

Annual Report 2022-23.

aidf | Alcohol
and Drug
Foundation



People making a difference.

A message from our Chair and CEO.



This year marked the mid-point of our five-year strategic plan and we have made significant inroads to achieving our strategic priorities of:

- establishing a suite of credible, evidence-based approaches with demonstrable impact on alcohol and other drug (AOD) harms
- increasing adoption of evidence-based approaches that drive change
- sustaining the Alcohol and Drug Foundation (ADF) and improving impact with a strong focus on funding, systems and process
- creating digital solutions to amplify reach and enable change.

We have impacted change from the top down.

By forging strategic relationships and relentlessly advocating for a health response to alcohol and drug use, we have changed attitudes, behaviours and policies. Most notably, new decriminalisation laws in Queensland and ACT.

And we have supported communities to make a difference at the grassroots level, from the ground up.

We have increased the reach and impact of our place-based intervention work, with more Community Action Plans being implemented by Local Drug Action Teams and many more community sporting clubs progressing through the Good Sports program.

Innovation has been a central theme this year as we continue to pilot new programs and invest in opportunities to explore new ideas and solutions submitted by our staff into our innovation pipeline.

Our success in building an innovation-driven culture was underscored by the ADF being announced as one of Australia and New Zealand's most innovative companies in the prestigious 2022 AFR BOSS Most Innovative Companies Awards, from over 700 organisations.

The ADF's important work in Australian communities would be impossible without talented, passionate people who truly live and breathe our vision of a future where Australian lives are unlimited by alcohol and other drug harms.

Our staff are paramount to our impact, all contributing specialist skills that combine to make a big difference – from our head office engine room to our program delivery staff who work hand-in-hand with communities around Australia.

The quality and commitment of our staff also rings true for our diverse Board of Directors, who each contribute a critical skill set to ensure our rigorous governance structure is maintained. This year we welcomed new Directors: Assoc. Prof. Michael Livingston and Assoc. Prof. Kylie Lee, further boosting our AOD expertise.

We end 2022-23 by acknowledging our Board, staff, funders and program participants for your commitment to AOD prevention. Thank you.

Dedicated people working together does make a big difference.

Peter Wilson AM
Chair

Dr Erin Lalor AM
Chief Executive Officer

Connecting with
communities.



Local Drug Action Teams.

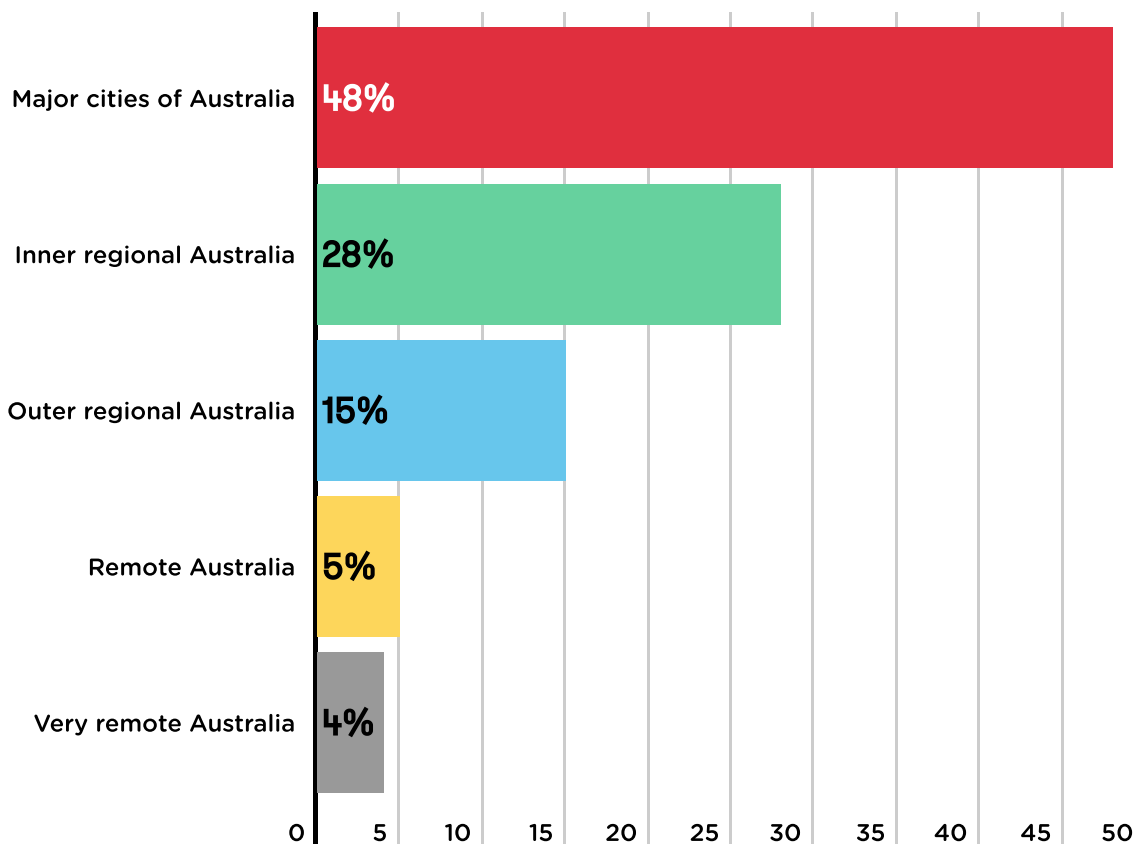
Local Drug Action Teams (LDATs) work at a community level to boost protective factors that prevent and reduce alcohol and other drug harms. Our ADF Relationship Managers provide tailored support, alongside small grants, to support LDATs to develop, deliver and evaluate Community Action Plans outlining goals and activities to address local concerns.

