



^{SIR}
**david
martin**
FOUNDATION

helping
young
people
in crisis

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Kc Rae Aboriginal Artist, *“Connection: Walking Together”*, 2023.

Kc Rae is an Aboriginal woman of the Kamilaroi nation and former Youth Advisory Group member of Sir David Martin Foundation. She states, “This artwork represents reconnection, healing, and walking in one’s truth. Featuring depictions of community, relationship building, and connection, this piece is a testament to the strength that can be found in personal and collaborative healing journeys.”

Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of reconciliation, Sir David Martin Foundation acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

About Sir David Martin Foundation

Sir David Martin Foundation is a charitable Trust. The Foundation is run by a small team of staff that is overseen by a Board of Directors. The Trustee is Sir David Martin Foundation Ltd, (ACN 676 472 834, ABN 375 066 732 86). The Foundation is a DGR 1 charity and registered with the ACNC.

Sir David Martin Foundation acknowledges Mission Australia, our service partner, who own and run programs at Triple Care Farm and deliver Aftercare programs for Youth Network.

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SIR
david martin
FOUNDATION

MAJOR
PHILANTHROPIC
PARTNER OF

MISSION
AUSTRALIA

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Vision

To give safety,
hope and opportunity
to vulnerable young
Australians.

Mission

To help young
people in crisis
by enabling best
practice models of
treatment for youth
drug and alcohol
addiction.

Values

Respect,
Compassion,
Generosity, Impact,
Celebration.



A NOTE FROM OUR PATRON

Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC Governor of New South Wales

Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC is the 39th Governor of New South Wales, commencing her five year tenure on 2 May 2019.

Prior to her appointment as Governor, Her Excellency enjoyed a long and distinguished law career spanning 43 years, during which time she served as a role model for women in law at both the state and national level.

Her Excellency brings her deep commitment to education, youth leadership, human rights and social justice to the role in service of the people of New South Wales.

As Patron of the Sir David Martin Foundation, I am delighted to contribute to this year's annual report, reflecting on and celebrating the Foundation's continued and growing legacy of commitment and care.

Founded in 1990 by Lady Martin in honour of her late husband, the Foundation has in the years since served as the exemplary embodiment of Sir David's vision of supporting young people in crisis. Over the course of 35 years, more than \$80 million has been raised to facilitate best-practice treatment for youth drug and alcohol addiction, providing empowering means by which young people can make impactful and long-lasting change to their lives.

This year marked the successful conclusion of the Foundation's 2021-2025 strategic period, during which, as the major philanthropic funder of Mission Australia's Triple Care Farm, 454 young people aged 16-24 were supported through the David Martin Place Withdrawal Centre and 357 through the Residential Rehabilitation program. A further 648 were supported through Mission Australia's Aftercare program across multiple locations via the Foundation's Youth Network initiative.

The Foundation has also continued its committed advocacy efforts, both to reduce stigma and misinformation potentially hindering young people from seeking help, as well as raising awareness of the need for, and information about, best practice youth drug and alcohol treatment. This included supporting the Fair Treatment campaign in the lead-up to the 2024 NSW Drug Summit, establishing the Clinical Advisory Group, and continuing to empower young voices and perspectives through the Foundation's Youth Advisory Group.

Currently, some 350,000 Australians aged 16-24 are estimated to have a substance use disorder. With young people experiencing addiction facing criminal justice system involvement, educational disruption, and health complications, the need for targeted services funded by organisations such as the Sir David Martin Foundation have never been more pressing.

For your vital efforts and generosity, I offer the warmest of thanks to the Sir David Martin Foundation and its supporters.

**Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC
Governor of New South Wales**



From the Chair Will Martin

As we celebrate the 35th anniversary of Sir David Martin Foundation, I reflect on the extraordinary journey that began with my father's vision of giving safety, hope and opportunity to vulnerable young Australians. This milestone year has been marked by significant transformation and renewed commitment to our mission.

This year represented a pivotal period of transition as we achieved independence, marking a new chapter for our Foundation. In September 2024, we farewelled Chief Executive Officer Helen Connealy, whose leadership guided us through this transition. I am delighted to officially welcome new Chief Executive Officer, Karen Elliff who joined us in January 2025 and brings exceptional expertise to drive our continued growth.



From the CEO Karen Elliff

I am honoured to join Sir David Martin Foundation as Chief Executive Officer and witness firsthand the transformative power of your generosity. In my time with the Foundation, I have been deeply moved by the stories of recovery that your support makes possible.

Thank you to our donors for your unwavering commitment. Your contributions enable us to fund best-practice youth alcohol and drug treatment that saves lives and builds futures.

I am particularly grateful for the thoughtful bequests we have received this year from supporters who chose to ensure their compassion lives on. These generous legacy gifts will help young people in crisis for generations to come.

As we conclude our 2025 five-year strategic period, we celebrate remarkable achievements across our five key strategic pillars. We have maintained our 35-year partnership with Mission Australia's Triple Care Farm whilst expanding our Youth Network from one to four sites, and supported over 1,400 young people through Residential Rehabilitation, Withdrawal, and Aftercare.

I extend heartfelt gratitude to our Board of Directors, whose governance and strategic oversight have been instrumental in our success. I also commend our dedicated Foundation staff, whose compassion and professionalism ensure every dollar donated creates meaningful change.

Most importantly, I thank our generous donors and supporters. Your belief in our mission enables us to transform lives and create lasting change for vulnerable young Australians.

Looking ahead to the next five years, we stand ready to expand our reach and ensure even more young Australians receive the life-changing support they deserve.

Through your support, we are witnessing young people reclaim their lives - breaking free from addiction, finding stable homes, and reconnecting with their communities and families. These transformations remind us daily why this work matters so deeply.

While I am new to the Foundation, I congratulate the Board and team on the achievements over the life of the current 5-year strategy. As we plan for the next five years, we are committed to reaching even more vulnerable young Australians.

Our collaboration with the Alcohol and Drug Foundation and participation in the Fair Treatment campaign during FY25 demonstrates our commitment to connecting with the sector for meaningful change.

