

# **YOUTH** REBUILDING YOUNG LIVES **INSEARCH**

A photograph of three young people (two women and one man) laughing and looking down at their hands, which are clasped together. They are outdoors on a paved surface. The woman on the left has curly blonde hair and is wearing a white knit sweater and denim shorts. The man in the middle has dark hair and is wearing a grey t-shirt with a black graphic. The woman on the right has long blonde hair and is wearing a denim vest over a colorful patterned top and jeans. The image is framed by a large blue circular graphic on the right side.

**ANNUAL REPORT 2016**



## FROM THE CEO

**This financial year has been an exciting one for Youth Insearch. Amongst other things, on 30 November we celebrated 30 years of operation with a function in Darlinghurst. Around 100 past and current participants, leaders, staff and supporters came together to celebrate an impressive 30 years of rebuilding young lives and 30,000 youth assisted.**

**This work has continued strongly this year with 1,103 people having participated in Youth Insearch programs. We held 19 central weekend workshops and 1,506 local support group sessions.**

The stories continue to be heart wrenching, yet the results phenomenal. Of the young people assisted this year 1 in 4 were victims of family violence, 1 in 2 were being bullied, 1 in 3 were dealing with family breakup, 1 in 2 were victims of physical violence, 2 in 3 had suffered emotional trauma, and 1 in 3 were victims of sexual abuse. 70% were abusing alcohol, and 50% were abusing drugs. 45% were violent towards others. 81% had thought about or attempted suicide. 51% had committed crimes. After participation in the program, 61% had overcome their substance abuse, 67% had stopped being violent, 70% no longer felt suicidal and 61% stopped committing crimes. These impressive results are as much a testament to the resilience of the young people as they are to the effectiveness of the program.

This work is made possible by our donors, to whom we are extremely grateful. A list of our donors can be found at the end of this report.

Youth Insearch continues to occupy a firm financial position. This year Youth Insearch benefited from an increase in revenue by \$70,000. The financial year audit is attached to this report.

Of course none of these achievements would have been possible without the team of people we have that make them happen, to whom we are all extremely grateful. This includes the volunteer leaders, support adults, and board of directors, as well as the staff team.

In particular, I would like to extend a special welcome to Sharyn Kuhn (State Coordinator QLD), Rita England (Senior Accountant), Wandy Tung (Senior Administration Officer) and Lana Leith (Administration Assistant), who joined the staff team this year.

Congratulations everyone on a fantastic year, and I know the coming year is going to be equally brilliant.



## OUR VISION

*"To be available  
to every young person  
in Australia."*



## OUR MISSION

*"To empower young people to take  
control of their lives, by giving them the  
opportunity and skills to develop their  
self-esteem and play a positive role in  
society."*



## OUR OBJECTIVES

- To reduce crime, violence, drug & alcohol abuse, self-harm and suicide in young people.*
- To relieve suffering and helplessness of young people affected by family breakdown, domestic violence, sexual abuse, bullying, grief and loss.*
- To enhance young peoples' self-esteem, by empowering them to take control of their lives*
- To break the cycle of family breakdown, by giving young people the skills to being a successful parent*
- To teach young people the positive values of life*
- To teach young people the value of education, increasing school retention and employability*



# THE NEED

Many young people in Australia today are impacted by problems stemming from poverty, broken homes, domestic violence, sexual, physical & emotional abuse, grief and loss.


As a consequence, they struggle with education, employment, homelessness and mental health; often turning to suicide, self-harm, drug & alcohol abuse, crime and violence.

This has the potential to impact them long term, often into the next generation. There is a need for programs that intervene early and assist at-risk young people to improve their lives.

