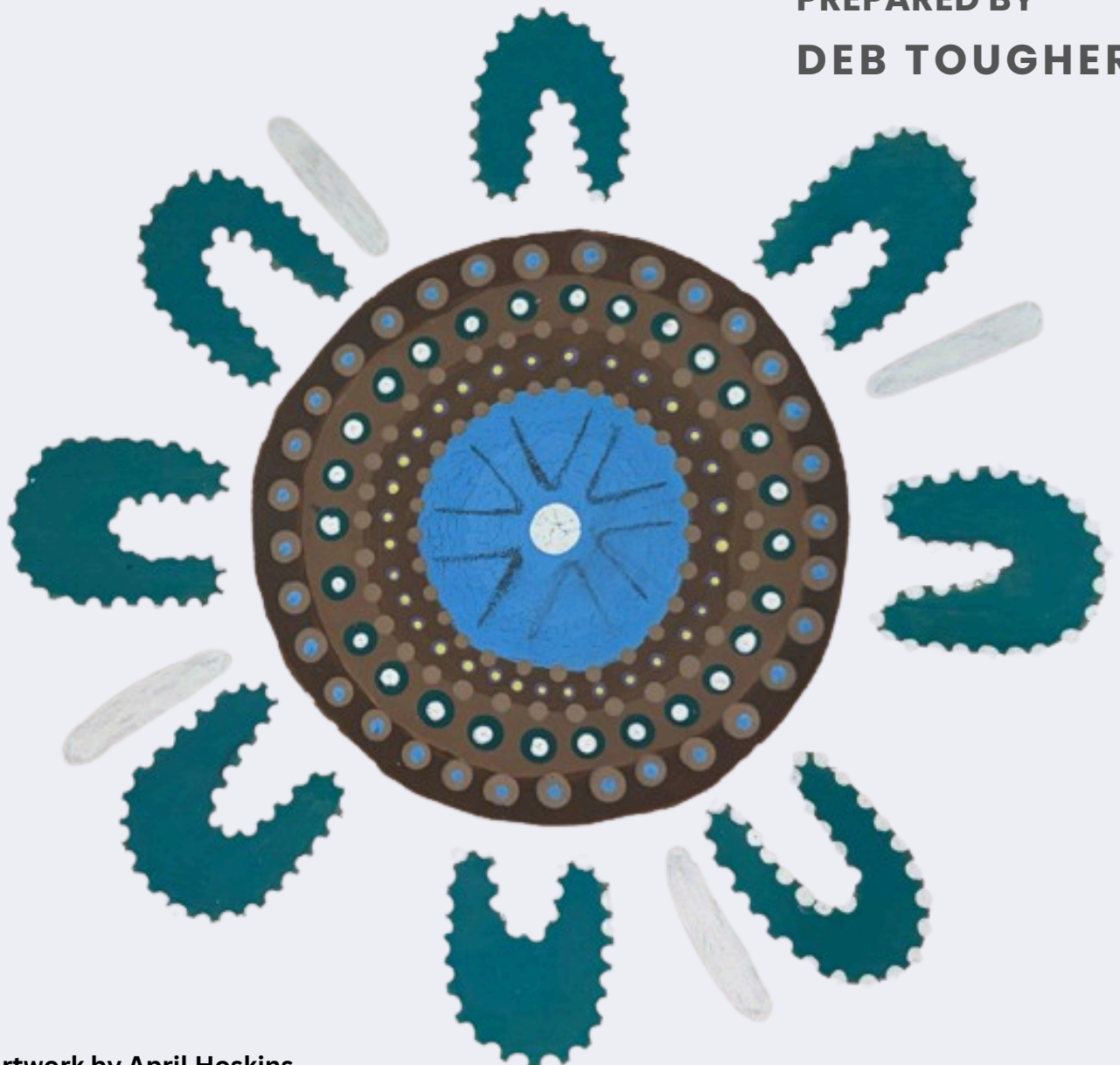


2024/2025

ANNUAL REPORT

PREPARED BY
DEB TOUGHER

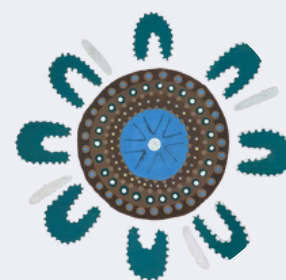


Artwork by April Hoskins

YP SPACE acknowledges the Dunghutti and Birpai people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we work and live.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and all Aboriginal People.

