"Neighbourhood Houses are the heart of our communities."

They bring people together to **connect**, **learn** & **contribute** to their local community through social, educational, recreational & support activities.



Neighbourhood Houses Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria, their diversity, histories and knowledge, and their continuing connections to land and community. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders and community members, past, present and emerging.

Always was, always will be, Aboriginal land.

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Linking our work to the global goals

THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

NHVic is committed to highlighting how the work of Neighbourhood Houses (NHs) contributes towards progressing the United Nation's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We want to demonstrate that local community development work has a global impact— everything we do is part of a bigger picture!

Throughout this report, you will see the following icons displayed where the Global Goal is relevant to the work being described.

To find out more about the SDGs, visit **globalgoals.org**



Our People

Board

PRESIDENT:
Beth Davidson OAM

VICE PRESIDENT:
Antonia (Toni) Halloran-Lavelle

TREASURER:
David Roff

SECRETARY:
Jennifer Keerie

ORDINARY MEMBERS:
Arna O'Connell
Jo Herbig
Judy Lazarus AM
Lydia Wheeler
Simone Christie

THANK YOU TO OUR FY25/26 RESIGNING MEMBERS:
John Bainbridge



Staff

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:
Keir Paterson

POLICY & RESEARCH MANAGER:
David Perry

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER:
Brittany Prentice

FINANCE MANAGER:
Misa Le Vo

FINANCE OFFICER:
Lola Kroger

PROJECT MANAGER:
Kiera Moloney

MEMBER ADMIN & SUPPORT OFFICER:
Kass McDonald

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER:
Hal Hiramatsu

AREA SUPPORT MANAGER:
Jane Grimwood
Renae Knight

THANK YOU TO STAFF WHO LEFT IN FY25/26:

- ***Toni Baldwin***
  Area Support Manager
- ***Mary Francis***
  Locum Manager

Thanks to Libby Mears (Acting CEO) for stepping in to support our team during a turbulent time.

Who We Are

Neighbourhood Houses Victoria is the peak body member association for neighbourhood and community houses and learning centres, representing a membership of over 400 community-based organisations across Victoria.

We are a trusted source of:

- Focus on financial discipline
- Strengthen our governance
- Enhance member value proposition in line with our peak function
- Strengthen sector relationships and roles
- Embed sector community development focus

Our vision

Connecting thriving Victorian communities

Our mission

To lead and support all members to be innovative, sustainable and influential

Prahran Place
Kids Workshops



Our President

The Board of NHVic welcomed many new faces during this financial year, bringing renewed energy and optimism following a challenging period for the organisation. These new members were complemented by several longer-serving voices who provided valuable continuity, context, and historical perspective, particularly Board member John Bainbridge and CEO Keir Paterson.

From the outset, the Board established a strong commitment to focusing on the future and rebuilding the organisation beyond its recent financial difficulties. At the same time, we recognised the importance of developing a clear understanding of the factors that had led our once-strong organisation to the brink of significant financial distress. By learning from these experiences, we aim to ensure that warning signs are identified and addressed much earlier in the future.

We acknowledge the efforts of the immediate past President and Treasurer who, in collaboration with CEO Keir, recognised the seriousness of the situation, took decisive action to address urgent financial challenges, and helped establish a clear path forward for the organisation.

The incoming committee quickly saw that the intense financial focus meant that other governance matters needed addressing. Our first task was to set a Strategic Plan for the following year, a plan built on our purposes as stated in the Constitution and our role as defined in the NHCP Guidelines.

"With a renewed Board and a highly committed small team of paid staff, our intention by the end of 2027 is to re-stabilise NHVic as a credible and relevant leadership body, lift the quality of support to the neighbourhood house sector, champion the role of community development, and ensure transparent and competent governance and management of NHVic, working in close collaboration with our members and stakeholders."
- excerpt from SP 2026/7

The five pillars we adopted to guide our journey were;

- Focus on financial discipline
- Strengthen our governance
- Enhance member value in line with our peak function
- Strengthen sector relationships and roles
- Embed sector community development focus.

In seeking to understand the thinking that led to the recent turbulence, I reviewed past Annual Reports from both NHVic and NHV Assist. It became evident that, some years ago, NHVic embarked on a growth trajectory and expanded its service delivery functions without the governance frameworks, policies, procedures, and controls necessary to support that growth. In doing so, the organisation gradually lost sight of its core role as a member-focused peak body.

Such shifts in purpose are often difficult to recognise at the time and are only clearly visible in the rear-view mirror. There is an important lesson in this for all organisations. Maintaining a clear focus on mission and purpose requires ongoing discipline, particularly during periods of external pressure and uncertainty, such as the current cost-of-living challenges and political volatility.

Mission drift is real. It rarely occurs suddenly or deliberately. Rather, it develops incrementally through a series of decisions that may appear reasonable in isolation but, over time, move an organisation away from its fundamental purpose. Its effects can be profound and, if left unchecked, can undermine both governance and organisational sustainability.

The Board's refocus has quickly seen a rebuilding of trust in the membership and other stakeholders. Membership trust had been shaken during the time of challenge, so communication with members has been key a focus. Regular updates from the Board, our 'roadshow' where we have attempted to speak with every Network and its members (ongoing), responsiveness to member issues have all been important to us. I am now getting feedback that the transparency, openness and leadership we are demonstrating is rebuilding the trust and understanding of members in the critical role of NHVic as your peak.

This refocus was timely, for it inadvertently coincided with the State Government relaunch of the NHCP Guidelines. The guidelines reinforce our role as the peak, reinforce the role of Networks as the key service delivery partner and reiterates that all our work is based on community development practice. As a sector, this can make it both easier and harder for us depending where our current focus on meeting community needs lies. Some of us may need to reorientate programs to meet the CD focus, yet it's now even clearer that receipt of the NHCP requires us to meet these parameters. At NHVic we have welcomed the clarity in the relaunched guidelines.

