CHAPTER 29

ANNUAL REPORT 2025 - 2026

Chapter 1 - A New Beginning

REGISTERED CHARITY
acnc.gov.au/charityregister







A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

There are moments in life that change your story forever. Chapter 29 was born from one of those moments, but it has never been about staying in that chapter, it has always been about helping people start their next one.

This first year has been both humbling and inspiring. We set out to create welcoming spaces where people could connect, create, share stories and feel a sense of belonging.

In just six months of delivering community programs, we've already seen strangers become friends, confidence grow through creativity, and conversations remind people that they are not alone.

Becoming a registered charity with the ACNC was an important milestone, but our greatest achievement has been the community that is starting to form around Chapter 29.

Every volunteer, participant, donor and supporter has helped transform an idea into something real.

Looking ahead, we want to build on this foundation by growing our programs, creating more opportunities for connection and reaching more people who may be experiencing social isolation.

We hope to continue developing new partnerships, welcoming more volunteers and expanding the ways people can come together, share their stories and discover a sense of belonging.

There is so much potential for Chapter 29 to grow, and we are excited about what the next chapter will bring.

Thank you for believing in our vision. This is only the beginning of our story.

Jenny Saibu
Founder & Director (Sariah's mum)



EVERY STORY HAS A BEGINNING



Sariah was vibrant, intelligent, funny, creative, and unapologetically herself. She lived a colourful life filled with connection, while also navigating periods of deep emotional struggle.

After her passing, stories of Sariah's life opened the door for others to share their own experiences of loss, mental health challenges and hardship. We saw how powerful it can be when people have a safe, compassionate space to speak, listen and simply be themselves.

Chapter 29 was created from this understanding — that connection can reduce isolation, strengthen mental wellbeing and help people feel seen, heard and supported.

Today, we provide safe, facilitated spaces where people experiencing emotional distress and social isolation can connect, share stories and participate in activities that support wellbeing and belonging.

While Sariah's story ended at Chapter 29, her legacy continues by helping others find connection, hope and their own next chapter.

WHO ARE WE?

Chapter 29 is a Western Australian charity dedicated to improving mental wellbeing and reducing social isolation through connection, creativity and conversation.

We believe everyone deserves opportunities to belong, to be heard, and to discover hope through meaningful relationships and shared experiences.

OUR MISSION

To create a compassionate and inspiring community where individuals can share life-changing chapters, and foster connection, hope, and support through shared experiences.



Our Values

Integrity.
We hold ourselves to the highest standards of accountability, transparency, and honesty.

Respect.
We value the diversity of perspectives, cultures and backgrounds within our community. Everyone deserves dignity, to be heard, and the opportunity to contribute.

Creativity.
We believe in the power of curiosity. By embracing new ideas we constantly seek better ways to provide spaces that foster creative ownership.

Compassion.
We recognize the need to treat people with care and kindness. We are committed to empathy and compassion in all of our interactions,

Social Justice Commitment.
We are committed to equality, diversity, inclusion, and fairness in all of our work. We firmly believe in the importance of addressing systemic inequalities.

A COLLECTIVE STRENGTH

Chapter 29 is supported by a team with a diverse range of professional, community and lived experience.

The Team

Jenny | Founder & Director
Event Management • Fundraising • Community Programs • Disability & Inclusion

Jennifer | Founder & Director
Researcher • Musician • Writer • Social Inclusion • Program Evaluation

Stefan | Director
IT Professional • Digital Literacy • Technology Education

Cassandra | Advisory Panel
Tertiary Education • Equity & Inclusion • Intercultural Relations • Program Evaluation

Reece | Advisory Panel
Small Business • Community • Inclusion • Self-Expression

Janet | Advisory Panel
Elderly Support • Life Transition • Compassionate Care

Vanessa | Advisory Panel
Social Work • Child Protection • Humanitarian Experience

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The strength of Chapter 29 lies not only in what each individual brings, but in what we can achieve together.

Our combined experience allows us to draw on different perspectives, professional knowledge and community experience as we develop programs that create meaningful opportunities for connection and belonging.



OUR FIRST YEAR AT A GLANCE

25 February 2026
ACNC Registration

Official charity status and DGR status achieved in our first year.

4 March 2026
First grant awarded

Enabled us to trial programs and take our first steps towards sustainability.

10 April 2026
First fundraiser launched

A very generousdonation provided a safe, environment to bring the community together.

8 May 2026
First program delivered

Providing opportunity to conneect through creativity.