This year, we used clear insights and quality data gleaned from a substantive two-year review and consultation process, to streamline the LDAT program and enhance our approach to place-based AOD prevention.

Extensive work has been undertaken to move the program to an online digital delivery platform that enables a stronger focus on using evidence to drive CAP development and embed rigorous evaluation criteria - from conceptualisation to completion.

At the same time, we have upgraded our suite of support toolkits to include the latest evidence and information on proven programs and their potential adaptability for use by LDATs. And, we have created new tools to strengthen evaluation and planning. The streamlined program and improvements will launch at the start of the 2023-24 financial year.

LDAT Locations



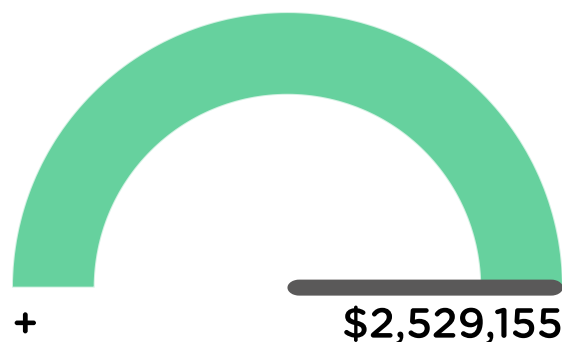
Pilot program: Planet Youth

Planet Youth, an Icelandic adolescent substance use prevention model, continued to be piloted in six LDATs as part of our commitment to trialling approaches to identify what works to build an Australian evidence base.



SA 4
NSW 2

Grants Dispersed



274

Number of LDATs



125

CAPs completed



1,537

Organisations



3.45m

Media reach



478,371

Social media reach

Inside a Local Drug Action Team.

Young participants can expect a supportive community where their voices are heard at a ground-breaking initiative run by Queensland's Logan Youth at Work LDAT.

The Mentoring, Mental Health Awareness and Harm Minimisation @ Substation33 program is creating a safe and inclusive space for unemployed young people to gain the confidence and skills to transition to sustainable employment.

Through support and mentorship, this social enterprise promotes positive mental health and alcohol and other drug harm minimisation strategies, while training and upskilling youth for employment. Up to eight trainees complete the program every six months.



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“What’s really beneficial is that we equip our trainees - not just for jobs, but for life. They make new networks and feel safe to raise issues that they have never been able to talk about and get guidance on.”

Tiffany Smith, social worker with Substation33

Good Sports.

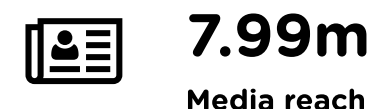
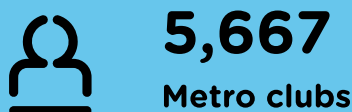
Good Sports is Australia's largest community health sports program, helping to build strong community sporting clubs across Australia for almost 25 years.

