

The Rainbow Lodge Program

GADIGAL COUNTRY
A Fresh Start

**ANNUAL
REPORT**
2023-24

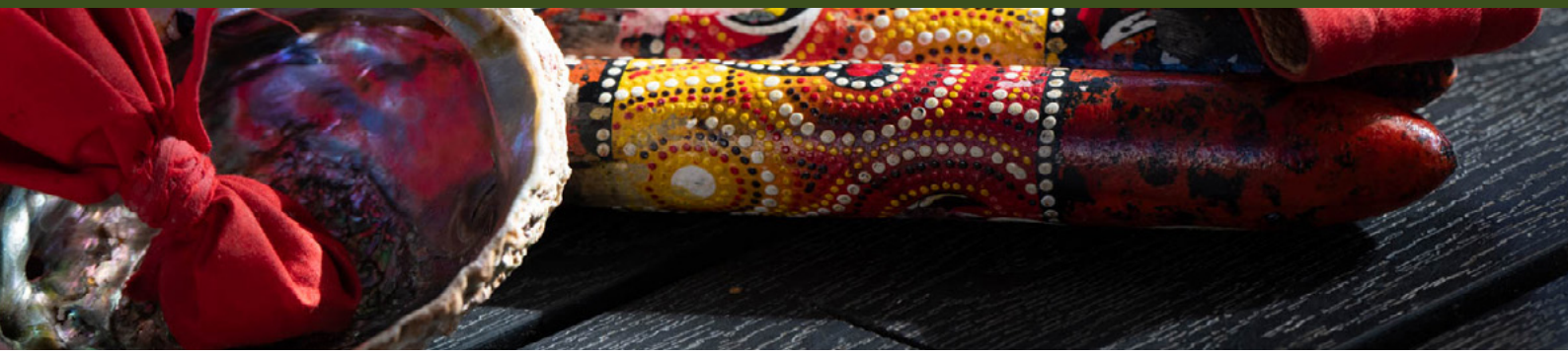




Acknowledgement

Rainbow Lodge acknowledges the traditional custodians of the unceded land which our house stands, the **Gadigal** and **Bidjigal** people of the **Eora Nation**.

We would also like to pay our respects to our **First Nations** staff and partners.



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Mission Statement



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Our Vision

Men are supported to heal from their trauma and the impacts of the criminal justice system. They are empowered by a supportive environment that offers opportunities to build self-worth, connection to culture, meaning and personal accountability, as they return to community life. We strive to support personal and societal transformation.

Our Purpose

Providing a fresh start for men leaving incarceration, through capacity building and cultural programs, so they can build and maintain healthy, happy, and fulfilling lives.

Our Values

Dignity: Valuing and honouring everyone's worth.
Learning: Remaining open to new knowledge and better ways of doing things.
Compassion: We understand the effects of trauma and the importance of healing.
Empowerment: Capacity building leads to better decision-making and growth through personal accountability and kindness.

Our Strategic Pillars

These four pillars provide guidance for our planning and decision making. They are key measures that we will use to evaluate our success.

Outcomes focused Our programs are engaging and instruments for change.

Reliable We can be trusted to deliver on our commitments.

Collaborative We are inclusive; to strengthen the service system and we partner for success.

Sustainable We are an enduring, capable organisation with strong governance and sound financial practices.

“Breaking Free”

The Rainbow Lodge Story

60 Years

Judge Alfred Rainbow – 1900-1963

The Inspiration

5 Judge Alfred Ernest Rainbow Q.C., M.A., LL.B served as one of the Judges of the NSW Workers' Compensation Commission. As a school student he attended the Kings School Parramatta, later studied at Cambridge; was married in 1932; and appointed K.C. during the reign of George VI. He was appointed on 3 July 1946 to a bench of the then Workers Compensation Commission, then comprised of only three other judges. Former High Court Justice, Michael Kirby described his judicial reasoning as “direct, forcefully expressed and intellectually engaged.” He was a great family man, a Lieutenant Colonel in the A.I.F. who saw service during World War II in New Guinea. He was an elite sportsman who played Rugby for NSW, and served the Australian Rugby Union as President, then as Vice President and given life membership of that body. Above all he was a great and practical humanitarian. His life was enriched by personal attributes including fearlessness, compassion and understanding, from which stemmed the dynamic leadership he gave in the Civil Rehabilitation field. He was aged 63 at the time of his death.

In May 1960 the Australian Prison After-Care Council was formed. Judge Rainbow was its inaugural president, a position he retained until his death in December 1963. That group soon morphed into the Australian Crime Prevention Council which is still active today. At the first Council meeting held in Adelaide in 1960, Judge Rainbow was saying such things as: “Many gaols are out-dated”, and “Prisoners should be allowed out of gaol towards the end of their sentences to get accustomed to the outside world.” In respect of that last comment, he noted: “Although this suggestion has been laughed out of court, the Victorian Government had recently amended its Prison Act along these lines.”



Following his early death in December 1963, a number of those who had been associated with the Judge in his professional capacity, or in one of his other interests, decided that such a man richly deserved a Memorial - a living Memorial which would perpetuate this noble work and service to mankind.

And so, in June 1964, The Judge Rainbow Memorial Appeal Fund was formed with a committee pledged to the establishment of projects in prison after-care, which through their path-finding qualities, will perpetuate the memory of a man who, in the history of the Australian field of prison after-care, did more than any other person.

The Beginning

In August 1960, four years before the Judge Rainbow Memorial Appeal Fund was established, a five man delegation led by the Hon. Justice McClemons and including Frank Hayes, the then Chief Parole Officer of the then NSW Prisons Dept., attended the UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. Mr. Hayes continued his tour to study into what was then the new development of "half-way houses" in Britain, Los Angeles USA and Ulm in West Germany. He presented his report to Mr. John Maddison, the then Minister of Justice.

To assist in raising the funds necessary for the work to be done, the Committee published a pamphlet called "A Cause Which Counts - Steps to Freedom."

The First Rainbow Lodge

The early Committee included members of the Bankstown Civil Rehabilitation Committee, which had plans for the purchase and financing of a cottage at Bass Hill. At the time, it seemed most practicable that the Fund should concentrate on the raising of money with a view to giving substantial support to the Bankstown Group.

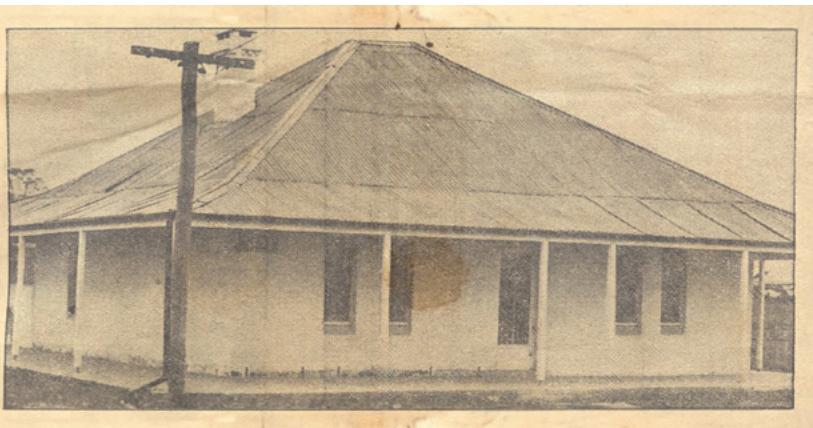
In 1964, a property was purchased at Bass Hill, Bankstown, at a cost of £5,500. An old colonial cottage, standing in an acre of land, lent itself for conversion into a suitable "half-way house" to be known as the Judge Rainbow Memorial Half-Way House. A further £4,000 was being spent on renovation, which included an annex for the supervisor, equipment, and furnishings. Several businessmen, including Mr. Jack Walsh, the President of the Bankstown CRC, guaranteed a loan of £8,000 towards the cost.

