

# ARACY ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



*Celebrating 20 years*

[aracy.org.au](http://aracy.org.au)

# Message from the Chair, Gervase Chaney

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It has been a difficult year for many children and young people across Australia, with school interruptions continuing due to flooding and COVID, in addition to other factors that pose challenges to our younger generation. Though we are starting to see the light at the end of the COVID-19 pandemic tunnel, it has continued to impact our lives and work. With that in mind, I wish to acknowledge those working to support our nation across all domains of health and wellbeing.

I would like to thank our CEO Penny Dakin, and Diana Harris — Lead for Knowledge Translation, for stepping into the role of acting CEO for the first few months of the year – for their outstanding leadership. I also thank all our staff for their fantastic work over the past 12 months.

Under Penny and Diana's leadership over the past year, ARACY has facilitated and been invited to be part of deeper and more fruitful collaborations at local, national and even international levels. As a Board we were proud to support Penny's participation in the first of the select Social Impact Leadership Australia program with 23 other CEOs from across NSW and ACT. We are already seeing the benefits of the program in our work as we consider our systems, collaborations and impact. We have been also able to celebrate the work



of colleagues in Queensland, with the formal launch of the Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership. There has been extensive work with multiple collaborators in establishing the partnership, and now we look forward to productive collaborations and outcomes for children across the state.

I wish also to thank my Board colleagues for their ongoing commitment to ARACY, the children and young people and allied organisations it seeks to serve. I particularly welcome our new Board member, Hawa Quaid Mohammad, who joined the Board in October 2021. Hawa is a Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Communication (Social and Political Sciences) student at the University of Technology Sydney. She was also a UNICEF Young Ambassador who, alongside her fellow Young Ambassadors, listened to over 3,000 children and young people across Australia (both before and



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during the Covid-19 pandemic), to hear their concerns in areas including education, mental health, climate change, and discrimination. Hawa migrated to Australia as a child and grew up in South-Western Sydney, and we have appreciated her invaluable contributions on the ARACY Board to date.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Board Members, Professor Ngiare Brown and Professor Kristy Muir, whom we farewelled this year, but will continue to collaborate with. Kristy joined the board in 2017, bringing with her expertise in social policy and a wealth of leadership and governance experience in the not-for-profit sector. Kristy's service to the Board is a testament to her passion for making a difference, and we know she will continue to bring great contributions to the sector in her new role. Ngiare has also been a member of the ARACY board since 2017. Ngiare contributed not only her skills and knowledge in healthcare and not-for-profit leadership, but a strong commitment to enhancing the wellbeing of children and young people, and in particular First Nations children. On behalf of the ARACY board and team I thank them both for their commitment and contribution, and acknowledge the value they both brought to the Board and ARACY. They leave ARACY and the Board in a stronger and better place.

To conclude, ARACY has had a wonderfully busy, productive and fundamentally positive year. It remains culturally and financially sound. It has met the challenges before it and will continue to strive to deliver benefits to children and young people, through evidence-based, collaborative work informed by lived experience, leading expertise and best practice. I thank our members and partners for their valuable support and contributions this year and we look forward to continuing building our relationships and impact with you.



# Message from ARACY CEO, Penny Dakin

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2021-22 has been an extraordinary year for the team at ARACY as we've begun to live out our ambitious three-year strategy Our Path (2021-2023).

In setting and carrying out our strategy we've been mindful of the important roles we play as an intermediary in the ecosystem supporting the wellbeing of children and young people in Australia. ARACY is a connector and convenor, a collaborator and a thought leader. We believe that 'how' we fulfill those roles is as, if not more, important than the 'what' we do to fulfill them. To this end, our values of connectedness, equity, inclusion and integrity have driven and guided all our work.

In this year, still marked significantly by the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, ARACY has continued to deliver our robust and trusted advocacy and engagement activities that we know puts timely, evidenced based information into the hands of people who need it. Our weekly e-bulletins, regular webinars, social media contributions, workshops and policy roundtables have been a consistent source of reliable information.

Across our four strategic pillars, the team have continued to make an impact. **We've put knowledge to work** through our ongoing partnership with UNICEF Australia to ensure our leaders and our colleagues have the information and evidence they need to help our young people best recover from the pandemic. **We've grown capability** here in Australia and around the world partnering with places like Taree and Helsinki to embed the Common Approach® across the services working with children, young people and their families. Research reports such as Showing the Light,



Impacts of COVID-19 in Australia on children and young people with disability, and their families and Taking the Pulse of Australian Students 2021 have, alongside our engagement with key campaigns such as Thrive by Five, **influenced decision making.**

A particular highlight of the year has been the launch of the Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership. Through this initiative we will **catalyse collective action** that contributes to the health, development, safety and wellbeing of all Queensland children and young people. Without the many partners, stakeholders and funders listed through this report, this important work couldn't happen.

Thank you.



On a personal note, I'm immensely grateful to the Board and our team who made it possible for me to undertake the Social Impact Leadership Australia program throughout this year. Particular thanks to our Lead, Knowledge Translation, Diana Harris for so ably taking on the CEO role during my three-month sabbatical. Thanks too, to the Centre for Social Impact and SILA funders for putting together this wonderful program.

