

**We
are
family**



Annual Review 2017-18



**Barnardos
Australia**



CEO Message

DEIRDRE CHEERS

“Family is everything.”

Most of us are fortunate enough to have family members we can rely on for help when things are tough. Raising children can be very tough, especially without support.

At Barnardos Australia we act as an extended family for those who are unable to lean on theirs. Without support, families can break down and children's welfare can be at risk. Our work to strengthen families helps to keep children safe at home.

As you will read in the wonderful stories shared over the following pages, our caseworkers often fill the space of an extended family member, giving support when and where it's needed. These relationships often grow over time forming strong levels of trust, which allows us to make a real difference in the lives of vulnerable children, young people and families.

This year's annual review is presented in line with our strategic directions for 2017- 2020. These directions represent the five focus areas which guide us in our important work.

They include implementing innovative solutions to break the cycle of disadvantage, advocating for what we know is good for children, working in partnership to support Aboriginal children and families, equipping our staff, carers and volunteers with the tools they need to deliver our mission and maintaining a strong and sustainable organisation.

Thank you for your support and commitment to vulnerable children and young people.

You are a vital part of the Barnardos family.

DEIRDRE CHEERS

Chief Executive Officer, Barnardos Australia

Who we are

We are a non-government, non-denominational child protection charity providing evidence-based family support, kinship care, foster care and open adoption services.

We work to support families and communities facing issues such as violence, poverty, mental illness and homelessness to keep children and young people safe from abuse and neglect.

We are committed to our vision that all children and young people will have caring families in which to grow safely and fulfil their potential.



Our values

We believe in keeping the **child** and the **young person** central

We believe in **strengthening families**

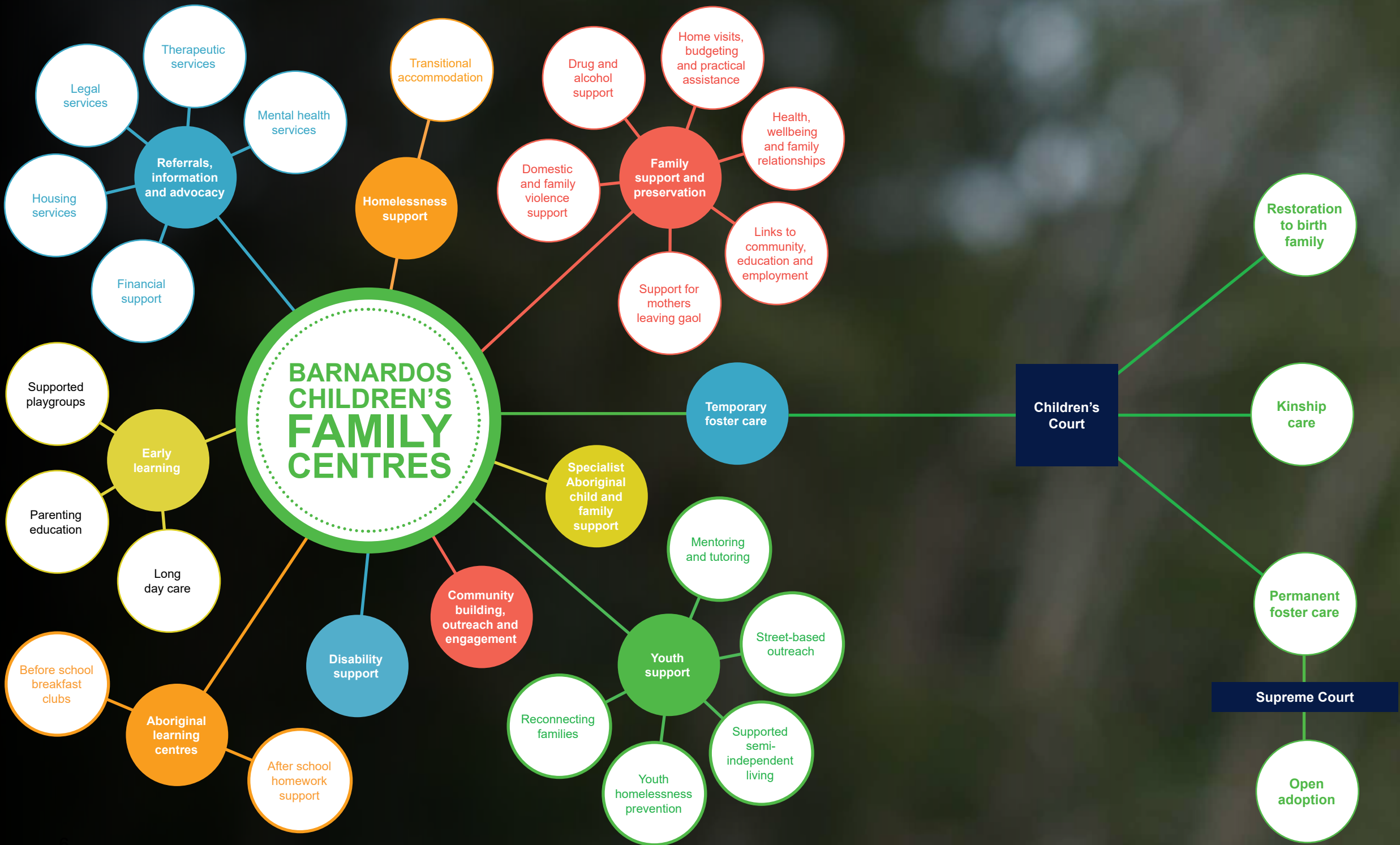
We believe in **pursuing social justice**