 **1 IN 4**  
were victims of  
**FAMILY VIOLENCE**

 **1 IN 2**  
were victims of  
**PHYSICAL ABUSE**

 **1 IN 2**  
were being  
**BULLIED**

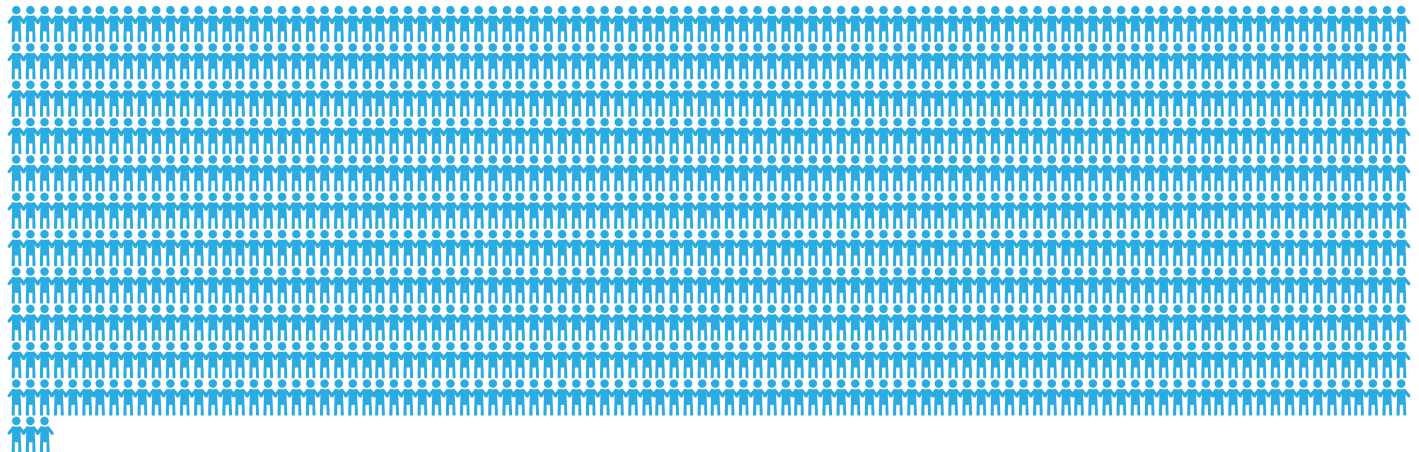
 **2 IN 3**  
were victims of  
**EMOTIONAL TRAUMA**

 **1 IN 3**  
were dealing with  
**FAMILY BREAKUP**

 **1 IN 3**  
were victims of  
**SEXUAL ABUSE**

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## 1,103 People Participated In The Program





# THE SOLUTION

The solution has come from the young people themselves who with the founder devised the program in 1985.

## They identified their need to:

- Have the opportunity to talk about their issues and concerns in a truly caring and trusting environment.
- Be listened to and affirmed by their peers, thereby getting a sense that they are not alone.
- Have the opportunity to gain insight into their own lives by listening to the experiences of others.
- Be part of the solution



## OUR PROGRAM

The Youth Insearch Program was developed based on the principles above and refined over time. It is a proven comprehensive early intervention program of counselling, support and empowerment for at risk young people aged 14-20 delivered through weekend workshops, support groups, peer leadership & support, role modeling, individual mentoring and the creation of positive peer support networks.

The program works by allowing young people to confront and deal with the reality of the pain in their lives. By drawing on the resources of other young people that have experienced the same issues, and addressing the real problem or underlying issue, the young people seek positive alternatives within themselves, turning away from a life of despair and destructive behaviour.

The program intervenes early allowing young people to deal with their issues as they start to appear.

## WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

The first step in the Youth Insearch program is completed by attendance at a Youth Insearch weekend workshop. The workshops are a 48 hour retreat commencing at 6pm on a Friday and concluding at 3pm on a Sunday. They involve highly structured therapeutic group work processes. They are administered by extensively trained youth leaders, adult facilitators and a clinical supervisor.

A typical workshop consists of approximately 65 young people, 10 to 15 support adults, plus the team. Topics explored at the workshops include communication, self-esteem, trust, family conflict & dysfunction, neglect, domestic violence, drug & alcohol abuse, sexual assault, physical & emotional abuse, grief & loss, self-harm & suicide, adolescent health, sexuality and bullying.





# 19 WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

**In Victoria, 5 workshops were held at Rawson Village.**

Participants attended from areas including Bairnsdale, Sale, Morwell, Maffra, and Melbourne.

**In New South Wales, 4 workshops were held at Lake Keepit, and 3 at Toukley.**

Participant groups attended from areas including Sydney, the Central Coast, Port Macquarie, Tamworth, Armidale, Gulgong Gunnedah, Inverell, Moree, Manilla, Narrabri, Werris Creek, Quirindi, Coonamble and Coonabarabran.

