

Thank you...

**ACSA Board**

**Current Members:**

John Yates	President
Dennis Martin	Vice-President
Joe Fisi	Ordinary Member
Kath Leane	Ordinary Member
Mark Stephens	PLWHA(SA) Nominee
Logan Bold	GMH Nominee
Jan Appleby	SAVIVE Nominee
Tarkwin Coles	SIN Nominee
Carol Holly	Staff Nominee

**Former Members:**

Keith Bevan	President
Mel Calone	Ordinary Member
Michael Jarzyn	Ordinary Member
Russell Disher	Ordinary Member
Dave Larrett	PLWHA(SA) Nominee
Darrien Bromley	GMH Nominee
Ian Frisby	GMH Nominee
Paul Fitzgerald	SAVIVE Nominee
Reb Ward	SIN Nominee
Rose Magdalene	Staff Nominee

**ACSA Volunteers**

ACSA Board Volunteers  
 AIDS Awareness Week Volunteers  
 Candlelight Memorial Volunteers  
 Gay Men's Health Volunteers  
 Information Services Volunteers  
 Red Ribbon Appeal Volunteers  
 Red Ribbon Bobby Goldsmith Fund Committee Members  
 SAVIVE Volunteers and Community Networkers  
 SIN Volunteers

**Collaborators & Donors**

Aboriginal Family Support Services  
 Aboriginal Legal Rights Service  
 Adelaide Cabaret Festival  
 Adelaide City Council  
 Adelaide Dental Hospital - Special Needs Unit  
 Adelaide Happy Wanderers  
 Adelaide Safe Community Inc  
 Adelaide Spikers Volleyball Club  
 Adelaide University  
 AIDS Trust of Australia  
 Aqueerium (Radio Adelaide)  
 Australian Executor Trustees  
 Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)  
 Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL)  
 Australian Services Union  
 Bear Men of Adelaide  
 Beyond Blue  
 Bfriend  
 Blaze  
 Camatta Lempens Lawyers  
 Catchy Title Productions  
 Cheltenham Place  
 Chemplus  
 City Gym and Fitness Centre  
 Clinic 275

Club X  
 Community Employees Association  
 Department of Health - HIV/HCV Policy and Programs  
 Disability Information Resource Centre (DIRC)  
 Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia (DASSA)  
 E Evolution Publishing  
 Enigma Bar  
 Equal Opportunity Commission  
 Feast Festival  
 Flinders University  
 Gay and Lesbian Community Services (GLCS)  
 GLBTI Community Safety Network  
 Glyde Health  
 Guys Out North  
 Hepatitis Australia  
 Hepatitis C Council of SA  
 Hepatitis C Council of Victoria  
 HIV Women's Project - Women's Health Statewide  
 Live Adelaide  
 Legal Services Commission  
 Let's Get Equal Campaign Committee  
 Mars Bar  
 Mouthpieces  
 Muna Paiendi  
 National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS (NAPWA)  
 National Pharmacies  
 Nexus Multicultural Arts Centre  
 Noarlunga Health Village  
 Northern Voices GLBTIQ Advocacy Network  
 Nunkuwarrin Yunti  
 O'Brien Street Practice - Care and Prevention Programme  
 Office for Youth  
 Origin Energy Services Staff  
 Paralowie Health Service  
 Parks Community Health Service  
 Peter Hall - Chartered Accountant  
 Playford Community Health Centre  
 PLWHA(SA)/PLC

