



Neighbourhood Houses
Tasmania



Now
Open

ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025



Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania is based on Muwinina Country in Nipaluna/Hobart, and we acknowledge and pay our deepest respects to the ancestors of the Muwinina, who did not survive British colonisation and genocide. We thank all Tasmanian Aboriginal people, the Palawa, for their ongoing custodianship of the lands, seas, waterways, and skies we are lucky to call home in Lutruwita/Tasmania, and recognise their deep connection to Country since time immemorial. We support Palawa in their struggle for treaty, land return, and justice. We pay our respects to all Palawa and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past and present, and acknowledge that this always has been, and always will be, Aboriginal land.

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Deloraine House - Harvest Helpers program

President's Report

This year has been one of focus and progress as we continue to bring our Strategic Plan to life. Guided by our shared values, the Board has worked to strengthen governance, support member engagement, and champion the collective impact of Neighbourhood Houses across Tasmania.

A key achievement has been advancing the Member Charter, which sets out our shared commitments and expectations between Neighbourhood Houses and the peak body. The Charter helps ensure that the way we work together reflects our values of Inclusion, respect, and collaboration, reinforcing the strength of our network.

Implementation of the Strategic Plan is well underway. We are seeing progress in all strategic areas — building partnerships, strengthening leadership and influence, and ensuring long-term sustainability for the network. These priorities continue to guide how we make decisions and allocate our energy, helping us stay focused on the outcomes that matter most to our members and communities.

The State Conference in St Helens was a highlight of the year - a wonderful celebration of connection, learning, and community leadership. Bringing together people from Houses across the state reinforces the strength and generosity of our network, and the incredible work being done every day in local communities.

A significant development has been the establishment of the 'Chairs Forum', which brings together board Chairs (Presidents) from across Tasmania. This forum has quickly become a valued space for sharing governance challenges, exchanging ideas, and building relationships between House boards. It's fostering a network of leaders who support one another, and deepening the sense of shared purpose among our member organisations.

As President, I'm proud of the way the NHT Board has continued to work collaboratively and strategically, always keeping the needs and voices of our members at the centre of our discussions. I also want to acknowledge the NHT team for their dedication and skill in driving this work forward - their support and professionalism are invaluable.

Together, we are strengthening the foundations of our peak body and the broader Neighbourhood House network. With clear direction, strong relationships, and a shared commitment to community-led change, we are well positioned to continue making a positive difference with the people and communities of Tasmania.

Michelle Ewington

***Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania,
President***

Member Charter

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania

We are here for Tasmanian communities, and for each other. Leading with empathy, showing up with integrity, and growing stronger together.



Our Charter in Action

- ♥ **Support one another** by actively sharing resources, knowledge, and opportunities for collective growth.
- ♥ **Lead with authenticity and kindness**, creating a culture of respect and inclusion.
- ♥ **Speak honestly and listen with curiosity**, embracing diverse perspectives and learning from each other.
- ♥ **Take responsibility to engage openly and consistently**, building trust through meaningful connection.
- ♥ **Amplify our collective voice** to drive positive change and advocate for what matters.

CEO's Report

Across Tasmania, our communities are facing growing pressures. As always, Neighbourhood Houses have stepped forward with care, creativity, and determination. We are strong communities, and a strong network, but I think it is fair to say this past year has drawn on all our resilience and community spirit.

In August and September 2024, floods and extended power outages deeply affected many Tasmanian communities. Once again, Neighbourhood Houses were among the first to respond - offering food, water, safe spaces, connection, and warmth. NHT worked closely with Resilience and Recovery Tasmania to help channel emergency relief funds to affected areas, ensuring that every member community could access support through two rounds of federal funding.

Our funded governance work faced uncertainty this year when continuation of the Governance project was not funded. However, a short-term extension was found, providing another 12 months of support, and we remain focused on securing the resources needed to continue strengthening governance across the network.

We were also pleased to gain support for initiatives that enhance our sector's capability in child safety and community health and wellbeing. The year saw

major strides in how Houses understand and respond to new child safety regulations, and in how the Community Connector roles are helping build stronger connections with local people. We were delighted to welcome Jenni and Mara to the NHT team, both bringing energy and expertise that are adding great value to our shared work.

While the uncertainty of politics and funding cycles continues to affect our work, our purpose remains clear: to support the incredible people and places that make up Tasmania's Neighbourhood Houses.

The strength of this network lies in its relationships - in communities' ability to work together, find local solutions, and lift one another up. This past year has reminded us that especially in challenging times, the power of connection and community can carry us forward.

Together, we'll keep doing what we do best - building community.

Simone Zell

***Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania,
CEO***



Devonport Community House - Jenny & Kath hosting Children's Christmas Biscuit Decorating



Geeveston Community Centre - Community workshop

Our Team

Our team has a deep commitment to community development and social justice, delivering on a diverse program of work including advocacy, governance, disaster resilience, child and youth safety, health and wellbeing, member support, and much more. Please note that many of our staff work part-time or casually, ranging from 1-4 days per week.

Simone Zell

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Erin Harvey

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Tim Hankey

STRATEGIC PROJECTS OFFICER (PART-TIME)

Annie Chessells

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT OFFICER (PART-TIME)

Jennifer Osei-Mensah

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CHANGE LEAD (PART-TIME)

Mara Schneiders

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (PART-TIME)

Leah Cleary

BOARD SUPPORT OFFICER (CASUAL)

Caroline Bentley

FINANCE OFFICER (CONTRACTOR)

Robyn Davis

EVENT SUPPORT OFFICER (PART-TIME)

Our Board

Michelle Ewington

PRESIDENT

Mark Mason

VICE PRESIDENT

Jess Phillips

TREASURER

Luke Ogden

PUBLIC OFFICER

Sue Howard

BOARD MEMBER

Tim Henry

BOARD MEMBER

Elizabeth Brown

BOARD MEMBER



Year in Review

Strategic Plan 2025 – 2028

This year, the Strategic Plan was developed and launched by the NHT Board, in consultation with members and external partners. The plan guides how we make decisions and allocate our energy, helping us stay focused on the outcomes that matter most to our members and communities. This year's annual report follows the structure of our Strategic Plan to show how we are progressing in these key areas.