Your continued generosity enables us to save lives and create lasting change for young people across Australia. I can't thank you enough.

OUR FOUNDATION

Sir David Martin Foundation is a family foundation dedicated to helping young people in crisis. Founded by Lady Martin to honour the vision of her late husband, former Governor Sir David Martin, we have raised over \$80 million since 1990 to enable best-practice treatment for youth drug and alcohol addiction.

Sir David's vision of "safety, hope, and opportunity" drives everything we do. Lady Martin and the Martin family continue this legacy, believing that young people have the capacity to make sustained, positive change when given appropriate support.

As a major philanthropic partner of Mission Australia, we support youth-specific addiction treatment, providing Australians aged 12-25 with personalised, holistic care including Withdrawal, Residential Rehabilitation, and Aftercare.



YOUTH ADDICTION IN AUSTRALIA

Young people experiencing addiction face increased risks of criminal justice involvement, educational disruption, health complications and family breakdown.

The scale of youth substance use in Australia is significant and concerning:

- **Approximately 350,000 young people in Australia, aged 16-24, are estimated to have a substance use disorder¹**
- **Approximately half of people with substance use disorders start experiencing issues by age 20²**
- **Young adults aged 18-25 are the mostly likely age group to have used illicit drugs recently³**

1. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2011). Young Australians: their health and wellbeing 2011. Cat. no. PHE 140 Canberra: AIHW.

2. Kessler, R. C., et al. (2005). Lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset distributions of DSM-IV disorders in the National Comorbidity Survey Replication. Archives of General Psychiatry, 62(6), 593-602.

3. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2021; 2024). Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs; Young people's use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes and other drugs, AIHW, Australian Government.

OUR 2021-2025 FUNDING MODEL

During our 2021-2025 strategic period, Sir David Martin Foundation operated as the major philanthropic partner of Mission Australia's Triple Care Farm, funding critical components of their comprehensive youth addiction treatment model.

Our funding approach

The Foundation's funding model focused on enabling evidence-based, youth-specific treatment through targeted investment in key program areas that address the complex needs of young people experiencing substance use disorders.

Recognising that the majority of young people seeking help have underlying mental illness and/or trauma often masked by drug and alcohol addiction, our funding model supported a continuum of care designed to address both immediate crisis and long-term recovery needs.

Withdrawal (David Martin Place): 24-hour medically supervised detox in a health-accredited clinical setting, with psychosocial treatment, individual and group counselling, and access to GP and Addiction Specialist support.

Residential Rehabilitation: Holistic, evidence-based treatment combining vocational training, education, living skills development, and therapeutic programs. Our funded components provided young people with practical skills, creative outlets, and physical wellness opportunities essential for recovery.

Aftercare (Youth Network): Community-based wraparound support helping young people maintain their recovery goals, re-engage with education and employment, develop healthy relationships, and manage their ongoing health and wellbeing.

This integrated funding model ensured young people received comprehensive support across their entire recovery journey, from crisis intervention through to successful community reintegration.

The treatment model our funding enabled



2021-2025 STRATEGY IN REVIEW

Five years of impact: transforming lives of young people in crisis

As we close our 2021-2025 strategic period, Sir David Martin Foundation reflects on five transformative years of unwavering commitment to Australia's most vulnerable young people. Our comprehensive approach to addressing youth drug and alcohol addiction has delivered measurable impact across five key strategic pillars, demonstrating the power of sustained philanthropic investment in evidence-based solutions.

1. Help vulnerable young people get well

- 35 years as Major Philanthropic Partner of Mission Australia's Triple Care Farm
- Over \$80 million raised for youth alcohol and drug treatment programs to date
- Continued funding of best-practice treatment model for youth drug and alcohol addiction
- Connected vulnerable youth to appropriate youth-specific programs and alternative support services

2. Raise awareness of youth addiction

- Two major public awareness campaigns with associated events (2021 and 2024) promoting understanding and reducing stigma
- Clinical Advisory Group (CAG) and Youth Advisory Group (YAG) established
- Connected Conversations event series creating safe dialogue spaces
- Multi-channel targeted communications implemented including development of conversation starter toolkits for parents and young people
- Program tours and speaking engagements sharing recovery stories

3. Collaborate to reach more young people

- Strategic partnership with Australian Drug Foundation
- Proud sponsor of Rethink Addiction conference
- Active support for Fair Treatment campaign
- Strong networks established with peak bodies NADA and WANADA
- Leveraged philanthropic gifts for collaborative Youth Network funding
- Transition to independent governance model enabling expanded sector collaboration

4. Expand Youth Network (Aftercare)

- Critical Aftercare support for more young people post-treatment
- Published *Evo/ve 2020*, highlighting high demand and evidence of unmet need for youth drug and alcohol treatment across Australia
- Program expansion: one site to four sites across five years
- \$2.8 million raised specifically for Aftercare expansion and evaluation
- Comprehensive ongoing evaluation by external consultants ACIL Allen ensuring program effectiveness
- Established a network of youth workers to lead the expansion of Aftercare nationwide and facilitate knowledge-sharing

5. Extend our philanthropic reach

- Connect for Youth events: Over \$500,000 raised across three years
- Program funding expansion to WA creating new donor and funder relationships
- Team180 regular giving program launched for sustainable funding
- Strengthened relationships with major donors and new trusts & foundations, enhancing our capacity to support youth addiction programs

Impact

- ✓ **35 years** of continuous support for best-practice youth addiction treatment
- ✓ **\$80+ million** raised for youth addiction programs
- ✓ **4-site national expansion** of Youth Network Aftercare
- ✓ **\$2.8 million** raised for Aftercare evaluation and expansion
- ✓ **\$500,000+** from innovative pitch and pledge events
- ✓ **Multi-state reach** with expanded programs in WA
- ✓ **Sector leadership** through collaboration and advocacy

Outcomes

Over 5 years we have supported

- **357** young people through Residential Rehabilitation at Triple Care Farm
- **454** young people through David Martin Place Withdrawal Centre at Triple Care Farm
- **648** young people through Aftercare across multiple locations via Youth Network

