



FIGHTING
CHANCE

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**FIGHTING
CHANCE**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2014**



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Confidence at a h

AVENUE INTERN ASHLEIGH POWELL WITH HER FATHER AND FIGHTING CHANCE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, TIM POWELL.



	PAGE
LETTER FROM THE CEO	4
ABOUT FIGHTING CHANCE	
OUR VISION AND MISSION	6
WHAT DOES FIGHTING CHANCE DO?	8
BOARD AND EXECUTIVE TEAM	9
HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2013/14	12
OUR WORK IN 2013/14	14
JIGSAW BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	15
AVENUE	16
INTERNSHIP PROGRAM	20
WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM	22
LIFEX	25
FROM THE INTERNS	26
EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING	28
AEROSURE TOUR DE CHANCE	30
ANNUAL DINNER 2014	35
CITY2SURF	35
FINANCIALS	36
THANK YOU	38

LETTER FROM CEO LAURA O'REILLY

In 2013/14, the Fighting Chance team have been focused on the development of our social enterprises as businesses with the potential to create a range of vocational and employment opportunities for people with disability in Australia. These efforts, which I am thrilled to detail in this report, have translated into rapid growth of our vocational programs for people with disability in the last year.

2013/14 was, by a significant distance, Fighting Chance's most successful year to date. Our social enterprises Avenue and Jigsaw both made very positive strides, with the programs we run from within these businesses supporting a total of 60 individuals across our work experience, internship and open employment programs. The increase in Fighting Chance's human impact in the last year has been mirrored by significant operational growth. Total income for 2013/14 increased by 238% on the year before, from \$383,627 in FY13 to \$912,796 in FY14.

Our growth in the last year would not have been possible without the support of our amazing community, who have done so much to get behind our work in the last year.

Thank you to Fighting Chance's corporate and philanthropic partners who have supported us in the last year, including the ANZ Trustees, James Galvin Foundation, Warringah and Manly Councils, Wilson HTM Foundation, the Commonwealth Bank, James N. Kirby Foundation, C3 Church, the Sisters of Charity Foundation, The Funding Network, The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation and the Eldon and Anne Foote Donor Advised Fund.



Thank you also to Grant Thornton who have continued their long history of supporting Fighting Chance by undertaking our audit pro-bono again this year.

I would also like to personally thank Fighting Chance's board, who have worked hard in the last year to guide the organisation through a period of immense growth. Thank you to you all for your wise counsel and dedication.

Finally, THANK YOU to Tim Powell, the riders of the Tour de Chance 2014, and our major corporate partner Aerosure, for your support of Fighting Chance's major fundraiser in 2014. The Tour de Chance, which rode from Queensland to Sydney in March of this year, gave us the momentum to expand our operations in FY2014, and look to the horizon for years to come.

Handwritten signature of Laura O'Reilly in blue ink.

Laura O'Reilly
CEO



FIGHTING CHANCE INTERN DANIEL GODDARD WITH TOUR DE CHANCE 2014 RIDER JOHN MAGUIRE

ABOUT FIGHTING CHANCE AUSTRALIA

Fighting Chance is a youth-led non-profit organisation which exists to enrich the lives of young Australians with significant disability.

We believe that nobody should be prevented from pursuing their ambitions and fulfilling their potential simply because they have a disability. Yet the current reality is that 85% of young adults with severe disability in Australia will experience life-long unemployment and have just one-tenth the opportunity for social participation outside the home compared with the 'average' Australian.


Through the creation of innovative training programs and social businesses, Fighting Chance provides opportunities for meaningful social participation, employment and skill development to young people with the most significant disabilities in our community.

VISION

Create a world for people with disabilities where each individual lives a life without limits.

MISSION

Pioneer innovative employment opportunities and fulfilling life experiences for people with physical disabilities.



"Australians deserve fair
and equal opportunities,
no matter who they are or
where they come from"

What does **FIGHTING CHANCE** do?

