

**THE** GENDER  
CENTRE  
**INC**



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**2019**

# The Gender Centre a Glance...

3267

TGD People &  
their Families  
Supported

3577

Short Term  
Accommodation  
Nights

7690

Medium Term  
Accommodation  
Nights

489

Families  
Supported



TGD Youth  
Attempted  
Suicide



TGD Youth  
Experience  
Family  
Rejection



TGD Youth  
Experience  
Bullying

1354

Personal  
Counselling

576

Parents  
Attending  
Support GROUPS

170

Counselling  
Clients

107

Schools  
Supported

173

Psychological  
Clients

853

Psychological  
Sessions



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**Over view of the Gender Centre**

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**Who we are**

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**Services**

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**Training & Community**

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**Governance**

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**Acknowledgments**

**Our Patron:**

**Professor <sup>the</sup>  
Honourable Dame  
Marie Bashir**



*Professor Bashir was the first woman appointed Governor of New South Wales. She taught at the Universities of Sydney and NSW, working with children's*

*services, psychiatry and mental health services, and Indigenous health programs. At the time of her appointment as Governor of New South Wales, she was Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Sydney; Area Director of Mental Health Services Central Sydney; and Senior Consultant to the Aboriginal Medical Service, Redfern and to the Aboriginal Medical Service, Kempsey. She was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1988 for her services to child and invested a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO) in 2006.*

*In June 2014, Professor Bashir was named as a Dame of the Order of Australia for extraordinary merit in service to the administration, public life, and people of New South Wales, and as an advocate for improved mental health outcomes for the young, marginalised and disadvantaged.*

# Welcome from the Chair:

**Col Eglington**

## **The Gender Centre continues to work for our community...**

Vale Roberta Perkins!

Roberta Perkins died at the very end of June last year after decades of struggle for the community. From the humble beginning of Tiresias house through to becoming the statewide peak body of NSW, the Gender Centre has seen incredible change.

And it remains an exciting time to be involved in helping the Transgender and Gender Diverse community of NSW.

It's not that long ago that transgender people were almost totally rejected by the wider Australian community. And while things are far from perfect, I'm heartened by the changing conversation being presented in most media, in the way that our national workplaces continue to support us, and the slow but inexorable shifts that our health departments are making to support and uphold the right to be transgender and/or gender diverse. Birth certificate laws around the country continue to reflect changing attitudes of Australians. From Canberra, to Tasmania and now most recently with legislative change in Victoria the transgender

community is getting a taste of what it might be like to experience acceptance and support reaching across all aspects of our lives.

As transgender and gender diverse people continue to be supported and to work to overcome obstacles to acceptance, the Gender Centre has been growing and expanding too.

This year we've experienced more support requests by more people from across the lifespan of the community. We have more than doubled the number of families, children, and adolescents we are seeing. More schools are requesting help to accommodate trans students and workplace requests for assistance in transition has increased.

There's still a lot to work to do, and the Gender Centre remains committed to working with our community and allies to improve the lives of gender diverse people.

**Dr Col Eglington**

Board Chair

President of the Gender Centre

## Overview:

# Phinn Borg Executive Director

### **Consolidation seems to have been the theme for 2018/19.**

We began the 2018/19 year with the loss of a giant of the transgender and gender diverse community and ended it with another historical change to legislation around birth certificate law in Victoria.

Roberta Perkins, academic and trans-advocate was instrumental in convincing the then Labour government of the importance of a shelter for transgender sex workers. And so from her work and activism in creating Tiresias House for young vulnerable trans sex workers, our modern day Gender Centre was born. Roberta continued to lead the cause for transgender equality over decades and is remembered fondly by the Gender Centre and the TGD community alike.

Like Roberta's struggle to find a home for the earliest iteration of the Gender Centre, we continue to search for a new location for our expanding service. And while at times it's been a frustrating process, I continue to be heartened by the degree of support in the community for the great work that we are doing.

This past year, the Gender Centre also saw one of our community greats, Katherine Cummings, retire from the GC staff. Katherine handed over the reigns of Polare at the beginning of 2019. In her absence the GC staff continue to work to renew Polare both as tribute to her legacy, but also to take up the exciting opportunities that digital publishing have for reaching even further into our community.

The Gender Centre has also expanded some of its key services and in particular has increased the number of psychological and counselling services available to the community. This increase reflects the growing importance and focus of the Gender Centre on transgender and gender diverse people's mental health, and in

particular as a reaction to the continued negative representation of the community in some sections of the Australian media.

After the 2017 marriage equality plebiscite set an unprecedented standard for negativity and scape-grating of transgender young people, we've seen anti-trans voices in the press hone their attacks further. Over the last year debate has continued to heat up around the federal religious rights bill, ushering in a new round of anti-trans journalism. This time the focus seems to be not just on service providers like the Gender Centre, but now sets out to attack the very models of affirmative care that are central to the delivery of the services we provide.

My hope going forward into 2019/20 is that what we have witnessed over the last few years is not just an upsurge in the amount of violence, discrimination and anti-trans journalism, but rather the last gasp of an intolerant, discriminatory way of explaining the world. I hope that the lives of transgender and gender diverse people will continue to be supported and that the advocacy of people like Roberta Perkins have paved the way to a better world and one that we are moving closer and closer towards.