**In Queensland, 4 programs were held at Duckadang and 3 in Bundaberg.**

Participant groups attended from areas including Brisbane, Bundaberg, Hervey Bay, Maryborough, Gympie, Sunshine Coast, Deception Bay, Caboolture, Dalby, Chinchilla, Miles, Kingaroy, Roma, Toowoomba, Brisbane and the Gold Coast.



# 1,506 WEEKLY SUPPORT GROUPS

In Victoria, 5 Support Group locations held 260 weekly support groups

Participants attended from areas including Bairnsdale, Sale, Morwell, Maffra, and Melbourne.

In New South Wales, 11 Support Group locations held 572 weekly support groups

Support Groups were held in Armidale, Castle Hill, Coonabarabran, Coonamble, Gunnedah, Manilla, Moree, Port Macquarie, Quirindi, Tamworth, and Uralla

In Queensland, 14 Support Group locations held 728 weekly support groups

Support Groups were held in Gympie, Bundaberg, Maryborough, Miles, Hervey Bay, Kingaroy, Chinchilla, Beenleigh, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Noosa, Dalby, Gold Coast, Roma.

## SUPPORT GROUPS

Between the weekend workshops the young people attend weekly support groups in their local area. The support groups are held within a few days of each workshop and then at the same time and place each week.

Young people are not eligible to attend the workshops unless they have a support group to attend following the workshop and agree to attend a minimum of three support group meetings.

Support groups continue the process of positive change. They ensure a structured means by which participants can integrate their new awareness with the reality of their situation.

As the workshops are generally held every four to six weeks this enables the young person to remain connected between the workshops.





# TYLER'S STORY

My life started out as normal. When I was a very young child I felt loved and wanted. Then as I grew up, my Dad got addicted to drugs & alcohol. Angry about his addiction, he started to hit my brother and me. The older we got, the more often he hit us, and the more violent he became. I still remember the fear I felt living at home.

**"I was repeatedly sexually abused by a family friend. I felt so bad about myself, that I started self-harming regularly, and made two suicide attempts."**

Then when I was 8, I was repeatedly sexually abused by a family friend. I felt so bad about myself, that I started self-harming regularly, and made two suicide attempts. Eventually, I got so angry with my situation, that I became really violent. I lashed out, beating up my father, and sadly my brother. The police were called on many occasions. I stopped attending school, because I didn't feel I was worth an education. It just hurt to care anymore.

It was at this point that I was referred to Youth Insearch. At Youth Insearch I met other young people who had been through the same things as me. I realised I was not alone. I found a place that I was accepted and cared for just as I was. In the groups they spoke about how they had overcome their problems, and they inspired me to do so as well.

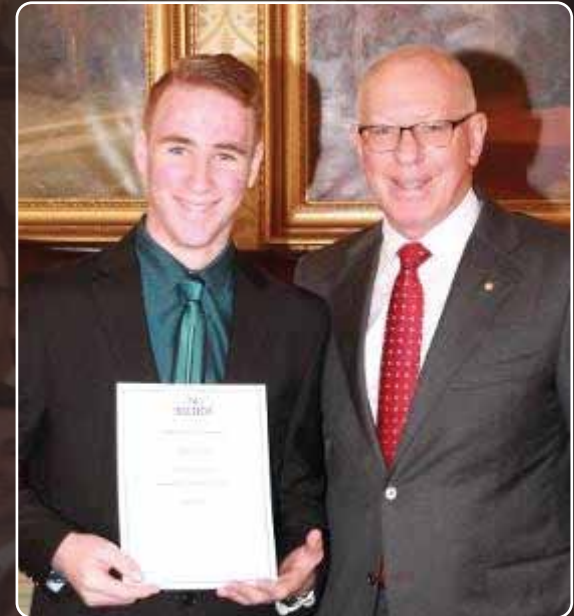
Through the program, I confronted my issues, and with the help of Youth Insearch moved out of home to live with caring people. I now realise I am worth an education and a future. I now want to be a Police Officer.

So I'm back at school full time, doing well, and working hard to obtain my HSC. I have completed the Youth Insearch Leaders Training, and graduated as a Youth Insearch Leader at a ceremony hosted by the Governor of NSW at Government House.

Just last month, I shared my story to a stunned crowd at the Rotary International District Conference. Standing there, I realised how different my life was to just a little while ago. How lucky I was to have Youth Insearch (in fact, I think I may be dead if not for Youth Insearch).

