

FOCAL EXTENDED INC

FOCAL



SINCE 1974

Supporting people with a disability
their families and carers

Annual Report 2015



FOCAL's 40th Birthday Celebrations

Contents

<i>About FOCAL</i>	4 - 5
<i>CEO's Report</i>	6
<i>2015 Agenda</i>	7
<i>2014 Minutes</i>	8 -11
<i>President's Report</i>	12
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	13
<i>Independent Financial Auditor's Report</i>	14 - 24
<i>Community Connections</i>	25 - 27
<i>Initiatives with Participants</i>	28
<i>Resources and Opportunities</i>	29
<i>Programs for Children</i>	30 - 31
Out of School Care Programs	
- After School Care	
- Vacation Care	
<i>Individual and Group Programs for Adults</i>	32 -37
- Horizons	
- Handyman Group	
- Independent Living and In Home Drop In	
- Stepping Out	
<i>Staff and Volunteers</i>	38 -39
<i>Highlights</i>	40 - 41

About FOCAL

For over 40 years FOCAL has worked with and for people with a disability, their families and carers in the Ipswich region. We are a growing not for profit organisation that is passionate about providing diverse services and support to connect people with their communities and achieve their dreams. Through our individual and group programs we provide services to more than 200 people and collaborate with others to maximize opportunities for individuals.

Management Committee



Roy Henderson
President



Anthony Swords
Vice President



Denis Ward
Treasurer



Anita Wheeler
Committee Member



Wendy Maller
Secretary



Teresa Harding
Committee Member

Mission

Focal is committed to actively supporting people with disabilities, their families and carers through high quality, flexible service delivery and authentic advocacy within Ipswich and the surrounding community.

Vision

Focal engaging the community to be respectful, caring, supportive and inclusive of people with disabilities, and encouraging people with disabilities to live and participate freely.

Values

- Clients, carers and families first
 - Safe, encouraging and inclusive care
 - To be open, transparent and ethical
 - To be flexible, collaborative and innovative
 - Excellence within realistic expectations
 - Effective management of resources
-



Management Team

Sonja Gilchrist
Chief Executive Officer

Alex Tyson
Self Directed and Community Facilitator

Brian McKeown
Program Coordinator

Kerri Siebenhausen
OSHC Coordinator

Anthony Vaughan
Glenna Shaw
Jodie McCosker
Peta Schaffer
Team Coordinators

Welcome

FOCAL has had a year full of achievements during 2014/2015. The year commenced with a Carnivale at the 6 Canning Street Community Centre in February with food, entertainment and a dunking machine which saw many participants dunking the FOCAL President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). In July, the Browns Park North Ipswich community enjoyed 'Life Be In It' activities, Zumba action and free food to celebrate Focal's 40th as well as acknowledging 'stress down' day.

To prepare the organisation for the future, FOCAL staff and volunteers have been learning about the implications arising from the introduction of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the largest public policy initiative in Australia since Medibank was introduced in 1975.

The most significant change as a result of NDIS is the government's policy agenda using competition as a medium to drive efficient services to people with a disability. This means that marketing is going to be an essential part of FOCAL's future so that we are well known in the sector and our clients / participants / customers know what we deliver and that our services are quality.

Listening to our clients remains an important part of our values and enables us to increase, modify or change programs and activities to meet the needs, goals and aspirations of participants. Other changes that have occurred in preparing for NDIS include changing the name of an individual's plan to 'MyPlan' to align with the NDIS terminology and referring to children, youth and adults with a disability who access our services as 'participants' instead of clients as required by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

Investing in planning for NDIS has taken a considerable amount of time and energy for management and staff however, it was acknowledged by our external auditor that FOCAL has successfully achieved this whilst maintaining the quality service delivery to clients on a daily basis. FOCAL received excellent results from our certification audit against the Human Services Quality Framework in March 2015 led by the Institute for Healthy Communities Australia Ltd.

FOCAL have been successful in securing a number of significant grants this year to assist with strengthening the governance structure of the organisation and developing a business model to ensure the organisation's sustainability under the NDIS.

Many participants have been supported by FOCAL over the past year, to reach their desired goals and/or support them to meet their needs with our team of committed skilled workforce and dedicated volunteers.

Thank you to the Management Committee for their support and guidance over the last year. Thank you to the wonderful team of staff and volunteers that are the voice and frontline of our team. Thank you to our professional team of Coordinators and organisational support staff that are committed to FOCAL's future and assisting us to position and grow as a preferred provider in our region, where our clients/participants, their families and carers can **expect more!**



Sonja Gilchrist
Chief Executive Officer

AGENDA

Thursday 22nd October 2015

Brothers Leagues Club, Wildey Street, Raceview

COMBINED ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of

Domestic Violence Action Centre - 21st AGM

Focal Extended Inc. - 42nd AGM

Ipswich Housing and Support Services Inc. – 30th AGM

Ipswich Independent Youth Services Inc. – 33rd AGM

Ipswich Women's Shelter Inc. – 37th AGM

1. Registration from 7:00am with Entertainment
2. Welcome to Country at 7:30am
3. Opening by the Master of Ceremonies including tabling of Apologies and Proxies for the various AGM's
4. Annual General Meeting of the Domestic Violence Action Centre (DVAC)
5. Annual General Meeting of Focal Extended Inc. (FOCAL)
6. Annual General Meeting of Ipswich Housing and Support Services Inc. (IHSSI)
7. Annual General Meeting of Ipswich Independent Youth Services Inc. (IIYS)
8. Annual General Meeting of Ipswich Women's Shelter Inc. (IWS)
9. Guest Speakers Judy and Tim Sharp from Laser Beak Man talk about Ability Strengths and Diversity (www.laserbeakman.com)
10. Discussion
11. Closing at 9:30am



DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
ACTION
CENTRE



IPSWICH HOUSING &
SUPPORT SERVICES INC



2014 MINUTES
41st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of FOCAL EXTENDED INC
SATURDAY 18th OCTOBER 2014

The University of Queensland, Salisbury Road Ipswich

1. WELCOME:

The meeting was declared open at 3:35pm.

