

ANNUAL REPORT 2022





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A Word from our CHAIR

To our SU Australia, Generate and Childsafe community,

At this time last year, we paid tribute to those who had so lovingly and faithfully sown into the legacy that our newly unified SU Australia movement had inherited. As we looked back in gratitude, we also looked forward with great anticipation for all God would do both in us and through us in the year to come.

As I write to you now 12 months on, that sense of anticipation, along with our hopes, dreams and aspirations has translated into real outcomes in communities across our nation.

When I read through the pages of our first Annual Report I am quite simply astounded at all God has done. I am also humbled by the thousands of passionate, talented and servant-hearted staff, volunteers, board members, church communities, and those in our wider support network who have contributed to the rich tapestry that is our national movement.

God bless you,



Alison Hunter
Chair
SU Australia Group - including Generate and Childsafe

You are the reason that more children, young people and families are now testifying to God's goodness throughout this country.

In Peter's CEO report, and the pages that follow, I hope you will get a taste of what God has already done, but also a sense of excitement about the path that lies ahead.

Your SU Australia Board is eternally grateful for each and every one of you. You are very much in our prayers, and we are so grateful for yours.

Please continue to uphold Peter, the Executive Team, and our Board in prayer as we seek to partner with you in following God's lead to reach every child, young person and family in Australia with God's love, hope and good news.



Report from the CEO

“Jesus went through all the towns... teaching... proclaiming the good news... and healing... When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest...”

— Matthew 9:35-38 NIV

Dear SU Australia family,

This Annual Report is for our first full year of operation - a year where we continued our previous ministries, juggled the considerable challenges of COVID, and began knitting together what God has given us from our state and territory heritages.

And what a year it has been! A year ago, we had only just merged seven SU movements, and were about to merge with Generate in NSW. Back then, we were embarking on a journey of integrating many organisations and teams so that SU Australia would be positioned for all God has for us, as a strong and integrated national movement.

A year on, and much of that hard work is behind us. We have completed our first cycle together. We have fresh new national branding, and an engaging Vision statement and growing sense of our SU Australia identity.

SU Australia continues to meet our SU Aims of working with the churches to make God's good news known and seeing people meeting God daily through the Bible and prayer. We are committed to the outcomes of the SU Aims - people coming to personal faith in Jesus and growing in Christian maturity, and becoming both committed church members and servants of a world in need.

I hope that comes through in this Annual Report, as you read about all the great things God is doing across Australia - camps, missions, chaplaincy, SRE teaching, schools groups, child safety programs, camp sites, and equipping people for ministry.

Kind regards,



Peter James

Group CEO

We still have a way to go before all our teams and systems are fully ready for what's next, but I expect that will be completed in the coming 12 months. Certainly, God has blessed us with a team of dedicated, hard-working staff and volunteers, who love God and want to be part of what He is doing through the SU Australia movement.

In our first cycle, we have worked hard to implement the principles in our constitution to support and enable ministry to be delivered by Christians in the communities in which children, young people and families live. We continue to work in relational ways with those living in local communities. As a national group, we operate through a regional structure that seeks to empower and support local decision making, rather than a top-down approach. And we continue to maintain and celebrate a physical operational presence in every state and territory.

I'm also excited to share with you a glimpse into the opportunities God is giving us to reach even more children, young people and families in 2023 (see p40 for more).

What an honour it is to be part of this mission! God bless you in all you do to support this life-transforming work!



CMA Accreditation STATEMENT



SU Australia is CMA Accredited.

This translates to a commitment to the following:

1. GOD FIRST

Accredited organisations publicly declare their Christian ethos and confirm that they act in accordance with that ethos.

2. CHARITABLE STATUS

Accredited organisations are registered, legitimate and active Australian charitable entities.

3. DILIGENT GOVERNANCE

Accredited organisations are governed by a properly structured body which acts with care, diligence and independence.

4. RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP

The members of an accredited organisation's governing body are responsible, competent and comply with their legal obligations.

5. CHARITABLE PURPOSE

The governing body of an accredited organisation ensures that it carries out the purpose for which it exists.

6. FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

The governing body of an accredited organisation undertakes proper financial oversight of the organisation.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

An accredited organisation takes steps to identify and monitor risks to which it is exposed.

8. TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

An accredited organisation is transparent and accountable to its stakeholders.

9. HONEST COMMUNICATION

All gift appeals and stewardship activities of an accredited organisation are carried out in a truthful and ethical manner.

*At the time of publishing this report, SU Australia Ministries Limited is CMA accredited for its services in Queensland. An application for national accreditation is currently underway.



WHO WE ARE

SU Australia is an interdenominational Christian movement committed to supporting children, young people and their families to discover life through the provision of school chaplaincy services, camps, community-based missions, schools ministry, and at-risk youth programs. SU Australia also offers nationally recognised training programs in youth work through the SU Institute of Training (RTO 30548).

OUR VALUES

Engaging Life

We are active participants in God's mission, engaging children, young people and families in their life stage and context.

Loving God

God is at the heart of all we do, restoring all things through Jesus.

Developing People

We place a high value on people and foster wholeness and whole-of-life discipleship.

Empowering Teams

We work in relational teams, championing volunteerism and growing missional leaders. We actively partner.

Creating Belonging

We build connection and community with people from all walks of life. That sense of belonging is deepened as we are creative and have fun, while prioritising safety and integrity.

OUR DNA

Meeting Young People Where They're At

Everything we do is for young people. We go to the places where they are, get alongside and do life together. The expressions and experiences look different in each community across Australia, but some things remain the same. There's never any judgment; there's often laughter, a spirit of adventure and space for young people to be truly themselves.

Championing Bible Engagement and Prayer

We believe God has been faithful through all time and is still speaking today with a message of life, love and purpose. We share a daily commitment to engage with the Bible and prayer, deepening faith as we pay attention to what God is doing and participate in that. We actively encourage and resource others to do the same.

Partnering With and Through Others

We have a big vision and we cannot do it alone. That's why we enjoy partnering with local churches of all shapes and sizes, schools, advocates and communities to bring life to local young people.

Equipping and Releasing Volunteer Leaders

We're generous in sharing our experience, expertise and resources. We notice the potential in others and create opportunities for them to learn, lead and pursue their calling. We love seeing our volunteers have a go at leading in the context of a team, while growing as disciples of Jesus.

Exploring Innovative Ways for Connection and Community

We're always looking for fresh new ways to connect with young people. There's often an idea brewing that pushes outside the status quo to bring fun, adventure and fullness of life - all in a safe and welcoming way. As a result, we often see life-giving communities forging long-term friendships.



