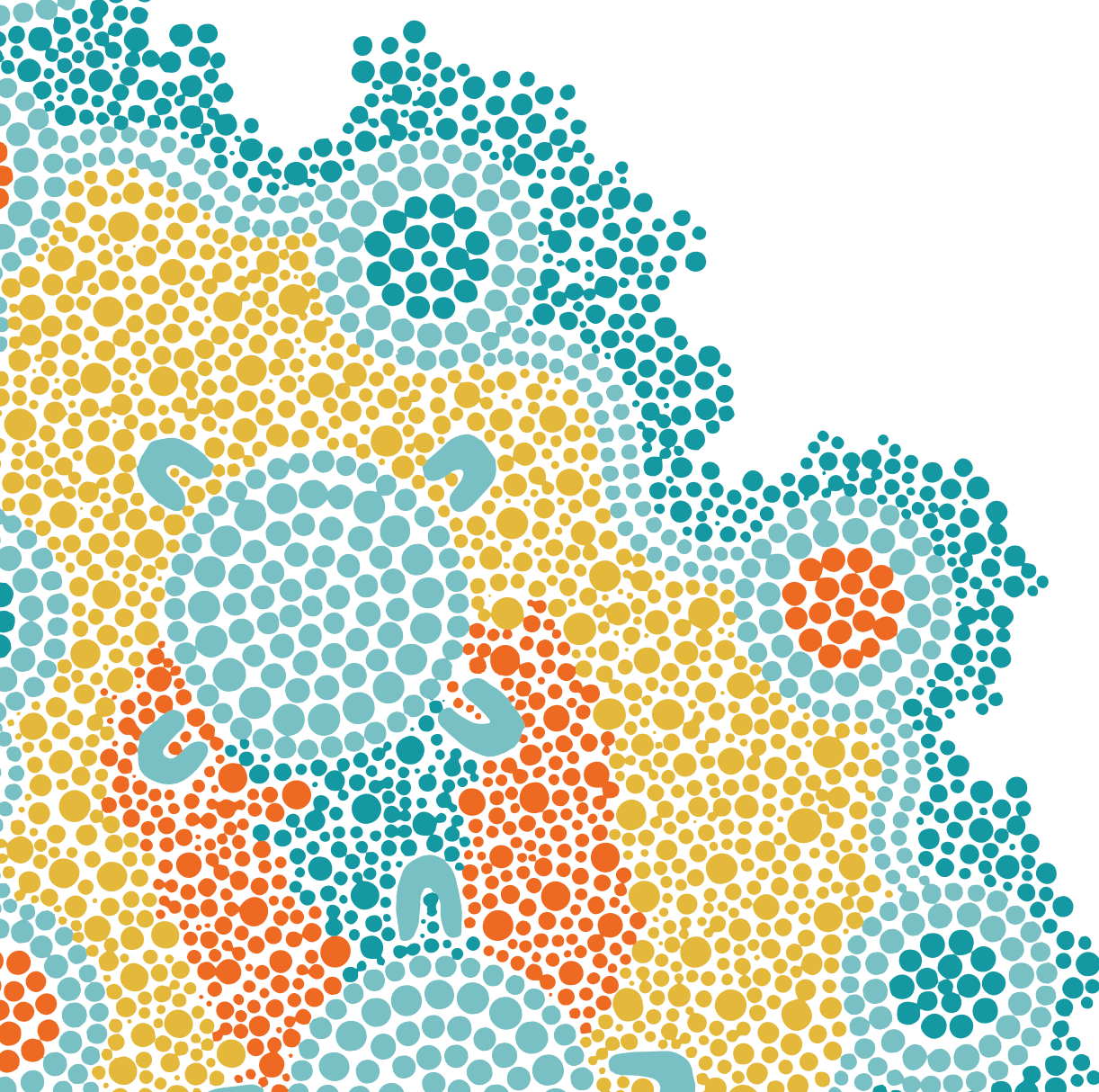


Bungree  
ABORIGINAL ASSOCIATION

# Annual Report

2022 / 2023

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# Our Acknowledgment to Country

Bungree Aboriginal Association Limited acknowledges that we operate and function on the lands of the Darkinjung people.

We pay our respect to these lands that provide for us.

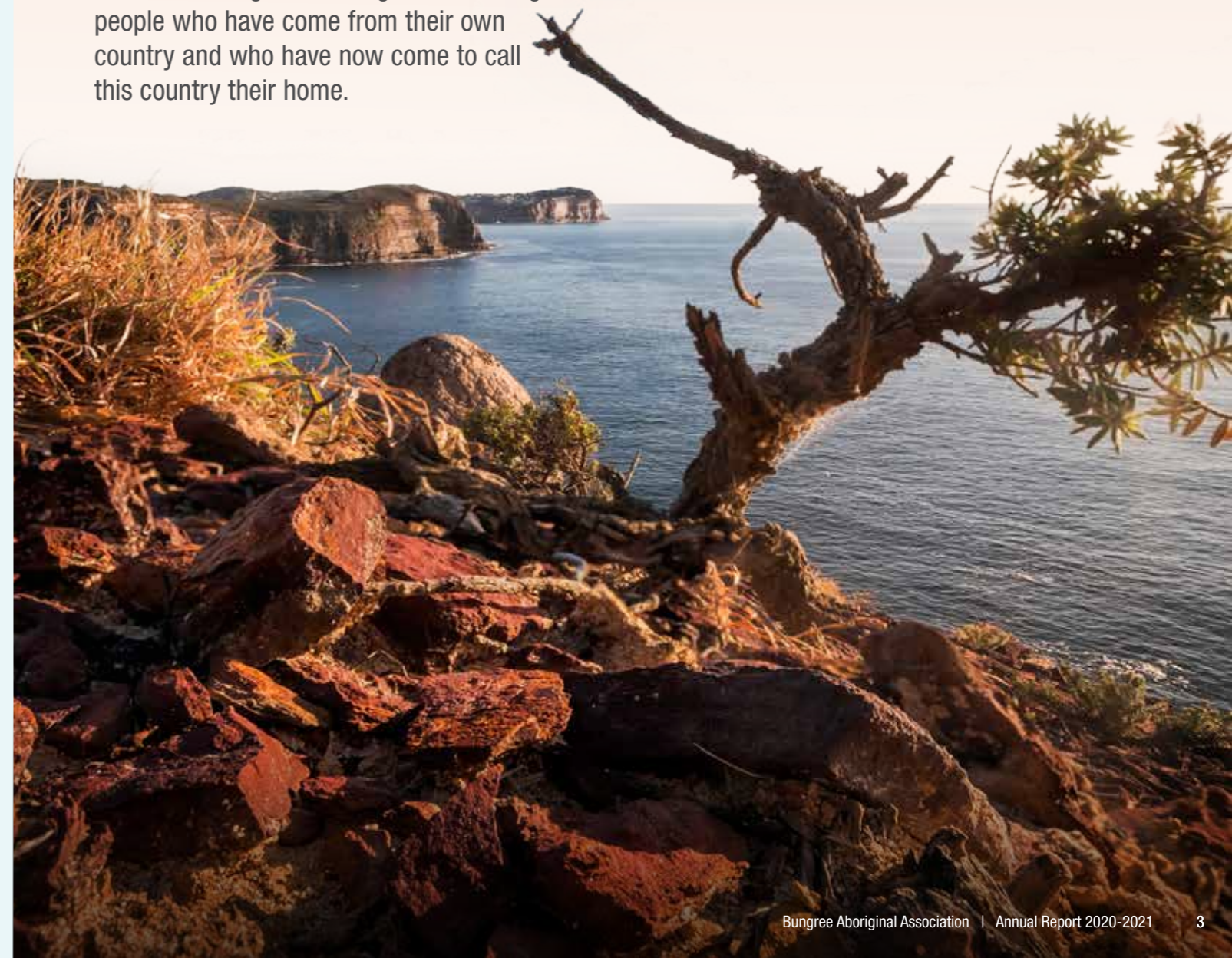
We acknowledge and pay respect to the ancestors that walked and managed these lands for many generations before us.

We acknowledge and recognise all Aboriginal people who have come from their own country and who have now come to call this country their home.

We acknowledge our Elders who are our knowledge holders, teachers and pioneers.

We acknowledge our youth who are our hope for a brighter and stronger future and who will be our future leaders.

We acknowledge and pay respect to our members who have gone before us and recognise their contribution to our people and community.



# About Bungree

Bungree is a large, multi service Aboriginal community organisation delivering a diverse range of services, programs and products to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people through our five (5) operating sections.