Working with 11,500+ clubs across 120 sporting codes, Good Sports supports and inspires clubs to set up a positive environment for players, volunteers, supporters, and officials – helping to tackle tricky topics such as alcohol, drugs, smoking, mental health, and safe transport.

This year, we conducted a review of Good Sports to ensure the transition to a digital model in 2020 had achieved its intended outcomes. We found there was genuine support of the program's purpose from clubs, with many keen to embed it into their club culture. There is clear recognition of the need for the digital transition and both the current and future benefits.

On the back of the review, we have simplified the online registration process for new clubs and addressed roles and responsibilities of our staff. Our program refinement work will continue in the new financial year.

Once again, our annual Good Sports Awards was an ADF highlight, attracting a record 554 nominations. The awards celebrate and recognise the many Good Sports clubs that go above and beyond to break the link between alcohol and their sport, strengthen community sport and create positive change in their communities.



Pilot program: Stronger Through Sport

This year we created the Stronger Through Sport program, which supports at-risk 14-20 year olds, to participate in community sport by creating pathways between local organisations, referral agencies and Good Sports clubs. The young people are supported to join a club of their choice and can access small grants to address barriers to involvement, such as fees and equipment costs. Good Sports clubs select leaders who are trained to act as positive role models for program participants. Stronger Through Sport is being piloted in four communities.



Inside a Good Sports Club.

Victoria's Geelong Junior Marlins Water Polo Club won the 2022 Good Sports Junior Club of the Year Award. While the Good Sports program helps many clubs with alcohol management, the Marlins are a great example of how an alcohol-free club can use the program to support members' wellbeing.

The club was recognised for creating a safe place for juniors to play sport, by focusing on issues like spectator behaviour, nutrition, and having a smoke-free environment. The Marlins provide information on help and support services for people who may be experiencing mental health issues, or other health issues.

The club also prides itself on running activities that increase parental involvement in the club, as well as food sharing events, that boost a sense of community.



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“We encourage juniors of all abilities, and we prioritise participation and fun over winning. Everyone looks after one another. We are very proud of our small, inclusive, regional community club. We love being part of the Good Sports community.”

Club president, Bec Talbot

**Sharing quality
information.**



Information Services.

Our Information Services program develops evidence-based resources and initiatives, to provide health professionals, AOD workers, the media and Australian communities with up-to-date information on alcohol and drugs, prevention, early intervention and harm reduction facts and advice.

This year, we have worked to make our resources more accessible by strengthening existing partnerships to understand the key AOD information needs of multicultural communities and people with an intellectual disability.

We have established an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Resources Advisory Group to inform the scope and development of a suite of resources, with collaboration on development and design.

We continued our focus on partnerships collaborating with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners on the development of a resources pack for GPs, providing evidence-based information on AOD use in young people, how it connects to mental health and support options.

Our ADF Library remains the largest and most up-to-date AOD library in Australia, providing free access to a wide range of specialist resources, including 11,000+ journals and databases.



Information Services.



146,408

Drug Information
Directory / Help &
Support Services
sessions



12,991

Text the Effects
enquiries



6,786,926

ADF web sessions



3,603

DrugInfo
contacts



58

Insights articles
written or reviewed



4

Mini Bulletins



7.11b

Media reach



2,538,665

Social media reach

ADF Library.