As we look forward to celebrating 20 years of working to see all children and young people loved and thriving, I know that there is much still to be done.

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## 20 years of ARACY

Twenty years ago Professor Fiona Stanley AC FAA had a vision to use the best available evidence to help all children and young people in Australia to thrive. Driving this vision was the challenging question of why the range of complex problems affecting the health, development, and wellbeing of children in Australia, one of the wealthiest countries in the world, continued to increase. Professor Stanley and her colleagues knew that by working collectively across policy, research, and practice, much more could be achieved.

It was ten years ago we recognised the trust and collegiality which had been built up over our first decade, allowing, with the help of philanthropic partners (particularly Bupa Health Foundation), ARACY to embark upon the challenge of creating an evidence-informed framework to guide our work. This national action plan for children and youth, which has come to be known as *The Nest* was completed in 2013.

In 2022 we celebrate twenty years of dedicated and focused work, knowing there are still many challenges facing children and young people. We hold true to Professor Stanley's understanding that "Collaboration is both the context and the means by which we will achieve our goal of integrating and translating diverse knowledge into effective action that will make a difference to the lives of young Australians."



Pictured: Prof Fiona Stanley. Courtesy of the Australian National Library

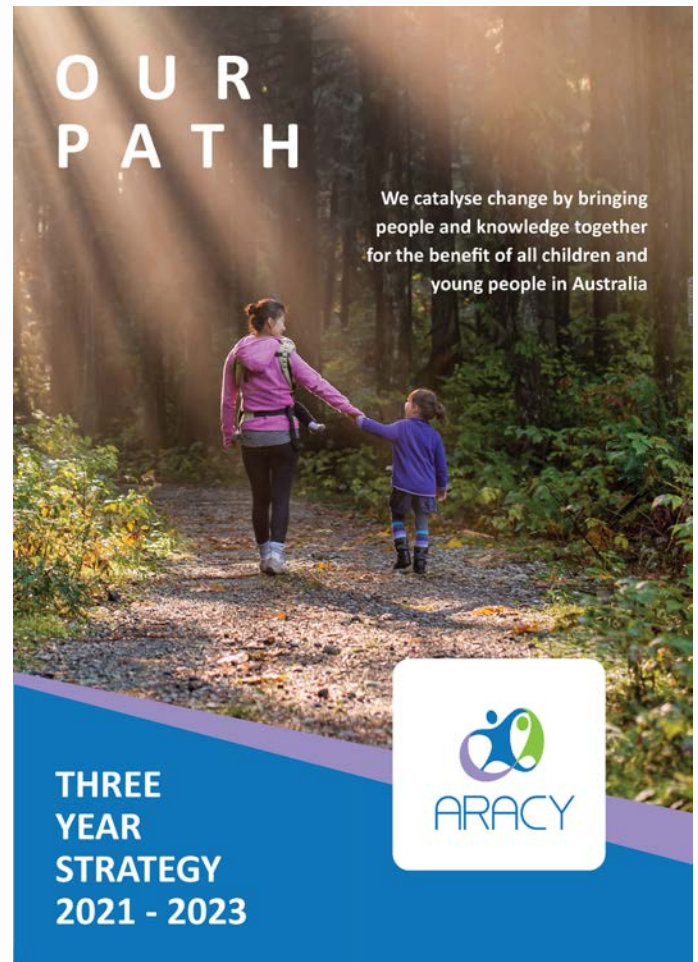
# Our Path

In 2021 ARACY released *Our Path*, a three-year strategy to guide our work and crystalise our purpose. The strategy is informed by the belief that all children and young people in Australia should have every opportunity to thrive.

To thrive, children and young people need to be valued, loved and safe, they need their basic material needs met, they need to be healthy, learning, participating in family, community and decision making, and have a positive sense of their identity and culture.

Listening to children and young people is integral to what we do. The right of every child to have a say about issues that affect them is upheld in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. When we listen to the views of children and young people we make better decisions, write better policy and directly benefit young Australians.

We can create more significant change by working together. When we channel the efforts of our many and varied partners and stakeholders, we can create lasting and transformative change in systems, policies and practice, and ultimately, improvements in the daily lives and futures of children and young people.



The strategy is supported by our values and the four pillars that underpin our work:

1. Putting knowledge to work;
2. Growing capability;
3. Influencing decision making; and
4. Catalysing collective action.

Over the year our work was deeply impacted by the global pandemic, and the national response to COVID-19. Like many organisations we continued to re-assess how we work, and how to ensure the impact of the pandemic on children and young people was not forgotten by decision makers and policy leaders.

## Our Aspiration

All children and young people are loved and thriving.

## Our Intent

We catalyse change by bringing people and knowledge together for the benefit of children and young people in Australia.

## Our Values

**Connectedness:** We build genuine partnerships and acknowledge that true collaboration involves giving something up for the greater good.

