



**Lighthouse
Foundation**

A place where
homeless kids belong

HOME BAKED

**Annual Report
2019-2020**

COMING TOGETHER IN AN EXTRAORDINARY YEAR



On behalf of the young people and everyone at the foundation, thank you all from the bottom of my heart for the kindness and generosity you have shown us this year.

These challenging times have tested us, but I will tell you that I am so proud of how Lighthouse has responded- and the power and strength of our community has become even more evident these past twelve months.

To mark a momentous year, we wanted to make sure that this annual report was anything but ordinary. We hope that it gives you a glimpse in to the heart of our homes- our kitchens- and reminds you of the incredible ways in which your support helps us to change young lives forever.

Thank you for continuing to standing by our side and making the special moments inside these pages possible.

With heart,
Susan Barton AM
Founder

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*Some names and details have been changed to protect the identities of our young people.









Lighthouse Foundation provides homes and therapeutic care programs to children and young people impacted by long-term neglect, abuse and homelessness.

Our focus is to create caring communities where kids can feel safe, form meaningful relationships and begin to heal from traumatic experiences.

For the past 30 years, our proven Model of Care has successfully transformed the lives of over 1,000 young people using a range of trauma-informed, evidence-based strategies.

We now also educate and support Foster Carers in the same way, so that they too can take care of some of Australia's most vulnerable children.

Our Family Recipe

250g of love
1 teaspoon of caring
3 cups of respect
180g of trust
A pinch of honesty
2 teaspoons of stability
1 ½ cups of self-worth



Mix all ingredients together in a house
and bake warmly with love until ready.



Our brand

Our new vision, mission and values were designed to represent our charity's remarkable progression over the last 29 years. We think they're pretty awesome. Thanks to everyone in our community, and our branding experts ForStudio, for making this collaborative process possible.



OUR VISION

A safe home and community for homeless kids to belong, heal and thrive.

OUR MISSION

We provide therapeutic homes and create a caring community for homeless kids and foster families. Through the Lighthouse Model of Care our kids receive the level of support required to achieve a lifelong sense of belonging, the opportunity to heal and the capacity to thrive.

OUR VALUES

We are respectful, kind, courageous, thoughtful and committed.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



As Lighthouse Foundation enters its 30th year, we remain as committed as ever to changing the outcomes for homeless young people and children. Like the rest of the world, in early 2020 we were forced to find ways to continue to provide our services safely.

Our remarkable team stayed resilient and we were able to maintain our heartland through the continued operation of our homes and by operating our therapeutic programs which successfully care for and heal our at-risk young people. Our community has remained strongly connected, and the young people themselves made us proud with their adaption to remote learning, and restricted daily exercise.

I wish to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of our Board, our CEO, Simon Benjamin and Founder Susan Barton AM, our devoted carers in the homes, our support team from the Youth Resource Centre, our circles of community committee volunteers, our loyal donors and philanthropic partners, and our corporate supporters. Because of their commitment, and despite all the obstacles of the pandemic and lockdowns, Lighthouse Foundation was still able to reach forward with our new early intervention to prevent youth homelessness – our innovative Hub Home Model of Foster Care.

We also successfully operated the second year of our program to address the needs of young women and girls escaping early and forced marriage. The highly regarded Young Parents and Babies Program continued to provide a 'best practice' benchmark in the sector. With young children and sibling groups also being cared for within Lighthouse homes, we now offer a unique combination of therapeutic care and a flexible pathway for children in out-of-home care. Ultimately this helps find children the secure home they need, and the genuine personal attachments that will prevent them from becoming homeless.

And that's what all of us at Lighthouse Foundation are absolutely committed to do, working together with others in the community, towards ending youth homelessness.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Edwards'.

Peter Edwards
Lighthouse Foundation
Chairman

CEO AND FOUNDER'S MESSAGE



Dear friends,

For Lighthouse Foundation, as is the case world-wide, the past financial year has been in two parts, with the steady progress from July 2019 to February 2020 and then the sudden impact of the pandemic affecting operations dramatically from March to June 2020. The immediate priority was maintaining the welfare of the children and young people who are at the heart of all we do, as well as protecting our staff team and members of our outreach community.

It was humbling to see the way our community responded. The young people did experience some increase in symptoms in their mental health, however we deployed extra supports in response that were effective to meet their need. The young people showed courage in adapting to the changes and took up the challenge of studying on-line. Thanks to CompNow, all our homes were already equipped with the computers and systems to make this possible. Notably, the carers committed to stay in place and keep the young people safe, despite the burden of having to wear personal protective equipment at home. We sent extra supports into each of our homes while the rest of our team relocated to working from home.

It soon became clear that one of our organisation's unique model components – our use of a team of in-house psychologists to work one-on-one with young people, and the staff team – became one of the key measures that helped Lighthouse continue to ride the various challenges the pandemic presented.

Group and individual sessions went on-line seamlessly, and our psychology team maintained all the group processes and individual supervisions that are the heart of the Lighthouse Model of Care. These existing practices allowed the connections and sense of community to hold strongly through the challenging months of lockdown.

It was also gratifying to see our major philanthropic funders continue to provide their support and even, in some cases, commit to further extend their funding, giving us confidence in moving forward with our key expansion projects – our new Foster Care Hub Program, the Young Women's Freedom Program, Young Parent and Baby Program, Secure Base Program, and our original core demonstration of our care model in our homes for homeless adolescents.

Thank you to all our supporters, and to our Chairman and the Board for the extraordinary efforts to ensure that Lighthouse Foundation can move confidently forward into the next year, and what we all hope will be a year of achievement and celebrations of our 30th year.

With heart,

Susan Barton AM
Lighthouse Foundation
Founder

Simon Benjamin
Lighthouse Foundation
CEO



SUSAN'S FAMOUS CHERRY PIE

Ingredients

Filling

600g frozen pitted cherries
1 tablespoon lemon juice
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/3 cup raw sugar
2 tablespoons cornflour
1 egg white, lightly beaten
Vanilla icecream, to serve

Pastry

1 1/3 cups plain flour
½ cup self-raising flour
¼ cup custard powder
1/3 cup of caster sugar
150g butter, chilled, chopped
1 egg
2 tablespoons iced water



Step 1.

Make Pastry: Place flours, custard powder, sugar and butter in a food processor. Process until mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Add egg and iced water. Process until dough just comes together. Turn pastry out onto a lightly floured surface. Knead until just smooth. Shape into a disc. Cover in plastic wrap. Refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Step 2.

Combine cherries, lemon juice, cinnamon and 1/4 cup sugar in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Cook, stirring, for 5 minutes or until cherries have thawed and sugar is dissolved. Blend cornflour with 1 tablespoon cold water in a small bowl. Stir into cherry mixture. Cook, stirring, for 2 to 3 minutes or until mixture boils and thickens. Cool completely

Step 3.

Preheat oven to 200°C/180°C fan-forced. Place an oven tray in oven. Grease a 4cm-deep, 20cm (base) round pie dish. Roll out two-thirds of the pastry between 2 sheets of baking paper until large enough to line base and side of prepared dish (about 30cm). Line dish with pastry. Trim edge. Refrigerate for 15 minutes

Step 4.

Spoon cooled cherry mixture into pastry. Roll out remaining pastry between 2 sheets baking paper, to form a 25cm-round (see note). Using a sharp knife, cut pastry round into 2cm-wide strips. Arrange pastry strips over filling to create a crisscross lattice pattern. Press edges to seal. Trim edge. Brush pastry with a little egg white. Sprinkle with remaining sugar. Place pie dish on heated tray in oven. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes or until pastry is golden and crisp. Stand for at least 15 minutes before cutting. Serve with ice-cream and curl up on the couch to eat.