Bungree operates and delivers across multiple Local Government Areas including the Central Coast, Lake Macquarie, Cessnock, Maitland, Newcastle, Raymond Terrace and Karuah.

Bungree's primary office is located at Gosford on the Central Coast with a secondary office at Cessnock.

Bungree's strategic future directions lies within the following pillars:

1. Housing and Homelessness
2. My Aged Care
3. Disability services
4. Children, Youth and Family Services
5. Population Health

Our five strategic directions continue to be our priority and encompass our integrated care based programs, services and business units being delivered to the Central Coast, Lake Macquarie, Newcastle and Upper Hunter areas.

Bungree continues to maintain our national formal accreditations to deliver our programs and services through the National Regulatory System Community Housing – Tier 2, Home Care Common Standards, National Disability Insurance Scheme and the Australian Service Excellence Standards – Certificate and Award levels.

Bungree's programs, services and other products exist to improve the health and wellbeing of our clients, carers and community members – those who are ageing, people with a disability, the homeless, vulnerable, socially disadvantaged and isolated, children, youth and families.



# Our Values

We provide high quality services and aim to make a difference for our community, our clients, our employees and everyone we affect. We care as much about how results are achieved as we do about the results themselves.



## Respect

We demonstrate respect through our actions and behaviours for ourselves, our organisation, our community and our culture



## Trust

We earn trust by operating honestly, fairly and ethically



## Leadership

We lead the way in our community through positive collaboration and broad inclusion



## Excellence

We listen to the needs of our clients and community and strive to continuously improve and innovate

# Our Mission

“We advocate for our community and deliver high quality outcomes to our elderly and frail, people with disabilities, the homeless, and vulnerable children, youth and families.”



# Message from the Chairperson



**Adam McEwen**  
Bungree Chairperson

On behalf of the Bungree Aboriginal Association's Board and staff I am pleased to present the 2022 – 2023 Annual Report.

**Executive Summary:** The Annual Report for the year 2022 - 2023 highlights the evolution of Bungree through a journey of consolidation and programmatic growth.

Through strategic growth and focused community engagement, we have solidified our presence as a leading force for positive change in the Aboriginal community and non-Aboriginal community. This report presents a comprehensive overview of our achievements, program expansions, financial performance and future aspirations.

### Community Programs:

**Program Expansion:** Our commitment to the community is evident in the expansion of our programs, offering a wider array of services to address diverse needs.

**Impact and Success Stories:** Real-life stories of transformed lives underscore the tangible impact of our programs, demonstrating our dedication to creating lasting change.

**Collaborative Partnerships:** Partnerships with local organisations, government bodies and corporate partners have enabled us to grow the reach and effectiveness of our initiatives.

### Engagement and Outreach:

**Stakeholder Involvement:** We actively engage with stakeholders, valuing their insights and contributions as we shape our programs to better serve the community.

**Community Engagement:** Our increased public presence through media coverage, social media and community events has elevated our visibility and spread our message.

### Financial Performance:

**Revenue Growth:** Our financial stability is driven by sustainable revenue streams and prudent financial control measures.

**Investment in Programs:** A significant portion of our resources has been directed toward program expansion, allowing us to provide a wider range of services and support.

### Future Outlook:

**Strategic Goals:** Our future endeavours include further program expansion, geographic outreach and the implementation of innovative solutions to address emerging community challenges.

**Acknowledgments:** I would like to extend our gratitude to our dedicated staff led by CEO Suzanne Naden, partners and community members who have contributed to our success. Your continued support fuels our drive for positive change.

**Adam McEwen**  
Chairperson  
Bungree Aboriginal Association

# CEO Report



**Suzanne Naden**  
Chief Executive Officer

In 2022-23, we witnessed Bungree Aboriginal Association and our community gradually emerging from the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic, inching our way back to normality.

Throughout this reporting period, Bungree remained unwavering in its commitment to delivering essential services and programs, safeguarding the safety, health and well-being of our cherished clients and their families. We achieved this by fostering strong external partnerships, strengthening our ability to extend our programs to the broader community.

As we reflect on the year that has passed, I extend my gratitude on behalf of our dedicated staff and Board members. Our appreciation goes out to our resilient clients, devoted carers, supportive families and the larger community. We also express our sincere thanks to the government and non-government agencies that collaborated with us, collectively contributing to yet another year of remarkable positive outcomes.

Bungree experienced a significant year of growth in our organisation, marked by our strategic relocation to a new, modern building and office space. This move allowed us to expand our reach and services, extending our presence to new Local Government Areas (LGAs). Importantly, our mission continues to focus on delivering direct services to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal individuals, strengthening our commitment to the community.

- New office – purchase and relocation to new Bungree office at 326 Mann Street in Gosford.
- Cessnock office - opening of new Cessnock office, located at 141 Vincent Street in Cessnock.
- New funding contract for our Care finders Service, now covering Central Coast, Lake Macquarie, Cessnock and Maitland LGAs, thanks to our partnership

with the Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network.

- New Management Agreement with Turool Kore for the new pilot program, Men's Transitional Accommodation Program in the Lake Macquarie LGA.
- Aboriginal Health Practitioners – 11 staff completed all relevant training and are now registered Aboriginal Health Practitioners with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board.
- Narrate Navigate Practitioners – 15 staff completed all relevant training with The University of Newcastle. The Narrate Navigate Practitioners program is a preventive intervention for youth violence in partnership with Coast Shelter.
- Love Bites Practitioners – six staff have completed all relevant training to become Love Bites Practitioners, collaborating and co-delivering this program with Coast Shelter.

Bungree continues to work in partnership and sponsor the Healthy Jarjum program with Central Coast Local Health District, Nunyara, NSW AECG and EpicCentre in San Remo. Together we are dedicated to providing crucial allied health assessments for preschool and kindergarten children in the North Wyong area, ensuring the well-being and growth of our young community members.

On behalf of Bungree, I would also like to thank our other community partners including Pacific Link Housing, Coast Shelter and The Glen for Men and Women. Together, we work together to achieve positive outcomes for our clients and the government agencies that support our vital work.