The Board of 25/26 have worked as one, welcoming wide-ranging explorative discussion that have informed collaborative decisions. It has been a delight and a privilege to work with you in the presidential leadership role as you each bring your own perspective and experience to the table on behalf of our members. I want to again acknowledge the quiet and supportive role of John, who resigned in May acknowledging that he felt he could step down because he had confidence in the direction of the Board. Thanks John. I also acknowledge the ongoing commitment of CEO Keir and his small hard-working team who have been giving their all.

As I write this, reflecting on the busy, challenging, demanding eight months behind us it's difficult not to look also to the future. There is still a long way to go internally to build all the policies and procedures a heathy, stable organisation requires. Externally, our hope, optimism and concern regarding achieving sustainable funding for our hard working, big achieving sector is ongoing. Our gratitude to all our members across the state for the difference you are making to the lives of so many in our communities and concern for your health and wellbeing is also ongoing.

To the extent that its possible, we have your back!

Yours in community,

Beth

Beth Davidson OAM
President
Neighbourhood Houses Victoria





Cann River Community Centre; *Fern & Feather Community owned Training Café*



Central Ringwood Community Centre; *Youth Festival*



Our CEO

This has been a year of transition for Neighbourhood Houses Victoria, and one in which our organisation and sector have demonstrated resilience, purpose and the power of community.

Following two years of significant losses, the restructure undertaken in 2024–25, together with stronger financial management and reporting, has delivered a surplus of $237,000. This represents a turnaround of almost $600,000 and has substantially progressed the repair of our balance sheet, with assets lagging liabilities by only $80,000 at 30 June 2026. This result provides a firmer foundation for the work ahead.

Our advocacy campaign also showed the strength and determination of our movement. Tens of thousands of postcards were delivered to MPs' offices, more than 400 neighbourhood house workers and volunteers gathered on the steps of Parliament, and petitions carrying over 11,000 signatures were tabled. This collective action has helped bring the sector's funding crisis into sharper focus.

The challenge is urgent: close to half of all neighbourhood houses have operated at a loss for three consecutive years. Others have reduced opening hours, staffing and programs simply to remain viable, representing an estimated $233 million in lost value to communities. Yet the most important story is what the sector continues to achieve despite these pressures. Each week, 192,000 people access their local neighbourhood house—finding opportunities to learn, contribute, connect and belong.

We were pleased to partner with the Parliament of Victoria on Community Participation Grants. The initiatives supported through this program recognise the vital role neighbourhood houses play in strengthening civic participation and creating practical pathways for people to engage in advocacy and our democracy.

With Victorian Government support, we also partnered with Environment Victoria to share information about the health and environmental benefits of electrification, delivering 30 events across metropolitan Melbourne. As a Community Outreach Partner for round five of the Power Saving Bonus, we assisted 17,000 eligible Victorians facing language, literacy or digital access barriers to claim the bonus and check they were receiving the best available energy pricing.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication, teamwork and talent of the NHVic team. I can't thank them enough, both for their hard work and the mutual care that they show each other and our members every day.

The organisation also experienced significant governance change, with almost complete Board turnover at our last AGM. I extend my sincere thanks to the outgoing Board—particularly President Shima Ibuki, Secretary Linda Wakeham and Treasurer Vicki Coltman—for their active support and engagement throughout our restructure and financial turnaround.

I also thank the incoming Board, led by President Beth Davidson OAM, for the energy, focus and care they have brought to their roles, ensuring continuity through a period of considerable adjustment.

After a year centred on operational and governance improvements, I am excited to work with the Board, Networks and our broader membership to develop a long-term strategy for the neighbourhood house sector as a whole.

While the challenges before us are significant, our long-term thinking will remain grounded in "what's strong, not what's wrong". The contribution neighbourhood houses and community centres make to social cohesion, belonging and connection is increasingly recognised—and more needed than ever. Together, we will continue to champion that contribution and build a sustainable future for our sector and the communities it serves.

In community,

Keir Paterson
Chief Executive Officer
Neighbourhood Houses Victoria



Long Gully Neighbourhood Centre; *Foodshare*



Springvale Neighbourhood House; *A Heart Full of Harmony*



Caulfield South Community House

Open Gate

Sector Impact

441,930
sessions of activities and programs run

5,712
employees in the workforce

67,062
combined hours per week

$972m
million dollars in value to Victorian communities

$22.23 for every **$1** of NHCP funding

13,766
volunteers for **34,496** hours of volunteer work

6,524
community organisations and groups supported

192,053
Victorians visit a Neighbourhood House each week

305,876 kg
Food relief per month

$238,229
material relief per month

10,711
referrals each month

3,126
funding applications

Stronger, Healthier Communities

programs

61%
computer training or digital literacy

55%
pre-accredited/Non-accredited adult education & training

53%
children's activities (5-12)

51%
environmental sustainability projects / groups

48%
senior's groups (60+)

35%
community newspaper / magazine / newsletter

31.5%
programs for carers

23%
English as an additional language (EAL) training/ English conversation

67%
Food relief (e.g. food parcels, breakfast clubs, food bank, etc.)

69%
Gardening groups/clubs/activities

83%
Referral (both formal & informal)

42%
Waste reduction / recycling (batteries, phones etc.)

64%
Library service / book swap

71%
Public computer / internet access

services

Our Year In Numbers

1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026

our members

433
total members

43
associate members

18
local government associate members

promoting our sector

7,103
Facebook page followers

2,223
Instagram page followers

1,732
LinkedIn page followers

38
Online events

our sector across Victoria!