“This recipe has brought so many of our kids comfort and joy. It’s a yummy dessert to curl up on the couch and watch a movie with.”

MEASURING OUR IMPACT 2019-2020



bottles made for the bubs
in our Young Parents &
Babes program.

3,000+

psychological sessions occurred
helping our kids to unpack their
trauma and begin to heal.

1,000+

young people part of our
'On For Life' outreach program.



volunteers supported
Lighthouse generously
giving their time, skills
and energy to help our
vulnerable young people.



young people in our
live-in care programs.



support provided for
our young people,
365 days this year.



Vicki Standish AM

Evidence based approach

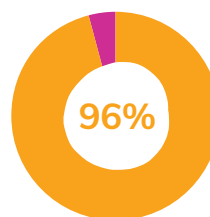
Thanks to the generous and ongoing support of Vicki Standish AM, and as a part of our five-year strategic plan, Lighthouse continues to build on the rich evidence-based data coming from our Lighthouse Institute evaluation team. This continuous intake of data collection allows us to make even more informed, evidence-based decisions so that we can make sure we continue to provide the highest standard of care outcomes for our babies, children and young people.

CHARMAYNE'S STORY

For many of our young people, engaging in meaningful employment is key to enabling them to transition into sustainable independence. All of our programs encourage kids, like Charmayne, to take part in education, employment and training programs to help them reach this goal.

Charmayne, like other teenagers in our Adolescent program, is now able to see a career path, whereas once she believed she had no future beyond homelessness. While in our care, Charmayne's been able to discover her talent for cooking and often enjoys making meals for all of the carers and young people in her home. Next year, with the help of her primary carer Annie, Charmayne has plans to begin an internship at a local bakery in Thornbury so that together they can begin turning this passion, into a profession.

INSPIRING PASSION, CREATING DREAMS



of our young people engage in day programs including education, employment and training.

Lighthouse has helped change my life because now I have something to look forward to every day. I always liked cooking but never knew I could make a career out of it."

Charmayne, 20
Lighthouse young person

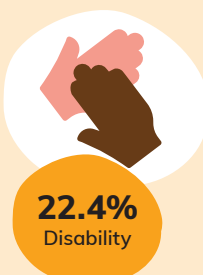
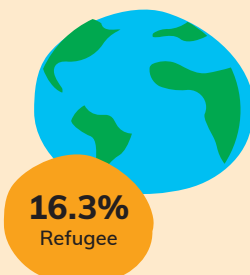
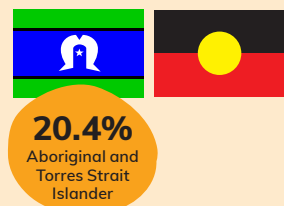
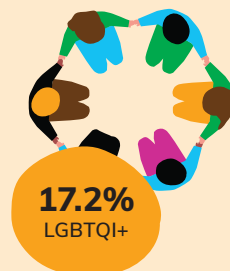
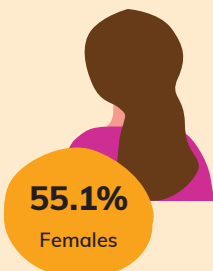
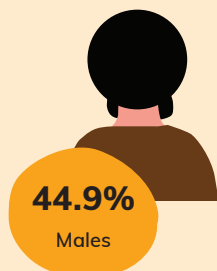
OUR KIDS

The children and young people in our care are at risk and are considered to be some of Australia's most vulnerable kids. They frequently come from backgrounds of abuse, neglect and childhood trauma. Very rarely do they become homeless 'by choice' - rather, many have fled or been forced out of their homes due to family violence, breakdowns, struggles with mental health and addiction, or judgement due to religion and/or sexual orientation.

When they find the courage to come through our doors, we welcome them with respect, compassion and unconditional love to help them heal from the trauma of their past. With our support and guidance, some children and young people only require several months to embrace the changes that bring meaning into their lives, enabling them to contribute to the community; others may need years.



We care from
newborns to
25 year olds



A focus on mental health

All of our young people present with varying degrees of complex trauma and often struggle with serious mental health issues. This can include clinical depression, crippling anxiety, and a range of attachment disorders.

Prior to Lighthouse, many of these symptoms have gone undiagnosed and unsupported. That's why our Psychologists and Clinical Care Team play a crucial role at Lighthouse - offering psychotherapy and mental health support to help these young people cope with the emotional difficulties in their life and move forward towards a brighter future.



OUR HOMES

A photograph of a woman and a young girl sitting together in a doorway. The woman, on the left, has long dark hair and is wearing a blue t-shirt. She has a small tattoo on her left forearm and is smiling warmly at the camera. The girl, on the right, has light brown hair and is wearing a black top and brown leggings with white polka dots. She is also smiling. They are sitting on a wooden floor, and the doorway behind them leads into a brightly lit interior space.

A house alone is not a home. Our houses are designed to be typical family homes in every sense of the word. From the moment you walk in, they instantly feel welcoming. And it's not just the beautiful soft furnishings or colorful décor- although both help. There's something else.

The space is authentic and is a genuine reflection of the Carers and young people who live there. Photo frames adorn the walls, fridges are covered in notes and certificates, there's a pair of shoes in the corner, or perhaps even a coffee cup or two left on the table.

Our homes evoke a sense of comfort for our young people as their identity is sprinkled throughout each room- a safe and loving space for them to begin their healing journey.



BRANDON'S CHOC CHIP COOKIES

Ingredients

150g butter
 ½ cup brown sugar
 ½ cup caster sugar
 1 egg
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 1 ¾ cups plain flour
 1 cup chocolate bits

Step 1.

Preheat oven to 180C or 160C fan forced. Line 2 baking trays with baking paper. Using an electric mixer or whisking by hand, beat butter and sugar and 1-2 minutes or until smooth and well combined. Beat in egg and vanilla until combined.

Step 2.

Stir in flour. Stir in chocolate bits. Roll 2 level tablespoonfuls of mixture into balls and place on prepared trays, 3cm apart. Press down slightly. Decorate with extra chocolate bits.

Step 3.

Bake for 15-18 minutes or until light golden and cooked. Transfer to a wire rack to cool. Store in an airtight container for up to 1 week.

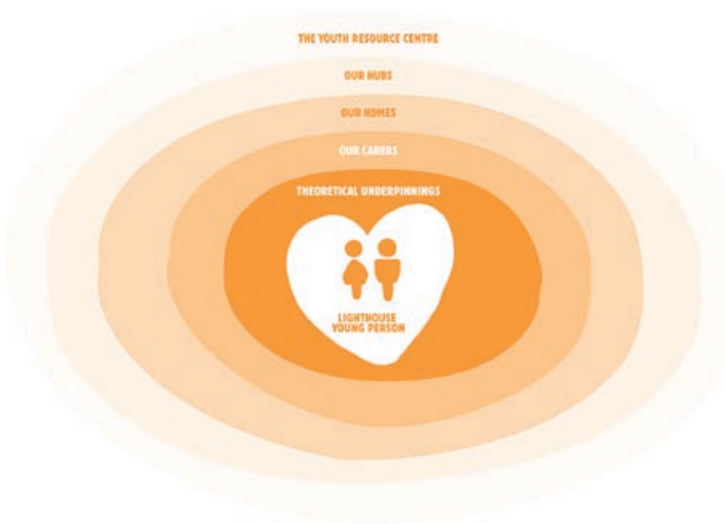


THE WAY WE CARE FOR KIDS

Lighthouse Foundation provides a unique Model of Care that is trauma informed, therapeutic in its approach and designed to address the complex needs of children and young people impacted by neglect, abuse and homelessness. Our methods draw on over 60 years of clinical research and focus on creating safe, stable communities with daily routines so that kids can feel secure and begin their healing journey.