Port Adelaide Community Health Service  
 Poz on Poz  
 Pride March Committee  
 Pulteney 431  
 Reconciliation SA  
 Relationships Australia (SA) - AISR, PE.A.C.E., UNIDOS, Mosaic  
 Royal District Nursing Service  
 SA Council of Social Service  
 SAPol  
 Scarlet Alliance  
 Second Story Youth Health Service  
 Shine SA  
 Shopfront Youth Health and Information Service  
 Sleaze Ball  
 South Australian Network of Drug and Alcohol Services (SANDAS)  
 Southern Men's Group  
 Southern Women's Community Health Centre  
 St Vincent de Paul Society - Men's Night Shelter  
 Streetlink  
 Street to Home Service  
 Taoundi College  
 Team Adelaide Inc.  
 The Cancer Council SA  
 The City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters  
 Three Chillies Theatre Company  
 Quit SA  
 Unity Housing  
 Uranian Society  
 UNIDOS  
 Valley View Secondary School  
 Vietnamese Community in Australia - SA Chapter  
 Wallis Cinemas  
 Westpac Group's Matching Gift Fund  
 Women's Services Network of SA  
 Working Women's Centre of SA  
 Wyatt Benevolent Institution Inc.  
 Yarrow Place  
 Youth Affairs Council of SA

Strategic Directions...

OUR VISION IS A FUTURE FREE OF HIV

OUR MISSION IS TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR KEY CLIENTS AND PREVENT THE TRANSMISSION OF HIV

OUR PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

In all that we do, we:

- Respect individuals, acknowledge diversity and affirm the rights of clients, staff and volunteers
- Are honest and accountable
- Are committed to the principles around confidentiality
- Value, respect and acknowledge the contribution of volunteers
- Affirm the centrality of HIV positive people and other affected individuals in the response to HIV/AIDS and related health issues
- Work closely with affected communities
- Work in partnership with Government, communities and other allied agencies

OUR KEY CLIENTS

Our key clients are those at risk of, affected by, or living with HIV/AIDS. In particular:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- Emerging communities
- Gay men and other homosexually active men
- GLBTIQ communities
- People living with HIV/AIDS
- People who inject drugs
- People in custodial settings
- Sex workers
- Women

OUR STRATEGIC PARTNERS

- Community sector
- Donors
- Funders
- Other allied agencies
- Peak bodies

OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

1. PREVENTING TRANSMISSION

Goals

- The elimination of the transmission of HIV
- The adoption of behaviours that reduce the risk of HIV infection, sexually transmitted infections and blood borne diseases; the reduction of the transmission of sexually transmitted infections and blood borne diseases.
- Strengthening the community response to HIV, sexually transmitted infections and blood borne diseases.

2. ADVOCATING FOR CHANGE

Goals

- Informing and influencing public policy
- Reducing the barriers which impact on the health and well-being of affected communities

3. MAXIMISING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Goals

- Improvement in the quality of life of members of affected communities
- To respond to the needs of affected communities through consultation, participation and empowerment
- The development of services that meet the changing client profile
- The delivery of quality services

4. PROVIDING A LEADERSHIP ROLE

Goals

- To develop the role of ACSA as a lead agency, an agent of social change and an advocate for our key clients
- To strengthen and play a unifying role in the HIV, sexually transmitted infections and blood borne diseases sector

5. INCREASE THE ORGANISATION'S SUSTAINABILITY AND INDEPENDENCE

Goals

- To ensure financial sustainability and social relevance
- To meet recognised quality assurance standards in governance, management and service delivery

ACSA's work takes place primarily on the traditional land of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today.

**The AIDS Council of South Australia Inc.**

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 Norwood SA 5067

PO Box 907  
 Kent Town SA 5071

Phone (08) 8334 1611  
 Fax (08) 8363 1046  
 Web [www.acsa.org.au](http://www.acsa.org.au)

**Gay Men's Health (GMH)**

Phone (08) 8334 1606

**Man2Man Info Line**

City Callers (08) 8334 1617  
 Country Callers 1800 671 582

**SA Sex Industry Network (SIN)**

Phone (08) 8334 1668

**SA Voice for IV Education (SAVIVE)**

Norwood CNP (Head Office)  
 (08) 8334 1699

Noarlunga CNP  
 (08) 8384 9661

Parks CNP  
 (08) 8243 5699

Port Adelaide CNP  
 (08) 8240 9613

Salisbury CNP  
 (08) 8281 1775



World AIDS Day Celebrations and Fundraising, Rundle Mall - December 2008

The AIDS Council of South Australia Inc.