This house was to be administered by a Board of Management comprising representatives of the Judge Rainbow Memorial Appeal Fund, the Bankstown Civil Rehabilitation Committee, and two Government representatives from the Prison's Department. Mr. Frank Hayes was not only the Chief Parole Officer of the then Prisons Department, but he was also a major worker for the Fund.

It employed a House Manager, Mr. Philip Gaffney. The State Government contributed £1500 per year towards his salary and a public appeal was conducted to repay the loan.

The Committee's aim at that time was to open the half-way house for men and later one for women. Bass Hill proved to be unsatisfactory because it was too far away from the city and places of employment at that time. The "half-way house" then moved to premises at Dulwich Hill, where a former prisoner and his wife conducted it. For whatever reasons, having premises at Dulwich Hill proved unsatisfactory. They were closed in September 1970.

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The Move to Wigram Road, Glebe

In the 1960s, the then government decided to build a freeway to the western suburbs which would pass through Glebe. Towards this end, the Department of Main Roads (the DMR) acquired many houses including 22 Wigram Road.

The Government deferred its freeway plan and 22 Wigram Road remained empty. Thanks to representations by the then Management Committee, aided by Frank Hayes, the DMR agreed to lease 22 Wigram Road to the Judge Rainbow Memorial Appeal Fund. Residents and Staff moved in about April 1971 and have occupied it ever since.

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By the mid-1980s the Government had abandoned its freeway plan and the DMR offered to sell 22 Wigram Road to the Rainbow Lodge Memorial Appeal Fund for \$200,000 – a bargain even at that time.

And so, the Committee set about raising the money. It raised close on \$50,000 but were a long way off the \$200,000. Again, the loss of a building to accommodate new released prisoners was facing the Committee, staff, and prospective residents. However, a committee member who knew a senior official in the Housing Commission was able to secure the Commission's assistance. The Commission saved us by buying the premises and leasing it to us for a "peppercorn" rental.

The Residential Experience in the Early Years

All the early residents at the Wigram Road premises were discharged male inmates. They were men usually having difficulty functioning in the community. Almost all lacked family and similar support; Rainbow Lodge acted as a substitute. It sought to provide the residents with supervision, guidance, encouragement and, where needed, actual protection from their own behaviours.

The aim of Rainbow Lodge was in providing the kind of environment and helping services as would enable each resident, in his own time, to develop sufficient strengths to function satisfactorily and to survive on his own in the community without the need to resort to crime. One resident stayed for two years, the longest, while the shortest was a stay of a few days. The average by 1977 was 3 to 4 months. There were "regular returnees" – former residents who had not necessarily returned to prison, but who had

found they were not yet ready to cope with living on their own.

In both 1976 and 1977 there were 41 admissions. The capacity of Rainbow Lodge in those days was limited to eleven or twelve residents at any one time. The daily average during this period was ten residents. The cost of operating Rainbow Lodge in 1977 was \$8.00 per resident, per day – assuming a full capacity of residents each day. Each resident was charged \$30 per week board, but at times short-term concessions were made to those "in necessitous circumstances".

The first Manager of Rainbow Lodge at Wigram Road Glebe was Mr George Jepson, a former prison chaplain who was described, not surprisingly, as having had considerable experience with prisons and prisoners and helping socially disadvantaged people. The Manager's salary was being paid by the Treasury through the Department on the basis he was a Section 44 employee (presumably of the Treasury). A relief manager worked two days weekly and covered for the Manager when he was ill or on recreation leave. Government support was limited to provision of the premises and salaries for the manager and relief manager.

All other costs of operating Rainbow Lodge have been met by the Judge Rainbow Memorial Appeal Fund, supplemented by board paid by the residents and subsidies from the Commonwealth Government under the Homeless Persons Assistance Act. Under this Act the rent and sustenance allowance of 75 cents per day, per person housed and fed are paid by the Commonwealth government.



Mr. Frank Hayes Chief Parole Officer of the Prisons Department.

Picture from Sun Newspaper 26 Nov. 1965

Ruby Rich – a “Halfway House” for Women

The goal of establishing a halfway house for women was not forgotten. In April 1973, a special meeting was held to establish the Women’s Committee of the Judge Rainbow Memorial Appeal Fund the object of which was “to work towards the establishment of a hostel for women who have come into conflict with the law”.

This Committee worked tirelessly holding functions to raise money, looking at premises and assessing their suitability, and canvassing for funds.

It took seven years of fundraising and searching for suitable premises before the Ruby Rich House could be opened at Ashfield. A reading of the minutes and correspondence during that period shows that when premises of suitable size were located, the cost of either purchase or rent was beyond our capacity and what was within our capacity was unsuitable.



Applications made to the Federal and State Governments for a capital grant to assist in the purchase of premises were unsuccessful.

Following a suggestion by Ruby Rich (then a member of the Women’s Committee) on 12 February 1974 a segment was included within the International Women’s Year program on the need for rehabilitation of women who have come into conflict with the law.

Finally, in April 1980, Ruby Rich House was opened at Ashfield for women. There, accommodation, and support services for female ex inmates were provided by the Judge Rainbow Memorial Appeal Fund. In addition, special accommodation and support services were provided to women inmates who were about to have a baby and for the first three months after the birth. Those women were released to our care under the then section 29 of the then Prisons Act.

Joan Mulligan, Lynn Rainbow, and Wendy Cooper were especially active in the supervision of this House.

In 1989, due mainly to changes in Government policy and staffing issues, the number of women requiring our assistance was so low that we felt that the continued operation of Ruby Rich House was not cost effective particularly as Guthrie House was able to take over the very few women who then needed our service. Accordingly, Ruby Rich House was closed and the parts of our equipment relating to women and babies were given to Guthrie House.

A New Direction

In 1987, we were incorporated as The Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund Inc. (dropping the word “Appeal” from our name) under the Associations Incorporation Act.

In 1989/90, we experimented with the opening of a three-quarter-way-house but had to close it due to lack of funds. Apart from this, since 1989 we have operated just the one half-way house, namely Rainbow Lodge at Glebe for men only.

On 28 November 1996, the Dept. of Corrective Services advised us that our past system should be scrapped. It decreed that we should henceforth employ three Welfare Officers plus a coordinator. These four employees should be rostered so that one person would be on duty at any time resulting in 24 hours a day coverage.

Furthermore, they were not to be regarded as “live-in workers” in accordance with the relevant Award but were to be paid full shift and penalty allowances.

Since November 2011, the Committee of Management has had an infusion of new blood and new ideas. The staff has substantially changed. The Staff and Committee of Management have adopted a new strategic and business plan after several weeks of consultation with experts in the area of homelessness, governance of voluntary organisations and rehabilitation. There is improvement in the standard of service being delivered to residents with more emphasis on pre-emptive rather than reactionary support.

Phillip Gaffney, manager of the Half-way House — and the door is open.

We will celebrate 60 years in 2024 since the establishment of the Judge Rainbow Memorial Appeal Fund and the establishment of the first Rainbow Lodge residential centre at Bankstown. For decades, the Rainbow Lodge centres ran on a shoestring budget. Funding now is primarily Government based, secure for three-year periods and won after competitive tender. The two principal Government funders are the Department of Communities & Justice-Corrective Services and Homelessness departments.