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Strategic Plan 2025-2028



Our purpose

Resourcing and growing our member network as leaders in place-based community development



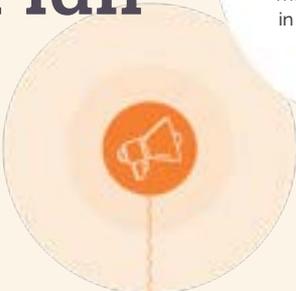
Connections & partnerships

Intent

Grow collaborations and partnerships that extend the impact of NHT and the Network.

Strategies/priority actions

- » Develop and deliver an annual engagement strategy with members with a focus on communicating, connecting, consulting, involving, collaborating and enabling.
- » Secure funding and the long-term role for the place-based Community Connector model.
- » Develop and deliver on a partnership and stakeholder plan to continue to enhance NHT's impact and explores new partnerships and new ways of working.
- » Identify Network priorities and undertake strategic projects.



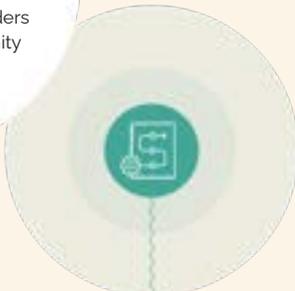
Leadership & influence

Intent

Advocate and influence for positive change.

Strategies/priority actions

- » Champion and enable a place-based community development approach.
- » Develop and implement our Network Brand Story, driving recognition and belonging.
- » Develop and deliver an advocacy and influence plan on key issues of need in the Network.
- » Build skills and confidence in culturally safe practices for the Network.
- » Promote contemporary leadership to respond and adapt to the complexity of current challenges underpinned by a learning organisation approach.
- » Grow and enable inclusion and diversity in all aspects of our work.



Governance & long-term sustainability

Intent

Advance robust governance at NHT and across the Network ensuring resilience and sustainable growth for the future.

Strategies/priority actions

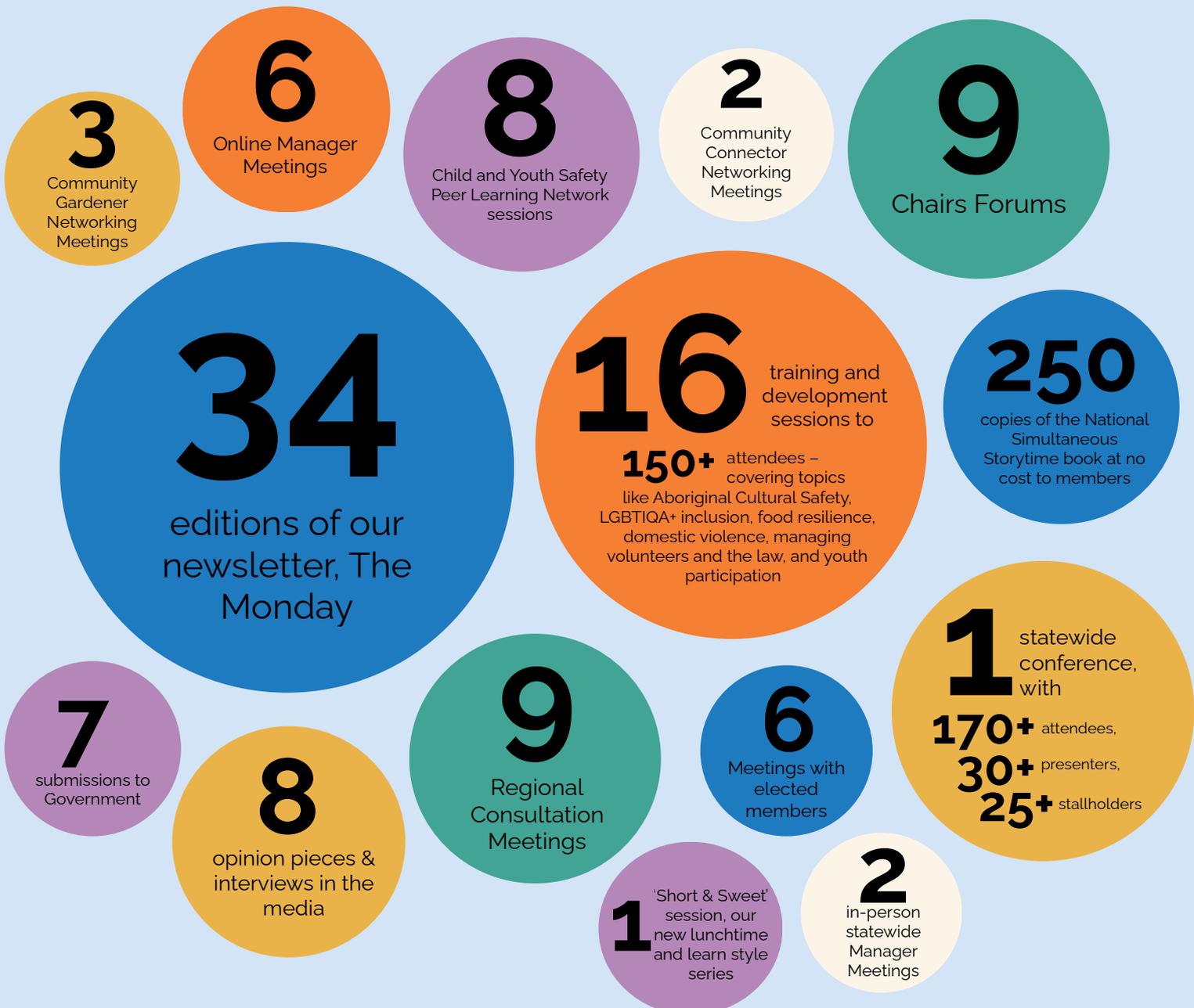
- » Secure sustainable long-term funding commitments for Neighbourhood Houses.
- » Explore and pursue strategies to address the short, medium and long-term sustainability of the Network and NHT.
- » Facilitate work with the state government on a Network capital improvement plan.
- » Investigate and pursue options that leverage collective buying power.
- » Facilitate and resource a vibrant learning program of good governance at NHT and across the Network.
- » As a Network consider options for an increased number of Houses in new communities with need.