In our care, young people receive intensive therapy and specialized support to help them regulate their emotions and learn new constructive behaviours. This therapeutic setting allows them the opportunity to form meaningful relationships with their primary caregivers, learn to trust again and create new positive attachments and reparative experiences.

The Lighthouse Model of Care is embedded in each of our programs and is echoed throughout our entire organisation, so that together we can continue to transform the lives of more vulnerable children and young people.



How do you build trust? You make small agreements and you keep them.

At Lighthouse we build trust through honesty, reliability and predictability. Children who have suffered trauma have typically experienced it with people they knew and trusted. Through experiencing us as honest and reliable, being able to be there for them during difficulties and role modelling how disagreements can be worked through, trust starts to be built.

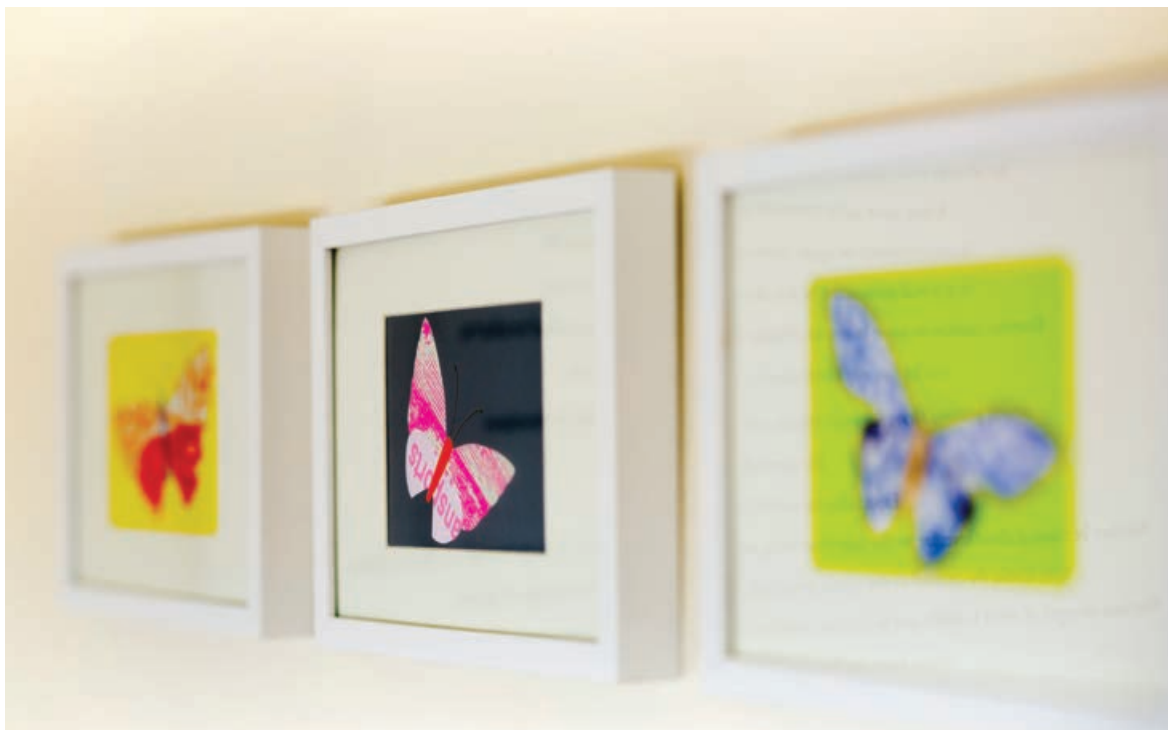
Everyone has a day program at Lighthouse and this is usually school or training courses. When a young person comes in to the safety of one of the Lighthouse homes, they often have to adjust from the anxiety and uncertainty of unsafe situations, whether it was living on the streets or escaping abuse. It can take a while to adjust into the comfort and security of our homes and can be a challenge to establish a healthy routine. Their traumatic experiences can also lead to difficult reactions to life that can be challenging for the other young people and our carers, especially as they struggle to put into words the pain of their past. After being let down many times, it often feels easier, in the moment, to resist others who wish to help them.

One of the ways the carers rebuild trust is a very basic method of repetition of small acts. One such act that a carer told us about is her promise to have a glass of freshly squeezed orange juice on the table at 8am – giving time for the young boy to get off to school. It was something he always wanted. Day after day this act was repeated, and day after day the boy ignored calls to get up, and ignored the juice. The juice was left there on the table, and when the young person struggled up at 11am, they would see it still sitting there with all the pith sunk to the bottom. This carer's consistency allowed the boy to realise that this carer held him in mind, thought he was worthwhile. It took time. It started with the boy smiling at her when he saw the juice, then being able to say "thanks", and eventually, after many thoughtful conversations about how scary it was to allow himself to trust again, he eventually shared a juice with his carer at breakfast. Developing trust is a lengthy process when you've been exposed to childhood trauma. Yet it's important to remember, it's the simple things, being thought about, remembered, noticed and most importantly held in mind just because you're you. This boy eventually shared that his parents never got out of bed in the mornings and he was often scared and hungry. So the juice, was way more than just a juice.

'MORE THAN JUST A GLASS OF OJ' STORY



CHANGING LIVES WITH THE ARTS



Creative art therapies

Over the past two decades, Lighthouse has maintained a strong association with the arts, ever since our logo was designed by the late David Band, who was one of our earliest supporters. To this day, Lighthouse incorporates a range of creative art therapies in to our programs to benefit the children and young people in to our care. Many of these kids need to start with play and art therapy to help them feel safe, particularly in times of uncertainty. This year, as our art therapist, Maria, sat beside guarded and withdrawn children, painting these pictures together, she saw them be able to relax, start to trust and eventually express their emotions. This was made possible thanks to the generous support of the Coca Cola Foundation.



Our logo

Our logo has a very special artistic meaning as it signifies a house of light in which all children can feel loved, safe and supported. The child-like illustration was designed by the late artist David Band in 1996, with each element of the home representing a child's journey in our care. The pathway to the home is to give a guideline to those in darkness, seeking safety and care, with our door always open to welcome them. The windows show that we keep watch over our society and of our children, with the shining beams radiating from the roof representing the positive life-changing outcomes of our programs, as our young people transition to happy adult lives.

OUR PROGRAMS



Adolescent and Young people

Our adolescent core program supports young people aged between 15 and 22 when they first arrive. Many of the young people in these homes are disconnected from their families and other social supports. Our live-in carers provide them with the essential care, structure and stability they need to move on from the darkness of their past and into a brighter future. Each young person transitions to independent living when they are ready, sometimes sharing private accommodation with peers that they have met at Lighthouse.



Young Parents and Babies

The Vicki Vidor OAM young parents and babies program yields positive, life-changing results for two generations at once. It has been carefully designed to heal the trauma and chronic homelessness of very young parents, teach essential parenting skills and prevent trauma for their babies at their most vulnerable stages of life. These homes provide a safe haven in which young parents are supported to learn about their own needs and child's needs with our live-in carers acting as positive role-models and support systems during an influential time of life.



Young Women's Freedom Program

This program is dedicated to supporting girls and young women who have left or are at risk of entering into an early or forced marriage. We provide a safe home and 24/7 care to these girls to help them overcome their traumatic life experiences, build relationships and heal in a safe and secure environment.