The profile of residents has changed over the years. In years past, residents opted to come to Rainbow Lodge. Since circa 2014, there has been input by Corrective Services in the selection of those coming to Rainbow Lodge. Almost overwhelmingly, those selected are longer-term inmates who have served sentences more than three years. Many are recidivist offenders with a greater than average likelihood of re-offending within two years. Nearly all qualify as “dual diagnosis” persons; that is, they have mental health issues and significant drug misuse. Many lack formal education, often institutionalised from spending childhood years and then adult years in institutions; economically disadvantaged; socially isolated, and lacking living and social skills.



We have diversified and are now running a two year trial with our “Healing through Culture” First Nation men’s program at John Morony Correctional Centre facilitated by our partner Wiimpatja Consulting and being evaluated by Origin both First Nations owned and operated businesses.

We have started our Ngaramura Therapeutic Transport initiative, which provides culturally safe transport for male and female First Nations people who are on remand in NSW prisons and need to get to treatment centres or family across NSW. Without this service these people would remain in custody. This is currently funded by donations from philanthropic organisations and the public. We are currently in negotiations with NSW Aboriginal Affairs to have it funded by government for the next 3 years.

In 2024-25 we will work with about 220 men across our residential program, day program, Healing the Warrior program and Healing through Culture program, with 90% of our clients First Nations and another 50 First Nations men and women will be transported by our Ngaramura program.

We are also in talks with government about funding for our residential DV program for men who use violence called “Safer Men – Safer families”

We have a diverse board of directors with a wide range experience, including a magistrate, solicitor, people with lived experience, business and finance, First Nations business owner, First Nations Elder with lived experience and two treatment specialists with 40 years collective experience in working with men engaged in the criminal justice system.

Rainbow Lodge incorporates all the best practice models of treatment when working with men who have experienced trauma in their lives. We utilise a person centred, trauma informed, and culturally appropriate framework built around the individual needs of each client.

We have diversified our funding streams to include philanthropic funds from The Paul Ramsay Foundation, Justcares Foundation, Igniting Change and the public.

We have a completely professional workforce, comprising of a manager, 2 case workers, 4 support workers, a First Nations Elder, First Nations cultural peer worker, Art Therapist and engage two psychologist and external group facilitators including a Music therapist.

Rainbow Lodge Today

Between 2020-2024 Rainbow Lodge has grown its income from \$700,000 p/a. to \$1.6 Million this financial year.

Today Rainbow Lodge has 8 beds assigned to our Transitional Supported Accommodation program (TSA) and 2 beds set aside for our innovative First Nations Walama List program run in conjunction with the District Court of NSW Walama List.

Rainbow Lodge was featured in a documentary on the ABC’s flagship current Affairs program Four Corners this year called “Breaking Free”. The airing of this episode has been life changing for Rainbow Lodge. It has brought our service recognition from both government and the public with over \$100,000 in donations from people who watched the film.

Message from the President Bill O'Brien

The Board of the Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund Incorporated (Rainbow Lodge) had a busy and productive year. The Board continued to enjoy a diversity of Members each bringing their expertise to our meetings with enthusiasm and goodwill.

This year we saw the filming and broadcast of a documentary on Rainbow Lodge by the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC). The Board worked to ensure that the Rainbow Lodge clients and staff were fully informed and consented to the filming. The Board also worked to satisfy itself that the final product would not damage the reputation of Rainbow Lodge and instead bring welcome attention and light to the important work that Rainbow Lodge does. Linton Besser, the ABC Journalist, deserves a special thanks for his work in producing a remarkable documentary.

The ABC documentary was initiated and supported by the Rainbow Lodge Manager, Claude Robinson with the assistance of Board members Annabel Mayo and Pete Townsend. The project was initially viewed with some scepticism by the Board and only succeeded to filming due to the hard work of Claude, Annabel and Pete. I wish to acknowledge and thank the trio for their commitment to the project. I also thank Annabel and Pete for their support of our manager, Claude, not only at Board level but personally.

The year saw the expansion of the Rainbow Lodge program "Healing through Culture" into the John Morony Correctional Centre. The fact that an independent Charity has been allowed to provide such a service is 'ground-breaking'. The program will allow our clients to connect directly to the programs run by Rainbow Lodge in the community once they are released.

Rainbow Lodge's work with the Walama District Court List has continued to provide participants with support including beds and programs.

The Board deeply appreciates the support of the Paul Ramsay Foundation in allowing Rainbow Lodge to provide the programs and support it provides to Indigenous men that fall into the Criminal Justice System.

A very special thank you is extended to the private donors who have contributed money this year to allow the work of Rainbow Lodge to continue to grow and flourish. Your assistance has allowed Rainbow Lodge to aid our clients and residents with accommodation and services which would otherwise not be available.

Recently Rainbow Lodge received a donation to purchase a much-needed Car for the First Nations transport service, Ngaramura Therapeutic Transport. I personally extend my sincerest appreciation and that of the Rainbow Lodge Board to the couple that made the donation.

Rainbow Lodge (Claude) has established partnerships with The Bill Crews Foundation to provide medical and dental services to our residents. The other notable partnership is with the Charity, Prisoners Aid NSW-Mates on the Move which is providing employment for our residents.

The Rainbow Lodge Manager, Claude has identified the need in the community for a service to assist men involved in Domestic Violence. He has actively sought funds to run the service and a property to house the men. The Board is excited by the prospect of such a service and whole heartedly supports the project.

Rainbow Lodge is poised to undertake expansion into more properties and further programs.

The Board membership continues to change and evolve. This year saw the resignation of Her Honour Judge Sophia Beckett, Jenny Atkinson Local Court Magistrate, Gareth Hamill, Trinka Kent and Troy Rugless. I thank them for the enormous contribution they have each made to Rainbow Lodge during the years they have served on the Board.

We have had two new Board Members appointed during the past year: Parvin Walia and Christopher (Chris) Duckett a proud Wadjabul Wia-bal, Dunghutti, Yuin man and Elder. Parvin is a successful Businessman who brings the necessary skill set to assist with the expansion that is expected in the years ahead, and the necessary financial planning required in such an expansion.

Chris Duckett is an Indigenous elder who brings valuable lived experience to the Board. I thank both Parvin and Chris for joining the Board.

I thank fellow Board member Ilan Finberg for his service to Rainbow Lodge over the past year and particularly his work as a builder on the total renovation of the resident's bathrooms. The project remained within budget producing a first-class finish. Thank you, Ilan.

As it is my last year as President of Rainbow Lodge, I wish to thank all those who came before me, those who I have worked with on the Board. The Kindness and Charity demonstrated by such people as the late Joe Moore (retired Judge) Harvey Cooper (retired Judge), Anna Robilliard and so many others who will never be forgotten.

To the amazing staff at Rainbow Lodge, I thank you personally and on behalf of the Board. You continue to perform above and beyond what is expected of you and always with a smile.

Message from the Manager

Claude Robinson

60 Years of Service

This year sees Rainbow Lodge celebrate 60 years of service in the post custodial accommodation space, no small feat for an NGO of our size. Over that time hundreds of people have worked tirelessly to keep the service running, most of the time on the smell of an oily rag. As a past resident, board member and now manager I've had a long association with Rainbow Lodge spanning nearly 20 years. I thank all those who have come before me, especially the staff who have always gone above and beyond in what can be a challenging environment. I thank the current board and staff who have supported me over the last three years to see Rainbow Lodge grow and start to meet its potential. I'm confident we have set Rainbow Lodge on the path to another 60 years of service.

Growth

We have expanded our services with the implementation of our Ngaramura Therapeutic Transport Program, which transports First Nations people on remand to treatment centres throughout NSW. Again, we have had the generous support of The Paul Ramsay Foundation to get this going, who also funded Melbourne based Thinkimpact to do a Cost Benefit Analysis for the program. We have also had generous donations from Ignite Change and the public to get this most important program off the ground. A special thanks goes out to the amazing staff who undertake the transports, as it requires them on many occasions spending nights away from family and loved ones. We know from the evaluation that their lived experience and cultural knowledge has been invaluable to the clients we transport and has made this program successful.