229
Metropolitan NHs

58
NHs in Regional/Rural populations greater than 10,000

51
NHs in Rural populations between 3,000 and 10,000

90
NHs in Rural populations below 3,000

NHVic Campaign: KEEP OUR DOORS OPEN

The Keep Our Doors Open Campaign kicked off in October 2025 with a launch event at Collingwood Neighbourhood House. It was great to see so many faces in person and online, showing up to support our sector.

Our asks:

- Restore funding with a 25% increase
- Fund 25 unfunded Neighbourhood Houses
- Establish a growth fund for 5 additional Neighbourhood Houses each year

The campaign addresses the unsustainable funding currently facing the sector, with 46% of Neighbourhood Houses facing a deficit three years in a row and opening hours dropping to their lowest level in a decade.

The Victorian Government must restore funding to keep communities connected.

Over 80,000 postcards have been signed and sent to the State Government!

From October through to February, our communities rallied to let the Minister know why Neighbourhood Houses are so important.

The turnout from community members and the hard work from our sector in getting postcards signed was incredibly uplifting and affirming. The messages of support shared by participants were incredibly touching.

Handing postcards to local MPs might have stopped a few from reaching the intended Minister, but it meant that every single MP knew about our cause and got the message loud and clear.

We have it on good authority that Minister Luba Grigorovitch MP inherited our hard work upon taking the office - the postcards live on!

Check out the NHVic campaign details here: nhvic.org.au/2026-campaign



NHVic Campaign: Day of Action



Dear Minister Spence,

Strong communities start in shared spaces and shared moments. Neighbourhood Houses are essential for fostering those moments and connections. **Every week, 185,000 people access Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria** for resilience, friendship, wellbeing, learning, inclusion, and connection.

Neighbourhood Houses have faced rising costs, increasing community need and an erosion of core funding. Our funding no longer covers staff wages, let alone operational costs. Around half of all Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria are running at a loss. **This cannot continue.**

We are asking you to urgently restore funding to historical levels through a 25% increase, allowing Neighbourhood Houses to continue providing communities with essential support and connection.

Best Regards,

Sign:

Name:

Address:

- Increase funding for Neighbourhood Houses by 25%
- Support 25 Neighbourhood Houses who do not currently receive any ongoing funding
- Develop a fund for the establishment of 5 additional Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria's growth areas annually

Why I love my Neighbourhood House:

To :

Ros Spence MP

Level 22, 50 Lonsdale Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

If undeliverable, please return to Neighbourhood Houses Victoria, Shop B41, Level 4 744 Bourke Street, Docklands VIC, 3008



Orwil Street Community House; *NHVic Campaign Postcards*



Bridge Darebin; *NHVic Campaign Postcards*

NHVic Campaign: DAY OF ACTION

Neighbourhood Houses showed up big time on the steps of Parliament in February! With more than 400 voices, we could not be ignored.

We had representation from every corner of Victoria, from Red Cliffs to Gippsland to Anglesea! We also had plenty of MPs on the steps with us to show their support.

We heard from the Houses and from the participants, and had an encore performance of the incredible campaign song by Liz Skitch and Kristilee Ransley.

The passion and energy on the day was contagious, and we're so grateful for everyone who was able to make it out – we know it was not easy to make the time.

The campaign has been highlighted in media all over, from our many appearances on ABC Radio, to regional local media, and even a segment on 9 News.

A massive thank you to everyone who spoke to media, shared and contributed to media releases, and generally helped our cause gain attention and momentum.



NHVic Campaign: Day of Action

NHVic Campaign: PETITION

We received 6,578 signatures on the e-petition addressed to the House of Representatives, tabled by Martha Haylett MP on 8 September.

We received an additional 5,658 signatures on the paper petition addressed to the Council, tabled by Melina Bath MP on 24 September.

With a quick turnaround of 4-6 weeks, this is an incredible result that demonstrates the collective power of our sector and our communities.

We continue campaigning in the lead up to the election.

Thank you to the Networkers and Tony Milne for your substantial efforts in guiding and driving this campaign with us.



The NHVic Campaign: Day of Action







NHVic Campaign
Day of Action

Highlights

Parliament of Victoria

Civic Partnership Projects

Civic Participation Project

Our partnership with Parliament of Victoria offered an opportunity for Neighbourhood Houses to promote and provide education and/or experiences around civic participation, engagement with parliament and understanding of democracy in their communities.

This program ran for the first time, aiming to increase community understanding and confidence in:

- Civic participation
- Democratic process
- Advocacy
- Civic leadership

As part of the partnership in 2026, 13 Neighbourhood Houses across Victoria received grant funding with a total of 4,690 community members reached across all the events.

These events included visits to Parliament, workshops, development of useful materials, and even some incredible artwork and murals!

We're incredibly grateful that Parliament of Victoria will be working on this with us again in 2027 and look forward to the next round of success stories!

You can read about their projects parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/community-connections/civic-partnership-projects/





Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre; *Civic Participation Project*



Chelsea Heights Community Centre; *Civic Participation Project*



North and West Melbourne Neighbourhood Centre

Parliament Visit

NHVic Awards

NHVic Awards 2025!

The annual NHVic Awards program recognise the incredible efforts of NHs around Victoria, celebrating their passion and commitment to making a difference in their local communities.

The six award categories are aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals to highlight the powerful role of local action amongst our neighbourhood house sector in addressing global challenges.

- Social Enterprise
- Community Resilience
- Gender Equity
- Climate Action
- Reducing Inequalities
- Good Health and Well-Being

The 2025 award finalists will be announced at our 2026 AGM.





Prahran Place; *Walking Group*



Highlights

Neighbourhood House Week

From 11 to 17 May, Neighbourhood Community Houses and Centres across Australia opened their doors for Neighbourhood Community House and Centre Week (NCHCW) 2026, celebrating this year's theme, "Your Place to Connect."

