



# Annual Report

2022 – 2023



Holden Street  
Neighbourhood House Inc





Holden Street Neighbourhood House (Holden Street) is a well-established not-for-profit public institution located in North Fitzroy. We are an inclusive community-based organisation managed by a voluntary Committee of Governance which is elected by the local community. We bring people together to connect, learn and contribute to their local community through social, educational, recreational and support activities.

In addition, we offer free internet access, community information, food relief, social support and a safe place to meet for enjoying community activities. The educational, recreational, and skill-based programs are provided at a low cost. Our services are for local marginalised community members and the house is open for everyone.

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have lived and loved this country through the vastness of time.

We honour the people of the Kulin nation on whose country we stand today.

We pay our respects to the old people, to the Elders and ancestors who are the safekeepers and caretakers of the oldest living culture on the planet. For this is the very bedrock of this place, our shared home and our special identity in the world and the source of shared pride as Australians.

For this land always was – and always will be – Aboriginal land.



# Contents

<b>Our House</b>	<b>2</b>
Vision, Purpose, and Mission	2
Values	3
<b>Our People</b>	<b>4</b>
Organisational Chart	4
Committee of Governance	5
Staff	5
Contractors	5
Volunteers	6
General Support	6
From the Front Desk	6
Students on Placement	7
<b>Our Year</b>	<b>8</b>
Chairperson's report	10
Manager's report	11
Community Development Report	14
2022 – 2023 Activities & Events	14
2022 – 2023 Programs	16
Sustainability	17
Services	17
Garden	18
ACFE Learn Local Report	20
Treasurer's Report	22
Income and Expenditure Statement	23
Statement of Financial Position	23
Funders, Sponsors, Supporters, & Affiliations	24
May Their Light Shine On	24

# Our House

## Vision

Our vibrant community is connected and inclusive.



'Holden Street' by Anne Brabet

## Mission

Holden Street Neighbourhood House is a safe place for social connections, recreation and learning and reduces social isolation in the community.

## Purpose

Holden Street is established to:

- Improve the quality of community life for residents of the area.
- Provide quality adult and community educational and recreational programs relevant to local community needs by seeking adequate funding from government and private sources.
- Develop a comprehensive resource and referral system able to respond to the needs of individuals, families and groups in the community.
- Encourage involvement in the development of the community.
- Encourage community responsibility for the development and maintenance of the neighbourhood house as a community-owned house resource.
- Seek and provide resources, information and support relevant to the needs of the community.
- Reduce social isolation, build a sense of community and promote a sense of belonging and community spirit.
- Encourage self-help, self-determination and independence of residents.
- Promote the use of the House as a hire facility.
- Establish links with all appropriate local organisations.

## Values

Holden Street is committed to social justice and community development principles. These are our values:

### **Welcoming:**

Holden Street values being an accessible, safe, and welcoming environment. The House is a busy and vibrant place, and we make time for people and are interested in their individual needs and issues.

### **Diversity:**

We are inclusive. We value the diverse local community by acknowledging the worth of every participant.

### **Involvement and connection:**

Holden Street employees and volunteers believe it is fundamental to work collaboratively with the community to build capacity, access necessary resources, voice concerns and ideas. We value the importance of Holden Street's history in our decision making.

### **Responsiveness:**

We proactively respond to identified community needs. We value taking a positive approach to challenges. We use a creative approach to learning, problem solving, and persevere through difficulties, understanding that commitment and sustained effort are required.

### **Integrity, accountability, and responsibility:**

We value our professional and community reputation and are committed to acting responsibly and ethically and being accountable to our various stakeholders. We provide a safe place where everyone is valued and respected.