# Board Members

# Business Units



Adam McEwen  
Chairperson



Brody Naden  
Board Member



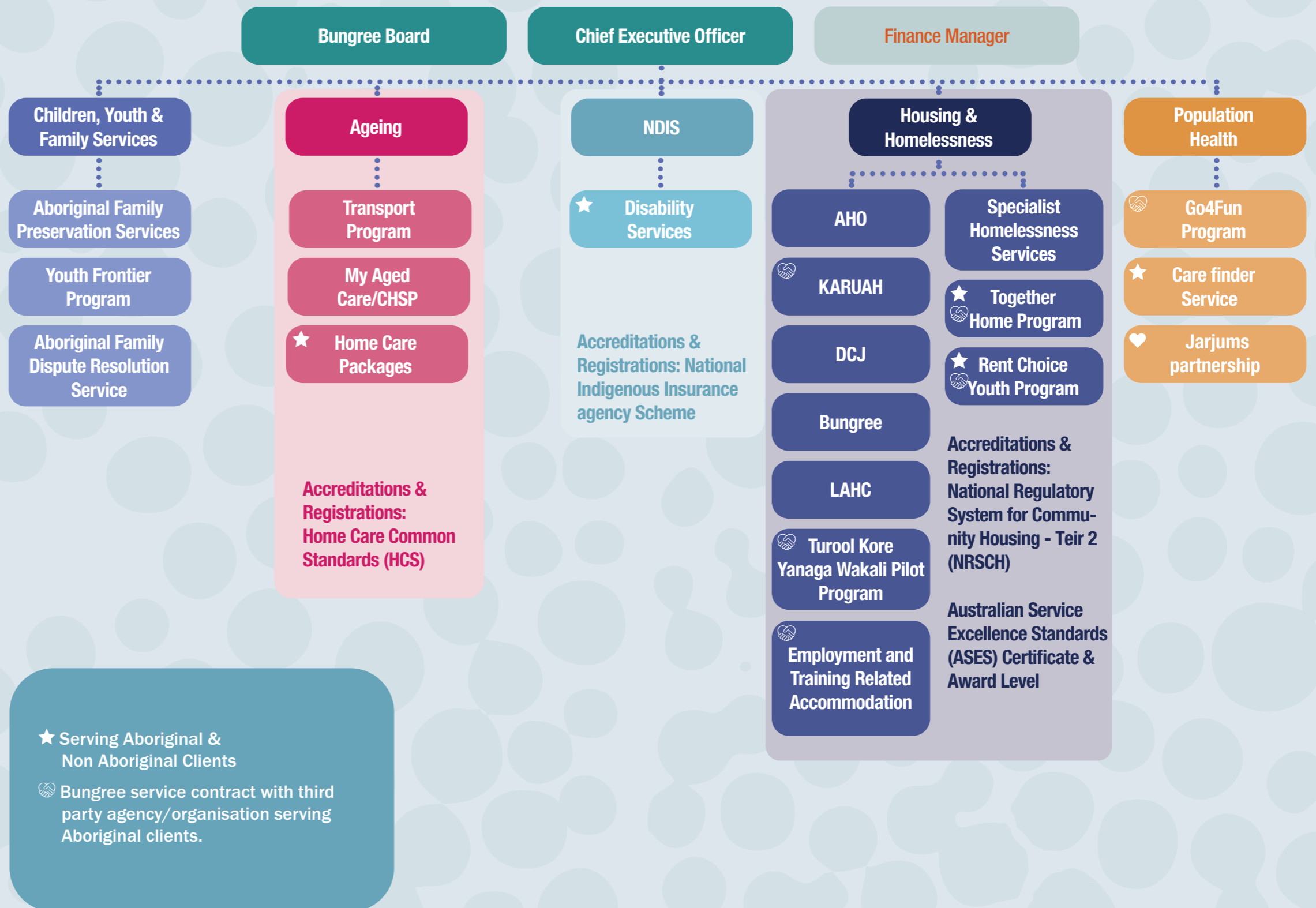
Beverly Simon  
Board Member



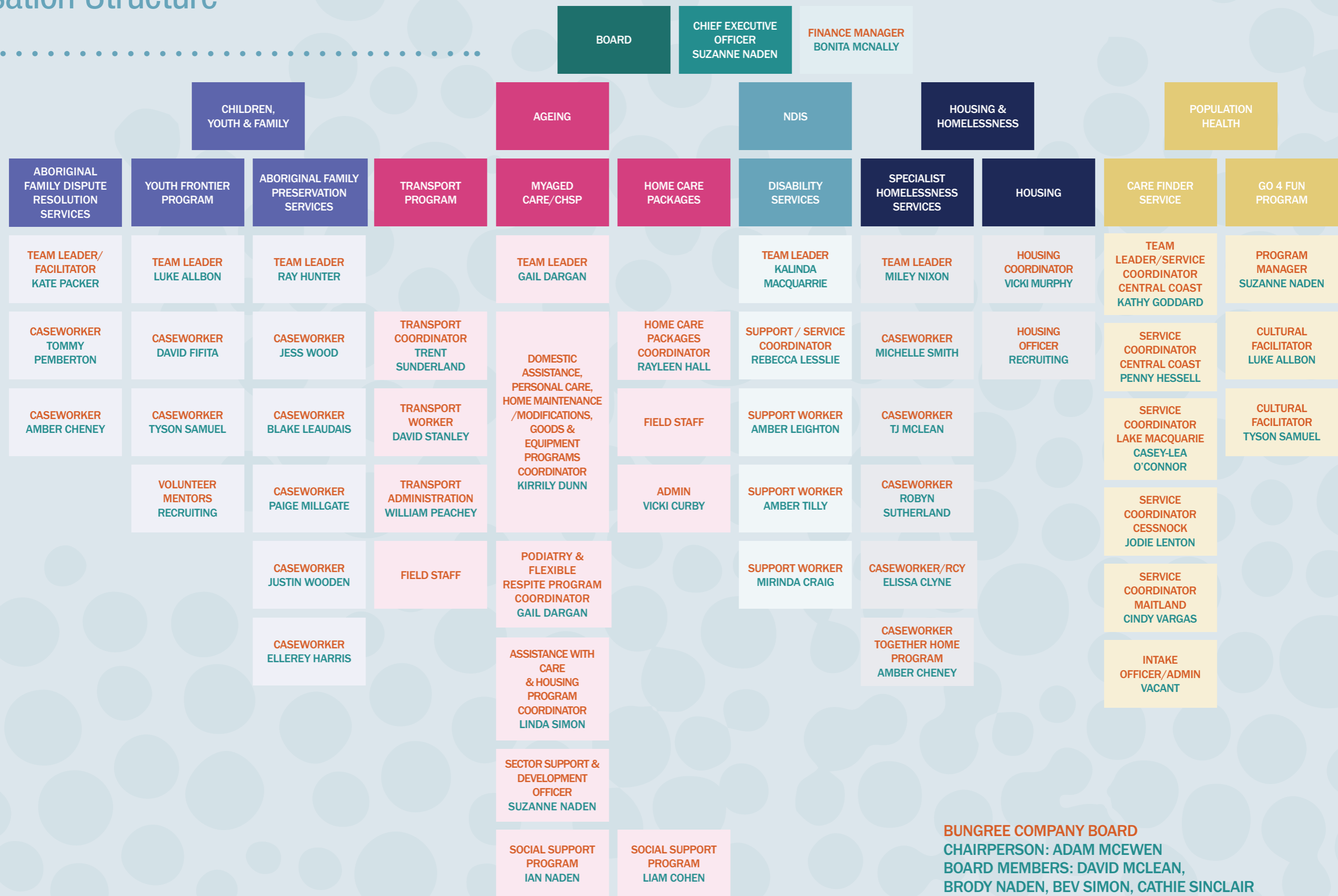
Cathie Sinclair  
Board Member



David McLean  
Board Member



# Organisation Structure



**BUNGREE COMPANY BOARD**  
 CHAIRPERSON: ADAM MCEWEN  
 BOARD MEMBERS: DAVID MCLEAN,  
 BRODY NADEN, BEV SIMON, CATHIE SINCLAIR