We believe in being **persistent for change**

We believe in **taking responsibility**

We believe in **relating respectfully**





How we help children, young people and families

Our impact

2017-2018

This year we have helped:

14,049

children, young people and families through

178

Programs

Safety and prevention



6,701

Referrals and
information



7,567

Family
support



1,719

Youth
programs



1,372

Parenting
programs



1,230

Accommodation
programs

Permanency

1,415

=

TOTAL number children and
young people in **out-of-home care**

20%

Total children
and young people
with **family**
restoration plans

31%

Total children and
young people
in **kinship care**

49%

Total children
and young people
in **permanent**
foster care*

*includes those with adoption care plans

Open adoption



36

Open adoptions
NSW

173

Children
with adoption
care plans

2

Open adoptions
ACT

¹Numbers do not add to total as families we help often require more than one type of assistance.

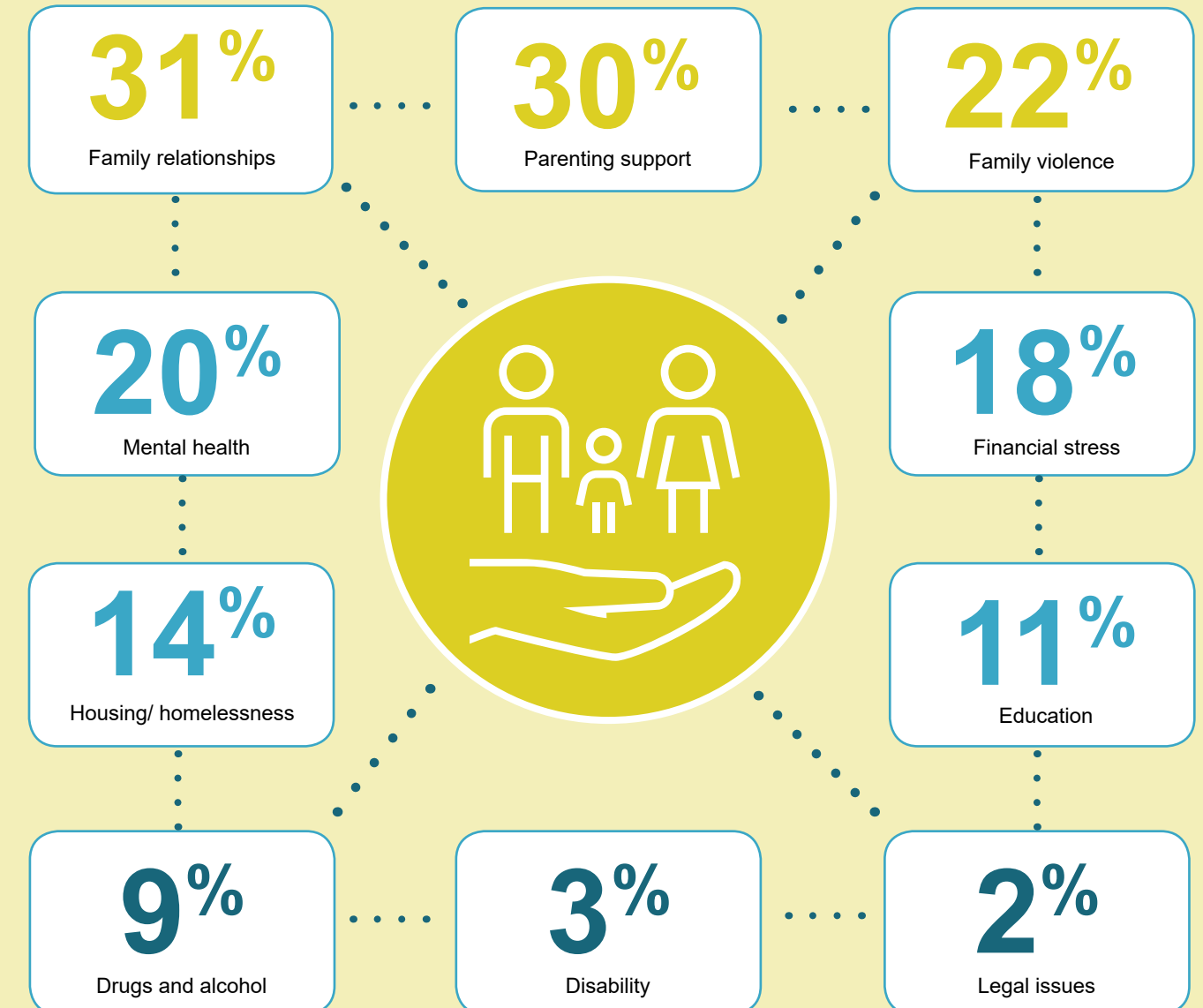
²Figures denote support given to children, young people and families by the Barnardos Children's Family Centres.