*Phinn Borg*  
**Executive Director.**

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**Who we are**

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**Who We are:**

**Gender Centre**

**Mission:**

**Work to achieve equality for transgender and gender diverse people and their families.**

**Vision:**

**To help build a society that is inclusive of transgender and gender diverse people, their families and allies.**

**Principles:**

**To provide confidential, client centred services and promote a holistic, integrated and strength based approach to service provision for the transgender and gender diverse community. We operate within a strong, transparent and accountable governance framework, Code of Conduct.**

**Who We are:**

**Gender Centre**

**Us**

*The Gender Centre is the peak state-wide specialist multi-purpose service supporting TGD people at any stage of their transition (pre-mid-and post transition).*

***'It's been an amazing growth year!'***

Phinn Borg, Executive Director

**Clients**

*Between July 2017 and June 2018 the Gender Centre provided over 58,047 occasions of service provision provided to 3267 individual transgender, gender diverse, gender questioning people and their family members and work colleagues .*

**Parents,  
Families, Schools**

*During the 2017/2018 financial year the Centre worked with 489 families providing front line support and wrap around services to engage both families and youth to remain connected. the Centre provided support to 107 schools.*



## Who We are:

## The Gender Centre and Families

Every year we report on the increase in demand for services for transgender young people, children and their families. This past 12 months has seen a dramatic increase in demand. From general questions and basic information, to advocacy, peer support initiatives, pathways for psychological referrals and counselling support.

The Gender Centre has worked with our partners to deliver two new regional NSW parents support groups. One in Nowra for families further South of our Wollongong parents group.

### 2018/19 Parents Groups Attendance:

<b>Sydney</b>	<b>367</b>	
<b>Wollongong</b>	<b>193</b>	
<b>Katoomba</b>	<b>20</b>	
<b>Dubbo</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>New Group</b>
<b>Nowra</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>New Group</b>

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# Services

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# The Gender Centre Provides Services Across Four Domains:

## Health:

Home Visits  
Counselling  
Case Management  
Hospital Visits  
Outreach  
Psychological Support  
Aged & Ageing Support  
Nutrition  
Family & Youth  
Needle & Syringe Program

## Advocacy & Support:

Support Programs  
Community Engagement  
School Support  
Safe Space Project  
Youth  
Parents  
Seniors  
Non-Binary  
Women  
Men  
Partners

## Education:

Anti-Violence Project  
Transition in Workplaces  
Library, Kits & Fact  
Website Social  
Resource Development  
Aged Support  
Social Events & Workshops

## Homelessness:

Crisis Accommodation  
Tenancy Support  
Case Management  
GWS Support Services  
Transitional  
Homelessness

# Services

## We Provide

### Health:

**Counselling**  
18-75+

**Counselling**  
5-18

**Needle &  
Syringe  
Program**

**Health  
Promotion**

**Psychological  
Support**

**Dubbo  
Sexual Health  
Clinic**

**T-150 Clinic**

**Outreach  
Services**

**Nutrition  
Clinic**

**Counselling**  
Age Range: 18-75+

*The Gender Centre sees individuals dealing with mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress and personality disorders; those suffering from traumatic brain injuries with permanent and debilitating effects; and those on the autism spectrum.*

*This past year, the occurrence of depression, anxiety and suicide ideation, all relating to gender identity and presentation, has once again been very high.*

*Here at the Gender Centre, counselling is a place where gender identity is seen as authentic and genuine, rather than something to be questioned or assessed.*

*We offer therapeutic approaches to mental health issues, but also provide specialist knowledge and referral options to clients who wish to embark on medical (hormone replacement therapies and surgery) or legal transition (name and birth certificate changes).*

**‘The most common comment we hear about counselling at the Gender Centre, is that we provide a “safe space” for clients to come and be themselves.**

**— GC Counsellor**

**‘Parents have brought gender diverse children to counselling, offering their kids somewhere safe to discuss and explore their identity, and to build relationships for future therapy if and when required.**

**— GC Counsellor**

## Counselling

Age Range: 5-18

*This year the Gender Centre continued to offer counselling to youth and families.*

*We continue to support schools, parents and young people with our 'transition at school' process, where families and educators are able to access knowledge and resources to help make transition easier for their young person.*

*The Gender Centre is working to build community around trans families. We launched our Play Date project, where trans and gender diverse children and their families participated in a picnic with facilitated games, face-painting, snacks and music. This was a fantastic opportunity for parents of gender diverse children to meet other families and make ongoing connections.*

*Our counselling service continues to provide support and education to school counsellors including rural areas and placement opportunities to student counsellors to support trans kids.*

*"Thank you from the bottom of my heart for providing a unique opportunity to build and grow this wonderful community, for both the parents and kids. It is so important that we continue to do so."*

*— Play Date Project Parent.*

170

Individual  
Counselling  
Clients

COUNSELLING

409

Email Contact  
Counselling  
Support

50

Aged 16-25  
Counselling

1354

Face to Face  
Counselling  
Sessions

220

Telephone  
Counselling  
Clients

45

Skype  
Counselling  
Clients

## Psychological Support Services

The Gender Centre provided Free, short-term face to face psychological services for under serviced groups. Clients presenting in this program were commonly facing issues surrounding gender, as well as high rates of suicide ideation, depression, anxiety and trauma. The individual sessions had a Cognitive Behavioural Therapy focus, and showed a high success rate in improving mental health outcomes for these clients.