Across the country, Houses and Centres brought their communities together through lunches, workshops, open days, morning teas and thousands of locally designed events.

Australia's Largest Community-Led Lunch initiative in Victoria

- 117 events (244 aus)
- 2,995 meals (7,434 aus)
- 3,474 people (9,080 aus)

Neighbourhood House Week 2026 was a powerful reminder that Houses and Centres are the places where people show up, feel welcome and find connection. They are Australia's largest place-based community infrastructure, and this week showed exactly why.



Aspendale Gardens Community Service; *NHW 30 Years*





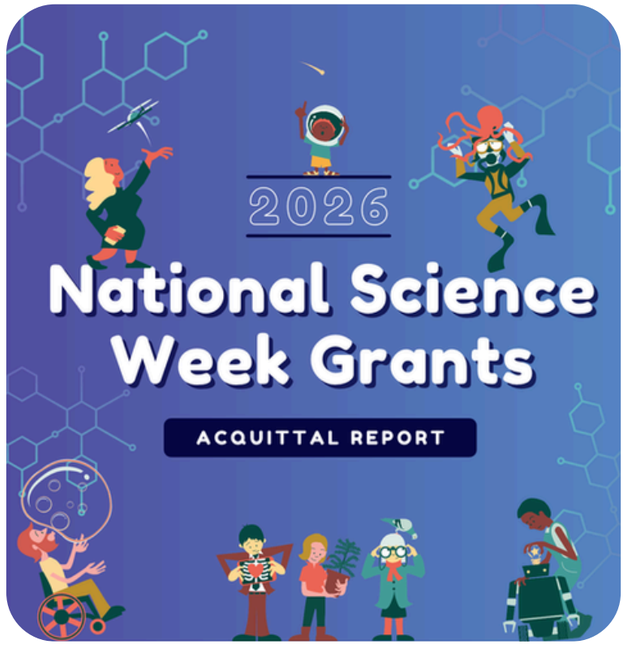
Highlights

National Science Week

Once again, NHVic partnered with the Royal Society of Victoria (RSV) to offer grant funding to Neighbourhood Houses around Victoria to produce, advertise and deliver events for National Science Week.

There were 18 grants that were awarded to Neighbourhood Houses all around the state for National Science Week events. This year, there were 582 attendees and 60 volunteers across all events, highlighting the strong community interest and involvement in science-focused activities.

National Science Week aims to promote interest in science, engineering, mathematics, technology and innovation; and to communicate the relevance of all these areas in our everyday life.





South Kingsville Community Centre



Arrabri Community House



Chelsea Heights Community Centre



Central Ringwood Community Centre



Djerriwarrh Community & Education Services



Jika Jika Community Centre



Long Gully Neighbourhood Centre

Highlights

Power Saving Bonus

The fifth round of the Power Saving Bonus ran from 25 August 2025 to 31 March 2026, with 266 Neighbourhood Houses participating in the program across all 79 local government areas.

15,975 successful Power Saving Bonus applications were processed, vastly overperforming the initial contracted amount of 10,000 applicants, this effort generated $1,694,600 of PSB payments into the community.

Additionally, 14,231 of these community members had their energy bill checked for additional savings by Neighbourhood house staff and volunteers who found that of these applicants:

- 1,677 were not claiming the Annual Electricity Concession they were eligible for, representing a 17.6% discount on their energy bills.
- 4,403 had a cheaper energy offer available
- 522 Were referred to the Energy Assistance Program for further assistance with existing Energy Debts.

Through these checks applicants gained additional savings up to $4000.

"While assisting an individual with the PSB, I showed them how to read their electricity account. They were very happy I helped them change to a plan saving $620/per year. The individual has a deteriorating health condition, every cent counts."
– Charmaine, Donald Learning Group

"A man came in seeking help for the PSB, and he was very happy we could help as he didn't have a computer. He told me how much he was struggling but he had never asked for anyone's help before, and how much of a difference the $100 was going to make. I told him we have a free food program on Mondays, and he came back for this."
– Heather, Rye Community House



Laurels Education and Training; *Bring a Bill Day*



Today I processed a PSB bill for [applicant name]. I noticed he was paying nearly $1,400 too much on his electricity bill and advised him to contact his power company to request a lower plan. Later that afternoon, [applicant] phoned to let me know he moved to a cheaper electricity and gas plan. He thanked me, saying the changes would save him over $2,000, which as a pensioner made an enormous difference. He couldn't have been more grateful.

– Mooroopna Education and activity Centre

I have been helping a few people with their PSB applications recently, and last week a lovely regular came in to ask for assistance. While processing her application, I noticed her current provider had a better plan available. After a quick phone call on her behalf, we were able to switch her to a plan that guarantees a 15% saving! With the plan updated, it was also recommended that she reduce her direct debit from $125 to $75. She went home and told her husband, who insisted she come back with chocolates to say thank you.

– Felltimber Community Centre

There was an elderly couple from a CALD background who never quite understood their bills but paid them regardless. We were able to transfer them over to a cheaper offer from their provider, apply the concession rate (because it had been taken off!), and ensure they were backpaid for the last 12 months of no concession discount. Their gas and electricity was with the same provider, so between the two, they received a credit of over $4,000.

– Sussex Neighbourhood House

Highlights

Victorian Law Week
18 – 24 May 2026

We've partnered with the Victoria Law Foundation!

NHVic has once again partnered with the Victoria Law Foundation to oversee events held during Victorian Law Week, 19 to 25 May 2025, with the aim to improve community understanding and access to various legal services local to the area.

Engagement Manager, Vikki Doig, and the team at Victoria Law Foundation were excited to work with Neighbourhood Houses to reach new cohorts, especially in regional areas.