Annual Report 2008/09

A future free of HIV

# Executive Director's Report...

For more than 23 years, ACSA has been delivering important services that help improve the health and wellbeing of our communities. I was fortunate enough to be appointed Executive Director in December 2008 and my first six months have been extraordinarily rewarding. The complex mix of communities and individuals that are the essence of ACSA continue to prove that the one community response that we often speak of has many, many parts. Our communities are not one homogenous group but are made up of many different individuals with differing health needs and political agendas, and these are strengths of our organisation, not points of division.

During ACSA's early years, our work was focussed on prevention of HIV and the care and support of those living with the virus. While a lot of our work still prioritises prevention, education, care and support, increasingly our work with communities is becoming more focussed on the social determinants of health - the social and environmental conditions in which our communities live and work. This includes housing, transport, stress, race, culture, stigma, discrimination, relationships, employment and social inclusion/exclusion. All these factors play a key role in shaping how our communities live their lives and make choices that impact on health. Recognising that not everyone has the same level of health or capacity to deal with health issues, it is important that our services are set up to deal with communities in different ways so that we can work towards equity in health outcomes for all. Our program reports this year highlight some of the work we have been undertaking in these areas.

While much of our work is on program and service delivery, a substantial amount of time has been taken up with responding to the state Government's Request for Tender for the provision of HIV/STI prevention services. After nearly 20 years of submission based processes for the funding of HIV services, SA Health changed its funding model to competitive tendering. Arguably more suited to contexts with a genuine service provider market place, competitive tendering as a procurement tool has both strengths and weaknesses. Firstly, its strengths are: creating greater transparency; stimulating innovation; creating greater efficiencies and setting clear standards and expectations. Its weaknesses include: undermining collaboration within the non Government sector; creating uncertainties for services and service users and the tendency to devalue the features of human services that are not easy to quantify, including participation of affected communities and volunteering.

What has driven this reform process? Not a political but a public service agenda I suspect: one that lowers administrative costs for SA Health, drives mainstreaming of HIV/STI services and out-sources some elements of contract management to the non Government sector. In isolation, some of these elements are indeed desirable: no-one would argue that scarce resources should be wasted or that mainstream health services should not be responsive to the needs of all communities. But as an overall package, the competitive tendering process has diverted energies away from the vital areas of policy development, service planning, monitoring and evaluation.

Following the announcement that ACSA was successful in its bid to deliver HIV/STI prevention services, the SA HIV Action Plan 2009-2012, which is the basis for a large part of our work over the coming three years, was launched by the Health Minister, the Hon John Hill MP. The plan describes emerging challenges for the HIV response in SA. ACSA welcomes the increased focus on local research to inform program planning and to evaluate the success of initiatives.

ACSA has been particularly active during the year at a national level through our peak bodies - AFAQ, the Scarlet Alliance and AIVL. These relationships are critical to ensure that as a state, we are contributing to the national policy development debate as well as participating in the development of campaigns and resources.

Fundraising efforts throughout the year have been greater than we could have expected - many organisations came on board with us over the year to hold events and raise much needed funds for the Red Ribbon Bobby Goldsmith Fund. The Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Melbourne Leather Pride, National Pharmacies, Australian Executor Trustees, Sleaze Ball and Catchy Title Productions as well as many individuals contributed to an outstanding year for fundraising.

During the year a number of staff members left us to pursue new interests and we welcomed a number of new people to ACSA. Thank you to all the staff for their ongoing commitment and support. I would also like to extend my thanks to the volunteers in our programs. We would struggle without your tireless dedication and expertise. The Program Committees have been very active during the year and continue to provide direction to our services so they remain relevant and of value. Our Board of Directors have worked hard during the year. We have been fortunate enough to be able to retain a full complement of Directors over the year and my thanks go to all who have volunteered time and energy to help sustain ACSA into the future.