OUR FOUNDATIONAL AIMS

Working with the churches, we aim to:

- make God's good news known to children, young people and families, and
- encourage people of all ages to meet God daily through the Bible and prayer,

so that they may come to personal faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, grow in Christian maturity and become both committed church members and servants of a world in need.

OUR MISSION

To bring God's love, hope and good news to children, young people and their families.

OUR VISION

Every child, young person and family in Australia has opportunities of transforming experiences with Jesus and a lifelong journey of discipleship and serving a world in need.

OUR PERSONALITY

CREATIVE

Think outside the box
Never satisfied with the status quo
Thoughtful and intentional

FRIENDLY & RELATIONAL

Relate to people from all walks of life
Approachable and engaging

HUMBLE

Non-pretentious
Happy to be in the background,
encouraging and supporting others

GO-GETTER

Willing to have a go and work hard
Ready for an adventure, to try new things

CAPABLE

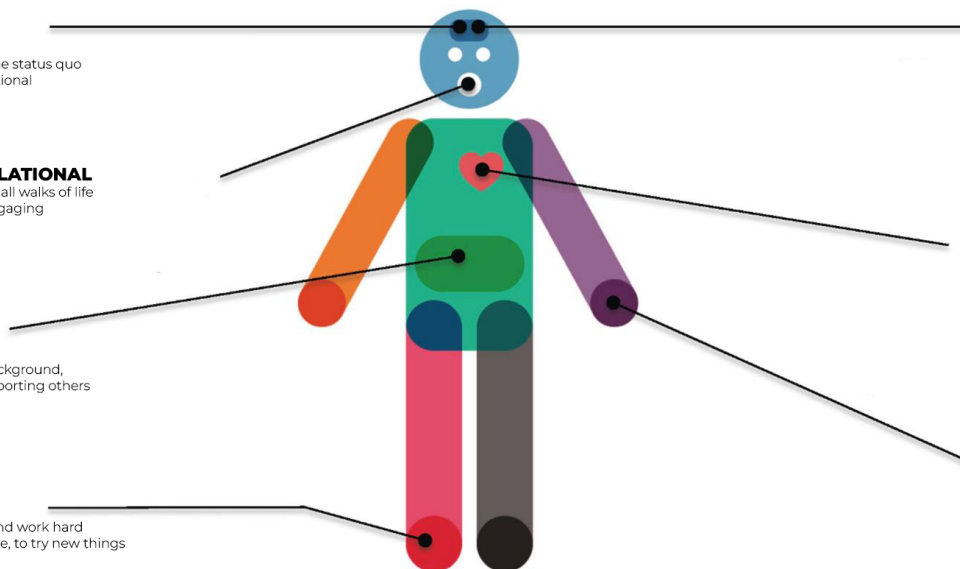
Get things done well
Respected for expertise & experience
Professional & reliable

AUTHENTIC

Comfortable in own skin
True to own values
Love God, love people
No judgement, just support

PLAYFUL

Always up for a laugh
Makes everyone feel at ease
Brings joy and fun



OUR PEOPLE

Since the first Scripture Union ministry started in Australia, volunteers have always been at the heart of this movement. These amazing, passionate individuals with a heart to serve once again played a vital role in sharing God's love, hope and good news with children, young people and families this past year.

In 2021-22, we partnered with:



12,416

Volunteers
(up from **8,000+**
the previous year)



3,816

Camps &
Community
Outreach
Volunteers



6,800

Chaplaincy
Volunteers



1,800

Schools
Ministry
Volunteers



OUR VOLUNTEERS

Hannah's heart to serve

Volunteers like Hannah have always been, and will continue to be the heartbeat of our movement.

Hannah's story with SU began before she was even born, with her dad serving on beach missions in his younger years.

It wasn't until recently, however, that Hannah personally got involved in the work of SU – first volunteering to help the communications team in the ACT office, while studying at university, and then continuing the family legacy of getting involved in beach missions.

"What I love about SU, and why I love supporting this work, is it's so exciting to be part of this community. It really is like a big family. Each person is so excited about the mission and seeing kids and young people know Jesus, which is beautiful to see," says Hannah.

In recent years, Hannah's volunteer work with the communications team has added another dimension to her support for SU.

"SU gives young people opportunities to grow in their skills, which is what keeps me so invested in this mission. But it's also the stories of lives impacted.

"I love hearing about the SUPA clubs in schools and the testimonies from camps and missions. They are all such a reminder to me that God is pretty cool and it's exciting to be part of this mission and see the fruit of that work."

Hannah's story is just one of literally thousands of big-hearted people across Australia who continue to give of their time and talents so more children, young people and their families can discover life and find their place in God's big story.

Thank you Hannah and to all our amazing volunteers for all you do to make this mission possible!



Our Board & Executive

OUR BOARD

We have taken care to ensure that our directors and leaders are strongly committed to our constitutional principles of local ministry, and that the majority of our board has ongoing SU experience.



Alison Hunter, GAICD
Chair
Program Manager – Major Projects, World Vision



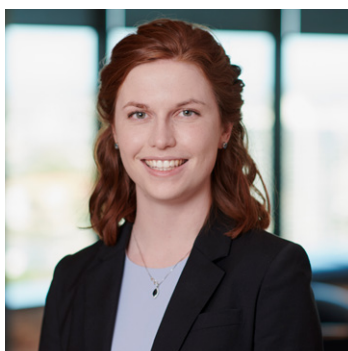
Peter Murphy, GAICD, FCPA, FASFA
Executive Director,
Jefferson & Shea Group



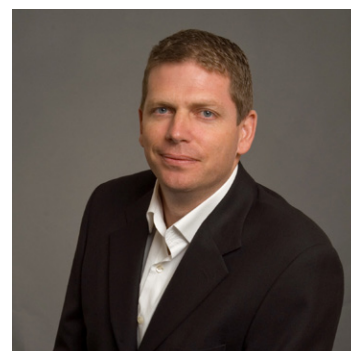
Rev Dr Chris Porter
Executive Director, Equip Ministries & Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Trinity College



Peter Barney
CEO/State Minister of Churches of Christ SA



Harriet Smith
Senior Associate at MinterEllison



Mark Silby
Change Leader & Risk Manager, Department of Defence Reform Project



Sean Hubbard, GAICD, CA
General Manager, The Wesley Hospital



Michael Hotchkin
Senior Partner, Hotchkin Hanly Law Firm



Emily Fernandez
Medical Intern at Broome Hospital

*The above information is accurate for the reporting period, ending 30 June 2022.