**Equity:** We are committed to helping build a society that understands and respects fairness and equity, and values children not only as future adult contributors but for their own place and voice in society.

**Inclusion:** We value the breadth and depth of all people and ideas regardless of ethnicity, religion, age, political affiliation, gender, sexuality or other characteristics.

**Integrity:** We are non-partisan. We advocate for and with children and young people. We present the evidence even when it challenges common understanding. We manage the resources available to us honestly and responsibly.





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# 2021-2022 at a glance

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## JULY 2021

In partnership with CYDA, ARACY published the report *Impact of COVID-19 in Australia on children and young people with disability, and their families*

ARACY hosted Marly Wells for a webinar about the Nest in Action and the *Child Friendly Alice* initiative

## AUGUST 2021

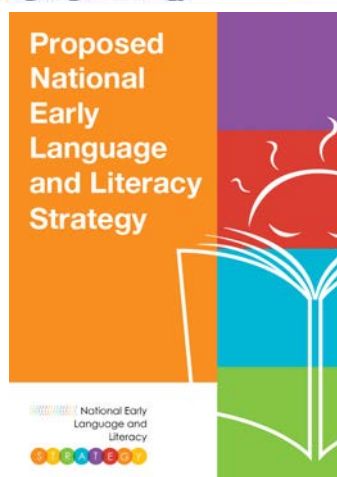
ARACY's Diana Harris participated in the panel webinar *What does a community need for every child to thrive?* This webinar discussed what children and young people need to thrive and how using ARACY's wellbeing framework *The Nest* can help us see the bigger picture

*What's in the Nest?* an overview of the Nest framework, including a new ecological wellbeing wheel was released

## SEPTEMBER 2021

ARACY hosted Sheryl Batchelor to give a webinar on the importance of nurturing good brain health in children and its crucial role in supporting vulnerable children and young people

As part of The National Early Literacy and Language Coalition, ARACY supported the publication of the *National Early Literacy and Language Strategy*





## OCTOBER 2021

In partnership with UNICEF Australia, ARACY published the report *Kids at the Crossroads: Evidence and Policy to Mitigate the Effects of COVID-19*

The Common Approach® goes global, with workers across health, education and community services in Helsinki being trained in the ARACY approach to engaging with children and families

ARACY published the report *ei Pulse: Taking the Pulse of Australian Students 2021*

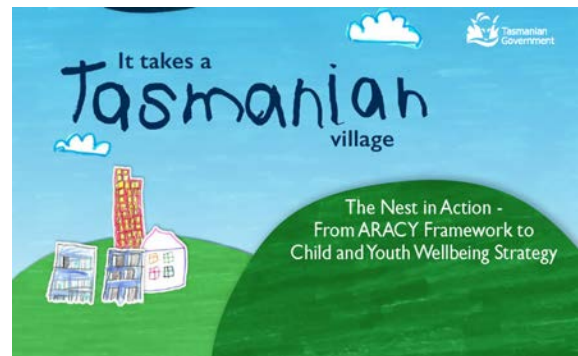
ARACY's Lori Rubenstein was part of the webinar panel *Build Brains Better: Science-inspired investing for brain health and skills for the future*



## APRIL 2022

ARACY hosted a webinar on how early interventions and support in ECEC can support good infant mental health

ARACY hosted Children's Ground for a webinar on ECEC tailored to First Nations children and celebrating Indigenous culture



ARACY ran a webinar on the Tasmanian Government strategy *It Takes a Tasmanian Village*, which was largely based on the ARACY framework for child wellbeing, *the Nest*

## NOVEMBER 2021

ARACY hosted the webinar *Calling for a Children's COVID Recovery Plan*, with Nicole Breeze and Hawa Mohammad

## DECEMBER 2021

With UNICEF Australia, ARACY released the Wellbeing Index report - *The Wellbeing of Australia's Children*

## FEBRUARY 2022

ARACY released *Budget Submission Paper*

## MARCH 2022

ARACY published the report *Showing the Light: Supporting Young Parents with Experience of the Care System*, with an accompanying webinar and summary video

ARACY hosted a team from Royal Far West for a webinar on protecting children's resilience in the wake of disasters

## MAY 2022

The Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership (TQKP) launched in Brisbane



# Putting knowledge to work

## COVID-19 and children and young people with disability report

This report puts the best available knowledge to work by highlighting what is known about the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on children and young people with disability, and making this knowledge available to governments, policy makers, business, philanthropy and practitioners working with children and young people to access and inform approaches to supporting this cohort in the most appropriate ways.

Working with Children and Young People with Disability Australia (CYDA), ARACY co-hosted a roundtable on the impact of COVID-19 on children and young people with disability and their families. This webinar was attended by policy-makers, academics and practitioners, contributing to a paper released in July 2021.

This paper synthesises the findings of the literature review and the outcomes of the roundtables, structured by the Nest wellbeing framework.