**Connections and partnerships -
Grow collaborations and partnerships
that extend the impact of NHT and the
Network.**

Member engagement

Connecting and working with our members is at the core of everything we do. Over the past year, we have had a lot of balls in the air, working to consult, engage, and resource our members by delivering:

In our annual member survey, 86% of respondents said they agreed or strongly agreed that their House gained skills or knowledge through the resources and activities NHT has provided. This is an improvement compared to the previous year, when 52% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied. 91% of respondents rated their experience of working with NHT as either 'positive' or 'very positive'.



Partnership and stakeholder engagement

NHT connects with key stakeholders and partners across government, community services, and businesses to represent our members, promote awareness of the work Houses do, and advocate for place-based community development approaches.

In 2024-25, NHT participated in:

- The Tasmanian Coalition of Peaks
- Our national peak body, the Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association (ANCHA)
- Food Secure Tasmania
- The Recovery Partners Network
- Health Literacy Network
- Place-based Approaches to Health

- Tasmanian Active Living Coalition
- Healthy Tasmania Planning & Implementation Advisory Group
- Workforce Co-ordination Project (TasCOSS)
- National Partnerships for Local Action and Community Empowerment initiative (PLACE)
- Connected Beginnings Action Leadership Group

NHT holds regular meetings with key staff and advisors in the Department of Premier and Cabinet, and multiple elected representatives, including relevant Ministers and Shadow Ministers, as well as key cross-bench and independent supporters. Federally, we met with Andrew Wilkie MP for Clark on deductible gift recipient (DGR) status concerns for Houses across Australia.



Derwent Valley Community House - Pizza Garden Party

Partnership spotlight

NHT is part of the Recovery Partner's Network and advisory group, with Resilience and Recovery Tasmania (RRT). Our aim is to gain recognition for the role our members play during disasters, and to elevate the visibility of Neighbourhood Houses in decision-making.

When major weather events, storms, and flooding impacted Tasmania in August and September 2024, Houses once again demonstrated the central role they play in working with communities to respond to challenges. Houses got straight to work providing affected communities with a warm space to gather, emergency food, power to charge phones, internet access, laundry and shower facilities, and support in navigating emergency response services, including applying for assistance grants.

NHT's established relationship with RRT meant our combined response to the situation was rapid. An Emergency Relief and Recovery grant was allocated to Neighbourhood Houses to help support communities with food and water. \$255 000 was provided by the Tasmanian and Australian Governments under Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements. It was quickly realised Houses also needed to include reasonable administration costs (e.g. wages) within the funding, as well as food and water.

NHT played a key role in coordinating and managing this funding. The quick, easy nature of the process put in place between RRT, NHT, and Houses was essential for the success of the initiative, and meant Houses could quickly distribute necessary food and water to affected communities.



Janne Pinnington, Manager of the Beaconsfield Neighbourhood House, with Minister for Community Services Roger Jaensch and Premier Jeremy Rockliff at the announcement of the emergency funding.

Strategic projects

Child and Youth Safety

Since July 2024, NHT has received funding for the 'Change Lead' project, to consult with the Network and provide advocacy to DPAC on the development of their child safety policy and action plans, in response to the *Commission of Inquiry (COI)*; and support Neighbourhood Houses to meet their obligations under new child and youth rights legislation, the *Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework (CYSOF)*. This year, we have:

- Established a 'Child and Youth Safety Update' in our fortnightly newsletter to Neighbourhood House staff, board members, and volunteers. This includes upcoming training opportunities, new research reports, resources, policy and advocacy updates, opportunities for consultation.
- Established and maintained a monthly Peer Learning Network (PLN) in partnership with TasCOSS. The sessions have been attended by a total of over 270 participants across 6 sessions for community sector staff, and 2 sessions specifically for Neighbourhood Houses. Guest speakers have included the Office of the Independent Regulator, Commissioner for Children and Young People, Youth Advocate, and sector experts such as YNOT, The Youth Link, and Youth Law Australia.
- Established and maintained a Resource Library, to provide free or inexpensive resources on all CYSOF standards for board members, managers, and staff. Information is arranged by audience, topic and relevant CYSOF standard.
- Provided written submissions and participated in co-design work with the Government on the *Change for Children* strategy and action plan;
- Developed a supporting document to the Change for Children strategy on place-based approaches to prevention, based on consultation with Neighbourhood House managers.
- Worked with other community service organisations to write a submission to the 20-year Preventive Health Strategy, calling for recognition of child sexual abuse as a public health issue;
- Ongoing collaboration and advocacy on physical and sexual assault insurance, with TasCOSS and Volunteering Tasmania.

The Neighbourhood Houses sector's expertise and engagement in this important and challenging area of work has grown over the year.

In our annual members survey, 80% of respondents said they were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the support NHT has provided on child and youth safety, particularly CYSOF, in financial year 2024/25.

The Healthies Project

Public Health Services is funding a 2-year pilot project aimed at improving health equity and health literacy in community organisations using a place-based approach.

