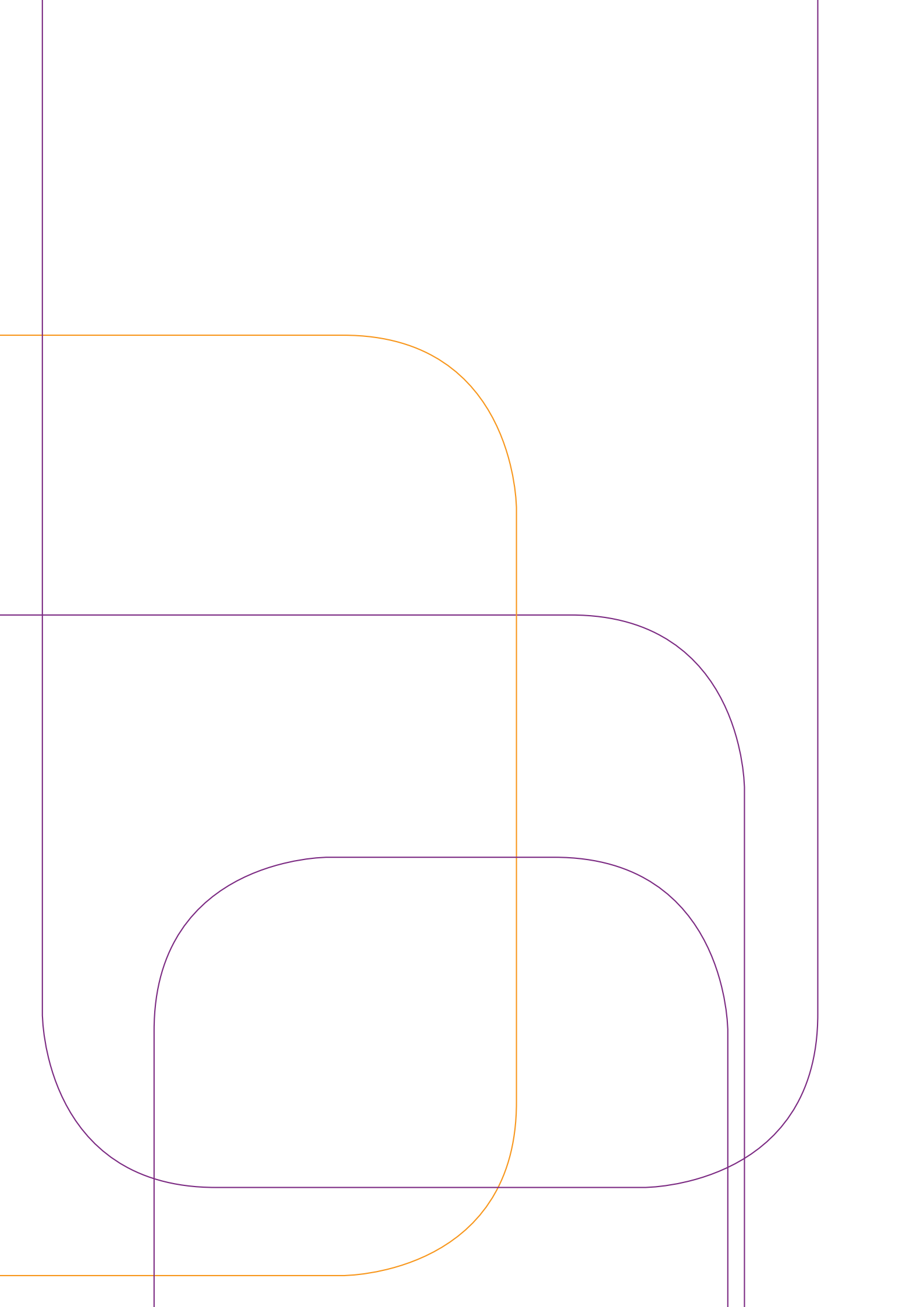


**INVESTING**  
IN OUR YOUTH  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
July 2009 – June 2010





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# ABOUT INVESTING IN OUR YOUTH

Investing In Our Youth (IIOY) is a not-for-profit community based organisation that promotes the healthy development of children and young people in the South West Region.