In 2013/2014, Fighting Chance was focused on creating a wide range of vocational opportunities for people with significant disability who otherwise struggle to access the world of work.

To achieve this, we spent the last year building our two innovative social enterprises, **JIGSAW** and **AVENUE**, and the programs born from the commercial activity they generate: our **WORK EXPERIENCE** and **INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS**.

Fighting Chance also places great importance on the benefits of social and community inclusion through our **LIFEX PROGRAM**.

BOARD MEMBERS

Tim Powell – Chair (appointed 20 August 2014)

Nicola Ashton

Peta Morrison

Laura O'Reilly

Tim Moore (resigned 20 August 2014)

Justice Stephen Rothman (resigned 20 August 2014)

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Laura O'Reilly – CEO

Jordan O'Reilly – COO

Paul Brown – JIGSAW PROJECT MANAGER

Jo Berry – LIFEX

Steph Chellan – CFO

Kellie Anne Keegan – AVENUE GENERAL MANAGER

Sarah Peddie-McGuirk – AVENUE PROJECT MANAGER

Sean Ross – EVENTS

HELLO.

MEET THE FACES OF FIGHTING CHANCE



HIGHLIGHTS

9 OCTOBER 2013

Fighting Chance CEO presented to the NDS National Employment Conference on Avenue's model of employment for all

25 OCTOBER 2013

LifeX do Halloween!

8 NOVEMBER 2013

Fighting Chance COO interviewed on Triple J talking about his work with Fighting Chance

31 JANUARY 2014

First LifeX Event for 2014 at the Manly Leagues Club

7 FEBRUARY 2014

The new-look Fighting Chance website goes live

22 FEBRUARY 2014

Fighting Chance and the 2014 Tour de Chance profiled on ABC 7:30 Report

27 FEBRUARY 2014

Tour de Chance rides from Manly in Queensland to Manly in Sydney

8 MARCH 2014

Summer Festival



13 MARCH 2014

Fighting Chance pitch at The Funding Network and is supported by philanthropists in the room to the tune of \$56,000

31 MAY 2014

New Fighting Chance office opens in Frenchs Forest

JUNE 2014

The Commonwealth Bank get behind Fighting Chance with a Community Grant

JULY 2014

The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation support Fighting Chance's Work Experience Program

12 AUGUST 2014

The Runners & Rollers team take on the City2Surf

15 AUGUST 2014

Fighting Chance's wheelchair - adapted van is delivered

20 SEPTEMBER 2014

Annual Dinner

23 SEPTEMBER 2014

Fighting Chance CEO wins Woman's Weekly's prestigious Woman of the Future Award.



OUR WORK IN 2013/14

Fighting Chance is committed to creating a range of employment and skills-development opportunities for people with disability, who otherwise find it difficult to access the world of work.

Fighting Chance believes that all people have skills and abilities to contribute and that it is vital for the wellbeing of each individual, and of society more broadly, that everyone is given the opportunity to make their contribution and be their most productive self.

Fighting Chance runs two social enterprises, Avenue and Jigsaw, as vehicles for creating a range of vocational opportunities for people with disability through our Internship and Work Experience programs.

We are happy to report that 2013/14 was a year of exciting growth for both of these enterprises and the programs they support.



JIGSAW EMPLOYEE DYLLAN BLOCH

JIGSAW BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Jigsaw Business Solutions provides tailored outsourcing services to corporate and government organisations, particularly in the areas of digital communications and information management.

Jigsaw trades in order to create a wide range of employment and vocational opportunities for people with disability who are capable of and looking for open employment, but who are experiencing difficulty finding a role in the mainstream.

Jigsaw creates immediate employment opportunities as well as pathways into open, mainstream employment through our Transitions Program.

2014 was a huge year for Jigsaw.

After more than a year in the conceptual development phase, the enterprise was officially launched in September 2014 under the watchful eye of new General Manager Paul Brown.

Jigsaw kicked off its operations by partnering with clients Warringah Council, Holroyd Council and Northern Sydney Local Health District to deliver information management solutions from Jigsaw's fully adaptable work hub in Frenchs Forest.