'The Healthies Project' emerged from networking meetings and discussions with Neighbourhood Houses and a range of health organisations who agreed to work together to:

- Enhance capacity and highlight the role of Neighbourhood Houses in place-based community development and health and well-being;
- Increase understanding between community members, Houses and Organisation through story sharing.
- Strengthen capacity of Health Organisations and Houses to work with each other.
- Strengthen and coordinate the connection between Health Organisations and Neighbourhood Houses/explore the role of NHT.

Progress includes supporting connection between Health Organisations and Neighbourhood Houses, building a shared understanding of place-based community development; building connections with A Tasmanian Lifeline and St Lukes Health Navigators; consulting with members for the '20 year preventative health strategy' for Tasmania; facilitating a workshop at the Access2Health Services forum; networking with the place-based approaches to health group; developing learning and development opportunities and networking meetings; partnering with LGAT, Healthy Tasmania and Collaboration for Impact to plan a visit by Cormac Russell; supporting and advocating for the Community Connector role; visits to Houses to support, connect and share; and inviting health organisations to sign up to be 'A Healthy Friend of Neighbourhood Houses'.

A social work research placement was also supported. This included collating and thematically analysing 212 postcards with community reflections on 'What I love about Houses' as part of story sharing.

WHY WE LOVE... Neighbourhood Houses!

Community Voices Collected Through Postcard Reflections

"We build on community strengths - what's strong, not what's wrong!"

Welcoming, Friendly and Inclusive



"It's a beautiful place full of wonderful people."

"I enjoy the breakfast and community lunches and the company here."

"Always with a smile and a cuppa."

Connection, Friendships and Belonging



"I can always call in and people will talk to me."

"I have found a family I didn't know I needed."

"It provides me with a sense of belonging."

"I love the Bingo, especially if I win!"

Safe, Non-Judgemental and Respectful Spaces

"It helps me meet other people from my community."

"They embrace and accept everyone without judgement."

"It's always warm or cool and you can have coffee/tea and toast".



Engagement, Activities and Learning

"Friendships, purpose, opportunity to garden, sanity, meeting people."

"I can spend time with my craft friends and share lots of laughs."

"I am learning to drive and I never thought I would be able to drive."



Community, Care and Support

"They helped me get back to school and my family's mental health."

"I can be myself. I can go shopping and get help with food."

"They really care about me."

"The sense of community, people look after each other."



Purpose, Identity and Dignity

"I can have a shower and also wash and dry my clothes".

"Because of the power and energy given to everyone passing the doors."

"Their purpose is the lifeblood of our communities. Their collective love literally changes lives."





Rokeby Neighbourhood Centre - Samantha Brown Think Pink annual community lunch



Derwent Valley Community House - Neighbour Day garden pizza event

Leadership and influence -

Advocate and influence for positive change.

State election

The year began with uncertainty following the early state election in March 2024 and the delayed state budget, handed down in September 2024. Despite this disruption, we worked constructively with government to secure delivery of a key election commitment - the staged expansion of the place-based Community Connector Program. When a shortfall in the initial budget calculations put this commitment at risk, the network's persistence and collective advocacy paid off. By year's end, the Tasmanian Government had confirmed an additional \$340,000 to ensure this important work continued. When the 2025 state budget triggered the passing of a vote of no-confidence in the Premier, we were once again disrupted with a snap election held in July 2025. In the lead up to the second state election in 18 months, the network worked collaboratively on a shared election ask for what it truly costs to run a Neighbourhood House. This collaboration shaped our collective advocacy towards safe, sustainable funding for Neighbourhood Houses, which will be a continued focus over the next 12 months.

In our annual member survey, 90% of respondents reported that NHT was very effective or effective in representing and advocating for its members.

The Brand Story Project: Who We Are, What We Do, and Why It Matters

In March 2024, Managers from across the Network began with a simple question: Is our messaging clear? Over the past 18 months, that question sparked a collaborative journey of workshops, interviews, and consultations to create a brand story that reflects our entire network while allowing each Neighbourhood House to maintain its unique identity.

Guided by Jen from Digital Dandy, the Brand Story Project has delivered a practical handbook that every Neighbourhood House can use to develop and share stories.

Using a clear framework, we worked together to articulate:

- Purpose – why we exist
- Vision – what we aspire to
- Values – what we stand for
- What we do – our role in the community
- Audience – who we connect with
- Core themes – what we share

We then focused on how to develop our brand story, practicing story telling for different audiences and collection.

This project is more than words—it's about strengthening connection, amplifying impact, and ensuring our identity truly reflects the heart of our work. Watch this space!

LGBTQIA+ Project

For this financial year, NHT secured a small grant for the 'Growing a Safer Network Project'. In line with the value that "LGBTQIA+ Tasmanians, their friends and families are included and have equal opportunity to participate in and contribute to Tasmania's social, political, economic and cultural life," the project objectives were to promote awareness and understanding of the lived experience of the LGBTQIA+ community; and to create inclusive responses and safer spaces in Neighbourhood Houses, where people with diverse experience feel supported and included. Outcomes of the project include:

- An introductory training session with Working It Out at the NHT conference in St Helens, with 20 attendees.

- An ongoing working group of LGBTQIA+ community members and allies from the network of Neighbourhood Houses. Membership of the working group has steadily grown over the course of the project, with a small but engaged group of 7 Neighbourhood House and NHT staff as of June 2025.
- Developed a learning needs assessment to inform our training offering. Ran 4 training sessions with Working It Out. A total of 42 people from across the state participated.
- Developed 'Bing-Gay', an inclusion tool by and for Neighbourhood Houses, which was launched at the 2025 NHT conference in Kingston. See Bing-Gay card below:

GROWING A SAFER NETWORK
BING - GAY

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Visible signs, merch, lanyards | Information and referral services | Safe physical space |
| Celebrate significant days | Policies and procedures | Open to discussion, learning and lived experience |
| Recognise discrimination | Fly the flag | Commit to ongoing work |
| Advocate for LGBTQIA+ rights | Bonus adventure | Learning & development opportunities |

Aboriginal cultural safety

We are excited to be partnering with Palawa artist and educator Dewayne Everettsmith to strengthen cultural safety in the Network. This work aligns with priorities in our Strategic plan and is an important part of our community development practice in respecting the knowledge and skills that Palawa have held for centuries.

