

2022 Annual Report



CHAIR & CEO REPORT

The year 2022 proved to be challenging, yet rewarding for The Centre in many ways, highlighted by the below significant events:



Pictured above (left to right): Sue Geals (CEO) & Carol Nolan (Chair)

April

- We celebrate the 30th birthday of the Community Visitors Scheme
- Felicity Williams, our CEO, left to pursue new challenges

August

- Sue Geals commenced as the new CEO
- Financial predicament requiring organisational restructure was announced
- We were announced as a Finalist in the Learn Local Awards for our

'I am' program, a short course for self-empowerment, with winners to be announced in early 2023

October

- The Centre celebrated 60 years of proudly serving our community
- Our Seymour campus was inundated during the floods
- Mary Verdon wins the 2022 Anne Pennington Award

November

- The ACFE Board and the Department of Education and Training announced additional support for The Centre and other Learn Locals and community-based training providers

Our learners, clients, staff and Board have shown their resilience and adaptability throughout the ups and downs of the year. We thank and congratulate them for this.

Thank you to our Board who donate their time and energies, and to our staff and volunteers for their ongoing support and hard work.

We commend the 2022 annual report to you and look forward to working with you in 2023 for the benefits of our communities.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Nolan and Sue Geals

BOARD MEMBERS

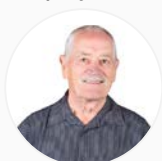
Chair

Deputy Chair

Treasurer



Carol Nolan



Harry Westendorp



Dion Stevenson



Linda Huzzey



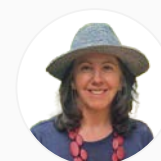
Graeme Domm



Dianne Flashman
(until 06/09/2022)



Kirsten Williams
(until 3/10/2022)



Eliza-Beth Brennan
(from 01/12/2022)

KEY FIGURES

COMMUNITY



64% OF PARTICIPANTS started training or found work through our Reconnect Program



1700 VISITS to isolated elderly by **61 community volunteers**



Our Jobs Victoria mentoring program so far has **helped 19 people into work**



28 carers supported in work and employment skills

SPORT & RECREATION



21 women were mentored in leadership skills for sporting clubs

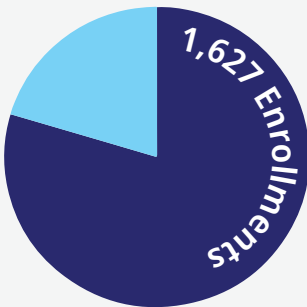


50 children at small schools engaged in sport and active recreation

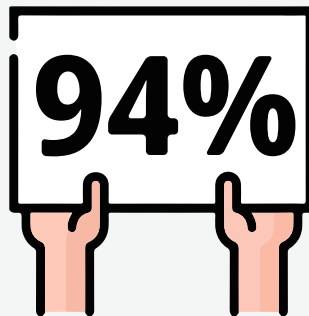


We helped educate **97 members** of sport clubs in dealing with mental health issues

LEARNING

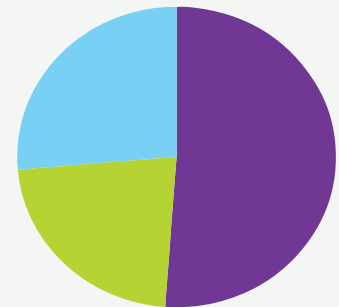


We saw **1,627 total enrollments**, of these **417 identified as having a disability**



94% of learners were satisfied with their learning resources

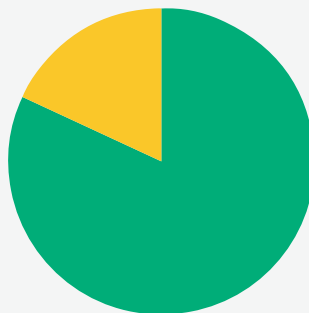
■ Fee for Service: **832** ■ Skills First: **366**
■ Pre-accredited: **429**



Total number of enrollments per course category



89.1% of learners would recommend The Centre for training



We welcomed **366 skills first learners** of which **81 were trainees**



91.3% of learners were satisfied with their training overall

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In 2022, The Centre enrolled 366 new learners in Skills First Training, 166 learners in Foundation Programs and 200 in Industry Qualifications across the Hume region. Of these learners, 101 identified as having a disability, and 259 reported as being unemployed and seeking work.

We delivered 44,045 hours of Learn Local pre-accredited training to 429 learners of whom 159 identified as having a disability.

We enrolled 832 learners into fee-for-service courses. 157 of them identified as having a disability, and 567 learners reported to be unemployed and seeking work.



We built relationships for fee-for-service courses with Benalla Rural City and Wangaratta Rural City. We provided hospitality training to 104 youth to help them into work and help employers find qualified staff.

First Aid and Responsible Service of Alcohol were our most popular courses. Farm Chemical Users Course has seen a significant increase in demand.