Our "Bail Day Program" continues to grow with 16 men utilising it as it offers the courts an alternative to custodial remand by giving the men a structured program with cultural supports while in the community.

Our Walama List Program has continued to strengthen and as a direct result of implementing our cultural programs and employing First Nations specialist staff and engaging First Nation owned organisations to deliver programs, Rainbow Lodge has seen the number of First Nations clients increase in 2023-24 to close to 80%. Considering NSW has the highest rate of First Nations incarceration in the world we are proud of the work we are doing to decrease their overrepresentation in the criminal justice system.

Our "Healing Through Culture" Aboriginal healing program commenced on 1st July 2024 at John Morony Correctional Centre. Thanks again to The Paul Ramsay Foundation for making this possible through funding a two-year trial and evaluation.





The year in review

We have again upgraded our facilities by installing a solar battery that will reduce our electricity bill and greenhouse gas emissions by a further 30%, thanks to our local Greens MP Kobi Shetty for providing the grant to fund its purchase. We were also successful in getting a grant to renovate both our bathrooms in the residential building.

We would like to thank John and Pippa Kearsley for their continued generosity, which has funded the purchase of ceiling fans in all the bedrooms and allowed Rainbow Lodge to be a sponsor of the 17th Re-Integration Conference that was held in Sydney this year. John & Pippa's financial support allowed 20 lived experience participants to travel to Sydney from around Australia. The conference was the most successful yet and saw our First Nations peer worker Raymond "Bubbly" Weatherall do the welcome to Country, he also participated in a lived experience panel that I had the privilege to moderate.

We had the privilege of having Associate professor Rubin Miller from the Chicago University visit while in Sydney to be the keynote speaker at the Re-integration Conference. He also attended John Morony Correctional centre with Uncle Wenzel from Melbourne.

Rainbow Lodge was well represented at the Justice Reform Initiative report launch at the NSW parliament in March 2024, where "Bubbly" did the Welcome to Country, and I spoke. It was also attended by board member Annabel Mayo, ex resident Lincoln Lynch and 20 members of parliament.

Habitat for Humanity have generously upgraded our garden during NAIDOC week, which includes our Yarning Circle.

First Nations peer worker Raymond Weatherall and ex-resident

Lincoln were guests on SBS insight "Second Chances" episode 18 June 2024, where they shared their experiences of transitioning out of the criminal justice system and the life changing transformations that have experienced.

On the 11 & 12 September I was privileged to be part of a panel moderated by Ivan Clarke of Wiimpatja and present on Rainbow Lodges cultural programs and protocols at The Transforming Indigenous Justice Outcome Conference in Sydney.

We have seen the busiest year in the history of Rainbow Lodge with 94 clients receiving a mix of case management, accommodation and transport services, and accessing our 'Healing the Warrior' program. Rainbow Lodge received 84 TSA referrals for the 32 funded TSA places available, and were able accept 40. We supported 26 Walama List clients with access to accommodation, case management, cultural programs, day programs and transport.

Our daily program was further consolidated this year, with the addition of Art Therapy and Music Therapy groups, the continuation of AOD groups and Living Skills groups, complemented by cultural outings each week and a strong Men's Group. All residential clients have access to our psychologist. Our First Nations men also enjoyed weekend cultural activities that included Clap Stick and Boomerang making, outings to cultural events including Black Diggers, Yabun, smoking ceremonies and cultural sites.

We facilitated our First Walama cultural Camp with Baawan Walaay in Western NSW, big thanks to our Cultural peer worker Raymond "Bubbly" Weatherall who made this experience for our men possible.

In January 2024 we received our Certificate level ASES accreditation after 12 months of evaluation.

As always, a huge thanks to the staff at Rainbow Lodge who make this place the amazing service it is for our men.

“Breaking Free”

ABC Four Corners Documentary

This year we had the privilege of being the focus of an ABC Four Corners episode through the making of the documentary “Breaking Free” which aired on 3 June 2024, made by award winning journalist Linton Besser and camera operator Ronan Sharkey. The episode focused on the disparity between the number of people released from prison in NSW each year and the available supported accommodation beds at services like Rainbow Lodge.

The ABC filmed the documentary between March and May 2024, attending Rainbow daily to follow as Linton Besser said, “the lucky few who get to Rainbow Lodge”. The experience was amazing for all involved and we would like to thank Linton, Ronan and photographer Brendan Esposito for honouring the trust our men put in them to tell their stories.

The exposure “Breaking Free” has brought this issue and Rainbow Lodge has been life changing, with the community support since it’s airing being overwhelming. We have received over \$100,000 in donations from the public, plus numerous donations of food and other in-kind support.



Future

The future for Rainbow Lodge is looking exciting, we are in talks with government about implementing our residential Domestic Violence program “Safer Men – Safer Families” for men who use violence. We are awaiting the outcome of our funding opportunity through NSW Aboriginal Affairs for our Ngaramura Transport initiative.

We are still actively working towards securing a second property and on-going funding from government to make sure we can meet the ever-increasing demand for our services. The second property and funding will allow Rainbow Lodge to continue with our cultural programs beyond their current philanthropic funding cycle of April 2025.

Rainbow Lodge is currently in the best position of its 60-year history, and we look forward to continuing our work for another 60 years. Rainbow Lodge would like to thank all the amazing staff, organisations, and partners we work with every day to make this possible. A special thanks to the Glebe community who has supported Rainbow Lodge as part of their community since 1971, without local community support we could not accomplish anything.

CLIENT VOICES

Chris

Chris is a 47-year-old First Nations man who entered our 3-month residential program directly from custody on 22/06/2023 under the Walama List. Due to Chris's vulnerability and complex needs and for his safety, Chris remained at Rainbow Lodge for a further 14 months until stable housing was secured through Housing NSW within close proximity to Rainbow Lodge.

Chris has an extensive history of trauma and abuse from his time in juvenile detention and boy's homes. Chris has mental health diagnosis of complex trauma, complex grief, depression and anxiety.

Chris was born in Bourke, New South Wales. Both his parents are of Aboriginal background; Chris identifies as Murri background. Chris was the third of six siblings, his parents separated when he was quite young. Chris grew up with limited contact with his father and was raised by his mother who supported his needs and provided a stable home life.

Chris's family moved to Mount Druitt, and as a teenager he became exposed to alcohol, substance abuse and violence within the community. At the age of 16 Chris witnessed the murder of his cousin which led him to alcohol and substance use to deal with the trauma. Chris has dealt with significant loss and grief throughout his life, after the death of his eldest brother who passed away as an infant, Chris's second eldest brother died in a car accident in 2001, his mother who passed away in 2005 and his sister's passing in 2015.

Chris has had a heroin addiction since the age of 17 along with alcohol dependency which evolved to violence, that resulted in engagement in the justice system leading him to being incarcerated. Chris has a long history of engagement in the justice system, beginning when he was 10 years old. Chris's extensive criminal history has seen him spend over 30 years of his life incarcerated.

When Chris arrived at Rainbow Lodge in June 2023, he made the decision to turn his life around. Chris was tired of the life fuelled by drugs and crime. With Chris's commitment, determination and intensive support from Rainbow Lodge, Chris has succeeded.

During his time at Rainbow Lodge, Chris completed drug and alcohol education groups, living skills groups, cultural programs including Wiimpatja's "Healing the Warrior" Aboriginal men's program, engaged with our onsite Psychologist weekly focusing on his trauma and intensive case management.