Jigsaw's impact in 2014 was significant, opening up an initial five employment opportunities for people with disability in paid employment and work experience roles.

The success Jigsaw has experienced after only a few months of official operation in 2014 foreshadows a great year ahead for the enterprise. Jigsaw will continue to find new corporate and government partnerships and begin the strategic development of Jigsaw's reach nationally. Watch this space!

**THANKYOU TO THE WILSON HTM FOUNDATION FOR
YOUR SUPPORT OF JIGSAW IN 2014.**

AVENUE

Avenue is a social enterprise which imports and distributes beautiful, high-quality giftware made by artisans with disability both locally and from around the world. Avenue's wares are sold at community markets, through our online store www.avenuefairtrade.com.au, and through our wholesale program.

Avenue trades in order to create employment and skill development opportunities for people with disabilities in Australia and across the world. We source Avenue products from artisans with disability from a range of disadvantaged backgrounds, and engage a team of people with disability at the Fighting Chance office to undertake the work of distribution to the Australian consumer.

In 2014, the Avenue model engaged more-than 50 young people with disability through its Internship and Work Experience Programs. Internationally, Avenue works with a range of charitable partners to source our products, creating employment and empowerment opportunities for people with disability in the developing world.



Working towards a better future for our people and the planet.



The Avenue team regularly attended five Sydney markets in 2014, including Mosman, Kirribilli, Chatswood, Glebe and the Beaches markets, as well as many Fair Trade expos and other community markets.

We increased our online presence this year, as well as wholesaling to the Social Outfit in Newtown.

But this is just the beginning for Avenue. We look forward to 2015 and to growing the enterprise significantly next year.

THANKS TO THE SISTERS OF CHARITY FOUNDATION AND 10 X 10 FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF AVENUE'S GROWTH IN 2014.





AVENUEFAIRTRADE.COM.AU

Ave

DISABILITY FAIR TRADE

AVENUE'S INTERNATIONAL SUPPLIERS

SEVEN WOMEN.

IN NEPAL, WORKING WITH DISABLED AND DISADVANTAGED WOMEN.

MESH.

IN INDIA, PRACTICING FAIR TRADE WITH DISABLED AND LEPROSY-AFFECTED CRAFTS ARTISANS, AS PART OF THEIR REHABILITATION.

CRAFTSWORK CAMBODIA.

PROVIDING VOCATIONAL SKILLS AND TRAINING TO DISABLED HOME-BASED PRODUCERS.

LAO DISABLED WOMENS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE.

ASSISTING PEOPLE TO COPE WITH THEIR DISABILITY AND ADVOCATE FOR THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES IN LAOS.

THE COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES OF AVENUE AND JIGSAW CREATE A RANGE OF VOCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY. THESE INCLUDE TRADITIONAL OPEN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, PARTICULARLY WITHIN JIGSAW, BUT ALSO MORE SUPPORTED OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN OUR INTERNSHIP AND WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAMS.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Fighting Chance's Internship Program is designed for school leavers with profound and severe disability who are ordinarily excluded from discussions about post-school employment. Fighting Chance's contention is that every Australian has skills and abilities to contribute and that everyone should be afforded the opportunity to participate in the workforce in a way that suits them.

Through the Internship Program, school-leavers with disability are able to engage in the commercial activity of our social enterprise Avenue. Interns undertake every element of the work of Avenue, from liaising with our international suppliers through to managing the website and engaging with the community at local markets.

The program brings together the commercial undertakings of an operational business, with the support, assistive technology, training and personal care that Interns require to be their most productive selves.

In FY14 the Internship Program supported a total of 32 young people with disability to engage in vocational activity, develop skills and be remunerated for their time.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

JAMES GALVIN FOUNDATION
JAMES N. KIRBY FOUNDATION
WARRINGAH COUNCIL

MANLY COUNCIL
C3 CHURCH





AVENUE INTERN STEVEN ALLMAN



WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Fighting Chance's Work Experience Program provides school and TAFE students in their last years of education, the opportunity to undertake a work experience placement in a supportive business environment.