We have provided 2 cultural safety training sessions to 35 people across the state - one in Nipaluna/Hobart and one in Kanamaluka/Launceston. We learnt about our shared history, connection to country, and worked on improving our confidence in Acknowledgements of Country. We are excited to continue working with Dewayne in 2025/26, developing tools and policies and continuing to put our commitment to our Aboriginal Cultural Safety into practice.

In the 2024 member survey, 82% of respondents said they were confident or very confident in the NHT board fulfilling its governance responsibilities effectively.

Governance and Long-term Sustainability -

Advance robust governance at NHT and across the Network ensuring resilience and sustainable growth for the future.

Policy Framework

The Neighbourhood House-specific policies and procedures are now available on a member-only portal on the NHT website, and are able to be adapted as needed by each House.

Governance support

NHT responded to more than 72 governance related enquiries on a range of topics, e.g. the SCHADS Award, managing grievances, manager and board recruitment and induction, food safety legislation, and updating constitutions (to name a few!).

Our Chairs Forums continued this year, providing a space for sharing governance challenges, exchanging ideas, and building relationships between House boards.

NHT provided tailored activities on governance by request of individual House boards, including two workshops and facilitated 'good governance' conversations.



Training with Dewayne Everettsmith at the NHT Office in Nipaluna

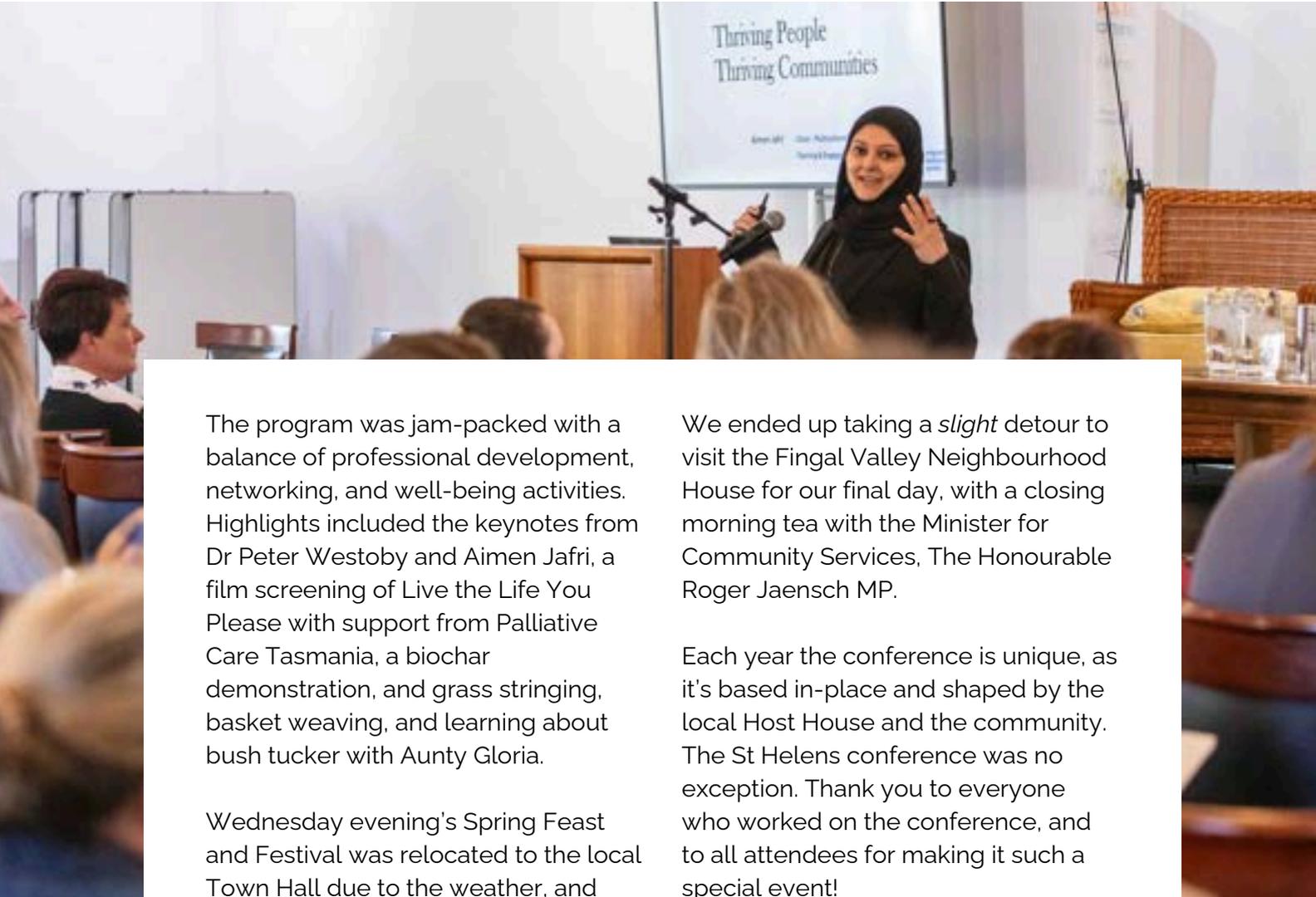
Conference



St Helens provided the perfect coastal backdrop for the 2024 Conference. Our venue, the Panorama Hotel, provided everything from accommodation, food, and space for us to spread out and embrace the theme of 'Thriving people, Thriving Communities'. We enjoyed 2 1/2 days

of connection and learning, and the conference atmosphere was so warm and welcoming. We had fantastic conversations and were joined by amazing speakers and presenters on topics like community development, governance, leadership, and inclusion.