During the last 6 months, Chris has taken on a voluntary role at Rainbow Lodge as a peer support mentor to other Aboriginal men exiting custody through the Ngaramura Therapeutic Transport program. Chris is seen as a positive, reliable role model who encourages the men to choose a different path in life.

On Saturday 3 October 2024, Chris officially moved into his "forever home" through Housing NSW in Glebe. Chris continues to attend Rainbow Lodge daily to participate in groups and continues his much valued and important role as a mentor.



Transitional Supported Accommodation Program

This year has been another busy year, with 84 TSA referrals received. Rainbow Lodge is currently funded for 32 places per year under our TSA contract, referrals outstripped capacity by a factor of nearly 3:1.

The men we work with are considered at a high risk of re-offending, homeless and 100% of them present with AOD, Mental Health and Trauma. We pride ourselves on working with men “no one else wants”.

We have built our program around addressing these issues with AOD and Living Skills groups, Art and Music Therapy groups and access to a psychologist as the foundation of our daily support. This is supplemented by our cultural programs to support the 80% of our TSA men who identify as First Nations.

Rainbow Lodge was able accept 40 men from custody with an average stay of 9 weeks; 19 men completed the program with 12 being housed in transitional or permanent housing.

42% of all clients who completed a TSA service came through Rainbow Lodge, across the state TSA services averaged 48% task completion, Rainbow Lodge had a task completion rate of 94%.



Employment, training, and pathways to employment has been identified as another area that we feel we need to improve, if the men are to enjoy sustained recovery. The men who have been successful were able to gain employment in a supported environment. We have been lucky to have a close working relationship with Lois from Prisoners Aid NSW's “Mates on the Move” social enterprise, who have employed 4 Rainbow Lodge men this year.

This year we introduced 12 step self-help meetings 3 times a week and a lived experience speaker dinner each Tuesday night at Rainbow Lodge. We have a number of our Aboriginal men playing cricket with Redfern All Blacks which has been a great positive.

We continue to have a turn away rate of over 50% of our referrals due to not having enough bed capacity. We are hoping that government will increase the number of TSA funded beds at the end of the current funding cycle.



Walama List Program

*'Walama' is a word from the Dharug language meaning 'come back' or return. In the context of the Walama List, it is a coming back to **identity, community, culture**, and a **healthy, crime-free life**.*

This year saw the first full year of our First Nations Walama List Program, which runs in conjunction with the Walama List trial in the District Court of NSW. This program has been made possible through the generosity of The Paul Ramsay Foundation.

In 2023-24 we have worked with 19 Walama participants who benefited from having access to First Nations peer worker, Raymond "Bubbly" Weatherall with lived experience of incarceration and a great knowledge of and connection to his culture. Uncle Elder Ken Canning's supported our First Nations men during groups and with 1-on-1 yarning, before he retired to the Philippines after 50 years of Aboriginal Activism. Replaced by Uncle Kev Telford.

Wiimpatja's "Healing the Warrior" forms the foundation of our Walama program and Ivan Clarke has fine-tuned the program down to four consecutive days which runs each month.



Through providing the men daily access to cultural staff and activities we have seen a huge turn around in the outcomes of the program. We have three Walama participants working, two at Mates on the Move and the third has taken up a peer role in our Ngaramura Transport program.

The Walama program has not just impacted the Walama participants but all our First Nations men, and others from the community who have had access to the 'Healing the Warrior' program and other cultural components of the program. We look forward to strengthening the program as we learn from and adapt to the men we work with.

The program has now been utilised by other courts to send First Nations men on bail in the community to participate in our Walama day program as part of their conditions. We have had up to five men engaged in the bail day program at different times and the feedback from their legal representatives is this has been an integral part of their clients remaining in the community instead of on remand.



Ngaramura "See the way"

Therapeutic Transport Program

It is widely acknowledged that First Nations' people are over-represented in the prison population. Data from the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA 2024) indicates that the imprisonment rate for First Nations adults was 14 times that of non-Indigenous adults. Similarly, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS 2024) data reveals that Aboriginal people comprise about 35% of prisoners, while making up only 3.8% of the population. Therefore, Rainbow Lodge created a for-purpose program, Ngaramura, to help reduce incarceration rates for First Nations Australians.

Ngaramura ('See the Way' in Gadigal language) is a therapeutic transport service that is available to any First Nations inmates on remand in New South Wales. The service transports First Nations people from remand to an appropriate residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre or (in some cases) to their family. Importantly, Ngaramura clients would otherwise not be able to access treatment as courts are often reluctant to grant bail if there is no reliable transport available.

During the journey, peer workers – First Nations people with lived experience of incarceration and treatment – engage the client in a process of storytelling. As part of this, the client learns more about Country and Culture as the peer worker describes the flora, fauna, landscape, and songlines. For many clients, this may be the first time they have had a focused opportunity to connect with their heritage.

Thinkimpact were engaged to do a Cost Benefit Analysis, which showed that for every dollar invested in a treatment pathway that includes Ngaramura, the NSW Government receives \$3.90 in benefits. This supports a strong case for ongoing funding. Courts are typically reluctant to grant clients bail if there is no reliable transport option to a drug and alcohol treatment clinic. Given the relationship between successful treatment outcomes and sentencing,

Ngaramura is filling a vital gap in the service system. Benefits are primarily comprised of savings to the NSW Government through reduced incarceration for clients during bail and shorter custodial sentences. The costs are for service delivery, treatment, and increases in non-custodial sentences. Ngaramura clients generally demonstrate more successful treatment outcomes than clients who have not used the service. For instance, the completion rate for Ngaramura clients is 60.4% compared to a NSW average of 30.6%. This is particularly the case for clients who take longer journeys, who have a child in out-of-home care, and (male) clients with a history of family violence. Ngaramura clients also demonstrate better treatment outcomes when compared with clients at the same service.

The program completed 44 successful transports in the last 12 months, currently supported by the Paul Ramsay foundation, Ignite Change, Stewart Investments, Comm Bank and donations from the public, including a brand new AWD Subaru Forrester Hybrid at a discounted price thanks to Sydney City Subaru. and donations from the public. We are in talks with Aboriginal Affairs NSW to receive funding for 3 years. Ngaramura has shown that strengthening Aboriginal Culture leads to positive outcomes for clients and their families and contributes to Closing the Gap outcomes. These further demonstrate the effectiveness and efficiency of funding Ngaramura into the future.



“Healing through Culture”

Aboriginal Men in Custody Program

Our new “Healing through Culture” program is running as a two-year trial at the John Morony Correctional Centre, Windsor NSW, facilitated by our First Nations partner Wiimpatja Consulting with the evaluation being done by First Nations organisation Origin Communications Australia. It is being funded by The Paul Ramsay Foundation.

The goal is to deliver a culturally focused trauma-based program to First Nations male inmates in NSW Correctional Centres. The goal being that they are introduced through a therapeutic environment to ways of identifying their trauma, its resulting behavioural responses, and the impact those behaviours have on themselves, their family, and the community. Through this process, we hope to support the men to start the healing process, which will enable them to take responsibility for their lives, leading to more positive life choices and a reduction in recidivism.

