

A group of people holding hands in a circle, symbolizing unity and community. The image is a close-up, low-angle shot of several hands clasped together, with a bright, warm light source in the background creating a soft glow and lens flare. The hands are of various skin tones, and some are wearing colorful sleeves or gloves. The overall mood is positive and supportive.

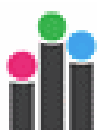
Extended Families

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Reconnecting and Growing Together

CONTENTS

OUR PEOPLE	2
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	5
CEO'S REPORT	6
SUPPORT COORDINATION	8
MY TIME	9
LINC - LINKING, INCLUDING AND CONNECTING	10
EXTENDABLE – ONLINE PROGRAM	13
REBALANCE	14
PROJECT PROGRAMS	15
VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY PROGRAM	22
PLAN MANAGEMENT	24
VOLUNTEER MATCH	25
VOLUNTEERS RECOGNISED	25
TREASURER'S REPORT	26
FINANCES	27
DONORS AND SUPPORTERS	28
SERVICES	29



OUR PEOPLE

Committee of Management

President	Katherine Shamai
Vice-President	Anthony Privitelli
Treasurer	Mei Wu
Members	Graeme West (Resigned 19 Sept 2021) Peter Ernst-Russell Michael Louis Bryce Williams

Management Team

Chief Executive Officer	Julie Langdon
Interim CEO	Graeme West
Manager – North West	Tamara Williams
Manager – South East	Rosemary Nicholls
Business Manager	Diana Abelardo
E-Learning	Derek Green
Project Manager	Julia Klieber
LinC and Quality Manager	Nicole Leathem
Volunteer Program Leader	Amanda Perry
Plan Management Leader	Roz Talib

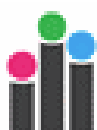
Administration Team

Administration	Margaret Fitzgerald Olivia Nam
Finance	Nurasikin Ahmad
Plan Management	Hai Tran Cindy Cheng Ahysa Ahmad Peany Nguyen Long Bui
HR/Data Officer	Cindy Cheng

Staff team

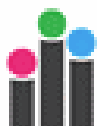
Coordinators and Group Facilitators

Chloe Anderson	Hannah Helmy	Thi Mai Tinh Nguyen
Kerrie Brown	Ashleigh Hicks	Margarita Nguyen
Siobhan Barry	Quynh Hoang	Nghia Nguyen
Vi Bui	Karlie Ignatiadis	Amanda Perry
Natalie Chan	Jessica Jones	Jade Purchase
Rachel Collins	Thuy Thi Le	Helen Roberts
Emily Curran	Shuhan Liu	Megan Sapiano
Danny Do	Quyen Ly	Zoe Sweeney
Nga Do	Emily Ma	Yoyo Tang
Sarah Drucza	Nicola Marriot	Chloe Thoo
Thi Thuy Duong	Georgina Moore	Quyen Tran
Cherry Eaton	Kylie Judith Moore	Nghi Trinh
Hayley Farnan	Hung Nguyen	To-Chau Truong
Ashleigh Gibson	Kim Anh Nguyen	Graeme West
Andrea Gonzalez	Kim Van Nguyen	Yuki Yuen
Phuc Hong (Eric)	Lan Anh Nguyen	Doris Zhang
Keely Hay	Thanh Nguyen	



Inclusion Support Worker Team

Demi Adams	Marnie Drake	Mirette Keriakes
Dau Akol	Emma Druce	Madeleine Khalu
Lawra Alkalame	Sarah Druzca	Mona Khoder
Chloe Anderson	Mollie Duncanson	Minho Kim
Chiara Arena	Madeleine Dunn	Kayleigh Knipe
Halime Ayranci	Liam Dunn	Alana Laslowski
Christian Bandiera	Cristine Enero	Claudia Lawrence
Zoe Barber	Kate English	Bobby Le
Tahlia Barry	Jessica Fargo	Isobelle Leong
Jacoub Barsoum	Hayley Farnan	Shaun Lim
Bronte Batten	Hannah Fitzgerald	Vivian Ly
Nicola Bilson	Matthew Forge	Chantelle Lyons
Rem Boih	Charlotte Fortuyn	Kathryn Mackie
Chantelle Boucher	Ricardo Francois	Eliza Mahar
Amy Bowen	Eleanor Fuller	Yvonne Makowska
Cameron Bowles	Ruby Galambos	Dewni Manamperi
Jarryd Brand	Nadia Garofalo	Nelson Mancini
Thomas Brand	Brooke Getley	Anna Mangan-Georgiou
Neni Brobi	Ashleigh Gibson	Esther Manoharan
Eamon Brodie	Dylan Gillies-Parsons	Samuel Mansour
Gemma Brunetti	Vanessa Ginnane	Ryan Marinelli
Lewis Burns	Devona Gistau	Elizabeth Matassoni
Lauren Cameron	Monique Grech	Sia Mattoo
Luke Camilleri	Ksenia Grosheva	Ella McDonald
Eve Capetola	Ayden Hamilton	Charley Mcfawn
Madeline Carney	Rikki Lea Harrington	Lachlan McKirdy
Alexander Carroll	Spencer Harrop	Charlotte McMaster
Sophie Carter	Keely Hay	Snjezana Merlo
Sofia Caspersz	Hannah Helmy	Johanna Mihalas
Tianqi Cen	Georgia Hill	Kylie Judith Moore
Natasha Chahda	Rylie Hogan	Claire Morrison
Natalie Chan	Amelia Holden	Joshua Morrissy
Natasha Chan	Emma Howden	Ella Murtagh
Nicole Cheung	Guanxi Hu	Daad Najmeddine
Nikki Chong	Ainsley Hughes	Abbey Nation-McGurgan
Bridget Clark	Paris Hughes	Kang Ren Adam Ng
Mikayla Clarke	Chelsea Huynh	Daniel Nguyen
Dana Clarke	Jonathan Huynh	Hung Nguyen
Zoe Claus	Alisa Ianev	Thanh Ngoc Dan Nguyen
Alexandra Comben	Ayesha Ibrahim	Thanh Thanh Nguyen
Ebony Corless	Karlie Ignatiadis	Olivia Nicholson
Kaitlyn Corso	Eve Isaac	Savio Nona
Vlidan Cosgun	Chloe Jackson	Thomas O'Hehir
Alisha Cox	John James	Maryam Osman
Kyle Dawe	Jan Johnston	Jude O'Sullivan
Tori Debrincat	Lauren Jordan	Mikaela Ottoson
Claudia Del Brocco	Christina Kanellopoulos	Siv Cheng Pang
Despina Despotellis	Harsimran Kaur	Nika Papadatos
Domenica Dessman	Manjot Kaur	Kirri Parkinson
Melissa Di Bartolo	Emmalee Keegan	Yiannis Patogiannis
Britney Di Gregorio	Sebastian Kellett-Renzella	Chanel Pavitt