## VISION

*To create a healthy and safe community environment where all young people are valued and supported to reach their full potential.*

## MISSION

Investing In Our Youth achieves its vision by working with other community service organisations, the business sector, government and the wider community to generate ideas and facilitate projects, services and community plans that will foster the development of children and young people in the South West Region.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2009-2011

1. Create opportunities for children, young people and their families to participate fully in their community
2. Advocate for and represent the interests of children and young people in the South West Region
3. Address priorities identified by key stakeholders with a focus on early intervention
4. Plan for sustainability of the organisation

## CONTACT DETAILS

### Investing In Our Youth Inc

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PO Box 6103

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Investing In Our Youth is hosted by Mission Australia and located on the Upper Level of 51-55 Forrest Avenue, South Bunbury



# REPORT FROM THE CHAIR



*Chairperson  
Professor Rhonda Oliver*

As happens to all of us, some years can be more challenging - professionally and/or personally. This has certainly been 'one of those years' for me. However, Investing In Our Youth (IIOY) continues to be one of the positive focal points in my life, providing me, and I hope many others, with real optimism for the future. Therefore, I would like to begin my report by sincerely thanking those people involved in our organisation including all the wonderful committee members, Robyn Golding, and last, but by no means least Carmen Gregg.

It has been another successful year for Investing In Our Youth. We continue to work to grow our organisation and achieve our internal organisational objectives, whilst providing our usual flexible service to our many project partners who share our aim of promoting the healthy development of children and young people.

A great deal of effort by Carmen and by the committee has meant that our organisation has been able to develop greater focus. We have done this by working through a strategic planning process and drafting a marketing plan. We have also begun a review of HR processes. We believe these activities will place the organisation in a stronger position to continue sustainable practice in what is currently a difficult environment for the not-for-profit sector.

In addition to attending to these internal matters, IIOY has also managed to achieve a list of noteworthy service highlights. As part of this we continue to work cooperatively with many project partners including the WA Country

Health Service – South West, the Department of Education, the Disability Service Commission, the South West Development Commission, local government, and a range of not-for-profit organisations.

We have also been effective in strengthening links with the WA Commissioner for Children and Young People, with policy makers and politicians, and have advocated on a number of matters that are relevant to the further development of children and young people in the South West.

We look to the future with optimism and plan for the continued forward progress of 'Investing In Our Youth.'

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rhonda Oliver', written in a cursive style.

*Professor Rhonda Oliver*

This financial year has been notable for the following organisation highlights:

- Investing In Our Youth was a successful applicant in the Royalties for Regions South West Regional Grants Scheme 2008/09. Funding was secured to complete a marketing plan.
- Investing In Our Youth launched a quarterly electronic newsletter
- Investing In Our Youth and the Department of Education won the Department for Communities 2009 Outstanding Children and Family Regional Project Award.
- Nominations made by Investing In Our Youth on behalf of LEAF Project Coordinator, Fiona Farren, led to Fiona receiving a Children's Week 2009 Award of Recognition, and a National Excellence in Teaching Award.
- Fiona Farren and Carmen Gregg presented at the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth Conference at the Melbourne Convention Centre in September 2009
- In November 2009, the City of Bunbury organised a Civic Reception recognising the achievements of the Linking Education and Families program.
- The Active Rural Communities project launched the Dardanup physical activity 'kick start' project in November.
- IIOY provided research assistance to the WA Country Health Service – SW, and Edith Cowan University. Work was also completed on program evaluations for the Bunbury Early Years Network, Milligan's Under 5's Healthy Together program, and the Active Rural Communities project.
- IIOY undertook a strategic planning process funded by Lotterywest
- IIOY was a beneficiary of the 2010 Chef's Long Table Luncheon charity event
- IIOY accessed 2010 Royalties for Regions funding to develop a LEAF training package.



# PROGRAMS



**ACTIVE RURAL  
COMMUNITIES**

## 1 ACTIVE RURAL COMMUNITIES

In 2008 Investing In Our Youth and the WA Country Health Service – South West formed a successful partnership and secured funds from the Department of Health and Ageing to support young families, children and young people in rural communities in the South West to be physically active.