**"I now realise I am worth an education and a future."**

This is why I share my story. So many young people are hurting for reasons that are not their fault. The youth suicide rate is still so high. People might see all the bad behaviour, but not the torment that goes on in their hearts. Youth Insearch sees this, and knows how to stop their suffering, and rebuild their lives. There are so many of my peers that need its help.



# LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The Youth Insearch program is delivered by extensively trained Youth & Adult Leaders who are held in very high regard.

## YOUTH LEADERS

The Youth Leaders are past participants in the program and are positive and real examples to the young participants of what is possible despite a negative background. They play a key role in the delivery of the program.

They are responsible for the administration of the weekend workshops and support groups and facilitate various sessions.

They also sit on the Program Council which oversees the design and administration of the program. They have the final say on any changes to the program and on the selection and assessment of Youth Insearch Leaders.

## ADULT LEADERS

The Adult Leaders are from services who work with the young people in a professional capacity or general members of the community with a demonstrated commitment to the program.

- 2 separate week-long residential workshops
- 12 months of practical training and assessment in the Youth Insearch program

The Adult Leaders perform an oversight role on the weekend and facilitate the more in depth sessions. They recognise the need to be supportive without being intrusive.

Youth Insearch Leaders undergo an intensive 12 month training course consisting of:  
Youth Insearch has high level corporates and professional trainers donate their time to conduct this training.

In September 2015 Youth Insearch conducted the final week of Leaders Training for the 11 trainees of the 2015 cohort.

The First Stage of Leaders Training that is usually held in April has been scheduled for July, due to alignment between School Holidays across states. In July 23 new trainees will meet to start their own journey to become Youth Insearch Leaders





# LEADERS GRADUATION

On the 1st of July, 6 trainee leaders travelled to Government House in Sydney to be accredited as Youth Insearch Leaders.

**His Excellency David Hurley commended the young people on the work they have put in throughout the training period and congratulated them on their triumph over adversity and their commitment to giving back to the program that empowered them to make the changes in their lives.**

At the ceremony Heath Ducker, CEO congratulated the leaders on their achievements. Graduands Tyler and Caitlyn both spoke about their journey through the Youth Insearch program. There was not a dry eye in Government House as they spoke of the adversity they had overcome to become Youth Insearch Leaders.

His Excellency also presented a group of worthy supporters Certificates of Recognition for the contributions they had provided for Youth Insearch. These recipients were representative of the hundreds of volunteers and supporters that enable Youth Insearch to continue its vital work.



# OUR RESULTS

Youth Insearch results are impressive and widely acclaimed. There have been thousands of remarkable turnarounds in young people's behaviour and attitudes to life as a result of their involvement in the Youth Insearch program. This is supported by four independent reviews and our internal statistics.

In terms of independent reviews, the Australian Institute of Family Studies (2009) found, "cumulative data from independent reviews and program evaluations evidence the program has a success rate of 80% in that most young people return to their communities challenged for change and the results are long lasting" (pg.6).

The Urbis (2003) review (commissioned by the NSW State Government) found positive outcomes across multiple behaviour and well-being measures and that the program had a sustained positive impact on these issues over time.

- Less trouble with police and crime (83%)
- Higher self-esteem (65% immediately, increasing to 76%, 6 months after)  
Improved family relationships (70%)
- Reduced suicidal thoughts and attempts (65% no longer suicidal, 80% no more suicide attempts)
- Reduced alcohol and drug use (66% increase in not drinking, 71% no longer using drugs)
- Better attendance and attitude to education (for 58%)

## This included significantly:

Our internal statistics are taken from evaluation forms participants complete following their first weekend workshops and subsequent workshops.

## In 2016 the results from the evaluations were:

- Prior to the program 70% were abusing alcohol and 50% were abusing drugs. Following the program 61% were able to overcome substance abuse.
- Prior to the program 45% were violent towards others, following the program 67% had stopped being physical violent.
- Prior to the program 81% had thought about or attempted suicide, following the program 70% of those no longer felt suicidal.
- Prior to the program 51% had committed crimes, following the program 61% stopped committing crimes.