## PSYCHOLOGICAL

173

Individual Psychological Clients

853

Face to Face Counselling Sessions

## Outreach Services

The Gender Centre's Outreach service provides help for members of the community confined to hospital, homes, and in correctional facilities within NSW.

The outreach service is of significant benefit to clients in addressing their health needs and concerns, through the development and implementation of holistic case plans the outreach team provide wrap around service models that allow health and welfare concerns to be discussed and dealt with in a safe and honest manner.

Wednesday night outreach to "at risk" street based sex workers who can access the outreach services from a number of locations from the surrounding areas of Surry hills and Darlinghurst, Newtown, the Great Western Highway Eastern Creek, Canterbury Road and Penrith.

## OUTREACH SERVICES

### SAFE USING

Safe equipment Where the need arises

HOSPITAL & PRISON VISITS  
Trans People are Often Most Vulnerable When in Hospital or Prison

## HOME VISITS

For clients confined at home.

### HEALTH INFORMATION

HIV injecting Hormones  
STDs. Safe Sex Work  
Transgender Health Concerns

### INFORMATION REFERRALS

About all things TGD Health Related.

### COURT/CELL OUTREACH

Available to all TGD clients

## Dubbo Sexual Health Clinic

The Gender Centre provides on site face to face services with Dubbo Sexual Health Clinic providing specialised outreach and group work to transgender and gender diverse people in this region on a regular basis.

Gender Centre staff drive in and conduct services with pre-arranged clients over a four day period every three months in the Dubbo, Bathurst, Orange, and Parkes and surrounding towns.

## T150 Service

In 2018/2019 The Gender Centre continued to work with the Albion Centre to provide clinical health services to the Transgender and gender diverse community, providing a peer support worker each week.

The T150 clinic is an innovative specialist HIV and Sexual Health service providing holistic care for transgender and gender diverse people in a dedicated clinical space.

## T150 SERVICES

SAFE  
INJECTING  
EDUCATION

HIV, SEXUAL  
HEALTH &  
BLOOD BORN  
VIRUS SCREENING

HIV POINT OF  
CARE  
TESTING

PEER  
SUPPORT

SEXUAL  
HEALTH ED  
With a TGD  
focus

INFORMATION  
REFERRALS

About all things TGD  
Health Related.

TREATMENT  
OF any  
Diagnosed

CASE  
MANAGEMENT

TGD  
REPRODUCTIVE  
ADVICE

CERVICAL  
SCREENING

Immediate  
HIV & HEP C  
Management  
Treatment

HEP A & B  
VACCINATIONS

HIV PrEP &  
PrEP Provision &  
EDUCATION

BLOOD  
MONITORING  
Hormones etc.

## Health Promotion Project

The Health Promotion project ensures that members of the transgender community who engage in high risk behaviours are provided with appropriate information and resources to safeguard themselves and others from the risk of contracting or spreading HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and other Blood Borne Viruses (BBVs).

### OUTREACH

# 23,478

Safe Sex Equipment  
Items Distributed

# 227

Outreach  
Clients

# 1411

Episodes of  
Service  
Delivery

# 358

Serving info on safe sex, Blood  
born viruses, Alcohol, Drugs, HIV,  
HEP C, Mental Health, legal  
issues, Housing, discrimination

# 15,705

Items of Injecting  
Equipment Distributed

# 1173

Safe Sex  
Packs distributed

# Services

## Advocacy & Support:

Support Groups

Support Groups Family

School Support

Safe Space Project

Youth and Family

Far West Support

Community

GWS Support

Regional & Remote

## Support Groups

The Client Support program plays a crucial role in providing assistance to clients whose needs are less intensive than those provided through counselling.

The Gender Centre provided a wide range of support groups, workshops and events throughout the 2018-2019 financial year. These services were provided through the Centre's Client Support Program.