We acknowledge the land was never ceded and therefore always was and still is Aboriginal land.



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OVERVIEW

YP SPACE MNC is a Youth Specialist Homelessness Service. We support Children and Young People aged 12 to 25 years who are experiencing homelessness.

We are based in the Kempsey and Port Macquarie LGA's. We support Children and Young People from Laurieton to Macksville on the mid north coast of NSW.

On any given night YP SPACE can have up to 54 Children and Young People in residence. We operate two 24/7 crisis accommodation houses(refuges), 12 Temporary Accommodation(TA) cabins at Ngurra, and hold MOUs with other housing providers such as Mission Australia and Youth Foundations offering transitional housing opportunities.

YP SPACE is a registered charity and not-for-profit organisation. 100% of money raised from donations or corporate sponsorship goes directly to supporting Children and Young People.



DIRECTORS

President	Katrina Cameron
Vice President	Kate Moulton
Secretary	Nathalie Gentle
Treasurer	Carissa Embling
Board Member	Megan O'Neill
Board Member	Kellon Beard
Board Member	Steve Robinson 1.07.24 - 11.02.25
Board Member	Michael Easton
CEO	Andrea Davidson

MISSION AND VALUES

YP SPACE MNC



Mission Statement

“To support Children & Young People experiencing homelessness through a holistic approach”



Compassion

YP SPACE, shows kindness, compassion and empathy to every Child and Young Person we support



Empowering

YP SPACE strives to empower the Children and Young People we are supporting to realise their potential and create their own path towards a brighter future.



Vision

“Shelter the homeless - One Child and Young Person at a time”



Integrity

YP SPACE strives to empower the Children and Young People we are supporting to realise their potential and create their own path towards a brighter future.



Respect

At YP SPACE, respect is fundamental to everything we do. We honour the dignity and worth of every Child and Young Person we support and this extends to other stakeholders we work with in community.

PRESIDENT REPORT

Dear Community and YPS team members,

I realise today that writing a President's report is quite difficult without sounding repetitive as I write how proud I am to be part of this organisation and the people that make up the dedicated team at YP SPACE!

Each year we are able to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to tackling youth homelessness in our footprint, improving on what we do and finding new and creative ways to meet the needs of this (unfortunately) growing population.

Ngurra (The Park) continues to grow, with another grant secured this financial year to increase the number of cabins by six. This achievement reflects the significant effort invested by the team throughout the year. It is a fantastic outcome that will see Ngurra supporting even more young people into the future. The success of this grant is a credit to everyone involved, and it is inspiring to see other services reaching out to learn from the model we have created locally.

While some good news stories will be shared later in this report, I would encourage you to follow YPS on social media, as I do, to read all the good news stories and ways we contribute daily to the community throughout the year. It is amazing to see the resilience and determination of the young people in our communities when provided with the professional and compassionate support the team provides.

It is my privilege to genuinely and whole-heartedly congratulate the team on fostering these successes in their case work and outreach support and look forward to continuing to serve the young people in our region.

Katrina Cameron
YP SPACE MNC
President

CEO REPORT

Another year has flown by, and what a remarkable year it has been for YP SPACE MNC.

I want to begin by extending my heartfelt thanks to our Board, leadership team, and all staff for their unwavering dedication throughout the year. It is because of your passion, persistence, and teamwork that YP SPACE continues to be a trusted and vital service for children and young people across the Mid North Coast.

This year has brought change, growth, and many exciting new developments. We were delighted to welcome new caseworkers and residential staff to the YP SPACE family, each bringing valuable strengths and energy to our organisation. A highlight has been Alicia stepping up into the Casework Manager role, providing strong leadership and guidance to the team. At the same time, we farewelled staff who have contributed so much to children and young people's lives, and we wish them every success in their new journeys.

Our casework and residential teams in Kempsey and Port Macquarie continue to be the heart and soul of our organisation. They are consistently working at capacity, supporting children and young people in crisis accommodation, transitional properties, temporary accommodation at Ngurra, and through outreach. By maintaining smaller caseloads per worker, we are able to deliver a more holistic and personalised approach, ensuring that every child and young person feels heard, supported, and valued.