Aunty Davina performed 'Welcome to the Country', acknowledging the past and present traditional owners of the land occupied during the afternoon.

The President, Roy Henderson, welcomed Members and Guests to the 41st Annual General Meeting, further providing information to attendees about fire exits, evacuation procedure and location of amenities.

Attendances:

Kay Adam
 Aunty Davina
 Terry Bartels
 Ian Berry MP
 Shelley Dargusch
 Sue Ellis
 Hilda Fixter
 Sonja Gilchrist
 Teresa Harding
 Deanne Hardy
 Patricia Hitchenor
 Carmel Hutton
 Tom Hutton
 Cr Sheila Ireland
 Sharon MacKinney
 Ian Maller
 Wendy Maller
 Jodie McCosker
 Betty McCrindle
 Peter McGregor
 Philip McGregor
 Brian McKeown

Craig Miller
 Tanya Miller
 Anne Muirhead
 Judith Nissen
 Christine Page
 Martin Randel
 Peta Schaffer
 Allan Rix
 Glenna Shaw
 Pat Sherlock
 Kerri Siebenhausen
 Judy Spetch
 Russell Swinton
 Linda Tully
 Peter Tully
 Alex Tyson
 Anthony Vaughan
 Lorna Wallace
 Denis Ward
 Rebecca Ward
 Anita Wheeler
 Jennifer Williams

2. Apologies tabled:

Tony Swords
 Dawn Pickering
 Graeme Goodger
 Lynda Goodger
 Cathy Condon
 Jim Cummings
 Susan Saunders
 Vlado Kovac

Desleigh Hamilton
 Shayne Neumann MP
 Elizabeth McRoberts
 Karyn Spreadborough
 Cr Cheryl Bromage
 Mayor Paul Pisasale
 Sir Llew Edwards

2014 MINUTES
41st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of FOCAL EXTENDED INC
SATURDAY 18th OCTOBER 2014

The University of Queensland, Salisbury Road Ipswich

3. Proxy forms tabled:

Desleigh Hamilton
Susan Saunders
Jim Cummings
Cathy Condon
Lynda Goodger

Graeme Goodger
Dawn Pickering
Anthony Swords
Kovac Vlado

4. Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 13th November 2013 were read. No business arising.

Proposed By: Denis Ward

Seconded by: Betty McCrindle

Accepted

5. Financial Auditor's Report

Tom Hutton, Focal's independent financial auditor presented the financial report to members, outlining the required new format and highlighting pertinent areas of the report. Mr. Hutton said he was gratified at the cooperation from the administration team. He commented on the great governance in the processes within the organisation and particularly the Focal Management Committee. He noted that Focal has held ground in a tough economic time and the many challenges facing the organisation have been met well and conquered by Focal under the leadership of their CEO. He confirmed that the audit was factual, substantial and material.

Proposed by: Denis Ward

Seconded by: Wendy Maller

Accepted

6. Treasurer's Report

Roy Henderson tabled the Treasurer's Report from page 17 of the Annual Report.

Proposed by: Betty McCrindle

Seconded by: Anita Wheeler

Accepted

7. President's Report:

Roy Henderson read the tabled President's report to the meeting participants, making mention of the historical location of the meeting being the former Challinor Centre, and the impending challenges of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Proposed by: Teresa Harding

Seconded by: Ian Berry MP

Accepted

8. 40th Book Launch

Roy Henderson officially launched the book "40 years of Focal", which captures the forty year journey of the organisation supporting people with disabilities, from the Challinor Centre into the Ipswich community and beyond. Special mention was given to Focal employees Alex Tyson for the research and compilation, Shelley Dargusch for the

2014 MINUTES
41st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of FOCAL EXTENDED INC
SATURDAY 18th OCTOBER 2014

The University of Queensland, Salisbury Road Ipswich

design work and a thank you to Judith Nissen, the local historian responsible for editing the book.

8. Chief Executive Officer Report

Sonja Gilchrist presented Focal's key achievements for the past year and proclaimed Focal's insurance declaration. Sonja confirmed Focal's continued commitment to being responsive to the needs of people with a disability, their families and carers in providing quality, flexible support and services and assisting people with a disability to live the life they aspire to.

Proposed by: Teresa Harding

Seconded by: Ian Berry MP

Accepted

10. Election of 2014-2015 Management Committee

All Committee members stood down and Roy Henderson vacated the position of Chair. Councillor Sheila Ireland took the chair to conduct the Election of Officer Bearers.

All Committee positions were declared vacant.

Councillor Ireland asked if there were any nominations from the floor.

President:

Roy Henderson was nominated by Teresa Harding, Susan Saunders, Cathy Condon, Tony Swords and Kovac Vlado and seconded by Wendy Maller. As there were no other nominees, Roy Henderson was elected as President.

Vice President:

Tony Swords was nominated by Teresa Harding and Lynda Goodger and seconded by Wendy Maller. As there were no other nominees, Tony Swords was elected as Vice President.

Secretary:

Wendy Maller was nominated by Teresa Harding and seconded by Roy Henderson. As there were no other nominees, Wendy Maller was elected as Secretary.

Treasurer:

Denis Ward was nominated by Teresa Harding, Desleigh Hamilton and Jim Cummings and seconded by Roy Henderson. As there were no other nominees, Denis Ward was elected Treasurer.

Committee Members:

Anita Wheeler was nominated by Teresa Harding and seconded by Roy Henderson.

Teresa Harding was nominated by Roy Henderson and seconded by Denis Ward.

All nominees for Committee Member positions were duly elected.

Cr Ireland confirmed that there were committee member vacancies and invited nominations from the floor. There were no further nominations and Cr Ireland congratulated the new Committee and handed the Chair back to the President.

