



**Connected**

**2020 Annual Report | Western Australia**





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A young woman with glasses is sitting at a desk, focused on her laptop. The background shows a modern office environment with a brick wall, a lattice partition, and a window with a plant. The entire scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter.

**Our belief**

*We believe in the power  
of inspired young people*

# Who we are

## Mission

To provide opportunities for children and young people to grow in body, mind and spirit.

## 10 year vision

Communities across Western Australia are connected, inclusive, and vibrant and children and young people are developing and participating.

## Services delivered

In 2019-2020, the Y WA delivered **66 services** with more than **1,394,736 participations** by the community.

### Total services offered

Children's Services	47
Youth Services and Programs	11
Health and Wellness	4
Community Programs	4

## Values

Our values connect us with our heritage and wider Y community and define the worth of the people and communities we wish to work with.

The Y's of Australia are guided to achieve their mission by the following values:

### Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Caring.

- The whole person, consisting of a body, a mind and a spirit each of which is of equal importance
- The dignity and intrinsic worth of all people regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, belief or other differences
- Diversity of people, communities and nations
- Equality of opportunity and justice for all people
- Healthy communities based on relationships between people which are characterised by love, understanding and mutual respect
- Acceptance of personal responsibility

# Report from the President and CEO



Justin Eve, President



Ross Kyrwood, CEO

2020 has been a year like no other! A year interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, but one that in many respects has helped us re-affirm our belief (in the power of inspired young people) and validate our intention to be unwavering in our pursuit of impact for young people and the communities they exist within. The continued commitment to measuring the positive impact our services are providing WA communities can be seen throughout this report and highlights our journey of continuous learning.

Our year has been filled with stories of connection, resilience, innovation and flexibility and our Board and executive team are incredibly proud of the collective efforts of our teams in the face of adversity. In recognition of these efforts, this year's report explores the theme of connection to highlight our ability to stay connected with customers, clients, partners and staff.

## The year in highlights

Our continued focus on young people started the year in earnest, with Ross and our two international Change Agents, Natalie and Martin, joining the YMCA International Youth Summit in London. A global event celebrating the Y's 175th birthday, the summit also focused on a collective approach to intergenerational leadership across the movement. This then enabled our Change Agents to remain connected to a global network of young people (despite the pandemic) and ensuring the voice of young Western Australians is heard on a global stage.

The pandemic did halt two of our key youth activities this year; with our Collision Festival being postponed and then eventually re-scheduled for 2021, and Youth Parliament delayed until September this year. We look forward to big things from both events in the year ahead.

Our Youth Advocate, Alana, launched the YChats podcast this year. Developed by young people, with content delivered for young people, the podcast has been a great success in season one, with season two already underway. Read more about YChats in the article on page seven.

Our commitment to intergenerational leadership saw us welcome Orla Latawski to our Board, a young university student with a genuine interest to help the Y engage with young people. Our Board are thrilled to have Orla in the boardroom and look forward to her continuing contributions in the years ahead.

## Business growth strategy

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, our growth strategy in Children's Services has continued to progress and we are pleased to welcome staff, families, and children at Yappara House Early Learning Centre in Guildford. We also welcomed new partnerships with schools, families and children at Sheoak Primary, Phoenix Primary, St Joseph's in Albany, East Wanneroo, Kapinara and Bibra Lake primary schools. All of these services commenced operations in February this year, making it a busy month for our Children's Services team.

We continue to work with development partners in the Early Learning Centre (ELC) space and are now actively progressing four key development opportunities for 'greenfield' ELCs that are on track to open across FY2021/22. We have also embarked on a capital improvement program for many of our existing centres, with playground revamps completed this year at our East Cannington, Maylands and Ashdale ELCs, delivering a great outcome for children in those centres.

Our desire to narrow and deepen our footprint in Early Learning this year has seen us farewell staff and families at our Falcon and Bridgetown centres. We're pleased to report that in both cases, the new operators of these centres have committed to continuing support of young families in both regions.

## Community

On the community front, we continue to work actively in all of our local communities and have made significant progress in several of our key regions.

The Y in Kalgoorlie has undergone a significant physical transformation this year, which has enabled us to welcome and partner with several likeminded community organisations and deliver a truly place based approach to delivering outcomes for young people.

In Narrogin, we work proudly alongside the Shire, whose recent endorsement of the Y's Youth Engagement strategy and Development Action Plan will see the Narrogin Regional Leisure Centre as a central feature and location for youth engagement in the region.

In Port Hedland, we handed the reins of Mirnutharntu Maya over to Pilbara Meta Maya Aboriginal Corporation at the request of the Department of Communities, but remain committed to working closely with the local community to provide support for young people where needed.

We remain thankful and proud to work alongside these and other communities, and would like to acknowledge the City of Belmont, the Shire of Narrogin, the City of Vincent, the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder and the City of Bayswater for their continued collaboration and support.