Legal System

## Assistance Advice:

Accommodation Assistance DoH

Referral Advice

Transition

Centre Link

Courts

Employment Assistance

Housing Agencies

Referral Advocacy

# SUPPORT GROUPS

PARENTS  
GROUP  
METRO

TRANSGENDER  
YOUTH GROUP  
Transtopia

INFORMATION  
TALKS WITH  
GUEST SPEAKERS

PARENTS  
GROUP  
Woolloongong

FTM  
CONNECT  
GROUP

QUEER  
AGENDA  
GROUP

QUEER  
AGENDA  
GROUP

PARENTS  
GROUP  
Dubbo

WOMEN'S  
GROUP

INTERNATIONAL  
TRANSGENDER  
Day of Visibility

PARENTS  
GROUP  
Nowra

YOUNG  
WOMEN'S  
GROUP

TRANSGENDER  
DAY OF  
Remembrance

OVER 55s  
GROUP

PARENTS  
GROUP  
Katoomba

# Services

## Education:

Resource  
Development

Polare

Service  
Education

Anti-Violence  
Project

Web Site

Resource  
Development

## INFORMATION KITS

13,986

Feminising  
Hormone  
Fact Sheets

2996

Documents  
of Identity

200

Facial  
Feminisation  
Info Sheets

5037

Masculinising  
Hormone  
Information

855

Breast  
Augmentation  
Sheets

3807

Family Support

2786

Surgery  
Info Kit

# Polare Magazine

**POLARE**

**7423**

Downloaded  
From GC  
Website

**1530**

Magazines  
posted to  
Mailing List

**4000**

Magazines Printed

**475**

Magazines  
Distributed  
from the GC

**900**

Magazines  
Posted to  
Subscribers

# Website

**WEBSITE**

**330,001**

Unique  
Visitors

**6,719,739**

Number of Visits

**Anti-Violence  
Project**

**Service  
Evaluation**

**SERVICE EVALUATION**

**RESIDENTIAL DATA  
COLLECTION &  
ANALYSIS**

**COLLATERAL  
FEEDBACK  
FROM OTHER  
AGENCIES &  
SERVICE PROVIDERS**

**DATA COLLECTION  
RELATING TO  
REFERRAL  
PATTERNS**

**MONITORING  
DATA RELATING TO  
ATTENDANCE**

**STRENGTHENING  
FOCUS ON CASE-  
MANAGEMENT  
PRACTICES**

**INCREASED  
AWARENESS &  
FOCUS ON WH&S  
ISSUES**

**ANALYSIS  
OF REASONS FOR  
DISCHARGE**

**MONITORING OF  
CIRCULATION LEVELS  
OF PRINT RESOURCES**

**FEEDBACK FROM CLIENTS  
REGARDING COMPLAINTS  
COMPLEMENTS & SUGGESTIONS**

**ONGOING COMMITMENT TO  
ENGAGING in  
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT**

**LEVEL OF DEMAND  
FOR PARTICIPATION NATIONAL, STATE & LOCAL  
MECHANISMS, STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES**

# Services

## Homelessness:

Specialist  
Housing

Tenancy  
Support

Case  
Management

Transitional  
Accommodation

Homelessness  
Prevention

Specialist  
Housing

## HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE

1. INTERVENE  
EARLY

3. RAPID  
REHOUSING  
RESPONSE

2. CRISIS &  
TRANSITIONAL  
RESPONSE

4. COMPLEX  
NEEDS  
INTENSIVE  
RESPONSE

**Residential  
Crisis & Transitional  
Services**

**CRISIS ACCOMODATION**

**3** Crisis  
Residences

Crisis  
Beds **13**

**21** Transitional  
Properties

**45**  
SHORT  
TERM  
CLIENTS  
ACCOMMODATED

**3577**  
SHORT  
TERM  
BED  
NIGHTS

**7690**  
MEDIUM  
TERM  
BED  
NIGHTS  
PROVIDED

**37**  
SHORT  
TERM  
CLIENTS

82 Clients housed 11,267 bed-nights

## NEEDS IDENTIFIED:

578

ASSISTANCE  
WITH CHALLENGING

1530

OTHER  
SPECIALISED  
SERVICE

1082

CULTURALLY  
SPECIFIC  
SERVICES

433

ASSISTANCE  
FOR TRAUMA

601

SPECIALIST  
COUNSELLING  
SERVICES

104

LIVING  
SKILLS/  
PERSONAL

101

ASSISTANCE  
TO CONNECT  
CULTURALLY

## SUPPORT PROVIDED:

537

ASSISTANCE  
WITH CHALLENGING  
BEHAVIOUR

1510

OTHER  
SPECIALISED  
SERVICE

1030

CULTURALLY  
SPECIFIC  
SERVICES

394

ASSISTANCE  
FOR TRAUMA

576

SPECIALIST  
COUNSELLING  
SERVICES

506

LIVING SKILLS/  
PERSONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

1041

ASSISTANCE  
TO CONNECT

# REFERRALS ARRANGED:

7

ASSISTANCE  
WITH CHALLENGING  
BEHAVIOUR

23

SPECIALIST  
COUNSELLING  
SERVICES

22

OTHER  
SPECIALISED  
SERVICE

25

ASSISTANCE  
FOR TRAUMA

13

LIVING SKILLS/  
PERSONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

23

ASSISTANCE  
TO CONNECT  
CULTURALLY

29

CULTURALLY  
SPECIFIC  
SERVICES

Education

**Case  
Management:**

Comfortable  
Progress

Health

Strategies

Income

Realistic

Realistic  
Goals

Support  
Planning

Long  
Term  
Goals

Housing

Short Term  
Goals

Mid Term Goals

## CASE MANAGEMENT

1436

Contacts  
through the  
year

151

Clients

1718

Calls for case  
management  
Support

Out of 151 Clients

70% **achieved** their goals

## CLIENT SUPPORT

17,452

SUPPORT  
PERIOD  
DAYS

162

SUPPORT  
PERIODS

# Greater Western Sydney

## GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY

**11**

Female  
Clients

**250**

Total  
Support

**104**

Total  
Support  
**DAYS**

**7**

Male  
Clients

**18**

Total  
**CLIENTS**

I

2

3

4

5

6

**Training &  
Community**



# Training:

Committees & Consultations

Education & Training

Training for Service Providers

Agency Networking

Staff Training & Development

Training

Staff at the Gender Centre have continued to network with a wide range of services over the 2018-2019 year. Some of these services include:

## AGENCY NETWORKING

Royal Prince Alfred (RPA) Sexual health, St Bede's Home South Hurstville, **Anglicare**, Wise Employment Marrickville, **APM Employment Services**, Ingleburn Community Care Northern Beaches, SW Sutherland Hospital, SW ACAT South Care, Department of Corrective Services, **Westmead Children's Hospital**, Resource and Education Program for Injecting Drug Users (REPIDU), Taylor Square Medical Clinic, the Asylum Seeker Centre, NSW Department of Education & Training, Sex Workers' Outreach Project (SWOP), NSW Anti-Discrimination Board, Youth Block, **Catholic Care (ALIVE Program)**, NSW Department of Housing Burwood, NSW Police Surry Hills, NSW Department of Housing Surry Hills, Taylor Square Medical Centre, Dr Hespe Glebe Family Medical practice, **Cerebral Palsy Association**, Wentworth Housing, Hume Housing, The Marie Bashir Unit, Concord Hospital Mental Health Centre, The Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Renal Dialysis Unit, NSW Federal Police, **Bobby Goldsmith Foundation**, Employers Federation, NSW Police Service, Homelessness NSW, Salvos Gorman House, The **Women's Housing Company**, YWCA, Centrelink, Dubbo Sexual Health, Haymarket centre, ACON, NCOSS, Oasis program, Sydney Women's Homelessness Alliance, Menai High School, **Inner City Legal**, Centre Twenty 10, Ashfield Community Health Centre, Uniting Care, Marrickville Community Health Centre, **Marrickville police**, Aboriginal medical service, Aboriginal legal service, Tony Merritt (ATAPS program), Long Bay Jail, Head Space, **City of Sydney Council**, TAFE NSW, Wesley Mission, Medicare CAPS program, Women And Girls' Emergency Centre (WAGEC), **Vinnies Burwood**.

# Committees & Consultations

Staff have maintained their representation on or liaised with a number of committees, interagency groups and working parties that address issues of priority to the client group of the Gender Centre. These include:

## COMMITTEES & CONSULTATIONS

SHS  
Interagency  
meetings

Safe  
Relationships  
Project  
meetings

Professional  
counsellors  
meetings

the NSW LGBTI  
Domestic and  
Family  
Violence  
Interagency

Consumer &  
Community  
Advisory  
Council (SLHD)

Health  
Interagency

Asylum  
seekers  
interagency

DHIG: District  
Homelessness  
Itinerancy Group

SHOW-NET  
MEETINGS

Premier's  
Priority on  
Reducing

Greater  
Sydney  
ageing LGBTI  
interagency

# Education & Training for

The Gender Centre has continued to provide training to a broad range of services regarding a variety of issues relating to gender and to transgender and gender diverse persons. The aims of the education packages are:

- To encourage service providers in all areas to work effectively with transgender and gender diverse clients, and provide support to employers in workplaces where a staff member is in transition.
- To encourage employers to uphold anti-discrimination legislation and employ transgender and gender diverse persons who present as the best person for a position.
- To encourage all organisations to treat all people, including transgender and gender diverse people, equitably.
- To support organisations to develop policy and procedures with the intent of affording transgender and gender diverse people equitable rights, opportunities and access.

The steady demand for education and training from the Gender Centre has served to reinforce the improved commitment of the wider community to become informed about transgender and gender diverse people.

The response from those attending the training has been overwhelmingly positive.

During the 2018-2019 financial year training was provided to over 600 individuals through the corporate sector, specialist women's services, universities, and employers.

# Staff Training & Development

Staff have attended the following training, seminars and forums during 2017-2018:

## STAFF TRAINING, SEMINARS & FORUMS

Domestic Violence and A.D.V.O.s, Clinical and Research Updates in Alzheimers and Fronto-Temporal Dementia, 2<sup>nd</sup> National LGBTI Ageing and Aged care forum, Case discussion complex trauma and co-occurring issues, Principles in practice-Supporting Survivors of Complex Trauma, Working Collaboratively to address the social and emotional wellbeing of older LGBTI people, Case discussion Dissociative Identity, Mental Health practitioner Course, Working together to support people who self-harm, Working collaboratively to manage co-morbid mental health and methamphetamine use Timely diagnosis of Dementia, Working with Clients with Hepatitis C - Hepatitis NSW, LGBTI Aging - Australian Association of Gerontology, The Aged Rights Service Forum, Living Well, Living Longer Seminar, The Suicide Closet Workshop, Fire Training, Governance workshop, Hoarding Workshop, Mental Health Recovery Workshop, Jung Society Workshop: Ageing; Planning Ahead Seminar; Client Information Management Systems, Trauma-Informed Care for Caseworkers, First Aid Course, Mental Health First Aid.