### **Quality:**

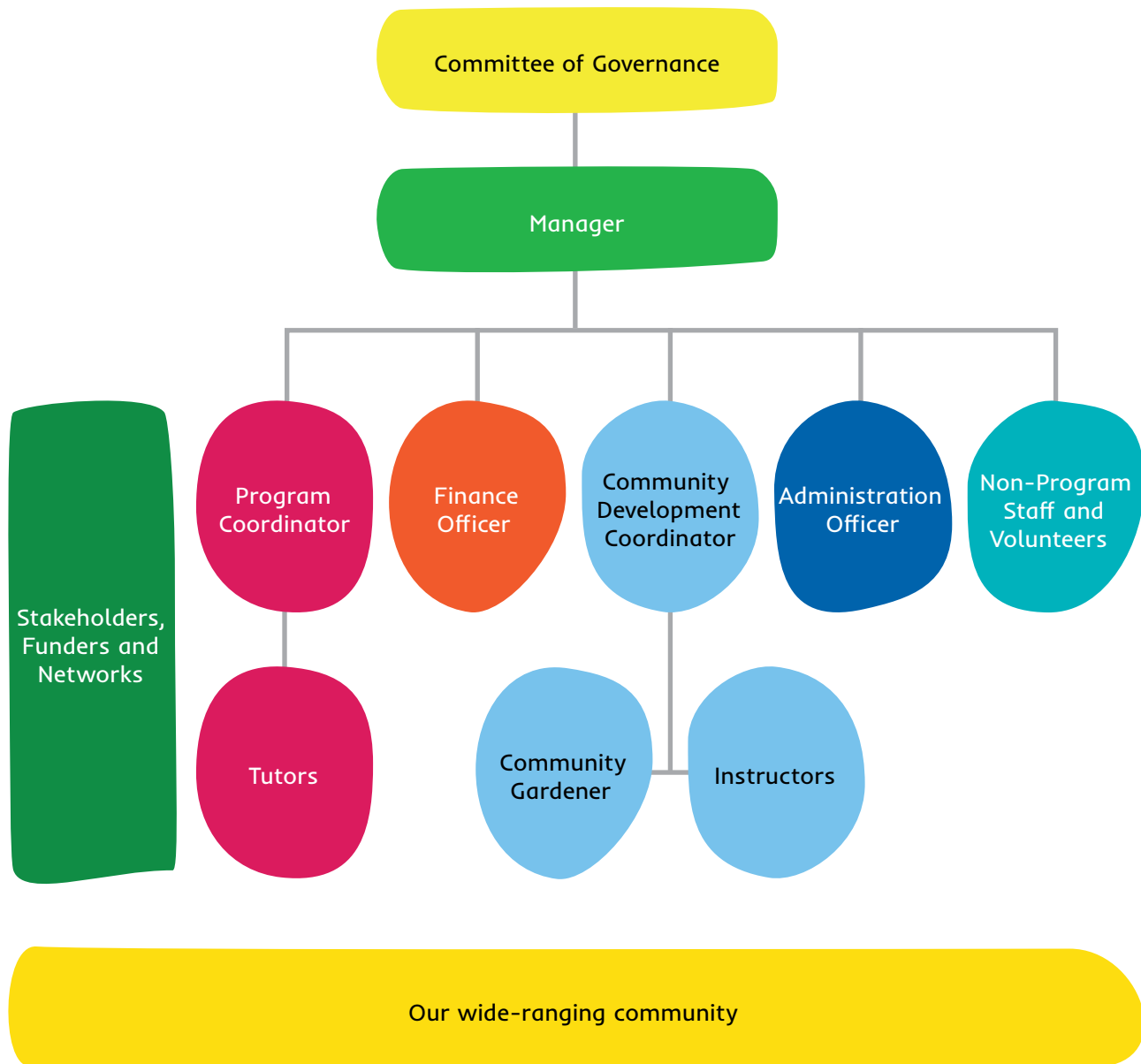
We offer high quality programs, activities, courses and services and value feedback and continuous improvement.

### **Sustainability:**

We value sustainable use of resources, being a role model, promoting and educating others in reuse, recycling and limiting energy consumption.

# Our People

## Organisational Chart







Volunteer's Lunch 2023

## Committee of Governance

**Chairperson:** Susan Quinn (from Nov 2022)  
Belinda Bravo (to Nov 2022)

**Secretary:** Lyn Pedersen

**Treasurer:** Chris Weston

**Members:** Chris Opie, Dominic Szeker, Louise Fumberger, Angela Bell, Sarah McKenzie

## Staff

### OFFICE STAFF

**Manager:** Mary Parfrey

**Program Coordinator:** Robyn Carey

**Community Development and Communications Coordinator:** Bella Englander

**Finance Officer:** Julie Poloni

**Administration Officer:** Julia Huska

### LEARN LOCAL STAFF

**Information and Communication Technology courses:** Grant Overend

**Basic Literacy through Cooking:**

Jenny Collodetti, Hannah Downes

**Basic Numeracy and Literacy:**  
Laureen Thompson, Julia Huska

**Introduction to Fashion Sewing:** Meagan Knight

**Introduction to Visual Arts:**  
Suyin Lam, Jane Eden

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STAFF AND INSTRUCTORS

**Zumba Gold:** Catalina Gonzalez

**Moving Meditation:** Lianne Metcalf

**Wise Moves:** Lianne Metcalf

**Tai Chi:** Lynne Conway

**Community Gardener:** Jane Eden

## Contractors

**IT Support:** Will Richards — Big Chip Systems

**House Maintenance:** Grant Overend  
— Tech-Can-Do

**Activities Guide and Annual Report Design:**  
Michelle Wallace — Wallace Creative

## Volunteers

### PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

These volunteers manage a community activity by themselves — planning the content, guiding the activity, and supporting the individuals across the year — superstars!