Our Board & Executive

OUR EXECUTIVE



Peter James
Group CEO

Peter is an experienced leader of for-purpose organisations. He was also an SU camper, camp and mission leader, and served on SU boards before joining staff in 2012. Peter's early experiences on SU camps influenced him greatly. He has a big heart to see the next generation discovering life and hope in God's big story.



Sue Hanlon
Chief of Staff

Sue has been involved in SU ministries for over eight years, working first in regional Queensland. Sue has a special passion for our regional communities and seeing people find rich fulfilment in their work. A natural encourager, Sue brings heart and warmth to the SU Australia leadership team, and her people-focused nature is highly valued.



Luke van Luik
Group Director
Shared Services

Luke originally hails from South Africa, and has been working in financial management for over 16 years. He is passionate about working with people-focused organisations. Over his career, Luke has spent years working in management positions across the UK, and brings with him a logical and fresh perspective to our leadership team.



Ian Cumming
Group Director
North Zone and
(acting) West Zone

Ian has been involved with SU ministries for over a decade and is passionate about seeing young people and youth workers thriving and living life to the full. Ian pairs wisdom with a deep commitment to SU ministries and isn't afraid to forge new paths to grow mission in our ever-changing society.



Kent Morgan
Acting Group Director
Engage & Equip

Kent is a lifelong SU participant and volunteer. His memories and faith walk has SU woven through it – from being a 'camp kid' to the lifelong friendships, skills and deeper faith experiences that came from SU programs and volunteering. Kent has been on staff since 2002 in community programs, risk management, training, church consultancy and leadership roles.



Leanne Palmer
Group Director
South Zone

Leanne manages our ministries across Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and the ACT. She has been involved with SU since 2014 and is passionate about providing opportunities and experiences for our young people to discover joy, community and connection. Her productive and dedicated nature brings a fresh perspective, creating new possibilities for mission delivery.



Jenni Dobbin
Group Director
East Zone

Jenni manages SU Australia ministries across south-east Queensland and New South Wales. A long-term pillar of SU ministries, Jenni has passionately served for over 25 years. She started her SU journey as a school chaplain, and brings great sensitivity and insight to the organisation.



James Angus
Acting Group Director
Mission Support

James has worked across a variety of fundraising, systems and strategic management roles with SU since 2008. His heart is to help ministry happen across Australia, which he delivers through his creative approaches to problem solving. He works collaboratively to see these ideas come to fruition within the team.

OUR MINISTRIES

Across our movement, SU Australia and Generate deliver a diverse range of ministries from peak camping adventures and cross-cultural engagements and training, to religious instruction in schools and supporting at-risk and vulnerable young people through the work of school chaplains, and more.

Over the years, these ministries may change to meet the ever-changing needs of the communities we serve in, but what remains unchanged is our mission to bring God's love, hope and good news to children, young people and their families in all we do. In the following pages we want to share with you, all that you've made possible in the 2021/22 financial year.



● **147 students received nationally-recognised youth work training** within a Christian framework

● **4,330 Christian workers, volunteers and interns trained, supported and equipped** to serve communities nationwide

● **2 campsites**

● **325,000 ChildSafe Environments created** nationwide

● **254+ Camps & Missions**

● **1,014 Chaplaincy Services**

● **117 SRE teachers and RI Workers** in Schools

● **Cross-cultural training** delivered across 5 cities

Our Ministries

CAMPS

Countless numbers of Australians today testify to the central role SU's camping ministry played in the formation of their own faith.

From arts and drama to sports and action-packed peak experiences and tech-focussed camps, each camp offers young people an opportunity to learn more about God,

grow in relationship with him, and find belonging as part of a welcoming and inclusive community that continues well beyond the camp itself.

In 2021-22, you helped us provide:



82

Residential
Camps



45

Day Camps &
Community
Outreaches



4

Schoolies /
Leavers Events



230

Camps &
Community
Outreaches



SU Camps

21-22 HIGHLIGHTS



From the UK to Australia's Sunny Shores, God's Word Remains

"We had one young boy at camp who was quite shy on the first day, but he quickly made friends and heard bible stories for the very first time. He had such a great time he came back the next day and brought his sister. Speaking with his mum later, she said they weren't a religious family, but she recalled attending SU Beach Missions in the UK when she was younger. She hadn't realised it was the same organisation. She told me how much she had loved learning about the bible stories back then, and she was happy that her children were now able to do the same, despite now living in a different country. Both children came back to attend their second SU camp on the winter holidays!"

Rachael W,
SU Camp Leader

Kids Games in the NT

"Children and young people in Darwin, Katherine, and Alice Springs once again enjoyed engaging in sport and active games, bible storytelling and drama at this year's Kids Games in the Northern Territory.

Our theme was Living Life to the Full, focusing on the lives of King David and Jesus. None of this would be possible without the support of local churches in each location, and also to our SU Coola team from Victoria, as well as the team from Cedars College in Wollongong (NSW). Please continue to pray for the kids who have attended a Kids Games program this year, including those who chose to put their trust in Jesus for the first time, praise God!"

Ox Roberts,
SU Australia Regional Manager NT & the Kimberleys

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Family Camp North, Fingal Valley

"The heart behind SU's Family Camp North in Fingal Valley, Tasmania is to share Jesus' love with families in need, and it certainly delivered this year. One highlight, among many, was the evening of our talent show. We were blown away by one young man Jack* who sang "Real Love" by Hillsong. Jack is an inspiring young man with special needs, and got the whole audience rocking. But the show stealer for sure was when a Harry*, who at just five years old came up to me while I was leading as 'Show Master' and formed a love-heart with his hands, smiled the most beautiful smile, and gave me the biggest bear hug. His mum had shared with me earlier that it was a miracle they'd even made it to camp because she suffers from crippling anxiety. However, she'd been encouraged to overcome her fears by another camper who'd become a Christian at last year's camp."

Stephanie Sebastian,
SU Australia Regional Manager Tasmania

**Names have been changed to protect privacy.*

SU Camps

21-22 HIGHLIGHTS



What SU Camps mean to Josh

Josh came to Australia from India when he was 12 to attend his first SU Grade 4-6 Camp at Camp Coolamatong. From that moment he was hooked.

"I came back every summer to attend a holiday camp at Coola. I loved the environment, the other campers, and the leaders. Every year I would return it felt like we picked up right where we left off.

"I loved the deep chats, and not having to worry about what anyone else was thinking about me. I was able to come out of my shell and be myself, and grow so much stronger in my relationship with God," he says.

Last year Josh returned to lead on for the first time and is keen to do it again this year!.