# Staff Snapshot

35  
PERMANENT  
FULL-TIME STAFF



7  
PART-TIME  
STAFF



8  
FIELD & CASUAL  
STAFF



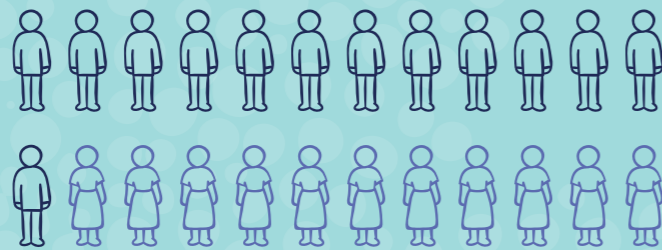
TOTAL STAFF

50

HEADCOUNT

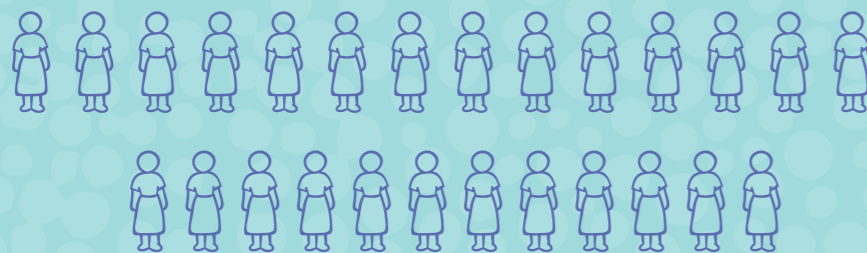
13

13 MALE STAFF

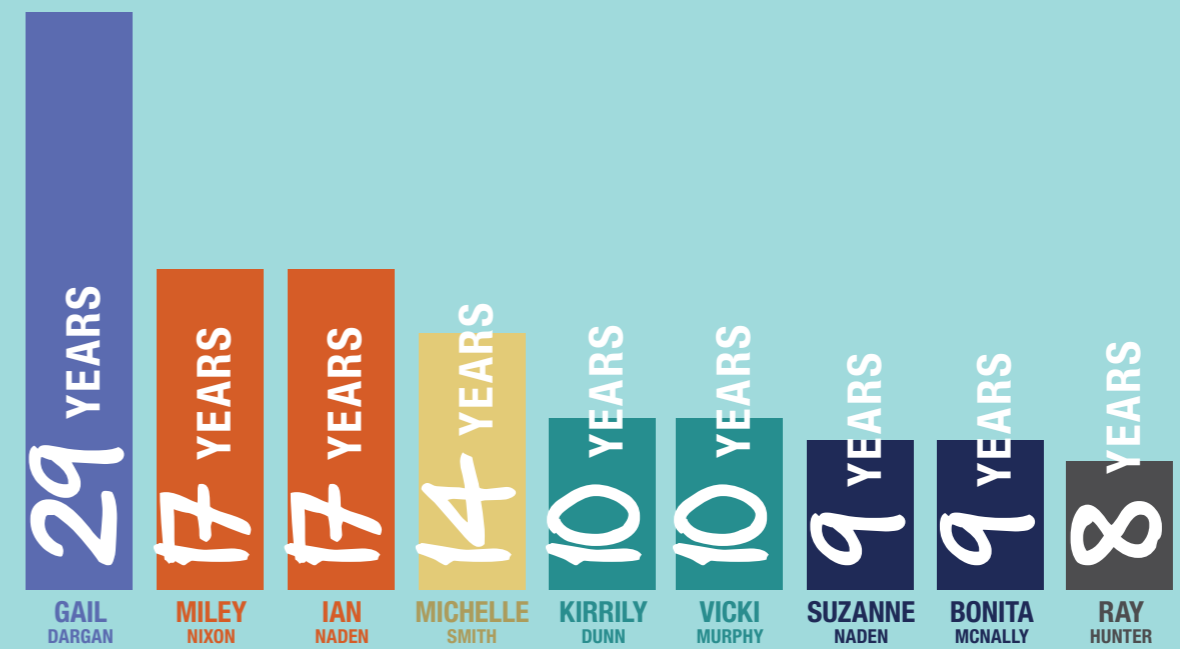


37

37 FEMALE STAFF



## OUR LONGEST SERVING TEAM MEMBERS



Over

123

years' collective experience between our dedicated team members



# Our Services



## MyAged Care Services

Bungree continues to offer a range of services and programs through the delivery of the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) and Home Care Packages (HCP), both initiatives of My Aged Care.

Bungree continues to receive funding via the National Job Creation Packages (NJCP). As a result of this we have been able to employ two full time Aboriginal staff in our Ageing Services Team.



## Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP)

The CHSP is an entry-level home support program. It assists people over 65 years old to live safe and independent lives in their own homes and communities. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples over 50 years old are also eligible for the CHSP.

The CHSP promotes and supports the safety and welfare of older people Australians in their homes. This includes assisting to protect them from Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Elders Abuse.

Throughout the pandemic, Bungree continued to provide and deliver services and programs under this scheme through a flexible service delivery approach. This ensured the safety and wellbeing of both our clients, families, carers and staff.

Services offered by Bungree are:

- Domestic assistance
- Personal care
- Transport
- Podiatry
- Home maintenance
- Home modifications
- Goods, equipment and assistive technology
- Social support
- Flexible respite
- Assistance with care and housing
- Sector support and development

We are ensuring that all clients have relevant service agreements in place, are reviewed bi-annually and are assisted where appropriate to budget according to their service and needs.

## 2022-2023 Program Clients – Commonwealth Home Support Programs



### MyAged Care – Social Support

Social Support had taken on this 79 year old female client who on the initial assessment admitted that she was a bit shy and unsure on how many social support outings she would come on, if any. We had told her that we would be keeping in regular contact with her and encourage her to come on any activities she felt like she would enjoy.

After six months she had built the courage to come along and attend a social support outing and realised she was having such a good time and wondered why she didn't come along sooner. She no longer feels isolated and now has fun with the all the clients and feels very supported by the staff.

She is now a regular client coming on many social support outings a month and we've seen her come out of her shell more and really participate and be an active member of the group.

## Home Care Packages (HCP)

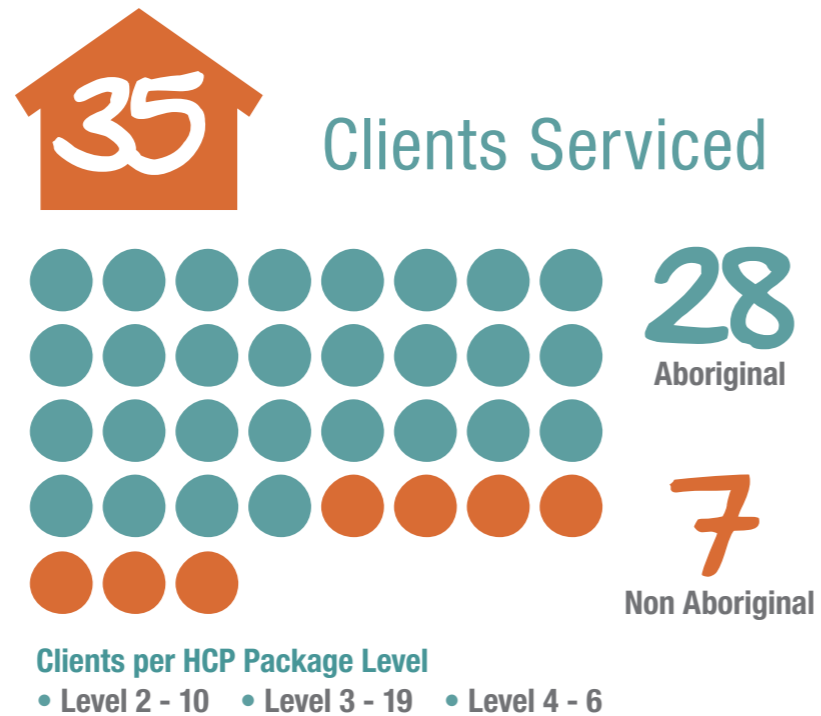
The Home Care Package program is part of the Government's continuum of care for older Australians. The program is for people who have complex needs that can only be met by a coordinated package of care.

The objectives of the program are:

- to assist people to remain living at home; and
- to enable consumers to have choice and flexibility in the way that their aged care and support is provided at home.

Bungree is a preferred provider of the HCP program. As a preferred provider, our service is open to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

## 2022/2023 Program



## Transport Services

Bungree provides much needed transport assistance to members of the Aboriginal community on the Central Coast.

Our services are available for the elderly and people who have no, or limited access to, private or public transport due to their location, their financial resource, physical and cognitive capacities or the time they require transportation.

We provide transport services for persons who are assessed as eligible, to places including but not limited to:

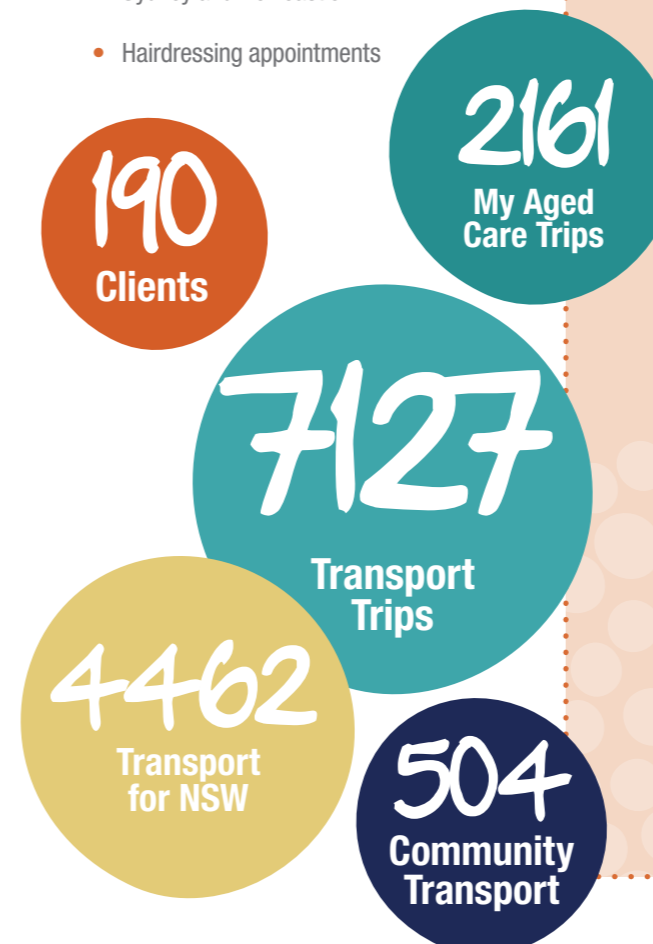
- Medical appointments – GP, hospital and specialists
- Shopping trips – individual and group
- Community events
- Other community services
- Out of area appointments Sydney and Newcastle
- Hairdressing appointments



## Transport Testimonial - client story

*“Where do I start, I can't thank the boys enough for all the help they've provided me. I came to a cross road in my life where my sickness had beaten me mentally and I was ready to give up. I tried multiple services and unfortunately was turned away due to capacity issues, but in all honesty I'm glad it worked out the way it did. I don't think I would have received the same amount of support and care I did then what I received from the boys, William was always such a kind soul and never made me feel like a burden, no matter the call. There were even times I received calls just as a check-up from all members of the team - they really made me feel comfortable. The drivers worked at my pace I never felt rushed. Although some days were harder than others, I knew getting into the vehicle I was in safe hands. Trent's country music gave me a sense of home and David was never shy of a conversation. I was truly disappointed and sad to leave, but as my health improved I was able to transport myself again and passed this great service onto someone in need, just as much as I was.”*

*I thank Bungree's transport team for being there in my time of need. Please don't hesitate to contact me in regards to the boys I couldn't speak highly enough of them.”*



## Testimonial - HCP

HCP clients were invited and transported for NAIDOC day events, the Elders Luncheon and Wyong NAIDOC day. During the Elders Luncheon one of our Elders was reunited with a family member they had not seen for over two years. The next day at the Wyong NAIDOC day, two clients who had not had contact for over a decade were excited to meet again and on the day made plans to meet in the near future for an outing.