## Our response to the pandemic

Like most organisations we were, and remain, impacted by the unfolding pandemic in many ways. Social distancing restrictions forced the closure of our recreation centres at Morley, Serpentine Jarrahdale and Narrogin for a period of weeks, and also suspended many of our Outside School Hours Care services when schools moved to shut down or remote models.

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the resilience and resourcefulness of all our staff across the state who, despite great adversity and in some cases personal sacrifice, took great pains to ensure continuity of service and connection to our many customers and participants. It was both humbling and rewarding to see our teams truly innovate throughout the shutdown to deliver virtual playgroups for children in our services, virtual fitness classes for our gym members, virtual youth work and social engagement for our young people and a true commitment to collaboration and working together as we navigated our way through the crisis.

## Our brand

The National AGM in November 2019 saw the movement vote to refresh our brand and logo to 'the Y', recognizing our colloquial and spiritual heritage, whilst also acknowledging our desire and need to be fresh and relevant to a younger cohort.

We have been able to leverage this refreshed brand in response to the pandemic, taking the opportunity to remind the WA and national public, that when it comes to supporting the needs of young people in crisis, there's a reason #YWeAreHere and have been for many years.

## Our thanks

In what has been an extraordinary year, we would like to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge all of our staff and partners that have worked tirelessly to ensure we have remained relevant and sustainable in uncertain times.

On the governance front, we would also like to personally thank our Board for their continued dedication and commitment to the Y. We would like to acknowledge Laura Koh, who resigned from our Board this year to spend more time with her growing family and welcome David Taylor, who in addition to Orla Latawski, joined the Board this year with key skillsets in education and youth between them.

# Corporate



## YMCA becomes the Y

After more than 110 years in Western Australia, YMCA WA is proud to announce a rebrand to 'the Y', as part of a national brand and logo refresh - the first in Australia in 52 years.

YMCA, an abbreviation of Young Men's Christian Association, is the largest and oldest (176 years) youth organisation in the world, with a reach of 58 million people globally. However, Governors of the 15 individual YMCAs across Australia came together to endorse the bold move in November 2019 at the 102nd AGM, after accepting the movement has evolved and the visual branding and name needed to reflect this.

Stemming from our shared belief in the power of inspired young people, the fresh new logo was developed by a collective of the Y brand leads across Australia, and pays tribute to the brand's heritage by retaining the triangle element of the Y's 'Body Mind Spirit' Mission, whilst de-emphasising the M (men's), C (Christian), A (Association) components of our brand to provide a contemporary feel for young people of today, who have much higher expectations and differing needs in terms of inclusivity and diversity than they did 176 years ago.

"I believe this name and logo change ensures we are more relevant to the people who use our services and in particular young people everywhere, and highlights what we stand for and our purpose - "We believe in the power of all inspired young people" confirmed Ross Kyrwood, CEO, the Y WA.



## Orla Latawski joins the Y Board as the newest young member

This year we were thrilled to welcome Orla Latawski to the Y Board as our young person member. Her role is to help connect the voice of young people to the Board and advocate for youth representation.

Orla has been involved in a variety of community programs and initiatives designed to empower young Australians. She first became involved with the Y in 2017 as a participant of the Youth Parliament (YP) program and has since remained connected to YP through the organising Taskforce.

She is the inaugural recipient of the Julia Gillard Women in Leadership scholarship and a member of the John Curtin Scholarship program at Curtin University where she is completing a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Arts (Journalism).

Orla has been a member of the WA Ministerial Youth Advisory Council since its conception in 2017 and was previously a member of a local government equivalent. She has a strong interest in political affairs and has been recognised with a number of national and local awards in this area.



“We’re thrilled to have Orla join the Board this year. We made a commitment to ensuring we not only heard the voice of young people in our boardroom, but had a real presence as part of our team.”

– Justin Eve,  
*President of the Y WA Board*

## #YWeAreHere campaign

For over 100 years, through every crisis, the Y has supported young people. That’s why the Y is the largest and oldest youth movement in the world. To ensure we were able to reach out to those who might need our support we created a #YWeAreHere campaign to highlight the services we provide.

“During the pandemic lockdown we saw young people respond with compassion and creativity,” said CEO of the Y WA, Ross Kyrwood.

“At the Y, young people have been developing online content to connect, engage and support one another during the COVID-19 crisis, with initiatives such as our YChats podcast and WhyNot website becoming great ways to connect with each other and open up new conversations.

“Feedback has been that these opportunities to connect have been a lifeline for many of our young people during the pandemic.”

YChats, WhyNot and our other youth engagement programs look set on continuing to connect young people and inspire social impact and positive change.



## Y Chats – 2 seasons down, more to go

So many amazing projects were launched in 2019 and one that is very close to our hearts and mission is our podcast, YChats!

YChats is for young people, by young people and is the very first YMCA podcast to be launched in Australia.

Its purpose is to start conversations about the issues young people in WA are keen to hear about, give practical advice and hear from real lived experiences. The Y consulted with young people to find the topics for each episode and find powerful real stories to share.