Triple Care Farm (2020-2025)

- **We are saving lives** - Young people report fewer suicide attempts and healthier relationships with substances
- **We are building futures** - Young people report increased confidence, stronger relationships, and active engagement in education and employment
- **We provide safety and connection** - Young people are in stable housing and experience renewed connections to their communities

Youth Network (2022-2025)

- **We continue saving lives** - Young people maintain improved mental health and continue developing healthy substance management strategies
- **We support independence** - Young people demonstrate that education, employment and life skills application leads to successful community reintegration with strong social connections

Looking ahead

The last five years of saving lives and building futures has prepared us to reach even more vulnerable young Australians. Thanks to our donors, partners and supporters, we are developing our next five-year strategy to build on these strong foundations. As we look toward 2030, your continued support will enable us to expand our capacity to give safety, hope and opportunity to vulnerable young Australians through best-practice treatment for youth drug and alcohol addiction. Together, we will continue enabling young people to access youth-specific treatment and recovery support that transforms lives.



2024 TRIPLE CARE FARM IMPACT

Number of young people supported in the Triple Care Farm programs (January-December 2024)



Impact (across Triple Care Farm programs)



100%

Reduction in chronic substance use



70%

Reduction in suicide attempts



73%

Secure and stable housing



69%

Engaged in employment



53%

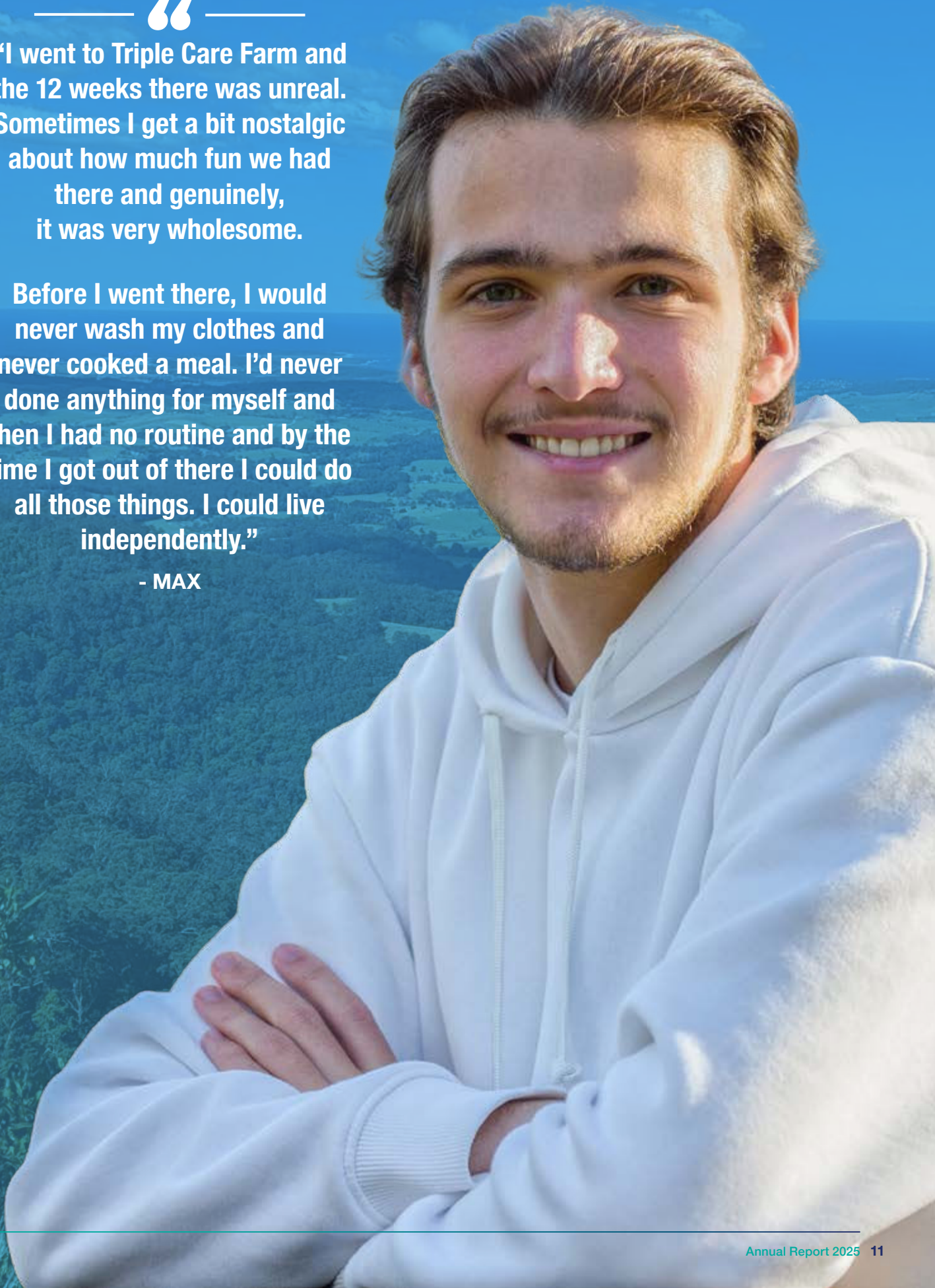
Engaged with education

“

“I went to Triple Care Farm and the 12 weeks there was unreal. Sometimes I get a bit nostalgic about how much fun we had there and genuinely, it was very wholesome.

Before I went there, I would never wash my clothes and never cooked a meal. I'd never done anything for myself and then I had no routine and by the time I got out of there I could do all those things. I could live independently.”

- MAX



WITHDRAWAL

Withdrawal program at David Martin Place

Since 2017, your generous support has enabled Sir David Martin Foundation to fund the David Martin Place (DMP) Withdrawal centre at Triple Care Farm, providing medically supervised detox support for young people aged 16–24. This critical service acts as an essential entry point into the broader recovery journey, operated by Mission Australia in partnership with NSW Health with 24/7 clinical oversight.