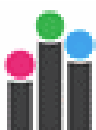
Belinda Pellegrino
Dalena Pham
Nicholas Plail
Carla Presutti
Finn Pritchard
Jade Purchase
Adriana Radi
Ashleigh Rattan
Stephanie Renzis
Tanna Reynolds
Isaac Richards
Anna Riley
Alexander Rischitelli
Madeleine Roberts
Edward Robins
Jessica Robinson
Scarlett Robinson
Tayla Robinson
Jessica Rodaughan
Ashlee Ruskin
Jessica Ryan
Rebecca Salib
Peter Salvador
Charli Sargeant

Flora Sawa
Julian Segulin
Hannah Sexton
Luke Shinton
Madeline Simioni
Mary Slayo
Grace Slocombe
Paulette Sola
Sarah Stevens
Mark Stolk
Charlotte Sutherland
Katelyn Sutton
Rozalie Synowiec
Rebecca Tang
Sophie Tasker
Alannah Taylor
Hayley Thomas
Vanessa Thomas
Kate Thompson
Elise Thurman
Cindy Tran
Ruby Treweek
Billy Trewin
Ying Tse

Oliver Turner
Myah Turner-Revach
Jeyda Ulutas
Elif Uzgun
Mary Van Gils
Monica Vangeli
Brandon Vannee
Prudence Wall
Steffi Walton
Elizabeth Ware
Tiffany Wasnig
Hannah Webb
Emily White
Emma White
Rebecca Withers
Ferris Wong
Natalie Wong
Georgia Woodrow
Alexander Yong
Nagwa Zaytoun

Financial Auditor

Mitchell Wilson and Partners, Chartered Accountants Malvern



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am pleased to submit the President's Report for Extended Families Australia.

As we emerged from lockdowns and resumed a modified version of our pre-pandemic lives over the course of this financial year, it was clear that reconnecting was a key priority for many of us, both personally and professionally. Whilst Extended Families Australia has enjoyed continued growth in the clients we support over the last two years, this year's theme of **Reconnecting and Growing Together** really encapsulates the desire for many of us to see our supporters, friends, and family and reconnect with them face to face.



Whilst the ability to reconnect in person is an attractive idea for some, it was not necessarily the case for everyone. We went through a period of adjustment to find the right balance of remote working and working in offices, and whether to continue online support or provide support in person. Throughout this period of transition and adjustment, the Extended Families Australia team really listened to our clients in order to provide the most suitable way to deliver our services and support our clients and their families. This meant retaining online elements which were popular, such as ExtendABLE, but shifting other offerings back to in person, such as MyTime, where in person reconnections were highly valued.

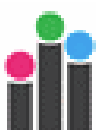
The year was not without its challenges; in particular with the shortage of appropriately skilled staff. This continued trend has impacted not just Extended Families Australia but the disability support sector more broadly. Both the Committee of Management and Management team are very conscious of this, and to ensure it does not impact on the quality of services provided. As a group, we actively discuss and consider this at all Committee of Management meetings.

I would like to recognize the great work by Julie, the Management team, and staff at Extended Families Australia, and for their dedication and passion in providing the best support for our community. It is a pleasure to work with and support such a dedicated group. Their commitment to Extended Families Australia's community shines through in our strategy sessions, and in their interactions with the Committee of Management.

As we reconnect with our communities in person and reforge relationships, I look forward to continuing the growth journey with Extended Families Australia.

Katherine Shamai

Chairperson



CEO'S REPORT

Our theme this year 'Reconnecting and Growing Together,' aptly describes this financial period. After adapting to the freedoms afforded to Victorians at the beginning of 2021 (post our first COVID lockdown), we were reluctantly thrown back into hard lockdown just as the 21/22 FY ticked over. The whole of Victoria had to pivot back to working from home and adjust our services by fostering connections remotely wherever possible.



Staff used video chats, phone calls and message threads to stay connected and motivated as a team and we all swung back into our WorkOut! competition for a month of connecting through exercise such as online Jazzercise, yoga or HIIT sessions.

We continued to work with participants and families, many of whom were missing key services and experiencing increased stress from living without access to important community and NDIS supports.

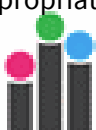
Support Coordination was an especially valuable service at this time because it was often the first service participants would reach out to when so many others were not operational. I would like to acknowledge the important and challenging work our Support Coordinators do every day to support families and manage crisis – their work brings them close to the hardships faced by our most vulnerable participants and has a significant impact the quality of life of the people they support.