Key findings from the report include:

- the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated existing problems with support provided to children and young people with disability and their families.
- inconsistent communication from schools and government departments and failure to sufficiently consider the learning needs of children and young people with disability led to increased barriers to learning for students while learning from home.
- there is little to no federal support provided specifically to parents and carers of children and young people with disability as a result of pandemic. Measures are needed to help families avoid financial stress as a result of the pandemic and their caring responsibilities.
- Remedying inequalities faced by children and young people with disability and their families – which are generally exacerbated during crises like the pandemic – requires systems change across the following areas:
- Inclusion – accountability of systems to provide learning, health and social opportunities for all.
- Adaptability – flexibility in systems to adjust to the complexity of people's lives and their needs.



# Putting knowledge to work

- Knowledge – underlying the above issues, is a lack of knowledge within systems of the lived experience of people with disability and the people that care for them.

Knowing about these factors and issues is the first step to being able to provide the kind of support needed to improve outcomes for children and young people with disability.

## COVID response: Australia's children and young people

In partnership with UNICEF Australia, ARACY developed a report highlighting how children and young people have been adversely impacted by responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. A crucial point raised in the report is the responses to the pandemic have been largely focussed on addressing the needs and wellbeing of adults, without considering the needs of children and young people. This is shown to have exacerbated impacts of COVID-19 and pre-existing inequalities affecting children and young people. The report provided the basis for evidence to the Senate Inquiry into the COVID-19 response, and supported deeper debate and engagement of issues impacting children and young people during the pandemic.

The responses to the pandemic have been largely focused on addressing the needs and wellbeing of adults, without considering the needs of children and young people.



Image by iStock

Key recommendations for improvements to policies and processes relating to COVID responses outlined in the document are to:

- Listen to the voices of children and young people, involve them in planning our pathway out of the pandemic, and act on what they say.
- Develop a consistent national approach to keeping schools open in the face of additional outbreaks.
- Expedite the urgent implementation of The National Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy in response to the pandemic's impact on children.
- Provide ongoing targeted support to industries that predominantly hire young people and were hardest hit during the pandemic, including hospitality and the arts.
- Ensure that our pathway out of the pandemic is targeted and proportionate to meet the needs of children, young people, and their families, in communities and cohorts that have been most affected. These include First Nations peoples, CALD communities, women, disadvantaged Australians, and people living with disability.

## **Clinical, financial and social impacts of COVID-19 and their associations with mental health for mothers and children experiencing adversity in Australia**

A research paper by right@home Consortium partners MCRI, ARACY and Western Sydney University's Translational Research and Social Innovation Unit (TReSI) examined the data from the Consortium's long-running trial of Sustained Nurse Home Visiting to assess the clinical, financial and social impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and their associations with maternal mental health. The right@home trial data offered a unique cohort of Australian mothers recruited for their experience of adversity during pregnancy and the early years of life. A key finding of the paper was that unless the financial and social consequences of lockdowns are addressed, the inequities arising from adversity are likely to be exacerbated by this crisis. To recover from COVID-19, the economic and healthcare needs of women and children living in adversity must be prioritised. By presenting these findings, ARACY helps create opportunities for governments, policy makers, business, philanthropy and practitioners working with children and young people to access, understand and use this knowledge.



This research paper, written in partnership with population and child health experts and published in PLOS ONE scientific journal explores the significant economic and social impacts experienced by mothers and children during COVID-19 pandemic. It is widely accepted that the conditions brought about by the pandemic – such as reduced employment, reduced social contact and remote learning – had negative impacts on the mental health of parents and children, both in Australia and internationally. Emerging global evidence suggests these impacts disproportionately affect families who were experiencing adversity (e.g. parental unemployment, low educational attainment, relationship difficulties, poor mental health) before the pandemic. However, there are few empirical studies examining the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic for mothers and children who were already experiencing adversity before the pandemic.



# Growing Capability

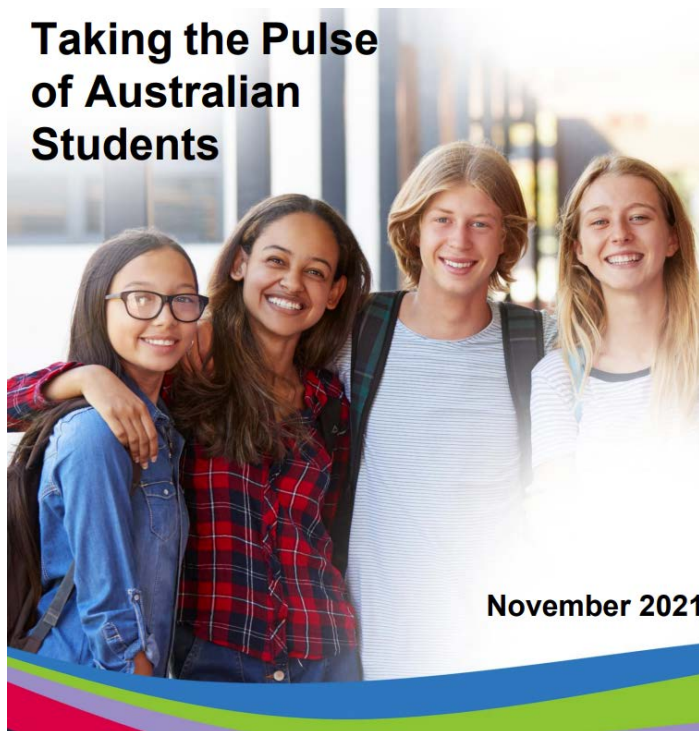


## Taking the pulse of Australian students: 2020-2021

Information gathered using the ei Pulse app told us approximately one third of students felt high levels of anxiety in the first year of the pandemic. In November 2021, ARACY released the report *Taking the pulse of Australian students: 2020-2021* which captures the key findings of the first 12 months of results from the app. The results of the study were shared by a range of news outlets including ABC News Radio.