Demand for our services remains high. Family breakdown, domestic and family violence, mental health challenges, and the ongoing housing crisis continue to be the top reasons children and young people come to us for support. With our refuges, transitional houses, and temporary accommodation at full capacity, it is clear that our communities need us now more than ever.

Yet, even in the face of these challenges, there have been so many reasons to celebrate. This year, children and young people supported by YP SPACE achieved meaningful outcomes: securing housing, gaining employment, entering education, building life skills, and achieving milestones such as getting their driver's licence. Every one of these wins matters — they build resilience, independence, and confidence, and they remind us why our work is so important.

One of the most significant developments this year has been the growth of The Park "Ngurra", which has now doubled in size. With 12 cabins now operating as temporary accommodation, Ngurra provides not only a safe place to stay but also wraparound supports to help children and young people stabilise, rebuild, and work towards longer-term housing and independence. To further strengthen this work, we also welcomed Jo as our onsite caretaker at Ngurra.

We have also branched out into the NDIS space, and we look forward to providing many children and young people with holistic NDIS support. This expansion allows us to deliver even more comprehensive assistance that addresses not just housing, but also wellbeing, inclusion, and long-term independence.

We continue to strengthen housing pathways through partnerships with My Foundations Youth Housing, Mission Australia Housing, Community Housing, and programs such as Rent Choice Youth. These initiatives not only open doors to secure housing but also provide wraparound support that helps children and young people sustain their tenancies and move forward with confidence.

Another highlight has been our strong culture of care, not only for the children and young people we serve but also for our staff. Training, supervision, debriefing, and wellbeing initiatives have ensured that our team remains supported and resilient in such demanding work. This culture of looking after one another is something I am deeply proud of and a cornerstone of why YP SPACE is such a special organisation.

Looking ahead, we know the challenges posed by the housing crisis and cost-of-living pressures will continue. But we also know that YP SPACE is well-placed to rise to these challenges. We will continue to advocate strongly for the needs of children and young people, expand our housing and support options, and innovate through youth-led and community-driven approaches. Most importantly, we will keep ensuring that children and young people are at the centre of everything we do.

I am immensely proud of the extraordinary work of our staff, the leadership of our Board, and the resilience of the children and young people we serve. Together, we are not just responding to need — we are building brighter, safer, and more hopeful futures for children and young people across the Mid North Coast.

Andrea Davidson
Chief Executive Officer
YP SPACE MNC.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Wow, what a year of change and exciting new developments.

I would like to start by welcoming our new caseworkers and resi workers to YPS and say we are very excited to have you as part of our team and look forward to the amazing support and strengths you share with not only our CYP but also the organisation as a whole. Zachary Carew, Sarah Moss, Mikaela Weldon and Sonya Waters, Hayley Gibbs and Benjamin Meekin... welcome to the family!

Would also like to farewell to some team members that have also made their mark on young people's lives and wish them well on their new ventures. Thank you for all your hard work Jasmin Morris-Simonovic, Holly Barrett and Clarissa Ahsee.

The casework and residential team across Kempsey and Port Macquarie do an absolutely amazing job and are what makes YP SPACE so special with their consistent approach and undeniable passion towards advocating for Children and Young People (CYP) that are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Without our casework team, there would be no YP SPACE.

There has been some fantastic outcomes achieved this year regardless how tough the rental market is with affordability and access. Remember a win is a win and our CYP will remember that in years to come. Everything from securing transitional properties, private rentals to even gaining employment opportunities and their license. It all makes a difference. The support our case workers give helps to build resilience, confidence and value in our CYP and you all do a great job.

Case workers support and case manage between 8-12 CYP at any one time which ranges from the Crisis Accommodations, the Transitional Properties, Temporary Accommodation at Ngurra and Outreach support. YP SPACE believes in quality over quantity and with lower numbers per worker unlike some other services, we can be more holistic in our case management standards and approach.

The top four reasons CYP are accessing YPS for support are family breakdown, domestic and family violence, mental health and housing crisis. The numbers have stayed consistent over the years and support is requested at high demand. Our transitional houses are full, our Ngurra temporary accommodation is full and so are both of the refuges. Our communities need us more than ever and it is apparent in the consistent referrals being made.

YPS has access to several housing products to assist with affordable housing and ongoing wrap around supports for CYP. This is through housing agreements with My Foundations Youth Housing, Mission Australia Housing and Community Housing. We also have access to Rent Choice Youth, a program that helps YP ages 16 to 24 find a private rental with a 3-year tapering rent subsidy and ongoing support during the 3 years.