Together, we enable:

The medically supervised Withdrawal program at DMP helps young people begin their recovery journey safely. Here, young people take their first critical steps from crisis to hope for a brighter future.

Sir David Martin Foundation provides funding for young people to receive detox management, psychosocial support, and comprehensive discharge planning, with many transitioning directly from the Withdrawal program into the Residential Rehabilitation program. The service continues to meet high demand, demonstrating its essential role in the youth drug and alcohol treatment system.

Core program highlights:

- Medical supervision: 24/7 clinical oversight, trauma-informed care, comprehensive health assessments including K10 psychological distress screening
- Therapeutic support: Evidence-based group therapies (Dialectical Behaviour Therapy, SMART Recovery), psychoeducation, counselling and case management
- Care coordination: Strengthened partnerships with hospitals and mental health services, improved documentation systems, comprehensive discharge planning

Direct impact of your donation:

From January to December 2024, we enabled 101 young people to access medically supervised detox. The funded program enables introduction of new care philosophies and welcome packs, revised nursing protocols, and strengthened external partnerships – exemplifying the comprehensive, coordinated care your funding makes possible.

Your continued support enables the staff at DMP to adapt to increasingly complex presentations including poly-substance use and co-occurring mental health issues. This ensures young people can access timely medical support and participate actively in their own recovery planning despite emerging challenges.





Justin

Justin arrived at David Martin Place with his life in turmoil. Grief, homelessness and heavy drug use had left him exhausted and fearful of what lay ahead.

Justin's troubles began when grief and loss overwhelmed his ability to cope. Working in sales, he was introduced to cocaine and MDMA, substances that quickly took hold of his life. As a result, he lost his job, ran out of money, and found himself with nowhere to go. Justin knew he needed help. A friend urged him to apply to David Martin Place Withdrawal program at Triple Care Farm and get the support he needed.

Justin threw himself into counselling and activities. The combination of individual therapy, Dialectical Behaviour Therapy, and practical skills like music and textiles gave him the tools to work through years of grief and depression. Partway through his stay, he told his counsellor, "I'm starting to like waking up and see the point in having a good time. I couldn't have done that without this place – there wasn't a single time I wasn't supported."



"I'm starting to like waking up and see the point in having a good time. I couldn't have done that without this place – there wasn't a single time I wasn't supported."

Walking through the doors on his first day, Justin was terrified. But the support of the nursing team quickly eased his fears. "The nurses were so inclusive and welcoming – I specifically remember Lisa and Nisha, the two best nurses [there]."

With their guidance, Justin completed his detox treatment, beginning to stabilise for the first time in years. The care and compassion of the staff gave him the strength to continue his journey towards recovery.

Looking back, Justin knows the care he received at David Martin Place changed his life. Through the dedicated support of the nursing team and counsellors, he found hope again and the foundation for lasting recovery.

RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION

For 35 years, your generous support has enabled Sir David Martin Foundation to be the major philanthropic funder of Mission Australia's Triple Care Farm. Through your commitment, this vital facility provides vulnerable young people experiencing substance use issues a safe place to heal and prepare for new opportunities.

Together, we enable:

Triple Care Farm's youth-specific Residential Rehabilitation program helps young people aged 16-24 address their substance use and develop independence skills. Through Triple Care Farm and each individual's commitment, young people's lives are genuinely saved – moving from high suicide risk to hope for a brighter future.

During FY25 Sir David Martin Foundation provided targeted funding for music, sports and Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs at Triple Care Farm, enabling specialised therapeutic and educational opportunities central to recovery outcomes. By supporting re-engagement with education and building employment and living capabilities, our funding ensures young people are better equipped for independence, employment, and further study.

Core program highlights:

- Music: Recording studio, diverse instruments (piano, guitars, drums), creative expression and collaboration
- Sports & Recreation: Physical training, gym access, weekend excursions, nutritional support from qualified staff
- VET Training: Employment preparation, woodwork, art, photography, Barista skills, White Card and Learner Driver courses

Direct impact of your donation:

From January to December 2024, your funding supported 66 young people in Residential Rehabilitation. Your continued support enables the team at Triple Care Farm to treat young people who present with increasingly complex needs, ensuring young people can participate fully in vocational courses and life skills development.

Your generosity enables comprehensive treatment and support for young people with addiction and mental health issues, while providing opportunities for young people to gain essential life skills.





Alex

When alcohol addiction threatened everything, Alex* chose recovery. With determination and guidance, he became a top-performing mining trainee.

Alex, a 23-year-old from the South Coast of NSW, was consuming up to 30 standard drinks daily. What started as a way to cope had escalated into a medical emergency that threatened his life. The young man who once enjoyed surfing and fishing with family had become explosive and abusive when under the influence of alcohol.

“I want to live a better life, be a better person and return to work, Alex says.”

The results exceeded expectations. Alex was recognised as the top performer in his group – outperforming individuals already employed by mining contractors.



**“I want to live a better life,
be a better person and return to work.”**

Living with his mother and two younger brothers, Alex knew he needed to change. After researching Triple Care Farm's programs, he made the courageous decision to self-refer.

During his time at the Farm, he worked closely with his counsellor and became a role model for recovery amongst his peers. Alex identified a goal to complete underground mining training. In an unprecedented move, staff arranged for Alex to leave the program for four mornings to complete his certification, returning each night to continue his recovery work.

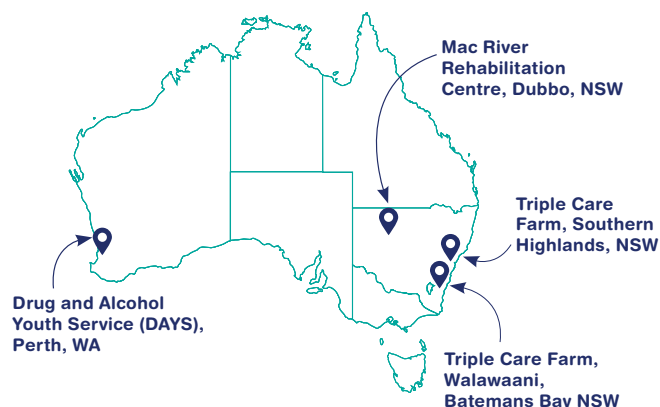
Today, Alex is actively pursuing employment goals in the mining industry. He has transformed from someone whose life was spiralling out of control to a young man with clear direction and promising career prospects.