The program combines a structured work-readiness curriculum, practical experience in our social enterprises Avenue and Jigsaw, assistive technology and any personal care and support the students need, to give young people with significant disability the opportunity to improve their educational outcomes and prepare for the working world.



THE AVENUE TEAM

2013/14 was a really successful year for the Work Experience Program, which secured philanthropic support from the ANZ Staff Foundation, Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Fund, The Funding Network, the Eldon and Anne Foote Donor Advised Fund and Coca Cola Australia Foundation. The support of these partners allowed us to create a total of 36 work experience placements for students with disability across the course of the year.

THANKS TO OUR AMAZING SUPPORTERS AND SPONSORS OF THE WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

ANZ STAFF FOUNDATION

COMMONWEALTH BANK STAFF COMMUNITY FUND

THE FUNDING NETWORK

ELDON & ANNE FOOTE DONOR ADVISED FUND

COCA COLA AUSTRALIA FOUNDATION

FIGHTING CHANCE



PEOPLE WITH
ABILITIES
ARE THE FUTURE

AVENUE INTERN BRIANNA AZZOPARDI



LIFEX

This year has been full of action and growth for LifeX. For the first time, we had a team of 'Runners and Rollers' take part in the City2Surf in 2014. Not only did we all make it successfully across the finish line, but we also managed to raise over \$23,000 in the process.

Other events this year included celebrating the opening of our new office in style, getting glamorous for the Fighting Chance Annual Dinner, and heading out to the hit Broadway musical, 'Wicked', at the Capitol Theatre.

LifeX has seen a 25 percent increase in membership and is really starting to see greater reach as people engage with the program. In the coming year we hope to continue to grow, to diversify, and to inspire a love of being part of a community and having a rich social life.



FROM THE INTERNS

"MY NAME IS ANDREW, I AM ON WORK EXPERIENCE AT FIGHTING CHANCE AND HAVE BEEN FOR ALMOST 12 MONTHS. I LIKE THE COMPUTER WORK I GET TO DO HERE. SOMETIMES I CREATE EXCEL DATABASES AND STOCKTAKE SPREADSHEETS FOR THE AVENUE MARKETS. I ALSO LIKE TO DO INTERNET RESEARCH AND CREATING POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS."

ANDREW ROTONDO
(WORK EXPERIENCE)



"I LIKE WORKING AT MARKETS. I'VE BEEN TO ONE AND I LOVE IT BECAUSE I FELT LIKE I WAS TELLING PEOPLE WHAT WE CAN DO AND SHOWING EVERYBODY WHAT I AM CAPABLE OF."

MATT ELLIOT
(INTERN)

"I LOVE FIGHTING CHANCE BECAUSE IT HELPS ME TO IMPROVE MY SKILLS AND ABILITY. I ENJOY HELPING MAKE THINGS FOR AVENUE, AND WORKING ON THE COMPUTER IS THE BEST! I'M GOOD AT EVERYTHING I DO HERE. THE PEOPLE AT FIGHTING CHANCE ARE GOOD AT HELPING EVERYONE WORK HARD."

WALTER FIGUEROA
(INTERN)



"FIGHTING CHANCE IS GOOD BECAUSE IT HELPS ME TO THINK. I LOVE WORKING ON THE COMPUTERS AND LEARNING TO TYPE. I LIKE THE PEOPLE HERE BECAUSE THEY'RE FUNNY."

KATHY CHAPMAN
(INTERN)



"I ENJOY WORKING AT FIGHTING CHANCE AS I HAVE SO MUCH FUN. THE STAFF WORKING HERE ARE NICE AND FUNNY. THE WORK IS FUN AND INTERESTING AND I FEEL THAT I'M HAVING A GOOD TIME HERE. I WORK WITH PHOTOSHOP, I DO DATA ENTRY WITH EXCEL AND I DO INTERESTING POWERPOINTS".