2014 MINUTES
41st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of FOCAL EXTENDED INC
SATURDAY 18th OCTOBER 2014

The University of Queensland, Salisbury Road Ipswich

11. Welcome to new Executive and Committee Members

Roy Henderson welcomed the new Committee Members and acknowledged the commitment of these volunteers who will guide the future of Focal.

12. Financial Auditor for 2014-2015:

Owen Harris and Associates were nominated as the Independent Financial Auditor Focal Extended Incorporated for the next twelve months.

Proposed: Teresa Harding

Seconded: Betty McCrindle

Accepted

13. Next AGM:

Proposed to be held on Tuesday the 24th November 2015.

14. Entertainment

Members and guests listened to performances from the children of 'Just Singing', taught by Patricia Hitchenor, Focal Administration and Finance Support Officer.

15. Meeting closed:

The President reiterated that the book "40 years of Focal" would be available for sale for a price of \$15.00 per copy, and that the author Judith Nissen would be available to sign copies.

The President further acknowledged that Professor Alan Rix would be conducting a site tour at 4:30pm with particular emphasis on the buildings formerly of the Challinor Centre.

Members and guests attending the formal dinner were reminded that proceedings would commence at 6:00pm.

The meeting was declared closed at 4:40 pm and all attendees were invited to join the newly elected committee for refreshments.

President's Report

The past year has been rewarding yet challenging for the FOCAL Management Committee, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Management Team, staff and volunteers.

One of the highlights of our year was the FOCAL 40th year celebrations. This was a wonderful opportunity to stop and reflect on the achievements of this heartfelt organization which started from the family and friends of those people in the Challinor centre in 1974. Many clients, families, carers, staff, volunteers, stakeholders, partners and supporters attended one, some or all of the celebrations throughout the year. From being 'dunked' at the Carnivale, to joining into the 'Life-Be-In-It' tug of war at Browns Park in July, right through to the Annual General Meeting held at the University of Queensland Ipswich Campus, and the site of the Challinor Centre to the Formal Dinner with guest speakers Sue Boyce and entertainer Tim McCallum, the year was full of positive reflections.



Roy Henderson - President

A special members meeting with an extended invitation to staff and volunteers was held in March 2015. At this meeting the Committee discussed a variety of options for FOCAL's future and sought feedback from attendees as to the benefits and challenges of each option as well as ideas that had not been considered. The Management Committee reconfirmed their vision to secure a long-term future for FOCAL in a vastly changing environment with the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Another highlight for the year was seeing 7 Canning Street become operational in July. This additional space will enable the 6 Canning Street Community Centre to reclaim additional space for programs such as music jam sessions, the information technology hub and social evenings for our FOCAL participants.

The Committee extends its gratitude to our CEO for leading the organization during the last year in often difficult and challenging times. Thank you to the management team and staff for their willingness to support the work of the CEO and Committee as we progress towards NDIS. They are a committed and dedicated team that continue to show passion to the wonderful participants that we support. As a smaller organisation their work has allowed us to be flexible and responsive in a changing environment. To our volunteers, we say thank you for sharing our vision and values and giving so freely of your time and ideas. To the management committee, I thank you for your investment of time and your commitment to leading FOCAL forward under the NDIS as a responsive provider within the Ipswich region.

We encourage our current clients, staff, volunteers, partners and supporters to spread the word about FOCAL; to talk about FOCAL in the community and invite children, youth and adults with a disability to come to FOCAL as their preferred provider. Our focus remains on quality service and as we head towards NDIS, FOCAL will remain a provider of choice where our participants/clients can expect more from FOCAL services and programs.

Roy Henderson
PRESIDENT, FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

Treasurer's Report

As Treasurer of FOCAL Extended Incorporated I present the financial report for the year ending 30 June 2015. In presenting this report I acknowledge the dedicated team that I work with which includes the FOCAL President Roy Henderson and my fellow Management Committee members who set the strategic direction for the organisation, our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sonja Gilchrist who leads FOCAL by effectively operationalising the strategic plan and the administration and finance team for their support.



Denis Ward - Treasurer

FOCAL continues to receive funding for core services from state and federal governments. In addition, FOCAL secured a grant of \$28,660 from the Queensland Charitable Fund (QCF) to prepare for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) through strengthening our governance and reviewing the business model to ensure sustainability and viability. FOCAL continued to develop with the administration site at 7 Canning Street and completed the modifications to relevant standards including the concrete carpark and disability access ramp.

The CEO and Management Committee continued to carefully manage FOCAL's finances throughout the year. A modest profit after income tax of \$9,617.26 was achieved. It was also possible to make provisions for 6 Canning Street refurbishment, future vehicle replacements and preparations for NDIS.

Owen Harris & Associates have audited the financial accounts for the year ended . A copy of the Independent Financial Auditor's report, Income Statements and Balance Sheet are provided for your reference.

FOCAL is well placed to continue to provide quality disability services and support in Ipswich, ensuring that participants/ clients have choice in services.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'D.W. Ward'.

Denis Ward
TREASURER

Finance

FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
INCOME			
DSQ GRANTS		2,925,675.57	2,631,546.50
FAHCSIA		135,958.23	133,949.00
Service Provision Fees		273,692.58	251,451.23
Early Childhood Education		24,626.00	23,851.00
Membership Fees Received		772.65	828.10
Employee Reimbursements		-	2,029.36
Donations		3,459.00	2,860.00
		<u>3,364,184.03</u>	<u>3,046,515.19</u>
OTHER INCOME			
Events		8,425.37	1,863.45
Interest Received		48,403.18	33,823.94
Canning Rent		7,575.00	8,250.00
Christmas Party		152.45	47.50
Fundraising activities		1,139.35	938.73
Asset Realisation Account		125.00	-
		<u>65,820.35</u>	<u>44,923.62</u>
		<u>3,430,004.38</u>	<u>3,091,438.81</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