Ei Pulse is a student wellbeing tool developed by Educator Impact (EI) and used to track and support student wellbeing in real time, providing a weekly check-in with students and enabling them to ask for help when they need it.

### Taking the Pulse of Australian Students



November 2021

## Webinar series on Early Childhood Education and Care

Across April and May of 2022 ARACY hosted a series of webinars on issues within the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) sector. In partnership with Thrive By Five, ARACY brought together a panel of experts to discuss how early interventions and support in ECEC can provide a key stabilising influence, protecting a child's development and supporting infant mental health. Our guest speakers were Dr Jon Jureidini from the University of Adelaide, Alma-Jane O'Donnell from Goodstart Early Learning and Dr Prue McEvoy, Lead Psychiatric Director for the South Australian Department for Child Protection.

# Growing capability

The second webinar was on early education and protecting children's resilience in the wake of disasters. For this we partnered with Royal Far West, three of whose clinicians and frontline workers spoke about programs and approaches to recovery and resilience and their work with children's groups in preschools and schools, parent groups and educators, examining grief, loss and recovery in the wake of disasters like the Black Summer bushfires and the floods of 2022.

The third webinar in this series was in partnership with the Children's Ground. ARACY hosted Children's Ground CEO Jane Vadeloo and Chair William Tilmouth to discuss the importance of First Nations children learning in ways that honour and embrace their heritage and their work in bringing Indigenous languages and practices to the forefront in their Early Childhood Care and Education programs.

Across these three webinars we had over 1,000 attendees and received extremely positive feedback on the value of the sessions and the quality of the guests and their presentations.

## Early Education and Care:

Protecting children's resilience in the wake of disasters



Wednesday 20 April, 2022  
12:00 pm AEST



*Early Childhood Education and Care*  
for infant mental health and  
strengthening a child's environment

Wednesday  
6 April, 2022

12:00 pm AEST



## Celebrating Indigenous First Languages in ECEC



with Children's Ground

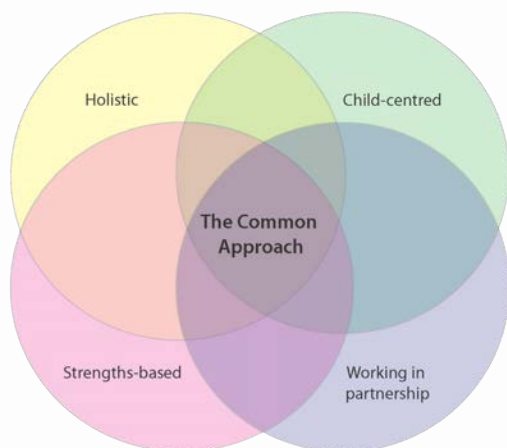




# Growing capability

## Common Approach® goes global and Evidence for Common Approach® released

The Common Approach® is best practice for having quality wellbeing conversations with children, young people and their families. It is flexible, prevention focused, and evidence based. The Common Approach consists of the four practices: 1) being child-centred 2) being strengths-based, 3) thinking holistically and 4) working in partnership/collaboratively.



Four practices of the Common Approach®

It has been a huge year for The Common Approach®. Over the past 12 months, there have been several significant milestones for The Common Approach®, including delivering training to the Helsinki Government and release of the Common Approach® evidence summary and detailed evidence document.

After years of discussion, the Government of Finland engaged ARACY to train a group in Helsinki to become Common Approach trainers. In October and November 2021 ARACY delivered four workshops and the group started to train practitioners in Helsinki across health, education and social sectors from December 2021. Some of the Helsinki-based trainers now have 'delivering Common Approach training' as part of their position descriptions to ensure this is a sustained initiative.

The Evidence for the Common Approach® is a detailed document outlining evidence supporting its practices across three levels; 1) evaluating the impact of the approach as a way of working, 2) research base of each of the four practices and 3) 'best practice' evidence – demonstrating where all four practices are utilised throughout various settings and sectors. evidence for the Common Approach® is a detailed document outlining evidence supporting its practices across three levels; 1) evaluating the impact of the approach as a way of working, 2) research base of each of the four practices and 3) 'best practice' evidence – demonstrating where all four practices are utilised throughout various settings and sectors.

The Common Approach® is one way we can ensure our children and young people have a more consistent, positive and empowering experience, with their wellbeing strengths and needs identified earlier.