The end of '22 brought the end of lockdowns which also meant the spread of covid in the community. Staff worked hard to manage risk, and support participants to safely re-engage with face-to-face services. LinC ramped up recruitment and responded to an influx of requests to resume 1:1 community services; we had Vuon Len and Tham Gia groups (described below) eager to transition to seeing each other in person; and we also hosted popular day camps to connect families to the community by facilitating fun whole-day activity-based events.

ExtendABLE online facilitated in person outings to connect all the participants who had developed friendships in the online groups; My Time Parent groups got together in person to create a space for children to play, and for parents to support each other in their journey in parenting children with disabilities or chronic medical conditions. We also received a grant that was solely focused on supporting Victoria's carers to feel valued and to access health, education, employment and wellbeing options, a service which was then granted funding for a further 4 years.

Plan Management saw growth in participant numbers and worked on transitioning to a new CRM (MYP). MYP's integrated CRM will allow our PM team to process invoices more efficiently and provide better customer experience by offering real time information about individual plan budgets.

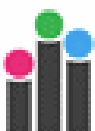
A key challenge this year and heading into 22/23 financial year is to use innovation to attract appropriate staff. The disability services industry is experiencing staff shortages at all levels, which



is felt most significantly in our Support Coordination and LinC Programs. We are trialling alternative advertising avenues, reviewing, and offering competitive employment benefits, and ensuring that our work environment and culture recognises and values the wonderful staff we already have. This is done by seeking and acting on feedback from staff, offering excellent support and supervision, and fostering a culture of respect and consideration for individual staff needs.

Extended Families has proven itself to be a resilient organisation, that manages adversity and comes out the other end strong, and with new insight and knowledge. We head into the next financial year with true optimism to continue to build on our varied services that offer real value to the people we support.

Written by Nicole Leathem, Acting CEO, on behalf of Julie Langdon



SUPPORT COORDINATION

At Extended Families our Support Coordination Program consists of two teams of Support Coordinators totalling about 20 staff, who provide support to approximately 500 individual NDIS participants. One team is based in Coburg and the other at our Box Hill office. Staff generally have a background and qualifications in social work, psychology, disability or community services.

The Support Coordination role is a varied and complex one. It involves providing support to NDIS participants and their families to understand and implement their NDIS plan. Each plan is allocated funding in a range of different categories. Support Coordinators help participants and their families understand what the plan is all about, link them to appropriate NDIS and mainstream services, monitor their plan's budget, and often provide them with a range of other emotional and practical supports.

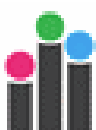
Our Support Coordinators are often supporting families experiencing many complexities, including family violence, mental health, financial hardship, homelessness, child protection issues and families who have multiple people in their household with an NDIS plan.

We have ten Support Coordinators across our two teams who speak either Vietnamese or Cantonese and/or Mandarin. The number of referrals for staff speaking these languages continue to be consistent. We also engage with interpreters to assist us to work with families who speak languages other than English. We continue to recruit for bi-lingual Support Coordinators to meet this demand for language and culturally specific support. NDIS is a complex system that is particularly challenging for those whose English is limited.

Over the past 12 months we have transitioned from the numerous lockdowns in 2021 to supporting families as they navigate reconnecting with their community and the wider world again. It has been wonderful to see Support Coordinators visiting families in their home environment after long lockdowns, and hearing about NDIS participants starting to access services by joining groups and events, having face to face therapy and accessing the community with support workers.

As we navigate the post-Covid world, we have faced challenges with some Support Coordinators leaving Extended Families to travel or to seek new opportunities elsewhere. There has been a very competitive recruitment market across the community services sector so at times we have struggled to fill vacancies with appropriate staff in a timely way. Our staff have been very supportive in sharing the additional workload this has caused, so that families are not left unsupported after a staff member leaves.

We are very appreciative of our hard working Support Coordinators, and for their dedication and commitment to provide quality, consistent support to the families we work with.



MY TIME

Extended Families has been providing My Time groups for families for many years. These groups are for families who have a child with a disability or chronic medical condition to come together and provide support to one another and learn more about parenting and available services .

My Time is funded by the Australian Department of Social Services (DSS) under the ‘Families and Children’ program. The Parenting Research Centre manages the program across Australia. Until end of June 2022, Play Group Victoria was the agency that contracted Extended Families to run three My Time groups.

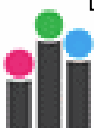
Over the past year we have continued to run the three My Time groups. The groups in Forrest Hill and Springvale run as parent support groups. Another group in Deer Park runs as a more traditional playgroup, whilst also providing support and information to parents involved. The Springvale and Deer Park groups are for Vietnamese speaking families and the Forrest Hill based group is for Chinese speaking families. We are very fortunate to have skilled and experienced bi-lingual staff who run these groups.

The groups have continued to be very popular. Parents enjoy the opportunity to connect with others from the same cultural group to share experiences about parenting. We managed to continue to run these groups during COVID lockdowns through online sessions and additional phone support. Accessing relevant speakers on different topics and everyone sharing their stories helped maintain the connection and support for these groups during such difficult times.

As lockdowns ended it has been very positive for group members to gradually start reconnecting in the community for meetings, gatherings and celebrations. As the year has gone on, group numbers are increasing as families feel more confident to meet in a group situation once again.



Three children sitting in a row on the floor playing with round coloured balls. The children are holding the coloured balls in front of their eyes.