11,000+

Journals and
databases



10,713

ADF Library web
pages viewed



5,898

Members in
total



12,946

ADF Library
WorldCat
searches



966

New members



20%

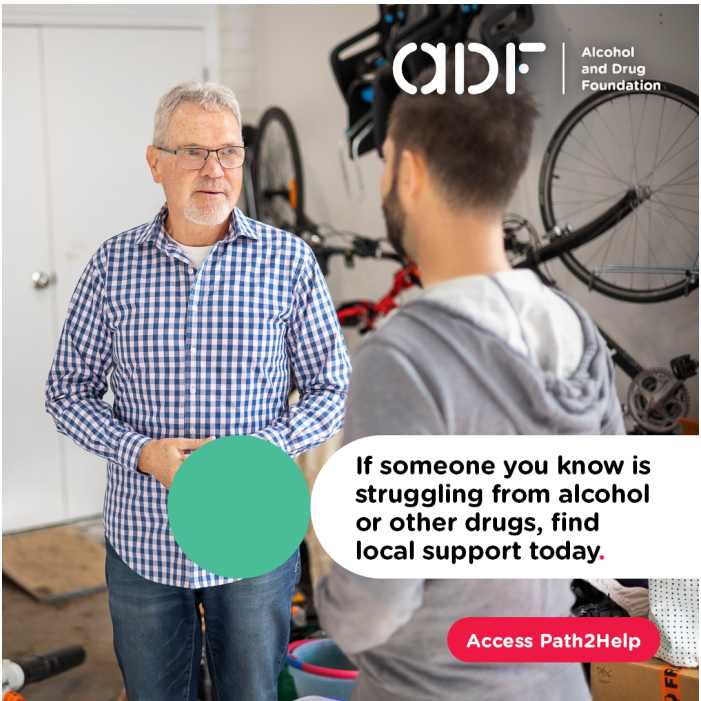
Total growth
in 12 months

Campaigns.

Our primary campaign in 2022-23 promoted Path2Help, our help seeker portal for family and friends of people who use alcohol and other drugs.

Now in its third year, the integrated marketing campaign promoted the online tool and drove awareness and use among the target audience of family and friends of people who use AOD, as well as health professionals.

The campaign was effective in driving people to use the tool. During the campaign period (October 2022 to May 2023) we recorded 11,011 tool completes, with 67% of these attributed to paid advertising. We also achieved 137,161 webpage sessions, with 88% of these driven by the paid advertising.



**Building the
evidence base.**



Evidence and Innovation.

The ADF works to improve knowledge, attitudes, and practices to prevent and delay AOD uptake among young people and strengthen prevention and harm reduction strategies for all. To do this we need to know what works in preventing and reducing AOD harms and increase adoption of evidence-based approaches.

This year, we have made great strides towards this ambition by:

1.0

Mapping the different data sources to understand the gaps in evidence and where we need to focus efforts and inform our action.

2.0

Developing an Evidence Framework – an internal process for gathering and synthesising the evidence around AOD that identifies what works – and using this to inform our policy submissions, advocacy efforts, program design and practice and publications.