It is important to support sport and recreation opportunities for young people, especially in rural areas. The health benefits can be broad reaching and include the potential to increase positive social bonding, and decrease antisocial behaviour.

Early tasks undertaken by 'Active Rural Communities' project officer Dale Nielsen included identifying various community needs and strengths, and becoming familiar with available local, state and federal supports that could be offered to communities.

In recognition that the funding resource would be offered for a fixed term only, (funding for the program ended in May, 2010), the project was based firmly on a community development model that aimed to build the skills and motivation of local community members to sustain community effort beyond the term of the project.

By linking to some willing helpers (local residents and TAFE students) and tapping into the generosity and expertise of a host of businesses

and organisations such as Worsley, the Department of Sport and Recreation, the Heart Foundation and SW Women's Health and Information Centre, a six week 'kick start' physical activity program was successfully piloted in Dardanup in November 2009.

The program encouraged Dardanup residents to sign up to try physical activity 'tasters'. Highlights included Hip Hop demonstrations, Dru Yoga and Prams in the Park classes. Other activities included a family bike ride and community walk.

The program was successful in:

- facilitating new physical activities in the town that were sustainable beyond the term of the program
- locating funding and other resources to support local activities
- connecting to existing supports e.g. Department of Sport and Recreation, National Heart Foundation, and South West College of TAFE
- building the skills of local residents

There is interest in rolling out some of the activities that were strongly supported in Dardanup to other rural communities. One of these activities is 'Prams in the Park', where established playgroups are encouraged to set aside time for physical activity for mums and bubs. Investing In Our Youth is currently working with key partners to support the roll out of Prams in the Park and are considering how to further expand on other aspects of the work achieved through the Active Rural Communities project.



## 2 THE LINKING EDUCATION AND FAMILIES (LEAF) PROGRAM

Investing In Our Youth continue to support the Linking Education and Families (LEAF) program. The LEAF program is a school based program that targets families with children aged 0-4 years. The program was developed by Kindergarten teacher, Fiona Farren at South Bunbury Primary School.

The program aims to assist children with the transition to school as well as raising parental awareness of the importance of the early years. The program is currently operating at South Bunbury Primary School, Bunbury Primary, Withers Primary, and primary schools at Collie and Yarloop.



As part of the LEAF program, Play Cafes are offered at kindy one day per week. Parents enjoy Play Cafes because they provide a great family introduction to kindy. They also appreciate the opportunity to interact with other mums and dads and to access lots of useful early childhood information.

Children love play Cafes. They play and learn through interactive activities such as play-dough, painting, stories and rhyme, cutting, gluing, drawing, singing, throwing balls and beanbags, music, marching, printing animal tracks, and using finger puppets. Throughout the indoor and outdoor activities offered, children practice their social skills such as sharing and taking turns.

Play Cafes can provide opportunities for families to regularly interact with each other, the school Kindergarten teacher and other visiting guests eg community child health nurse, dietitian and speech pathologist.

The LEAF program also offers a home visit to families who have a child enrolled in Kindergarten. In addition, families are encouraged to attend a kindy orientation session, and participate in plans for their child's transition from home to school.

The LEAF program has been recently recognized with three awards. Fiona Farren was a recipient of the National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA) and the LEAF program was recognized in two categories of the Children's Week 2009 Awards of Recognition. Investing In Our Youth and the Department of Education won an award in the category of 'Department for Communities Outstanding Children and Family Project (Regional Award)'. Fiona Farren was the winner in the category 'Children's Week Award of Recognition (Adult)'.



Investing In Our Youth Inc would like to thank the City of Bunbury who very generously acknowledged the awards for Fiona Farren and the Linking Education and Families program with a Civic Reception in December 2009.

At this event, the Mayor presented Fiona Farren with a certificate of recognition and praised the efforts of all partner organisations involved in the LEAF program.

There is promising evidence that programs such as LEAF assist pre-primary children prepare for school, while allowing caregivers and parents to identify any concerns well before a child enters the school system.



In June 2010, Investing In Our Youth learnt that funds from the Royalties for Regions Grants scheme had successfully been secured to resource the development of a

multimedia LEAF training package. A self-learning LEAF training package will allow schools to access the information they need to deliver their own program and develop school and community links.