**8 OUT OF 10**

No longer **FELT SUICIDAL**



**7 OUT OF 10**

Stopped **PHYSICAL VIOLENCE**



**5 OUT OF 10**

Committing **CRIMES**



**8 OUT OF 10**

Stopped or **Reduced DRUG USE**



**6 OUT OF 10**

Stopped or **Reduced ALCOHOL USE**





# A STAFF PERSPECTIVE

Before working at Youth Insearch, I owned my own business but felt very strongly that I needed to be doing something that could make a difference. My husband was the Investigations Manager at Fulham Correctional Centre. He and I would have those conversations on the veranda of an evening on what interventions could be made to make a difference for some people who end up in prison, so with the encouragement of my family I went back to school.

**“I didn’t know it at the time but my real education was about to begin!”**

My introduction with Youth Insearch was through student placement, I was studying a Diploma of Community Services Work. I chose Youth Insearch to do my first year placement. If I’m honest with myself, I felt that this was in my comfort zone as I have four kids and I have been on many camps and coached junior sport. I didn’t know it at the time but my real education was about to begin! I was about to embark on an experience that would change my thinking and enlighten me to other people’s reality.

Through my experiences and observations with Youth Insearch I have seen how important it is to have a rapport with the young people. They are not going to connect if they think you are not being genuine. Many of the young people are hurt or broken by what life has dished out to them and they don’t trust adults. We treat each young person as an individual, they need to know that you are listening to them.

Trust is a huge issue with these young people and at the beginning of the program it is discussed how information is confidential and the only time there are discussions outside of the program is when there is fear for someone’s safety.

I have had a lot of different jobs and thought of myself as being fairly bomb proof. I didn’t know how far from the truth that actually was. I now have a better understanding of what some of the struggles our youth drag themselves through every day. I have been lucky to have the support and encouragement of the right people around me.

**“I now have a better understanding of what some of the struggles our youth drag themselves through every day.”**

Listening to a couple of our young people at support meeting; an 18-year-old who had a very tough demeanour and a very impressive reputation was trying to express his thoughts into words but was struggling. “hey you just have to listen to your heart don’t ya?” says a 15-year-old boy; a boy who had suffered horrendous bullying and who had been removed from mother because of neglect, drug issues, sexual and physical assault. pretty much sums it up for me, young people supporting each to take on life regardless of what they have been through.

My journey to date with Youth Insearch has progressed from student placement to volunteer support person, trainee leader, leader and now Community Coordinator and I am now understudy learning how to facilitate group therapy sessions.

I have personally grown so much from my beginnings with Youth Insearch. I feel very excited for the future of my role, I love the rush when you make new connections with services and agencies, expanding our reach to help more young people.

**Maree May**  
**Community Coordinator**  
**Gippsland VIC**



# YOUTH INSEARCH TURNS 30!

Youth Insearch is 30! Over 30 years, we've helped 30,000 troubled youth!

During the month of November, as part of our birthday celebrations we celebrated the program participants, who make the program great, by releasing 30 inspirational participant stories during the course of the month.

On 30 November, we held a 30th celebration at the National Art School in Darlinghurst. Chairman of the Board, Garry Rothwell, generously hosted the event to celebrate the 30,000 young people that Youth Insearch has helped over 30 years. He also flew in our staff and many of our volunteers Leaders from around the country, to thank them for all their hard work and dedication.

The night was opened by His Excellency David Hurley, followed by powerful speeches from Garry Rothwell and Heath Ducker. Two brave Leaders also addressed the gathering, Mym and John. They both talked candidly about the traumas they faced during their early years. They both spoke about how Youth Insearch was the catalyst that supported them to work through their pain and empowered them to take control of their lives.



Following the night the Youth Insearch staff and volunteers returned to the work , to ensure Youth Insearch could deliver 30 more years and turn around many more young lives.





To celebrate 30 years, Youth Insearch also took the opportunity to rebrand, sporting a new logo and a brand new website. These changes have not changed the heart of the program, but represent Youth Insearch coming of age and preparing for growth as we strive toward our vision of being able to be available to every young person in Australia.

**Behind the scenes Youth Insearch is harnessing the power of new technology. Implementing enterprise level cloud computing to support communication between our mobile staff and volunteers and developing a CRM system to automate many business process so that Youth Insearch can achieve greater reach with its precious resources.**

By 31 we want participants, volunteers and supporters to be able to engage with Youth Insearch from wherever they are. Enabling referral, registration and follow-up to be not limited by distance.