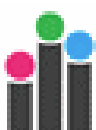
LinC - LINKING, INCLUDING AND CONNECTING

Extended Families' LinC Program matches people with a disability to Inclusion Support Workers, whose role is to support their participants to achieve outcomes that they value. LinC Inclusion Support Workers are prepared to be their participant's person, to be reliable, and to be truly engaged to ensure the highest chance of success, no matter what that looks like to the people we support. It is a dynamic service that works with individuals and their families by providing a consistent person who will listen, encourage, adapt, and mentor to support NDIS participants throughout their personal journey towards goal achievement.

The 2021/2022 period has been tough for LinC Participants, families, and workers. The first half of the financial year was during Victoria's second big lockdown. Despite efforts to stay engaged through online platforms, or in people's homes, many people lost their connections, and the support that LinC provided. At the same time, the employment market meant that skillful Inclusion Support Workers were harder to come by. As our newfound freedom was awarded to us in the beginning of 2022, we unfortunately didn't always have the staff to support our participants – who desperately needed the support after two disrupted years.

Despite the challenges, our dedicated LinC team worked hard to network and make connections in the wider community to attract the staff we need. It has been wonderful to see this hard work pay off, with hundreds of new connections made over the past 12 months, particularly during the first half of 2022. We presently have approximately 150 Inclusion Support Workers who provide support to about 200 participants.

It is the greatest pleasure for the LinC team to be part of supporting our participants to reconnect with their community; to return to school and the sports and activities that they love and to be included in the community once again. We are looking forward to more of this in the year to come.



Jennifer Walker - LinC Story

Jennifer's Story:

I have 3 support workers; Keely, Steffi and Emma who I see every week and they've been with me for a long time now. Together we go shopping, play games, go walking, do fun home exercises, try out new foods and lots of other things.

This year they were with me when I had to move house. Late last year, my sister and I needed to move house. We got assistance from our care team to learn the process of finding and applying to properties. This was not an easy process.

My support workers helped me fill out applications and came with me to inspections. It was a very stressful process and took a long time. But, in February we got a property. Things were more fun after that.

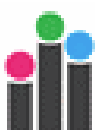
My support workers helped me find and collect moving boxes and then we got to pack all our things in boxes. We found a lot of interesting china that we forgot we had and had a lot of fun bubble wrapping all those things to keep them safe.

Steffi got to help with the condition report at the new home. She helped me walk through the home to make sure nothing was broken or damaged before we moved in. She supported us to tell the movers where all the boxes had to go. That afternoon, we could barely walk with all the boxes in the house. With Keely, we tried to figure out where everything was and to put my bed back together, but we were missing pieces! Settling in and figuring out where everything goes took a long time but now that we're all settle in a new home, we're back to our old activities.

Jennifer is supported by LinC Inclusion Support Workers, Steffi Walton, Keely Hay and Emma White. Jennifer also accesses ExtendABLE Online, and received Support Coordination through Extended Families



Left: Steffi (Inclusion Support Worker). Steffi is tall, wearing sunglasses with short brown hair and white t-shirt and shorts and a big smile.
Right: Jennifer (LinC Participant) Jennifer is shorter than Steffi with brown hair in a ponytail and she is smiling close to Steffi. She is wearing a sleeveless patterned top with a floral skirt. There are two images of Steffi and Jennifer, the one on the left Steffi is holding a small white dog, and the one on the right Steffi is holding the dog, and Jennifer is holding a ginger cat. Steffi and Jennifer are standing at the front of Jennifer's new home with Jennifer's pets.



Anastasia - LinC Story

Anastasia's Story, written by LinC Inclusion Support Worker, Abbey Nation-McGurgan

I have been supporting Anastasia for 8 months. Her goals have been to increase time spent with peers her age and improve confidence in social connections, we spend a lot of our time together checking out art galleries, local events and creating art together on rainy days.

Anastasia is an incredibly creative and artistic young person. She has been practicing many different mediums since a young age and is encouraged by her family who are also very creative. In my time supporting Anastasia, she has taught me a lot about creative self-expression and how valuable that is.



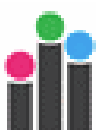
A painting of city skyline of black buildings and a red sky with a white moon.



A painting of a bouquet of pink, orange and yellow flowers in a green vase.



A painting of a white candle with grey wax on a brown table.



ExtendABLE – ONLINE PROGRAM

ExtendABLE Online began in response to the way the pandemic changed how we interact with our communities, by offering a series of online social group programs so that people could stay connected with others from the safety of their homes.

So many of our participants have found value in this platform through the real friendships they have made, and the convenience of access, that we have chosen to continue offering ExtendABLE online as a permanent service offering. In 2021, COVID-19 lockdowns in Melbourne meant that online offerings were essential for our participants to maintain social connections and engage with their community.

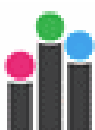
ExtendABLE offered an inclusive space for participants to enjoy activities together such as dancing, drawing, exercise, gaming and more. In 2022, with more freedom to reengage with the community, ExtendABLE has also been able to run in-person school holiday activities for small groups of participants supported by Extended Families Inclusion Support Workers. These outings have become an exciting time for our online participants to catch-up with each other in person and reinforce the friendships they have made online.

We hope to continue to build on ExtendABLE’s service offerings and continue to be part of the development of lasting friendships and creating inclusive communities for the people we support.

These are some of the amazing drawings the ExtendABLE participants have created.



16 hand drawn pictures that have been drawn by participants who are part of the ExtendABLE program.



REBALANCE

The Carers Rebalance Wellbeing and Respite Program (Rebalance) recognises that carers of young people with specialised needs take on considerable responsibility and stress that can prevent them from achieving the outcomes in life that they value.