CHRIS ALLERDICE
(INTERN)



EVENTS & FUNDRAISING

The Fighting Chance team would like to thank everyone who has attended our events and supported our fundraising campaigns during the last year.



THE TOUR DE CHANCE RIDERS

de Tour Chance

SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES





Aerosure Tour de Chance

In February this year, 24 cyclists undertook the gruelling 1,100km bicycle ride from Brisbane to Sydney in the Aerosure Tour de Chance 2014. The admirable efforts of the cyclists, combined with the support of 15 generous corporate sponsors, raised an extraordinary \$350,000 to support the work of Fighting Chance.

The story of this inspirational ride began in 2012 with Sydney businessman and enthusiastic amateur cyclist Tim Powell. After witnessing the life-changing potential of Fighting Chance through the experiences of his daughter Ashleigh -a Fighting Chance intern - Tim realised that many other young Australians with a significant disability could benefit from the work of Fighting Chance. In early 2013, he cycled from Sydney to the Gold Coast in an impressive 10 days, raising over \$50,000 for the charity. The Tour de Chance, as named by its creator, was born.

This year, the Aerosure Tour de Chance 2014 raised more than much-needed funds; it also raised awareness about the barriers facing people with disabilities who are denied opportunities to work that other people take for granted. The media response was incredible, with feature stories appearing on ABC TV's 7:30 Report, national and regional radio and local newspapers.