The LEAF program is founded on exemplary partnerships between the Department of Education; the Western Australian Country Health Service – SW; the Department for Communities; Investing In Our Youth Inc; Local Government Authorities, and the South West Development Commission.

### **3 FUTURE TARGETS – BE ALCOHOL AWARE**

The Investing In Our Youth Board has adopted a plan to set priority annual and biannual targets. Our current target is teen alcohol awareness. Applications have been submitted to access funds for young people to develop alcohol awareness activities.

Investing In Our Youth are also actively seeking funds to defray expenses for a visit to the South West from Bruce Clark from the Leigh Clark Foundation. The Leigh Clark Foundation is a registered charity, promoting alcohol awareness among young people and their parents.

Investing In Our Youth has purchased a DVD released by the Paraplegic Benefit Fund titled 'Three'. This DVD is made by young people for young people and talks about choices that can change lives. Although it predominantly has a road safety message, each of the stories shared in the DVD involve alcohol. This DVD has been promoted through the SWCYN network and Investing In Our Youth newsletters and will be loaned to groups of young people for viewing throughout the South West Region.

## **DRIVER TRAINING SERVICE**

Investing In Our Youth is part of a group of key stakeholders who have been meeting to plan the development of a driver training service in the SW for Aboriginal and low income young people who are experiencing difficulties in meeting driving license requirements. The taskforce includes representation from the Aboriginal Challenge Employment Service (ACES), Investing In Our Youth, Roadwise, SW Population Health (Injury Prevention), Department of Transport, South West Development Commission and the Bunbury Wellington Economic Alliance.

## **EARLY YEARS SERVICE DIRECTORIES**

Investing In Our Youth has released a directory for families with young children who live in the Manjimup Shire. The directory has been developed in partnership with the Warren Blackwood Early Years Network and funded through the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal. The Directory provides a brief on relevant family support services and contact details. 250 copies of the Directory have been printed and released in Manjimup and anyone wanting to download their own copy can do so from the IIOY web site. The Manjimup Directory is an addition to directories that have been developed by IIOY for Bunbury and Harvey.

## **DIRECTORY FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

Investing In Our Youth has supported the development of a directory for families who have children with special needs. The project has been guided by a reference group with representation from organisations including the Australian Red Cross, Disability Service Commission, Milligan, Enable, and the WA Country Health Service – SW. The committee is chaired by Naomi Amat, who notably completed a significant amount of data collection for the directory in a voluntary capacity.

## **DISABILITY EXPO**

IIOY are a member of a planning committee that aims to host a disability expo with a youth focus. The event is planned to take place on Dec 3 – International Day of People with Disability. Other key stakeholders in this plan include the WA Country Health Service – SW, the Disability Service Commission, City of Bunbury, Activ, Advocacy SW and Enable



Investing In Our Youth advocates on behalf of the interests of children and young people in the South West Region. In the 2009-2010 financial year, our advocacy role involved representation on matters such as support for the LEAF program, a review of public transport, and staffing of a Regional Youth Development Officer position.

- The Director General for the Department for Communities visited the SW and met with Investing In Our Youth representatives. This was a good opportunity to brief the Director General on Investing In Our Youth activities and on issues relevant to children and young people in the South West Region.
- Contact was made with the Minister for Health, Dr Kim Hames, to follow up on a recommendation to parliament that a review be conducted to examine the feasibility, cost and effectiveness of the LEAF program. The Minister was able to confirm that a review of the LEAF program will be built into the Child and Adolescent Community Health Service 2010-11 Operational Plan. Investing In Our Youth also met with many politicians and policy makers throughout the year in ongoing efforts to engender support for the LEAF program.
- Board members, Rhonda Oliver and Janelle Leiper met with Principal Policy Officers from the Department of Transport in Perth to discuss the need for a review of public transport systems in the SW. The Board also campaigned for support from relevant politicians and policy makers. Initial contacts were made with the Planning and Transport Research Centre (PATREC). The South West Development Commission is concurrently scoping opportunities to address transport issues in the South West. Through cooperative action, we remain hopeful that there will be forward progress on transport issues.
- Investing In Our Youth contacted the Minister for Community Services to discuss the lack of representation in the SW of a Regional Youth Development Officer. Subsequently it has been confirmed that the Department for Communities are planning to employ a part time Youth Development Officer. The South West Development Commission is in support of this initiative and has offered to accommodate the Youth Development Officer. The appointment of a Youth Development Officer is expected early in the new financial year.
- Investing In Our Youth have been pleased to support many local organisations to develop their services through assistance with review of funding submissions, links to supporting research, and letters of support.