"I loved being able to give the kids the kind of experience I had at camp. I listened and also shared my story with them, which I hope helps them as they go through their own challenges.

Josh's experience with SU Camps has also inspired him to volunteer as an intern at Coola, learning all the practical skills that go into running a camp.

"Camps have always been milestones for me, always the biggest reinforcement for my faith. Being an intern at Coola will be fulfilling for me, in every way."

Thanks to our amazing supporters who help create these pathways for young people like Josh to strengthen their faith and help others do the same!

Beach 2 Bush

Beach2Bush is a community outreach run by SU in partnership with Nambour Baptist Church, which takes young people in grades 10, 11 and 12 from the Sunshine Coast to small and rural state schools to share the meaning of Christmas through creative arts of puppets, drama and song. Many of those small rural schools rarely get outside visitors to come into their schools, and the students that go from the coast are often blown away by the size and remoteness of the schools we visit. Principals have welcomed us with open arms, and last Christmas was no different, particularly when they see the enthusiasm of our students and how their own students welcome the message we present.

Now operating for 27 years and travelling to approximately 150 different schools throughout Queensland, the reason for the season still continues to inspire young people to make a difference in other people's lives.

Teen adds new layers of faith at camp

"My child came back [from camp] very encouraged in his faith. He finds it difficult to be only one of the few Christian teens in our town and church. It was eye-opening to him to realise that his negative experiences are not so much about church, but tied to the lack of peers to do it with. He also said he had a lot of prayers answered on camp. He said that each year at camp he has a new layer added to his faith. We are so appreciative of all the leaders who pour so much time and love into camp and the kids. Thank you!

SU Schoolies & Leavers

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

Churches see attendance boost after SU-Schoolies

SU-Schoolies returned to the Whitsundays and Sunny Coast in 2021 giving Year 12 graduates from Cairns to the Gold Coast, and as far west as Chinchilla the chance to celebrate. We were once again excited to not only see the impact that God had on Schoolies with many committing to serve God in their local communities, but we also heard from local churches about the influx of attendees at services in the weeks after the event!

For one young school leaver, Hyemin, Schoolies had a profound impact on her, helping re-connect her with her faith.

“Through COVID and everything happening this year, I wasn’t thinking about God a lot. But [at SU-Schoolies] I got that feeling back. I felt overwhelmed and happy. He reminded me that he has a plan and he’s still there [for me],” she says.



Graduate discovers Jesus at Leavers

SU Leavers gives high-school graduates the opportunity to celebrate the end of their schooling lives in a fun, positive environment, while learning more about Jesus. Its popularity has been growing in Western Australia over the years, so much so that we had an additional 46 campers with us in Kalbarri in 2021. On the final night of camp, the Holy Spirit moved and five young people gave their life to Christ, including a former atheist. This is his testimony

“I was born into an atheist household. I came to the SU Leavers camp expecting to only be in it for the adventure camp sections, but in the first RealTalk session, something spoke to me. By the end of the week, I gave myself over to God and when the leaders were praying for me, I just started crying uncontrollably as I felt the presence of God and put my faith in Him. To top off this whole amazing, life-changing experience, with such wonderful, supporting people, a leader came to me and invited me to his church, which is everything I wanted from a church to join and just happens to be 500 metres from my house.”

Our Ministries

MISSIONS

Whether it's a family festival out west, Kids Games up north, a beach mission in the south, or a community outreach in the outback, SU missions are one of the key ways we work alongside churches to impact our nation, and also equip and release more young people into ministry.

Mannum SUPA Summa Fun

"A man's heart plans his way. But the Lord directs his steps." Proverbs 16:9.

With COVID still a reality in the early part of this year, this verse rings true after what we experienced with Mannum SUPA Summa Fun (SSF). As a team we made plans, knowing that at any stage the Team Leaders could announce it wasn't safe for Mission to happen. SSF was planned as a four day morning event, Monday to Thursday, run outside on the MaryAnn Reserve next to the Murray river.

On Wednesday our theme was God welcomes everyone. Seventeen children and adults joined in, many for the first time, excited to see what was on offer in the various gazebos.

Children were engaged with their activities, adults were engaged in conversation with team members and each other.

The following pages contains just a sample of what your support, together with the support of our church communities around Australia, made possible this past year.

It was a blessing to serve as a united team and show the love of Jesus. We all felt a great sense of joy and deep satisfaction after handing out bibles and resources and engaging in conversations.

Thursday morning brought different news. One of our team had tested COVID positive and the program was cancelled. And so our best day became our last day. We trust God with the seeds that were sown, knowing that he indeed directs our steps.

Anita Venning,
Mannum Team Member



Our Ministries

MISSIONS



God's word is the ultimate gift

"Each January an amazing team of Youth Group leaders bring children from the town of Northam, WA (inland) and bus them across to Cervantes on the coast for a few days of fun with the SU Family Festival team.

One of the girls from Northam had been playing a bible card game with a youth leader on the bus on the way to Cervantes Family Festival. After seeing this, one of the team members chatted to her and offered her a bible with a personal message of encouragement. The young girl was so happy with the unexpected gift and very grateful too!

We are also grateful for the diligence of our youth group team, and for the support of the Bible Society in making freely available God's Word for us to share with those in need."

Paul Edwards,
SU Australia Community Mission Coordinator

Welcoming Families at Port Campbell

"This year SU missions returned to Port Campbell, Victoria for the first time in eighteen years! SU Family Mission (SUFM) team member Jo sat with a family who were new to Australia. They shared how hard it was to make connections, particularly for their son, as he was very shy.

As we chatted, and talked about the bible story of the day, the boy tentatively joined in the activities. Suddenly he was having a ball making pipe cleaner art with the other kids. His mum and dad were surprised he was willing to get involved. But the SUFM team welcomed him, his sister, and their mum and dad, and offered them a place to belong, have fun, and explore the stories of Jesus," says Jo.



Our Ministries

MISSIONS

Marie's transformation at Stanley beach mission

SU Beach Missions are not just events that happen over the school holidays. Each mission is a living community that shines God's love to people from all backgrounds as they discover life and purpose in his big story.

For Marie* and her daughter, SU's Stanley Beach Mission in north-western Tasmania has had a life-transforming impact.

Marie had been banned from a number of local shops and the caravan park due to her ice addiction and difficulty in controlling her emotions.

Working with the caravan park to get their permission, and following Jesus' own example, the team welcomed Marie and her daughter. They became regulars throughout the week, chatting with the team and joining the activities, Stanley Beach Mission Director, Krissy says.

