

ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

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ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Landmark Industry Plan signed and work underway

During the 2021/22 Financial Year, the Tasmanian Government, in collaboration with the community services industry and TasCOSS, released the 10 year Tasmanian Community Services Industry Plan (2021-31). The Industry Plan is a significant piece of work which provides overarching framework for governments, peak bodies and community service organisations to guide strategic industry development and transition planning.

Notably, \$3.3 million in funding was granted by the Department of State Growth to further the Workforce Development and Training strategic priority area of the Industry Plan. This priority area is focussed on ensuring the community services industry has the skilled and diverse workforce it needs to deliver flexible, responsive services that can withstand future disruptors and achieve positive outcomes for clients. Following extensive industry-wide engagement, key governance and advisory bodies were established which will oversee implementation of the Industry Plan, namely the Industry Advisory Council, Industry Development Steering Committee and the Workforce Coalition Network.

A stronger statewide presence and bumper 2021 Conference

TasCOSS delivered on our commitment to having a stronger statewide presence evidenced by the dual location state budget briefing events in Hobart and Launceston, plus well supported networking and board events held in Burnie and Launceston. TasCOSS also held a number of informative and peer-led online Policy Conversation sessions on topics such as the 2022/23 State Budget, domestic and family violence, poker machine reform, and lived experience engagement.

Significantly, the two day TasCOSS Conference in November 2021 was well attended by more than 120 industry members and supporters and encouraged attendees to explore and learn from the 'Voices of Change'. The conference program featured a number of thought-provoking and dynamic presenters and plenary sessions, including author and advocate Carly Findlay OAM, demographer Bernard Salt AM, host of the ABC Radio National's flagship program AM, Sabra Lane, a panel exploring lived experience advocacy in the community services industry, plus many more.

Elevating the voices of lived experience

TasCOSS's new Community Voices Program recognises that experiences and perspectives developed through living on a low or inadequate income are a form of valuable expertise. This lived experience perspective is vital when it comes to ensuring the systems, policies, services and decisions which affect Tasmanian communities are fair and inclusive.

This trial program is succeeding in its core aim of ensuring people living on low incomes have their voices heard in a number of channels and forums, such as in mainstream media and in the formulation of informed public policy. Importantly, too, Community Voice Partners recruited by TasCOSS receive training, support, payment and recognition for sharing their lived experience expertise.



32 71

Policy Submissions & Resources

Industry Development, Training & Governance Workshops



277 9,587

Media Appearances

Helpdesk Enquiries