As part of the partnership in 2025, 18 Neighbourhood Houses across Victoria received grant funding with a total of $5,600 distributed. 1,006 community members reached across all the events.

1,006 **Community members reached throughout the reported NHVic Law Week events**

$5,600 **of grant funding distributed all across Victoria!**

18 **Neighbourhood Houses across Victoria received funding for Law Week through the NHVic funding allocation.**



Nhill Neighbourhood House Learning Centre; *Law Week Event*



Ajani Neighbourhood House; *Law Week Event*

NHVic Conference 2027

SAVE THE DATE!

17–19 March 2027
Mantra Lorne, Great Ocean Road

Get ready to connect, collaborate and celebrate the power of Neighbourhood Houses!

Join Neighbourhood House staff, volunteers, committee members and sector partners from across Victoria for the NHVic Conference 2027.

Set against the stunning backdrop of the Great Ocean Road, Lorne offers the perfect place to come together, share ideas and be inspired by the work happening across our sector.

Save the date! More details, including the conference theme, program and registration information, will be announced soon. We can't wait to see you there!

Interested in sponsoring the 2027 NHVic Conference?
We'd love to hear from you! Get in touch with us at info@nhvic.org.au to explore sponsorship opportunities.





House Stories

Cann River Community Centre



Fern & Feather Community owned Training Café

This café started with a simple idea — that in a small, remote community like ours, we need to create our own opportunities.

We know that living in a rural community can sometimes mean limited access to employment, training and education opportunities, particularly for our young people. We wanted to create something that would help change that — something local, practical and community-led.

Fern & Feather is more than just a café. It is a community-owned training café, where people can learn, gain confidence, develop workplace skills and take their first steps towards employment.

Through the café, we will be able to provide opportunities for barista training, food safety training and hands-on hospitality experience.

We are also very excited about our partnership with Cann River P-12 College, creating opportunities for our local students to gain real workplace experience while developing skills that they can take with them into further education, employment and everyday life. Things like communication, teamwork, responsibility, customer service and simply having the confidence to give something new ago.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Outlets Co-operative Neighbourhood House

2026 Seniors Exercise Program

Participants and community representatives gathered at Outlets Co-operative Neighbourhood House in Newport for the Thrive in 2026 Seniors Exercise Program celebration event.

Pictured with Melissa Horne MP, Cr Diana Grima and Cr Kristen Bishop (Hobsons Bay City Council), along with Outlets Director Therese McKenney OAM. The program was coordinated by Dr Liz Cyarto and Louise Karch. Thrive in 2026 is an auspiced community group of Outlets, with auspicing helping local groups create greater participation, connection and community engagement through the neighbourhood house.





Vines Road Community Centre

The Kiss Project Geelong Exhibition was a beautiful initiative brought in partnership with AMCS (Australian Multicultural Community Services).

A key focus at VRCC is to support those living with Dementia and their carers. Dementia is the leading cause of death for Australians currently, so this is an important space to lean into and support. We hold a number of Dementia initiatives throughout the year, but this was one of the most touching. The project was a beautiful reminder that people living with dementia still need, and deserve, love, connection and affection.

House Stories

Caulfield South Community House

Open Gate: Creating a Garden Where Everyone Belongs

This year, Caulfield South Community House opened a new gate - quite literally - into the world of inclusive gardening.

Open Gate is a new program designed for people living with disability and/or chronic illness, offering a welcoming and supportive opportunity to connect with nature, learn, garden and, most importantly, feel part of a community.

The program was made possible thanks to a $10,000 grant from ANHCA, allowing us to develop a program that was thoughtfully designed around the diverse needs and experiences of our participants.

A great deal of thought went into developing Open Gate, drawing on the expertise of our Program Lead, who has 35 years' experience working in the disability sector, the guidance of a disability advocate with lived experience and an assistant on student placement studying Mental Health.

Each Open Gate session offers a different hands-on gardening experience, with participants learning practical skills such as planting seeds and seedlings, preparing soil, propagation, composting and caring for plants. Participants also explore the garden's chooks, worms, bugs and pollinators, learn about harvesting and watering, and get creative with activities such as making plant labels, herb butter and infused vinegars. There are plenty of opportunities to take something home too - from a planted herb pot to freshly harvested produce - while each session also provides time to check on plants, manage weeds, work together and enjoy being part of the garden community.



House Stories

Pines Learning

Back on the Road: Jeff's Path to Purpose

After recovering from back surgery that affected his ability to work, Jeff was ready for a new direction. With a referral from Alexandra Community Hub, he joined the Pines Learning Reconnect Program that supports people who are disengaged from work or study to reconnect with training/employment.

Through Reconnect, Jeff identified bus driving as a potential career. Today, Jeff has been working with Fallon's Bus Service for over 2.5 years, driving school runs as well as V/Line and Australia Post services.



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Glen Park Community Centre

Men's Health Week: Lads in Lycra

Men's Health Week is an annual awareness week that encourages men to prioritise their physical and mental wellbeing, stay active, and stay connected with others. Glen Park Community Centre Inc. hosted "Lads in Lycra" - a relaxed community bike ride, which aimed to encourage movement, connection and time outdoors in a supportive group.

After the bike ride, the lads in lycra enjoyed a free BBQ, cooked and served by the Croydon Men's Shed and Bunnings Bayswater.

House Stories

Central Ringwood Community Centre

Youth Festival a Big Hit!

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Earlier this year, we received an email from three Year 12 students from The Indie School in Ringwood. They had come up with a pretty unique idea - a youth festival created by young people, for young people.

They had already tried every avenue they could think of, including contacting local councils and other organisations, looking for support and, most importantly, somewhere to hold their event. Unfortunately, they had been knocked back at every stage.

When their idea reached us at Central Ringwood Community Centre, we thought, “Why not?”