FOCAL EXTENDED INC.
INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
EXPENDITURE			
Auditors Remuneration		8,390.48	10,012.20
Advertising		1,053.67	2,248.54
Activity & Resources		15,057.73	10,758.84
Amenities		6,279.74	5,454.79
Bad Debts		200.00	-
Bank Charges		1,378.67	1,312.85
Cleaning		7,100.36	6,800.00
Client Expenses		531.90	670.98
Client Support		5,457.52	1,380.00
Food & Refreshments		3,527.08	2,115.22
Event Expenses		18,357.86	3,717.75
Depreciation		18,474.26	21,049.00
Information Technology		686.09	266.31
Equipment		664.69	7,562.69
Donations		150.00	145.45
Electricity		7,567.75	7,580.31
Employee Expenses		3,194.15	23,120.28
First Aide		19,909.44	-
Insurance		16,014.92	14,557.75
Interest Card Facility		314.58	-
Interest 7 Canning Street		10,752.58	11,585.61
Kitchen Supplies		2,144.67	4,038.42
Mileage		41,012.89	80,020.18
Motor Vehicle Expenses		10,492.61	10,215.35
Operational Expenses		19,126.41	15,535.55
Postage & Freight		4,792.55	2,566.32
Printing & Stationery		20,634.51	15,693.43
Rates & Taxes		7,926.98	5,694.84
Canning Business Centre Maintenance		1,148.98	-
Canning Community Centre Maintenance		12,095.26	12,313.03
Warrawong St Maintenance		1,883.07	1,474.07
Marketing		10,124.82	-
Siblings Activities, Food		1,590.40	132.57
Subscriptions & Memberships		6,396.83	4,572.23
Superannuation Contributions - Employees		231,567.03	207,978.57
Telephone		27,378.99	26,439.85
Toys & Equipment		1,383.66	1,899.63
Travelling Expenses		1,670.00	1,586.00
Accrued Leave		21,624.22	32,044.41
Accured Organisation Expenses		182,600.00	130,000.00

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

FOCAL EXTENDED INC.
INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Wages - Administration	344,837.92	346,925.80
Wages - Support	1,645,507.78	1,433,694.29
Wages Co-Ordination & Co-Ordinator	263,653.12	235,347.07
Salary Oncosts	314,859.82	293,804.31
Training, Seminars, Trainers	55,667.26	44,254.13
Workcover	45,203.87	47,963.90
	<u>3,420,387.12</u>	<u>3,084,532.52</u>
Profit	9,617.26	6,906.29
Unrealised Loss Solar	-	-
Profit after income tax	<u>9,617.26</u>	<u>6,906.29</u>
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	<u>798,317.81</u>	<u>791,411.52</u>
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	<u><u>807,935.07</u></u>	<u><u>798,317.81</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	1,024,901.66	1,005,634.25
Trade and other receivables	3	30,707.36	28,181.80
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>1,055,609.02</u>	<u>1,033,816.05</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	4	1,232,116.16	1,030,794.37
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>1,232,116.16</u>	<u>1,030,794.37</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>2,287,725.18</u>	<u>2,064,610.42</u>
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables		327,691.77	312,470.67
Borrowings		-	3,079.96
Provision for Vehicles		88,000.00	70,000.00
Provision for Buildings		198,000.00	270,000.00
Employee benefits	5	245,873.61	224,249.39
Provision for NDIS		236,600.00	-
Income in Advance - Non Recurrent Grants		103,531.19	21,047.92
Income in Advance - Recurrent Grants		279,052.49	365,105.58
Makaton Book Fund		176.04	176.04
Siblings Group		865.01	163.05
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>1,479,790.11</u>	<u>1,266,292.61</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>1,479,790.11</u>	<u>1,266,292.61</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>807,935.07</u>	<u>798,317.81</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained earnings	6	807,935.07	798,317.81
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		<u>807,935.07</u>	<u>798,317.81</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

FOCAL EXTENDED INC.**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015****1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies**

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act QLD 1981. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all plant and equipment is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Impairment of Non-Financial Assets

At the end of each reporting period the association determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where this indicator exists and regardless for goodwill, indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the assets is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss, except for goodwill.

FOCAL EXTENDED INC.**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015**

Accounts Receivable and Other Receivables

Accounts receivable are recognised initially at the transaction price (i.e. cost) and are subsequently measured at cost less provision for impairment. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

At the end of each reporting period, the carrying amount of accounts receivable and other receivables are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that the amounts are not recoverable. If so, an impairment loss is recognised immediately in income and expenditure statement.

Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than twelve months after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cashflows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

Employee benefits are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date regardless of the classification of the liability for measurement purposes under AASB 119.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

FOCAL EXTENDED INC.**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015****Revenue and Other Income**

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method.

Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depends on whether the outcome of the services can be measured reliably. If this is the case then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period. If the outcome cannot be reliably measured then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liabilities at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association that remain unpaid.

Accounts payable are recognised at their transaction price. Accounts payable are obligations on the basis of normal credit terms.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	2015 \$	2014 \$
2 Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Petty Cash	100.00	100.00
Petty Cash - Vacation Care	300.00	242.70
Petty Cash IPP	100.00	100.00
NAB General Account	53,083.79	63,164.60
ING Direct	201,205.79	214,533.65
Term Deposit - 08	232,610.20	216,625.54
CBA Business Saver	4,466.61	78.87
CBA Online Saver	53.42	53.42
Term Deposit - 83	158,829.99	157,456.02
ING Term Deposit	374,151.86	353,279.45
	<u>1,024,901.66</u>	<u>1,005,634.25</u>
3 Trade and Other Receivables		
Current		
Receivables	15,025.76	12,500.20
Input Tax Credits	15,681.60	15,681.60
	<u>30,707.36</u>	<u>28,181.80</u>
4 Property, Plant and Equipment		
Land and Buildings		
6-8 Canning Street	671,771.05	671,771.05
Total Land and Buildings	<u>671,771.05</u>	<u>671,771.05</u>
7 Canning Street	443,563.20	261,772.04
Motor Vehicles	92,442.10	92,442.10
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(49,351.10)</u>	<u>(44,231.55)</u>
	43,091.00	48,210.55
Office Furniture & Equipment	156,221.97	136,686.63
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(112,262.97)</u>	<u>(104,601.00)</u>
	43,959.00	32,085.63
Information Technology	46,690.74	28,221.19
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(17,953.74)</u>	<u>(12,592.00)</u>
	28,737.00	15,629.19
Software Package	3,280.91	3,280.91
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(2,286.00)</u>	<u>(1,955.00)</u>
	994.91	1,325.91
Total Plant and Equipment	<u>560,345.11</u>	<u>359,023.32</u>
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	<u>1,232,116.16</u>	<u>1,030,794.37</u>

FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	2015 \$	2014 \$
5 Employee Benefits		
Current		
Provision for Long Service Leave	137,887.69	122,982.31
Provision for Holiday Pay	<u>107,985.92</u>	<u>101,267.08</u>
	<u>245,873.61</u>	<u>224,249.39</u>
6 Retained Earnings		
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	798,317.81	791,411.52
Net profit attributable to the association	<u>9,617.26</u>	<u>6,906.29</u>
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	<u>807,935.07</u>	<u>798,317.81</u>

FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE


The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 10:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of FOCAL EXTENDED INC. as at 30 June 2015 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that FOCAL EXTENDED INC. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

President: 
Roy Henderson

Treasurer: 
Denis Ward

Dated this second day of October 2015

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOCAL EXTENDED INC.

Scope

I have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of FOCAL EXTENDED INC. for the year ended 30 June 2015, as set out on pages 1 to 11. The Committee is responsible for the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act QLD 1981 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on them to the members of FOCAL EXTENDED INC.. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements under the Associations Incorporation Act QLD 1981. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this audit report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1, so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Association's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis. It is not practical for FOCAL EXTENDED INC. to maintain an effective system of internal control over donations and fund raising activities until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, the audit in relation to donations and fund raising was limited to the amounts recorded.

Independence

In conducting my audit, I followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 of the financial statements, the financial position of FOCAL EXTENDED INC. as at 30 June 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

In my opinion, the financial report presents a true and fair view of the financial position of FOCAL EXTENDED INC. as at 30 June 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Name of Firm: Owen, Harris & Associates
Accountants & Auditors

Name of Principal: _____

Tom Hutton CPA

Address: 220 Brisbane Street, West Ipswich

Dated this 17TH day of SEPTEMBER 2015

Community Connections

FOCAL has been active in the local community leading and participating in events and working together with a range of organisations.

Local Events

Some of the events that FOCAL have participated in included:

- Blair Disability Links at Brassall Shopping Centre on 28th November 2014. This is hosted by Shayne Neumann MP, Federal Member for Blair.
- The Defence Community Organisation “Welcome Event” for families from RAAF Amberley on Thursday 19th February 2015
- Ipswich Festival Parade April 2015
- Parent Expo with Mission Australia 29th May 2015
- The Sensory Movie Day at Ipswich Birch Carroll and Coyle Cinema on 28th June 2015
- NAIDOC Week celebrations on 9th July 2015 at Briggs Road
- Riverlink Shopping Centre FOCAL stall from 17th to 28th August 2015

National Stress Down Day

In July FOCAL held a free community event to mark National Stress Down Day at Browns Park, North Ipswich. This is the second year FOCAL has held this inclusive event. Participants had a chance to increase their awareness of the needs of people with a disability, find out about the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and have fun together. People tried out their strength and coordination with tug-a-wars, zumba, hula hooping and ball games, enjoyed free foods, painted and potted plants to take home, and had a chance to buy handmade crafts. This FOCAL event was proudly supported by Ipswich City Council and Bunnings Warehouse.

Lifetec Staff Training

Links have been developed with LifeTec through visiting the display centre and arranging visits and training at FOCAL. LifeTec have been able to provide training for staff about assistive devices and communication technology and provide direct support for participants in the Horizons Program.



Community Connections

Fresh Futures Market

The largest event FOCAL was actively involved in leading was the Fresh Futures Market on 26th August 2015 at the Ipswich Show Ground. FOCAL continues to be a lead organiser for this event which has now doubled in size since it began in 2013. This year more than 450 people attended the event where there were 78 stall holders, entertainers and workshops. The planning committee had representatives from 15 organisations who worked closely together to make this event a huge success. Below is a sample of the great feedback this event received:

"All good - excellent expo- feels good!"

"The expo was very imaginative - don't change it"

"It's fantastic - getting bigger and better all the time"

"Very well organised and planned"

"Lots of information, fun environment, diversity of service providers, great open space"

"Great to see so many service providers under one roof"

"Friendly and warm, professional and fun"

"Exciting!"



MyTime Mens Group

The MyTime Mens Group is now in its second year. Ongoing funding has been secured to ensure this valuable initiative continues. The group provides opportunities for male carers of young people with disabilities to meet and seek peer support. As the members' interests are diverse, the facilitator Tracey Slater aims to provide a program throughout the year with a mix of activities. Some of these have included attending the Quiz Night at Goodna RSL, going to Willowbank Raceway, fishing on the bay, barefoot bowling, dinners and family picnics. New members are always welcome to join. It is fabulous to be able to provide this unique group for male carers in Ipswich and FOCAL aims to continue to ensure the program is of benefit to its members.

The Ipswich Siblings Network

The Ipswich Siblings Network continues to support siblings of young people with disabilities. In the last year some wonderful events have been organised by the network members. These included a Christmas Lights tour, going to a Broncos football match, ten pin bowling, visiting Inflatable World and The Edge at the State Library. Interest in this group continues to grow with most events having around 20 participants. This year the group was fortunate to receive funding from Ipswich City Council to support one activity and the group continues to look for fundraising opportunities to ensure this unfunded initiative continues. FOCAL thanks all the partners of this network collaboratively working together to make valuable contributions in these young people's lives. Partners include the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disabilities, ALARA Qld Limited, Carers Queensland, Choice Passion Life (formally Cerebral Palsy League), Goodna Integrated Family Support and Mission Australia.