Strengthening families to keep children safe

We work together with **children, young people and families** to break the cycle of disadvantage, creating **safe, nurturing, stable** homes, connected to family and community.

Strategic Direction One

Reasons why families came to Barnardos for help



¹Numbers do not add to total as families we help often require more than one type of assistance



Family Support

SANITA AND CAROLINA

“I didn’t feel alone... Barnardos are my family.”

“I was unhappy. I went through a lot. There was violence every day. I had a three-year-old daughter. When he used to hit me, I couldn’t tell anyone because of my culture. That’s why I had to run away. I found out Barnardos could help me so I came here.

They supported me with everything financially and I got somewhere to live. I got legal support and counselling for me and for my daughter too.

It was hell. Now it’s heaven. Because of Barnardos.

I’m not scared anymore. Mostly it was having someone to tell me – “you can do it Sanita”.

I used to go to counselling with Carolina before going to court.

Carolina used to tell me “Put your head up. You are strong. You have to look after your daughter”.

I was crying every day and had nightmares every night.

She told me it’s ok to cry.

When I came to Barnardos, I couldn’t speak English very well. They helped me with my legal stuff – helping me write things – and going to court with me – they were always there – always helping me.

I was able to study when I was here. They looked after my daughter. I had a social worker. I had a counsellor. I didn’t feel alone – even though I don’t have any family here. Barnardos are my family.

I’m so happy now. My daughter is eight years old. She is doing so well at school – her favourite subjects are maths and science. I finished my studies and I have a job and a flat. Everything is good.”

SANITA

Pictured left with Carolina Roux - Senior Practitioner, Child and Adolescent Sexual Assault Program, Barnardos Auburn Children’s Family Centre

Our commitment to Aboriginal people

We work in a **culturally meaningful** and **respectful** way with Aboriginal families and communities. We are committed to **working collaboratively** and in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, organisations and communities.

Strategic Direction Two

10%

of Barnardos staff
are Aboriginal.

14%

of Barnardos staff
work in our Safety and
Prevention programs.

93%

of Barnardos staff working in
our Aboriginal out-of-home care
programs are Aboriginal.

“I pass on my knowledge, like my mother passed onto me.”

“I’m a proud Warramungu woman. I’ve lived in the Illawarra since I was nine years old and I’m passionate about the community I live in.

I’ve worked in my community since I was 17 and I think I always will. I love what I do.

I support families in the community with children 0-6 years of age. I assist them with their parenting capacity and I advocate for them in any areas where they need help.

I’m currently working with one mum to bond with her baby. She suffered post-natal depression so we are working on attachment.

I visit her at home every week. We play with the baby, read and sing nursery rhymes – things to encourage the baby to talk. I help her with feeding, sleeping and routine. We even do baby massage - I use a lot of stuff I used on my babies.

She is a young mother and I tell her to follow her instincts and she is slowly gaining confidence. I pass on my knowledge like my mother passed onto me when I had my daughter Georjah-Lee.

I’m also assisting some parents getting their kids enrolled in school. I had a parent who was worried about the expense. I helped her budget to buy something for school every two weeks throughout the year rather than all at once. Now she has almost everything on the list and her child is ready to start school next year.

I work with mothers and children coping after experiencing domestic violence. I help them seek counselling and just reinforce that support. Often when children are upset, they can’t communicate how they’re feeling, so they will lash out or throw tantrums. We help mums understand and deal with their child’s behaviour.

Most of the families I work with know me from the community. This helps a lot because there is a level of understanding and trust.