It was certainly different, and it was something we had never done before. We didn’t really know what to expect, but what we did see was three young men who were enthusiastic, motivated and genuinely passionate about bringing their idea to life.

We decided they deserved a chance.
On the day, more than 200 young people came along to the festival. The atmosphere was fantastic, and most importantly, the event was safe, positive and welcoming. We didn’t have a single issue or any trouble from anyone who attended.

For us, this is so much more than a successful event. It’s a great example of what can happen when we give young people a genuine opportunity, listen to their ideas and trust them to have a go.

Our Treasurer

The recently completed financial year has begun to show the benefits of previously instituted measures to move the organisation towards financial sustainability.

The surplus of $237,356 for the 2025/26 financial year represents a significant turnaround from the deficit of $355,135 in 2024/25 and reflects the hard work of a number of people over recent years in order to stabilise and then improve the financial position. Significant work is still required but the organisation is on a positive trajectory.

The Audit Report has been prepared by Collins and Co Audit Pty Ltd who have expressed the opinion that the report presents a true and fair view of the financial position of NHVic as at 30 June 2026.

The Financial Statements contain a detailed discussion on NHVic as a going concern and the Board is of the opinion that the use of the going concern basis of preparation remains appropriate. This has been supported by the Auditor.

The Board has spent considerable time in reviewing the finances and planning for the future on a conservative basis whilst aiming for a return to positive equity.

During this period of restructuring the assistance of the Department of Families Fairness and Housing has been much appreciated who have been most helpful in assisting NHVic to manage its cash flow.

The team headed by CEO Keir Paterson have been incredibly focused on producing an excellent result and are to be congratulated.

The Board have been fully engaged and united in following a direction and I thank them for their input.

David Roff
Treasurer
Neighbourhood Houses Victoria



Financial Report

Neighbourhood Houses Victoria Inc.
ABN 30 174 498 896
Special Purpose Financial Report For The Year Ended 30 June 2026

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NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
BOARD OF GOVERNANCE REPORT

Your Board of Governance members present the special purpose financial report on the entity for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

Board of Governance Members

The names of Board of Governance members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

President	Beth Davidson OAM	Appointed
President	Shima Ibuki	Resigned
Vice President	Antonia (Toni) Halloran-Lavelle	Appointed
Secretary	Jennifer Keerie	Appointed
Secretary	Linda Wakeham	Resigned
Treasurer	David Roff	Appointed
Treasurer	Vicki Coltman	Resigned
Board Member	John Bainbridge	
Board Member	Arna O'Connell	Appointed
Board Member	Jo Herbig	Appointed
Board Member	Judy Lazarus AM	Appointed
Board Member	Lydia Wheeler	Appointed
Board Member	Simone Christie	Appointed
Board Member	David Pearce	Resigned
Board Member	Jan Phillips	Resigned

Principal Activities

Established in 1979, Neighbourhood Houses Victoria is the peak body for the Neighbourhood House sector. Representing a membership of close to 400 independent, community-based organisations across Victoria, NHV are a trusted source of strategic leadership, state-wide advocacy, advice and information, timely research and data analysis, professional development and sector promotion.

Significant Changes

NH Vic ended the 2026 financial year with a credible $237,356 audited surplus, and a Profit & Loss that reconciles cleanly to source once remapped onto the new Chart of Accounts. This supports NH Vic Inc's ability to continue as a going concern through 2027 financial year: the Board has approved a surplus-generating and cash-positive operating budget for the year ahead.

Although exposure to government grant funding is an identified risk, executed agreements are in place for all grant revenue included in the budget. The executive will prepare quarterly forecasts for board approval to ensure early identification and management of any risk.

No other significant changes in the nature of the entity's activity occurred during the financial year.

Operating Results

The surplus for the year attributable to the entity amounted to $237,356 (2025: $355,137 - deficit).

Significant Changes in State of Affairs

No significant changes in the entity's state of affairs occurred during the financial year.

After Balance Date Events

No matter has evolved since 30 June 2026 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect:
(a) the entity's operations in future financial years, or
(b) the results of those operations in future financial years, or
(c) the entity's state of affairs in future financial years.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board of Governance.

President _____
Beth Davidson OAM

Treasurer _____
David Roff

Dated this day: 27/10/2026

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	2026 $	2025 $
INCOME		
Grants - (State) operating	1,017,032	298,995
Contribution (members)	268,949	253,942
Sponsorship	-	59,818
Conference registrations	-	168,637
Consultancy & advisory fees	61,363	51,198
Interest received	2,939	4,760
Management support placements	358,223	456,186
Sundry income	16,180	119,048
Project income	358,690	633,003
TOTAL INCOME	**2,083,376**	**2,045,587**
EXPENDITURE		
Accounting fees/merchant fees	5,569	5,168
Board/governance	3,506	4,990
Member support services	19,220	321,831
Operating expenses	184,986	167,469
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	64,864	65,469
Employee benefit expenses	1,195,849	1,663,137
Project expenses	353,179	65,540
Social enterprise	-	285
Finance charges on lease liability	7,113	10,032
Interest expenses	4,563	6,787
Restructure related expenses	-	68,205
Other expenses	7,171	21,809
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**1,846,020**	**2,400,722**
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	**237,356**	**(355,135)**

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	2026 $	2025 $
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	**237,356**	**(355,135)**
Other Comprehensive Income for the Year	-	-
Net Surplus/(Deficit) Attributable to the Association	**237,356**	**(355,135)**