**Walking Group:** Alison Longman

**Italian Conversation Group:** Giovanni Pisano

**Computer Club:** Grant Overend

**Conversation Group:** David Cayzer

**Playgroup:** Kirsten Hutchison

**Men's Walk & Talk Group:** Damien Clark

### VOLUNTEERS

These Volunteers support an activity in conjunction with Holden Street staff — indispensable!

**Basic Literacy Through Cooking:** Julie Butler

**Food Relief:** Meagan Knight, Judy Still, Hiam Merhi, Lynne Matheson, Brooke Young, Lucy Lawson, Robyn Carey, Louise Fumberger, Mary Parfrey, Susan Quinn, Bella Englander

**Garden:** Barbara Jackson, Susan Quinn, Vivianna, Kate Volard,

**Event Support:** Lucy Lawson, Lyn Pedersen, Louise Fumberger,

**Excursion Bus Driver:** Martyn Brogan

**House Maintenance Support:** Poloni Family — David, Claire & Julie; Bella Englander, Brad Downes

## General Support

These Volunteers are always available to move tables, greet new people and show them the house, assist with food preparations and any other daily set-up actions – everyday heroes!

Grace Apa, Wayne Keane, Eugenie Rinaldi & Claire Poloni



## From the Front Desk

A large part of my role at the house is being the first face people see when they come here, and I appreciate all the opportunities for connection and interesting conversation. I continue to enjoy being a part of the wonderful community here at Holden Street Neighbourhood House.

Organising the bookings for House Hire is always a key part of my week. We have had even more people from throughout the wider community choose to hire Holden Street for their events. Meaning we've been able to create many new relationships with both individuals and other local community groups. Though for me personally, getting to meet all the children who are going to have their birthday parties here is often the most fun; a reminder of how much joy is put out into the community by the space and atmosphere that all of us create here at Holden Street.

Deciding to take on the opportunity to teach the Basic Numeracy and Literacy Class has been a delightful way to expand my role. Navigating the unique nature of teaching at a Neighbourhood House has been fun, it asks for a degree of creativity and diverse thinking that has been really rewarding.

**Julia Huska**  
Administration Officer



## Students on Placement

Holden Street has a long history of providing a welcoming environment for tertiary students to undertake their field education placements. This year, we had the privilege of hosting three exceptional students who embraced our Neighbourhood House philosophy and made significant contributions to Holden Street. Their dedication, enthusiasm, and fresh perspectives have had a positive impact on our community.

Courtney Hocking, a student of social work, divided her 500-hour Student Social Work Placement among three Neighbourhood Houses, including Holden Street. She found a welcoming community here and reflected on her experience: "I felt extremely welcome and part of the team, which allowed me to expand on my personal and professional values."



Courtney actively participated in our day-to-day operations, engaging in activities like Second Bite Food Relief, Literacy and Numeracy classes, and Literacy through Cooking classes. She even played a role in managing and marketing the 'Swap Meet,' a crucial Sustainability Event at Holden Street.



For Maraea Apiti-Civcic, also pursuing a social work degree, her placement at Holden Street proved to be a rewarding and educational experience. She gained insights into the community development section and the importance of Neighbourhood Houses for local communities. Maraea shared, "I am so grateful for my first placement being at Holden Street; I learned so many lessons and made so many lovely memories."

During her three-month placement, Maraea actively participated in various programs and formed meaningful connections with our community members. She acquired a wider knowledge and experience working with diverse people and addressing community needs.

In addition to Courtney and Maraea, our Student Placements this year also included Imogen Wungluck, who contributed to our mission.

These students exemplify the spirit of learning, growth, and community that defines Holden Street Neighbourhood House. Their fresh perspectives and dedication have enriched our house, and their reflections on their experiences resonate deeply with us.

Together with our placement students, we continue to thrive and make a positive impact on the lives of those we serve.