Throughout the year, the case work team have participated in ongoing training to keep up to date with changes in legislation, best practise and refreshing themselves on self-care. The Casework Team has access to scheduled supervision, debriefing whenever needed and EAP. Our culture of looking after each other is shown by encouraging breaks, team lunches and group handovers at morning and afternoon to ground and release the day. I know the team is very grateful for the options we have and is one of the reasons why we have retained some diligent workers for long periods.

I can say hand on heart, I am very proud of the team we have at YPS and it is a pleasure to work with some of the most dedicated and passionate people in the community services field that all strive for the same vision as an organisation.

Thank you all for your hard work and know that not only does your team and community appreciate you but our vulnerable young people also appreciate your consistency and value you bring.

Alicia Gordon
Case Work Manager
YP SPACE MNC

2024-2025 IMPACT (16-25)



Children &
Young People
supported



Total support
days



Average days
support period
per CYP



Nights in crisis
accommodation



108836

Nights in
medium
/transitional
accommodation

2024-2025 IMPACT (12-15)



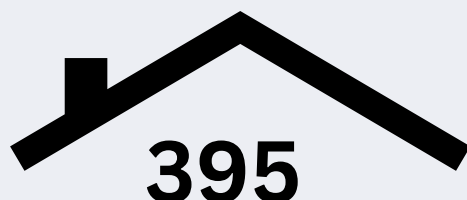
Children &
Young People
supported



Total support
days



Average days
support period
per CYP



Nights in crisis
accommodation

GOOD NEWS STORIES

The following stories highlight the remarkable journeys of children & young people who have overcome significant challenges in their early lives. While no one should be required to endure such adversity, these individuals have demonstrated extraordinary resilience and determination. Their success has been supported not only by their own commitment but also through the guidance and dedication of workers who have walked alongside them. Together, these efforts have enabled young people to move beyond hardship and thrive.



A Young Person who has not been case managed by YP SPACE for over 2 years contacted the office to share some great news. They have just purchased their first home!. The Young Person reported that if not for the support and care they received from YP SPACE they would not be alive today and they wanted to personally thank the case worker involved. The Young Person stated they have kept the healthy relationships booklet and is now in a loving and supportive relationship.



A Young Person has been supported by YP SPACE since the age of 14. They lived in our crisis accommodation multiple times due to lack of family support. Young Person developed mental health and AOD issues. Young Person worked hard on independent skills, mental health and AOD. Young Person was awarded a Transitional Accommodation property as a result of their hard work and commitment to self improvement. The Young Person never gave up, they accepted all supports and services that improved their chances to success at life. Young Person is now 23, living independently, renting privately and is about to start their own business.



A 23yo Young Person first became homeless at 17 due to physical & emotional violence in the family home. They have spent 6 years staying in refuges, couch surfing(sometimes strangers), and sleeping rough on the streets. Young Person had secured a private rental in this time but due to rental increases could not sustain it. Young Person found themselves in a DV relationship and once again in an unsafe situation. With YP SPACE's support the Young Person has now secured a a rental through the Rent Choice Start Safely program and is studying part-time and thriving in the community.



A Young Person who has spent several months in Temporary Accommodation due to family breakdown and overcrowding has secured their first private rental. They have also gained full time employment and is now living safely and independently. Big thanks to the Hope Shop for helping to set up their first home.

OUTREACH REPORT

Outreach at YP SPACE continues to play a central role in building our brand, raising community awareness of youth homelessness, developing young people's life skills, and strengthening relationships across the Mid North Coast.

This year saw the exciting addition of a Youth Drop-In Centre, which opens every Tuesday. The centre provides a safe and welcoming space for the young people residing at Ngurra to access cooking lessons, free takeaway meals, arts and crafts, clothing, toiletries, pantry items, or simply a place to connect and relax. As outlined in the statistics below, the service has been well-utilised and highly valued. Once Development Approval is secured, we plan to expand to after-hours and additional days of operation, opening the space to all young people—not only those connected to The Park. Future plans include workshops, classes, and a young mums' group. In October, we will also launch a partnership with Midwaste, delivering a bike repair hub from the drop-in.