# Influence Decision Making



## Showing the Light – report, video and webinar

*Showing the Light: Supporting Young Parents with Experience of the Care System* is a report from ARACY exploring ways to reduce the number of young parents in the Out of Home Care (OOHC) system and help break the cycle of intergenerational care experience. It presents recommendations that we hope can begin to address the needs and desires of young parents with a care experience; to make informed choices about when and how they become parents, to bring up their babies, create their own strong families, and live well with their children. It incorporates the findings and recommendations from Australian and international research and literature on young parents with experience of OOHC, and interviews with researchers, practitioners, advocates and care experienced young parents themselves. It aims to increase understanding of the experience and needs of these young people and provide an overview of the policy and practical recommendations that may lead to a reduction in the incidence of intergenerational interaction with the child protection system. An accompanying summary video was also released.

## Showing the Light

Supporting Young Parents with  
Experience of the Care System



# Influence decision making

ARACY ran a webinar on 2 March 2022 which combined a presentation of key report findings by ARACY's Barbara Barker and a panel discussion with special guests. ARACY was pleased to welcome experts in the field; Prof Philip Mendes, Director of the Social Inclusion and Social Policy Research Unit in the Department of Social Work, Monash University, and youth ambassador and young parent advocate, Shelley Keevers, along with Dr Joseph McDowall, Executive Director of Research with the CREATE Foundation, and Jessica Cocks, Manager Service Design and Innovation, Children and Families, Life Without Barriers. Both the webinar and the report highlighted key policy and practical changes that are needed within the OOH system to ensure better outcomes for the children and young people. It is hoped by presenting this information in a compelling way we can help influence future decision making and policy for the better.



## ARACY Pre-budget submission

Ahead of the 2022-23 budget, ARACY submitted a list of recommendations to improve outcomes for Australian children and young people.

Key recommendations included:

- a stronger focus on children and young people by government, with the measurement, reporting;
- improvement of the wellbeing of Australian children being a regular item on the agenda for National Cabinet; and
- overarching responsibility for the wellbeing of Australia's children, ensuring alignment of policy settings, service delivery, and effort across Commonwealth agencies and other jurisdictions through the National Cabinet to fall on the Prime Minister.

While these recommendations have not yet been fully adopted by the new government, steps have been made towards raising the profile of children and young people on the federal government agenda, with Dr Anne Aly MP being made Minister for Youth and Early Education. ARACY hopes the new government will take further steps to adopt the recommendations outlined in this submission.



# Influence decision making

## UNICEF Australia and ARACY's Child Wellbeing Index

In December 2021 ARACY and UNICEF Australia released the report *The Wellbeing of Australia's children*. The report captures a big picture view of how Australian children are faring across all aspects of wellbeing and how this is changing. It outlines what we are doing well, and which areas need special attention to help all Australian children thrive. The index is built on UNICEF Australia's five Children's Goals and framed around ARACY's six Nest domains of wellbeing. Key findings are organised by wellbeing domain and offer a comparison against other OECD countries.

This report ultimately aims to set policy priorities and guide action to ensure Australia is an equitable place to grow up. By showing where we need to improve, the report highlights what actions need to be taken to improve wellbeing outcomes for children and young people in Australia. It advocates for decision making that privileges children and young people and supports better systems and better outcomes.

This report provides a powerful and comprehensive picture of how Australian children are faring now and over time. In doing so, we hope to highlight key policy areas that can be leveraged to enhance the wellbeing of all Australian children, ensuring that every child can thrive.



# Catalysing Collective Action



## Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership launch

In May 2022 the Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership officially launched. TQKP was initiated by ARACY in mid 2020 in the midst of COVID-19 and concerns about how it will impact children, young people and families, and exacerbate the pre-existing disadvantage, trauma and insecurity, both immediately and into the future.



Image courtesy of Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership

TQKP recognises some Queensland children and young people are failing to thrive due to adverse life experiences and lack of access to the resources they need. Current systems are not sufficiently geared or connected to provide the right opportunities or supports, at the right time in the right way, which contributes to enduring inequality and poor outcomes for too many people across their life course. As a collaborative effort and by partnering with numerous research organisations, philanthropy group and not for profits, TQKP is giving effect to ARACY's vision and agenda to catalyse change by bringing people and knowledge together for the benefit of all children and young people across Queensland.

**Thriving  
Queensland  
Kids  
Partnership**



# Catalysing Collective Action

## National Early Language and Literacy Strategy - September 2021

The proposed National Early Language and Literacy Strategy (NELLS) is targeted at supporting Australian children aged five years and under, and their families, to develop their literacy and language skills as much as possible before they commence school. The Strategy outlines different types of supports needed to help children and families ensure school readiness by providing opportunities to develop language and literacy from the earliest possible point. Suggested measures include community support services for children and families, educational transition services, ensuring specialist support is available to those who need it; and making meaningful, relevant, evidence-informed knowledge about approaches that enhance the language and literacy available to families, communities, educators, practitioners, service providers and policy-makers.