# THANK YOU DASHER!

When retired stock-broker Daryl Allen (aka Dasher) was told that Youth Insearch, who he's supported for more than two decades had its federal government funding slashed by \$300,000 it was the trigger that sparked another assault on arguably the world's toughest individual endurance race.

*Dasher's first fundraising efforts involved trivia nights he and his finance industry mates held in the Sydney CBD in the early 1990s which raised more than \$350,000. Since then, the money he has raised has hit the \$1 million mark.*

In May this year, Dasher completed the 515 km Ultraman Australia Challenge at Noosa, becoming the oldest person in the world to complete the demanding course. Day One was a 10km swim and 140km bike ride, Day Two, a 281km bike ride and Day Three, an 84km run; with only 12 hours per day to complete each stage. With only one minute to go on day three, Dasher ran into the record books to become the World's Oldest Ultraman! The final tally raised for Youth Insearch was over \$100,000. Dasher also helped spread awareness of Youth Insearch, achieving coverage on print, radio and television media, including The Daily Telegraph, Alan Jones and the Today Show. The Youth Insearch phone lines continue to ring with both new supporters, volunteers and people looking for help, after hearing about Dasher's amazing feat.





# FORMER WALLABY JAMES HOLBECK JOINS US

Youth Insearch has been fortunate to gain a new ambassador for the program, in former Wallaby play James Holebeck. James attended his first weekend workshop in May and now has committed to supporting the of Port Macquarie area to access the program. The following is James' account following his first program.

*"Over the weekend I sat in a circle with a heap of beautiful kids defined as at-risk. Their stories when shared were brutally confronting.*

*At different stages we were asked to hold hands with the person next to us or to give a hug. I knew at times I was holding hands with or hugging girls that had every reason not to trust a man enough to do so. I knew through their experiences; the boys would find it difficult to demonstrate that kind of tenderness. Sometimes they have no memory of ever being warmly held by an adult. I thought about the step of trust they must take each time. It was such a privilege to hold and to be held.*

*A song was played at each session while holding hands. It's funny when you listen to the words in an otherwise silent setting just how powerful their meaning can be. As the words of Foreigner's 'I wanna know what love is' were playing, I was reminded that just last week I had reflected on my very capability to understand love. Here it was on full display.*

*I'm grateful for the people that make up Youth Insearch. For being that safe hand to reach for when no-one else seems to care. For showing that these kids are worthy of love even when they can't see it in themselves. For accepting them with a warm embrace. Showing them that*



*they are worth fighting for. I am thankful for those beautiful kids for their strength and courage just to survive. To those young leaders who vulnerably opened their hearts to share their own stories in order that others might find strength & strategies to endure."*

Find out more about James at  
[www.jamesholbeck.com](http://www.jamesholbeck.com)





# TEARERIN'S STORY

17-year-old Tearerin is a Youth Insearch Trainee Leader and has taken it on herself to break the cycle of at risk teens – all while studying for her HSC.

Tearerin is extremely vocal about detaining troubled youth, highlighted recently in the Northern Territory, and strongly believes it is victimisation not rehabilitation. Having been surrounded by dysfunctional young people her whole life she knows a little goes a long way to breaking the cycle of despair.

*"Nobody becomes addicted to drugs or alcohol or is involved in crime by choice, there is ALWAYS a reason, and these reasons need to be dealt with," she said. "Locking them up doesn't solve the problem, how about showing some compassion, teaching some coping skills and simply caring. Listening and giving people a voice is what's needed not locking kids up where they learn to become better crims."*

A product of a dysfunctional childhood herself, Tearerin's father was jailed for seven years for drug-related crimes when she was just 6 years of age. Always extremely close to her dad, Tearerin struggled to fill the void left by his incarceration and grew increasingly angry and isolated. Constantly surrounded by kids addicted to drugs and alcohol she knew there was so much more to life, she just needed a way to find it. Despite still being enrolled, she admits she'd reached a stage where she was starting to miss a lot of school, felt her life had no purpose and decided she either continue on her troubled path or change the way she was living and actually look forward to a future.

Tearerin was then introduced to Youth Insearch, at the program she was taught the positive values of life alongside the value of education, increasing school retention and employability and has recently become a trainee leader within Youth Insearch and finds great comfort in being able to help others.