# CONSULTANCY TASKS

During the past year, Investing In Our Youth has completed program evaluation reports for the Bunbury Early Years Network, the Under 5's Healthy Together program, and the Active Rural Communities program.

We have also undertaken research assistant tasks for projects initiated by the WA Country Health Service and Edith Cowan University.

These consultancy activities serve several purposes. By working collaboratively, we contribute to the social research capacity in the South West. Local data is always useful and can contribute to the evidence of effectiveness of prevention strategies. Consultancy work creates an income stream that can assist to fund our advocacy work and other pro bono activities.

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## PLANNING AND NETWORKING ACTIVITIES

Investing In Our Youth was again represented on the In Town Centre Board and retained the following memberships:

- South West Agency Partnership (SWAP) network
- South West Youth Coordinating Network (SWYCN)
- Bunbury Early Years Network
- Warren Blackwood Early Years Network
- Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth

Investing In Our Youth also participated in community engagement and planning activities throughout the year. These included:

- The Department for Child Protection Homelessness National Partnership Agreement implementation plan
- Forum on the Community Street Soccer Program
- The City of Bunbury Community Engagement Strategy Workshop
- The WA Launch of AEDI Information Forum
- The Y-Safety Youth Forum
- Community Health - Mapping Youth Services Forum
- South West Community Alcohol Plan

Throughout the year, Investing In Our Youth has made good progress with operational matters. A strategic planning process was funded by Lotterywest and undertaken with the assistance of consultants from the WA Council of Social Services.

To ensure the future sustainability of Investing In Our Youth, the organisation identified the need to develop a marketing plan. Fortunately this idea received some support from the 2009

round of the Royalties for Regions South West Regional Grants Scheme and a draft plan has been completed.

An application has been made to Lotterywest to resource an upgrade of our out-dated office equipment.

With these measures in place, Investing In Our Youth is in a secure position to develop strong outcomes for children and young people in the coming years.

---

## 2009-2010 BOARD MEMBERS

Investing In Our Youth could not function without the continued support of dedicated members of the Board. In 2009-10, the organisation was supported by:

- **Chairperson Professor Rhonda Oliver**, Edith Cowan University, South West Campus, Bunbury.
- **Deputy Chairperson Ms Janelle Leiper\***, Population Health, Western Australian Country Health Service – South West.
- **Treasurer, Mr Mark Jennings**, Certified Accountant.
- **Ms Rosalie Carmichael, Services Coordinator**, Morrissey Homestead Inc.
- **Ms Jane Manning, Regional Coordinator** – Vasse, South West Development Commission.
- **Ms Carolyn Ngan, Operations Manager, Inland**. Western Australian Country Health Service - South West.
- **Ms Karen Collins, Bunbury Early Years Network Coordinator**.
- **Mr Alan Kidd, Principal**, Kingston Primary School.
- **Mr Mike Farren, General Manager**, Waveview Pty Ltd
- **Mr Marcus Turner, Participation Manager**, Bunbury District Education Office

*\*While Janelle is absent on long service leave, Population Health representative Raquel Willis has generously offered to serve on the Board.*



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



## SUPPORT FROM THE CHEF'S LONG TABLE LUNCH

Investing In Our Youth were very honored to learn that in 2010 the organisation would share in proceeds of Bunbury's greatest charity event, the Chef's Long Table Lunch.

Investing In Our Youth plan to make good use of funding to roll out service directories for families with young children in two new SW communities. There are also plans to further support and advocate for the Linking Education and Families (LEAF) project.

Plans include developing further funding applications, setting up a LEAF web site, and continuing advocacy on behalf of the LEAF program.