# Our Year



**4274 hours**  
Community  
Development Program  
Participant Hours

**243**  
Morning Tea  
Attendees

**322**  
Community Outing  
Participant Hours



**763**  
Volunteer Hours



**350 hours**  
Student Placement  
Hours





4203

ACFE Student  
Contact Hours



512

Community Lunch  
Attendees



714

Event Participant  
Hours



5691 kg

Food  
Distributed



693

Hours of  
House Hire





# Chairperson's report

As we navigated the challenges of rising cost of living pressures and our third year of living with COVID, Holden Street has been proud to be a place of support and strength for Fitzroy North locals this year.

Holden Street has faced these big challenges by focusing on our core commitments: first, sustainability and climate action; and second, responding to the growing need for food security.

It was great to see Holden Street's commitment to embedding sustainability and climate action in everything we do, including as champions of this year's new City of Yarra Climate Action and Resilience Plan for Neighbourhood Houses. This means that we have a proactive plan and the partnerships we need to build a more sustainable and resilient future in our local area.

With living costs escalating this year, we know there is more need than ever to support people with nutritious food. Our Wednesday food relief program, with the invaluable backing of Second Bite and Piedimonte's Supermarket, as well as our free street pantry and garden full of greens, were important to Holden Street's community this year. We are committed to continuing this support.

For the Committee of Governance, this year was a time of strengthening our governance and financial stability, which included:

- developing robust new policies and procedures for our core operations and risk – cybersecurity and cybersafety, child safety, work health and safety, and finance,
- conducting a mid-way review of our progress against the 2020-24 strategic

plan, confirming our focus as we head into developing our new strategic plan in 2024,

- shoring up our financial position by establishing a new Fundraising Subcommittee to lead this work, and boosting our fundraising activities, including the debut of our famous Bunnings BBQs.

I was fortunate to step into the role of Chair of Holden Street in November 2022, following on from our past Chair, Belinda Bravo. Belinda was the Holden Street Chair for five years, and provided remarkable leadership, including through the heartaches and uncertainties of the pandemic. We wish Belinda all the best and thank her for her legacy of a strong organisation.

Holden Street thanks our primary funders in the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments, as well as our local council, the City of Yarra, for their important support. We're also thankful for all of the generous financial and in-kind support from our local community over this year.

Thank you also to the staff – Mary, Bella, Robyn, Julie and Julia for their tireless work to build our community, and for being at the heart of Holden Street. I also thank the volunteers and placement students for their contributions to life at the house.

Members of the Committee of Governance very generously volunteer their significant expertise behind the scenes to make sure Holden Street remains a healthy organisation. My sincere thanks to our dedicated Treasurer Chris Weston for his expertise and commitment, and to our Secretary (and Holden Street legend) Lyn Pederson. Many thanks also to Angela Bell, Louise Fumberger, Chris Opie, Dominic Szeker, and our newest member, Sarah McKenzie, for their invaluable contributions this year.

And finally, thanks to everyone who makes Holden Street the vibrant place it is – people who come to classes and events, or just drop in for tea.

I am optimistic that Holden Street will keep growing as a source of welcome and leadership in our much-loved Fitzroy North community.

**Susan Quinn**  
Chairperson



# Manager's report

Can you believe another year has whisked by? It's been a successful year of achievements, growth, and shared moments to reflect upon. Let me take you on a journey through the successes that have painted Holden Street's canvas over the past year. Our dedication to nurturing a vibrant community has been the driving force behind every step we've taken.

## Food Security:

No one should ever experience hunger, and at Holden Street, we take this belief to heart. Our weekly Food Relief program has been greatly appreciated by those in need. Furthermore, our Community Food Pantry stands as a constant resource, available 24/7 and stocked with non-perishable essentials. The year saw over 1118 individuals benefit from our weekly food-relief initiative, with an impressive 5691 kgs of food saved from being discarded and instead distributed across our community. As the demand continues to rise, we are committed to enhancing our efforts to ensure food security for our community. We invite everyone to participate in this mission by contributing groceries or household items to the pantry, united in the goal of eradicating food insecurity.



## Partnerships & Networking:

I've been an active participant in a diverse range of networks and partnerships that have been purposefully shaped to respond effectively to the evolving dynamics and demographics of Fitzroy North and its neighbouring communities. These collaborations have brought a multitude of professional advantages and growth opportunities.