ACSA is at a critical time in its development - the political, social and environmental contexts within which we work demand that we need to constantly reflect on our programs and services to ensure that they have long term positive impacts on health and wellbeing outcomes. Our work has always been anchored in our communities and whatever the future holds, this commitment will not change.

# President's Report

Welcome to the 2009 Annual Report. I began volunteering at SIN four years ago and joined the ACSA Board as the SIN representative in 2007 and was nominated as President when Keith Bevan resigned at the last AGM. On behalf of the Board I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the volunteers at ACSA and the tireless work of the staff, past and present. Shane Dinnison, our new Executive Director has to be congratulated on the successful tender for funding, and the huge amount he has accomplished during his first year in the position. I would also like to thank the ACSA Board for their incredible work over the past year.

The 2008-2009 reporting year has seen significant changes at ACSA and for the non Government sector agencies that rely on funding from the Department of Health. There have been some significant staff changes, and ACSA is in the process of developing its Strategic Directions for 2010-2013; this should be completed by the end of 2009. This will give the organisation a clear direction for the services provided at ACSA.

The Board has undertaken a number of training workshops on governance and financial reports and has also worked hard on updating policies. There was a full Board complement for the meetings over the past year, and this work contributes to the sustainability of ACSA and its services.

ACSA continues to work closely with PLUWHA and will always advocate for the rights of all community members who are affected by HIV. 2009 was an outstanding year for fundraising with more than \$50,000 raised for the Red Ribbon Bobby Goldsmith Fund. This fund assists people living with HIV and their families and is integral to the health and well being of community members.

The ACSA program area's health promotion, education and community interactions continue to contribute to people being able to make informed decisions regarding their health but the marginalisation of community members and the stigmatisation and discrimination associated with this has an adverse affect on the health of the community as a whole, and individually. ACSA will continue to advocate for individual members and the community as a whole.



Example Resources produced in 08/09

# Audited Financial Statements

	2009	2008
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash on Hand	1,000	1,000
Cash at Bank	26,881	349,615
Cash Invested	471,664	205,967
Prepayments	2,967	2,130
Receivables	36,208	38,484
Inventory	44,162	32,022
	<b>582,882</b>	<b>629,218</b>
<b>NonCurrent Assets</b>		
Office Furniture & Equipment	27,077	41,671
Motor Vehicles	13,064	16,857
	<b>40,141</b>	<b>58,528</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>623,023</b>	<b>687,746</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Creditors & Accruals	110,271	185,060
Grants & Other Funds Received in Advance	149,990	233,686
Employee Entitlements	91,910	69,727
	<b>352,171</b>	<b>488,473</b>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>		
Employee Entitlements	71,768	72,748
Provision for Future Expense	95,907	75,909
	<b>167,675</b>	<b>148,657</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>519,846</b>	<b>637,130</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>103,177</b>	<b>50,616</b>
<b>Members Funds</b>		
Opening Balance	50,616	28,952
Operating Surplus for the Year	52,541	21,664
Closing Members Funds	<b>103,157</b>	<b>50,616</b>

# Information Services

The Information Services and Darling House Community Library team had another successful year serving the needs of ACSA staff, our communities, the sector and the broader community.

As always, visitors to the Library (which is jointly run with Gay and Lesbian Community Services of SA) included a wide range of people including people living with or affected by HIV, students, researchers, and people from the GLBT, sex work and injecting drug use communities.

The collection also provides unique resources to other libraries around Australia through our membership in GratisNet, the health libraries network. Our membership also greatly increases the resources available to ACSA staff.

An expanded Staff Update was produced for ACSA staff this year along with the Current Awareness Service which is sent to workers in the HIV and health care sectors. Information Services also distributed a high volume of new resources to our subscriber list made up of health and community services organisations.

Visitors to the Council included health care workers, students and community groups. Numerous presentations were given on a wide variety of topics, including up to date information on HIV/AIDS, life for people with HIV, ACSA and its program areas, working with our communities and HIV/AIDS in our region.