Toddlers and Children

Lighthouse's Toddlers and Children early intervention program cares for little ones under the age of 15 who have highly complex needs. These children aren't able to live with their biological parents and have often experienced multiple breakdowns in their foster care placements. Our care team provides a high level of support for each of these children, providing them with every opportunity to change the trajectory of their lives. Without our help, many of these children would likely experience homelessness before the age of 25.



On For Life

Every young person who transitions out of a Lighthouse home into independent living has access to a lifetime of practical and long-term relational support whenever they need it. They may come back to live with us for a while, seek help when applying for jobs and preparing for interviews, or require psychological counselling during a difficult period in their lives. This program is delivered by our Clinical Care Team with over 1000+ kids able to access support whenever they need it.



Lighthouse Foster Care

Lighthouse's new Foster Care program is designed to provide tailored support, therapeutic care and a sense of community for foster families in Northern Melbourne. Our unique 'Hub' model works by uniting up to ten families around a central 'Hub Home', where trained Lighthouse carers offer regular respite, sleepovers, access to clinical therapy and advice to the entire foster family. Lighthouse believes this strong sense of community will help to improve the overall stability in placements, continuity in care, and give foster families the quality, tangible support they need to thrive.



OUR JOURNEY IN TO FOSTER CARE

This year saw the launch of our new, highly innovative Foster Care program. After 29 years of experience working with homeless young people, most of whom had previously experienced poor outcomes in the out-of-home care system, Lighthouse Foundation committed to develop an early intervention strategy in foster care to prevent these children later entering homelessness.

Based on Lighthouse's own community model of 10 suburban care homes being supported by the team at the central Youth Resource Centre in Cremorne, the concept was to develop a central Foster Care Hub Home providing extensive support, training, and respite care for a circle of ten foster care households in Northern Melbourne. The community would also support the foster families, through a range of interactions and opportunities based at the Hub Home.

In the first year, it was aimed that the first circle of foster homes would be established around the Hub Home, and in the following year, the second circle would be established around another Hub Home in another location. By the third year, there would be three circles operating.

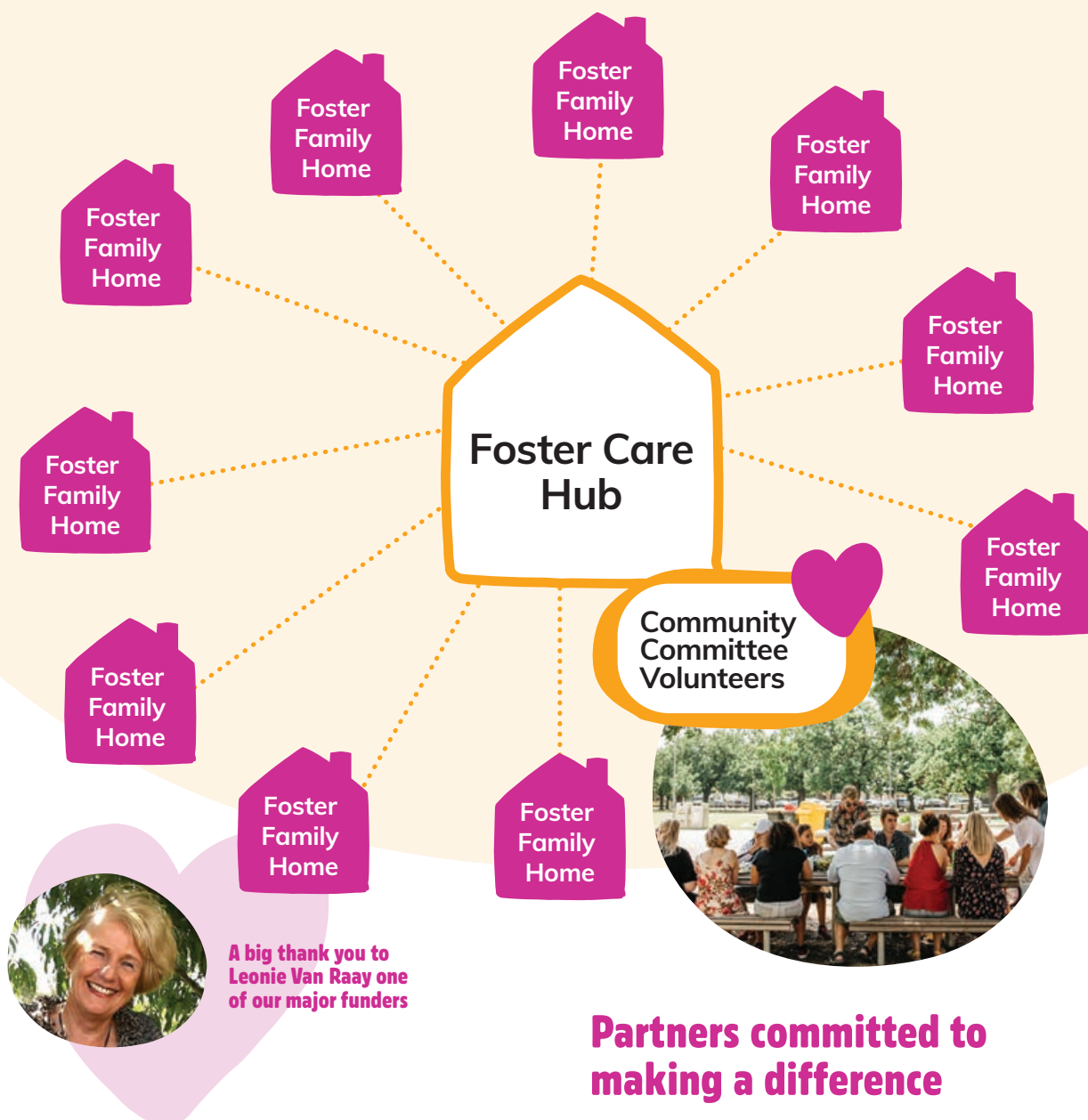
Much has been achieved in the first year since the allocation of private funding, including the securement and set up of the Hub Home and a pipeline of 6 new foster carers being established. The first placement of a child with Lighthouse-accredited foster parents began in December 2019, with a four-year-old boy. This child had been with Lighthouse in our Children & Toddlers program for an extensive period, and prior to that had already experienced multiple movements between care homes and carers. Pleasingly, this foster family has engaged well with the additional supports provided by Lighthouse, and the boy is settled and thriving. These past months with his foster family is the longest period of stability he has known in his young life.

Although the COVID19 pandemic has delayed many promotional ventures, Lighthouse and its partners remain fully committed, passionate and enthusiastic about continuing the progress towards the foster care hub goals in the year ahead, towards the completion of the first circle and the commencement of the second hub circle. While progress in the program's first year has been slower than anticipated, the mission is still on track.

"Ollie is doing amazingly well. We're all very settled and we can't believe that he's now been home for 14 months. He has changed so much since then and is such a happy go lucky little boy"

Linda, Lighthouse Foster Carer.





Partners committed to making a difference

The launch of this program was only made possible thanks to the coalition of new funders who are passionately committed to prove there is a better way to keep foster families resilient, retain foster carers in their roles, and prevent multiple unplanned moves of children from place to place. The initial two -year, private funding collaboration is made up of the Victor Smorgon Charitable Fund, Equity Trustees, Quintessential Equity, and the Adam Scott Foundation, with private philanthropist, Leonie Van Raay, joining the funding group for the second year. State government support is also committed to support the Foster Care Program development as well as the standard funding to all foster carers and administrators of child respite care and long-term foster care placements.



Lighthouse 8.5%

Sector benchmark 1.63%

This year, Lighthouse achieved a higher than sector standard of converting initial foster carer enquiries into accredited foster carers.