Season one saw young people sharing their lived experiences in issues such as depression, suicide, sexual assault, volunteering and domestic violence, as well as experts covering mindfulness, mental health and more. Season two is coming to a close with some hard hitting topics, from online safety, domestic violence in lockdown, male mental health, breaking down cannabis use, and trans and gender issues.

Search YChats on Spotify or Apple Podcast to listen.

“People often say that young people have to be given a voice. But that’s not true – we all have a voice, we just need a platform to get our voice heard and we need people to listen!”

– Alana Christidis *Communications Officer, Youth Advocate and host of YChats*

## Creating change, awareness and connection

Our two Change Agents, Martin Johnson and Natalie Woloszyn, tackled the year head on, by putting passion into action by creating local projects focused on mental health and empowering women in WA communities.

### Inside Our Minds

Driven by personal experience and a passion around mental health, Martin Johnson, Y WA Change Agent sat down with seven young Australians from Youth Focus to discuss their mental health experiences, personal challenges and how they could reduce the stigma.

Through these important conversations, 'Inside Our Minds', a series of short films, was launched during Mental Health Week in October, featuring these young people speaking out and ultimately letting other young people know they aren't alone on their mental health journey and there is help out there for them.

One young person interviewed as part of Inside our Minds answered how others can help you manage your mental health issues, saying "You can do your part just by having a conversation with someone, or asking them if they're okay and how they're doing. It might be awkward, but I'd rather have an uncomfortable talk with someone than have none at all."



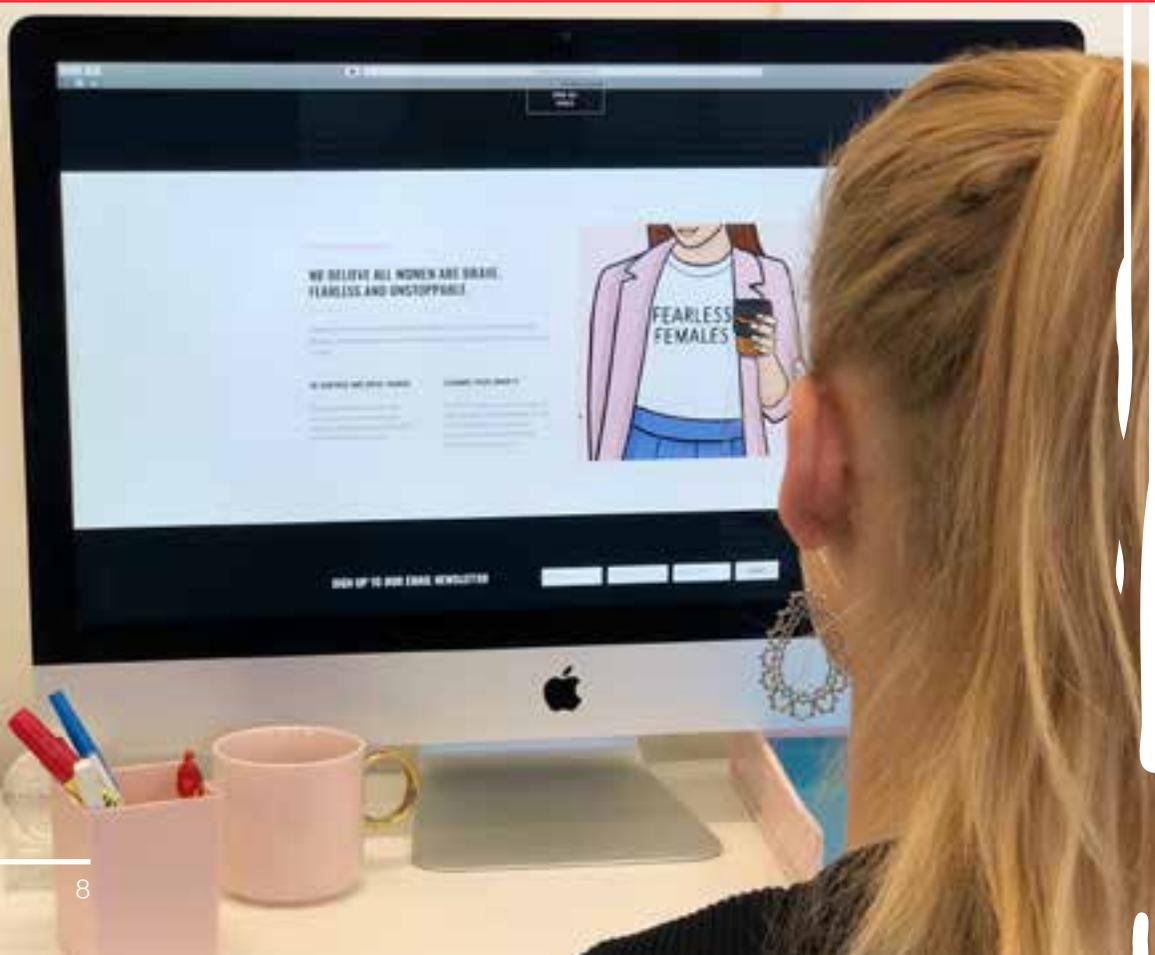
**7**  
Videos



**12,393**  
Plays



**48,496**  
People reached



### Fearless Females

Channelling her inner fearlessness, Natalie Woloszyn, believes it's important for all women to feel stronger independence and more powerful in society – now and moving forward into the future. By conducting a focus group at Y's youth hub HQ, Natalie spoke to a handful of young women about challenges and aspirations in their personal and professional life. Taking on the feedback from the group Fearless Females blossomed to life, an inclusive online platform for young women to connect digitally, hear from super inspirational women, and feel empowered through positive and relatable content.