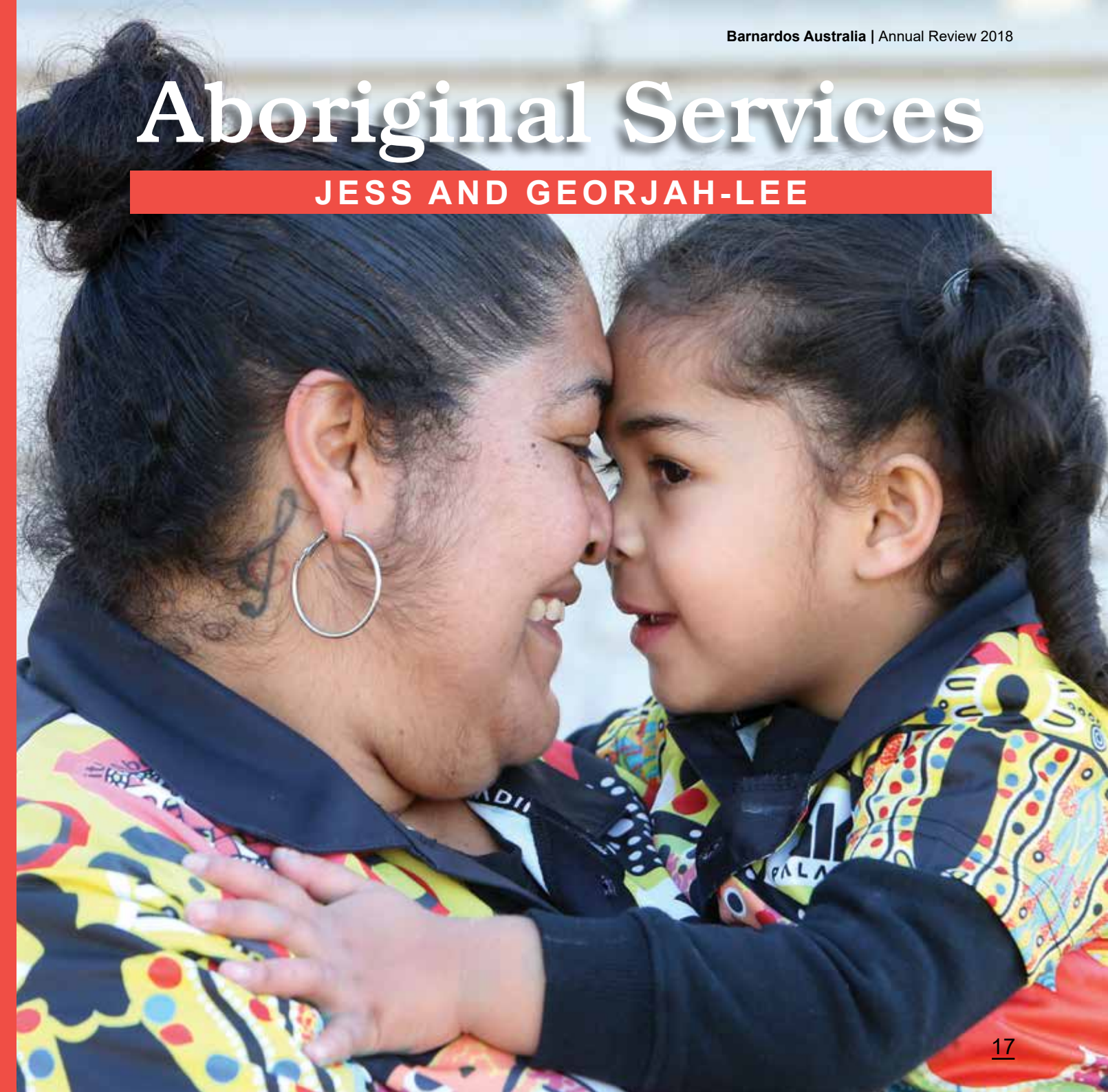
Sometimes they feel shame that things aren’t going so well, but we understand that things can go wrong and that’s why we’re here.”