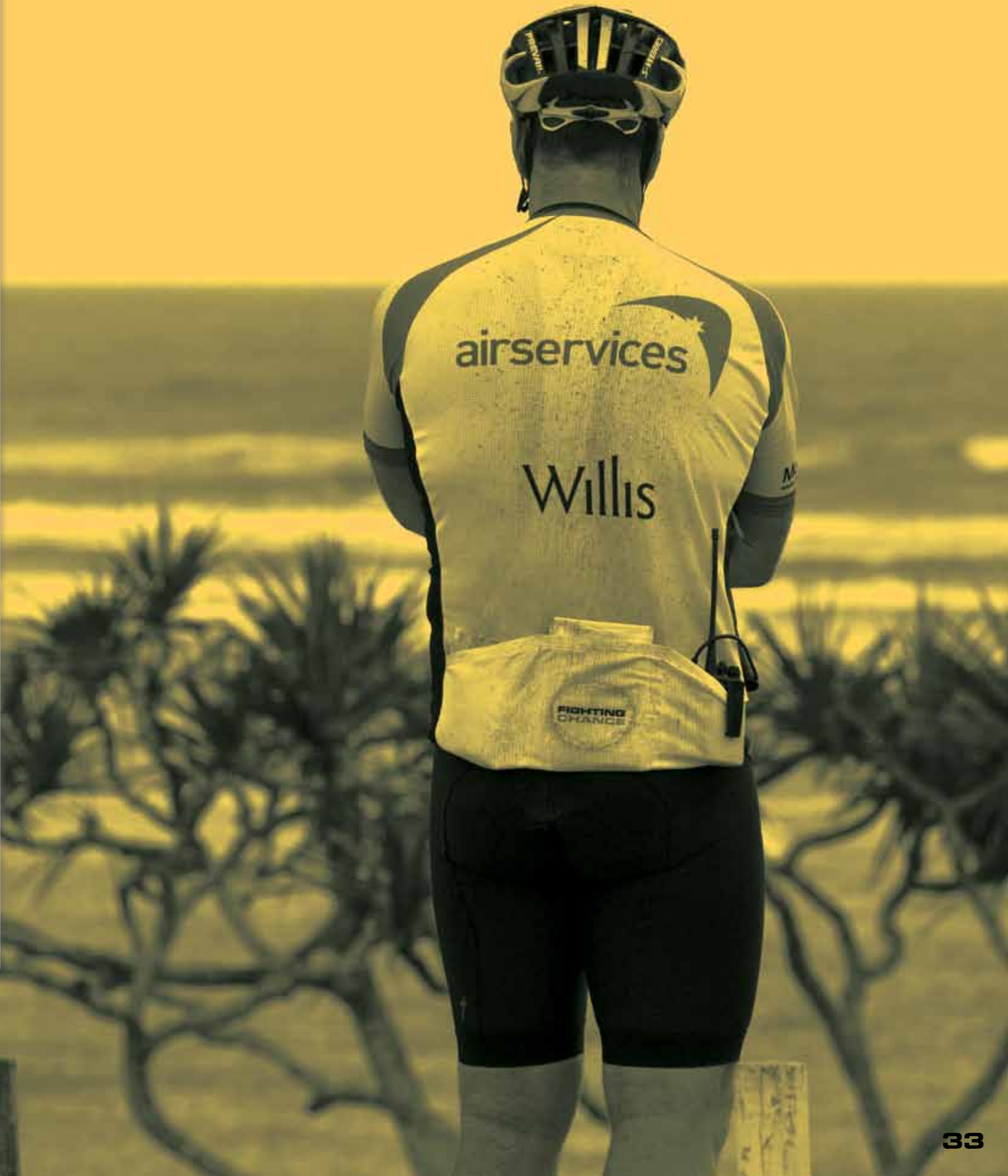
PARTNERS



SUPPORTERS



BECAUSE OF THE TOUR IN 2014, THE WHOLE FIGHTING CHANCE FAMILY WAS ABLE TO MOVE INTO A BIGGER, MORE SUITABLE OFFICE ENVIRONMENT IN FRENCHS FOREST IN MAY, AND IN AUGUST WE TOOK DELIVERY OF OUR FIRST EVER WHEELCHAIR ADAPTED VAN.







Annual Dinner

On Saturday 20 September, over 350 people from the Fighting Chance family gathered at the Hilton Hotel in Sydney for our sixth Annual Dinner. The Take a Chance 70s Disco theme was a hit and the StudioArtes Dance troupe had the audience on their feet.

The night was great fun for all involved and a huge success, raising over \$62,000. These funds will go towards helping the next stage of Fighting Chance's expansion and our goal of tripling the number of people whose lives we can positively impact over the next two years.



City 2 Surf

On August 10th, 2014 a team of 48 took to the streets of Sydney representing Fighting Chance in our first City 2 Surf. The team was made up of Fighting Chance interns, staff, carers, family and sponsors. Along with having a wonderful day we also managed to raise an amazing total of just over \$30,000 for Fighting Chance.

Special thanks to the participants from Smart Salary who raised \$5000. Everyone managed to cross the finish line and had a great day overall. No doubt we will take part in the City 2 Surf for many years to come!

Financials

It is with pleasure that I present the Financial Officer's Report for the financial year ending 30 September 2014.

This year has seen huge growth for Fighting Chance, with total income of \$912,796, an increase of 238% on the previous year. 33% of income was raised through events, 11% through grants and 25% through donations. A further 28% was generated through service delivery.

Fighting Chance's expenditure also increased by 75%, to \$623,748. 83% of expenditure was directed towards program expenses, 3% was spent on marketing expenses and 14% was spent on administration and events costs.

We finished the year with an operating profit of \$270,331, largely as a result of the run-away success of the Tour de Chance in 2014, and net assets of \$427,544.

In summary, 2013/14 saw a great deal of success in terms of fundraising, and also significant investment in service provision and delivering programs that have impact. We move in 2014/15 with residual resources to continue to grow and develop our programs.