When asked why she wanted to create Fearless Females, Natalie said, "It may sound cliché, but empowered women, empower other women. I wanted a platform to create a community of young women to lift each other up, be kind, liberated and empowered. There's nothing more inspiring than to hear from another woman how she overcame stereotypical challenges!"

# Reimagining the future

We know this period in our history is unlike any other, but young people have taken the reins and grasped the opportunity of going virtual, not just nationally but globally!

A few of our Y WA young people jumped online to partake in summits and panels during the Coronavirus pandemic, where majority of attendees tuned in on lockdown, yearning to stay connected. Martin Johnson, Y WA Change Agent, was one of three mental health panelists for the World YMCA Forum, highlighting the voice of young people impacted by COVID-19. Speaking in front of 600 participants, Martin discussed his most recent mental health campaign, Inside Our Minds which was supported by the Y, and the importance to reach out in a very isolated time.

The Foundation for Young Australians (FYA) partnered with Y Australia, with two Y WA representatives contributing to the online youth-led summit, where 250 young people from across the country shared their experiences of COVID-19 and worked collectively on what the solutions are to the issues they faced. Y WA participants spoke about challenges in education, employment and inclusion, as well as facilitating a Zoom 'break out' room to find solutions how to reimagine their future with other young people in Australia.



## the Y connects young people at the National Youth Retreat

In its second year, a Taskforce of Change Agents (a Y leadership development program) ran and facilitated the retreat in order to connect, celebrate and empower young staff and volunteers across the Y. WA was represented by two Change Agents, Martin Johnson and Natalie Woloszyn, and three delegates; Alana Christidis (Youth Advocate), Shenae Smith (HR Support Officer) and Caitlin Garner (the Y Bunbury ELC Centre Director).

Three key takeaways came blaring from the collective group of 50 young people after unpacking challenges, listening to numerous influential and inspirational Y leaders and workshopping solutions to tackle barriers head on and get comfortable with change:

1. **Talk to us** – we want leaders of the Y to find out what people on the ground need.
2. **Listen to us** – we as young people want to be invited to the table to contribute, we want to connect with leaders one-on-one. We have a voice, now we want to be heard.
3. **Take action** – we want outcomes, we want to increase diversity and inclusion, but reduce tokenism.

Young people are powerful, but so are leaders, especially if they work together.



## Youth Services



### HQ connects likeminded young people

Located in the heart of Leederville, the Y HQ youth hub features the Y's iconic gig space and art gallery, showcasing and supporting young people in a safe and creative space.

Through a range of different programs our youth workers unleash the power and the potential in inspired young people of WA to help set them on their journey to becoming their healthiest, happiest selves.

Zakari, a young person who attends the service confirms, "HQ has provided me with amazing opportunities to connect with likeminded youth of Perth.

With their help I was able to push myself harder and gain the mindset that has taken me from being a 'part time rapper' to now getting offered contracts from Los Angeles and headlining shows in Perth.

The energy and enthusiasm of the staff has been inspirational and beneficial to so many young people in the city."

The Y HQ youth centre, art gallery, gig space and youth services can be found at 60A Frame Court, Leederville.



**OVER 4,200**  
attendances in  
12 months





## There's no debate about Youth Parliament 2020

The YWA's Youth Parliament is an annual youth leadership program allowing young people aged 15-25 to talk about issues important to them in Parliament.

This year, the Youth Parliament Taskforce have worked tirelessly to adapt the program to fit COVID-19 restrictions. The 59 participants engaged in their leadership and bill writing training completely online, making sure the same level of mentorship was provided. The camp, normally held in July, has safely been postponed to late September, and will still culminate with the bills being debated at the Constitutional Centre of Western Australia.

Although it was virtual, our Youth Parliamentarians got a real sense of connection from the process and created bills around topics that matter to young people which they will put forward in Parliament.

Our CEO, Ross Kyrwood said, "Whilst the camp and parliamentary setting has been postponed due to COVID this year, we are very much looking forward to hearing this year's cohort debate their bills at the Constitutional Centre in September."

**91%**

felt better equipped to engage with their community after the leadership program



## We support youth voice

The national Y's outcome indicator for youth voice is the percentage of young people aged 15-24 years old who felt they could have a say within their community on important issues all or most of the time.

The most recent data from the General Social Survey by the Australian Bureau of Statistics is that 20% of 15 to 24-year-olds feel they can have a say within their community on important issues all or most of the time.