Workshops

Each year FOCAL joins with Claremont, Goodna, Ipswich and Ipswich West Special Schools to deliver workshops for parent and carers. These free events continue to be popular in the region and have included guest speakers from the following organisations:

- Carers Queensland
- Centrelink
- Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre
- Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services
- Financial Counsellors from Uniting Community Care
- Ipswich Regional Advocacy Service
- Office of the Public Guardian
- Public Trustee
- Queensland Disability Network
- The Salvation Army Carer Counselling, Information and Support Service

Initiatives with Participants

FOCAL has been actively **listening** to clients and families, identifying what they want and creating opportunities to meet these needs. We have been working with clients to prepare for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

FOCAL linked with 'Queenslanders with Disabilities Network' (QDN) to host the **"Ready to Go"** workshops for clients in March. Jim Madden the new State Member for Ipswich West attended the opening of the first session and spoke of his commitment to working with and for people with a disability in Ipswich. The workshops were extremely successful and future workshops are planned for participants leading up to NDIS in Queensland from 1 July 2016.

The **FOCAL NDIS Resource** was developed to share with clients and carers. It gives an overview of what the NDIS is, how to prepare for the NDIS and the role FOCAL can have working with people to prepare through the transition.

"MyPlan" was developed for clients (now referred to as participants under the NDIS). This document is based on the planning document used in the NDIS trial sites to identify participant's needs, aspirations, dreams and goals. This document is being developed with each client at FOCAL and will be a very useful document to take to meetings with planners when the NDIS rolls out in Ipswich. Evidence in trial sites shows that investing time with people to prepare for their meeting with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) has led to positive outcomes and successes for participants. The MyPlan document will assist FOCAL clients to be successful too.

As a **host provider** of Your Life Your Choice FOCAL works with individuals to develop the skills and confidence to self direct their funding from government. Through this experience participants are well prepared to transition when the NDIS is introduced in Ipswich.



Ready to Go workshops



INITIATIVES WITH PARTICIPANTS

Providing Resources and Opportunities

The facilities and resources at FOCAL sites are being upgraded. So far this has included purchasing new furniture, instruments, iPads, cameras and other interactive resources. Plans are in progress to develop a media room with a range of technology options for participants (clients) to use.

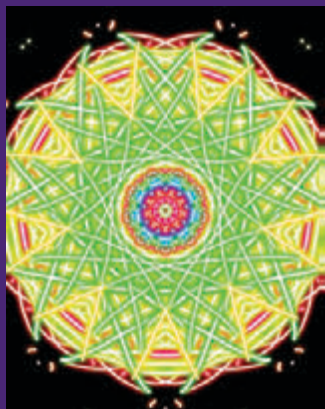
Examples of initiatives.....

A music group jams every Saturday to provide fabulous opportunities to learn a range of instruments and be part of a group that is planning to form a band.

Fishing at local water holes combines fishing skills with outdoor activities.

Employment- a range of local paid and volunteer job opportunities have been established with participants.

Food hygiene training through Sally's Place Learning Centre enabled clients to participate in interactive sessions to develop essential food safety skills to use at the centre and in their own homes. Each participant received a certificate of completion.



FOCAL NDIS RESOURCE

Focal - Planning with You for the
National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

July 2015

Contact 3812 2014
Visit www.focal.org.au
Join us at 6 Canning St North Ipswich 4305

Programs for Children

After School Hours Care Program

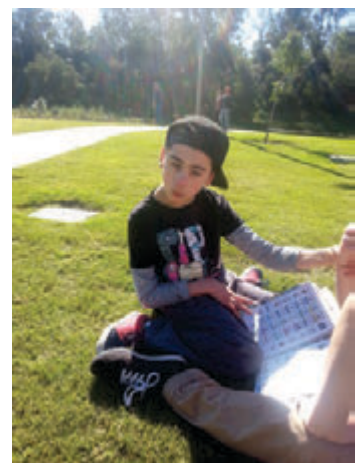
After a busy day at school, the children in the after school care program enjoy the opportunity to unwind with the flexibility in activities that are offered. The children can choose from a variety of regular activities each day or simply just relax and chat to their friends and staff.

Over the past 12 months, the group have participated in activities such as: cooking, art and craft, board games, card games (uno is the game of choice), listening to music, outdoor play and sport (soccer, cricket, basketball, frisbee throwing, swings, sandpit play, walking), playing the Wii and Xbox, working with iPads playing games and exploring different apps (such as the kaleidoscope drawing app).

We do a lot of impromptu drama and pretend play; the themes are always driven by the children. They are very creative with the materials we have on hand to make the props on the spot.

What a great year we have had in the Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) program. This would not be possible without the ongoing support of Ipswich Special School and the dedicated, hard working support staff. THANK YOU!!!

We look forward to the year ahead, with the privilege of continuing to work with all of the wonderful children, families and staff involved in the OSHC programs.



Vacation Care Program - Seniors and Juniors

During the Vacation Care programs over the last year, the children have been able to participate in fun and engaging activities with their friends in a safe and inclusive environment. Such activities included our regular and most requested activities: a variety of Art and Craft, Drawing, Swimming, Water Play, Karaoke, Winter Pyjama Party, Cooking, Outdoor play and Sporting activities, Indoor Games, Watching Movies and playing the Wii, Mystery Fun and Games day which included an all time favourite, Pass the Parcel and an Outdoor Scavenger Hunt. We also participated in excursions away from the centre.



Seniors and Juniors visited the Springloaded Trampoline Centre for the first time which was great fun for all ages. Our Seniors group also went to Colleges Crossing, the children really enjoyed the adventure playground and the sausage sizzle for lunch. The Senior group also enjoyed a regular trip to the Ten Pin Bowling Centre at Richlands where the group showed off their fantastic bowling skills.