The Program aims to acknowledge the importance of this unpaid and invisible work by removing barriers that prevent carers from meeting their employment, study, health, leisure and wellbeing needs, and importantly, supporting them to feel valued. Rebalance started in 2021, by working with carers to identify, address and relieve carer stress by offering individualised supports tailored to their needs.

The program was able to provide a range of supports to carers, such as respite, household support (cleaning or gardening), access to health and wellbeing facilities (gyms and pools), community centre classes and programs, and financial support to meet work or education needs.

Feedback from carers was that the support made a positive impact on their lives, and we enjoyed this special opportunity to offer people support according to their specific needs.

We are excited to have received further funding to continue offering the Carers Rebalance service between 2022 to 2026 to support carers of young people with specialized needs to feel valued and achieve outcomes that are important to them

Respite support and yoga class recipient

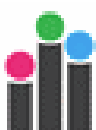
"The support was really helpful during a time of crisis for my family, it was what I needed to help provide time for me to care for my other children and to give me some time for my health and wellbeing. I am very glad to have had the support".

Membership to gym and swimming pool recipient

"The support met my particular need, it has helped to improve my physical and mental health. To my own experience, I am happy that the way Extended Families provided useful information and quick response".

Respite support recipient

"The support workers supporting my children and I are lovely and reliable. My kids and I are going through huge emotional upheaval and I have much invaluable support going through this".



PROJECT PROGRAMS

2021-2022 proved to be an eventful year for the Projects Team and our participants! The challenges of an ongoing pandemic and the many uncertainties it brought meant that all our programs had to run with maximum flexibility to continue our work of facilitating community connection. We remained closely attentive to family and participant concerns about infection control, and we were highly responsive to the varying landscapes of change that COVID presented to us. By riding the waves of uncertainty together, staff and participants have grown in resilience; we have strengthened our creative capacity and we have added to the menu of supports we can offer to families living with disability.

Vườn lên Groups

Our autism peer support groups (funded through Information Linkages and Capacity Building – ILC and delivered in collaboration with Vietnamese Families with Special Needs -VFSN) for young people and parents in the west and south continued to meet regularly without interruption over the year moving from online to in person formats as the Victorian COVID situation evolved.

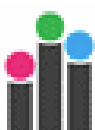


Badminton!

A group of 14 people standing on a badminton court getting ready to play a game of badminton.

Providing a continuation of group-based support whilst contending with lockdowns, community fears, vaccination confusion and people becoming unwell with COVID was not easy, but we worked diligently with participants and parents to maintain engagement. Supportive information sharing, innovative modes of program delivery and the provision of COVID safe gatherings in which participants could connect with each other to learn and have fun made this possible.

Much work was done by staff to create and deliver creative online sessions that kept participants engaged and in regular contact with each other.



In November 2021 we switched from online to outdoor in-person meetings for vaccinated participants. For those participants who were unable or delayed in receiving vaccination, or whose families remained concerned about in person gatherings of any kind, we continued to provide concurrent online meetings.

Individualised reviews between participants and facilitators were our focus in the December – January period and excursions to low-risk destinations not requiring the use of public transport were reintroduced in February 2022. By mid-March we were able to reconvene our usual schedule of indoor peer group meetings and 6 weekly excursions employing COVID safe measures.



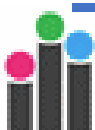
Master Chefs at Work!

A group of 8 people standing around a rectangle table. On the table are 8 pizza bases. 2 of the pizza bases have toppings on them, and the other 6 bases have tomato paste spread onto them. There are 3 plates on the table with pizza topping ingredients on them ready to make mini pizzas.

Below is a snapshot of some of the great learning topics we covered and some of the excursions that participants have gone on during the year.

	Learning Areas	Community Outings and Excursions
Participant Groups A, B, C and D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building friendships • Career planning • Cooking • Conversations • Expressing Emotions • Food Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handling money, shopping trips and paying bills • Job Interviews • Making decisions • Positive thinking • Public Transport • Trusting and consent
Parent Groups A, B, C and D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Transition Supports • Emotional resilience and Inner Self Development • Financial supports • Help in understanding Victoria’s COVID Road Map and downloading of Digital Vaccination Certificates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archery • Bowling • Basketball • Badminton • Cooking workshop • Dance • Fluid Art • Mini Golf • Movie nights • Picnics and group walks • Science Works • Tree Top Walking • Brite Transition Employment Support • Fluid Art! • Jigsaw Employment Services

In June, 2022 there were 32 participants and 27 parents enrolled in our VL Program



Tham Gia Groups

Tham Gia means ‘to participate’ in Vietnamese! Our TG School Holiday groups are all about trying new community activities in a supported, bi-lingual environment and helping participants and families living with disability to connect with local community opportunities in an ongoing way.



A group of approximately 10 people around a rectangle table making circus sock poi.

Despite interruptions and the challenges of maintaining COVID safety guidelines in settings of 40+ people, we were able to continue providing a variety of fun filled community participation opportunities to families in the West across 2021-22.

Circus Sock Poi Making

Events were delivered through a mix of on-line incursions, outdoor and indoor activities over the first half of the year as we bumped in and out of lockdown conditions. While January 22 events had to be cancelled because of the Omicron wave, our usual busy schedule of Primary, Secondary, Explorer and Family events were back and in full swing by April!

As with VL, Tham Gia West is provided in collaboration with the VFSN and has proven to be very successful with large enrolment numbers in each of our school holiday groups.

Almost all events had high rates of attendance and families consistently provided us with positive feedback about activities undertaken. Because of the success of TGW and given demand, Extended Families launched a similar program in Melbourne’s outer south in April 2022.