YP SPACE is a proud partner in the Resilience Canopy – Macleay Youth Rising Movement, a youth-led initiative that amplifies the voices of young people in Kempsey, fostering resilience, growth, and positive change in the community.

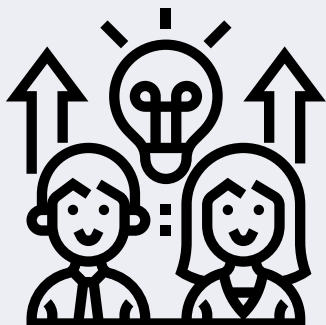
Our outreach calendar remains vibrant, with Youth Homelessness Matters Day (YHMD) once again a highlight. While weather forced us to cancel our original plans, we instead hosted a smaller, more intimate event at The Park with YP SPACE staff and young people. This proved to be one of the most meaningful YHMD events to date, featuring heartfelt speeches, live performances, and of course, the traditional colour bomb.

Beyond YHMD, we actively participated in a range of community events including Homeless Week, NAIDOC Week, Year 6 Cultural Day, Birpai Women's Festival, It's OK on the Macleay, and the Neami Cup, where our team proudly took out the "Best Dressed" award once again.

Finally, our social media presence has grown significantly, allowing us to strengthen transparency, engage more deeply with the wider community, and remain relevant and connected to the young people we serve.

Deb Tougher
Outreach Manager
YP SPACE MNC

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Number of YP attending workshops

Reality Rentals 4

Money Minded 12



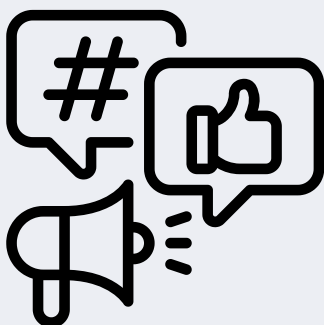
Events / presentations

41



Conferences/ Forums Attended

3



Social media Platforms

Facebook 550 friends & 833 followers

Instagram 209 followers

LinkedIn 326 connections

Tik Tok 15 friends



“Our Place” Homeless Hub sessions

24

“Drop-in” February 2025 - 30 June 2025

Cooking/dinner 73

Shopping 22

Art/craft 24

Take away 10

Student placement 1

Workshops 31

Ngurra Tour 10

Volunteer 7

OUTREACH PHOTOS



NGURRA REPORT

Over the past 12 months, **Ngurra (The Park)** has continued to grow as a vital support space for children and young people (CYP) on the Mid North Coast experiencing homelessness. Ngurra, meaning “Where we lay our head, this place be home” in the local Dunghutti language, has become far more than just a housing project—it is now a safe haven offering temporary accommodation and holistic, wraparound support for CYP experiencing homelessness.

This year, Ngurra has expanded from 6 cabins to 12 cabins operating as Temporary Accommodation. This was made possible through a successful joint application with Community Housing for a Homelessness Innovation Fund (HIF) grant.

These cabins provide more than shelter—they deliver comprehensive support aimed at addressing housing instability while equipping CYP with the skills and confidence they need to transition into stable, long-term housing.

Jo, our on-site caretaker, manages the grounds and cleans the cabins. Her presence provides an additional level of safety for children and young people, and she assists if residents lose power or lock themselves out, ensuring the site is functional and secure.

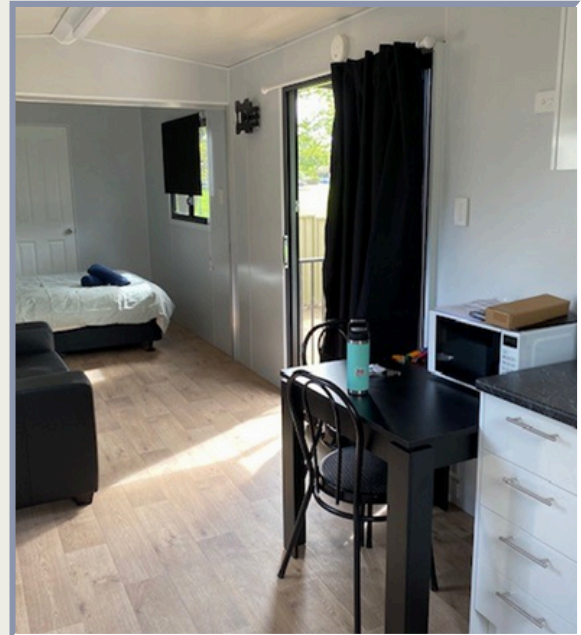
The demand for Ngurra remains consistently high, with cabins fully occupied for most of the year, reflecting the essential need for temporary accommodation and support.