In addition to our regular activities and excursions, we had several visitors working with the Senior and Junior programs, such as Jungle Jammin' who did a fantastic job teaching the children and staff some drumming and music; Special Effects and filming with iPads brought to us by the great team from Activated.



Entertainment, some Art with a difference by Rotations Creations and very entertaining and interactive Puppet Show by Julia from Kiddy Winks Puppet Theatre.

And let's not forget that we were very lucky when Santa came to visit us again during our December program, bringing with him Santa showbags for everyone and there was a big water slide and face painting which added to the fun for our end of year celebrations.

Kerri Siebenhausen
Out of School Hours Care
Coordinator



Individual and Group Programs for Adults

Horizons Program

The Horizons program is an inclusive, sensory rich experience for participants with higher support needs. Many of our current participants have both mobility and communication challenges. Participants are enjoying maintaining the vegetable garden and have planted a herb garden. Flowers have been planted and everyone has taken turns watering and looking after them. The addition of an iPad in Horizons has introduced a whole new range of activities including taking short videos of themselves and friends, taking selfies and photos while in the centre and in the community, and playing with new games.

Our centre has welcomed the addition of a new kitchen and fridge making the area more user friendly. This has helped our participants become more fully involved in preparing their own meals and being involved in cleaning up afterwards. We have painted the interior of the building in partnership with Dulux Bundamba. This has been a community project for Dulux, who have donated the materials and paint, while the Dulux employees donated their time. We held a working bee which many FOCAL employees and their families came along to help prep the building for painting – thank you all so much!

Participants have been very busy creating new art work to put on the walls. They have also been identifying new equipment that they want in their centre. These will include new interactive electronic keyboards, sports equipment, computer games and art supplies. We have also implemented a bus trip every Monday morning in addition to the monthly bus trip. This is so Horizons participants can visit parks and places of interest in Ipswich each week and have their morning tea in the community. This has been working well although Browns Park does remain a firm favourite.

Glenna Shaw
Team Coordinator



Handyman Group

Participants of the Handyman Group are continuing to learn new skills and have completed many projects this year such as bird boxes, condiment holders and spice racks. The group have also assisted with the general maintenance of 6 Canning Street.

Some of the participants were also involved in Food Safety Training learning safe food hygiene.

The group have also cooked a huge range of healthy lunches for when their work is done. Participants have continued to build great friendships and look forward to meeting up each week.

Anthony Vaughan
Team Coordinator



having fun at FOCAL



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Independent Living and In Home Drop In Programs

The Independent Living Program (ILP) program is currently supporting 16 clients in the Ipswich community with a variety of disabilities. A number of highlights have been noted during the last year and in particular clients have mentioned that without the support of the program they would have found it difficult to maintain the level of involvement in the community that they now have. This particular program supports clients in the following areas, Community Linking, Meal Preparation, Medication Management.

The In Home Drop In (IHDI) support program is currently supporting 30 clients with a variety of disabilities. The program has been successful in supporting these clients to remain living in their chosen community. The focus of the support staff has always been to promote as much independence as possible and encourage clients to achieve this. The main areas that this program supports is Personal Care, Domestic Assistance, Medication Support and Meal Preparation.

The staff and clients have developed fantastic networking skills which has resulted in assisting clients to access a variety of supports in the Ipswich community. This has included clients being successful in entering wood working projects in the local shows.

Brian McKeown
Program Coordinator



I have been a client of FOCAL Independent Living Program for 5 years and during this time I have had various types of support.

About 11 years ago, I suffered a stroke which has affected the right side of my body. When FOCAL began working with me, the first thing they helped me with was to find a new place to live that was closer to Ipswich. Eventually I moved into a unit in Booval where I go shopping by myself, cook my own meals and watch as much of my Carlton footy team and Nascar racing on my TV as I want.

Another goal that I had at the time was to get myself a laptop computer and learn how to type. FOCAL staff again helped me to purchase this laptop. They then began to teach me how to use the computer and to learn to touch-type.

Because I used to work outside as a carpenter, David arranged for me to visit the Ipswich Woodcraft Club at Brassall. This has been a great experience for me. I began by doing pyrography (wood-burning) first. It took a lot of effort to use my right hand to control the pens, but over a couple of months I was able to become more used to it. I entered two pieces in the Brookfield Show this year and won first prizes in the 'Beginner's Section'.

FOCAL has helped me to keep visiting my doctor for check-ups, attend the dentist when I needed to.

I enjoy working with FOCAL.

Dwayne Williams
ILP Participant



Independent Pathways Program

The Independent Pathways Program (IPP) has 16 people with a disability actively participating over five days a week. The program focuses on developing life and social skills that enable participants to live their optimal life, reach their goals, link with community and develop their independence. This year the group went on an over-night camp to the Allawah Scout Camp Grounds at Chuwar, with another camp planned for later this year. Several of the programs participants have gained both paid and unpaid employment or, are in the process of gaining paid employment and work experience through FOCAL supports, and with the support of local Disability Employment Services.

The program participants have been very stable this year with two more people joining the program recently. Friendships have grown as well as the confidence of the individuals involved. Team work and communication have been important factors again this year for the group, and these factors have transferred to home and family life too.

Peta Schaffer
Team Coordinator



Stepping Out Program

The Stepping Out Program engages young adults to be active participants within their local and broader communities. Currently the Stepping Out Program consists of a Ladies Group for half a day on Monday and all day Tuesday and a Men's Group for half a day Tuesday and all day Friday. Both groups often join together for activities on a Tuesday afternoon.

There is also a social program held on one evening a month about 8 times a year where participants from both groups and all FOCAL participants (clients) are invited to join in. Stepping Out has become so popular that the program has been able to expand to include participants who have their own funding. Other groups also join in for particular events such as cricket in the park.

The group involve themselves in a range of social and fundraising events. They successfully raised \$2500 hosting a 'Shave for a Cure' event at the FOCAL Community Centre. Several participants and staff engaged in the shave including FOCAL President Roy Henderson, with many choosing to colour their hair rather than shave.