The Y WA started measuring this indicator with young people engaging with our youth services in 2019/20 and the result from our first survey was 37% felt they had a voice within their community, compared with the Australian average of 20%.

The results across the ages of the young people who engaged with us are also remarkably consistent. Since Y youth services prioritise giving young people a voice in the services it seems reasonable to conclude the way our Y youth workers respect and encourage the voice of young people has contributed to this significant result.



# 37%

of young people engaged with the Y WA feel they have a voice compared to the national average of 20%



## Drip drop, art don't stop

The Drip Urban Art Youth Program aims to engage the young people and the community in a safe and supportive space, enabling youth to develop their spray painting and large scale brush skills with a professional Urban Artist. Participants can express themselves creatively, share ideas and explore their identity through arts in a legal way.

The first session was a huge success, with many individuals expressing themselves through their art, whilst communicating with other members of the community. As an added bonus, HQ's walls have now been

surrounded by some epic art from young people, adding to the cool vibe!

Max, a program participant spoke to us about the program, and what it means to him.

“ To me it means there are legal ways to express ourselves through graffiti. It shows me there's not only an opportunity for artists to come write and have fun, but also for the community to get a fresh perspective on graffiti – it's not all illegal and not all criminal. ”



## Children's Services

### the Y's Children's Services join the dots to make a positive impact

At the Y, we are here to support young people, families and communities. With a challenging start to the year our vast Children's Services remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic to provide communities of Western Australia vital care for families and essential workers. The Y became adaptable and versatile, delivering services through online playgroups, communicating regularly during everchanging government announcements, ensuring families were supported through the child care relief package, but most importantly ensuring safety for each and every child and family was the number one priority. Building on the Y's vast experience in the child care sector, dedicated staff showed patience and adaptability to ensure the Y's much needed services remained open.

#### ELC Outcomes

100% of both 2 and 5-year-old children demonstrated age-appropriate key developmental indicators for feeling safe, secure and supported.

94% of 3-year-old children demonstrated age-appropriate key developmental indicators for a positive sense of identity.

92% of 2-year-old children demonstrated age-appropriate key developmental indicators for taking increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing.

\*Above statistics from July to December 2019

The Y WA now has **47 Children's Services** across the state.

**6 Outside School Hours Care services** joined the Y footprint in February 2020. (Albany, Spearwood, Baldivis, Bibra Lake, East Wanneroo, City Beach)



# OSHC Inspiration Awards

This year we launched our first Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) Inspired Young Person Awards. The award scheme was created to acknowledge children who have demonstrated inspiring behaviour or achievements and whose contribution to the community stands out.

We received over 60 nominations, which was a great result. Our judges (Ross Kyrwood, the Y WA CEO, Shane Mauger, the Y WA Executive Manager – Service Delivery, Jacinta Lydiate, the Y WA OSHC Manager, and Eva Lin, Director of the Y WA Board), then met to decide the winner. The decision was so tough they opted for one winner and three runners-up!

“Khloe-Martina was a clear winner. The fact her nomination was put in by a parent who didn’t even know her but just continually saw her support the other children speaks volumes,” explained Ross Kyrwood.

Each child nominated was presented with a personalised certificate congratulating them on being inspiring, whilst the winner and runners-up received a gift voucher and books for their school.



## Winner Khloe-Martina, Year 5

As the nomination read “I always saw Khloe-Martina helping kids with their schoolwork, comforting them when they were upset and my son said all the other kids love, trust and respect Khloe-Martina as she’s so kind. She is an inspiration.”



## Runner-up Tearia, Year 3

When COVID-19 lockdown started Tearia was in a supermarket when she saw a woman steal toilet paper out of an old man’s trolley. She was outraged and decided to help their elderly neighbour so she went down and knocked on her door till she answered! Tearia offered for herself and her mum to do the elderly neighbours shopping each week during the pandemic. She then went to a further two elderly neighbours to get their shopping lists as well. When asked what made her do it she replied, “It just seemed the right thing to do, after seeing how nasty some people can be to old people.”



## Runner-up Scarlett, Year 2

Her nomination read, “I think she is inspirational because pretty much everything is difficult for her and yet she still is one of the happiest, friendliest and caring little girls who always tries her best and would do anything to help someone else.”



## Runner-up Jayson, Year 1

Struggling with anxiety is hard, especially for young children. However, Jayson has worked really hard to overcome it and has really excelled with his studies, by rewriting a fairy tale completely by memory and improving his reading and counting.



## OSHC educates children about homelessness

Teaching children how to be empathetic can sometimes be a challenge but Waikiki OSHC Supervisor, Gabi, led by example when she took part in Rockingham's first annual Vinnies CEO Sleepout, which raises funds for the many Australians who are experiencing homelessness.

Gabi, together with local CEO's, business owners and community and government leaders, formed 'Team Rockingham', raised over \$9,500 and increased awareness of this growing problem.

Gabi explained, "It was so heart-warming how the children reacted when I told them about how I was planning to help raise money for people living on the streets by sleeping outside one night. Many of them had no idea about homelessness and were really curious about how it can happen to someone, or even a whole family".