Alex's story demonstrates the power of believing in young people's potential and providing flexible support to help them achieve their goals.

AFTERCARE - YOUTH NETWORK

Aftercare is an evidence-based six-month wraparound support program helping young people transition safely back into the community after completing residential treatment. This vital program breaks the cycle of drug and alcohol addiction and connects young people with community, housing, education and employment pathways.

Through our Youth Network initiative, and thanks to our generous donor community, Sir David Martin Foundation increased funding to expand Mission Australia's Aftercare program from one to four youth



Residential Rehabilitation sites – now supporting Robertson, Perth, Dubbo and Batemans Bay, to meet high demand and address unmet needs.

Together, we supported 169 young people to receive community-based support, with **143 young people** successfully completing the full 6 month program across all four sites.



“Aftercare is all about helping young people in whatever ways they need to stay safe and reconnect with their community.

“We start working with a young person before they leave rehab, identifying and preventing things that could potentially go wrong as they transition to independence. I do everything with them, not for them, so they grow their skills and confidence.”

- EBONY, AFTERCARE WORKER, MISSION AUSTRALIA

Key Outcomes Across All Sites

Health and Recovery:

- 70% reduced or eliminated suicidal thoughts
- 80% reported improved mental health
- 99% avoided hospitalisation for substance use

Substance Use Reduction:

- 93% amphetamines
- 96% opiates
- 86% cocaine
- 67% cannabis
- 54% alcohol

Housing and Independence:

- 85% transitioned to safe, secure housing
- 46% gained employment
- 33% enrolled in education/training

Your generous support creates measurable, life-changing outcomes for vulnerable young people, breaking cycles of addiction and building foundations for independent, fulfilling lives.



Triple Care Farm, Robertson, NSW

Through your generous support, Sir David Martin Foundation funds the dedicated Aftercare Worker at Triple Care Farm. This investment enables Mission Australia to deliver vital wraparound support to young people transitioning back to the community after completing treatment in either the Residential Rehabilitation or Withdrawal programs.

Together, we enable:

- Support for 72 young people through dedicated Aftercare services in FY25
- Personalised case management that maintained high engagement rates
- Strengthened partnerships with local housing, employment, and education providers
- Enhanced transport support and appointment attendance to reduce barriers

- Crisis intervention and flexible support during challenging transitions

Your investment in the dedicated Aftercare Worker enabled the team to develop flexible service delivery models whilst maintaining the strong therapeutic relationships established during residential care. The Foundation's funding ensured consistent support that proved crucial in improving Aftercare participation rates and outcomes.

Direct impact of your donation:

The funded Aftercare Worker facilitated access to essential items through brokerage funding including work gear, driving lessons, and community activities. This enabled successful employment placements, driving licence acquisitions, and stable housing arrangements, demonstrating your commitment to standing alongside young people until they achieve independence.



Maya's story

Years of feeling unheard by the system that was supposed to help her left Maya trapped and voiceless. Then someone finally listened.

Maya's journey had been marked by early challenges – growing up with parental substance dependency, self-harming from age 11, and spending her teens in mental health units. By 17, she was binge drinking weekly, living in refuges, and had dropped out of school with limited family contact.

After completing Triple Care Farm's residential program, Maya received dedicated Aftercare support. For years, she had expressed her need

to move away from an area contributing to her declining mental health, but felt unheard by her housing case manager and experienced judgmental treatment.

Maya's Aftercare Worker witnessed this dismissive treatment firsthand. Together, they made a formal complaint, resulting in a new housing worker. When Maya's concerns remained unaddressed, her Aftercare Worker made referrals to alternative transitional housing providers near where Maya was studying.

"My Aftercare Worker was the one person that truly listened to me and acknowledged me. I didn't feel judged."

Today, Maya has moved into accommodation she loves and is enrolled in a music course at TAFE. From feeling abandoned by multiple case workers since age 16, Maya discovered the transformative power of being truly heard and supported.



Triple Care Farm Walawaani, Batemans Bay, NSW

Our funding of the dedicated Aftercare Worker position at Walawaani enabled Mission Australia to support young people aged 16-24 transitioning from the Residential Rehabilitation program. The 17-acre bushland setting provided a foundation for recovery, whilst the Aftercare Worker ensured continued community reintegration support.

Together, we enable:

- Support for 56 young people through dedicated Aftercare services in FY25
- One-on-one case management and comprehensive relapse prevention planning
- Partnerships with local housing and employment services to improve access
- Recreational and cultural engagement including First Nations festivals and community activities

- Essential support with Centrelink access, documentation, and basic needs

Your investment in the Aftercare Worker enabled tailored support helping young people access training, employment, transport, and household essentials. The funded position allowed for strengthened relationships with local services and advocacy for transitional housing models, resulting in increased engagement and improved stability outcomes.

Direct impact of your donation:

The funded Aftercare Worker facilitated housing applications and relocations, driving lessons and traffic control training, first aid certification, small business support, provision of household items, and court advocacy – demonstrating measurable outcomes from your generosity.

Sasha's story

Addiction forced Sasha to abandon her wildlife studies just as her dream career seemed within reach. But sometimes stepping back is the only way forward.

Sasha was studying Wildlife and Exhibited Animal Care at TAFE, passionate about working with animals. However, active addiction made it impossible to maintain work placement requirements, and she became overwhelmed with coursework. Recognising she needed help, Sasha deferred her studies to enter Residential Rehabilitation at Walawaani.

Throughout her time at Walawaani, Sasha developed coping strategies and relapse prevention skills, determined to return to studies with a stronger foundation.

"Reaching out for help and deferring my studies was scary, but it was the best decision I could have made."