For AIDS Awareness Week 2008, Information Services was part of a small team which included Gay Men's Health staff and the Publications Officer who implemented the AIDS Awareness Week Kit, a new education initiative that was promoted to schools, community organisations and workplaces. Eighty orders were received for the kit throughout the state. The community have always been an integral part of the South Australian response to HIV and the kit was a great way to get more groups and individuals involved in promoting awareness, not just in how to avoid HIV infection but of the reality of living with HIV.

Publication Services and Information Services continue to maintain the ACSA website and there were 20,910 visitors in 2008/09. Once again, the library could not have functioned without the generosity of our volunteers whose hard work has kept the library running smoothly this year. I'd like to thank Ross, Pam, Matthew and Annabel. I am pleased to report that Ian Purcell, former GLCS Librarian, continued his involvement in the daily running of the library this year and his wealth of experience ensured the GLCS collection was well looked after. Thanks also go to the Disability Information Resource Centre (DIRC) who host our online library catalogue.

# Gay Men's Health

Throughout 2008/09, Gay Men's Health (GMH) continued to provide a range of services that focus on gay and same sex attracted men's health issues in metropolitan and country areas. Programs that have targeted this goal have included Social Marketing, Community Development, Outreach, Man2Man Information Line, Counselling and efforts to ensure diversity in our approach through Social Inclusion. Throughout the year Gay Men's Health implemented a range of activities and education initiatives targeting gay men, and men who have sex with men in various locations and cultural demographics. Gay Men's Health maintained its strategy of working in partnership with other services and organisations and has expanded this approach to include formalised collaboration with community groups.

The highlights for GMH over the past twelve months included:

Testing Testing 1 2 3 campaign targeted gay men on the importance of getting tested regularly for STI and HIV. The campaign was highly promoted during FEAST 2008. Another campaign that was conducted by GMH this year was centred on Syphilis and was promoted to patrons who use sex on premises venues.

IDAHO 2009 was another success, engaging over 100 participants by asking people to describe how homophobia affected them on a personal level. IDAHO also strengthens the collaboration with other health agencies. Our partnership with community groups who provide social activities to GLBTIQ communities has increased. Connect newsletter was published with the help of the community groups that GMH have a partnership with.

Man2Man Information Line continues to be one of the main tools for disseminating information on a one-to-one basis to gay and same sex attracted men, regarding HIV, STIs and other related issues. Gay Men's Health has a pool of regularly trained volunteers staffing the line, and requests to be part of the Man2Man Information Line have been growing in number. In the past twelve months we have seen a 109% growth in gay and same sex attracted men ringing the information line.

Gay Men's Health counselling again proved to be a significant service for the maintenance of health and wellbeing of gay and same sex attracted men in crisis.

Over the past twelve months, Gay Men's Health has refined its approach to beat outreach by increasing its visibility so that more interactions with clients can take place. This was done through outreach workers and volunteers wearing an "On the Beat" t-shirt while out and about, ensuring that clients can approach the worker without hesitation. The t-shirt has been promoted heavily in the gay media and internet.

Gay Men's Health will continue to develop and focus its services to meet the needs of gay and same sex attracted men in South Australia throughout 2009/10.

Thanks to all the community groups, volunteers and program committee members for your support and assistance over the last year.

# SA Voice for IV Education

SA Voice for IV Education (SAVIVE) is the community program of the AIDS Council of South Australia that aims to improve the health of people who inject drugs, their families and the wider community by providing information and education to reduce harms associated with injecting. In addition to our primary Clean Needle Program (CNP) site at Norwood, we are co-located within health services, providing secondary CNP services at The Parks Community Health Service, Noarlunga Health Village, Port Adelaide Community Health Service and Shopfront Youth Health and Information Service in Salisbury. We continue to value our relationship with the health services in ensuring that people who inject drugs get appropriate access to the services they need to maintain good health.

This year SAVIVE aimed to increase the number of clients using sterile filters and to reduce harms such as vein problems, dirty hits and other infections that can result from not using filters or using filters incorrectly. SAVIVE changed the brand of wheel filters available in the CNP to increase access to filters by providing quality filters at a reduced cost to clients. The new brand of filter was first focus tested with clients, with very positive feedback. SAVIVE peer educators have also developed a filter guide for CNP workers and are in the process of developing a filter resource for clients, to increase awareness of correct filter use.