OUR FOSTER CARE HUB HOME



A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

The Lighthouse Foster Hub was purposely designed as a central place of support and community for the ten foster families and children that will surround it. It is a place where they can come together as a community, where the children can stay overnight for respite or during the day for after school club.

The home will also be used to provide training to Foster Carers, as well as have the Hub community come together for events and celebrations such as birthdays or barbecues. Our Hub home ultimately aims to become a 'home away from home' for all of our foster families, preventing the child from ever having to be placed with a family they've never met before.

Sourcing and securing the large, comfortable, seven-bedroom home in East Ivanhoe, was completed by December 2019 with crucial assistance from the team at Quintessential Equity, who also committed to two years of leasing the home for Lighthouse, with a view to a later property purchase for the project.

Homewares and furniture retailer, Provincial Home Living, joined the funding partnership with a significant donation of goods-in-kind by fully furnishing the home to a high standard by January 2020. Australian lifestyle brand, Kip&Co, also came on board to ensure that each of the bedrooms were dressed with bright and colourful bedding. Thank you for making this house, our home.



A brighter future for two generations



Vicki Vidor OAM
Founding Patron and
Patron of the Young
Parents Program

Being a new mum is a massively rewarding and challenging life experience. To ease this transition, having a safe and secure environment to live in is paramount. Yet in Australia, there are a growing number of very young mothers and pregnant women who are homeless, often due to violence and abuse within their own homes.

Lighthouse's Vicki Vidor OAM Young Parents Program, was specially created to help these vulnerable parents and their bubs- giving them the support needed to secure a brighter and more sustainable future. This financial year, we were able to welcome several new parents in to our care, and saw one of our young mums, Bianca, transition in to independent living. This is her story.

Bianca's story

Imagine being 20-years-old, 38 weeks pregnant and homeless.

It seems unimaginable that a young woman in Australia could find herself in such a vulnerable position, but that was true for Bianca.

After years of struggling with substance abuse, Bianca had completed a rehabilitation program to try and prepare herself for motherhood- but with nowhere to call home or social supports available to her, both of their futures were at serious risk.

Thankfully it wasn't long before Bianca was referred to Lighthouse, and warmly welcomed in to our Young Parents Program. It was tough at first, she admits, "learning to live with structure and allowing someone else to care for me was hard", but for the first time, in a long time, she felt safe.

Bianca slowly adapted to her new life at Lighthouse, and after giving birth to her baby boy, Kaylan, embraced the wraparound support provided by her carers and

psychologists. Every single day, their thoughtful and predictable engagement with Bianca helped to repair her shattered worldview- proving to her that genuine, healthy and trustworthy relationships were possible.

After twelve months at Lighthouse, Bianca had developed a strong attachment with baby Kaylan and learnt the vital parenting skills needed to take care of him and most importantly, herself. Having now left the program and transitioned in to independent living, Bianca is hopeful for the future and has plans to complete her VCAL and enroll in a Bachelor of Nursing.

We couldn't be more proud of this young mum and what she has achieved over the past year. Little Kaylan is lucky to have such a strong role-model in his life, and both of them will always have a place to call home here at Lighthouse as a part of our "On For Life" promise.



Bianca's Brownies

Ingredients

- ¼ cup of melted butter
- ½ cup unsweetened cocoa
- 1 cup of sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla essence
- ½ cup of flour
- ¼ teaspoon of salt (leave out if using salted butter)

Step 1

Preheat oven to 175°C.
Grease an 8x8 square pan or line with foil and set aside. In a medium bowl combine melted butter and cocoa and sugar. Stir until fully dissolved.

Step 2

Add eggs one at a time then vanilla and stir until well combined. Follow by stirring in flour and salt until the flour is fully combined. Be careful to not overmix.

Step 3

Fold in any extras you might like such as a cup of nuts, sultanas, chocolate chips etc. Spread in the pan and bake for approximately 10-22 minutes or until the centre is slightly set. Be careful not to overbake.

Step 4

Allow to cool completely then cut into 9 large squares or 16 small ones.

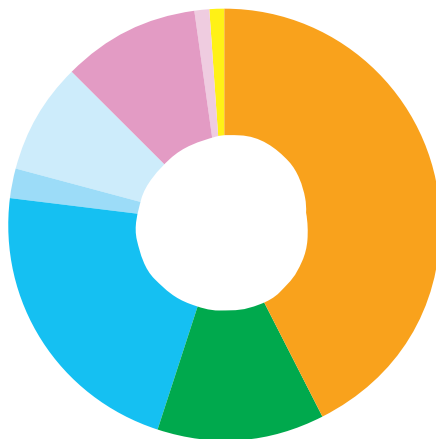


A FOUNDATION YOU CAN TRUST

Thank you to the hundreds of kind individuals who have donated to Lighthouse Foundation in the last year. Whether helping us to provide safe and loving homes for vulnerable young people, or finding foster families for children in need- none of it would be possible without your support.

Stronger than expected government JobKeeper revenues, coupled with tight spending controls have allowed us to weather these uncertain times, as well as finish our year with a surplus.

Where our \$ come from



- 44% Private Philanthropy
- 12% General Donations, Regular Giving and Community Fundraising
- 21% Individualised Care Funding
- 2% Government Program Grants
- 8% Government COVID supports
- 11% One-off Seed Funding
- 1% Lighthouse Institute
- 1% Other

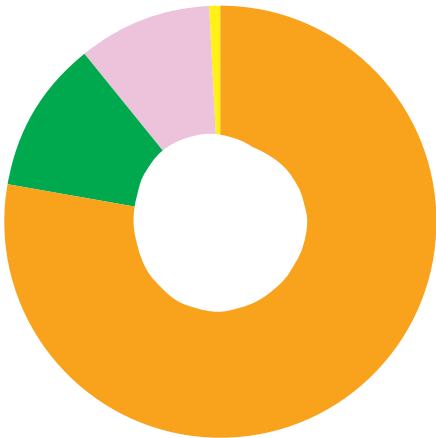


Social Ventures Australia (SVA) has assessed that every \$1 invested in our Lighthouse programs delivers a massive \$12 worth of social and economic value in return. This is still the largest return of investment SVA has ever recorded, even after completing assessments of over 130 charity programs.

Proudly annually audited by



Where our \$ go



- 77.8% Programs
- 11.6% Fundraising
- 9.9% Administration
- 0.7% Lighthouse Institute



TAKING TIME TO REFLECT ON THE YEAR

As the year draws to a close, we'd like to take a moment to reflect on how Lighthouse, as a community, has continued to evolve, adapt and flourish over the past twelve months.

Thanks to the loving support of our staff, volunteers and donors we were able to adjust swiftly to remote working, innovatively fundraise and bring in the crucial funds necessary to continue our life-changing programs.

The following achievements, fundraising events and organisational outputs are a testimony to the sheer strength and resilience of each and every one of you. Thank you for standing by our side, rising to the challenge, and proving that a loving community will always be our light out of the darkness.





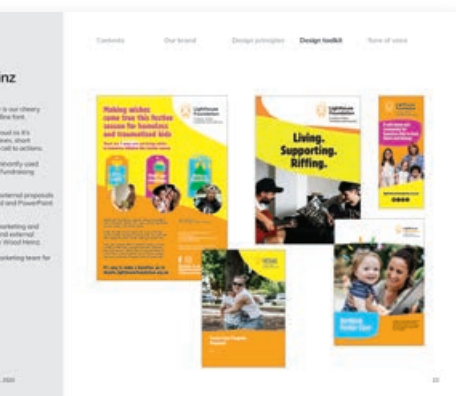
LIGHTHOUSE'S REBRAND

After almost a year of planning and preparation, Lighthouse officially launched our new and updated rebrand in early February, 2020.