Upon graduation from Walawaani, Sasha's Aftercare Worker supported her to reconnect with her course advisor and work placement. Her positive attitude and determination quickly became evident. Her work placement employer was so impressed they recommended her for a position with Tasmania Zoo.

After flying to Tasmania for a trial day, she was offered her dream job. Now her Aftercare Worker is supporting her relocation to Launceston, helping with accommodation, licence support, and local service connections. From nearly losing everything to landing her dream role at Tasmania Zoo, Sasha transformed her life through recovery and determination.



Mac River Rehabilitation Centre, Dubbo, NSW

Your funding of the dedicated Aftercare Worker at Mac River enabled Mission Australia to provide culturally safe support to young people aged 13-18, who have come through Youth Justice. Many of these young people are from rural and remote Aboriginal communities, and this investment ensured trauma-informed care extended meaningfully beyond residential treatment.

Together, we enable:

- Support for 15 young people through dedicated culturally appropriate Aftercare services in FY25
- Introduction of the Act Now Together Strong (ANTS) family intervention program strengthening family relationships
- Community engagement through PCYC programs and cultural celebrations

- Cultural partnerships with Ican Murri providing mentoring and traditional activities
- Vocational programs including Rent It Keep It and culturally adapted Yarn SMART Recovery

Your investment enabled the Aftercare Worker to strengthen culturally safe and trauma-informed approaches to youth rehabilitation. The funded position facilitated Yarn SMART Recovery delivery by First Nations staff, providing culturally grounded healing frameworks alongside vocational training, life skills, creative arts, and outdoor experiences.

Direct impact of your donation:

The funded Aftercare Worker enabled the ANTS family intervention program, NAIDOC celebration participation, positive police relationships through sport, improved mental health service access, and strengthened cultural connections – directly attributable to your support for dedicated Aftercare staffing.



Connor's story

When inhalant addiction threatened Connor's promising rugby league future, he found strength through support to return to sport and school.

Connor, a 14-year-old Aboriginal young man from Nyngan, lives with his Pop and brothers. A talented rugby league player, Connor's life took a dangerous turn with very frequent use of aerosol inhalants on a regular basis.

At such a young age, Connor struggled to understand the risks but was motivated to change for his own health and his Pop's wellbeing.

Connor completed Mac River's 12-week residential program, developing life skills, healthy habits, and daily routines before transitioning to Aftercare.

"I want to get better for Pop. He's been there for me and I don't want to hurt him anymore."

Connor's Aftercare Worker maintains regular contact through phone calls, face-to-face visits, and home visits. Both Connor and his family participate in the Act Now Together Strong (ANTS) program to improve communication.

Today, Connor is back home playing for the local football team and attending high school with individualised support. From dangerous daily inhalant use to thriving in sport and education, Connor reclaimed his promising future.



Drug and Alcohol Youth Service (DAYS), Perth, WA

Your generous funding of the dedicated Aftercare Worker at DAYS enabled Mission Australia to maintain comprehensive support for young people aged 12-25 transitioning from Residential Rehabilitation. This investment ensured tailored support focused on relapse prevention and community independence.

Your funding enabled:

- Support for 30 young people through dedicated Aftercare services in FY25
- Piloting of innovative Life Skills for Recovery workshops and resource kit development
- Strengthened partnerships with mental health and housing services across WA
- Enhanced service coordination through improved referral pathways and processes

- Implementation of rolling Aftercare Groups across multiple residential sites

Your investment in the Aftercare Worker enabled personalised, SMART goal-based care planning, helping young people navigate housing, education, employment, and mental health challenges.

The funded position allowed for increased interagency collaboration and crisis intervention strategies, particularly crucial during WA's ongoing housing crisis.

Direct impact of your donation:

The funded Aftercare Worker facilitated successful TAFE enrolments, family reconnections, stable housing transitions, peer support program development, and comprehensive resource kit creation – demonstrating the tangible outcomes your generosity makes possible for vulnerable young people.

Natasha's story

When repeated program discharges left Natasha feeling stuck, continuous Aftercare support helped her find the stability she needed.

Natasha, a 20-year-old Aboriginal woman, struggled with cannabis and alcohol use while studying at university. Challenging family circumstances and difficulty settling into services led to five separate admissions to DAYS programs over eighteen months, with frustration often resulting in her leaving programs.

By March 2024, Natasha had lost her university accommodation and was back home. After

completing detox treatment, she was referred to Aftercare.

"Every time I messed up and got kicked out, my Aftercare Worker was still there. No one had ever stuck with me like that."

Her dedicated Aftercare Worker supported Natasha to attend Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings and provided consistent guidance through another accommodation discharge. Through ongoing NA meetings and Aftercare support, Natasha was accepted into an adult rehabilitation program.

Today, Natasha continues attending regular NA meetings and remains abstinent from substances. From multiple program discharges to sustained recovery, Natasha found stability through persistent, unwavering support.

“Your support makes stories like mine possible. You’re not just helping young people, you’re giving them hope and a chance to create a better future for themselves.”

- NATASHA



ADVOCACY

Stigma, judgement, and misinformation prevent young people and their families from seeking help for drug and alcohol addiction. Sir David Martin Foundation aims to dismantle these barriers, so every young person feels empowered to seek the help they need and deserve.

Sector engagement and collaboration

Partnership with the Alcohol and Drug Foundation

This year, Sir David Martin Foundation established a partnership with the Alcohol and Drug Foundation, Australia's leading organisation working to prevent and minimise alcohol and drug harm. Together, we completed a comprehensive mapping of youth-specific alcohol and other drug services across Australia, revealing both encouraging progress and critical gaps in young people's access to specialist support. This evidence-based project identified key opportunities for system improvement, including the need for more youth-specific withdrawal services, standardised age definitions across programs, and improved service navigation tools for families seeking help.

NSW Drug Summit and the Fair Treatment campaign

In FY25 we supported the Fair Treatment campaign in the lead-up to the 2024 NSW Drug Summit, advocating for evidence-based approaches that treat drug use as a health issue rather than a criminal justice problem.

Following the summit's conclusion and the release of its 56 comprehensive recommendations in April 2025, we continue to support the campaign as we await the NSW Government's response.