After the two NAIDOC outings a Client sent the message below to be passed onto Suzanne Naden CEO and Gail Dargan Team Leader of the My Age Care team.

*“Thank you for the invite on the recent outings. I had a marvellous time and feel privileged that I was asked to attend. It was a memory that's a keeper. It was like Christmas day for me. The food was delish and the room at the luncheon was so tastefully done - it was five star. I felt I was Cinderella surrounded by all my friends, where I belong and was welcomed. Thank you for sharing this occasion with me.”*



## Services – NDIS

Bungree Disability Services is a registered provider for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). With a long and rich history with Central Coast locals, Bungree is excited to continue to provide quality services for years to come.

Bungree has been approved for the following 11 support programs:

- Assistance in coordinating or managing life stages, transitions and supports
- Assistance with daily life tasks in a group or shared living arrangement
- Development of daily living and life skills
- Therapeutic supports
- Products to assist with personal care and safety
- Assistance with daily personal activities
- Assistance with travel/transport arrangements
- Products to assist with household tasks
- Household tasks
- Participation in community, social and civic activities
- Management of funding for supports in a participant's plan

### 2022/2023 Program

As of 30 June 2023, Bungree Disability Services had 21 NDIS clients, 20 Aboriginal and one non-Aboriginal. Of these clients, seven were children and 14 were adults.



#### SUPPORT SERVICES BREAKDOWN:



### Disability Services - client story

Mr. G, a 63-year-old gentlemen with depression and dementia, couldn't return home due to his condition and needed substantial support. Efforts were made to place him in an aged care facility, but he desired a more stimulating, homelike environment. With NDIS funding and the help of a Coordinator of Supports from Bungree, Mr. G was able to secure disability

funding for Supported Independent Living in less than a year. He now resides in a two-bedroom unit in Wyong with 24/7 onsite support and is gradually becoming part of the local community. He looks forward to engaging in activities like hydrotherapy and enjoys his new homely space with fellow residents and staff.



## Children, Youth and Family Services (CYFS)

Bungree Children, Youth & Family Services offers a range of support services for children, young people and their families in our community.

### Aboriginal Family Preservation Services (AFPS) (previously known as Intensive Family Based Services)

The Aboriginal Family Preservation Services of Bungree is an intensive program to assist eligible families that are at risk of having their child or children removed, or those needing intensive intervention to facilitate reunification and the safe return of children to their families from out of home care. The primary focus of the service the safety, welfare and wellbeing of the child and/or young person in a culturally appropriate environment.

AFPS works within the principles of:

- Self-determination and participation in decision making as per the Children's and Young Person's (Care and Protection) Act 1998
- Maintaining partnerships with Aboriginal families and community
- Family/kinship approach to raising children

### 2022/2023 Program Target: 22 Families



- 16 accepted and supported
- 12 crisis
- 2 restoration
- 3 Out of Home Care Placement Support
- 2 pending referrals as at 30 June 23

### AFPS - client story

**Referral: Crisis (Intensive)**  
**Duration of intervention: 17 weeks**

AFPS client was referred to Bungree by DCJ following the birth of a newborn baby girl in Mum's care.

Mum is a proud Noongar woman who moved from Western Australia to NSW at a young age. Mum speaks fluent language and enjoyed working with an Indigenous service provider. Mum had three children previously removed from her care and was not wanting to go down the same path with her new born daughter. Mum had never abstained from using drugs or alcohol since the age of 14 and was extremely honest regarding her upbringing and extensive trauma associated with her upbringing. Mum was homeless, a poly user with no form of identification not having a birth certificate or other form of identification in her name. CW held strong concerns for baby and remained in communication with DCJ on a daily basis.

#### Week 1-4

- CW worked intensively with Mum and baby on the following:
- Linked client into the Drug and Alcohol clinic (Marumali) at Wyong hospital
  - Linked into NGIYANG Aboriginal pregnancy, child and family health service
  - Advocated for Rehab in week one as CW could see Rehab would be vital for the family to mitigate concerns around mum's use
  - Provided transport for Mum to Births, Deaths and Marriages
  - Applied for Birth Certificate
  - Applied for Medicare, client was placed on the priority list with NSW housing and commenced counselling

#### Week 4-6

- Mum is now accessing the methadone program whilst IFBS are still advocating strongly for Rehab
- Mum is completing 2 x Urinalysis per week (Mum has now remained abstinent from drugs for 7 weeks)

In week 10 of the IFBS referral Mum was offered a long term rehab admission into Guthrie House Rehab for women and children Mum went on to complete her 6-month admission and is now in transitional living where she will remain for a period of one year.

#### Statement from Client:

“Thank you for believing in me and allowing me to experience how life should be lived. I will always better my life for my baby girl and every choice I make will be in the best interest of my children.”

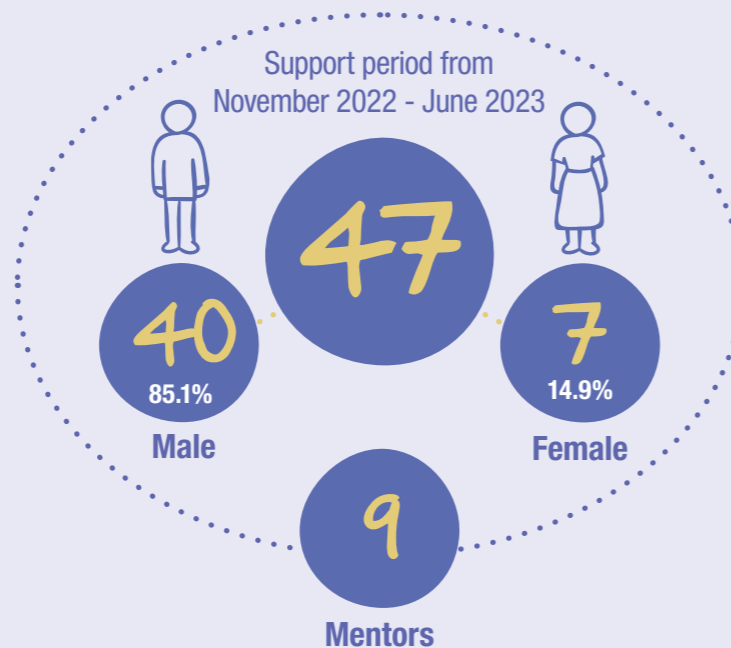
“Thank you to the IFBS team for their continuous on-going support.”

# NEW Services

## Aboriginal Family Dispute Resolution Services (FDR)

Family Dispute Resolution (FDR) is the legal term for services (such as mediation) that help people affected by separation or divorce to sort out family disputes. FDR can help people to agree on a range of issues relating to property, money and most importantly – their children.

This program is currently not being delivered at the moment due to staff requiring formal training prior to the implementation of the service. Service areas for this program will be Central Coast, Lake Macquarie, Cessnock, Maitland and Newcastle LGA's.



## Youth Frontier Program (YFP)

Funded by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), Bungree's Youth Frontier Program provides a mentoring service for Aboriginal young people aged 10 to 17 years who are at risk or in the juvenile justice system.

The program aims to engage young people's strengths by building skills and experience, addressing barriers to participation, reducing contact with the justice system and improving life outcomes through mentoring support, positive learning and social engagement activities.

As well as individual mentoring services, Bungree's YFP also conducts a Resilience Program in schools and in the community with yearly cultural camps for participants of both the Mentoring and Resilience Programs.

## Youth Frontiers Program - client story

The Youth Frontier Program has been working with a young male aged 14, who came to program with an AVO from family members.

The client was residing with family members and was reported to have outbursts of anger toward them when he couldn't have his own way. This resulted in the young person having to move from the family residence and with a relative. Within a month the clients relative also found that they could not handle the behaviour and the young person had to move in with a family friend.