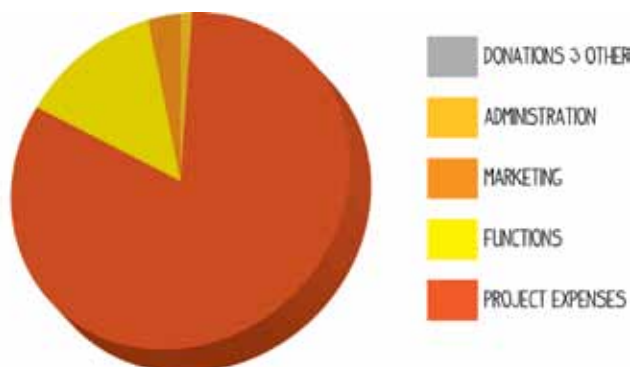
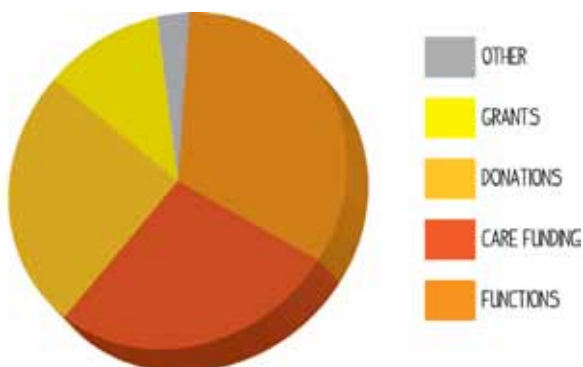
Steph Chellan
CFO

INCOME

Donations	\$ 230,622	25%
Grants	\$ 101,974	11%
Functions	\$ 302,173	33%
Care funding	\$ 250,538	27%
Other	\$ 27,489	3%
Total	\$ 912,796	100%

EXPENSES

Administration	\$ 4,892	1%
Functions	\$ 80,582	13%
Marketing	\$ 21,042	3%
Project expenses	\$ 516,963	83%
Donations & other	\$ 269	0%
Total	\$ 623,748	100%



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 September 2014

	Note	Year ending 30 September 2014 \$	10 months to 30 September 2013 \$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	8	289,818	113,806
Trade and other receivables	9	103,876	31,257
Inventory	10	8,716	5,497
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total current assets		402,410	150,560
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Non-current assets			
Plant and equipment	11	102,408	35,432
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total non-current assets		102,408	35,432
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total assets		504,818	185,992
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	12	71,218	27,694
Employee benefits	13	6,056	1,187
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total current liabilities		77,274	28,881
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets		427,544	157,111
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Equity			
Retained earnings		427,544	157,111
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total equity		427,544	157,111
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The figures on these pages depict the financial activities of Fighting Chance Australia Limited for the 2014 financial year.
Complete copies of the audited financial statements are available on our website.

Thank You's

Our Supporters are our lifeblood at Fighting Chance, and without your generosity we would not be able to make such a life-changing impact for people living with a disability.

A huge thank you from all of the Fighting Chance family for being an integral part of our journey towards increasing and improving the life opportunities offered to Australians with a disability.

ANZ Staff Foundation

James Galvin Foundation

Warringah Council

Manly Council Community & Cultural Grants Program

Wilson HTM Foundation – Mary, Brendon and Stephen.

Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Fund

James N. Kirby Foundation

C3 Church – especially Julie, Ps Jake, and Ps Phil and Ps Chris

Sisters of Charity Foundation

The Funding Network

English Family Foundation

10X10

Macquarie Group Foundation

Andrew McFarland and Lucette Thompson

Aon Charitable Foundation

Nick Kouteris and Jairus Ashworth

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation

Eldon & Anne Foote Donor Advised Fund

Australian Woman's Weekly.

Grant Thornton

Coca Cola Australia Foundation

Tim Powell and the whole Powell family

Greg Rector and Aerosure for their amazing support of the Tour de Chance in 2014

All of the amazing Tour de Chance riders and their families

The Tour volunteers and support staff – Paul Brown, Charles Kilby, Nev Hedge, Col Bradford and John Wellings

DMC PR

Willis

Airservices Australia

QBE

BTAS

Accident and Health International

Just Better Care

Smart Salary

Anchor Building Services

Balling Holiday Park

Veloton

Bill Buckle Motors, Brookvale

Morrisons Mercedes, Chatswood

Byron Bay Coffee

Carmen's

eMite

Clubs NSW

Deloitte

imei



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