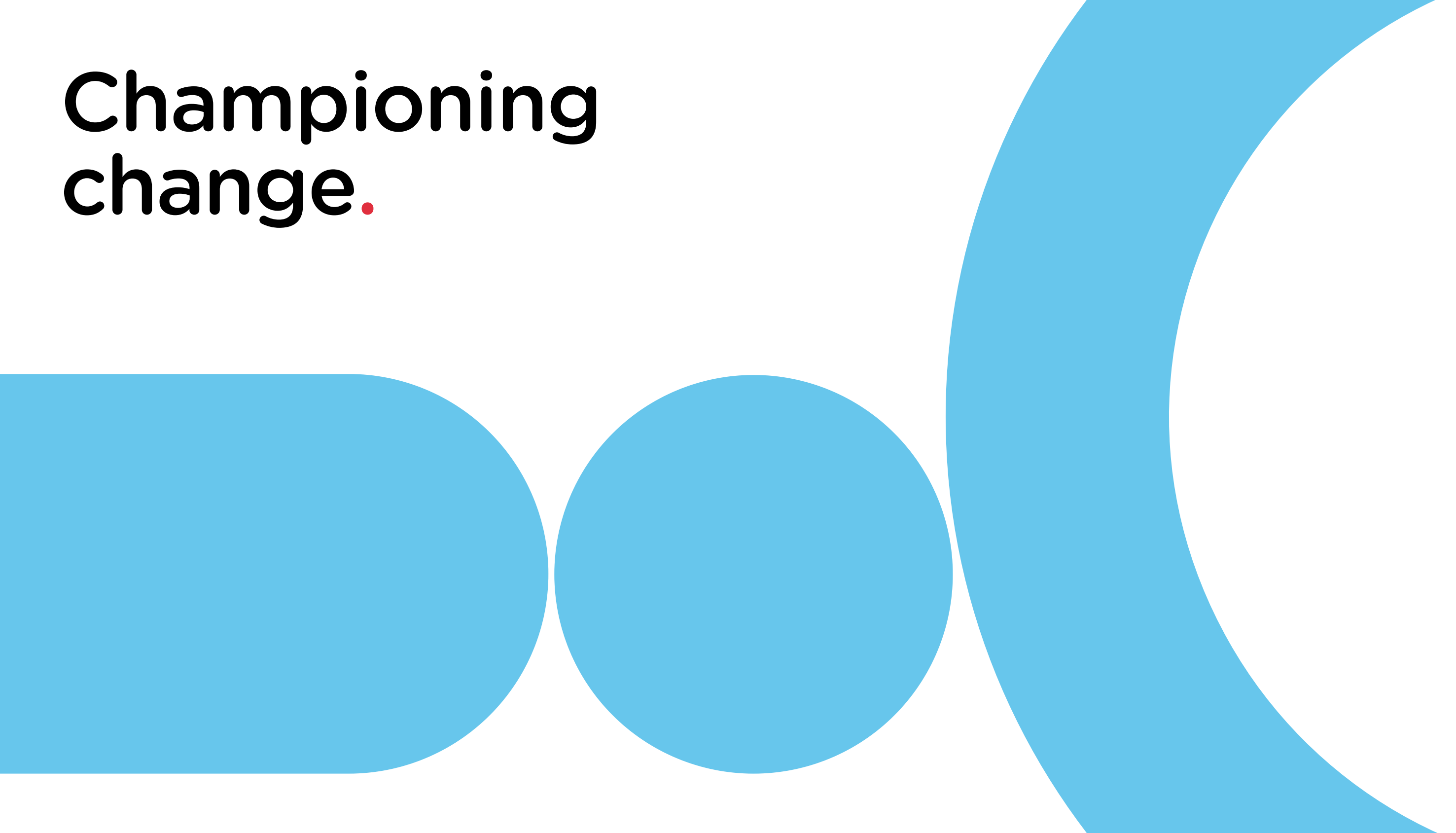
3.0

Developing an **ADF Theory of Change and Outcomes Framework** which allow us to understand how our actions influence outcomes over the short, medium, and long-term, outlining what meaningful change would look like. Our Outcomes Framework articulates measurable KPIs and links all ADF activity to our broader organisational ambition.

4.0

Creating an **Innovation Incubator** which allows ADF to generate insights and ideas from our staff and local communities, informed by new data and evidence. This is central to our Innovation Strategy which positions us to unearth, develop and test new ideas through human-centred design and evaluation. This enables us to be continually learning and evolving to respond to community needs and, in doing so, increase our impact.

**Championing
change.**



Advocacy.

The ADF plays a leading role in advocating for strengthened AOD policy and funding across Australia. This year, our objectives centred on drug law reform, reducing the harms of vaping, and strengthening prevention and early intervention efforts.

We have been at the forefront of work to see improved laws that reduce harms by adopting a health response to personal drug use, rather than a criminal response, with this work succeeding in Queensland and the ACT.

Since the 2022 Federal election, we have established and maintained strong ties with key stakeholders, both at the political and departmental level. We have also maintained strong relationships with key state government representatives. These relationships ensure we retain our trusted position with government, as well as strengthen our organisational sustainability and community impact.

We also nurture our relationships with coalitions and partners including Alcohol Change Australia, Alcohol Change Victoria, Keep our City Alive campaign, Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education, research organisations, and AOD peak bodies. Our relationships with medical organisations like the Australian Medical Association and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners have grown stronger and we continue to build new relationships across the health, community, and legal sectors.



35

Submissions to enquiries and consultations, almost double any previous financial year



141,388

Social media reach



515m

Media reach



4

Parliamentary committee inquiries attended



13k

Advocacy web page views



1.9k

Position Paper downloads

Position Papers published

1

New: Alcohol Taxation

1

Updated: Vaping

Reconciliation Action Plan.

This year we have been working with Reconciliation Australia to develop our ‘Stretch’ Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). This represents the ADF’s continued commitment towards reconciliation and will further embed reconciliation activities across the organisation and expand our impact in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

To this end, we have been working with external stakeholders to review our ADF Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander publications to ensure that they are culturally safe and appropriate and formed an advisory group to redevelop these resources.