All CNP sites participated in a disposal awareness campaign to increase awareness of the need to dispose of injecting equipment safely. The awareness campaign included a poster to remind clients of the need to dispose safely, maps indicating the whereabouts of disposal bins and talking to clients about safe disposal of equipment.

The SAVIVE team raised awareness of issues for people who inject drugs by providing 31 education and training sessions for 544 health workers and students. The team also provided over 50 informal information sessions (ie CNP introduction; equipment/filter demonstration) to workers and students. Peer education workshops for injectors included vein care, overdose and safer injecting.

SAVIVE continued to work in partnership with other agencies, including the Hepatitis C Council of SA. To increase access to hepatitis C treatment services and options, a hepatitis C peer educator commenced a regular placement at SAVIVE's Norwood CNP to provide support, information and referrals to HCV treatment services. Client interaction and feedback has been positive and we hope to expand the project to include SAVIVE's co-located CNPs in the future.

We also continued to work closely with our funding body, Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia (DASSA), providing input into DASSA resources and facilitating information sessions about SAVIVE at DASSA's bi-monthly CNP Introduction Workshops. SAVIVE and DASSA meet frequently to develop appropriate responses to emerging drug use trends and arising issues for people who inject drugs.

All SAVIVE staff and volunteers participated in professional development to increase their skills and knowledge in order to provide the best possible service to clients. Professional development included training through Skillpath, TAFE, QuitSA and Relationships Australia, with three SAVIVE staff members achieving Certificate IV in Community Services. Conferences attended included the sixth Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference and the National Drug Trends Conference.

SAVIVE's volunteer program is still going strong. Eight new volunteers, recruited via SAVIVE's regular volunteer information forums, have joined the volunteer team. Three SAVIVE volunteers were employed in ongoing casual or part-time work in the Clean Needle Programs at Norwood and Noarlunga. The SAVIVE Program Committee held regular meetings and is working on an information resource to increase awareness of SAVIVE.

Thank you to all of the SAVIVE volunteers who contributed their time, energy and expertise as CNP workers, peer educators, committee members and delegates.

# SA Sex Industry Network

SA Sex Industry Network (SIN) continued to work with sex workers in South Australia around all matters that affect their health, rights and wellbeing. Some highlights have been a greater solidification of the street work project which has started running workshops designed specifically for street based sex workers. Workshop subjects have included self defence, legal rights and responsibilities. The street work project has also developed a regular newsletter targeted at street based sex workers and covers relevant issues. Both these initiatives aim to reduce isolation and build community amongst street based sex workers. Another notable highlight is the involvement of our multicultural project worker in valuable research regarding migrant sex workers. This gave her the opportunity to represent SIN and Scarlet Alliance at the World AIDS Conference in Mexico.

SIN has enjoyed continued support from sex workers in South Australia and continues to provide high quality, peer owned and managed services to our community. In the past twelve months SIN has had approximately 2,200 contacts with sex workers through the SIN Safe Sex Shop, SIN magazine, outreach services, social and educational networking opportunities and intensive services.

SIN has also played an important role in representing sex workers in many and varied forums including the Women's Services Network of South Australia, 'Reclaim the Night' and other relevant community events, in policy and health arenas, and in the media.

SIN has also provided education and training to many other services including health and welfare organisations, community groups, people with disabilities and disability organisations, and universities and TAFE - issues raised included best practice when working with sex workers, legal issues for sex workers and other issues relevant to sex workers. SIN has also recently been working with South Australian Police to provide training on sex worker sensitivity.

As sex work is still criminalised in South Australia, SIN is looking forward to working with South Australian sex workers, our supporters and extended networks to advocate for decriminalisation of the sex industry in South Australia as we see that as the essential next step in promoting sex workers health, rights and well being.