A heartfelt thank you goes out to the dedicated colleagues within the City of Yarra Neighbourhood House Network, the North East Neighbourhood House Network, Neighbourhood Houses Victoria (NHVic), and the Connecting Fitzroy Network. All colleagues generously share time, insights, support and the strategic guidance is instrumental in our shared journey.

Our local Member of Parliament, Tim Read, joined us in a heartening show of support for our campaign to secure funding for Victorian Neighbourhood Houses. Tim's interaction with our Food Relief Volunteer, Hiam, allowed him to grasp firsthand the positive impacts of our food sustainability program.

The annual NHVic Conference held at Phillip Island was nothing short of inspiring, creating a platform for us to connect with Neighbourhood Houses spanning Victoria. This unique gathering gifted us the wisdom of remarkable speakers, adding layers of insight to our own experiences and providing fresh inspiration for our work back at Holden Street.





On 22nd February, our doors swung open as we welcomed Cr. Claudia Nguyen, the new Mayor of the City of Yarra. Claudia's dedication to youth empowerment, celebration of LGBTQIA+ communities, and advocacy for vulnerable populations resonated deeply with our core values. Our conversation illuminated the pivotal role Neighbourhood Houses play in shaping community life.

### Program Expansion:

Holden Street's dedication to offering diverse and relevant programs continued to flourish this year. New programs have been introduced, including Thai Chi, Italian Conversation and a Men's Walk & Talk group supported by the addition of talented instructors and tutors who have brought fresh perspectives to our community. Our commitment to aligning our programs with the ever-evolving needs of our community is unwavering.

### Social Hub:

With great excitement, we announce the development of Holden Street's 'Social Hub.' This initiative, funded through a generous grant from the Victorian Government's Living Local Suburban Grants Scheme, aims to facilitate community gatherings, learning, and connections. The upcoming installation of an outdoor kitchen, under a pergola, holds the promise of enhancing social interactions

and engagements. This project, estimated for completion in the latter half of 2023, marks a significant step towards fostering stronger bonds within our community.



### Fundraising:

At Holden Street, our programs and community offerings would not be possible without grants, donations, and fundraising. This year, we partnered with Bunnings Collingwood for BBQ fundraisers, raising over \$5600. We're deeply grateful to Bunnings Collingwood for their support and to our many dedicated volunteers who happily assist with these events.







## Staff, Volunteers and Funding Bodies:

In the face of challenges this year, the dedication and unity of our extraordinary staff has been evident. Their support for one another has been a source of strength, ensuring the continuation of our invaluable work at Holden Street. It's an honour to lead such an exceptional team that consistently goes above and beyond, to create a remarkable environment for our community. Their commitment to excellence and compassion is the foundation upon which Holden Street thrives.

Equally essential to our success are the invaluable contributions of our volunteers. We recognise that our achievements are made possible by the unwavering support and dedication of these remarkable individuals. This year, we welcomed a cohort of new volunteers to the Holden Street family.

The Holden Street Committee of Governance generously volunteer time and a considerable range of skills and expertise in order to manage the complex obligations of governance. I thank them for their constant and reliable support to me in my role as Manager.

Holden Street is funded by a variety of sources — I would like to thank the representatives from the Local, State, Federal governments for their ongoing support in ensuring our capacity to continue to meet the educational and community

strengthening needs of the community.

This year has been marked by remarkable progress, commitment, and a shared determination to uplift our community. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all members, volunteers, partners, and supporters for their contributions to Holden Street's success. Together, we have built a foundation for a stronger, more connected future.

**Mary Parfrey**  
Manager





# Community Development Report

## 2022 - 2023 Activities & Events

Holden Street plays a vital role in our community, offering unique opportunities for social interaction. For many, our activities, events and outings are the highlight of the year.

We're thrilled to create lasting memories and share joy with our wonderful Holden Street Friends. Check out our incredible year!



**Outings**  
Melbourne Museum & IMAX  
Moorabbin Air Museum  
National Gallery of Victoria  
State Library of Victoria  
Castlemaine- The Mill  
Immigration Museum  
Scienceworks







**Activities & Events**

- Children's Week
- Swap Meet
- NH Week Games Night
- ALW Trivia Night
- Sunset Series Fun Run
- Volunteers Lunch
- Hairspray The Musical
- Upcycled Planter Workshop
- Sustainable Sewing & Textiles Workshop
- Working Bee
- March BBQ Series
- Halloween BBQ
- International Women's Day
- RSPCA Cupcake Day
- End of Year Celebration
- Morning Teas
- Community Lunches
- Bunnings BBQs