# Service Provider Training To:

TAFE

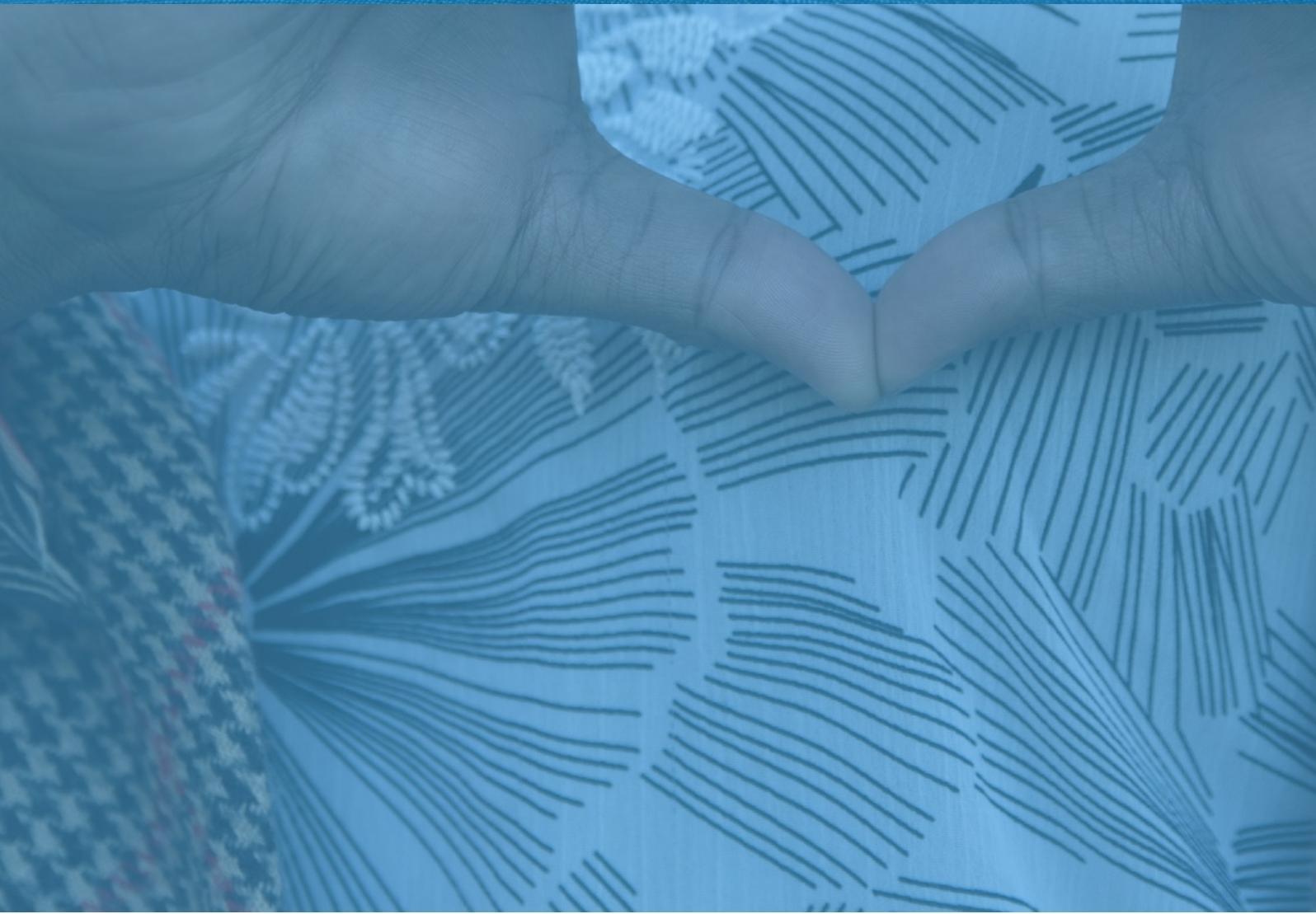
POLICE  
FORCE  
OF NSW

MENTAL  
HEALTH  
UNITS

ACCIDENT &  
EMERGENCY  
DEPARTMENT

SCHOOLS

UNIVERSITIES



# Training & Community

## Community:

Transgender  
Day of  
Remembrance

Valories

Camp Us

Gender  
Centre  
Ambassador

Podcasting

Media

## Gender Centre Ambassador

Introducing Katherine Wolfgramme, the Gender Centre's Ambassador. Katherine has been working incredibly hard this year, raising funds and spreading the word about the Gender Centre's work.

Katherine has taken on the role of president of the 2019 Transgender Day of Remembrance committee and after her amazing work on TDoR 2018 our 20th anniversary day of remembrance will be something to remember.

We're excited to have Katherine on board and look forward to many more years of working with her.





## Camp Us

For three days in late 2018 the Gender Centre gathered 36 TGD young people, the majority of whom were from rural and remote areas.

We ran both adventure and social activities, built friendships and resilience, and got TGD young people to connect with other TGD young people and to share their experience of discrimination, bullying as well as the challenges of being gender diverse. Camp Us was a huge success. Parents were ecstatic. For weeks after we continued to hear how much each young person was changed by our camp. The Gender Centre is very proud to announce that due to the amazing support of the University of Sydney Union, The Gender Centre will be able to run the camp at the beginning of 2020, 2021 and 2023.

# Transgender Day of Remembrance

For a number of years the Gender Centre, in partnership with the NSW Police Force, the City of Sydney and the Inner City Legal Centre have held the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance on two dates. One on the actual day of remembrance (20 November) and the second on the closest Friday to that date at NSW Parliament House.

2018 TDoR was the largest gathering of community members and allies that we have ever seen, with approximately 350 participants attending Harmony Park.

TDoR 2018 included a diverse range of speakers from a range of backgrounds and identities. The highlight of the event occurred in the final moments of the remembrance when with the swelling chorus of the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Choir community and allies were invited to light a candle and place it amongst fallen Jacaranda blossoms at the base of the tree.