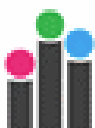
This program known as **Tham Gia South** has been steadily growing, initially building from only Family day events to now also including primary, secondary and explorer groups in the most recent round of school holidays.

TG South is funded through Home and Community Care. Our TGS Family Group events are open to people of all cultural backgrounds whilst our primary, secondary and explorer programs are bilingual and support Vietnamese families living with disability.

Mural Art: Meaningful Memories



A group of 30 hexagon shapes placed together in rows of 6 creating a mural. Each hexagon shape has been decorated with coloured drawings by participants of the Tham Gia program.



Below is a snapshot of some of the Tham Gia W and S Activities undertaken in 21-22!

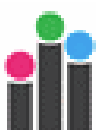
Tham Gia Primary -West	Online Dream Time Incursion and Dance; Reptile Encounters; Art and Craft Workshops; Magic Show; Cooking Pizza!
Tham Gia Secondary - West	Online Ceres Incursion and Art; Mural Art and Circus Workshops; Ceres Farm Day Visit
Tham Gia Explorer - West	Online Calm the Farm Mindfulness Workshop and Kahoot; Circus Nexus Visit; Bare Foot Bowling
Tham Gia Family- West	Bicycle Ed Family Day; Curbside Carnies; Bulla Miniature Rail; Razzamatazz!
Tham Gia - South	Wacky Science Workshop; Art, Music, and Dance Workshops; Outdoor Games

In June, 2022 we had over 100 families enrolled in our TG programs in the West and the outer South



Drawing the creatures that we met in person at TGS!

10 printed pictures of animals on rectangular paper that have been coloured in by participants.



Getaway CAMP

After successfully applying for an Additional Carer Respite Funding Grant in the second half of 2021, we were able to offer north-western Vietnamese families living with disability a much-needed getaway day at Lady Northcote Recreation Camp in Glenmore in April 2022.

It was an amazing day with 30 families and over 100 people in attendance. Children, parents, facilitators, and camp staff participated in a variety of fun activities including Archery, Giant Swing, Camp Fire Cooking, Bush Hut Building and Kitchen Craft.

A group of 9 people standing around a campfire. They are holding sticks and they have damper wrapped around the sticks. They are holding the sticks over the campfire to cook the damper.

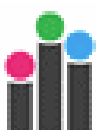
Making Damper on a Stick.



Vườn Cao Group

From the same successful Additional Carer Respite Grant Application mentioned above we have been able to develop a new peer support group for Vietnamese teens in the west who help their parents care for a sibling who has a disability.

Our western VC group was launched in February 2022 and meets twice monthly – one meeting each month is focused on gathering to undertake fun community-based activities and the other meeting is an online catch-up session helping young carers learn about maintaining their own health, wellbeing, and emotional resilience.



Our VC group currently has 12 members who have done a lot since February and have undertaken all sorts of activities including archery, dinners out, roller skating, an Art Workshop and Consultation in collaboration with the Disability Royal Commission and a visit to LUME chilling out while being immersed in the art of Vincent Van Gogh.



*Starry-Starry Night Workshop
with DRC*

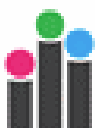
A group of 11 people around a large square table. The table is covered in a blue cloth over it. The people around the table are painting on blue canvases.

Organisational Capacity Building

Over the year, Extended Families continued to work with Vietnamese Families with Special Needs (VFSN) supporting them to build organisational capacity. Subcommittees for Volunteering, Financial Management, Strategic Planning, Marketing and Parent Programs continued to meet to work on their individualised Action Plans with support from Project Officers.

A series of online governance workshops were held for the Committee of Management and Subcommittee members covering Team Building, Communication, Risk Management, Decision Making and How to Turn Challenges into Opportunities.

Some of the other organisational capacity building initiatives we worked on with the VFSN COM have included implementation of new accounting software, creating a file management system using Google Drive, development of membership survey tools and basic Volunteer Policy and Procedure.



Looking Forward

*Getaway Day Dad
Looking for a Bullseye!*

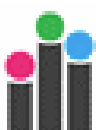


A picture of the back of a person who is wearing long pants, a grey long sleeve top and white shoes and facing a bullseye target. The person is holding a bow and arrow and pointing the arrow at a bullseye target.

In the coming year we are very optimistic and look forward to attaining further and additional funding to both continue the valuable work being undertaken in our current Project Programs and expanding our menu of peer support groups.

The aim of our work is to assist participants in building their own individual capacities and supporting their increased involvement in the community.

We are excited about continuing our work alongside our project partners and in supporting them in their ongoing journey to build organisational capacity. In amongst all the ups and downs of last year – we were given the gift of greater insight. Greater insight into the incredible importance that community connection plays in our lives and a deeper understanding of our combined ability to overcome hardship and achieve so much more when we work together in true partnership.



VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY PROGRAM



The Vietnamese Families with Special Needs (VFSN) group has been operating for 19 years to meet the needs of parents with children with disabilities and assist them in giving their children a happy and healthy life.

The VFSN Committee and Extended Families Facilitator, Nga Do, meet regularly to plan a program of weekly community inclusion activities for families for each school term (Thursday Parent Group). The program is designed to meet the needs of parents in all aspects such as: knowledge and understanding of health, skills in daily life, spiritual life and social communication.

The training sessions for the VFSN Committee through the ILC project last year helped the Committee works more effectively in terms of organization. Each time there were big events such as Family Fun Day for all families with children with disabilities, the Committee was better prepared in delivering activities, assigning tasks to each person and had a deeper understanding of safety issues and risk management for participating families.

This year, Parents have the opportunity to go out more to participate in community activities such as visiting the Aquarium and viewing flowers at the Flower show in Victoria. These are opportunities for parents to release stress and feel closer to each other.