As a member of the National Early Language and Literacy Coalition ARACY worked with Australian Library and Information Association, The Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation, Australian Literacy Educators Association, Early Childhood Australia, Indigenous Literacy Foundation, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, National and State Libraries Australia, Speech Pathology Australia, The Smith Family, with support from the Ian Potter Foundation.



## Thrive by Five partnership

ARACY continues to partner with Thrive By Five, a campaign focused on universal accessible and high quality early childhood education. A range of activities have taken place in the 2021-22 year, including the Canberra launch of the Thrive By Five Budget Submission, which called for major reforms to Australian Early education and child care policies and funding. Our ECEC webinar series was also done in collaboration with Thrive By Five.



# THRIVE BY FIVE



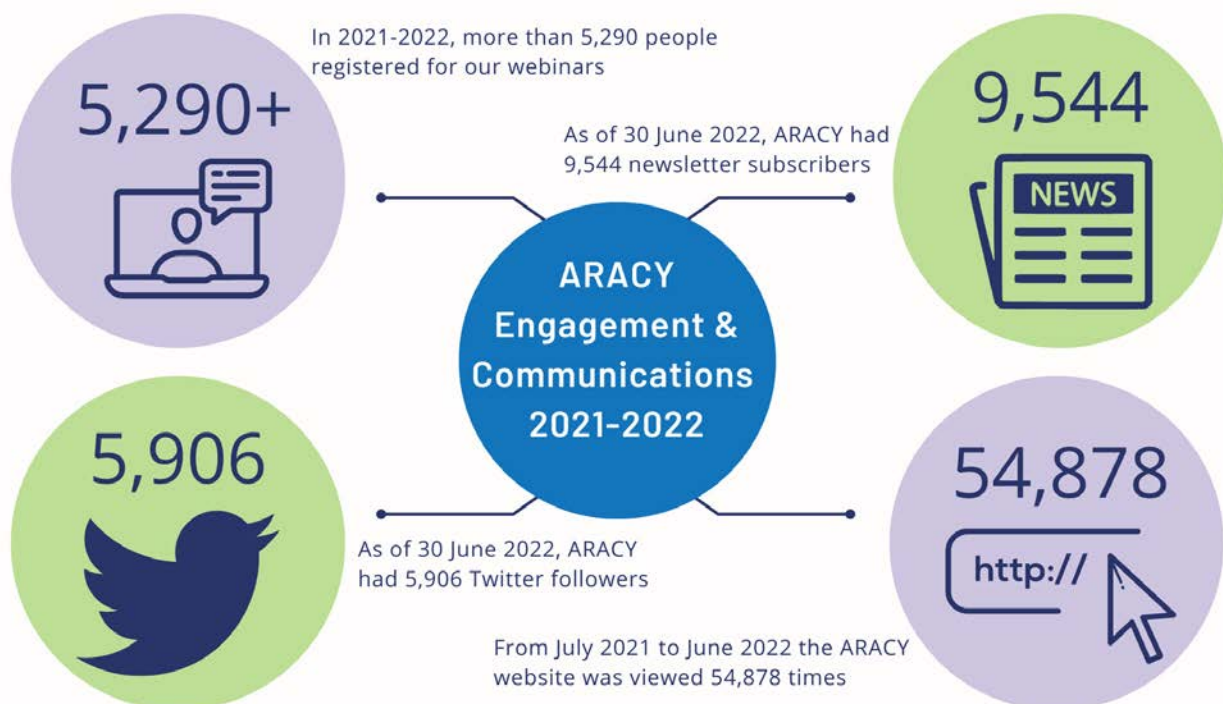
# Digital Communications and Engagement



2021-2022 was a major period of growth across the ARACY social media and digital communications channels. During this time the ARACY LinkedIn page topped 1,000 followers, while the Twitter account now has close to 6,000 followers. The Twitter account was also averaging nearly 3,000 profile visits per month in this reporting period, with 5,557 visits in August 2021 alone.

There was also notable growth in newsletter subscribers, YouTube channels subscribers and visits to the ARACY website.

## 2021-2022 at a glance



## ARACY Board 2021-2022

- Professor Gervase Chaney — Chair
- Professor Ngiare Brown
- Ms Anne Cregan
- Adjunct Associate Professor Shamal Dass
- Ms Hawa Mohammad (appointed 28 September 2021)
- Professor Kristy Muir — Chair, Audit and Risk Committee
- Dr Norman Swan
- Emeritus Professor Stephen Zubrick

## ARACY Staff 2021-2022

### *ARACY Staff over the reporting period*

- Penny Dakin — Chief Executive Officer
- Roslyn Dundas — Lead, Advocacy and Engagement, Company Secretary
- Dr Rebecca Goodhue — Lead, Capacity Building
- Diana Harris — Lead, Knowledge Translation
- Barbara Barker — Research Manager
- Amara Bains — Technical Lead, Systems & Evaluation
- Andrew Bedford — Communications Officer (until October 2021)
- Sarah Biggerstaff — Digital Communications Officer
- Shawn Jones — Executive Assistant (Jan – April 2022)
- Dr Kristy Noble — Principal, Collaboration and Engagement
- Lauren Renshaw — Research Officer
- Lori Rubenstein — Principal Adviser, Director - Brain Builders Alliance
- Sadhana Seriamlu — Policy Officer (until December 2021)
- Annmarie Thomas — Program Officer
- Carolyn Warren — Executive Assistant, Company Secretary (until October 2021)