The amenities block is now fully completed and operational, offering upgraded showers, toilets, and laundry facilities with full disability access. The Drop-In Centre is running programs including cook-ups, educational sessions, and recreational activities, ensuring Ngurra is not just a place to stay but a vibrant hub for learning, wellbeing, and community engagement.

This project has only been possible through grants and the minimal income generated from the cabins, as YP SPACE does not receive dedicated funding to operate Ngurra.

Looking ahead, Ngurra will continue to serve as a dynamic, inclusive community hub fostering growth, resilience, and belonging for every child and young person who comes through its doors. The achievements of this year are a testament to the dedication of the Ngurra team and the vision of YP SPACE.

Ngurra - Newest cabins and Ammenities block/drop-in



NDIS

In May 2025, YPS had an external audit to become an NDIS provider. YPS passed the audit process and the report was forwarded to NDIS Commission for approval. Due to the influx of organisations applying for NDIS accreditation, YPS was still waiting on the commission to approve our NDIS application as of 30 June 2025.

FRIENDS OF YPS

With increasing rates of youth homelessness and the expansion of services such as The Park Temporary Accommodation and the Drop-In Centre, the demands on YP SPACE have grown significantly.

Volunteers and student placements play a vital role in meeting these needs. They bring fresh perspectives, energy, and skills that complement the work of our staff, while also gaining valuable hands-on experience in the sector. Their contributions enhance service delivery, increase our capacity to support children & young people, and strengthen community connection to our organisation.

Volunteers x 16 = 232 hours total

1. Mary - 173 hours
2. Dieticians x 2 from Newcastle University - 20 hours - "Shake the Fridge".
3. Mission Australia x 13 - 39 hours

Students x 4 = 865 hours total

1. Matt - Bachelor of Social Work: 500 hours
2. Phoebe - Bachelor of Criminal Justice: 70 hours
3. Florence - Bachelor of Youth Work: 255 hours
4. Dylan - Diploma of Community Service: 40 hours



Dieticians Rachel and Jakarta at the Hub: Shake the Fridge; Deb & Phoebe: Matt second from left.

DONATIONS

The generous support we receive from individuals, organisations and community groups forms the foundation of our ability to deliver high-quality care to the Children and Young People we support. These contributions empower YP SPACE MNC to provide not only essential services, but also a holistic and impactful support system that nurtures well-being and development.

Without this vital support, maintaining the high standard of care we strive for would simply not be possible. This generosity reflects a shared commitment to the welfare of our community's Young People and highlights the powerful impact of collective compassion in creating positive change.

We are deeply grateful for the kindness and generosity of the following individuals, clubs, and groups, whose contributions make a meaningful difference in the lives of the children and young people we serve:

Donor	Amount
Stone Real Estate Agents Golf Day	\$14,672
GiveNow (via website)	\$1,025
Geoffrey Graham	\$1,200
EaTs Port Macquarie	\$1,500
Rotary Club of Port Macquarie Sunrise	\$3,000
Rotary Club of Port Macquarie	\$3,000
Rotary Club of Port Macquarie West	\$1,000
Diana Gammon	\$1,000
Mr Potato	\$600
Rotary (Port Macquarie) Hike Sponsorship	\$5,000
Reclaim the Night	\$514.00

- Yarns and Yarns Gold Coast: Knitted winter woolies
- Bunnings Kempsey- shelving and storage solutions + vouchers
- Share the Dignity: Feminine Hygiene Supplies
- Thread Together: New Clothing
- GIVIT- over 100 vouchers
- Street Smart Australia: sets of sheets and towels
- Rotary Club of Port Macquarie and Sams Knatty Knitters - Winter Woolies
- Off da Rayles - curry + rice (YHMD)
- Sign City Plus - YHMD signs
- Reclaim the night
- Woolworths Kempsey - REAP
- Woolworths Port Macquarie - REAP
- Harvey Norman - Raffle prize(Rug)
- Gladstone CWA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YP Space MNC

ABN: 53 796 715 437

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

Samantha Buchanan

Finance Manager YP Space MNC