The Chef's Long Table Lunch is an alfresco gourmet food and wine experience that takes place on the Pat Usher Foreshore in Bunbury in February each year.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Investing In Our Youth is also very encouraged by the support of the South West Development Commission who committed to sponsorship initiatives by becoming the first agency to sign on as a fee paying member of Investing In Our Youth Inc.

Several individuals have also assisted this year either through donating their knowledge and expertise or by making financial donations to the organisation. Those individuals include Julie Wade (South West Development Commission), Beth Ferguson (Main Event Media), and Shane Rooney (City of Bunbury).

Many agencies (too many to name) have assisted our efforts to resource local projects for children and young people by providing specialist advice and letters of support.

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Although Investing In Our Youth is a relatively small organisation, we do not work in isolation. There are many individuals and organisations who share our aim of promoting the healthy development of children and young people. In the coming year, we will focus on building relationships and respectful partnerships. We will aim to lift the profile of Investing In Our Youth. We will be listening for opportunities to work effectively with our established partners and to develop new relationships with many of those people who share our vision.





## **AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Members

### **SCOPE**

I have examined the books of account and records of Investing in Our Youth Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2010.

The Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial report and the information contained therein, and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the program and are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The audit has been conducted to provide reasonable assurance that the financial report is free of material misstatement. My procedures include examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether the financial report is presented fairly so as to provide a view which is consistent with my understanding of the financial position of Investing in Our Youth Inc. and the results of its operations.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's reporting requirements. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members or for any other purpose than for which it was prepared.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

### **QUALIFICATION AND AUDIT OPINION**

Investing in Our Youth Inc. in common with many groups of similar size, does not operate a comprehensive system of internal control and the effectiveness of any audit is limited by this.

Subject to this, in my opinion, the accompanying statement of Profit and Loss presents fairly the financial performance of the group for the period ended 30 June 2010 and the accompanying

Balance Sheet presents fairly the financial position of the group for the year then ended according to the best of my information and explanations received and as shown by the records of Investing In Our Youth Inc..

### **D S Duplex**

Certified Practicing Accountant

4 August 2010

Bunbury, Western Australia

INVESTING IN OUR YOUTH INC.

# PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

2009	Income		2010
	<b>Funding Income</b>		
115,946	Active Rural Communities Income	7,267	
28,847	Consultancy / Administration Fees	7,988	
0	Grants Lotterywest etc	8,050	
2,336	Local Government Funding	493	
0	Marketing Plan	5,000	
0	Membership	5,000	
23,483	Sundry Funding Income	22,774	
<b>170,612</b>	<b>Total Funding Income</b>		<b>56,572</b>
	<b>Other Income</b>		
450	Donations	200	
2,183	GST Adjustments	0	
82	Interest Received	30	
<b>173,327</b>	<b>Total Other Income</b>		<b>230</b> <b>56,802</b>
	<b>Expenses</b>		
107,061	Active Rural Communities Expenses	0	
69	Advertising	71	
6,000	Administration	4	
364	Advertising (Promotional Material)	452	
1,318	Audit Fees	0	
83	Catering	735	
3,760	Insurance	1,315	
1,088	Internet Costs	865	
353	IT Maintenance / Repairs	102	
200	Honorarium	0	
362	Office Expenses	382	
274	Postage & Stationery	57	
1,726	Printing	610	
364	Professional Development & Conferences	1,018	
3,450	Strategic Plan	4,600	
1,279	Sundries	46	
3,628	Superannuation Expense	3,428	
798	Telephone	672	
120	Travel & Accommodation	0	
40,656	Wages & Salaries	38,090	
<b>172,953</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>52,447</b>
<b>374</b>	<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>		<b>4,355</b>

INVESTING IN OUR YOUTH INC.

