know... you can now make donations online using our secure website? Please visit www.parkerville.org.au

**Privacy policy**

Please visit our website for our Privacy Policy.

Please-- fill this form in, tear it off and mail back to us...
Thank you!

Please tape down the sides and top firmly...

From

Thank you!