It was an extremely moving tribute to the transgender and gender diverse dead and the Gender Centre would like to thank all those who worked incredibly hard to make 2018 TDoR one of our most successful.

## TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE 2018

Harmony Park, Surry Hills  
20 NOVEMBER 6:30pm-8:30pm



EVERY THREE DAYS A **TGD**  
PERSON IS KILLED SOMEWHERE IN THE **WORLD**



Robert Knapman Photography



Robert Knapman Photography

# Valorie Awards

This year the Gender Centre kicked off the inaugural Valorie awards. With a very kind grant from the AURORA Foundation. With the money raised at an AURORA supper, we have been able to identify journalists and media personalities whose work has improved the representation of transgender and gender diverse people.



**Ben Law**

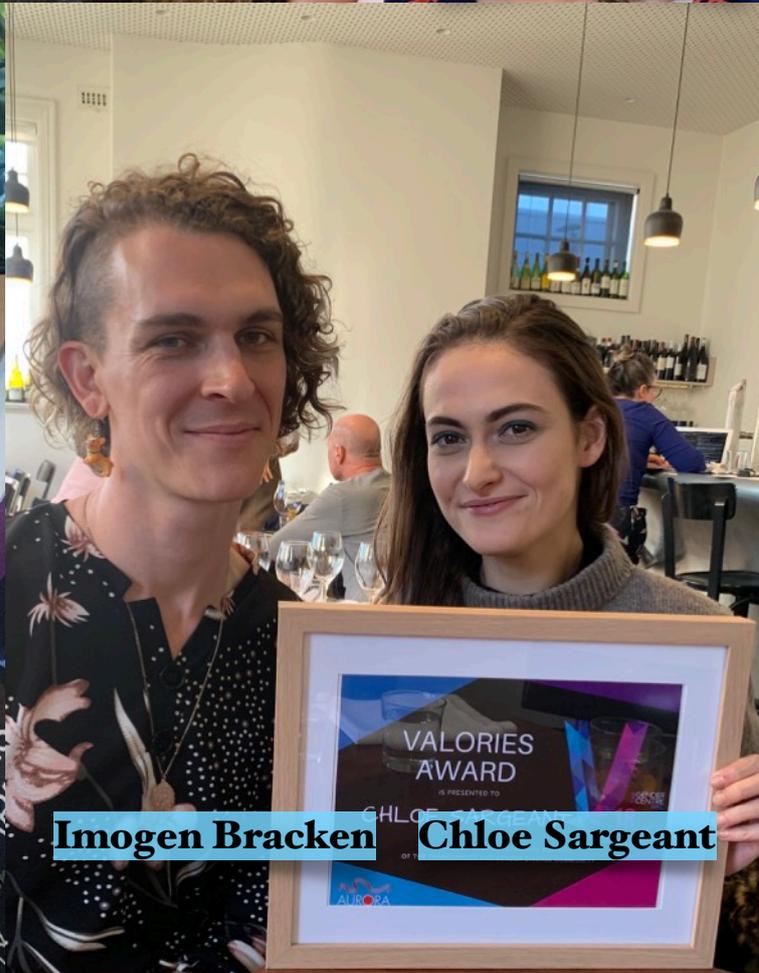
**Julie Low**



**Maeve Marsden**



**Amy Middleton**



**Imogen Bracken**

**Chloe Sargeant**

# Podcasting

Supported by a grant from the Inner West Council, the Gender Centre released its first podcast in 2018/19. Trigger Happy is a multi-episode podcast that explores anxiety triggers common to transgender and gender diverse people.

Presented by GC Counsellor Candy and Psychologist Ellis, both hosts work together to offer understanding of anxiety triggers and focus on the techniques particularly useful to a transgender and gender diverse audience.



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**Governance**



# Governance

## Board Of Directors

The directors are constituted in the terms of the "Associations Incorporation Act 1984" and the organisation in general, including the director's functions as provided by the act and the

No service can function well without an effective and committed Board, and as Executive Director of the Gender Centre I look forward to many more years of committed and dedicated Board members assisting the service to function effectively.

### Current Board

<i>Dr Col Edgington</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Caroline Bugg</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Timon Chakma</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Maggie Smith</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Rachel Smith</i>	<i>Vice-President</i>
<i>Virginia Makay</i>	
<i>Kimmi Everson</i>	
<i>Eva Karaginnis</i>	
<i>Danielle Miller (resigned)</i>	
<i>Rainer Jardin (resigned)</i>	

# Who We are: Staff

## Current Staff

<i>Phinn Borg</i>	<i>Executive Director</i>
<i>Elizabeth Ceissman</i>	<i>Senior Case Worker</i>
<i>Candy Jacques</i>	<i>Counsellor</i>
<i>Birdie</i>	<i>Case Worker</i>
<i>Robert Knapman</i>	<i>Case Worker</i>
<i>Viola Leyshon</i>	<i>Case Worker(resigned)</i>
<i>Natalie De Silver</i>	<i>Case Worker(resigned)</i>
<i>Alex Dickson</i>	<i>Case Worker</i>
<i>Katherine Cummings</i>	<i>Resources &amp; Polare (resigned)</i>
<i>Eloise Brook</i>	<i>Media manager</i>

## Psychologists

*Dr Sinead Berry*  
*Dr James Morandini*  
*Ellis Hartland*  
*Ella Wufong*

## Students

*Benjamin Hanson*  
*Morgan Prendergast*  
*Shannon Crankow*

## Volunteers

*Rachel Smith, Gaye Stubbs*

## Gender Centre Ambassador

*Katherine Wolfgramme*

## Contractors

*Tim Kitto Serena Cooray Aquila Wolf Wild, Anthony Carlino, Trent Clarke*

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## Acknowledgments

# Acknowledgments

## Our Supporters

I would like to thank all the individuals and organisations who kindly donated their time, effort, patience, goods and services and/or cash donations to the Gender Centre throughout this financial year.