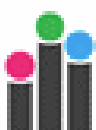
The topics that parents learn through presentations from experts have increased their knowledge to help themselves and their children. The knowledge helps parents to have a more positive outlook for their children and a deeper acceptance of their situation. Parents now feel their life is more enjoyable . With new members joining, the friendly and empathetic atmosphere made it easy for them to fit in and feel like a family, they are in the same boat.

Over the years, VFSN has received support from Extended families. Extended families' companionship has always been a valuable encouragement to the VFSN community.

Key Information and Activities initiated this year have included:

Health:

- The facilitator, Nga Do, ran sessions aimed at well-being and resilience for parents with topics: To Feel Happier.
- LivCor presented two sessions with topics: Mental health and First Aid.
- Psychologist, Andy Nguyen, presented an information topic: How to recognise signs and symptoms of suicide.



Information:

- Tilegne Therapy organisation presented a seminar about Develop Language for ASD.
- Life Saver presented a session on water safety
- Hau Nguyen from Sub-Com Thursday Activities presented 'How to help your child not be bored during lockdown'.
- Nghi Ho from Extended Families helped Parents learn how to fill JotForms
- NDIS workshop, Brotherhood Saint Laurence: Q&A session
- Digital Workshop: Anh Dai Nguyen instructed on how to use the information network safely and Facebook

Services:

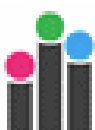
- Campbell services presented 'how to look for a job for young adults'.
- Mackillop Families Services, Wendy White, presented how to write about Child's story for two minutes.

Daily living Skills:

- Facilitator, Nga Do, instructed two sessions about arranging flowers.
- Members from VFSN did cooking demonstration
- Art craft, Kirigami, guided by Facilitator, Nga Do.

Social Activities:

- We held a Family Fun Day at the Isabella William Memorial Reserve Park, Deer Park for Vietnamese families with children with disability.
- We celebrated Lunar New Year at Pipemakers Park, Maribyrnong, with a catered lunch
- We enjoyed a Group walk at Pipemakers Park, Maribyrnong and have had lunch together.
- Celebration of Mother's Day was held for 2 days: Thursday as usual and Sunday for working mothers.
- The most prominent are two outings that parents really enjoyed included: Aquarium and Flower Show at Victoria Street.
- Celebration of Carers' week was held for 2 days: Thursday as usual and Sunday for working mothers.



PLAN MANAGEMENT

At Extended Families, the Plan Management service supports NDIS participants by providing financial intermediary services.

As of June 2022, the service grew moderately from supporting 410 participants in the 20/21 FY, to 440 participants in the 21/22 FY.

During the continuous pandemic period, our Plan Management Team worked from home. We subsequently transitioned back to the office towards the end of financial year to reconnect physically as a team; strengthening our bond, pooling and sharing each member's competency and proficiency in areas like policies, communication and the most efficient way of processing invoices.

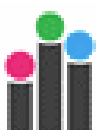
Our Team supports the participants' families in various backgrounds in CALD community and is seeing the increase in Cantonese and Mandarin group.

The quarterly NDIS Compliance Audit has built up our skills and knowledge in making improvements to our work and being compliant to the NDIS guidelines. This has also enabled us to identify areas that need further attention and tenacity to details.

This year, our Plan Management Team starts disseminating PM newsletters to family and participant to refresh the engagement with our clients which went quite dormant during the hiatus of the past 2 years. The primary goal of this initiative is to enhance our communication with our participants, keep them abreast of NDIS policy changes and updates on plan management practices.

In the following financial year, we are working towards improving our technology and will be rolling out new plan management system; offering Dashboard access to participant, nominee and authorised user and allows securing of fund for providers to improve fund management and avoid overspending of budgets.

We are continuously improving our plan management processes and procedures to serve our participants current requirements and anticipating future needs.



VOLUNTEER MATCH

As our NDIS funded services have grown, it has sadly meant the decline of our very successful state government funded Volunteer Match program that we ran for several decades.

We initially endeavoured to transition the coordination of volunteer matches to be funded by individual 's NDIS plan funding. However, in reality this proved to not be viable in most cases. We have been able to continue only a very small number of these Volunteer Matches over time in a formal capacity. They are a continued reminder of the vibrant volunteer match program we ran for many years.

Over the past couple of years we have begun the process of expanding our volunteer opportunities to include volunteers in our social and peer group programs for Vietnamese families. In the main, our Group Programs are funded through fixed term and ongoing grants which helps in overcoming some of the challenges of volunteer placement associated with individualised funding plan models.

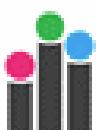
Over the last six months we have noticed a growing interest from prospective volunteers hoping to work within groups. In the coming year we look forward to encouraging this interest and rebuilding our volunteer workforce numbers by offering additional opportunities to individuals interested in group work.

Participation within group programs may also provide a supplementary pathway to individualised matching with a volunteer if there is participant interest and demand for one-to-one support.

VOLUNTEERS RECOGNISED

Thank you to our volunteers for their time and dedication in helping support our vision.

Claudia Di Fabio
Nicola Grant
Carolyne Jones
Michael Klieber
George Zographos
Eve Addis
Sylvia Giles
Joshua Martin
Elle Nguyen
Michael Timms
Jane Green



TREASURER'S REPORT

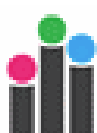
The start of the financial year 2022 was met with a not so brief lockdown of approximately 4 months. We know lockdowns are never an ideal situation for any type of business, but with tremendous hard work, I am pleased to report yet another strong financial year.