# OUR STAFF



**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Heath Ducker**

Heath is unique as he brings to Youth Insearch both his experience as a participant in the program and professional expertise. As a teenage participant in the program, Heath was empowered to throw off the shackles of an almost Dickensian childhood. One of 10 children of several fathers, Heath lived in abject poverty, in an old run down housing commis-

sion home. At age 11 he was sexually abused by his best friend's father. The young people at Youth Insearch inspired Heath to overcome his own difficult background.

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Heath has worked as; a Lawyer for a top 10 law firm; for the NSW Attorney General and in Human Rights Law in India.



**General Manager**  
**Stephen Lewin**

After a 19 year career with the NSW Government, Stephen was appointed General Manager. With commitment to creating public value, he has focused on organisational change through transformational leadership. Stephen has led management teams in Disability Services, Home Care Services, Case Management and Clinical Teams. Stephen has

completed an Executive MBA and Graduate Certificate in Public Sector Management.

**Program Manager**  
**Jennie Linton**



Jennie has worked in community services for 15 years. Jennie attended the Youth Insearch program 10 years ago bringing her clients and was so impressed she continued to attend the program. Jennie became a Youth Insearch Adult Leader and has taken up a vital role as Team Leader on many of the Weekend Workshops. Jennie has qualifications in Counselling, Community Services Management, Youth Work, Business Management, Training & Assessment, Jennie was instrumental in founding the Western Downs Youth Hub. Jennie worked as QLD State Coordinator and recently was appointed Program Manager.

**State Coordinator Vic**  
**Sharon Schofield**



In 2005, Sharon established Youth Insearch in Victoria. Sharon worked and volunteered for Youth Insearch for the last 12 years. In Sharon's spare time she volunteers for Make-A-Wish and Youth Referral and Independent Persons Program. Prior to coming to Youth Insearch she worked in Marketing and was Personal Assistant to the Telstra Regional Manager for Victoria.



### **State Coordinator QLD**

**Sharyn Kuhn**

Sharyn has worked in the community sector for over 14 years and initially found her calling as a volunteer crisis phone counsellor. Sharyn specialised in working with individuals and families to reduce the harm associated with alcohol and other drugs misuse and mental health. Sharyn has extensive experience in operational and project manage-

ment and has been responsible for a portfolio of diverse programs across regional and remote areas of QLD and NSW.



### **Community Coordinator QLD**

**Heather Cummings**

For the last ten years Heather has been working in organisations supporting and assisting young people and their families who are struggling with issues affecting their lives. Heather has completed a Certificate IV in Education and a Certificate IV in Counselling. Heather has worked extensively with children in the Queensland education system with

both mainstream children and children with learning difficulties in primary schools. Heather is married and has three sons. She is passionate about her community and the wellbeing of young people.

### **Community coordinator NSW**

**David allard**



David has spent the last 15 years as a youth worker, completing his Diploma of Community Work and initially working with the homeless and at-risk youth across the Sydney's western suburbs and Blue Mountains then moving to Queensland to Coordinate a youth crisis housing service in Gympie. Before youth work David worked in the sign and graphic

design industry for around 20 years, owned and operated a family business. David loves Rugby Union and Cricket, previously coaching the women's rugby side in Batemans Bay.

### **Community Coordinator VIC**

**Maree may**



Maree May is new to working in the community services sector, after raising four children with her husband and working different jobs to fit around her family including running her own café, she decided to find a job that with more meaning. Maree completed a Diploma of Community Services Work. Commencing at Youth Insearch in a first year work

placement. Maree loved Youth Insearch so much she stayed on as a volunteer. On completing her Diploma Maree was offered a position at Youth Insearch. Maree has been an Auswim instructor and coached junior netball.





### Youth Hub Coordinator

#### Kylie Boshammer

Working with children and young people for 13 years, Kylie has taken the lead role at the Western Downs Youth Hub. Kylie oversees the running of the Youth Hub and supports young people to access the Youth Insearch program from the Western Downs region. Kylie is a mum of three and has 2 grandchildren. With Diplomas in Community

Services and Child Services, Kylie loves working with the community and meeting new people



### Senior Administration Officer

#### Wandy Tung

Wandy joined Youth Insearch at the end of June this year, bringing with her over 10 years of accounts experience. Having completed a university degree in Social Work in 1986, Wandy mainly worked with young people for a few years in Hong Kong. Wandy appreciates the opportunity of working with an organisation that supports young people.