"We had a supporter donate a bible with a special request attached – that it goes to 'someone special'. When our team gathered for our final devotion of the week, we unanimously voted that it would go to Marie," Krissy recalls.

This was two years ago... Today, Marie has turned her life around, and both she and her daughter continue to attend Stanley Beach Mission every year. Not only that, but Marie is now also in a healthy relationship and has just given birth to a baby boy.

We're looking forward to catching Marie and her beautiful family at next year's Stanley Beach Mission.

***Name has been changed to protect the individual's privacy**



Our Ministries

CHAPLAINCY

School Chaplaincy

SU Australia and Generate chaplains provide social, spiritual and emotional support to school communities. They are in the prevention and support business: helping students find a better way to deal with issues ranging from family breakdown and loneliness to friendships and mental health.

They provide a listening ear and a caring presence for children and young people in crisis, and those who just need a friend. They also provide support for staff and parents in school communities.

In the 2021/22 financial year, 706 SU and Generate chaplains faithfully served and supported 1,014 school communities across Australia.

We also inducted 134 new chaplains across the nation.



445

Breakfast Clubs



378

Educational Support



850

Social-emotional Support



25

Anti-bullying



220

Spiritual Support



219

Mentoring & Role Modelling



337

Community Development, Events & Activities



30

Diversity Support



27

Parenting



9

Funerals & Memorials

Our Ministries

CHAPLAINCY

Josh's call to serve in Cowboy Country

SU and Generate chaplains are called to serve in many places of need, from primary and high schools to special schools, hospitals, universities.

For school chaplain Josh Lane, he is now supporting students at a boarding facility set up by the National Rugby League's (NRL) North Queensland Cowboys, through the Cowboys Community Foundation.

NRL Cowboys House provides safe, supported accommodation for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from remote communities, enabling them to access quality secondary education opportunities in Townsville.

For Josh, who is also Indigenous, it marks a return to chaplaincy, having previously served from 2007 to 2017. Late last year, Josh felt God was calling him back.

"I saw a real need in Townsville. There's a crisis happening up here with the young people in our community, and I felt a tug from God to get back into this work again," Josh says.

At NRL Cowboys House, Josh supports students facing the challenges of homesickness, while also providing life coaching and spiritual guidance.

"Spirituality is the number one thing I talk to kids about at the House," Josh says.

"Culturally, spirituality is very real [for many Indigenous students and their families]. They come to me with questions and issues. I encourage and help them understand the issues they are facing."

Leigh Allender, Director of Boarding at NRL Cowboys House, values the vital role Josh plays.

"Josh works closely with our psychologists and wellbeing team – he's built some really strong relationships with the students," Leigh says.

"He's a big part of our social and emotional wellbeing program for Year 7 and 8 students. Since his arrival he's made a real difference."





Chaplain and church connect for family in need

Two weeks before the end of the 2021 school year Melbourne-based Altona College school chaplain Shyamala, heard some troubling news from a student she was working with.

The student, his mum and siblings had been forced to flee their home after an 'incident'.

"He was displaying some inappropriate behaviour at school," Shyamala recalls. "He was reenacting things he'd seen at home. He's very young, and sounded traumatised."

His teacher asked Shyamala to work with him.

"He said he'd written a letter to Santa, asking for nappies, cash, and some toys. I asked what the nappies were for and he explained 'Mum says we didn't have any money for [Christmas] presents this year because nappies are so expensive.'"

The family had been roughing it since leaving home, and

the young boy had recently missed his birthday, which prompted Shyamala into action.

"I called one of the local churches [St Eanswythe's] and I told the vicar the needs of this family and he immediately said, 'Yes, we'll help'."

That Sunday, the vicar shared the family's story with his congregation, and they responded with three huge bags of wrapped gifts, a box of nappies, a Christmas hamper, baby clothes, and over \$100 of gift cards.

When Shyamala delivered the gifts, the mum burst into tears.

"The pastor had written a note to say, 'This is not from me, this came from the people of this church, who I've not met, and you've not met, but they knew they had to do this for you.'"

Special Religious Education (SRE) & RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (RI)

SU Australia and Generate are committed to giving young people opportunities to explore their faith in a welcoming and safe environment. As part of our ongoing work in this area we deliver Special Religious Education (SRE) and Religious Instruction (RI) in New South Wales and Northern Territory schools.

The lingering effects of the pandemic significantly impacted SRE and RI programs in 2021/22. This was most felt in 2021 with many classes cancelled because of COVID restrictions. 2022 has thankfully brought clearer waters in this regard and SRE teachers/RI instructors are once again able to share God's good news to students whose families have chosen to enrol them in these programs.

Matthew Bottin, a Generate SRE teacher who commenced his role at a high school on New South Wales' North Coast in Term 2 has seen a steady increase in Year 7 students attending SRE classes after a two-and-a-half year hiatus. He has been encouraged by their high level of engagement and the lively discussions.

"For my part it has been fun playing icebreaker games while sharing biblical truths. But the real highlight for me has been all the great questions our students are asking,"

In New South Wales more than 22,000 students accessed SRE classes facilitated by 114 Generate SRE teachers. Our teachers were supported by 229 volunteers.

In the Northern Territory 534 students accessed RI classes across nine schools in the greater Darwin area. Our three SU Australia RI staff were supported by 16 volunteers.



Special Religious Education (SRE) & **RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (RI)**

Aimee discovered life through SRE

More than a decade ago, Aimee's life changed forever thanks to high school SRE, previously known as Scripture.

Now a store manager at Koorong in Newcastle, Aimee credits her faith today to her high school scripture classes where she first read the Bible for herself and encountered the transforming love of Jesus.

"I wasn't raised in a religious household; I knew who Jesus and God were and knew some of the stories but I really didn't know how to connect... My faith journey started slowly with attending scripture at school and I began to read the Bible," recalls Aimee.

"My faith grew and I felt like my search for purpose was coming to an end."

"I see the (SRE) classes as a form of education in schools. It's part history and geography, part science and part life skills. It teaches kids about loving others just as God loves us."

Aimee recalls her SRE classes being highly interactive, and a safe, non-judgemental space to learn about the Bible and the Christian faith.

Her teacher was relatable, making classes enjoyable as they explored together, and he encouraged the students to ask questions and participate in discussions.

"Scripture classes were the foundation of my faith, and I believe that scripture is vital in the (NSW) public school system. Scripture classes were invaluable for me and paved the way for who I am today," said Aimee.