Extended Families Australia has done a fabulous job in continuing and growing its services. The reconnecting with people was the main focus especially after enduring such long lockdowns which limited any face-to-face contact. In the meantime, they were also met with challenges in accessing talent and the right staff.

Our 2022 financial year performance highlights include:

- We enjoyed an adjusted surplus/profit of \$115,991
- We were successful in being allocated Respite grant totalling \$158,469 in November 2021 of which \$122,044 is used at 30 June 2022
- Total revenue excluding grants, increased by 15.67% compared to 2021 year
- There was an increase in NDIS income by 16%.
- To support the revenue increment, we continue with employing more staff to meet the needs of clients
- Overall expenses increased 16.1% compared to 2021 year. This is in proportion as the revenue increment
- The net asset position was \$1,602,078 at 30 June 2022, which translated to an increase of 17.45% from last year's net asset position
- As a result of the increase in net asset position, the cash reserves have also increase by 14.24%. This will cover the organisation's short-term obligations for approximately three months, using only cash or cash equivalents

For more details on the financial position of Extended Families Australia, please refer to the annual report.



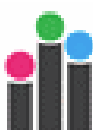
FINANCES

EXTENDED FAMILIES AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN: 97470256857
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Revenue	2	6,105,925	5,846,503
Administration expenses	3	(204,621)	(316,150)
Depreciation expenses	3	(10,278)	(18,869)
Special event expenses	3	(55,463)	(268)
Staffing expenses	3	(5,596,250)	(4,715,338)
Volunteer payments	3	(1,278)	(3,406)
Current year surplus		238,035	792,472
Net current year surplus		238,035	792,472
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss when specific conditions are met:			
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:			
Total other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		238,035	792,472
Net current year surplus attributable to members of the association		238,035	792,472
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the association		238,035	792,472

EXTENDED FAMILIES AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN: 97470256857
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	Financial		Total
		Retained Surplus	Assets Reserve	
		\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2020		563,426	8,145	571,571
Comprehensive income				
Net surplus for the year		792,472		792,472
Other comprehensive income for the year				-
Fair value gains on financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income, net of tax				-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the association for the year		792,472	-	792,472
Balance at 30 June 2021		1,355,898	8,145	1,364,043
Balance as at 1 July 2021		1,355,898	8,145	1,364,043
Comprehensive income				
Net surplus for the year		238,035		238,035
Other comprehensive income for the year				-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the association for the year		238,035	-	238,035
Balance at 30 June 2022		1,593,933	8,145	1,602,078



*For a complete copy of our Audited Financial Statement including the accompanying notes that form part of these financial statements please send a request to Extended Families by emailing info@extendedfamilies.org.au

DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

At Extended Families we celebrate the generosity and long term commitment of our donors whose gifts enable us to continue to positively impact people's lives. We sincerely thank our donors and supporters for their contributions.

Government funding

We acknowledge the support of the Victorian and Federal Governments, with significant funding provided by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Social Services.

Corporate Partners, Charitable Grants and Sponsors

Jack Moody Charitable Foundation
Mitchell Wilson & Partners
Melbourne Nails Pty Ltd
Good Company Karma Currency
e-interact

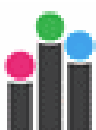
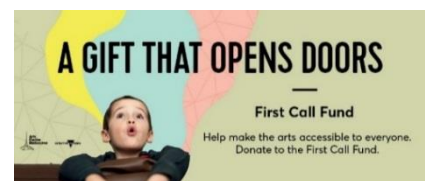
Sponsored or subsidised office

City of Whitehorse



Donors

Eve Addis
Kerri West
Mei Yong Wu
Carolyn Jones
Nicola Grant
Joshua Martin
Michael Timms
Norah Brekveltdt



SERVICES



Volunteer Match

Our volunteers provide genuine friendship, practical assistance and mentoring support to a child/young person, helping them to develop life skills. They help them take part in sport, recreation and leisure activities that are of interest to the child. Some volunteer matches also provide direct support for the family.



LinC (Linking + Including + Connecting)

LinC provides skilled inclusion support workers to support participants with skill development, capacity building to overcome barriers and assistance to engage in the community, social and recreational activities. Our workers support the achievement of specified social, personal and developmental needs and goals.



ExtendABLE

ExtendABLE is an online social inclusion program that was developed in response to the social distancing requirements of COVID-19.

The ExtendABLE program aims to reduce the experience of social isolation for people with a disability by creating an opportunity to connect with others through online groups.



Rebalance

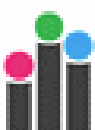
The Carers Rebalance Wellbeing and Respite program provides flexible and individualised supports to carers of young people with specialised needs.

The Rebalance program aims to help carers to identify and relieve stressors in their lives and to support them to continue to provide vital care.



Support Coordination

Extended Families provides independent support coordination to help you manage your plan. Our team of experienced staff, source and assess support options, connect with services, access the NDIS portal, coordinate services and manage your plan, respond and deal with any crisis, build your skills and confidence, implement and monitor your NDIS plan and re-develop your goals before your plan review.





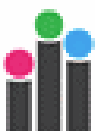
Plan Management

Extended Families is a registered plan management provider and can manage NDIS funding for supports on a participant's behalf. Plan Management is an intermediary financial service that manages the financial and administrative aspects of a NDIS Plan.



Parent and Peer Support Programs

Regular get-together programs for parents and children with a disability to share experiences, develop connections and receive support, information and education relevant to their care role.





Suite 1, 95 Bell Street Coburg Victoria 3058

Phone: 03 9355 8848

Fax: 03 9354 9404

Web: extendedfamilies.org.au

Facebook: [@Extended.Families](https://www.facebook.com/Extended.Families)

Extended Families