A very special mention to Bec, Gary, and all the staff and volunteers at the St Helens and Fingal Valley Neighbourhood Houses for their amazing efforts and support. Events of this scale are not possible to do alone, so a HUGE thank you!



The program was jam-packed with a balance of professional development, networking, and well-being activities. Highlights included the keynotes from Dr Peter Westoby and Aimen Jafri, a film screening of *Live the Life You Please* with support from Palliative Care Tasmania, a biochar demonstration, and grass stringing, basket weaving, and learning about bush tucker with Aunty Gloria.

Wednesday evening's Spring Feast and Festival was relocated to the local Town Hall due to the weather, and although we couldn't showcase the garden, the evening went off well with a live band, food vans, a sausage sizzle, and fresh produce sales.

The much-anticipated conference dinner did not disappoint, with a themed dress-up evening of 'Bees, Butterflies and Blooms'. Everyone danced the night away to the incredible *Pretty Things* live band.

We ended up taking a *slight* detour to visit the Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House for our final day, with a closing morning tea with the Minister for Community Services, The Honourable Roger Jaensch MP.

Each year the conference is unique, as it's based in-place and shaped by the local Host House and the community. The St Helens conference was no exception. Thank you to everyone who worked on the conference, and to all attendees for making it such a special event!

In the survey following this year's conference in St Helens, 92% of respondents reported feeling either satisfied or very satisfied with the conference.

Neighbourhood House Week



Neighbourhood House Week took place from 12-18 May 2025, celebrating the theme Ripples of Change, which recognises the small, everyday actions happening in Neighbourhood Houses that build up to create positive change in our communities.

The week prior to Neighbourhood House Week, the Minister for Community Services the Honourable Roger Jaensch made a speech in parliament on the importance and power of connection, and shared his personal gratitude for the collective impact Houses have across Tasmania.

NHT also held an event to launch Neighbourhood House Week celebrations for 2025, with over 60 attendees from Neighbourhood Houses, both Houses of Parliament, and partner community service organisations.



At the launch event, three wonderful speakers from Houses reflected on what the theme meant to them. Peta from Starting Point Neighbourhood House, Freya from Kingston Neighbourhood House, and Louise from West Moonah Community House all shared stories of connection, belonging, safety, and giving back, demonstrating the impact their Neighbourhood House has had on their lives and the lives of the community around them.

There were over 25 Neighbourhood House Week community events across the State, with people coming together to celebrate their local House and recognise the ripples in their House has made in their communities.

There was great media during Neighbourhood House Week, with Trish O'Duffy, Manager of the Northern Suburbs Community Centre and Simone Zell, CEO of

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania on ABC Radio. Simone also had an opinion piece raising awareness of Houses in *The Mercury*, and was profiled in the Hobart and Launceston Magazine for the month of May.

Gateway signs on the Brooker Highway in Hobart also recognised Neighbourhood House Week, and various landmarks around the state were lit up in orange and blue to celebrate the occasion, including the Paranaple Centre in Devonport and the Tasman Bridge in Hobart.

Each member was sent a Neighbourhood House Week pack, which included postcards prompting people to reflect on why they love their Neighbourhood House. NHT collected some of the responses, and our social work placement student Megan Wilson turned them into a beautiful snapshot!



Geeveston Community Centre - Community BBQ and pizza night



Okines Community House - 25 year anniversary celebrations

Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to present the audited financial report for Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania (NHT) for the year ending 30 June 2025. This report provides a comprehensive overview of NHT's financial performance and highlights our commitment to sound financial management while continuing to resource our members and deliver on our peak body responsibilities.

2025 Financial Year Key Highlights

- **Net Profit:** \$12,998 (2024: \$58,150)
- **Total Income:** \$1,255,074 (excluding internal program revenue)
- **Total Expenses:** \$1,242,076 (excluding internal program contributions)
- **Total Equity:** \$1,336,712
- **Cash Reserves:** \$913,734, with \$299,795 committed to future programs

Despite significant funding changes, disruptions, and rising operating costs, NHT has maintained financial stability to strengthen our capacity to advocate for and support the sector.

A major change this year was transitioning the Community Connector Program (CCP) to a "place-based" model, directing funding to members rather than NHT managing administration.

While challenging, this shift is a positive step toward a clearer and more effective CCP model. We also commenced two new two-year funding streams this year: The Healthies, supporting place-based approaches to improve health and wellbeing and the Change Lead Project, enabling member input into the Commission of Inquiry response, Child and Youth Safety, and broader safeguarding initiatives.

NHT remains committed to building a strong, sustainable business model underpinned by sound financial management and governance, while remaining agile and adaptable in an environment where funding is temporary and limited. This approach enables us to continue delivering programs that make a real difference and strengthen our sector and communities.

I would like to thank the Finance, Risk, and Audit Committee (FRAC) for their commitment to bi-monthly meetings and strategic guidance, and to Caroline Bentley, our finance officer, for timely and accurate financial reporting.

Jess Phillips

***Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania,
Treasurer***



Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania - Conference 2024



Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania - Conference 2024

Not-for-Profit - Association Report

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc
 For The Year Ended 30 June 2025
 Prepared by ALA Practice

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Board Report

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc For the year ended 30 June 2025

Board's Report

Your board members submit the financial report of Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

Board Members

The names of board members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

| Board Member | Position |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Michelle Ewington | President |
| Mark Mason | Vice - President |
| Jess Phillips | Treasurer |
| Luke Ogden | Public Officer |
| Elizabeth Brown | Board Member |
| Tim Henry | Board Member |
| Sue Howard | Board Member |

Principal Activities

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc (NHT) is the peak body for Neighbourhood Houses across Tasmania.