Active sector participation

Our Foundation team actively engages with the alcohol and drug sector to stay informed of best practice, emerging research, and policy developments that affect young people. This year, our CEO Karen Elliff attended the NADA Conference, where she gained valuable insights into the critical role of lived experience in person-centred care and innovative approaches to youth engagement. The conference reinforced our commitment to supporting services that build trust with young people and recognise their unique recovery journeys.

We also participated in the Alcohol and Drug Foundation's Prevention in Place Conference, exploring how place-based approaches can strengthen prevention efforts and address the complex social issues that intersect with youth addiction. These learnings will continue to shape our funding strategy and approach.

Through this active sector engagement, we ensure our advocacy efforts are grounded in evidence and aligned with the broader movement towards compassionate, effective responses to youth addiction.

Clinical Advisory Group

In line with our 2021-25 Strategy, in October 2024 we established a Clinical Advisory Group to deepen our understanding of youth addiction and youth mental health. We welcomed Professor Steve Allsop and Dr Krista Monkhouse to keep us up to date with current clinical practice, research and policy that may affect the treatment of young people.

The expertise of Professor Allsop and Dr Monkhouse is invaluable in our continued efforts to destigmatise youth addiction and create safer pathways for young people to seek help. Their guidance ensures that we will be better equipped than ever to make a lasting difference in the lives of vulnerable young people across Australia.

Youth Advisory Group

The Youth Advisory Group, comprising Australians aged 16-29, ensures a strong youth voice guides our efforts to help young people in crisis. The diverse members contribute their passion, experiences, and insights to shape our understanding of youth issues and inform our initiatives. Their input is crucial in addressing the health and wellbeing concerns of young people in our community.

How our Youth Advisory Group contributes

Meeting monthly throughout the year, Youth Advisory Group members actively contribute to the Foundation's work in multiple ways:

- **Strategic input and feedback** - Providing youth perspectives on campaigns, initiatives, and strategic planning to ensure our approaches resonate with young people's lived experiences
- **Event participation** - Attending Foundation events as representatives, sharing their insights and connecting with supporters and stakeholders

- **Campaign development** - Contributing to the design and messaging of awareness campaigns, ensuring authenticity and relevance to youth audiences
- **Foundation education** - Meeting in person at least annually to deepen their understanding of our programs and the young people we support, enabling more informed advocacy

Through these regular touchpoints and collaborative efforts, the Youth Advisory Group ensures the Foundation's work remains grounded in contemporary youth experience and is responsive to emerging needs.



Below: Youth Advisory Group members at Triple Care Farm.
L-R: Mijica Lus, Taeg Twist, Jessica Pereira, Harry Waterworth, Joshua Patrick, Jonathan O'Brien



COMMUNITY & EVENTS

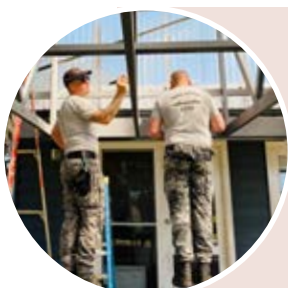
Thank you so much to all our incredible supporters for connecting with us this year.

We're continually inspired by the community's commitment to supporting young people in crisis. Your participation in these events directly contributes to transforming lives.



Connected Conversations: breakfast series (November 2024 and Feb 2025)

In FY25 we proudly launched our Connected Conversations series, kindly hosted by our corporate supporters. These events are designed to bring together renowned experts, thought leaders, and young people to have open conversations about youth and addiction. Our first two breakfast events featured Dr Krista Monkhouse from our Clinical Advisory Group and Zoë Robinson, the NSW Advocate for Children and Young People. We are deeply grateful to both for generously sharing their expertise and inspiring our guests.



HMAS Supply II working bee (September 2024)

We were honoured when the crew of the Royal Australian Navy's HMAS Supply offered to visit Triple Care Farm for a working bee. With paintbrushes in hand, they transformed the simple patio into a welcoming retreat. We are so grateful for their teamwork and genuine care, which created a space now filled with pride for the young people to enjoy.



InfoTrack cake auction (September 2024)

The team at InfoTrack once again baked up a storm at their much-loved cake auction. Staff poured their creativity into colourful, delicious cakes, then bid generously to raise vital funds. We are truly thankful for their enthusiasm, uniqueness and commitment to giving young people the chance to heal and thrive.



Royal Motor Yacht Club cocktail reception (October 2024)

Guests were welcomed aboard HMAS Hobart for a spectacular cocktail reception hosted by the Royal Motor Yacht Club and the Royal Australian Navy. Attendees enjoyed guided tours, the bustling sound of the Navy band, and a lively auction. More than \$50,000 was raised, and we are sincerely grateful for the generosity of everyone who made this night such a success.



Triple Care Farm Autumn Lunch (April 2025)

Our Autumn Lunch at Triple Care Farm was a powerful and uplifting day. Foundation supporters shared a meal with staff, young people currently in the program and some graduates of the program, hearing personal stories of resilience and recovery. We are deeply thankful to Mission Australia for hosting us and all who attended for creating a day filled with connection and celebration.



Walk for Youth (May 2025)

The Walk for Youth in Crisis brought people together in a spirit of teamwork and generosity. This initiative was led by long time Foundation supporter Bill Bracey, with the support of the team at Sydney Financial Planning. All funds raised were generously matched by AMP Foundation. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who took part for stepping up and showing young people they are not alone.

Community & corporate supporters

Country Women's Association of NSW,
Berry & Jamberoo Branches

Eurobodalla LGA

- Batemans Bay Soldiers Club
- Catalina Country Club

InfoTrack

Kogarah Quilters

Lions Club of Minnamurra

Mercer - Marsh McLennan

National Club Ltd

PwC Australia

RAN Sailing Association

Royal Australian Navy

- HMAS Hobart
- HMAS Supply II

Royal Motor Yacht Club

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William Bracey
Woods5 Foundation
...and many other generous and
anonymous donors.