## 2022 – 2023 Programs



Cards Group



Tai Chi



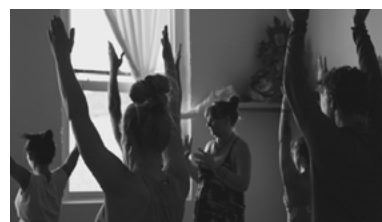
Drop-In Playgroup



Zumba Gold



Wise Moves  
Stretching Class



SomaChi Yoga



Garden Group



Big & Little Movers



Conversation Group



Talking Sense



English as  
another Language



Community Lunch



Get Crafty



Men's Walk & Talk Group



Weekly Walk



Moving Meditation



Italian Conversation



Computer Club



## Sustainability

Holden Street has a rich history of dedication to environmental betterment, guided by the 'Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Recycle, and Rethink' ethos. This year, we've witnessed significant expansion in our community garden, our recycling initiatives, and our activities promoting a circular economy. It's been heartwarming to witness our community embrace sustainability and actively work towards reducing waste.

## Services

Lesser-known, yet equally important, are the wide-ranging services we extend to our entire community. Our daily offerings include complimentary public internet access with available laptops and Wi-Fi, free information and referral support, discounted gym memberships through Yarra Leisure (City of Yarra), assistance with Power Saving Bonus rebates, access to Little Libraries books for both adults and children, and welcoming drop-in support—feel free to stop by for a friendly chat and a cup of tea at any time.



Wicking Beds



Community Food Pantry



Solar Panels



Composting



Food Relief



Community Garden



Recycling Wall



Worm Farm



Little Libraries  
(adults and children)



Holden Street house Library



LED light fittings



# Garden

We are excited to share the progress and developments in the Holden Street Garden for this past year. Our garden has continued to evolve and thrive, thanks to the dedication of our gardening team and the unwavering support of our wonderful community.

One of the standout accomplishments of this year was the transformation of our front garden bed into what we affectionately call the 'Garden of Joy.' This vibrant and inviting space has become a focal point of our garden, adorned with an array of colourful flowers and plants. We've also created a welcoming sitting area at the front of the house, offering a serene spot for our community to relax and immerse themselves in the beauty of nature.

Our community garden wicking beds have been a great success, serving as a source of sustenance for local community members. These beds have consistently been well-stocked and utilised by our community, promoting self-sufficiency food security. Looking ahead, we plan to expand this section and introduce an even wider variety of produce in the coming year.







The re-introduction of our composting system has been a game-changer for sustainability at the House. All of the House's food scraps are diverted into this system, yielding nutrient-rich compost that greatly enriches our garden soil. This initiative not only reduces waste but also supports the overall health and vigor of our garden.

We are thrilled to welcome new Garden Volunteers who have joined our ranks this year. Their enthusiasm and commitment have played a pivotal role in maintaining and expanding our garden spaces. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our volunteers for their hard work and dedication.

Our new greenhouses have been a wonderful addition, enabling us to propagate a diverse range of vegetables and flowers from seed. These greenhouses have extended our growing season, ensuring that our garden remains a kaleidoscope of colours and life throughout the year.

The Holden Street Garden continues to be a welcoming space of growth, and community. We invite you all to visit and experience the vibrant colours of our flowers, the flourishing vegetables, and the overall sense of joy and warmth that our garden provides to our community.

**Bella Engelder**  
Community Development  
& Communications Coordinator





# ACFE Learn Local Report

“Stop waiting for the solution ... we are part of it. We're the ones we've been waiting for.” This was a response given by Mark Cabaj, President of Canadian consulting company 'Hear to There', at a Learn Local Conference, when asked a question regarding the difficulties community centres encounter due to lack of resources (ie money!). This profound statement stunned the room. Mark spoke about developing practical ways to understand, plan and evaluate efforts to address issues such as neighbourhood renewal, poverty and homelessness, community safety, educational achievement and health. Learn Local Education - “lifelong learning” - provides vital skills for learners, from all backgrounds, looking to upskill for work or further education. This educational stream is also “part of the solution”. At Holden Street, we are proud to continue to develop and deliver quality education to adults, in a supportive, welcoming environment.



I thank all tutors for their care and professionalism during the 2022 – 2023 financial year.