### *TQKP staff over the reporting period*

- Michael Hogan — Convenor
- Louise Baldwin — Principal, Evidence, Learning and Implementation
- Nicola Callard — Principal Partnerships Officer (until April 2022)
- Kylie Caso — Principal Partnerships Officer
- Giselle Olive — Principal Partnerships Officer
- Afrouz Shoghi — Principal Partnerships Officer (until 14 January 2022)
- Angela Timbs — Partnerships Officer, Engagement and Communications

# Partners and Supporters

ARACY gratefully acknowledges the support of our partners and supporters in allowing us to continue our work on behalf of children and young people in Australia to 30 June 2022. Partners who have supported the Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership are noted with an \*

- Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO)
- Bennelong Foundation
- Besen Family Foundation
- BHP Foundation
- Catholic Schools Parents Australia
- Cages Foundation
- Centre for Social Impact – Social Impact Leadership Australia
- Children’s Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service\*
- Educator Impact
- Griffith University\*
- Hand Heart Pocket\*
- Health and Wellbeing Queensland\*
- Ian Potter Foundation
- Minderoo Foundation
- Paul Ramsay Foundation\*
- Queensland Family and Child Commission\*
- Queensland Mental Health Commission\*
- Queensland University of Technology\*
- Social Ventures Australia
- The Bryan Foundation\*
- The John Villiers Trust\*
- UNICEF Australia
- Woodside Development Fund
- City of Helsinki – Family and Social Services
- Commonwealth Department of Social Services
- Commonwealth Department of Health
- Commonwealth Department of Education, Skills and Employment
- Queensland Department of Children Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs\*
- Queensland Government Department of Education\*
- Queensland Department of Seniors, Disability Services & Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships\*
- NSW Department of Communities and Justice
- NT Department of Health





# Financial Position



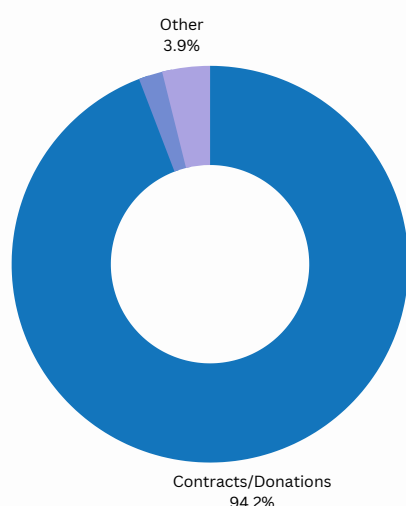
**ARACY continues to prioritise strong financial management, building solid foundations and delivering on projects with our partners.**

In 2021-22 investment was made for the future stability of the organisation, resulting in a deficit of \$323,083 for this financial year. ARACY's net assets were \$501,879 (Year ended 20 June 2021 net assets: \$824,961).

ARACY's financial statements for 2021-22 were audited by Hardwickes Chartered Accountants in accordance with *Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*.

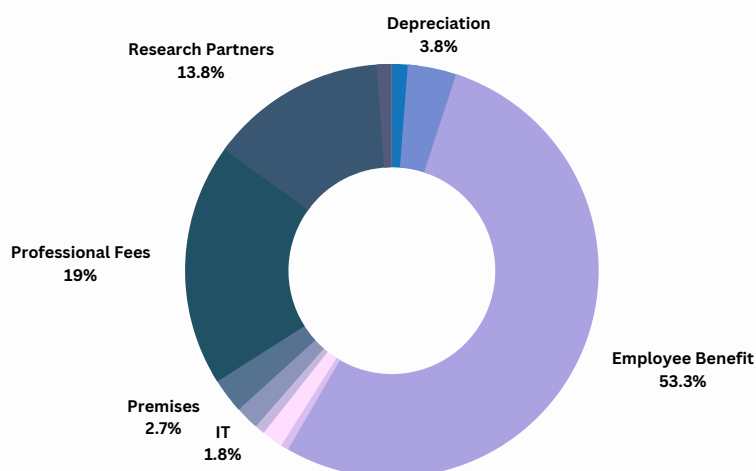
## Revenue

Source	Value
Contracts/Donations	2,075,903
Training	38,346
Interest	807
Other	8188
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,123,244</b>



## Expenses

Source	Expenses	Income
<b>Revenue</b>		<b>2,123,244</b>
Communication	30,105	
Depreciation	92,972	
Employee Benefit	1,304,922	
Events	14,819	
General	40,718	
Insurance	19,127	
IT	45,192	
Premises	66,656	
Professional Fees	464,218	
Research Partners	338,800	
Travel	28,798	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,446,327</b>	
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>-323,083</b>	



# ARACY Annual Report 2021-2022



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