As some of you will know, the organisation had evolved considerably in recent years with the launch of several new programs and care services for at-risk youth. Our new visual identity, tagline, vision, mission and values were designed to represent this change and our remarkable progression as one of Australia's leading youth homelessness charities. Of course, some of the elements may look familiar to you such as our original house icon—however, we've now added in modern fonts, complimentary shapes, beams and colours to help bring our brand to life and in to the 21st century. We've also updated a lot of our communications so they now accurately describe what we

do, the way we care for kids and the programs you support.

Since February, the rebrand has been rolled out across the organisation and has received great feedback from the public about how much they are drawn to our vibrant and youthful new look. We would like to thank Lighthouse's staff and extended community for being a part of this rebranding process, including those who participated in our surveys back in 2019. We couldn't have done this without your support and we are thrilled to finally have a brand which expresses how dynamic, caring and unique our organization is. It is our hope that this new brand identity will enable us to be an even more powerful catalyst for positive social change surrounding homeless and at-risk youth in Australia



WHAT A DIFFERENCE WE'VE MADE THIS YEAR



ANZ DIWALI

In an incredible effort, our corporate partner ANZ fundraised over \$55,000 for Lighthouse Foundation as a part of their 2019 Diwali- Festival of Light celebration. It was a day filled with Bollywood music, dancing, beauty pageant, exec coffee auctions and a Diwali feast filled with the most delicious Indian, Sri Lankan, Malaysian and Afghan dishes we've ever tried. Thank you to each and every ANZ staff member who attended on the day and helped organize this stand-out event, including those who purchased our one-of-a-kind Lighthouse's paperweights, designed by our young people.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE MORNING TEA

It was a morning tea that will always be remembered here at Lighthouse, as we were finally able to meet the gentlemen from the 'Make a Difference' foundation. We were intrigued to find out more about this group of down-to-earth Aussie blokes, who kindly contributed over \$90,000 to help fund our new Foster Care program. Every single member of the foundation shared their life experiences with us relating to foster care, explaining to our CEO Simon Benjamin, why they felt so passionately about our mission to transform the current system. We felt truly honored hearing your stories, and being aligned with a group of men so determined to make a difference in this world. Thank you for choosing to support us in 2020, and walking alongside us in our Foster Care journey.



COMPNOW TAKES US ONLINE

We're not sure where to even begin with this acknowledgement, as without Comp Now's incredible support this year, we're not sure where Lighthouse would be today.

In July, 2019, CompNow donated over \$95,000 worth of computers, laptops and accessories to give our Youth Resource Centre and homes a much-needed IT update. This couldn't have come at a more perfect time, as you all know several months later, many of our staff were required to work remotely due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This extraordinary donation has made this entire process an incredibly smooth and streamlined transition- ultimately allowing us to swim rather than sink, and thrive in this new online era.

Words can't begin to describe how thankful we are for your continued support and incredible generosity to our cause. Your donation has truly set up Lighthouse's IT needs for the future and enhances our overall ability to respond to the urgent needs of the children and young people in our care.

Please know how significantly this gift has contributed to our daily operations, ability to fundraise and the ultimate livelihood of our charity.

DINNER FOR A CAUSE

Thank you to Emily Coxall and Siobhan Donohoe for hosting the ultimate fundraising dinner party in July, 2019. Emily and Siobhan spent weeks contacting local businesses around their area to donate goods and food items to ensure that all funds raised on the night would be donated to Lighthouse. We're beyond grateful for your support, passion, and commitment to our cause. Thank you for sharing our life-changing work with your friends, family and loved ones and being advocates for the young people in our care.



JANE HAINS' SOIREE

A special thanks must go to our long-standing Patron, Jane Hains, and her husband Stephen, for hosting a private Soiree in their home late last year in support of Lighthouse. It was a wonderful night where guests enjoyed a performance from Paul Capsis, and heard a story from one of our brave young people, whose speech inspired the room.

This evening played a crucial role in helping us to connect with new corporate partners and contacts, including Provincial Home Living, who have been major supporters in the launch of our Foster Care Hub home.

With the help of Jane, Stephen and her guests, over \$20,000 was raised on the night to assist our Young Women's Freedom program. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved on the night, and to Jane, for always welcoming us in to your home and being in our corner.





TRUSTS, FOUNDATIONS AND MAJOR GIFTS

ACME Foundation
Adam Scott Foundation
All Souls Opportunity Shop
Allen's Foundation
Ann Dunn
Ansvar Insurance
ANZ Staff Foundation
Argo Foundation
Australian Communities Foundation
Australian Philanthropic Services
Arnold Wittner
Bagot Gjergja Foundation
Bardas Foundation
Betty Radford Brett and
Barbora Williams
Campbell Edwards Trust
Carl Maissan
Charles Tegner
Charlie Rozencwajg
Charter Falls Pty Ltd
City of Kingston
Coca-Cola Australia Foundation
Commonwealth Bank Australia
Contemporary Video Vision
Craig Keyzer
Dandenong Magistrates'
Court of Victoria
David and Leonie Koadlow
Dessie Kontis
DS Capital Endowment
Eva Gurman
Evan Dwyer
Future Generation Investment
Company
Gandel Foundation
Genworth
Golden Nugget Hotel
Graeme Ellen and Janine Ferguson
Harry Potter Alliance Perth
Herbalife Nutrition

We are grateful to the many trusts, foundations and long-standing donors that support our work, including those who responded so generously to the pandemic through additional emergency funding and flexible use of existing grants.

Holy Trinity Opportunity Shop
 Inner North Community Foundation
 Interact Club of Doncaster
 Secondary College Interact Club
 of Immanuel Lutheran College
 James Williams Kamener
 Family Trust
 Keith Noack
 Kel & Rosie Day Foundation
 Kids in Philanthropy
 Leonie Van Raay
 Lions Club of Reservoir
 Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund
 Make A Difference Foundation
 Matthew Dalling
 Melbourne Magistrates' Court of
 Victoria
 Melbourne Women's Fund
 Merwe Laws Foundation Ltd
 Moelis Australia Foundation
 Mona Georgina Harris Perpetual
 Charitable Trust
 Moreland City Council
 Mutual Trust Foundation
 MRC Foundation Trust
 Newsboys Foundation
 Nbnco Nordia Foundation

Parncutt Family Foundation
 PayPal Giving Fund
 Pearce Armstrong Foundation
 Portland House
 Quintessential Trust
 Ralph Todisco
 Randall Foundation
 Ray & Margaret Wilson Foundation
 Reid Malley Foundation
 Restore Hope Foundation
 Rich Hart Foundation
 Rick McKenna Entertainment
 Rochoff Family Trust
 Rotary Club of Melbourne
 Rotary Club of Templestowe
 Senza Nome Charitable Fund
 Shayne Elliott
 Shine on Foundation
 Sow Foundation
 Spotlight Charitable Foundation
 Stephen and Jane Hains
 Summit Roof Plumbing
 The Bruce Parncutt Family
 Foundation
 The Dion & Sandra Abrahams
 Endowment

The Flora and Frank Leith
 Charitable Trust
 The Isobella Foundation
 The Jack Brockhoff Foundation Ltd
 The Jack & Ethel Goldin Foundation
 The Joseph Brown Sub Fund
 The Justin Foundation Trust
 The King David School
 The Orloff Family Charitable Trust
 The Piers K Fowler Trust
 The Pratt Foundation
 The Tauber-Troeth Foundation
 The William Angliss (Victoria)
 Charitable Fund
 Thompson Jenkins Endowment
 Transurban
 VBS Investments
 Vicki Standish Family Foundation
 Vicki Vidor OAM
 Victor Smorgon Charitable Fund
 Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust
 Wanless Family Fund
 Ward-Ambler Foundation
 Women in Super
 Yardis Foundation
 Yeast Foundation



Geoff Wilson AO **Louise Walsh**
 FGX Founder FGX CEO

Future Generation Investment Company (FGX)

Lighthouse Foundation is incredibly thankful for Future Generation Investment Company (FGX) and their shareholders continued support and commitment to children and young people at risk, and youth mental health. We are incredibly proud to be aligned with an organisation that cares so deeply about the most vulnerable in our community, and who work hard to ensure Lighthouse's sustainability and future for many years to come.