The client was also demonstrating reckless behaviour within his local community which saw him having several encounters with the police resulting in the client having to attend court.

YFP met with this client over a period of time and the client identified that he was not going to school, was bored and didn't understand why he would get angry.

YFP supported the client with referrals to an anger management program where he attended weekly appointments, he also participated in the PCYC Fit 4 Life program and introduced him to the community by visiting youth based services that could offer support to client in the future. This was a beginning point to develop not only routine, but connection to community and sense of belonging to the area in which he lives.

YFP also supported the client with returning back to school which he is now doing well in maintaining.

Client has reported that he is in a better space and anger outburst have not been an issue as he has other things now that he can focus on.



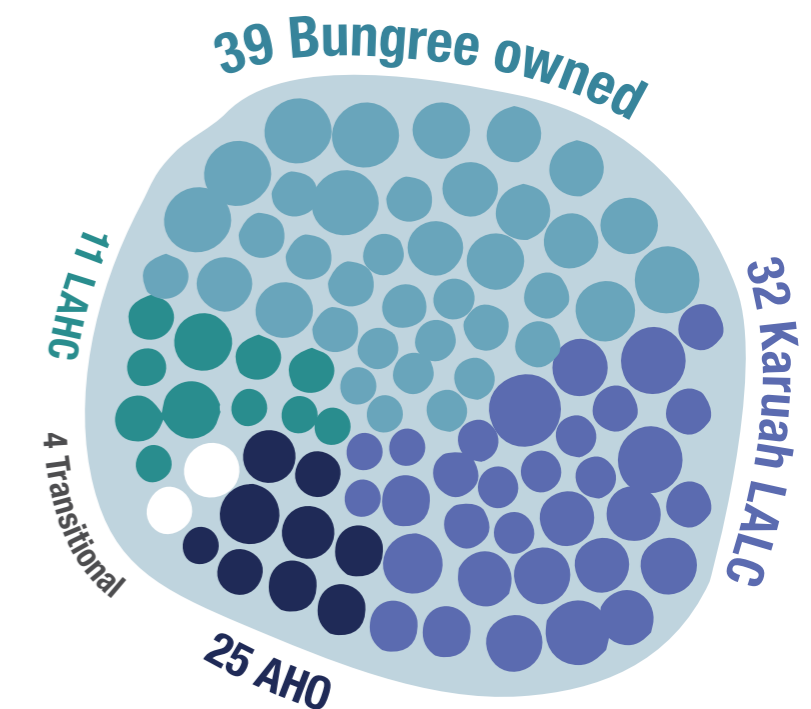
## Housing Services & Homelessness

As one of the largest Aboriginal providers of housing on the Central Coast, Bungree has been providing social and affordable housing since 1995. Bungree is accredited to provide community housing under the National Regulatory System – Community Housing Provider – Tier 2.

Our mission is to create and provide secure affordable housing to Aboriginal people. We also support youth, rough sleepers and families on the Central Coast, that are in transit and are homeless, or are at risk of being homeless, in accessing services such as crisis accommodation and health or advocacy services.

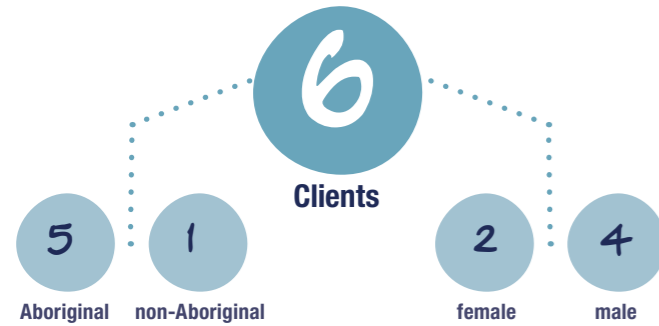
Bungree has long history of providing housing and tenancy support on the Central Coast for over 20 years. In addition, we property manage for the Aboriginal Housing Office in the Newcastle area and have done so for over seven years, and Karuah LALC and AHO community for over eight years.

Bungree is currently and successfully property managing for AHO in other geographical areas. We provide support to our tenants with housing assistance, rental arrears, external support services, suppliers. In addition, we sponsor the local community and attend local police conferencing for young people who have damaged AHO property.



PROPERTIES

## Together Home Program



## Contracted Case Management Support Services – Pacific Link Housing

A contracted provider for Pacific Link Housing, Bungree Aboriginal Association delivers case management for participants of the Together Home Program on the Central Coast.

Bungree supports the participant to sustain their tenancy, and works in partnership with the community, primary health care providers including General Practitioners (GPs), community health services and other local organisations, to provide high quality, person-centred, equitable and accessible support for people in the program.

## Turool Kore Yanaga Wakali Transitional Accomodation Program

The Yanaga Wakali Program is a Transitional Accomodation Program program under the “Finding Your Way” Initiative.

The Yanaga Wakali Pilot Program provides short to medium term transitional accommodation for Aboriginal Men who are exiting Cessnock Correctional Facility or have a current Community Corrections Order and reside in the Lake Macquarie region, and have been identified as being homeless or at risk of being homeless.

The program's focus is to address a key target under the Closing The Gap Initiative, to reduce recidivism through providing holistic supports and access to essential services to reduce the likelihood of re-offending.

Yanaga Wakali is an Aboriginal Mens Transitional Accommodation program targeting Aboriginal men identified as being homeless or risk of homelessness and serving or have served a custodial prison sentence of re-offending.

### Acknowledgements:

Important to acknowledge and thank the Aboriginal Housing Office whom without their support this program would not be possible specifically Andrea Randall and Sharon McCleod.

Last but not least, Bungree Aboriginal Corporation, Suzanne Naden and her team whom Turool Kore requested specifically to be our collaborating partner, due to their reputation as the benchmark Aboriginal SHSP. Their expert advice and mentoring has been fantastic in supporting this pilot program.

The next challenge is securing more funding to continue current Yanaga Wakali house, and secure more properties to grow this much needed.

## Together Home Program - client story

Paul and his dog were a THP Bungree client. His brother Andrew had an Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) and very limited communication and self-care skills. He came to live in the property with Paul as an additional tenant. Paul was his carer and supported Andrew with his daily care needs. Unfortunately, after just under a year in the program Paul passed away in the home and this is where the Together Home Program showed how this program can change lives.

When Paul passed Andrew had no one. A Bungree support worker was the only contact. The flexibility from Bungree allowed the support to go out and be there for Andrew in the middle of the night, right in the midst of a horrible situation. The support for Andrew amped up to be four to five days every week, as he had no independent living skills.

Due to Andrew's disability THP had to reassess to see if our program was most appropriate for him to provide long term support. Thankfully it was deemed that we will have Andrew take Paul's package. Andrew did have to be moved out of that property as it was now under occupied. Moving him to a unit, Andrew was unable to take the dog and this was very upsetting for Andrew as it was his connection to Paul. THP facilitated the dog to go to emergency boarding with the RSPCA while Pacific Link sourced a property for Andrew and his dog to live together.

Andrew was then moved to a whole different area, one not so familiar to him, where he knew no one which affected him greatly. Bungree continued to support Andrew intensely with living skills and got him set up with a local GP.

During this time, we applied for the NDIS and were rejected, however Bungree and Pacific Link supported the appealed the decision, which became a lengthy process. After a few months, a suitable property was found for Andrew and the dog, we then moved him in and eventually his NDIS was approved and was able to get services in place for him.

Currently Andrew is living independently and Bungree has set him up with community transport which takes him to the shopping centre once a week and he can do his own shopping. He is also set up with his medication being delivered and now disability support services which see him three times a week. Andrew is engaging in therapeutic services such a speech, hydro, physio and other services and this has already made an impact on his life, strengthening his independent living skills.

Andrew is physically and mentally healthy and in comparison to when he first moved in with Paul, he is a completely different person. Bungree's support worker describes Andrew now as being confident and humorous.

*Upon Andrew's exit meeting he expressed through his body movements that Bec from Pacific Link and myself will always be in his heart for the support given. Against all odds Andrew is able to live a quality life independently.*

- Bungree Support Worker



## Yanaga Wakali Transitional Accommodation Program - client story

A 67-year-old Aboriginal man, with an extensive history of incarceration and recidivism totaling approximately 40+ years incarcerated in New South Wales, embarked on his journey with the Yanaga Wakali program on March 29, 2023, following a 10-year incarceration period. He presented with high levels of anxiety and very little confidence in his ability to reintegrate into the community.