Cross-Cultural INNOVATIONS

Thank you for helping us deliver
the following in 2021-22:



44

People received CHAT
Training across five
capital cities



10

Churches received
cultural training to help
equip them to reach
their communities



21

Training sessions,
workshops and
cultural ministry
presentations



3

Culture camps hosted
for participants

Earlier this year we learned from the 2021 Census that Australia is now a “majority migrant nation”, with 51.5% of our population either born overseas or having a parent who was born overseas. This cultural richness presents SU Australia with challenges and opportunities, as we pursue our vision to reach every Australian child, young person and family.

The aim of SU's cultural ministry is to serve the movement and local churches with resources, training and perspective on cultural identity and engagement. Our desire is to see the whole body of Christ, “from every nation, tribe, people and language” (Rev 7:9), united in love and growing in ministry impact.

A centrepiece of our work is CHAT, which stands for Cultural Hearing Asking Telling, and provides a framework for cultural interactions, and tools for use in formal contexts like schools and informally on camps or holiday programs. This year we have provided CHAT Training in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth, with more inner-city and country locations under development. To find out more, visit chatproject.org.au

At the end of 2021 we secured funding to develop camps or holiday programs to actively engage cultural groups not normally reached by SU ministry. Foundations are now being laid and we look forward to sharing all the new missional expressions in the pipeline.



Cross-Cultural INNOVATIONS

Inspired and renewed by God's love

In June we were invited by a Chinese Church to help them think more deeply about cultural engagement and what Jesus taught about loving our neighbour. A feature of the training is to engage with another group of people to better understand them.

We took the group to a mosque, which is led by the local Bosnian community.

As members from both groups engaged one another they learned about the layers upon layers of differences. Through this learning and engagement the Christian leaders walked away feeling surprised and inspired afresh at the radical nature of God's love for us and for the whole world.



SU Institute of TRAINING

SU Institute of Training (RTO 30548) delivers nationally recognised qualifications in Youth Work.

Our programs have been developed in line with industry standards, with a particular focus on developing a Christian framework for the practice of youth work in community, school or church contexts. We offer Certificate and Diploma level qualifications in Youth Work, Chaplaincy, and Pastoral Care as well as the 2 minimum chaplaincy units.



In 2021-22,
SU Institute of
Training delivered:



40

Certificate IV
Graduates



6

Diploma Student
Graduates



50

Students completed the
individual unit CHCCCS016
Responding to Client Needs



51

Students completed the
individual unit CHCMHS001
Working with People with
Mental Health Issues



Training & EQUIPPING

What is SU Equip?

SU Equip designs and delivers training and resources to/ for SU frontline staff and volunteers who serve children, young people and families in schools, camps, missions, and churches.



Area of Ministry	Training Delivered	Participant Numbers
Schools Ministry	New chaplain & SRE teacher inductions	224
Schools Ministry	In-Service training (delivered 2-3 times yearly, depending on location)	706
Schools Ministry	Schools Ministry Conference (online + face-to-face training and workshops)	690
Schools Ministry	Mental Health First Aid	30
Schools Ministry	Seasons for Growth (grief and loss training)	15
Schools Ministry	Online program workshops	60
Schools Ministry	LGBTIQ+ Support Webinars	50
Schools Ministry	Victorian Chaplaincy Retreat	30
Camping & Missions	Team Members and Experienced Team Leaders Training	786
Camping & Missions	New Team Leaders Training	183
Church & Families	Amplify Conference	1,500
Church & Families	Internships	11
Church & Families	Local Community Training	40
Church & Families	Graduate Certificate partnership with Nazarene Theological College	5

Training & EQUIPPING

Why is SU Equip's work important?

Frontline children and youth workers require up-to-date information, skills and tools to minister effectively to young Australians. SU Equip blends industry best-practice standards with on-the-ground experience to deliver relevant and engaging training and resources. SU Equip partners with the SU Australia field teams to ensure the ongoing currency of all frontline staff and volunteers.

Schools Ministry Conference

Our first ever SU Australia and Generate Schools Ministry Conference was a highlight for the more than 700 chaplains and SRE teachers who attended.

"I loved the speakers; they were all dynamic and the content was excellent. It was also great to meet many new faces and hear the stories behind the work we all do."

"I loved being with other people who are passionate about ministry to kids in schools, I have felt a little isolated over the last number of years (possibly due to covid and limited opportunities to meet up and no annual conference for the last couple of years), so it was refreshing to remember that we are part of something bigger and see other faces and people and spend time together."

"I loved the large range of workshops we could pick from to go to each day. I found it easy to find a workshop that suited the things that God was working on in my personal growth."



AMPLIFY CONFERENCE

AMPLIFY-ing Training Across the Country.

The annual Brisbane-based AMPLIFY conference (formerly known as IGNITE) was a well-attended and growing feature in many churches' training calendar for 16 years ... until the pandemic.

In 2020, God birthed a new vision for this conference – a decentralised model that equipped and empowered 'Hubs' in local communities across the country to host their own AMPLIFY day, while our central leadership team provided digital keynote messages and interactive electives.

In 2022, 36 Hubs in six states registered their events with an estimated 1500 leaders in children, youth and families ministry gathering at local venues and online. AMPLIFY also facilitates an annual leadership summit for ministry team leaders.

AMPLIFY continues to be a partnering initiative, 'owned' and supported by churches working together. SU Australia is investing time and resources through website support, registration systems, insurance cover, accounting support, sponsorship arrangements, marketing strategies and more.

AMPLIFY is a significant strategy for SU Australia as it prioritises its "working with the churches" in accordance with our SU Aims.



Our CAMPSITES

Update from Coolamatong (VIC)

For the start of this report period (July-December 2021), Victoria was in the midst of lockdowns, which meant Coolamatong was a campsite without any campers.

Our teams used this period to invest in our interns, make improvements to the site, and ready ourselves for the future.

In Term 4 school camping resumed. With schools eager for their students to have a positive camp experience after a tough two years, we enjoyed a full Term 4 with many campers enjoying a life-giving time. On the flip side, our staff and supporter team were impacted by vaccination mandates.

Our Summer Camp program was positive, particularly with the re-introduction of a Year 11, 12, and young adults camp. We look forward to continued growth as we rebuild after summers affected by bushfires and Covid.

In the first half of 2022 we welcomed a new team of interns. As Covid restrictions continued to wind down, we gradually returned to “close-to-normal” operations. The story of 2022 so far has been one of more campers experiencing the love of Jesus as they spent time as part of the Coola family in Victoria.



Update from Camp Geographe (WA)

The highlight of our previous 12 months has been the ablution block improvement. The smart new walls and floors have improved the layout and the look of the facility.