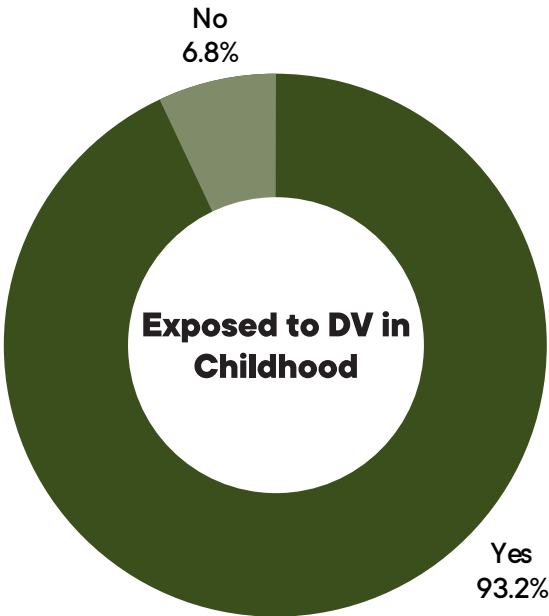
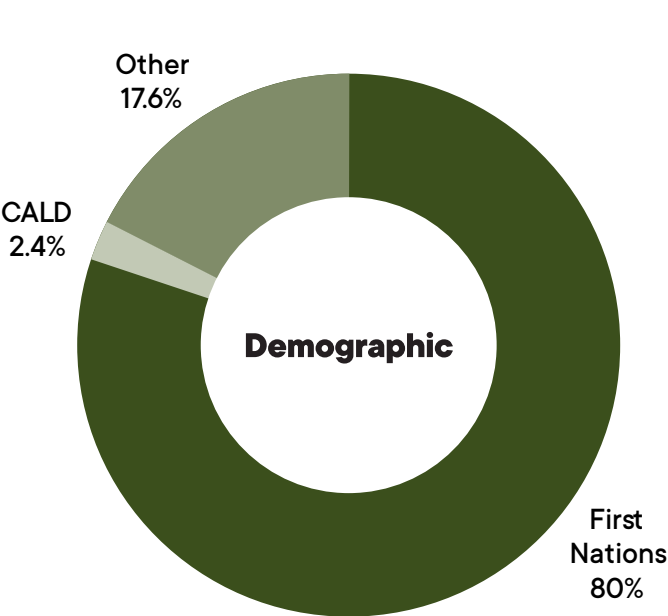
The program consists of Wiimpatja’s “Healing the Warrior” Aboriginal men’s program which provides a four-day workshop (Monday - Thursday) each month. Each workshop will consist of four-day sessions (8am – 1:30pm). The workshops will support First Nations men on remand to attain an appreciation of trauma at a personal, family and community level. It will assist the men on remand to attain awareness of personal experiences of trauma and how that trauma has affected their attitude, behaviour, and lifestyle choices.



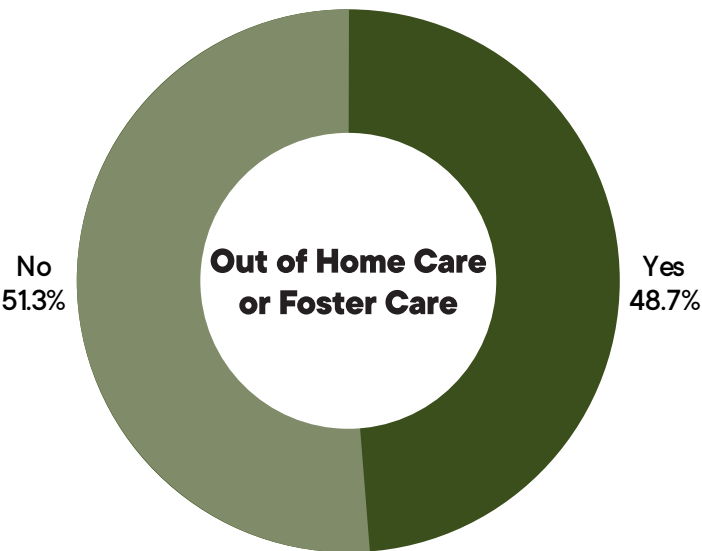
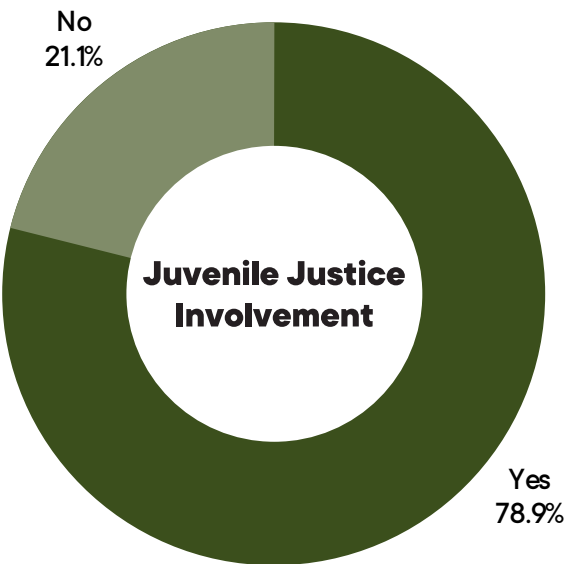
It is supported by Healing Circles run each Tuesday on either side of the “Healing the Warrior” program to support the continuations of the conversations around trauma and the pathways to start the healing process.

The program began on 1st July 2024 and will run until 30th June 2026. We would like to thank all our partners involved in the complex negotiations to bring this program to life. Ivan Clarke from Wiimpatja, Justin Noel from Origin Communications, Erin, Dominique and Squirrel from The Paul Ramsay Foundation, Luke Grant, Justin Hodges, Peter Thiris and his team of SAPO’s from Corrective Services NSW.

Client Snapshot



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KEY FACTS

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A Day at Rainbow

8:30am	Dosing & Medication
9:30am	Morning Group
10am	House Chores
10:30am	AOD Group
12pm	1 on 1 Yarn with Uncle Ken
1:30pm	Healing Circle
2:30pm	Case Planning
5-7:30pm	Meal prep, dinner, chores
6-8pm	Psychologist
11pm	Curfew

CLIENT VOICES

Shane

Shane is a 30-year-old First Nations man who entered Rainbow Lodge in August 2023 following his release from custody into Temporary Accommodation, which caused issues due to drug use and anti-social behaviour at the accommodation. Shane was then referred to us through his CCO and completed our program in December 2023.

Shane was born in Dubbo, New South Wales, both his parents are of Aboriginal background. Shane grew up with limited contact with his father due to his offending and long periods of incarceration. Shane's father remains in custody serving a 20-year sentence.

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Shane has suffered with addiction since a very young age which led him to violence and offending behaviour. Shane has a significant history of incarceration which commenced at the age of 14 years old. Shane has spent minimal birthdays outside of custody.

When Shane arrived at Rainbow Lodge, he came with a purpose of setting new foundations for his life in the community. During his time at Rainbow Lodge Shane engage in drug and alcohol education groups, living skills groups, cultural programs including Wiimpatja's "Healing the Warrior" Aboriginal men's program and intensive case management.

Shane's determination saw him obtain his driver's licence which was a great achievement and a very proud moment. Following this, Rainbow Lodge staff explored employment opportunities with Prisoner's Aid which saw Shane commence work with Mates on the Move which he thoroughly enjoys and is well liked by his co-workers.



In December 2023, Shane was nominated for a transitional property with St George Community Housing and was successful in securing a property in Maroubra. Shane was delighted to be moving into his own place. Rainbow Lodge supported Shane with his transition which involved obtaining furniture and essential household items.

A couple of weeks after Shane moved to Maroubra, we were notified by Housing NSW that Shane's application for Social Housing was successful and he was offered a property in Leichhardt, his "forever home". Shane was over the moon when he received this news. Rainbow Lodge then went about supporting Shane's transition to Leichhardt having him fully settled in by mid-January 2024.

Shane successfully completed his Parole with Leichhardt Community Corrections in February 2024 and continues to thrive in the community whilst remaining engaged with Rainbow Lodge.