The income statement is to be read in conjunction with the audit report and the notes to the financial statements.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	216,676	135,012
Trade and Other Receivables	3	99,252	136,057
Prepayments	4	19,510	15,944
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		**335,438**	**287,013**
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	14,188	23,812
Right of Use Assets	6	76,770	130,872
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		**90,958**	**154,684**
TOTAL ASSETS		**426,396**	**441,697**
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	7	126,019	148,115
Amounts Received in Advance	8	113,765	217,086
Provisions	9	135,678	132,205
Lease Liabilities	10	74,044	60,893
Borrowings	11	-	80,000
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		**449,506**	**638,299**
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Amounts Received in Advance	8	-	-
Provisions	9	23,300	13,120
Lease Liabilities	10	34,978	109,022
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		**58,278**	**122,142**
TOTAL LIABILITIES		**507,784**	**760,441**
NET ASSETS		**(81,388)**	**(318,744)**
EQUITY			
Accumulated Funds		(81,388)	(318,744)
TOTAL EQUITY		**(81,388)**	**(318,744)**

The balance sheet is to be read in conjunction with the audit report and the notes to the financial statements.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	Accumulated Funds $	Total $
Balance as at 1 July 2024	**36,391**	**36,391**
Surplus/(Deficit) Attributable to the Association	(355,135)	(355,135)
Balance as at 30 June 2025	**(318,744)**	**(318,744)**
Surplus/(Deficit) Attributable to the Association	237,356	237,356
Balance as at 30 June 2026	**(81,388)**	**(81,388)**

The statement of changes in equity is to be read in conjunction with the audit report and the notes to the financial statements.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from Operating Grants		1,017,032	298,995
Receipts from Other Sources		996,889	1,609,823
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(1,781,482)	(2,478,019)
Interest Paid		(11,676)	(16,819)
Interest Received		2,939	4,760
Net Cash Generated from/(used in) Operating Activities	**(i)**	**223,702**	**(581,260)**
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payment for Office Equipment & Office Furniture		(1,145)	-
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		**(1,145)**	**-**
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayments of Lease Liabilities		(60,893)	(54,426)
(Repayment of)/ Proceeds from borrowings		(80,000)	80,000
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		**(140,893)**	**25,574**
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		81,664	(555,686)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		135,012	690,698
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	**(ii)**	**216,676**	**135,012**

The statement of cash flows is to be read in conjunction with the audit report and the notes to the financial statements.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	2026 $	2025 $
Note (i). Net cash generated from/(used in) operating activities		
Net Surplus/(Deficit) Attributable to the Association	237,356	(355,135)
Non-cash flow item:		
Depreciation and Amortisation	64,864	65,469
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (Increase)/Decrease in Trade And Other Receivables	36,805	187,240
- (Increase)/Decrease in Prepayments	(3,566)	(1,778)
- Increase/(Decrease) in Trade And Other Payables	(22,089)	(87,253)
- Increase/(Decrease) in Income in Received Advance	(103,321)	(319,249)
- Increase/(Decrease) in Employee Entitlements Provisions	13,653	(70,554)
	223,702	**(581,260)**
Note (ii). Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year		
Cash at Bank	216,676	135,012
	216,676	**135,012**

The statement of cash flows is to be read in conjunction with the audit report and the notes to the financial statements.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report includes the financial statements and notes of the Neighbourhood Houses Victoria Inc., an incorporated association, which is incorporated in Victoria under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Basis of preparation

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. The Board of Governance has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and also a not-for-profit association.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals accounting basis and is based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the company in the preparation of the general purpose financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

Accounting Policies

a. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

b. Income Tax

The Association is exempt from paying income tax by virtue of Sections 50-50 & 50-52 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act* 1997.

c. Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the company and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the income statement.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

c. Property, Plant and Equipment *(continued)*

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over their useful lives to the company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold Improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The asset's residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at each balance date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the income statement.

d. Employee Entitlements

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

e. Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

f. Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is an indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

g. Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Revenue is brought to account when received and to the extent that it relates to the subsequent period it is disclosed as a liability.

Donation Income
Donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

Membership Revenue
Membership revenue is recognised upon receipt of the membership subscription. The income is allocated to the financial year for which the membership subscription is received.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

g. Revenue (continued)

Training Income
Training income is recognised upon receipt of training fees.

Interest Revenue
Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities

The Association applies Australian Accounting Standards AASB 15 and AASB 1058.

AASB 15 involves the use of a five-step recognition model for recognising revenue, the steps are:

Step 1 – Identify the contract with the customer
Step 2 – Identify the sufficiently specific performance obligations to be satisfied
Step 3 – Measure the expected consideration
Step 4 – Allocate that consideration to each of the performance obligations in the contract
Step 5 – Recognise revenue

AASB 1058 measures income by reference to the fair value of the asset received. The asset received, which could be a financial or non-financial asset, is initially measured at fair value when the consideration paid for the asset is significantly less than fair value, and that difference is principally to enable the entity to further its objectives. Otherwise, assets acquired are recognised at cost.

Where the asset has been measured at fair value, AASB 1058 requires that elements of other Accounting Standards are identified before accounting for the residual component. These standards are:

- AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- AASB 16 Leases
- AASB 1004 Contributions
- AASB 137 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities & Contingent Assets
- AASB 9 Financial Instruments

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

h. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

i. Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

j. Accounts Receivables and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from grants & sponsorships. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

k. Leases

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses whether a lease exists.

Lessee Accounting

The non-lease components included in the lease agreement have been separated and are recognised as an expense as incurred.

At the lease commencement, the Company recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the Company believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives received.

The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the Company's incremental borrowing rate is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is remeasured whether there is a lease modification, change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI) or a change in the Company's assessment of lease term.

Where the lease liability is remeasured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the remeasurement or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

l. Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

m. Going Concern

NH Vic Inc's strategy to return to positive equity is driven by a new Chart of Accounts, which enables enhanced financial performance reporting through tracking categories. This gives the Executive the ability to track costs against funding for specific projects and funding streams. With each grant and program now tagged and reportable on its own line, management can identify which programs are net contributors, redirect overhead accordingly, and optimise funding renewals with clean acquittal data.