PARTNERS

5G Networks
ADZ Collective
ANZ
Australian Maritime
Safety Authority
Australian Toy Association
Cabrini Health
Camberwell Grammar
Carsales
Caulfield Grammar
CNP Brands
CompNow
Cotton On
DBXB
Deakin University
Entrepreneurial Hub
Department of Health and
Human Services
Epworth Health
Entourage
Federal Department of
Social Services

Foodbank Australia
General Pants Co
Glenvill Pty Ltd
GoPromote
Grand Hyatt
Greens List Barristers
Grocon
HCMC Consulting
Homie
Kalus Kenny
King & Wood Mallesons
Lauriston Girl's School
Intellex
LinkedIn
Magellan Group
Minter Ellison
Mirvac
NBN Network
News Corp Australia
Ngage Technologies
Nine Entertainment Co

OZ Harvest
Pitcher Partners
Property Industry Foundation
Provincial Home Living
Quintessential Equity
QMS Media
REA Group
RedZed Lending Solutions
Scotch College
Second Bite
Silent Partner HR Consulting
Swimwear Galore
Tasman Chemicals
TEBA
Telstra
TLA Worldwide (Aust) Pty Ltd
The City of Melbourne
Victor Smorgon Group
Vittori Communications

GIFTS-IN-KIND

Be Challenged
Berkowitz Furniture
Bunnings
Cabrini Health
CompNow
Deliveroo
Epworth Hospital

Food Bank
Fenton&Fenton
General Pants Co
Grill'd
Hali Rugs
Kip&Co
Melbourne United Basketball

Nandos
Nick Petrucco
OzHarvest
Procal Dairies
Second Bite



THOSE WHO HELP US GET OUR MESSAGE OUT



ADZ COLLECTIVE



This year, Lighthouse was lucky enough to join forces with creative communications agency, ADZ Collective. Their pro bono support has played a crucial role in overall success of our new foster care program—helping us to develop a fully comprehensive and data-led advertising campaign to recruit carers. We are so thankful to have them a part of our Lighthouse community, in particularly their General Manager Hugh Baulch and Account Manager, Samuel Fricker.

QMS MEDIA



Over the past three years, Lighthouse has received a substantial amount of pro bono support from QMS Media and their creative team. Over the past twelve months, they have donated over \$500,000 worth of digital billboard space for our fundraising initiatives and foster care recruitment campaign. We wouldn't have been able to achieve what we had, without your support.

REA GROUP



Our wonderful partners over at REA Group have been an incredible support to Lighthouse, offering our fundraising team creative guidance and pro bono advertising. Their support has been crucial to our Foster Care recruitment, and we are so thankful for this thriving relationship.

FOR STUDIO



FOR Studio Award-winning brand and design agency FOR studio play a crucial role at Lighthouse in helping us develop our creative campaigns, reports and marketing collateral. We are deeply grateful for their strategic and innovative input and continued support over the past four years.



MARIE-LUISE SKIBBE



Marie-Luise Skibbe is a Melbourne based photographer who has been kindly donating her time for Lighthouse for the last three years. Most of the images you see in the report are taken her and we always blown away by how beautiful and wonderful her captures of Lighthouse life are.

OUR PATRONS AND AMBASSADORS

Patrons



Patron In Chief
Anthony Howard AM QC



Founding Patron and Patron
of the Young Parents Program
Vicki Vidor OAM



Alicia Loxley



Beverley Brock OAM



Deborra-Lee Furness AM



Jo Stanley



Jane Badler-Hains



Michael Crawford CBE



Professor Brian
Burdekin AO



Sir Clive Lloyd
CBE AO



Tim Watson



Vicki Standish AM

Ambassadors



Havana Brown



Kara and Kyal Demmrich



Mick Molloy



Sharni Layton



Stevie Nicholson



Tommy Little

OUR BOARD



Peter Edwards;
Chairman



David Leeton



Susan Barton AM



William (Bill) Mountford



Len Warson



Bridget Crowe



Sylwia Pichel



Anne Jeffs

OUR LIFE MEMBERS



Susan Barton AM



Vicki Vidor OAM



Richard Lloyd





ENRICHING THE LIVES OF OUR KIDS





Our Community Committees

Each Lighthouse home is supported by its own community committee- groups of dedicated, long-standing volunteers. They are invaluable members of the Lighthouse family for the support and commitment they offer our young people. Over the past twelve months, these inspiring individuals have gone above and beyond to help fundraise for Lighthouse and stay connected to the young people in our homes- organizing thriving fitness challenges, zoom catch-ups, online initiatives and thoughtful fitness, craft and welcome pack donations. We're truly overwhelmed by their enduring commitment and generosity.



Our Vounteers

Our volunteers are from all walks of life and all sectors of the community. This year, many more volunteers became involved in our young people's individual programs, providing nurturing and mentorship. Thank you to all of those who contributed their time and expertise to help our cause and support our administration, human resources and marketing departments.



Dessie Kontis is a long-standing Lighthouse supporter and dedicated Community Committee member. Over the past 15 years, she has stood by our side, welcomed us in to her home and embraced the young people in our care, as if they were her own. We are so thankful to have Dessie a part of our Lighthouse family and today, we'd like to share with you her special recipe- Dessie's Dessert.



DESSIE'S BAKLAVA DESSERT

Ingredients

Pastry & filling

150g of walnuts (chopped finely)
250g of pistachios (toasted & ground finely)
½ cup of sugar
1 teaspoon of cinnamon
1 teaspoon ground cloves
2 packs of sheeted phyllo pastry

Syrup

4 cups of sugar
2.5 cups of water
Juice of half a lemon

Buttery brush:

250g of butter (melted)
1 cup of sunflower oil

Step 1

Preheat oven to 175 degrees. Butter the bottoms and sides of a rectangle pan or oven-proof dish. In a large bowl, add walnuts, pistachios, sugar, cinnamon, cinnamon and cloves. Stir all together and set aside.

Step 2

Prepare buttery brush: In a separate small bowl, prepare your buttery brush by mixing together your melted butter and sunflower oil. Put to the side and have a pastry brush handy. If you don't have one, you can always use your hands.

Step 3

Put it all together: Start by unrolling your phyllo pastry sheets and cover them with a dampened cloth to keep from drying out as you work. Place two sheets of pastry in dish, brush with buttery liquid thoroughly. Repeat until you have a few sheets layered. Sprinkle 2 - 3 tablespoons of nut mixture on top. Top with two sheets of dough, buttery liquid, nuts, layering as you go. The top layer should be about 6 - 8 sheets deep.

Step 4

Using a sharp knife cut into diamond or square shapes all the way to the bottom of the pan. You may cut into 4 long rows the make diagonal cuts. Sprinkle some cold water over the pastry before cooking to prevent it from drying. Bake for about 50 minutes until baklava is golden and crisp.

Step 5

While this is baking, prepare your syrup. In a pot, add 4 cups of sugar and 2.5 cups of water. Put over the stove and when it boils, squeeze in lemon juice. Keep an eye on it and stir occasionally. You'll need to wait around 30 mins for it to thicken properly- it will be thick and slightly yellow. Take off the stove and rest aside.