JESS REES

Aboriginal Family Support Worker,
Barnardos South Coast Children’s Family Centre

Aboriginal Services

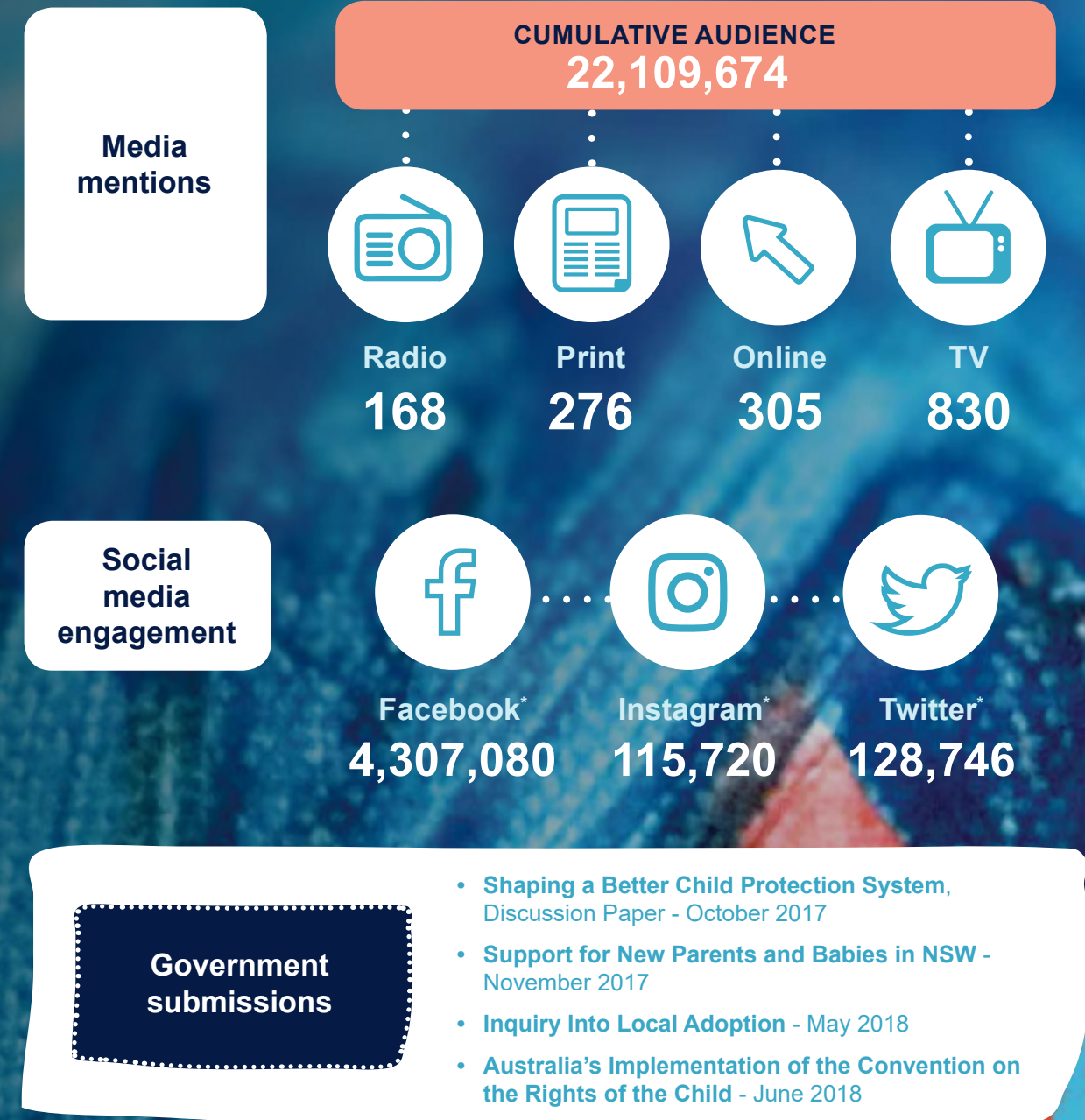
JESS AND GEORJAH-LEE



Our voice

As a leader of innovation in Australian child protection, we use our knowledge and expertise to influence government, other non-government organisations and the wider community.

Strategic Direction Three



Foster Care

JOHN GUTHRIE, DENNIS CASH AND FAMILY



John Guthrie and Dennis Cash with son Liam (bottom centre) and some of the young women they have fostered

“We can’t imagine our lives without them.”

Australian Story’s ‘Modern Family’ aired nationally on ABC TV during Foster Care Week in September 2017.

The program featured Barnardos foster carers John Guthrie and Dennis Cash who have fostered seven teenage girls over the past two decades.

It was the most popular episode in the history of the program receiving over three million views.

“The reaction was extraordinary. We weren’t expecting it at all. People are still stopping us in the street. Wherever we go – people know us and know Barnardos. I’m amazed at how many people saw it.

It has definitely helped open up the conversation about foster care. People who didn’t know anything about fostering always come up and ask us a lot of questions about how it works.

It’s also been great to reflect on the impact we had on these amazing young women that make up our family and the impact they’ve had on us. We can’t imagine our lives without them.

We are so proud of how far they’ve all come and what they’ve achieved despite the trauma they experienced in their early lives.

Since the episode went to air, we started caring for a baby as temporary foster carers with Barnardos. There is always a shortage of carers and we had the time – so we have begun a new chapter in our lives as foster carers.