Thanks to the intensive case management and care planning that was developed and implemented, along with a strong

connection to essential services and support networks, Yanaga Wakali successfully facilitated the participant's transition to secure long-term accommodation with Housing NSW.

This remarkable journey continues with the participant remaining actively engaged in the Turool Kore Cultural support programs, maintaining valuable peer support connections that significantly reduce the likelihood of re-offending and returning to prison.

## Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS)

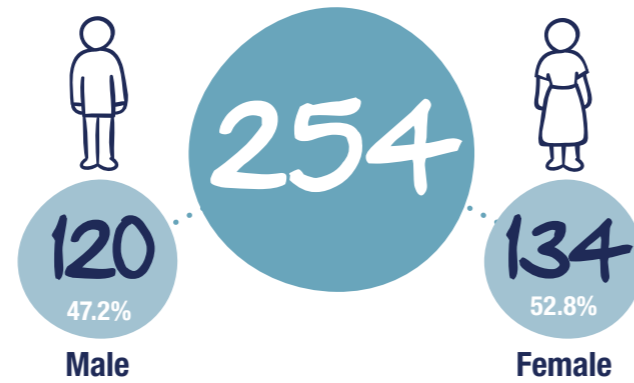
Bungree's Specialist Homelessness Services provide support to Aboriginal people with high complex needs, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Support includes case management, advocacy, supported accommodation services and assisted referrals to other specialist support services to help Aboriginal people access and sustain stable housing.

## Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) Clients 2022 / 2023:

**Target: 244**

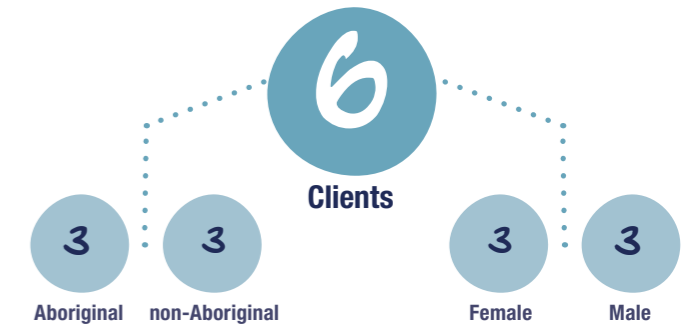
Total clients who received a service:



## Rent Choice Youth Program (SHS)

Bungree is a contracted case management service provider with Housing NSW for the Rent Choice Youth Program. The program assists young people aged 16 to 24 years to find a place to live, get approved for a lease, pay rent for up three years and stay in a current rental, if it's affordable and help is needed to pay the rent.

Under the Rent Choice Youth Program, young people are also linked with a Bungree support worker who will assist and support the tenancy. We can also support the participant to continue their schooling/education, training, learning and employment which is a requirement of the participant in the program



### SHS - client story

A 50-year-old female client came into Bungree Specialist Homelessness support in February 2022. She had escaped a domestic violence situation and moved to the Central Coast where she was couch surfing with her friends.

She had already had an application in for housing but needed to provide evidence including medical assessments which was a challenge without transport and her previous doctor was not local.

The Bungree team advocated to Bateau Bay Medical Centre and allowed her previous medical centre, where she moved from, to complete a medical assessment. Whilst waiting, we completed other documents for housing and transported the client to temporary accommodation where she was offered a few nights.

Unfortunately, client was then denied any extension for temporary accommodation as she had partial ownership of her ex-partner's property and no proof of reported domestic violence.

For two months, many options were explored including private rental, shared accommodation and advocating to housing. The client was then offered a property by Housing NSW, which she gladly accepted. This client still now lives in this home and has been able to take care and move her mother in with her.

### Rent Choice Youth - client story

A young female client was referred to Bungree from Central Coast Local Health District - she is currently still residing with her mother, however, due to a change in the dynamics of the family and previous issues within the family unit – she is choosing to move forward and live independently. Connecting with our services, this client has started an apprenticeship, has completed her RSA, RCG and obtained her first-aid certificate.

The client has also been linked in with RYSS, to complete the living skills/Rent it Keep it program. She is also obtaining enough hours to obtain her P Plates. Bungree is continuing to support this client to move forward and hoping to be successful with the RCY program.

A male client and his son were self-referred to Bungree requesting housing assistance. The client's journey has been impacted by DV, child protection, custody and drug and alcohol. However, after his release from prison, the client worked extremely hard to over-come addiction attending The Glen (drug and alcohol service) and also working with Department of Community and Justice (DCJ) to gain custody of his son.

He is currently housed in a very small property with his son. Since jumping many hurdles for housing the client has had debt finalised and has been recommended for priority placement. To add to his accomplishments he is completing a Certificate III in D&A.



# NEW Service

## Care finder Service

Bungree's Care finder Service provides specialist and intensive assistance to help ageing and older people understand, navigate and access aged care and connect with other relevant supports in the community.

Care finder Services are well suited to assist community members who may be socially isolated, have communication barriers, have difficulty processing information or those who are hesitant to engage with aged care.

### Connecting clients to relevant community supports:

The Care finder Service helps clients connect with other relevant supports in the community. The types of other relevant supports in the community that a Care finder may help a client to connect with will vary depending on the circumstances and preferences of each person.

Examples of other relevant supports in the community include:

- health services
- mental health services and supports
- social services and supports
- housing and homelessness services and supports
- drug and alcohol services and supports
- community groups.

Where appropriate, Care finders may help a client to connect with other relevant supports in the community before they assist the client to access aged care (as well as at any other time). This recognises that other relevant supports in the community may enable people to improve their wellbeing before they access aged care and/or break down barriers that may impede their access to aged care.

*Service commenced April 2023*

## Care finder Service - client stories

Mary, a 66-year-old Indigenous woman, found herself in a dire situation. Struggling with severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and recovering from lung cancer surgery, she faced homelessness for five years due to strained family relationships and an unsafe living environment. Bungree became aware of Mary's challenging situation when she was referred by Community Allied Health, as she was a patient of Wyong Hospital.

Living in her car and bouncing between temporary accommodation, Mary's health and safety were at serious risk. Bungree stepped in, maintaining regular check-ins and in June 2023, we connected Mary with Link to Home, securing immediate temporary housing in local motels and helping Mary with the paperwork needed to maintain this arrangement.

The real challenge, though, was finding a long-term solution within Mary's financial means. The solution was found thanks to a collaboration with Pacific Link community housing and the Women's Community Shelters project. They identified available accommodation at Allawah House in East Gosford, a refuge specifically for women over 55.

After a successful interview facilitated by Bungree, Mary moved into Allawah House. Mary felt relieved as she settled into a safer environment, with a furnished room and access to necessary facilities.

Bungree also helped Mary connect with My Aged Care for additional support services, including cleaning, shopping and potential social activities, ensuring she had the foundations for wellbeing.

Now, Mary enjoys her days in a shared community, with the promise of permanent accommodation on the horizon thanks to continued assistance from Pacific Link.

A woman in her late 70s, once struggling with loneliness and severe hoarding, found a new lease on life through Care finders. Feeling overwhelmed, anxious and isolated, Care finders stepped in to introduce a specialised Home Care Package (HCP) provider willing to tackle not just her hoarding issues but also her social isolation.

One significant breakthrough was reconnecting her with her Indigenous cultural community, easing her sense of loneliness. With transport help from her HCP provider, the woman began participating in community groups, something that sparked joy and excitement in her daily life.

Now the lady is a positive and engaged community member. She receives regular check-ins from Seniors Rights, ensuring she feels consistently supported.

## Population Health

### Go4Fun Program in partnership with CCLHD

Bungree plays a vital role as a service provider for the Aboriginal Go4Fun program within the Central Coast Local Health District. This initiative, absolutely free of charge, is dedicated to promoting a wholesome lifestyle among children aged 7 to 13 who may currently be above the recommended healthy weight, along with their families.

This program is the result of a collaborative effort involving Aboriginal communities and is effectively administered by the Bungree Education Gaps Program in conjunction with the Central Coast Local Health District.



### Aboriginal Go4Fun - client stories

Before engaging with the Aboriginal Go4Fun program, a young female aged 11 suffered from mental health including low self-esteem, depression and anxiety where she found it hard to fit in and make friends at school and in the community. This young person (YP) was considered to be above a healthy BMI as she would often consume fast foods and sugary drinks on a regular basis. Through the physical activity and education provided via the GO4FUN program, the YP actively made positive changes to her diet and was becoming physically active on a daily basis. She also created a social network of friends with other kids in the program.