As a result all the children agreed they wanted to do something to help so they made posters advertising the sleep out, which we posted around the town to help raise funds. They also built Gabi a bed out of cardboard boxes and decorated it with painting and hand prints.

"We were very proud of Gabi for being so selfless, and in doing so she taught the children such an insightful lesson and encouraged a much better understanding of the plight of people living on the streets. I hear it also helped the children appreciate their own homes a lot more!", confirmed Shae Welch, the Y WA General Manager – Children's Services.



## Building and strengthening relationships

In Western Australia, the Y has been working in local communities since 1908, providing opportunities for children and young people to grow in body, mind and spirit. As part of our ten-year vision for communities across WA to be connected, inclusive, and vibrant the Y has been providing a supportive program, in Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women encouraging positive parenting and strengthening relationships between mothers and their children.

### Good News Story

During a session, staff observed a mother who is generally quiet and reserved. With an increase of confidence as a result of the playgroups, the mother found it comfortable to connect with her baby through language and story-telling, sharing stories in Noongar and in English. As a result of these playgroups, the mother built on her parenting skills, connecting to her cultural identity and supporting her baby's language development.

**100%**

of mothers had good or increased engagement with their children, peers and/or YMCA staff

\*In outcome report October to December 2019

## A big hug from me to you

At the beginning of the pandemic, the Y Bunbury ELC wanted to give back and let the community know they were still here with big open arms (from a distance).

A four-year-old girl who missed visits from her Nana said, "It makes me sad I can't see people I want to see. Maybe we can do something which makes them happy".

Aware their local nursing homes were not receiving visits, they thought it would be nice for the children to draw pictures accompanied with a personalised message and a photo to the residents at Bethanie Fields, in Eaton. Some messages said 'We hope you're staying safe. We hope you can see your families again soon.'

Not long after, every child received a letter or drawing back from the residents. It was so special for the children opening and receiving the mail, putting a smile on everyone's faces, and even gaining a new friend, 'Viv', from the retirement village.

Peta, Lead Educator, said "The children are always thinking of others and wanting them to feel special and loved, even if they don't know them personally."





“The play and learning is fantastic and great to see on the StoryPark app. I can see my daughter is always happy and engaged during the day, which is really important to me.”

Quote from Customer Satisfaction Survey 2020, Albany ELC Parent

## Never missing a moment

Leaving your child in someone else's care is never easy, and at the Y's Early Learning Centres (ELC) we understand families want to remain connected and involved in their children's daily activities and be there for those little (but big) special moments. Which is why the Y, through feedback from families in the annual Customer Satisfaction Surveys, introduced StoryPark, an app which allows families and parents to follow their child's journey in a collaborative, safe online space. Built and customised around our exclusive Approach to Learning, families can see what their child has been doing in real time, connecting not only to the centre but with their child as well. The overwhelming majority of parents who use StoryPark say they feel more empowered by being so connected to the service and more involved in the learning process.

At Ashdale ELC, at the end of the day Billy\* went running up to his parent holding up a piece of art and exclaimed, “Dad, I painted this today!” to which the parent was able to respond they saw this on StoryPark, giving a greater understanding of their child's abilities and interests.

*\*Name has been changed for privacy.*



# 1,113

Families have signed up to StoryPark

## Celebrating two decades of service

It's with great fondness we celebrate key milestones of two educators within our Family Day Care (FDC) sector. With a phenomenal achievement of 20 years of service in FDC, Sandy Fisher has been part of the Y for 12 years, recently retiring this year. Sandy ran her service from a 5-acre bush block in Manjimup, and loved providing care for the community, who in turn loved the care Sandy provided.

Sandra Morgan, an educator in Augusta, also celebrated 17 years with us, and said, "FDC has been such a rewarding career. Over the years, I have been able to watch the children grow and reach milestones into their adult life, which is so fulfilling."

Family Resource Centre Manager, Denise Lynch, plays a huge part in managing FDC educators to ensure they feel connected to the Y and supported in the services they provide.

"Our educators hold the values of the Y in all the care they provide. They help children learn, grow and thrive in a safe and homely environment."

FDC is run by independent educators who are early childhood educator professionals, registered and managed by the Y Family Resource Centre in Busselton.



## Bringing Play In The Park indoors

Play In The Park, a community program based in the Great Southern, has supported their community during the Coronavirus pandemic by creating online playgroups and dropping off care packages, continuing to give children a chance to learn through play in an engaging, safe online environment.

Through these virtual playgroups children are introduced to multiple benefits; introduction of pre literacy and language skills, development of motor skills and increase of self-confidence, wellbeing and belonging. Parents are also benefiting from the playgroups by improving their parenting skills and giving them an opportunity to increase community connection and widen their support networks.

Jamie Scally, Program Coordinator said, "We wanted to help maintain some normality for children during the crisis and give parents a forum to connect."

Play In The Park has now resumed normal operations, back to local parks and community hubs to deliver their program, alongside continuing with engaging videos of Storytime through their YouTube channel.