The cost base itself is deliberately lean and takes a minimalist approach, with headcount and overhead only scaled up once new funding is secured. This approach protects the surplus trajectory from cost creep ahead of revenue.

In parallel, the Executive is working to broaden the funding base across new programs and grant sources beyond the current concentration in Victorian state government funding. Together, sharper program-level visibility, disciplined cost timing, and a wider funding pipeline are expected to progressively close the deficit over successive reporting periods, rather than through any single corrective step.

Accordingly, the Board is of the opinion that the use of the going concern basis of preparation remains appropriate.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
TRADING AS

ABN 30 174 498 896
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	2026 $	2025 $
Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash at Bank	216,676	135,012
	216,676	135,012
Note 3. Trade and Other Receivables		
Trade Receivables	64,596	42,250
Other Receivables	8,595	68,005
Security Deposit for Rental Bond	26,061	25,802
	99,252	136,057
Note 4. Prepayments		
Prepayments	19,510	15,944
	19,510	15,944
Note 5. Plant and Equipment		
Office equipment - at cost	88,881	87,736
Less accumulated depreciation	(74,693)	(63,924)
	14,188	23,812
Note 6. Right of Use Assets		
Right of use asset - café premises - at cost	324,571	324,571
Less accumulated amortisation	(247,801)	(193,705)
	76,770	130,866
Right of use asset - office - at cost	-	6
Less accumulated amortisation	-	-
	-	6
Total Right of Use Assets	76,770	130,872
Note 7. Trade and Other Payables		
Trade Payables	29,040	49,761
Other Payables	-	(2,795)
Accrued Expenses	60,681	56,184
Credit Card	(112)	-
GST Payable	15,629	1,094
Superannuation payable	334	11,814
PAYG Withholding payable	20,447	32,057
	126,019	148,115

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
TRADING AS

ABN 30 174 498 896
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	2026 $	2025 $
Note 8. Income Received in Advance		
Current		
Grants in Advance	113,765	217,086
	113,765	217,086
Note 9. Provisions		
Current		
Annual Leave	88,450	89,543
Long Service Leave	47,228	42,662
	135,678	132,205
Non-current		
Long Service Leave	23,300	13,120
	23,300	13,120
Note 10. Lease Liabilities		
Current		
Leased Liability - leased premises - café	74,044	60,887
Leased Liability - leased premises - office	-	6
	74,044	60,893
Non-current		
Leased Liability - leased premises - café	34,978	109,022
	34,978	109,022
Note 11. Borrowings		
Current		
Bank Loan	-	80,000
	-	80,000

During the 2025 financial year, the Association obtained a loan facility from Australia Bank.

The proceeds were applied to meet redundancy obligations arising from the organisational restructure.

The facility formed part of the Board-approved strategy to restore financial sustainability and return the Association to surplus.

Loan repayments are incorporated into cash flow forecasts, and the Board monitors compliance with repayment obligations.

The bank loan was repayable in monthly instalments consisting of principle and interest. Interest was charged at a variable rate of 8.5% per annum

The bank loan was secured by a general security agreement over the assets and undertakings of Neighbourhood Houses Victoria Inc ABN 30 174 498 896.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

The Board of Governance has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Board of Governance, the financial report as set out on pages 2 to 12, satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:

1 a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards applicable to the association; and

b. give a true and fair view of the financial position of Neighbourhood Houses Victoria Inc. as at 30 June 2026 and its performance for the year ended on that date.

2 At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Neighbourhood Houses Victoria Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022.

President Beth Davidson OAM

Treasurer David Roff

Dated this 27th **day of** October 2026

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

Opinion
I have audited the accompanying financial report of Neighbourhood Houses Victoria Inc. (the Association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2026, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the statement by the members of the Board of Governance.

In my opinion, the financial report of the Association is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act* 2012 and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act* 2012, including:

i. giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2026 and of its performance for the year ended; and

ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards as per Note 1, the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Basis for Opinion
I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. I am independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution
I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Neighbourhood Houses Victoria Inc.. to meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Emphasis of Matter – Material Uncertainty re Going Concern
I draw attention to Note 1 in the financial report, which indicates that the financial outcomes of the last two financial years have resulted in operational results of $237,356 (2026 - surplus) and $355,137 (2025 - deficit) respectively. As stated in Note 1(m), the Association Continue to undertake significant structural changes, including aligning staffing costs with sustainable revenue and addressing overspend associated with discontinued or non-eventuating grants. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the applicable legislation and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report
My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the responsible entities.

Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entities use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal controls that I identify during my audit.

Name of Auditor: Frederik R. L. Eksteen

Address: Collins & Co Audit Pty Ltd
127 Paisley Street
Footscray VIC 3011

Date:

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA INC.
ABN 30 174 498 896
CERTIFICATE BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

I, **Beth Davidson OAM** and I, **David Roff** hereby certify that:

(a) We are members of the Board of Governance of Neighbourhood Houses Victoria Inc..

(b) We attended the annual general meeting of the association held on 29 October 2026.

(c) We are authorised by the attached resolution of the committee to sign this certificate.

(d) This special purpose financial report was submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

President _____
Beth Davidson OAM

Treasurer _____
David Roff

Dated this 27th day of October 2026



Acknowledgements

We are very grateful to these organisations for their support.

Their contribution ensures we can support our members to continue delivering meaningful outcomes for Victorian communities.

In particular, the following Departments:

- Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH)
- Health (DH)
- Education and Training (DET)
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA)
- Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR)

This Annual Report has been designed by Jenny Woang Creative + Workshops



Neighbourhood Houses Victoria™

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