- Jane Eden
- Grant Overend
- Meagan Knight
- Suyin Lam
- Jenny Collodetti
- Julia Huska
- Loreen Thompson
- Louise Fumberger
- Patrick Butler
- Malcolm Hill

We appreciate our loyal and dedicated volunteers who have assiduously assisted in various weekly Learn Local classes:

- Julie Butler
- Tania Anderson
- Sharyn Young

Holden Street was sad to say goodbye to two well-loved tutors: Suyin Lam and Jenny Collodetti.

During her seven years at the House, Suyin Lam was a dedicated tutor of many artists, from young children to adults. Suyin instructed and encouraged with passion. To celebrate the artists' efforts, Suyin organised and curated many exhibitions, at the House, as well as at local sites, such as Dench's Café and DiMase Architects.



In 2019, Suyin entered the works of several Holden Street's artists to the Connected Exhibition, held at the Ian Potter Gallery, Federation Square. It was a thrill when three of the artists were selected to have their pieces included.

Below is a photo of Anne Brabet and Suyin standing in front of Anne's work. (It is impossible to discern who was more proud!)



Suyin's talents were not confined to running the Art Class. At various times, she worked in the office, was a relief tutor for another class and helped with one-off activities. Suyin was the coordinator of the 2020 Sustainability Fair – a huge event held in the park adjacent to the House.

At the conclusion of Semester One, 2023, we bid farewell to a cherished member of our team and an exceptional friend, Jenny Collodetti. Since 2018, Jenny has taught Basic Literacy through Cooking, affectionately known as "Wednesday Cooking". With care, passion and dedication, Jenny led a program that skillfully combined the joy of preparing and sharing healthy meals, with fundamental literacy skills, for adults living with disabilities.

Jenny fostered an environment that nurtured curiosity and a love for learning. She recognised the potential in every individual and created a safe space where students felt encouraged to explore their abilities. During the two years of lockdowns, Jenny assiduously prepared individualised worksheets, which she sent by mail to her students. Weekly, she contacted each student by phone, to find out how they were, talk about the strange times and to

discuss the worksheets. Many of Jenny's students, their families and carers let us know Jenny's communications were incredibly important during the pandemic.

Jenny's teachings and influence will forever remain a part of us.



Holden Street wishes both Suyin and Jenny every success with their next ventures.

Throughout the year, we've continued to witness the transformative power of education and shared knowledge. Our diverse range of programs, workshops, and events have brought our community together to learn, share, and connect. From skills development to cultural enrichment, our efforts have not only enhanced individual lives but have also strengthened the bonds of our community. Looking ahead, we are dedicated to continuing our mission of providing accessible learning opportunities that empower individuals of all ages and backgrounds. Our commitment to lifelong learning will remain at the core of our initiatives, and we eagerly anticipate the new horizons and possibilities that the coming year will bring.

**Robyn Carey**  
Program Coordinator





# Treasurer's Report

Welcome to the 2022/23 Treasurers report. In these challenging financial times, this financial year has kept everybody involved with finance busy making sure we keep on top of the finances of the house. Like at the house, I am sure major price increases for most items has made balancing the budget as much of a challenge for you in your home as it has for us.

Even with these challenges, I am pleased to share that the house ended the financial year with a surplus of \$2,250. We are all very pleased with this result and is a credit to the whole team.

This year has seen increased use of the house and because of this our income increased to \$398,772 compared to \$353,434 in 2022. House hire is up this year from \$13,999 in 2022 to \$21,725 in 2023. House hire includes the house being used for parties or events as well as our rental office space. This office space is used by multiple not-for-profit groups and businesses. It is great to see this area that the committee has invested significant funds in previous years paying off and paying dividends.

Our fundraising income has also increased during this financial year from \$0 last year to \$6,562 this year. This figure has primarily been made up of multiple Bunnings BBQ's that we have been able to be part of compared to previous years. Big thanks to Bunnings Collingwood for giving us this opportunity and to all the volunteers who have been involved. Fundraising has been a committed focus for the committee so stay tuned for many more fundraising events we intend to hold over the next 12 months. On top of fundraising, we have had some great gifts and donations this year which we cannot forget to mention. A big thank you to everybody who has supported the house, we greatly appreciate it.

We are excited to start work this year on our Social Hub. We have been able to commit to this because of the grant we received from the Victoria Government. The grant of \$37,960 through the Living Local Suburban Grants Program, administered by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions allows us to further extend the capabilities and useability of the house. This area, when complete, will extend our learning space outdoors and will also include a BBQ and cooking space. This will complement our kitchen classes & food relief endeavours and will be a great addition to the house. We thank the Victorian government for their support in this exciting new area.