We’re really glad we shared our story. It seems to have touched a lot of people. If it’s encouraged even one person to consider fostering a child then it’s been more than worthwhile.”

JOHN GUTHRIE AND DENNIS CASH

Barnardos Australia Foster Carers

Our people

Our staff, carers and volunteers are **engaged, valued and effective** in working toward the mission, vision and values of Barnardos.

Strategic Direction Four

642

Barnardos Australia
employees



1387

Foster carers



616

Volunteers



“Barnardos is a family and family comes first.”

“I got into youth work about seven years ago. I attended a program in Penrith and one of the youth workers gave me the opportunity to do a leadership program. I thought I would have to do a trade until I found out you could make a living out of helping people.

I really enjoy helping people. Not everybody has been given the same opportunities in life. Growing up I was very fortunate in having great parents and a really stable environment but then I started to realise that not everyone was the same. I felt I had to give back.

What drives me is seeing young people with no self-worth achieve what they want out of life. I get to work with them and see them grow and become their own person in that time.

I’ve been working with Tristan for a year and a half. He has a great sense of humour and is very intelligent. He likes to keep me on my toes.

My favourite thing about Tristan is how confident he has become in who he is. When I first met him he was isolated and withdrawn.

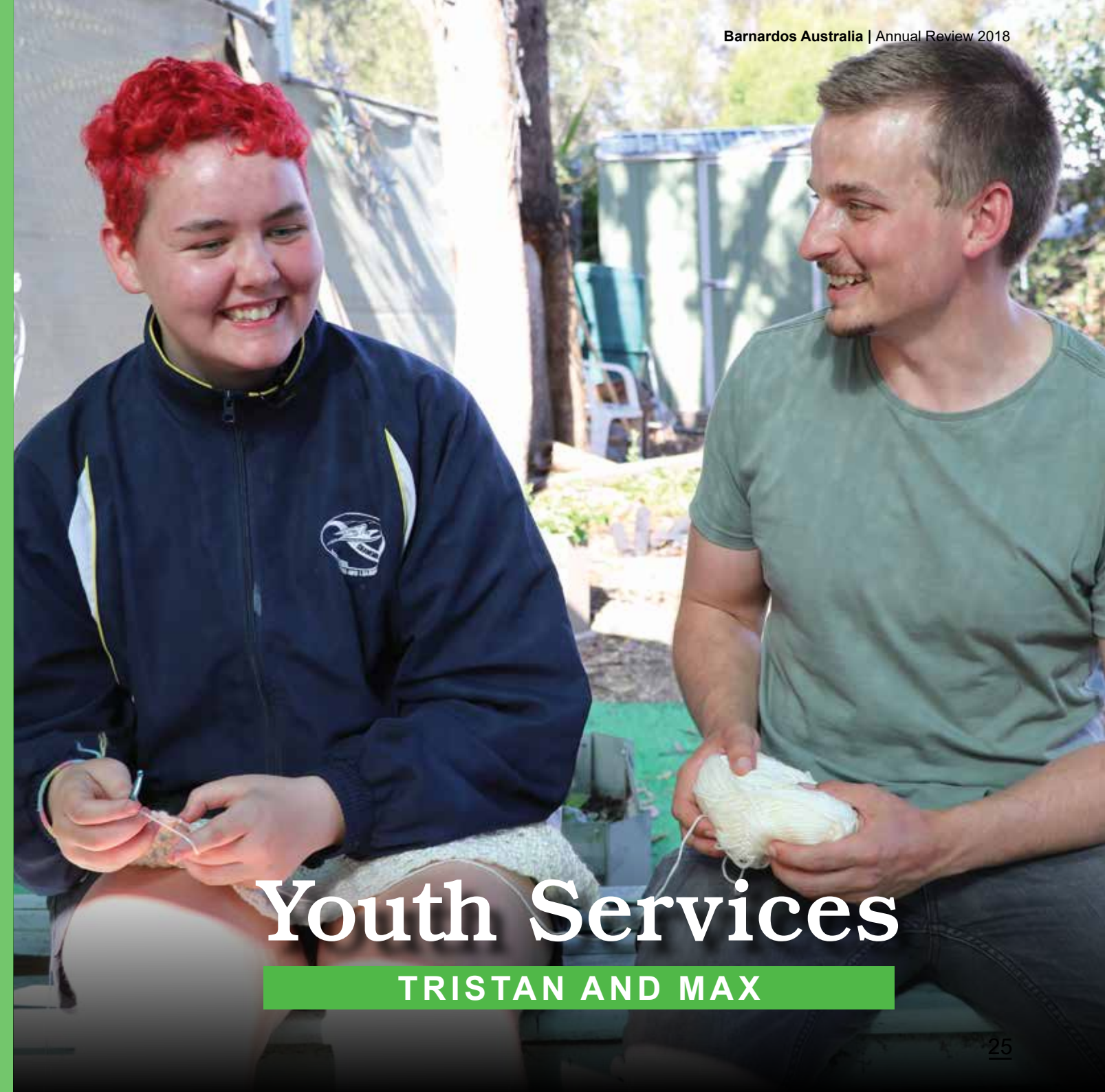
Since then I’ve seen him engage with everyone here and have very honest conversations. Tristan knows he can talk to me about anything. We make sure anyone who comes here – no matter what their identity or culture – feels safe to express themselves. We have young people from very diverse backgrounds. The biggest thing our young people learn here is acceptance.