Our season of busyness at Camp Geographe extended into winter, increasing all-year-round use of the site, which increases the ministry opportunities. SU camps are increasing, as are non-SU camps. Not all are ministry based, but a recent guest spoke about the annual school camp that he runs saying “the minute I set foot here I get choked up and feel so emotional because year after year our students make significant life decisions here that change the direction of their life.” At the end of camp, he shared “this was another wonderful experience where God moved and showed himself to us throughout the week.”

CHILDSAFE AUSTRALIA

Making Australia ChildSafe

The last year for ChildSafe Australia has been a huge one. First and foremost, we have created ChildSafe Environments for over 325,000 children. This is the statistic that really matters as it helps us to see the difference we are making for children in organisations around Australia.

We have continued to grow our influence in the Local Government, sporting clubs, child care/kinder, and church sectors seeing a high demand for child safety training to educate the organisation's staff and volunteers. To meet this growing need, we have developed new training, including a new online child safety training for all adults around Australia.

With the introduction of the new 11 Victoria Child Safe Standards, we ran 11 webinars for multiple organisations from various sectors. This proved to be a supportive resource for many and the sector experts we had, provided valuable insight.

We also launched our ongoing campaign #speakupfor4kids aimed at empowering adults, children, and organisations on how to speak up for children when it comes to child safety.



Our CAMPAIGNS



Summer/Christmas Appeal 2021

This appeal season marked the final time we reached out to supporters for a major fundraising appeal with separate state branding and messaging.

Our supporters dug deep to help fund our ministries on the ground, including camps, missions, chaplaincy and more heading into the 2022 calendar year.

Combined goal: \$239,000
Combined funds raised: \$272,355

End of Financial Year Appeal 2022

In May 2022 we launched our first combined SU Australia and Generate End of Financial Year Appeal. Throughout the campaign we shared stories from across our ministries, each of which spoke to the DNA of SU Australia and Generate (see page 7).

Once again our supporters responded to the call for support and helped surpass our fundraising goal to fund existing ministries, and also birth new opportunities as well. We are so grateful to everyone who continues to support us financially, prayerfully and also with their time. You are all helping us get closer to our goal of seeing every child, young person and family in Australia discovering life in God's big story.

Goal: \$1,200,000
Funds raised: \$1,253,926



Community FUNDRAISING

We are so grateful to the thousands of local communities we serve across Australia who continue to support our ministries at the local level, from local chaplaincy committees and local businesses and generous individuals with a big heart for our young people.

In 2021-22, here are some of our largest community fundraisers:

\$126,505

ACT Regeneration Appeal Dinner
(March 2022)

\$219,566

Combined Chaplaincy
Fundraising Dinners



FINANCE RESULTS

Our Financial Position

The Group's accounting period is the year ended 30 June 2022. The comparative 2021 accounting period (used in our statutory accounts) is from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021 as a result of a change in financial year-end post-merger. That makes year-on-year comparisons difficult this year so, in this annual report, we have used unaudited management accounts for the 12 months to 30 June 2021 for the sake of comparison (*the same management figures we provided in the annual report last year*).

This is an example of the complexity we are progressively eliminating in the period since we merged nine entities (on 1 June 2021) to form SU Australia. Another complexity this year is that on 1 October 2021, Scripture Union Service Ltd acquired 100% of the membership interests of Generate Services Limited ("Generate"). The 2022 consolidated accounts therefore include only nine months' financial performance (1 October 2021 to 30 June 2022) for Generate.

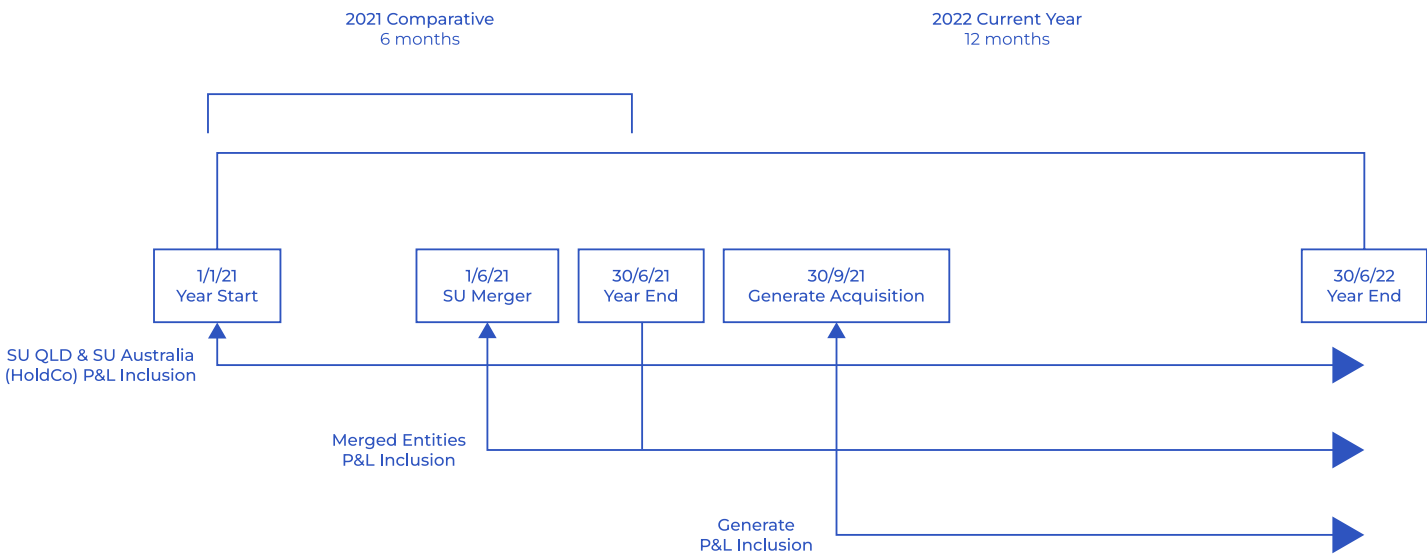


Figure 1. Timeline of SU Australia Merger

This will be the final period where we have this kind of complexity due to the merger. Reporting will be simpler and clearer into the future.