The Centre has built close relationships with the Workforce Australia Service Providers within our region. We work closely with Madec, CVGT, Asuria and APM in Wangaratta, Benalla,

Yarrowonga, Shepparton and Seymour. Our collaboration has led to more individual client-centred work. It has been amazingly rewarding to help learners grow as individuals and follow their path to learning and employment.

Traineeships

We worked with employers in the region on school-based apprenticeships and traineeships (SBAT). We trained 20 people in Education Support, 12 in Health Services, 27 in Disability, and 22 in Aged Care across the region.

Our **Ability Me program**, for people with a disability, found 12 participants in collaboration with Menzies in Alexandra.

Life and Work Skills

The Centre and the Department of Justice and Community Safety co-designed a Pre-Accredited Learn Local Program for people who need to complete community work. The Community Work - Placement Preparation Program supported learners in professional behaviour expected in a workplace, including personal and professional conduct, work ethics, occupational violence and dispute resolution. The Pilot Program had 18 learners with 15 successfully completing the program.

The Centre formed a relationship with the Shepparton Drug Court, a post-sentence program for rehabilitation and treatment of offenders with drug and/or alcohol dependency. The Centre has joined this team to deliver Educational Programs with '*I am*', a person-centred therapeutic program, and '*Step-Up to Getting There*', a Language, Literacy and Numeracy program, to support them in reading, writing and numeracy in everyday situations. The Centre saw 12 learners in this program with all 12 completing the program.

ENGAGEMENT, SUPPORT & EMPLOYMENT



We enrolled 58 participants into our **Reconnect Program** for support to get back to training and work in Wangaratta, Benalla, Mansfield, Strathbogie, Mitchell and Greater Shepparton. It is part of a Victorian Government initiative to help people between 17 and 64 who are long-term unemployed or at risk of unemployment.

Out of our 58 participants, 64% enrolled in pre-accredited or accredited training or achieved an employment outcome.

We used brokerage funds to support them for a range of purposes including: course fees, laptops, driving lessons, bicycles, mobile phones, hairdressing materials, butchers' knives, allied health fees, dentistry, fuel and groceries.

We registered 141 participants into our **Jobs Victoria Mentor Program** and helped 19 of those secure employment. 14 have already been able to sustain employment for over 26 weeks. Our Learner Engagement and Employment Officers walked beside them all the way and helped them address barriers to stay employed.

We enrolled 15 young people who had been on Youth Justice Orders or were at risk of doing so into our **Finding Strengths Youth Program** and worked intensively with them to help them engage in education and employment.



Pictured above: Sports North East Team along with local psychologist for Milawa Football Netball Club, delivering the Tackle Your Feelings Program

AFL Collaboration

In collaboration with AFL North East Border, Sport North East facilitated 6 sessions with 10 clubs and 97 participants of Tackle Your Feelings, along with 2 local psychologists. Tackle Your Feelings is a mental health training program for sporting club leadership and volunteers to be better prepared to tackle mental health concerns.

Two specific sessions involved 49 umpires.

SNE looks forward to facilitating more sessions across the region in 2023.

Learn Support Lead

The Learn Support Lead program, funded by Regional Sport Victoria and the June Canavan Foundation, empowers women to become leaders in sport in North East Victoria. In 2022, the program had 21 participants from 17 sporting clubs delivered across 8 workshops. The Learn support Lead network was launched in November, by Helen Haines.

Community Sporting Program

SNE organised 13 physical activity sessions for 50 students at Everton Primary School and Wooragee Primary School. This is part of the Schools Program, which will continue in 2023.

Flood Funding Initiative

19 sporting clubs in our area that were affected by floods received initial funding of \$5000 from Sport & Recreation Victoria. Sport North East supports clubs with their funding applications for further funding, and provides extra support where possible.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Visitors Scheme

The Community Visitors Scheme, funded by the Australian Government, this year saw its 30th birthday and 61 active volunteers pay over 1700 visits to socially isolated elderly in an aged care facility or at home. It also received extra funding from the Jack Brockoff Foundation to encourage volunteers to bring their pets on their visits. Carol Rivers deserves special mention for her 5 years of volunteer service.

Carers Employment Support Program

The Carers Employment Support Program, funded by The Victorian government, engaged 28 carers to support them in finding training and work that is compatible with their caring commitments. Each carer benefits from individual case management by a professional from The Centre. The contract has been renewed for 2023 to reach more carers.



Pictured above: 30th CVS birthday celebration

QUALITY AND COMPLIANCE

We put CHC30221 Certificate III in School Based Education Support and new courses in hospitality on our scope to meet the needs of our community and learners.

We developed new assessment templates and easier-to-access Learner Handbooks to support learners to be successful in their learning and assessment.



OUR VISION

Brighter futures, thriving communities.

Financial report is available at:
www.thecentre.vic.edu.au

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