### Senior Accountant

#### Rita England



Rita England is a CPA qualified Accountant and has more than 10 years experience in the Not-For-Profit sector, mainly in the Aged Care Industry. She has held senior financial accounting positions with Kinicare, Anglican Retirement Villages, Anglicare and has undertaken some contract work with HammondCare. Her experience lies in financial reporting,

system implementations and obtaining efficiencies through efficient use of electronic systems. While Rita is looking to reduce her workload she is keen to use her financial and management accounting skills to provide back to the community through adding value to Youth Insearch.

### Administration Assistant

#### Lana Leith



Lana is based in head office in Castle Hill. Lana joined the Youth Insearch team after raising two boys at home. Lana is new to the community services sector and has previous experience in customer service, IT and administration roles.

# OUR BOARD



**Chairman**  
**Garry Rothwell**

Garry is the owner and Managing Director of Winten Property Group. Winten is one of Australia's most established private development companies. Garry and Winten have received many property industry awards over the years and notably, in 2011, Garry was honoured by the Urban Taskforce of Australia as the "Property Person of the Year".



**Secretary**  
**His Honor Magistrate Malcolm McPherson**

Malcom McPherson was appointed as NSW Deputy State Coroner in 2006. Malcolm's previous positions include: 1972 Appointed as Coroner for the State of New South Wales; 1987 Admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of NSW, 1991 Appointed Magistrate in New South Wales. Malcom has heard many juvenile criminal cases while on circuit. Malcom was

responsible for establishing Youth Insearch in regional NSW in 2000.

**Treasurer**

**ANDREW GREGORY**

MAppFin, B Comm (IB, HRM), GAICD

Andrew is an experienced Finance Executive & Company Director, holding senior roles in both the commercial and human resource functions of a professional wealth manager, credit union and private health insurer. Currently the Head of Financial Planning for Hillross Financial Services,

Andrew's background is in managing the growth and professionalism of AMP's Private Wealth Management businesses. Andrew is also a Company Director of a medium sized Private Health Insurer Peoplecare and a former Company Director of Quay Credit Union.



**William Gill**

William is a business analyst and consultant and holds senior management positions. William is currently head of mergers and acquisitions at ECONomics Group. William's roles include Commercial Manager at Kyoto Energy Group and CEO of Wind Corporation Australia. William has 35 years in these senior management positions.







### Jared goodwin

Jared has been involved with Youth Insearch for over 18 years. Jared has been involved in all aspects of the organisation, as a participant, youth leader, adult leader and support adult and former employee. Jared has held senior management positions at his former employer and is currently a senior business development manager with Bowermans Office Furniture and Maybell Group.



### Jodie sangster

Jodie has over 17 years' experience in data driven-marketing and advertising. Jodie is the CEO of the Association for Data-Driven Marketing & Advertising (ADMA). Jodie also serves as the chair of Global DMA, an organisation that represents, supports and brings together over 30 marketing associations from around the globe. Prior to joining ADMA, Jodie held senior executive roles in sales and marketing

in New York and the United Kingdom. Jodie holds a Bachelor of Laws from Kingston University and a Masters of Laws from University College London

### Alan Kuczynski



Alan started Australia's first integrated marketing communications company DDB. Alan acquired APM Training Institute which he developed into one of Australia's highest regarded private Business Colleges. Alan now runs a consultancy, as a trainer, facilitator, mentor and business advisor. Alan is a fellow, board member and vice president of the Australan Marketing Institute, fellow of the Institute

of Sport, board member and chair of the marketing committee of the NSW Sports Federation, and board member of the Australasian Promotional Marketing Association. Alan has 19 years of experience in Youth Insearch as a facilitator, trainer and board member.

### Robert smith



Robert has recently rejoined the Board after having served on the Board for 9 years. Robert is the owner of Halix Pty Ltd prominent property developers based in Manly in NSW. Robert is a leading member of the Manly community serving as President of the Manly Chamber of Commerce from 1997-2001, and 2005 to present, on several Manly Council subcommittees, as a Director of the Manly Golf Club, and previously as Vice President of the Urban Development Institute.

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