Our young people know we’ll be here when they need us. They know us by name. They know us as people. Because at the end of the day this is just a building. It’s the people here that matter.

I love that Barnardos is based around family. When I come to work I know that I’m going to be supported, the same way I support my young people. They practice what they preach. Barnardos is a family and family comes first.”

MAX FENTON

Youth Worker
Barnardos Penrith Children’s Family Centre



Youth Services

TRISTAN AND MAX

Our sustainable future

We maintain a **strong and viable** organisation with systems that **enable and support** our programs and services for children and families.

Strategic Direction Five

Strategic Direction Five involves targeting growth opportunities that reflect our expertise and history of innovation.

In Western NSW, Barnardos has implemented innovative early-intervention programs to prevent children from entering out-of-home care.



Linker Service

After-hours phone support for victims of domestic violence and their children.



Beyond Barbed Wire

Helping mothers who have been incarcerated, reconnect with their families and community. It helps mothers stay out of gaol and improve the lives of their children.



SafeCare

In-home program to give parents the skills to keep children safe from abuse and neglect.



Parents as Teachers

Engaging parents as their children's first teachers to improve the early development, learning and health of young children and babies.

Early Intervention

KARINDA



“They opened my eyes to a better way of parenting.”

“I moved to Nyngan five years ago with my husband and three young children. We didn't know a lot of people and don't have any family in the area. I was feeling overwhelmed with the kids and didn't know how to cope with my children or where to go for help.

My life was very stressful. All my children have global developmental delay so they are all around the same age mentally. I was extremely stressed out and frustrated.

Family and Community Services (FACS) came in to do a welfare check on us because they were concerned about how we were going. They said Barnardos could help us and I decided to take a chance.

I completed the SafeCare parenting program with Barnardos. They taught me how to interact with my children and how to redirect negative behaviour into positive behavior, give the children boundaries and set up a routine. It opened my eyes to a lot of information I didn't know before.

I didn't realise there were so many dangers in the home. They helped me child-proof the house. They taught me how to know when my child is sick and whether they need the doctor or if it is an emergency and they need to go to the hospital.

My son also has ADHD and Barnardos helped me get support from the school and get doctor's assessments and specialist appointments for his speech as well as occupational therapy.

I am more confident in my parenting. Being more calm and level-headed makes it a lot less stressful at home for my kids. When I'm calm – they're calm.

Family means everything to me. We wouldn't be anywhere without family. If it wasn't for Barnardos I don't know where I'd be. They have helped me grow so much from where I was to where I am now. They opened my eyes to a better way of parenting and a better way for me to be the best I can be. I feel a lot better about the future and my children's future.

I didn't realise what community meant until I came to Barnardos. They opened up so many doors for us. I'm so glad I took that first step. We've really found our home.”

KARINDA

Barnardos SafeCare Program participant

Where your money goes

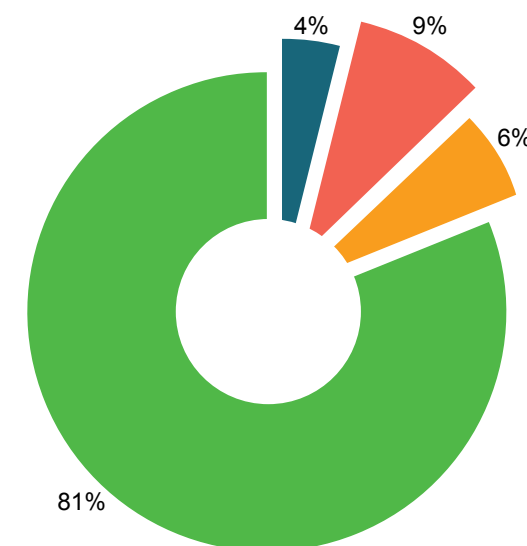
OUR OVERALL FINANCIAL POSITION FY17-18*

	\$000's
Total current assets	13,303
Total non-current assets	17,178
Total assets	30,481
Total current liabilities	15,615
Total non-current liabilities	3,610
Total liabilities	19,225
Net assets	11,256
Total equity	11,256