## Funding Bodies

The Gender Centre would like to thank our funding bodies, the Department of Family and Community Services (Specialist Homelessness Service (SHS) program), Sydney Local Area Health District for their ongoing financial support during the past year, Wentworth Community Housing, Far West LHD and Central and Eastern Sydney Primary Health Network.

## NSW Department of Communities & Justice Funded Projects

Homelessness prevention and community awareness of homelessness;

Early intervention homelessness support (i.e.

Post crisis support;

Supported homelessness accommodation service;

Crisis and transitional supported independent living (i.e. case management).

## Sydney Local Heath District Funded Projects

Supporting and providing services to clients experiencing gender and health related issues;

Providing individualised specialist counselling services;

Providing specialised support groups for transgender youth, parents and families;

Providing wrap around health support services to transgender and gender diverse people;

Provided a secondary NSP program;

Provide expert consultancy and advice to school counsellors and principals to retain gender questioning youth in the education system;

Provide outreach support to transgender and gender questioning sex workers;

Maintaining links with other support organisation.

## Central & Eastern Sydney Primary Health Network Projects

Supporting and providing services to clients experiencing gender and health related issues;

Supporting and providing services to clients experiencing gender and health related issues;

Provide short term face to face psychological therapies to transgender gender divers and gender questioning people experiencing mild to moderate mental health concerns.

## Wentworth Community Housing Projects

Homelessness prevention and community awareness of homelessness;

Early intervention homelessness support (i.e. case-management);

Post crisis support;

Supported homelessness accommodation service; crisis and transitional

Supported independent living (i.e. case-management).

# Far West Local Health District

Provision of on-site visits to Dubbo, Orange, Bathurst Sexual Health Service.

Provide Western NSW LHD community's access to the state-wide specialist counselling support services of The Gender Centre;

Provide a specialist case worker to engage transgender and gender questioning clients with specialist case management, support, information, referrals and access to resources;

# Albion St T150 Clinic

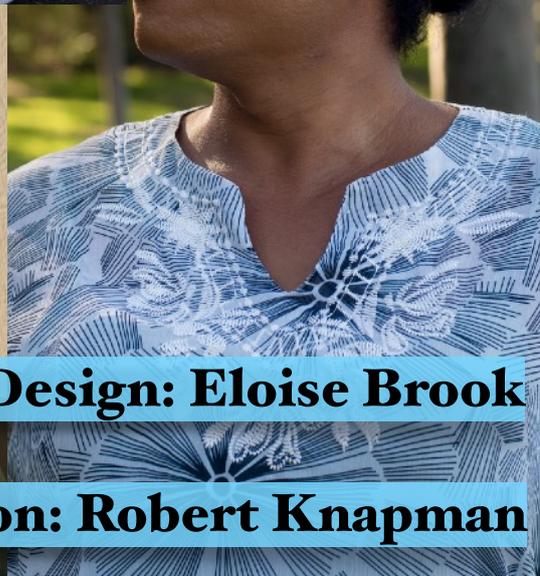
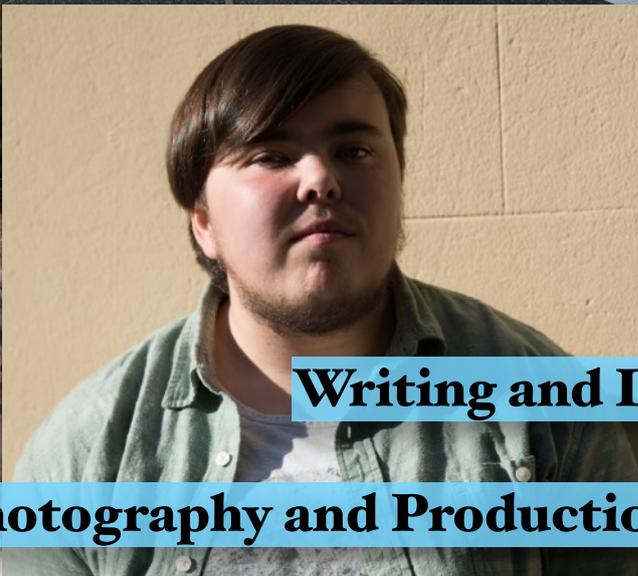
Provide a peer worker every Tuesday.

# One Off Grants

Aurora Group

Inner-West Council  
Street Smart  
University of Sydney Union

# WE GENDER HIT CENTRE SERVICES FOR THE TRANSGENDER AND GENDER DIVERSE COMMUNITY INC



**Writing and Design: Eloise Brook**

**Photography and Production: Robert Knapman**

**THE** GENDER  
CENTRE  
**INC**



**Vale Roberta: 1940 -2018**