## Community Services



## HEAL-ing the body and mind

The HEAL program was developed to support young girls to live a healthier, more active lifestyle as well as provide a safe space for self-discovery, development and reflection. Recently, a young girl attended who was incredibly shy and kept to her self. As she continued with the program, she stepped out of her shell and became more confident, to the point where she was the first one on the bus each day after school.

One day she excitedly told her peers that she and her family had found a home to move in to. She had been in between homes and had said that the HEAL program gave her a sense of belonging she hadn't felt before.



### Increased sociability and peer relationship skills

# 67% to 100%

\*In outcome report June to December 2019

## Indigenous afterschool program delivered to South Hedland

The South Hedland Child and Parent Centre has teamed up with Girl Guides WA to empower young Indigenous girls aged 7-12 through building self-esteem, confidence, teamwork, and respect.

This program is an Indigenous program delivered in the Pilbara region and has received a high level of support and acknowledgment from Elders within the community and local organisations. Over the two hour session, young girls will cover health, self-care, culture, art activities and cooking. During the COVID-19 period, these sessions were put on hold to protect and health of our local community, and have since recommenced.



## Recreation Services

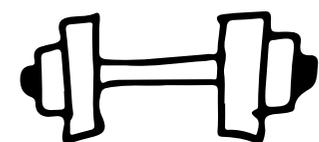


### Meet Ed, our oldest member at the Y Serpentine Jarrahdale Community and Recreation Centre

Never one to be held back, despite continuing to battle cancer since 2017, Ed has been using the Y Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Recreation Centre for over five years, when he started an annual seniors' concert, which has grown to having 60-80 seniors involved each year.

Currently at 83 years young, Ed is a dedicated gym member at the Y, training one to three times a week. Unfortunately, three years ago, Ed was diagnosed with bowel and prostate cancer, undergoing chemo and radiation. Ed decided to turn his life around and not let this stop him from visiting the gym and changing his diet.

"I believe the gym made me strong enough to get through that time of my life", said Ed.



A few years on, Ed is still living with cancer, but not letting it beat him as he continues with his fitness regime, health and social way of life.

"I love coming to the Y, there's a great crew here and everyone is very friendly. This centre has a big impact to those who come here", said Ed. We just hope we've got as much va va voom as Ed in our eighties!



## Connecting to the Kalgoorlie community

It's an exciting time in the Goldfields with the Y Kalgoorlie having been established as a community hub.

This idea was in the pipeline for almost a year. The Y wanted to provide a place-based approach to community, to give locals a place to belong. The community hall lets likeminded community organisations utilise the space to deliver much needed programs to the local community and with that young people.

As a result of this new space, the health and wellness gym has changed to a 24/7 community gym and relocated downstairs where the underutilised squash courts once stood. This shift not only allowed for the open community space to be created, it created a more functional gym facility that the local community have embraced in big numbers!

“We are really excited about becoming a community hub as we know so many more people in the area can join in and use the space. We will continue all our youth programs and look forward to becoming an even more impactful organisation for the community”, confirmed Danny Ireland, the Y Kalgoorlie Centre Manager said.

## Workouts with the Y – at home!

Keeping fit and healthy is essential for your mental wellbeing. Which is why Morley Sport and Recreation Centre made sure they were able to connect and engage with their members during the Coronavirus pandemic by moving online to provide fitness videos straight to the comfort of members' homes.

Workout videos were created relevant to their members as requested over social media, including strength, Pilates and ab workouts! These videos were shared across Facebook and YouTube, both state and nationwide.

Once state lockdown restriction eased, our gyms and leisure centres throughout WA have been able to return to their normal operations with Mark Furr, General Manager for Youth, Community and Leisure, remarking, “Participants have returned to our gyms in higher than anticipated volumes, which is fantastic! Equally the opportunity to reengage face to face in our community is something management and staff have relished. And, where necessary we are ready and able to support our patrons to combat the COVID curves.”



## Young People in Narrogin have their say on youth engagement

The Narrogin Regional Leisure Centre is one step closer to creating change in their local community for young people. At a recent council meeting, it was agreed to endorse the Youth Engagement, Strategy and Development Action Plan. This will enable the community to make public comment and subsequently enable the Y to progress the actions and recommendations made within the Narrogin community.

The centre is constantly creating opportunities for the local community to be heard. The annual Have Your Say Forum allowed the community to raise concerns or provide feedback to the centre which is then actioned to meet their needs.