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

## **NOTE 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

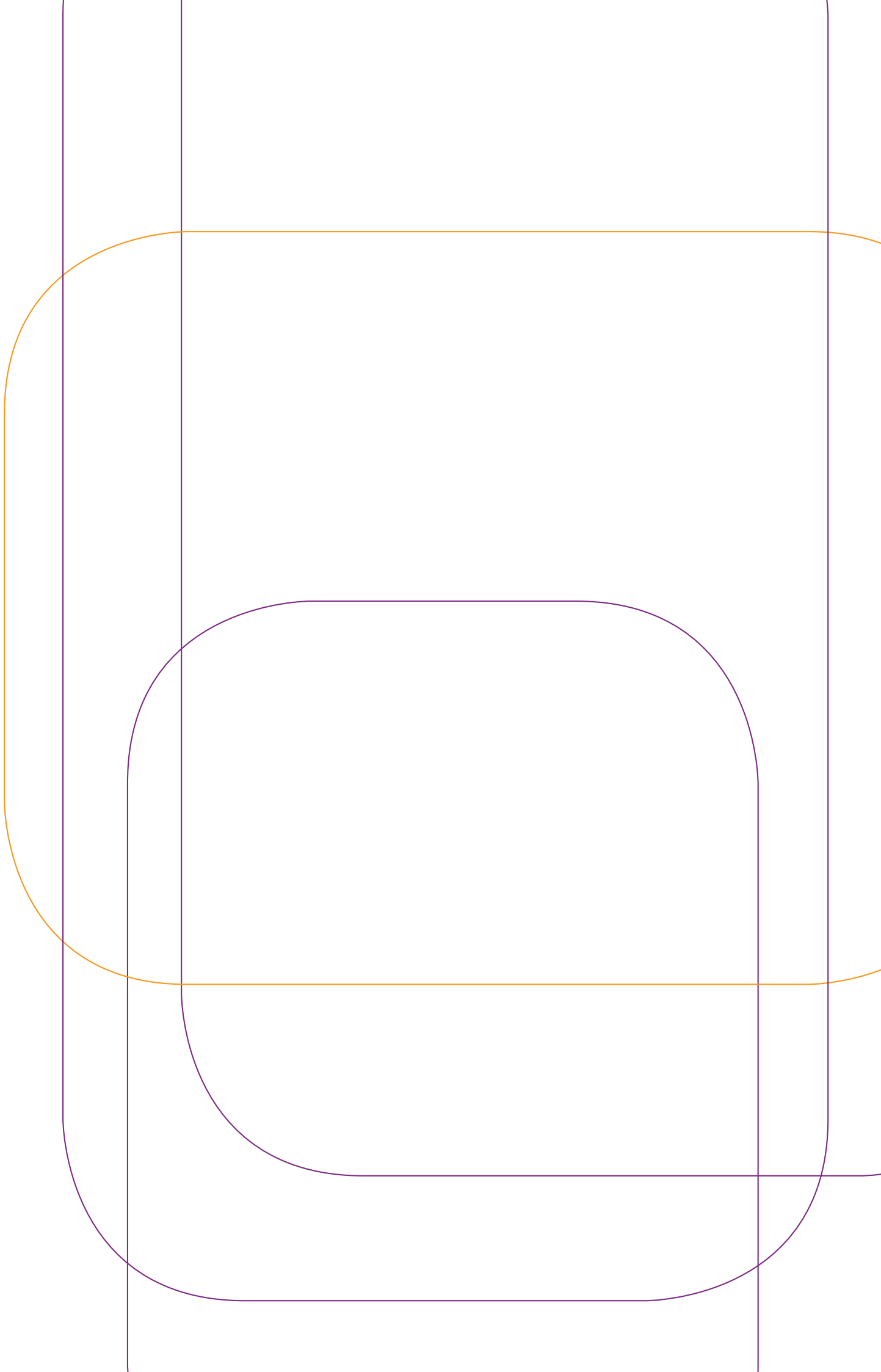
### **Basis of Accounting**

This special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members to satisfy the Committee's reporting requirements under the constitution. The accounting policies used in the preparation of this report are consistent with previous years and are described below:

- (a) The accounts have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting including the historical cost convention and the going concern assumption.
- (b) By virtue of Accounting Standard AASB 1025: Application of the Reporting Entity Concept and other Amendments, the requirements of Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board do not have mandatory application to the group because the Committee has determined that the group is a non-reporting entity as defined therein.

## **NOTE 2. TAXATION**

The Group is considered to be exempt from income tax pursuant to the provisions of the Income Tax Assessment Act.



Visit us at:  
[www.investinginouryouth.com.au](http://www.investinginouryouth.com.au)