FUNDERS

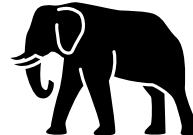


Communities
& Justice

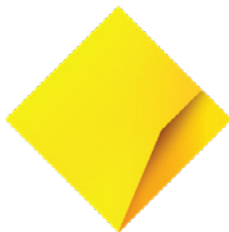
SUPPORTERS



John & Pippa Kearsley
Justice Linda Ashford



Stewart Investors



Commonwealth
Bank



SUBARU

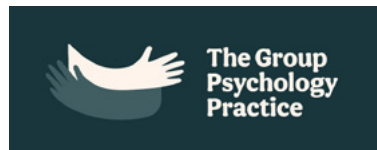
Sydney City

Paul Cooper, Christine Adamson & Kate Perumal,
Samantha Thomson, JustCares Foundation

PARTNERS



**Aboriginal
Legal Service**
(NSW/ACT) Limited



Pymont Cares Inc.



A safe place for change

OUR BOARD

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William O'Brien - President

William is a Criminal Law Specialist. He established and currently works in the criminal defence law firm, William O'Brien and Ross Hudson Solicitors. Whilst working in the Criminal Justice sector, William has acted for clients from every socio-economic group. Part of his practice has been devoted to the defence of indigenous men, women, and children. He has served on the Children's Court Legal Aid roster and works regularly on the Legal Aid duty lawyer back-up scheme, as well as having a place on the various serious crime panels in the Legal Aid Commission. He is aware of the devastation caused by the abuse of mind-altering substances and the addiction that inevitably follows. He is aware of the need provide a means for people to recover from their addictions. He has been associated with the Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund mostly as a Board member for over 20 years.

Pete Townsend - Vice President

Pete has over 40 years' experience working in the community services sector and holds degrees in theology and nursing qualifications. Pete spent twenty years in the AOD and nursing sectors, and another 20 of these years working with men engaged in the criminal justice system as a senior manager, program writer and trainer with Corrective Services NSW and Corrections ACT. Pete was instrumental in the success of the Ngara Nura program at Long Bay during his time as manager and the Solaris therapeutic community in the ACT at Alexander Maconochie Centre prison. Pete was a previous manager of The Rainbow Lodge and has been a Board member for two years.

Annabel Mayo - Vice President

From 1996-2011 Annabel worked in the NSW prison system and especially in Ngara Nura, the AOD therapeutic community at Long Bay Correctional Complex, Sydney. Annabel then worked in the ACT at Alexander Maconochie Centre prison in the Solaris therapeutic community and taught AOD and mental health to students at the Canberra Institute of Technology. Annabel later worked as a counsellor at the Stimulant Treatment Program at St Vincent's Hospital until the end of 2017. Annabel has a wide range of experience in training and staff clinical supervision across several community sector domains over 40 years. Annabel currently provides two weekly groups to Rainbow Lodge clients on topics relating to understanding and overcoming substance dependence and on building life skills for surviving well outside custody. Annabel holds a degree in Psychology. Annabel joined the Rainbow Lodge Board in 2023.

Troy Rugless - Treasurer



Troy is a Wiradjuri man who founded PSG Holdings in 2011. Troy currently resides as PSG Holding's Director, CEO, Business Development Manager, Company Cultural Leader and Indigenous Business Mentor. Troy ensures that PSG Holdings thrives based on a culture of respect, humility, ingenuity and hard work. Troy is a former professional rugby league footballer who played in the 1990s and 2000s and has coached in the 2000s and 2010s. Troy joined the Rainbow Lodge board in 2022.

Chris Duckett



Chris is a proud Wadjabal Wia-bal, Dunghutti, Yuin man and Elder who sits on the Koori Youth Court and Walama List. Chris has qualifications in horticulture and is currently teaching at TAFE NSW. Chris brings vast lived experience with him and exceptional cultural knowledge.

Magistrate Jenny Atkinson

Jenny Atkinson has been on the Rainbow Lodge Board for over 7 years. As a Magistrate, Jenny has dealt with a number of high profile and complex cases since her appointment in 2010.

Ilan Finberg

Ilan brings lived experience of addiction and homelessness to the Rainbow Lodge board. Ilan is a qualified builder by trade and operates his own company. Ilan is a strong advocate for social justice and improving outcomes for people engaged in the criminal justice system through issues with substance abuse and mental health. Ilan has been on the Rainbow Lodge Board since 2022.



Parvin Walia

Parvin is an experienced Senior Executive and entrepreneur with over 30 years' experience in financial management, planning and business transformation across highly competitive industries including food and beverage, and mining. Especially skilful at identifying operational improvement opportunities and creating plans to capitalize on them, turning under-performing businesses into success stories.

Lynn Rainbow AM - Patron

Lynn Rainbow is a former theatre and television actor and voice-artist who became widely recognisable in the early 1970s. Lynn received the Order of Australia AM in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 2016, for her service to culture and the arts. Lynn is the daughter of Judge Alfred Rainbow and has always been involved in The Rainbow Lodge, from her participation in the setting up of the Ruby Rich house in April 1980, to remaining the patron of The Rainbow Lodge today.



Claude Robinson - Manager

Claude has 15 years' experience in the community services sector, working in youth justice and homelessness, also mental health and adult justice and homelessness. He has been in senior management over the last 8 years at several NGOs in the community sector. He was on the board of Rainbow Lodge for six years before becoming the manager of Rainbow Lodge Program two years ago.

Claude has lived experience of substance misuse and engagement in the criminal justice systems in NSW and Victoria. Claude is a passionate advocate for reform in the criminal justice and prison systems, especially as it relates to First Nations people, people with substance misuse and mental health issues.

THE JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INCORPORATED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

A.B.N. 63 542 340 727

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**THE JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INCORPORATED
STATEMENT BY THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

On behalf of the Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund Incorporated Committee of Management, we, the undersigned are of the opinion that the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024, set out on pages 3 to 12 comprising the income statement, balance sheet and notes to the financial statements, are properly drawn up so as to present a true and fair and not misleading view of the surplus of income over expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2024 and the financial position of the Fund as at that date.

William O'Brien
President of Board



Peter Townsend
Board Member



Signed at Sydney this 1st day of October 2024

THE JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INCORPORATED
INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
INCOME		
NSW DCJ grant	78,471	75,061
Department of Corrective Services operating grant	792,161	782,670
NSW Land and Housing Corporation grant	102,568	-
House boarding fees	49,676	48,244
Interest	4,166	2,354
Sundry income/Donations	67,477	23,555
Bequest	-	100,000
Trusts & Foundations	509,483	240,667
Sale of fixed assets	392	(2,452)
TOTAL INCOME	<u>1,604,394</u>	<u>1,270,099</u>

THE JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INCORPORATED
INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024 (Continued)

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
EXPENDITURES		
Accounting fees	37,532	35,732
Advertising & promotion	6,877	650
Assets purchased <\$5,000	5,913	136
Audit fees	3,800	3,504
Bank charges	1,034	175
Certification fees	4,350	-
Cleaning & pest control	3,420	2,096
Client support consumables – food	35,734	32,149
Client support consumables – other	825	5,010
Client support services – activities programs	6,503	6,243
Client support services – counselling	68,549	57,192
Client support services – brokerage	18,816	21,054
Client support services – transport	18,721	2,895
Client support services – cultural programs	212,389	63,725
Computer expenses	1,589	9,198
Consultancy fees	7,090	6,100
Depreciation – Motor Vehicle	13,626	9,533
Depreciation – Plant & Equipment	4,441	-
Depreciation – Fixtures & Fittings	3,105	-
Employment support and supervision costs	4,400	1,464
Insurance	12,581	11,502
Insurance - workers compensation	53,337	23,021
General expenses	5,993	5,945
Motor Vehicle Expenses	9,379	11,922
Postage, freight & courier	-	166
Stationery and computer consumables	3,946	7,957
Provision for annual leave	3,400	2,219
Provision for long service leave	(2,723)	(1,778)
Replacements, repairs and maintenance	115,039	16,670
Security	193	6,266
Staff welfare, seminars and training material	1,893	1,839
Staff training and development	1,955	5,205
Subscriptions and membership fees paid	953	680
Superannuation	82,633	70,315
Telephone	3,539	2,267
Travelling & accommodation	20	-
Salaries & wages	756,304	678,089
Utilities	8,612	10,225
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>1,515,768</u>	<u>1,109,366</u>