Cultural training remains an organisational priority with new and existing staff attending face-to-face Cultural Respect and Safety training in April. And, we continue to offer the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies' on-line cultural awareness training for all staff.

Internally, we also mark significant dates of recognition and reconciliation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across all our offices.

Image: Artwork created for the ADF by Dixon Patten at Bayila Creative.

**Our Innovate RAP has been
successfully completed**



16 Significant Dates Observed



**Building
a strong
foundation.**



Our staff are our biggest asset, and we continue to invest accordingly to grow, develop and retain our people.

This has been achieved through a number of different initiatives.

Building our leaders.

In the past year, our unwavering commitment to fostering internal leadership capabilities materialised with the successful implementation of our Leadership Program. Across all business units, 20 dedicated staff members participated and completed the comprehensive course over 6 months. This initiative reflects our dedication to empowering our workforce and plays a pivotal role in cultivating powerful and effective leadership throughout the organisation.

All Staff Event.

The ADF All Staff Event convened in Melbourne, uniting staff from every state and territory, over two days in March 2023. With a focus on our internal theme of ‘connected, caring, and informed’, the event centred on alignment and learning. Guest speakers, including participants from our Local Drug Action Teams, shared knowledge and stories related to the ADF's work, enhancing our collective understanding and commitment to our mission of inspiring positive change and delivering evidence-based approaches to minimise alcohol and drug harm.

Cybersecurity.

To ensure security in the digital space, we made significant strides this year with the development and implementation of ADF Cyber Security, coupled with comprehensive training. This milestone is a fundamental pillar of the ADF's risk management strategy, aligning us with the guidelines of the Essential Eight by the Australian Cyber Security Commission.

7

cybersecurity
training topics

0

data breaches

20

Leadership
graduates

ADF staff – 109 total



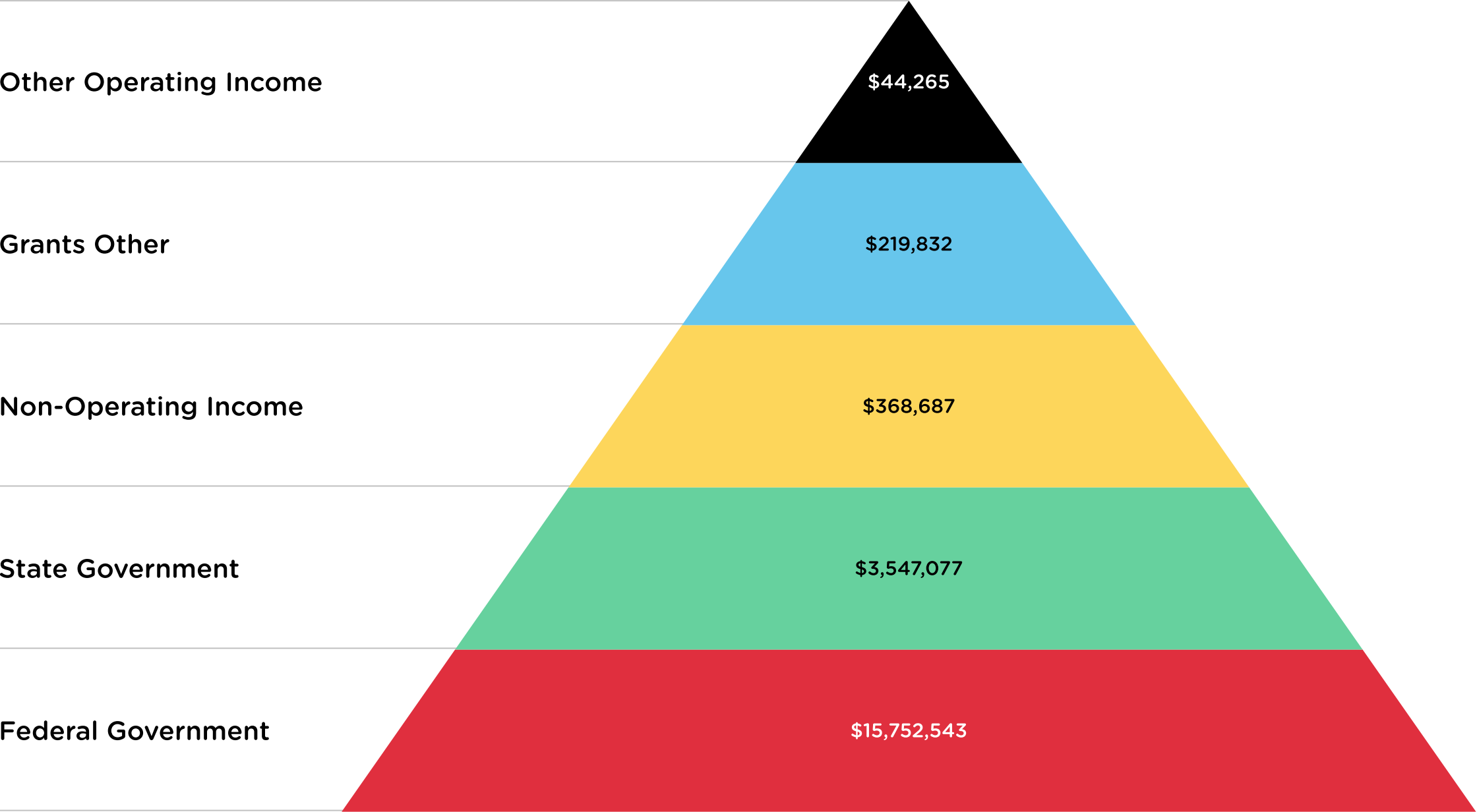
● VIC 60 ● NSW 8 ● SA 11 ● QLD 9
● WA 10 ● ACT 4 ● TAS 5 ● NT 2