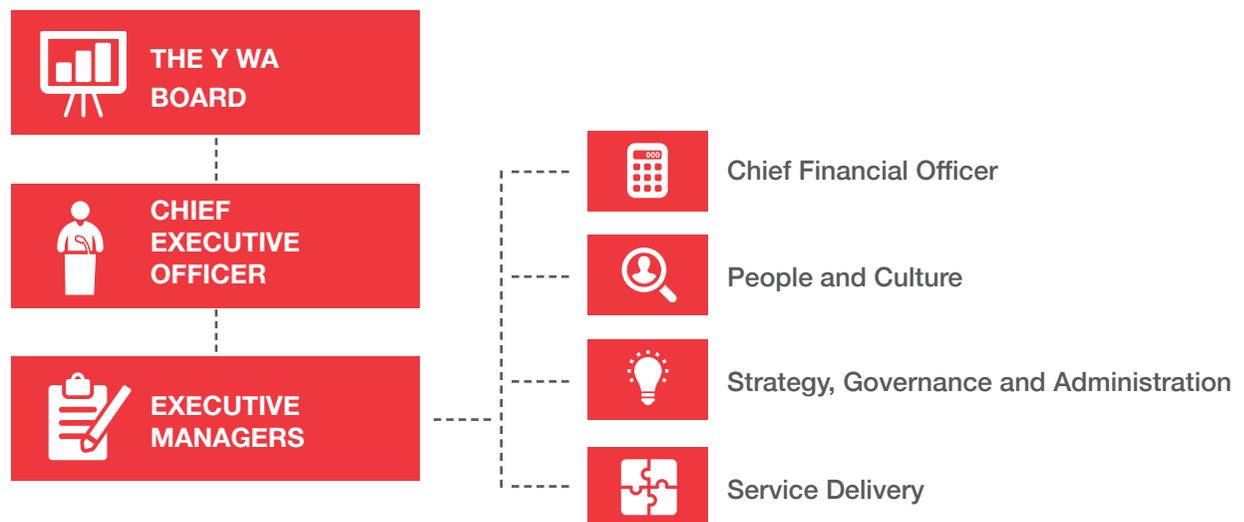
Almost 300 young people aged 9-25 responded to the survey that shaped the Action Plan.



# Organisational structure

The primary role of the the Y WA Board is to provide good governance through:

- Determination of purpose and strategy formulation
- Policy creation
- Monitoring of organisational performance
- Accountability - legal compliance, audit review



## Governance model

The Y WA will deliver on its mission and vision through a foundation of effective governance.

We will achieve this by maintaining a skilled and diverse Board committed to professional development. Equally, we will provide access and support to strong governance resources that enhance the Board's and management's ability to provide effective leadership.

We are also committed to robust legal, regulatory and compliance standards to promote good governance and the achievement of the organisational mission. Finally, we will develop a fully engaged membership.

YMCA of WA Youth and Community Services Inc. has public benevolent status, allowing it to also hold Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) endorsement.

## the Y WA Board

Membership as at 30 June 2020

**President:** Justin Eve

**Vice President:** Chris Campbell

**Treasurer:** Kendal Moss

**Directors:** Bruce Porter / Eva Lin / Ben Rosser / Jon Bilson  
Sheila McHale / Orla Latawski / David Taylor

# Our people



STAFF BY LOCATION	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Eastern Goldfields	27	4%
Perth Metro	417	67%
Pilbara	81	13%
South West	102	16%
<b>Organisation Total</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>100%</b>

STAFF BREAKDOWN	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Full Time and Part Time	286	46%
Casual	341	54%
Under 25 (does not include 25 year olds)	173	28%
Female	544	87%
Male	83	13%

SERVICE TYPE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Early Learning Centre (ELC)	201	32%
Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)	177	28%
Recreation and Leisure	153	24%
Youth	30	5%
Support and Community	66	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Did you know?

As at 30 June 2020 we had:

**1**

Employee with  
20 years of service

**4**

Employees with  
15 years of service

**7**

Employees with  
5 years of service

**25**

Employees with  
10 years of service

# Our partners and sponsors

The Y gratefully acknowledges our partners and major supporters for 2019-2020. The passion and spirit of collaboration of our partner organisations allows us to have a positive impact on the communities in which we jointly operate and for this our gratitude can never be overstated.



## Federal and State Government funding partners

Department of Communities

Department of Education - State Wide Services

Department of Health

Department of Local Government, Sport and Culture Industries

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Department of Social Services

National Indigenous Australians Agency

## Community partners

Australia Fitness Network

Belmont Community College

City of Kalgoorlie Boulder Creating Communities

Curtin University

The Earbus Foundation WA

Fitness Australia

Headspace Newman

Leederville Connect

Leisure Institute of Western Australia

Murdoch University

Newman Community

Newman Primary School

Narrogin Senior High School

Newman Senior High School

Ngala: Parenting, Family, Children and Youth Support

Nyoongar Wellbeing and Sport

Parks and Leisure Australia - WA

Parla-Parla Mob

Propel Youth Arts WA

RLSSWA

Shire of Cranbrook

Shire of Coolgardie

Shire of East Pilbara

Shire of Laverton

Shire of Leonora

Shire of Menzies

South Newman Primary School

WA Police Newman

World Vision

Special thanks go to all the individuals who volunteer their time and talent and to all the many other agencies and community organisations we partner with - thank you.



## the Y WA

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Email enquiries@ymcawa.org.au

[www.ymcawa.org.au](http://www.ymcawa.org.au)



The Young Men's Christian Association of WA Inc ABN 37 276 356 812  
YMCA of Perth Youth and Community Services Inc ABN 43 141 458 240