**THE JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INCORPORATED INCOME
STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024 (Continued)**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) OF INCOME TO EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR	88,626	160,733
ACCUMULATED FUNDS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	426,638	265,905
ACCUMULATED FUNDS - YEAR END	<div>----- 515,264 =====</div>	<div>----- 426,638 =====</div>

THE JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INCORPORATED
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		515,264	426,638
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Current Assets			
Cash at bank	3	1,438,663	904,900
Sundry debtors	4	46,435	23,142
Fixed Assets	5	76,595	73,190
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>
Total Assets		<u>1,561,693</u>	<u>1,001,232</u>
Current liabilities			
Sundry creditors	6	14,370	22,251
Accruals	7	40,136	41,745
Employee entitlements	1(d)	33,207	29,807
Goods & Services Tax		12,094	15,414
Grants Received in Advance	7	946,622	462,654
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>
Current liabilities		<u>1,046,429</u>	<u>571,871</u>
Non-current liabilities			
Employee Entitlements	1(e)	-	2,723
		<u>-----</u>	<u>-----</u>
Non-current liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>2,723</u>
Total liabilities		1,046,429	574,594
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>515,264</u>	<u>426,638</u>
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

THE JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INCORPORATED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

1. BASES OF PREPARATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
 - (a) The Fund is required under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 to furnish a statement at the Annual General Meeting which is not misleading and which gives a true and fair view of:
 - (i) income and expenditure of the Fund during the financial year;
 - (ii) assets and liabilities of the Fund at the end of the financial year; and
 - (iii) mortgages, charges and other securities affecting any property of the Fund at the end of the financial year.
 - (b) In the opinion of the Committee of Management, the Fund is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial reports. This is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared for the purposes of complying with the requirements of the Fund's Constitution, the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 to prepare and distribute a financial report to the members and must not be used for any other purpose. The Committee of Management has determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members.
 - (c) The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention and under the accrual basis of accounting. The financial statements are also prepared on a going-concern basis. The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year.
 - (d) Liabilities for employee entitlements to annual leave and wages and salaries are recognised, and are measured as the amount unpaid at balance date at current pay rates, plus an allowance for applicable on-costs, in respect of employees' services up to that date.

THE JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INCORPORATED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024 (Cont'd)

1. BASES OF PREPARATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

- (e) Liabilities for employee entitlements to long service leave are provided on a pro-rata accrual basis for eligible employees with more than 5 years' service.

2. TAXATION

The Association is registered as a charity under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Act and is exempt from income tax under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

3. CASH AT BANK	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Westpac main cheque account	288,053	720,665
Westpac cheque account	114,094	66,036
Westpac debit card	14,070	3,758
Westpac Reserve	7,207	7,206
Petty cash	674	343
Westpac Term Deposit	1,007,922	104,865
PayPal	6,643	2,027
	<u>1,438,663</u>	<u>904,900</u>

4. SUNDRY DEBTORS

	\$	\$
Accounts receivable	-	-
Prepayments	43,074	20,890
Other Debtors	3,361	2,252
	<u>46,435</u>	<u>23,142</u>

THE JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INCORPORATED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024 (Cont'd)

5. FIXED ASSETS

	\$	\$
Motor vehicles - at cost	69,025	62,950
Motor vehicles – Depreciation Accumulated	(21,435)	(9,401)
	<u>47,590</u>	<u>53,549</u>
 Plant & equipment – at cost	 22,387	 19,016
Plant & equipment – Depreciation Accumulated	(8,095)	(3,655)
	<u>14,292</u>	<u>15,361</u>
 Fixtures & Fittings	 18,322	 4,785
Fixtures & Fittings – Depreciation Accumulated	(3,609)	(505)
	<u>14,713</u>	<u>4,280</u>
	<u>76,595</u>	<u>73,190</u>

6. SUNDRY CREDITORS

	\$	\$
Employee PAYG withholding tax	10,816	15,851
Trade creditors	3,554	6,400
	<u>14,370</u>	<u>22,251</u>

7. SUNDRY CREDITORS and ACCRUALS

	\$	\$
Wages and superannuation accrual	36,328	37,530
Audit fees	3,808	3,500
Key Deposit	-	715
	<u>40,136</u>	<u>41,745</u>
 Grants received in advance:		
- Corrective Services	1,772	6,320
- Ramsay Foundation	<u>944,850</u>	<u>456,334</u>
	<u>946,622</u>	<u>462,654</u>

THE JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INCORPORATED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024 (Cont'd)

8. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no contingent liabilities that have been incurred by the Association at year end.

9. GOING CONCERN ASSUMPTION

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis on the assumption that the level of funding from both the DCS and DCJ will be of sufficient amount so as to enable the Fund to meet its debts as and when they fall due. The surplus's recorded in recent years have also improved the fund's capacity to cover any losses that may be incurred in the next few years.

The Committee of Management believes that the Fund currently has sufficient existing funds, as well as continued funding from both the Department of Corrective Services and the Department of Communities & Justice, to operate as a going concern for the financial year ending 30 June 2025 and beyond.

AUDITORS' INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT FOR PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012
SECTION 60-40
TO THE COMMITTEE OF
JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INC.

As lead auditor for the audit of Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund Inc. (A.B.N. 63 542 340 727) for the year ended 30 June 2024, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

This declaration is in respect of Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund Inc. and any entities it controlled during the period.

MITCHELL & PARTNERS
Chartered Accountants



Glenn Merchant
Partner

Sydney, NSW
Dated this 1st day of October 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
JUDGE RAINBOW MEMORIAL FUND INC
A.B.N. 63 542 340 727

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund Inc (the entity) which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2024, income statement and income and expenditure statement, for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the statement by the committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund Inc is in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2024, and of its performance for the year ended then ended; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009.

Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 2 of the financial report which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund Inc in its financial reporting obligations and may not be suitable for another purpose

Key Audit Matter - Going Concern

As disclosed in note 9 to the financial statements (Going concern assumption) the fund is reliant on receiving sufficient funding from the Department of Corrective Services and the Department of Communities and Justice in order to be able to meet its obligations each and every year. In the event that insufficient grants are provided in any year, then there would be significant uncertainty that the entity will continue as a going concern, and therefore whether it will realise its assets and extinguish its liabilities in the normal course of business and at the amounts stated in the financial report.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board APES 110: Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

ABN: 62 606 570 742

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We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the committee members of Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund Inc., would be in the same terms if given to the Committee as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The committee members are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June, 2024, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report to this regard.

The Responsibility of the Committee for the Financial Statements

The committee members of Judge Rainbow memorial Fund Inc are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*, and for such internal control as the committee determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee members are responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternatives but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

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

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

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

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- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with the responsible entities regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the committee members with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements requiring independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

MITCHELL & PARTNERS
Chartered Accountants



Glenn Merchant CA
Partner

Sydney, NSW

Dated this 1st day of October, 2024

ABN: 62 606 570 742

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