The ladies group participated in poppy making through the Ipswich Library for Anzac Day celebrations. The ladies have also been successful in receiving acknowledgements and awards for art works in both the Ipswich and Rosewood Show.



The Stepping Out groups have embraced planning and leadership within the program demonstrating good teamwork and communication skills. There has been a clear theme throughout the year of health and wellbeing in cooking and physical activities.

The groups participated in a number of programs including Food Safety Training where they learned about safe food practices and nutrition and the QDN workshops in preparation for the NDIS which included the series of Mapping My Future, Plan Ahead and Masterclass workshops.

The group have been planning the activities and been given the opportunity to develop their leadership skills with the support of staff. They have developed great friendships and continue to evolve as a team.

Some of the activities that the groups enjoy include cooking, swimming, ceramics, bowling, archery, laser tag, putt putt, fishing, volunteering at Plants Plus, attending the Ipswich Show and the Ekka, Willowbank Raceway and the Amberley RAAF Base, and visiting the Broncos at one of their training sessions.

Anthony Vaughan - Team Coordinator

Jodie McCosker - Team Coordinator



Investing in Staff and Volunteers

FOCAL understands the key to providing quality services and supports lies with the quality and commitment of staff and volunteers of an organisation. In the last year FOCAL has continued to invest in its staff and volunteers through a range of initiatives and the positive results from these continue to be seen and felt.

Key achievements include:

- Recruiting staff and volunteers based on values, life experiences and interests.
- Engaging clients in recruitment.
- Expanding the orientation program to 3 days. This extensive program is valued by new staff and volunteers and beneficial as a refresher for other staff.
- Introducing a new Staff Appraisal format.
- Providing ongoing training in areas such as person centered planning, professional boundaries, National Disability Insurance Scheme, using communication devices and smart technology, managing grief and loss, food safety, moving and handling practices, restrictive practice requirements, body functions, peg feeding, epilepsy awareness and the anti-discrimination act.
- Offering volunteer and trainee opportunities through the "Caring For Our Mob" initiative.
- Volunteer celebrations to acknowledge the valuable work of these individuals .
- 52 staff and volunteers participated in a consultation. Individuals indicated they valued working as part of a team, the high quality of support, supervision and training provided and the opportunity to work with a range of individuals in different ways. In particular staff are enjoying being able to utilise their personal interests with clients e.g. swimming, fishing, playing guitar, woodwork and computer skills.
- Reviewing and updating Position Descriptions.
- Continuing regional meetings and regular individual supervision to enhance and support professional practice.
- Awarding Staff and Volunteer Excellence Awards to:

Client Services Award: Heidi Crittenden and Gerard Harrison

Client Focused Award: Peter McGregor and Michelle Howes

Versatility Award: Hayley Brooke and Bilijana Jungic

Innovation Award: Cheryl Dakin

Newcomer Award: Hannah Imhoff



Highlights

Inaugural General Meeting of Friends of Challinor Aid League held on 21st February

74

Representations to Main Roads Department & MLA for Ipswich West to provide a pedestrian crossing for Challinor residents resulted in erection of warning signs

77

Effective representation made to Queensland Government to change wording referring to people with disabilities in legislation

79

Campaign against increases in Challinor Centre maintenance fees

81

Focal report outlined steps to be undertaken when moving people from institutions into community settings

Vacation Care Program introduced on an ad hoc basis

Friends of Challinor Aid League became F.O.C.A.L. Inc. with a by-line "Assisting Intellectually Disabled People and Their Families"

86

73

Strike of Challinor staff in September results in many community volunteers stepping in

A public meeting on 15 November looked at what could be done to improve the lives of Challinor Centre residents

75

Emergency Account and Birthday Schemes established to support residents

78

"E.C. Skewes - Focal Medal" awarded in recognition of innovative design

80

After 4 years of campaigning all people with a disability were given the same right to access social security pensions

Purchased mini bus for Challinor Centre residents with other partners

84

First Focal community service commences - a Recreational and Social Program

Office outside Challinor Centre established in the Humanities Building, South St, Ipswich

89

First housing for people with a disability was bought

95	98	07	09	12	14
Advocacy role undertaken as residents commenced their transition from Challinor into the community	Ipswich Siblings Group established in partnership with community organisations	Focal expanded services to 6 Canning St, North Ipswich Independent Pathways Program commenced Complex Needs Collaborative Action Project completed	Horizons pilot commenced for people with high support needs	MyTime Men's Group initiative commenced	Focal celebrates 40 years Focal leads Fresh Futures Market with 52 stall holders and 345 people attending the event

94 04 06 08 11 13 15

94	04	06	08	11	13	15
Focal moved to 14 Warrawong St, Eastern Heights	Facilitated Youth Leadership Project Focal celebrated 30 years	After School Hours Care trial commenced	Full Vacation Care Program commenced Independent Living Program commenced	Parents and Carer Workshops commenced in partnership with Special Schools Workshops provided for male carers and to highlight the needs of siblings Person Centred Individual Support Plan revitalised Stepping Out Program and In Home Drop In Program introduced	Property at 7 Canning Street, North Ipswich purchased to meet expanding needs of Focal First Fresh Futures Market held in conjunction with community partners Focal became a host provider for Your Life Your Choice	7 Canning Street opened Fresh Futures Market grown to 78 stall holders and over 450 participants My Plan commenced NDIS planning with clients





FOCAL thanks the many organisations, families, carers and individuals who have partnered with us throughout the year. We also acknowledge and thank all volunteers that contribute to FOCAL with their endless energy and dedication.



FOCAL



SINCE 1974
Supporting people with a disability,
their families and carers

Focal Extended Incorporated
7 Canning Street
North Ipswich QLD 4305

AUSTRALIA
P: 07 3812 2014
F: 07 3812 2023
E: admin@focal.org.au
W: www.focal.org.au