**We wish there was room to
include every supporter's
name but would still like
to say a heartfelt thank you
to everyone who supported
us over the past year.**

THE IMPACT OF LEGACY

Sir David Martin Foundation's mission to help young people in crisis continues to thrive thanks to the generosity of our supporters. We are especially grateful for the thoughtful individuals who are generously ensuring a lasting impact through gifts in their Wills.

Bequests

We extend our sincere gratitude to the following individuals whose gifts in their Wills have supported our Foundation this year:

- Estate of the Late Shirley Bellwood
- Estate of the Late Elaine Peterson
- Estate of the Late Gordon Allan
- Estate of the Late Elsa Braun
- Estate of the Late Andrew McKinnon

Their thoughtful contributions will enable us to continue supporting young Australians in crisis well into the future, creating powerful legacies that will transform countless lives.

Above: Mark and Sir David

Below: Mark at the HMAS Kuttabul Memorial Service

Mark's legacy of hope

Mark, 58, has made the compassionate decision to include Sir David Martin Foundation in his Will, ensuring his support continues helping young people for generations to come.

What is it about the Foundation's work that resonates with you?

It helps young people in need, without judgement. It's not just about helping young people with addiction but also providing them with the tools to manage everyday life and the challenges they face. When I read and hear their stories, I'm struck by how honest they are. You can tell the support they receive is real and lasting.

Why is it important to you to give a second chance to young people who haven't had a good start in life?

It's proper and it's right. No one chooses their upbringing. We can't control the environment and circumstances that we grow up in. If young people are disadvantaged from a young age, they aren't afforded the opportunity for a good start in life. I believe if someone's had a rough start, they deserve the chance to turn things around.

What do you say to those who might be thinking about leaving a gift to the Foundation in their Will?

We [Australians] aren't always great at talking about our Wills. I was prompted to consider a bequest when talking to my lawyer several years ago. I would encourage others to consider a gift in their Will, be open to talking about it, and share their wishes with their family.



FINANCE REPORTS

79%
of all income
received in FY2025
directly funded
programs

9%
fundraising direct
costs to fundraising
income ratio

3780
donations received
in FY2025

Income & expenses

INCOME	FY25	FY24
Fundraising appeals	377,696	420,419
Fundraising events	105	150,486
Major Gifts, Trusts & Foundations & Corporates	1,596,444	1,785,354
Bequest and legacy income	548,976	197,633
Community & Regular Giving	208,353	172,930
Grants	93,000	523,596
FR Subtotal	2,824,574	3,250,418
Other Income		
Net finance income	372,149	671,342
Total	3,196,723	3,921,759

DISTRIBUTION AND EXPENSES	FY25	FY24
Program funding	2,510,000	4,003,018
Expenses related to fundraising and administration	1,539,620	1,434,219
Net Profit/ Loss	-852,897	-1,515,478

EXPENSES RELATED TO FUNDRAISING AND ADMINISTRATION		
Personnel	1,018,711	838,363
Direct Fundraising, events and marketing	258,741	324,686
Admin	262,168	271,170
Total	1,539,620	1,434,219

Fundraising Direct Costs to Fundraising Income ratio	9%	10%
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Balance sheet

<i>in AUD</i>	FY25	FY24
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,299,914	600,121
Trade and other receivables	14,362	275,776
Total current assets	1,314,276	875,897
Trade and other receivables	1,865	0
Investments	3,963,681	5,085,395
Total non current assets	3,965,546	5,085,395
Total assets	5,279,822	5,961,292
Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	143,193	40,646
Provision for future programs	50,000	0
Employee benefits - provision for annual leave	46,395	40,381
Total current liabilities	239,588	81,027
Employee benefits - provision for long service leave	26,062	13,197
Total non-current liabilities	26,062	13,197
Total liabilities	265,650	94,224
Net assets	5,014,172	5,867,068
Equity		
Settled sum	10	10
Accumulated surplus	5,014,162	5,867,058
Total equity	5,014,172	5,867,068

GOVERNANCE

Sir David Martin Foundation is a Charitable Trust, run by a small team of staff and overseen by a Board of Directors. The Trustee is Sir David Martin Foundation Ltd, (ACN 676 472 834, ABN 375 066 732 86).

Board of Directors

Captain William Martin RAN (Rtd) – Chair

Anthony Cheshire SC

Anna Beaumont

Peter Evans

Paul Hennessy

Jason Millett

Jie Qian

Foundation Staff

Karen Elliff – Chief Executive Officer

Jennifer Ball – Marketing & Communications Manager

Jade Bankier – Finance Manager

Olivia Carney – Database & Operations Manager

Molly Hutchinson – Fundraising & Marketing Coordinator

Jenny Leahy – Philanthropy Manager

Ruth Markham – Philanthropy Manager

Jennifer Worgan – Digital Marketing Officer

Youth Advisory Group

Jessica Pereira – Chair (end Dec 2024)

Harrison Waterworth – Chair (start Jan 2025)

Mijica Lus

Jonathan O'Brien

Joshua Patrick

Maddy Forde

Ellie Hennessy

William Krajancic

Lucy Stronach

Taeg Twist



GET INVOLVED



Make a donation

Donate and help young, vulnerable Australians break the cycle of addiction and have hope for a brighter future.



Join our regular giving program Team180

A regular monthly donation is a wonderful way to provide consistent and ongoing support, enabling us to commit to long-term projects that align with our vision.



Become a corporate partner

Encourage your company to partner with us or ask about starting a workplace giving program to give back.



Leave a gift in your Will

Leaving a gift in your Will to Sir David Martin Foundation ensures a lasting impact on the lives of young Australians in crisis.



Start a fundraiser

Whether you walk, swim, run, or bake, challenge yourself with friends and get involved to raise funds for young people in crisis.



Share your story

By sharing our stories, we find common ground and an opportunity to connect. If you feel comfortable, we'd love to hear your story.



**DONATE
HERE**



**CONTACT
US**



Email: admin@martinfoundation.org.au

Call: 1300 951 009

www.martinfoundation.org.au



Sir David Martin Foundation
is a registered charity with ACNC.