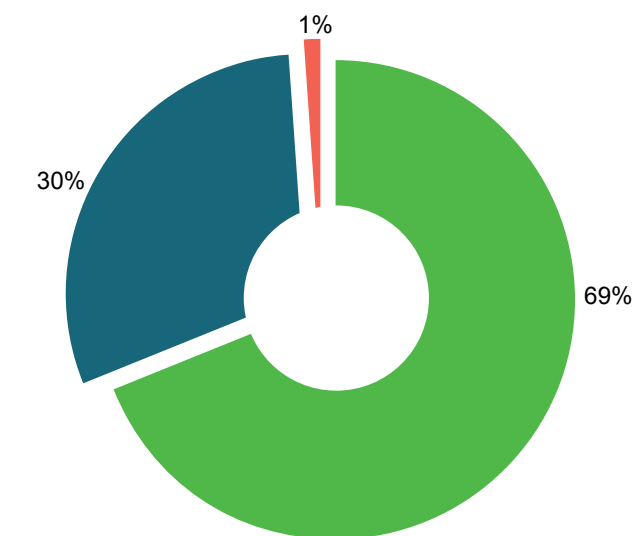
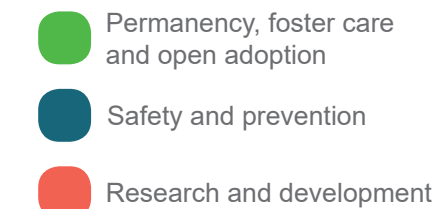
OUR SOURCES OF FUNDS AND EXPENDITURE FY17-18*

	\$000's
Fundraising revenue	9,617
Government subsidies	90,769
Other welfare revenue	818
Recruitment services	3,362
Investment, rental and other revenue	899
Total revenue	105,465
DEDUCT EXPENDITURE	
Welfare centres	105,936
Fundraising	3,176
Property and administration	829
Recruitment services	3,472
Total expenditure	113,413
Profit/(loss) for the year	(7,948)

Where the money comes from



Where the money goes to



*Please refer to the Barnardos Australia Annual Financial Report 30 June 2018 for the full report.

Our community of valued supporters



PREMIER PARTNER

Since 2003, ALDI has generously supported disadvantaged children, young people and families through their partnership with Barnardos Australia.

By raising public awareness and significant funds for Barnardos, ALDI is helping keep children safe, families strong and communities vibrant.

LEADING PARTNERS



MAJOR PARTNERS



SUPPORTING PARTNERS

Barnardos Management Committee Canberra
CAGES Foundation
Commonwealth Bank
Hotel Centennial

Sass & Bide
Sidney Myer Fund
ICAP

KEY SUPPORTERS

Amelia Eliza Holland Trust
ATS Charitable Foundation
BNP Paribas
Challenger Ltd
Christmas in Pyrmont
CommBank Foundation
Corio Foundation
Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club
Easts Group
Elizabeth Gabler Charitable Trust
Google Australia
Harold Mitchell Foundation
James N. Kirby Foundation
Matana Foundation for Young People
Nespresso
Ronald Geoffrey Arnott Foundation

Sails Lavender Bay
The Adolph Basser Trust
Blackheath & District Helpers Guild
Count Charitable Foundation
Dunheved
Endeavour Energy
J E Skinner Endowment Fund
John Wallis Foundation
Johnson Family Foundation
King & Wood Masons
R A Gale Foundation
Reserve Bank (NSW) Benevolent Fund
Reserve Bank of Australia
Walter Campbell Memorial Trust
Ward Family Foundation
Westpac

IMAGE CREDITS

Cover Image : Bobby and Lachlan, Barnardos Wellington Children’s Family Centre
Pages 4 and 5: Kyeesha and Angelica, Barnardos Wellington Children’s Family Centre
Page 35: Teneille Greenaway and Isabella, Parents as Teachers Program, Barnardos Nyngan

Thank you
for believing
in Barnardos



We believe with the right support families can stay together.

OUR BOARD

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Gabrielle Trainor AO

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Jane Paskin

John Pittard

Rhonda Stien

Fran Waugh

CONTACT

60-64 Bay Street

Ultimo NSW 2007

GPO Box 9996

Sydney NSW 2001

T: 02 9218 2300

F: 02 9281 0441

E: info@barnardos.org.au

barnardos.org.au

Info line: 1800 061 000

Foster carer enquiries: 1800 663 441

Chief Executive Officer

Deirdre Cheers

Company Secretary

Patrick Kerlin