NHT and each individual House are independent entities. NHT is not the decision-making body for Houses, but exists to represent, support and enable Houses in Tasmania. Our goal is to help Houses do what they do best - use a community development approach to support local communities in ways that make a real difference in peoples lives.

Significant Changes

There have been no significant changes in the nature of activities that occurred during the financial year.

Operating Result

The surplus for the financial year amounted to \$12,998.

Going Concern

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The ability of the association to continue to operate as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the association to generate sufficient cashflows from operations to meet its liabilities. The Board of the association believe that the going concern assumption is appropriate.

Board Report



Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board on:

Michelle Ewington

Michelle Ewington (President)

Date 21/11/2025

Jessica Phillips

Jess Phillips (Treasurer)

Date 15/10/2025



Income and Expenditure Statement

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc For the year ended 30 June 2025

| | NOTES | 2025 | 2024 |
|--|-------|------------------|------------------|
| Income | | | |
| Dividends Received | | 8,923 | 5,944 |
| Interest Income | | 20,066 | 12,827 |
| Conference | | 70,320 | 72,959 |
| Grants | 2 | 1,094,154 | 928,615 |
| NHT Programs | | 161,262 | 237,693 |
| Other Revenue | 3 | 61,611 | 95,939 |
| Total Income | | 1,416,336 | 1,353,976 |
| Gross Surplus | | | |
| | | 1,416,336 | 1,353,976 |
| Expenditure | | | |
| Administration & Management Expenses | | 76,005 | 96,235 |
| Board Payments | | 15,367 | 17,224 |
| Depreciation | | 25,221 | 34,186 |
| Program & Event Expenses | | 477,488 | 416,697 |
| Motor Vehicles | | 8,832 | 10,573 |
| Staff / Volunteer Expenses | | 757,602 | 636,223 |
| Network development | | 19,130 | 43,621 |
| Supervisory Costs | | 1,272 | 8,785 |
| Travel and Accommodation | | 14,093 | 24,962 |
| Utilities & Services | | 8,328 | 7,318 |
| Total Expenditure | | 1,403,338 | 1,295,826 |
| Current Year Surplus/ (Deficit) Before Income Tax Adjustments | | 12,998 | 58,150 |
| Current Year Surplus/(Deficit) Before Income Tax | | 12,998 | 58,150 |
| Net Current Year Surplus After Income Tax | | 12,998 | 58,150 |



Assets and Liabilities Statement

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc As at 30 June 2025

| | NOTES | 30 JUNE 2025 | 30 JUNE 2024 |
|--|-------|------------------|------------------|
| Assets | | | |
| Current Assets | | | |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | 4 | 342,277 | 686,341 |
| Trade and Other Receivables | | 14,582 | 459,635 |
| Term Deposits | | 571,457 | 553,298 |
| Other Investments | | 255,978 | 253,428 |
| Prepayments | | - | 13,604 |
| Total Current Assets | | 1,184,295 | 1,966,306 |
| Non-Current Assets | | | |
| Property, Plant and Equipment | 5 | 589,454 | 614,675 |
| Other Non-Current Assets | | 1,000 | - |
| Total Non-Current Assets | | 590,454 | 614,675 |
| Total Assets | | 1,774,749 | 2,580,981 |
| Liabilities | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Employee Benefits | 8 | 25,985 | 24,039 |
| Lease liability - Photocopier | | - | 879 |
| Trade and Other Payables | 6 | 55,387 | 207,098 |
| Key Bond - Playgroup Tas | | 450 | 450 |
| Room rental bond | | 905 | 905 |
| Grant in Advance | 7 | 299,795 | 1,006,769 |
| Conference in Advance | | 41,857 | 6,575 |
| Total Current Liabilities | | 424,379 | 1,246,715 |
| Non-Current Liabilities | | | |
| Other Non-Current Liabilities | | | |
| Non-current Employee Benefits | 8 | 13,659 | 6,450 |
| Total Other Non-Current Liabilities | | 13,659 | 6,450 |
| Total Non-Current Liabilities | | 13,659 | 6,450 |
| Total Liabilities | | 438,037 | 1,253,165 |
| Net Assets | | 1,336,712 | 1,327,816 |

Assets and Liabilities Statement



| | NOTES | 30 JUNE 2025 | 30 JUNE 2024 |
|--|-------|--------------|--------------|
|--|-------|--------------|--------------|

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| Equity | | | |
| Retained Earnings | | 528,221 | 515,224 |
| Reserves | | 808,490 | 812,593 |
| Total Equity | | 1,336,712 | 1,327,816 |



Notes to the Financial Statements

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc For the year ended 30 June 2025

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Tasmania 1964. The board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the board reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

Employee Provisions

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee provisions have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

Cash on Hand

Cash on hand includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.



Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

Financial Assets / Investments

Investments in financial assets are initially recognised at cost, which includes transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value, which is equivalent to their market price at the end of the reporting period.

Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.



| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| 2. Grants | | |
| Grants | 1,071,845 | 950,924 |
| Unexpended Funds | 22,309 | (22,309) |
| Total Grants | 1,094,154 | 928,615 |
| | 2025 | 2024 |
| 3. Other Revenue | | |
| Donations Received | 2,273 | 714 |
| NHT Membership Fees | 2,349 | 2,450 |
| Other revenue | 16,449 | 37,830 |
| Referral Fees | - | 15,979 |
| Rent, Outgoings & Room Hire | 40,540 | 38,966 |
| Total Other Revenue | 61,611 | 95,939 |
| | 2025 | 2024 |
| 4. Cash on Hand | | |
| Distributions Account | - | 21,296 |
| Employee Entitlements Account | 187 | 186 |
| Main Account | 202,694 | 548,220 |
| NHT Cash Reserve | 136,660 | 113,785 |
| NHT Debit Card | 2,736 | 2,854 |
| Total Cash on Hand | 342,277 | 686,341 |
| | 2025 | 2024 |
| 5. Property, Plant and Equipment | | |
| Land and Buildings | | |
| Land and Buildings | 654,360 | 654,360 |
| Less accumulated depreciation - Land and Buildings | (131,052) | (114,693) |
| Total Land and Buildings | 523,308 | 539,667 |
| Car Park | | |
| Car Park | 34,360 | 34,360 |
| Less Accumulated Depreciation - Carpark | (5,021) | (4,192) |
| Total Car Park | 29,339 | 30,168 |
| Motor Vehicles | | |
| Motor vehicles | 68,497 | 68,497 |
| Less accumulated depreciation - Motor Vehicles | (36,860) | (30,532) |
| Total Motor Vehicles | 31,637 | 37,965 |
| Office Furniture and Equipment | | |
| Office furniture and equipment | 48,199 | 48,199 |



| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Less accumulated depreciation - Office Furniture & Equipment | (43,029) | (41,324) |
| Total Office Furniture and Equipment | 5,170 | 6,875 |
| Photocopier | | |
| Photocopier | 10,839 | 10,839 |
| Less accumulated depreciation | (10,839) | (10,839) |
| Total Photocopier | - | - |
| Total Property, Plant and Equipment | 589,454 | 614,675 |
| | 2025 | 2024 |

6. Trade and Other Payables

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Trade Payables | | |
| Trade creditors | 27,366 | 96,669 |
| Total Trade Payables | 27,366 | 96,669 |
| Other Payables | | |
| GST | (1,431) | 85,034 |
| Other payable | 3,425 | 3,300 |
| PAYG withholding tax payable | 17,370 | 14,591 |
| Superannuation Payable | 8,656 | 7,504 |
| Total Other Payables | 28,020 | 110,429 |
| Total Trade and Other Payables | 55,387 | 207,098 |
| | 2025 | 2024 |

7. Grant in Advance

| | | |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| GIA - Emergency Assistance | 4,795 | - |
| CCA | - | 21,736 |
| DPAC - Core | - | 407,382 |
| DPAC (Gov-B) | - | 573 |
| DPAC - GIA for Community eng and Change Lead Grant | 170,000 | 320,000 |
| GIA - LGBTIQ Grant | - | 7,078 |
| GIA - Healthy Living Tasmania | 125,000 | 250,000 |
| Total Grant in Advance | 299,795 | 1,006,769 |
| | 2025 | 2024 |

8. Employee Provisions

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Current Liability | | |
| Employee Benefits | 25,985 | 24,039 |
| Total Current Liability | 25,985 | 24,039 |
| Non Current Liability | | |
| Non-current Employee Benefits | 13,659 | 6,450 |
| Total Non Current Liability | 13,659 | 6,450 |
| Total Employee Provisions | 39,644 | 30,489 |



Movements in Equity

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc For the year ended 30 June 2025

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Equity | | |
| Opening Balance | 1,327,816 | 1,248,987 |
| Increases | | |
| Profit for the Period | 12,998 | 58,150 |
| Other Increases | (4,102) | 20,679 |
| Total Increases | 8,895 | 78,829 |
| Total Equity | 1,336,712 | 1,327,816 |



Statement of Cash Flows - Direct Method

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc For the year ended 30 June 2025

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Operating Activities | | |
| Receipts from grants | (685,238) | 485,639 |
| Payments to suppliers and employees | (731,777) | (659,462) |
| Finance costs | (4) | (35) |
| GST | (86,465) | 28,202 |
| Cash receipts from other operating activities | 1,378,583 | 1,274,746 |
| Cash payments from other operating activities | (684,220) | (542,522) |
| Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities | (809,121) | 586,568 |
| Investing Activities | | |
| Dividends received | 8,923 | 5,944 |
| Interest received | 20,066 | 12,827 |
| Payment for property, plant and equipment | - | (2,440) |
| Other cash items from investing activities | 436,947 | (477,459) |
| Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities | 465,936 | (461,128) |
| Financing Activities | | |
| Repayment of borrowings | (879) | (2,084) |
| Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities | (879) | (2,084) |
| Net Cash Flows | (344,064) | 123,355 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 686,341 | 562,986 |
| Net change in cash for period | (344,064) | 123,355 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | 342,277 | 686,341 |



True and Fair Position

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc For the year ended 30 June 2025

Annual Statements Give True and Fair View of Financial Position and Performance of the Association

We, Michelle Ewington, and Jess Phillips, being members of the board of Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc, certify that -

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2025.

Signed:

Dated: / /

Signed:

Dated: / /



Auditor's Report

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc For the year ended 30 June 2025

Independent Auditors Report to the members of the Association

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc (the association), which comprises the board's report, the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2025, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, cash flow statement, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certification by members of the board on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

Board's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The board of Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1964 Tasmania and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The board's responsibility also includes such internal control as the board determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

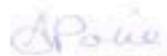
We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc as at 30 June 2025 and (of) its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the Association Incorporations Act 1964 Tasmania.

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc to meet the requirements of the Association Incorporations Act 1964 Tasmania. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Auditor's signature: 

Auditor's address: 41 York Street, Launceston, TAS, 7250

Auditor's Report



Dated: 08/10/2025



Certificate By Members of the Board

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc For the year ended 30 June 2025

I, Michelle Ewington, certify that:

1. I attended the annual general meeting of the association held on / / .
2. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

Dated: / /



Compilation Report

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc For the year ended 30 June 2025

Compilation report to Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc.

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc, which comprise the asset and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2025, income and expenditure statement, the statement of cash flows, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 1.

The Responsibility of the Board Member's

The board of Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc are solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that financial statements were prepared.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the partners we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Note 1 to the financial statements and APES 315 *Compilation of Financial Information*.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the financial statements. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Sophie Poke'.

ALA Partners

Sophie Poke

Dated: 08/10/2025



Devonport
Community House



Neighbourhood Houses
Tasmania

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