**ADF's national workforce
gathered in Melbourne in March
for the 2-day All Staff Event.**

Financial report.

To view the ADF's full financial report
for the year ended June 30, 2023, visit
adf.org.au/adf-annual-report-2023



Thank you.

Our funding partners

Australian Government: Department of Health and Aged Care,
Department of Industry, Science and Resources

Victoria: Department of Health and Human Services, VicHealth

New South Wales: Transport for NSW, NSW Health, COORDINARE - South
Eastern NSW PHN

Northern Territory: Department of Territory Families, Housing and
Communities, NT Primary Health Network (PHN)

South Australia: Wellbeing SA (SA Health), Department for Infrastructure
and Transport, Department of Human Services

Tasmania: Department of Health, Department of Communities

Western Australia: Western Australian Cricket Association, Healthway

Other Grants: The Baker Foundation, Brian M.Davis Charitable
Foundation, Cancer Council Australia, Cancer Council Victoria, Australian
Rechabite Foundation, Public Health Association of Australia Inc

Our Board

Peter Wilson AM (Chair) - joined 2021

Prof Steve Allsop – joined 2018

Joshua Chalmers – joined 2018

Jennifer Hendry – joined 2010

Karina Keisler – joined 2020

Assoc Prof Dr Michael Livingston – joined 2022

Assoc Prof Kylie Lee – joined 2022

Barry Sandison – joined 2021

Serge Sardo – joined 2020



Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources



Health
and Human
Services



Transport
for NSW



Health



TERRITORY FAMILIES,
HOUSING AND
COMMUNITIES



RURAL
Workforce
AGENCY NT



Government of South Australia
SA Health



Government of South Australia
Department for Infrastructure
and Transport



Government
of South Australia



human
services



Tasmanian
Government

Department of
Health



Tasmanian
Government

Department of Communities Tasmania



WA
CRICKET



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



healthway



The
Baker
Foundation



Brian M.
Davis
Charitable
Foundation



Cancer
Council
Australia



Cancer
Council
Victoria



australian
rechabite
foundation



Public Health Association
AUSTRALIA

Leaving a gift in your will.

The Alcohol and Drug Foundation has a long and proud history of working to prevent and minimise the harm caused by alcohol and other drugs in Australia. Leaving a gift to the ADF in your will has the power to continue this work for future generations. We are extremely grateful to all those who have supported our mission this year.

adf.org.au

Gifts in Wills – Quick Information

ABN: 66 057 731 192

Legal Name: Alcohol and Drug Foundation Incorporated

Registered Address: Level 12/607 Bourke Street Melbourne VIC 3000

Do you need wording for your will or have any other questions?
Please contact the Gifts in Wills Team on 03 9611 6105.

adf.org.au