FINANCE RESULTS

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2022

	June 2021* Total (\$'000)	June 2022 Total (\$'000)
Income		
Non-government Contract Revenue	7,198	10,276
Government Contract Revenue	19,186	18,649
Donations	12,617	15,092
Other Income	17,078	151
Total Income	56,079	44,168
Expenditure		
Chaplaincy Expenses	25,411	27,528
Ministry Expenses	5,911	8,539
Administration Expenses	9,551	9,802
Marketing Expenses	1,287	1,554
Impairment Expense / (Reversal)	-	(732)
Finance Costs	14	159
Total Expenditure	42,174	46,850
Net Surplus / (deficit) for the year	13,905	(2,682)
Other Comprehensive Income	(1)	-
Total Comprehensive Income / (loss) for the year	13,904	(2,682)

*As noted earlier, the 2021 figures are unaudited management figures showing the consolidated statement of comprehensive income - as reported in last year's Annual Report, for comparison. The 2021 figures do not include Generate.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2022

	June 2021* Total (\$'000)	June 2022 Total (\$'000)
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	22,683	31,889
Financial Assets at Amortised Cost	8,214	1,004
Trade and Other Receivables	2,712	1,395
Inventories	7	1
Other Current Assets	1,535	1,110
Total Current Assets	35,151	35,399
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	12,440	13,934
Intangible Assets	8	18
Financial Assets at Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income	525	493
Total Non-Current Assets	12,973	14,445
Total Assets	48,124	49,844
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables	3,065	1,372
Contract Liabilities	2,136	3,649
Employee Benefits	2,870	3,711
Borrowings	277	-
Lease Liabilities	101	122
Total Current Liabilities	8,449	8,854
Non-Current Liabilities		
Employee Benefits	846	493
Lease Liabilities	7	173
Total Non-Current Liabilities	853	666
Total Liabilities	9,302	9,520
Net Assets	38,822	40,324
Equity		
Reserves	5,401	13,571
Reserves - Restricted	18,671	23,241
Accumulated Funds	14,750	3,512
Total Equity	38,822	40,324

FINANCE RESULTS

Key Financial Observations

1. The group's total equity remained relatively stable from 2021 to 2022 at \$40.324M (2021 \$38.822M), including a \$3.3M net assets gain during the financial period, due to SU Australia acquiring 100% of the membership interests of Generate.

2. Except for Generate (which only included 9 months of performance), the year ending 30 June 2022 was the first full year the SU Australia entities operated as a consolidated group. The consolidated financial result for that period (including Generate) is an overall loss of -\$2.682M.

This result included \$1.484M of one-off merger-related costs incurred to bring people, systems and processes together.

This has included work to bring together our separate finance systems as well as new ministry supporting systems and infrastructure, such as a new camping participants and booking system, event management systems, volunteer management systems and risk management systems. When we have completed this work we hope to see our ministries across Australia well supported and our volunteers and staff enabled in their work.

During this period there were significant effects on operations from pandemic-related lockdowns and slow downs. That included an approximate \$0.648M (8.7%) reduction in income from impacted programs (including camps, chaplaincies, camp site bookings and Special Religious Education (SRE) teaching). With the impacts of the pandemic on our ministries reducing in the second half of 2022, we hope to report on positive increases in ministries (and related revenues) in our annual report next year.

3. In the previous period ending 30 June 2021, the group aggregated result (excluding Generate) was a surplus of \$13.9M largely due to Government wage subsidies, one-off donation amounts, and other abnormal outcomes during the pandemic and post-merger period that we could not treat as 'business as usual' (BAU). We reported last year, with those non-BAU and abnormal outcomes stripped out, that the 30 June 2021 underlying operational outcome was a group operating deficit of -\$1.062M.

If we strip out the non-BAU items and normalise the financial results for 30 June 2022 in the same way, including removing fully funded chaplaincy spending, the underlying group operating result for the period to 30 June 2022 is a \$1.197M surplus.

However, we had planned to incur more expenses than were actually incurred during the year (some being non-BAU expenses to complete our post-merger transformation), and we carried some vacancies which would have added additional expenses if filled.

4. Last year we reported we had found more than 5% of budgeted savings compared with the inherited pre-merger budget position.

In a high inflationary environment and with other economic uncertainties, we must continue to maintain a disciplined approach to expenses in the period to 30 June 2023. Also, the management team is also doing all we can to substantially complete all non-BAU transformation during 2023, so that we can reduce that source of abnormal expense into the future.

Our FUTURE INITIATIVES

Our SU Australia vision is a big, ambitious vision and one worth striving for!

“Every child, young person and family in Australia [having] opportunities of transforming experiences with Jesus and a lifelong journey of discipleship and serving a world in need.”

As a national movement, we are already at work seeing our vision realised in communities across Australia, however, we are only reaching around 10% of children, young people and families.

We believe that, together, we can co-create a future where our vision is audacious, but also possible and sustainable.

‘When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God ... move out from your positions and follow it. Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before.’ [Joshua 3:3&4 NIV]

SU Australia came from a sense that we could be stronger together as a unified national movement. Before we formed SU Australia, we had glimpses of what that could look like, but we needed to ‘get across the river’ into our new SU Australia space to form a better picture of the possibilities.

The SU leadership team is currently seeking God, getting some height, ‘seeing the land’, and turning our eyes to where we need to go next to reach more children and young people across Australia.

We’ve already seen some initiatives beginning to take shape to birth new ministry:

- Online children’s ministry training for volunteers in the ACT, and for churches spread across the nation
- The launch of SQUAD, a new camp for secondary school girls in South Australia
- Lego Club in George Town and Swansea Holiday Club in Tasmania
- New chaplaincy services at Mansfield Autism Statewide Service and Dookie Autism College in Victoria.
- GENTS Fathers & Sons Camp expanding from SA to NSW, to be run in partnership with Generate
- Inspire Art Camp, also in NSW

We are also exploring other future initiatives, including these three:

- Expanding our Cross Cultural and First Nations work. 14% of young Australians come from a migrant or first nations background, and we want to build new ways to engage, learn, partner and work together with churches, families and communities in this space
- Strengthening our training for mission. We have a strong heritage of developing leaders for ministry and we want to see that become even stronger. We have re-launched our registered training organisation as SU Institute of Training (SUIT), and we are working to strengthen our training offerings to SUIT students and leaders of SU ministries.
- Supporting Christians in Schools. We already have some support networks for Christian teachers and people working in community contexts. We are exploring how to expand this into an integrated national program under the banner of ‘Trellis’. A trellis is a lightweight structure that supports a vine to allow it to reach out and carry more fruit. So, we’re exploring how SU Australia can provide support for others’ fruitful work.



Our FUTURE INITIATIVES

These are just some of the new projects we have in the pipeline. We look forward to updating you further in the coming months.

For now, please continue praying with and for us and also continuing to support and get involved where you can so together we can impact our nation with God's love, hope and good news.



“Start children off on the way they should go, and even
when they are old they will not turn from it.”

PROVERBS 22:6