Since completing Aboriginal GO4FUN program, this YP has continued to maintain a healthy diet, cut sugary drinks out completely and has joined up with her local netball club which has created a sense of belonging and boosted her self-confidence drastically. The YP's social network has continued to grow and she is still in contact with other participants in the program.

## Healthy Jarjums – Partnership with CCLHD, AECG, EpiCentre and Bungree

Healthy Jarjums Make Healthy Food Choices is a comprehensive educational initiative focusing on nutrition, food hygiene and intercultural awareness. This program is designed to cater to the diverse learning styles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children through tailored informative techniques and resources.

In May, we reached a significant milestone with our first pilot screening event, attended by approximately 38 kindergarteners. It was an eye-opening experience, as our numbers revealed that 42% of the attending children required health-related referrals and subsequent follow-up. Among the 38 kids, 27 were referred to various specialists, spanning disciplines such as physiotherapy, speech therapy, pediatric occupational therapy and audiology.



### Client Story

A child was initially assessed at one of our annual Healthy Jarjums events earlier this year by our Audiology team. Subsequently, following the initial screening, a referral was made for the individual to undergo comprehensive follow-up and testing. The test results revealed that this child was facing hearing challenges, necessitating the use of a hearing aid.

Our dedicated Central Coast Local Health District (CCLHD) Audiology Services promptly facilitated the acquisition and fitting of a hearing aid for this young individual. This vital intervention is expected to have a profound positive impact, particularly in their academic journey, greatly enhancing their experience at school.



## New Funding, Grants and Achievements

**\$200,000**

NSW Department of  
Aboriginal Affairs

**\$15,000**

Regional NSW

**\$18,640.97**

Sponsorships

Education **\$3,000**

Performing Arts **\$1,500**

Apprenticeships **\$5,000**

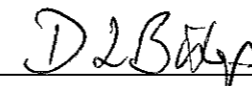
Sports **\$9,140**

## Financials

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION  
UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001  
TO THE DIRECTORS OF  
BUNGREE ABORIGINAL ASSOCIATION LIMITED**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Damon L Bishop CA

307 Main Road Toukley NSW 2263

**Dated this 30th day of October 2023**



# Financials

**BUNGREE ABORIGINAL ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
59 718 397 028

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Income</b>			
Revenue	3	12,590,843	10,305,890
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Advertising expenses		(89,849)	(74,840)
Auditor's remuneration	4	(20,000)	(20,000)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(9,580)	(28,212)
Employee benefits expenses		(4,189,385)	(3,575,626)
Finance expenses	5	(191,038)	(48,925)
Lease expenses		(132,491)	(92,879)
Other expenses		(7,361,301)	(5,491,345)
		<u>(11,993,644)</u>	<u>(9,331,827)</u>
<b>Profit for the year</b>	5	597,199	974,063
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
Revaluation Adjustments		17,832,596	17,545,091
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<u>17,832,596</u>	<u>17,545,091</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<u>18,429,795</u>	<u>18,519,154</u>

**BUNGREE ABORIGINAL ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
59 718 397 028

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 30 JUNE 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	7,960,390	7,622,790
Trade and other receivables	7	195,613	148,435
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>8,156,003</u>	<u>7,771,225</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	8	31,348,665	31,082,721
Intangible assets	9	8,965	10,028
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>31,357,630</u>	<u>31,092,749</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>39,513,633</u>	<u>38,863,974</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	10	4,477,438	4,129,330
Borrowings	11	488,892	247,982
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>4,966,330</u>	<u>4,377,312</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Borrowings	11	2,943,347	3,064,056
Other non-current liabilities	12	5,095,706	5,500,107
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>8,039,053</u>	<u>8,564,163</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>13,005,383</u>	<u>12,941,475</u>
<b>NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)</b>		<u>26,508,250</u>	<u>25,922,499</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves	13	17,832,596	17,545,091
Retained earnings	14	8,675,654	8,377,408
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>26,508,250</u>	<u>25,922,499</u>

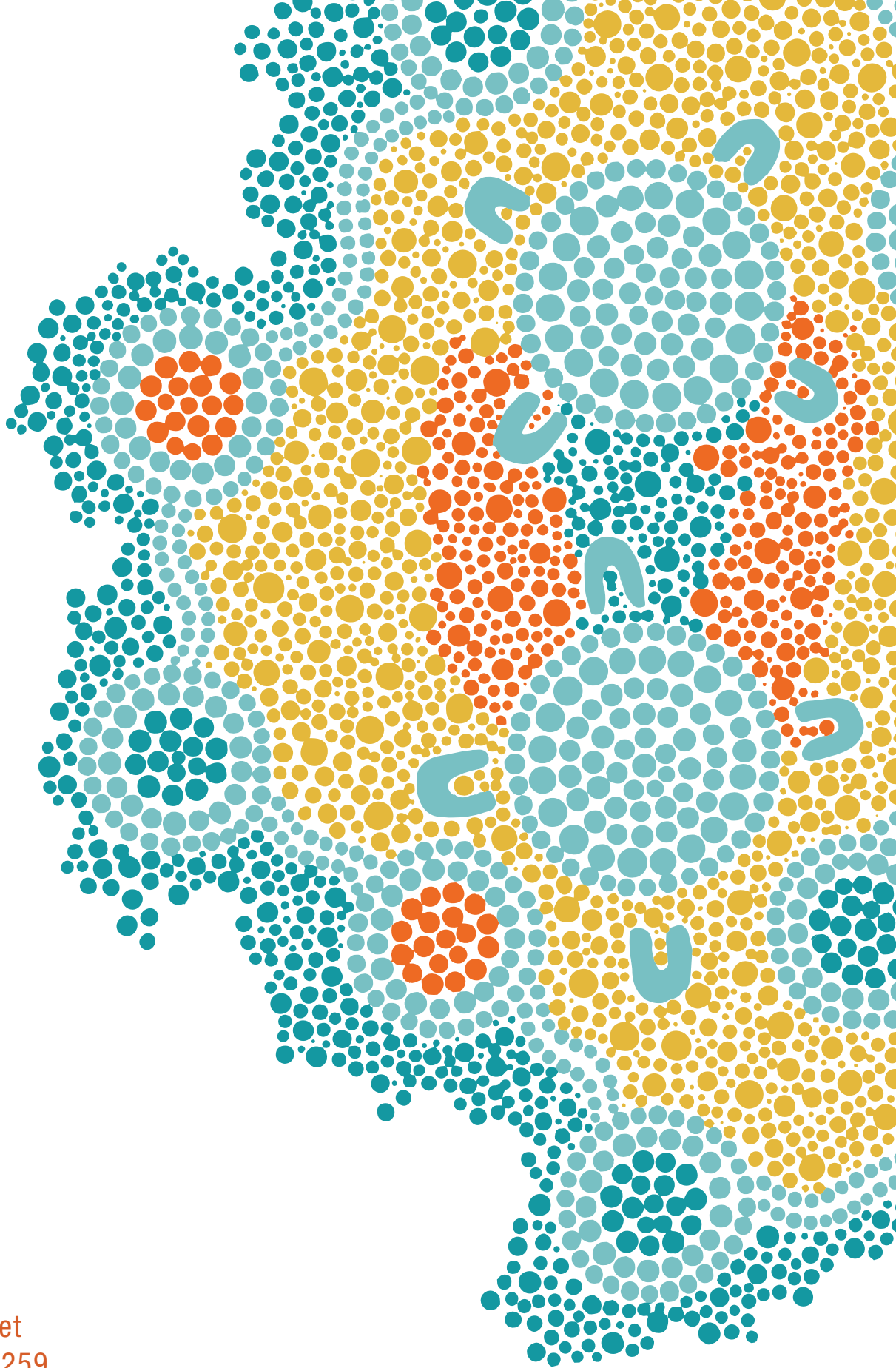
# Financials

**BUNGREE ABORIGINAL ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
59 718 397 028

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

	Note	Retained earnings \$	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2021</b>		7,624,705		7,624,705
Other comprehensive income - Movement in reserves	13		17,545,091	17,545,091
Profit attributable to the Company		974,063		974,063
Prior Year Grant Income to be Deferred		(221,360)		(221,360)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2022</b>		<u>8,377,408</u>	<u>17,545,091</u>	<u>25,922,499</u>
Profit attributable to the Company		597,199		597,199
Other comprehensive income - Movement in reserves	13		287,505	287,505
Prior Year Grant Income to be Deferred		(338,953)		(338,953)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2023</b>		<u>8,635,654</u>	<u>17,832,596</u>	<u>26,480,250</u>





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