Step 6

Remove baklava from oven when ready and immediately spoon syrup over it. Return to the oven for 15 minutes on low heat to give it a crunch. Let cool & serve. Leave it uncovered as it gets soggy if it is wrapped up





ENSURING OUR FUTURE



Our Lighthouse Keepers

Our beloved Lighthouse Keepers- a very special group of supporters who give a donation every month- keep the 'lights burning brightly' in our homes. This year, more than ever before, their gift has been crucial to keeping the homes open, food on the table, counselling in place, and the all-important carers being there at all times. Thank you for your continued generosity which enables us to plan ahead, and ensure that we can be there for vulnerable young people for years to come in the future.

Become a Lighthouse Keeper today

For more information on how to become a Lighthouse Keeper, please visit our website. or email info@lighthousefoundation.org.au. Just a \$5 monthly donation can make the world of difference to our organization.

Leave a lasting legacy

A gift in your will is a gift to Maisey- and every child impacted by abuse, neglect and homelessness. Leaving a gift in your will is a particularly personal way to make a lasting difference to the children and young people in our care. After providing for those you love, we would like you to consider remembering Lighthouse, so that we can continue to support the kids who need us the most.

Your gift however large or small, is forever lasting as it not only impacts the quality of their lives, but those of generations to come.

Legacy gifts 2019-2020

Estate of the late John Brunner

For more information about leaving a gift in your will, please call our Philanthropy Manager, Michelle Michie, on 03 9093 7500 or email michellem@lighthousefoundation.org.au

A SPECIAL TREAT TO FINISH



“Celebrations at Lighthouse as so much more than ‘just a party’. They’re loud exclamation points that the children matter, and that their lives are worth celebrating.”

Susan Barton AM, Lighthouse Founder

As a special treat to mark the end of this momentous year, renowned baker and top-selling cookbook Author, Natalie Paull, has shared her famous red velvet layer cake recipe for all of our community to enjoy.

In 2011, Natalie opened 'Beatrix Bakes', a small cake shop in Melbourne's North, which over the years, has brought many smiles to our young people's faces thanks to their decorative cakes and delicious take-home treats.

Before coming in to our care, many of our kids have never had a birthday cake before, or had major milestones celebrated in their lives. This is why baking holds such a special meaning at Lighthouse- it symbolizes more than just a yummy dessert- it's the feeling of being loved, considered and held in someone's thoughts for the first time. For this reason, recipes like this one here, will always hold a special place in our hearts.

“We bake sweet to celebrate birth, birthdays and unions, and to mark life passing. We don't bake sweet to survive or to simply sustain. It is a gift, a powerful elixir of pleasure, connection, generosity and joy.”

Natalie Paull,
Owner and Author of Beatrix Bakes



Natalie's red velvet layer cake

Ingredients

Cake:

Cooking oil spray
2 eggs
2 egg whites
½ teaspoon of vanilla paste
35 g/ml red food colouring
345g plain flour
345g caster sugar
25g dutch (unsweetened) cocoa powder
3½ teaspoons of baking powder
¼ teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda (baking soda)
¼ teaspoon fine sea salt
100g unsalted butter (squidgy)
170g/ml buttermilk, room temperature
100 g/ml vegetable oil

White chocolate cream cheese buttercream:

130g white chocolate (chopped)
150g unsalted butter
2 eggs
250g full-fat cream cheese (soft, room temperature)
¼ teaspoon of vanilla paste

Step 1

Preheat the oven to 150°C. Lightly spray the bases and sides of two 20 cm (8 in) round, 5 cm (2 in) deep cake tins with cooking oil spray. Line the base of each tin with a circle of baking paper (there's no need to line the sides).

Step 2

In a small bowl, lightly combine the eggs, egg whites, vanilla and red food colouring with a plastic spatula, and set aside. In another small bowl, combine the flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking powder, bicarb soda and salt, and have a sieve ready.

Step 3

Put the butter, buttermilk and oil in the bowl of an electric stand mixer. Using the paddle attachment, mix on speed 2 (above low) for 5 minutes until combined. Sift over the dry ingredients, then mix on speed 2 for 1 minute until a moist paste forms. Increase to speed 8 (under high) and beat for 1 full minute. The batter will look fluffier and a shade or two paler. Combining fat and flour will prevent toughness, and the fast whip will build an airy structure. Make sure you beat on the high speed for only 1 minute, as overbeating will create a rubbery-textured cake.

Step 4

Turn the mixer off and scrape down the side of the bowl, then add approximately one-third of the egg and red food colour mix. Mix on speed 2 (above low) for 20 seconds, then increase to speed 6 (medium high) for 20 seconds. Add the remaining mix in two more batches: scrape > add mix > speed 2 for 20 seconds > speed 6 for 20 seconds. Scrape and repeat. Remove the bowl from the mixer and thoroughly scrape down the side of the bowl again. The batter will be a glossy red colour, with the consistency of thick yoghurt.

Step 5

Divide the batter equally between the two prepared cake tins – about 640g (1 lb 7oz) each – and smooth the tops. Bake for 20–25 minutes until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean – the tops will still feel pillowy soft.

Step 6

Cool the cakes in their tins on a wire rack for 2 minutes, then flip the cakes out onto the rack and invert them so they are top side up. Allow to cool completely, for at least 2 hours.

Step 7

While waiting, to make the custard base, fill a 20 cm wide saucepan with 5cm of water and bring to a low simmer on the stovetop. Choose a heatproof bowl (at least 25 cm/10 in wide so you have room to whisk) that will nestle on top of the pan without touching the water. Put the chocolate and half of the butter in the bowl, then place the bowl over the pan of simmering water. Heat until just melted, stirring occasionally. Do not allow the melted chocolate and butter to get too hot, as it can scramble the eggs you are about to add. Just melted is perfect. Also avoid the flames licking up the side of the pan, which will cause the chocolate to burn on the side of the bowl. If this does happen, strain the mix into a clean bowl and cook on a lower heat.

Step 8

Remove the bowl from the heat and swiftly whisk in the eggs, then return to cook over the simmering water, whisking slowly, until it thickens to a gloopy consistency (and reaches 70°C). Remove from the heat and cool at room temperature to lukewarm. If you need to accelerate the cooling, pop it in the fridge, but stir often so the chocolate custard doesn't fully harden.

Step 9

Put the cream cheese in the bowl of an electric stand mixer. Using the paddle attachment, cream on speed 4 (medium) for 5 minutes. Scrape down the side of the bowl twice during this process. Turn the mixer off. Add one quarter of the cooled chocolate custard to the cream cheese. Switch the paddle for the whisk and whisk on speed 6 (medium high) until combined. Add the chocolate custard in two more batches, turning the mixer off to add the custard and whisking well between each addition – always being a vigilant scraper! Add the remaining butter, piece by piece, and whisk for a further 5 minutes until all the butter is incorporated and the buttercream is thick, fluffy and silken. Whisk in the vanilla and it's ready to use.

Step 10

Assemble the four layers using the White chocolate buttercream. Serve at room temperature.



Our door is always open to those who share our commitment to improving the lives of vulnerable children and young people.

If, having read our annual report, you believe there is an opportunity for us to work together to make a difference, we would be delighted to hear from you.



**Lighthouse
Foundation**

A place where
homeless kids belong



13 Adolph Street, Cremorne
Victoria Australia 3121
T: (03) 9093 7500
ABN: 12 101 54 95 08



ORGANISATIONAL
MEMBER
CODE COMPLIANT



Quality
Innovation
Performance