An independent auditor assesses our financial reports which I present to you in line with the governance requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

For ease of readability, the financial statements accompanying this report provide a summary of the House's income, expenditure and overall financial position. The complete audited financial report is available upon request and will be available on the website following the Annual General Meeting.

To help monitor the finances of the organisation we are very fortunate to have our Finance Manager, Julie Poloni. Julie joined Holden Street early in 2021 and has continued to improve financial processes over this financial year. A very big thank you to Julie for all your hard work. Along with Julie we have our Finance Sub-Committee, made up of Mary Parfrey, Julie Poloni, Susan Quinn and myself. I would like to thank you all for your time this year. I also sincerely send my thanks to Mary, Julie, Bella, Robyn, Julia for their dedication and effective management of all the House's day-to-day operations.

I would like to thank the following organisations and government departments who provided ongoing support to the House and our programs: Department of Families, Housing and Fairness Neighbourhood House Coordination Program; the Department of Education and Training's Adult Community and Further Education Program; the City of Yarra's for both the Neighbourhood House Coordination Program and the Commonwealth Home Support Program and finally, Business Victoria. All of your support to the House is greatly appreciated.

Lastly my thanks to all the users of the House that we support in our local community. Without you, there would not be a need for the services and programs we provide. So, a big thank you to you. It has been great to see the house being used again more and more this year.

Yours Sincerely,

**Chris Weston**  
Treasurer



## Income and Expenditure Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>		
Grant Funding Income - State	214,210	212,941
Grant Funding Income - Local	88,859	85,012
Operating Income	85,932	47,547
Other	9,771	7,934
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>398,772</b>	<b>353,434</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Employment Expenses	288,249	260,830
Occupancy Expenses	8,350	11,570
Program Expenses	52,247	40,583
Other Operating Expenses	47,676	40,389
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>396,522</b>	<b>353,372</b>
Net Surplus	2,250	62



Julie Poloni, Finance Officer

## Statement of Financial Position

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	164,067	148,821
Trade and Other Receivables	6,042	9,011
Prepayments	5,262	1,494
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>175,371</b>	<b>159,326</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Furniture and Fittings	46,314	45,028
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>46,314</b>	<b>45,028</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>221,685</b>	<b>204,354</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Trade and Other Payables	30,984	33,379
Income in Advance	56,794	48,343
Provisions	33,636	24,611
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>121,414</b>	<b>106,333</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>121,414</b>	<b>106,333</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>100,271</b>	<b>98,021</b>
<b>Members Funds</b>	<b>100,271</b>	<b>98,021</b>



# Funders



Australian Government



## SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

City of Yarra Libraries | Clifton Hill/North Fitzroy Community Bank  
Yarra Energy Foundation | Bunnings Collingwood | Bright Sparq  
Piedmonte's Supermarket | Grill'd Fairfield | Second Bite  
Museums Victoria | Woolworths Barkly Square  
Coles Brunswick East | Bakers Delight Clifton Hill

## AFFILIATIONS

Connecting Fitzroy Network | Neighbourhood Houses Victoria  
NHVICassist | Yarra Neighbourhood House Network  
North East Neighbourhood House Network | Our Community  
Learn Local | Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council  
Victorian Council of Social Services | Yarra Leisure (City of Yarra)  
Adult and Community Education Victoria

# May Their Light Shine On

Sadly, two members of the Holden Street Neighbourhood House family passed away this year. Maria Sharaf was a long-term House user and Norma Wignell joined more recently after moving to live with her son. They were both keen members of the Craft Group at Holden Street and took part in many other activities such as excursions, morning teas, Fab Flicks and the Walking Group.

Maria took great pride in gaining new sewing skills and we loved seeing her pictures of her grandchildren. She was also a great muffin cook! Norma impressed us with her patchwork, which she often brought along for show and tell. Holden Street will miss them dearly.



Photo shows a tram excursion to Port Melbourne where we enjoyed a stroll along the beach and a fish and chip lunch.







# Holden Street

Neighbourhood House Inc

HOLDEN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE INC

ABN: 15 398 624 647 128 | REG NO: A00 103 50V | TOfid: 6407

128 Holden Street North Fitzroy

POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 1145, Fitzroy North, VIC 3068

03 9489 9929 | [admin@holdenstreet.org.au](mailto:admin@holdenstreet.org.au)

[www.holdenstreet.org.au](http://www.holdenstreet.org.au)