15 June 2026
First community donations received

Craft supplies galore helped us to reduce the cost of delivering our programs.



BELINDA & MATT: FINDING CONNECTION TOGETHER

Twenty years ago, Belinda and Matt met in Northam. They built a life together before moving to Perth to be closer to family.

Over the years, life has changed significantly.

Belinda lives with a degenerative condition that has gradually affected her mobility, and she now relies on a wheelchair to get around. For Matt, who works during the day, this brings a constant worry about leaving Belinda at home alone.
What if she falls? What if she needs help?



Chapter 29 provides something important for them both.

When Belinda attends a Chapter 29 program, Matt knows she is somewhere she feels comfortable, welcomed and connected. For Belinda, it's an opportunity to get out, try new things and connect with people. And perhaps the simplest measure of the difference Chapter 29 makes - **Matt comes home to a happy wife.**

They also enjoy attending Games Night together, giving them both the chance to meet new people, have some fun and share an experience outside their usual routine. These opportunities to connect and simply enjoy themselves have become an important part of their lives.

Chapter 29's role has also extended beyond the activities themselves. Jenny's knowledge of the NDIS and local community providers has helped connect Belinda and Matt with additional supports available in their community. For us, connection isn't just about bringing people into a room. It's also about helping people find the services and opportunities that can support them in their everyday lives.

For Belinda and Matt, Chapter 29 has become more than somewhere to attend an activity. It has become a place where Belinda can feel connected, where Matt can have a little less worry, and where they can both be part of a community.

Sometimes making a difference is simply helping someone feel safe, supported, happy and connected — and for Matt, knowing that Belinda is enjoying herself in a safe environment means a little less worry and a very happy wife.

OUR IMPACT

Improved Mental Wellbeing

Our programs encouraged participants to reconnect with hobbies, express themselves creatively and experience the positive effects of belonging to a supportive community.

Social Connections

Through shared activities and conversations, friendships began to form within and outside of the group.

Confidence

Participants grew in confidence by being welcomed exactly as they were.

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Our first six months of programs have shown us that meaningful connection can start with something as simple as a shared activity and a conversation.

While our numbers tell part of the story, the real impact is seen in the people who have participated, the friendships that have started, and the confidence that has grown.

By providing opportunities for connection, we have begun to see the difference that inclusive, creative and supportive spaces can make.

Our programs are designed not just to provide an activity, but to create opportunities for people to feel connected and part of a community.

OUR NUMBERS MAY BE SMALL...

BUT OUR IMPACT HAS BEEN BIG!

1 Year in operation

2 Community venues

4 Community partnerships

25 Participants regularly engaged

40 Programs delivered

180 Volunteer facilitator hours

DON'T JUST TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT

"I can always tell when Belinda has been to a Chapter 29 program because she is so happy when I get home from work'"
Matt, Partner / Carer

"Why can't we do this every week?"
Everyone who attends our fortnightly game night.

"I am worried I am going to lose my NDIS funding so I am glad I can come here."
Ben - Participant

"What a great program, can I tell my colleagues?."
Kellie - Support Worker

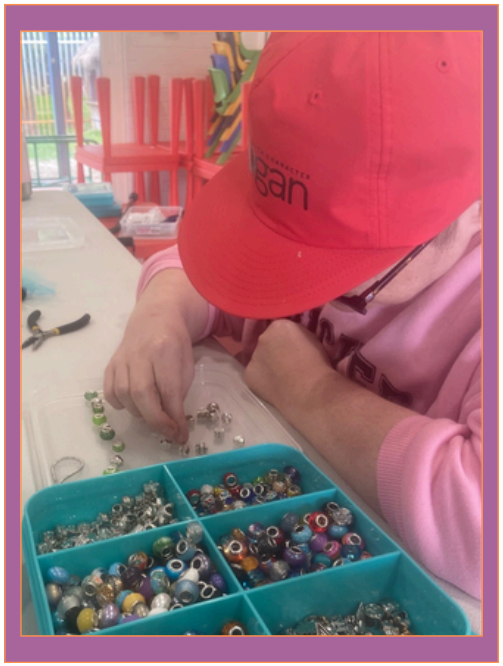
"Jenny is awesome! I aways have so much fun when I go to a group activity."
Belinda - Participant

"I get to talk to so many different people, not just about disability. Everyone is so nice."
Matt - Participant

"There is such a need for what you are doing."
Josie
Disability House Manager

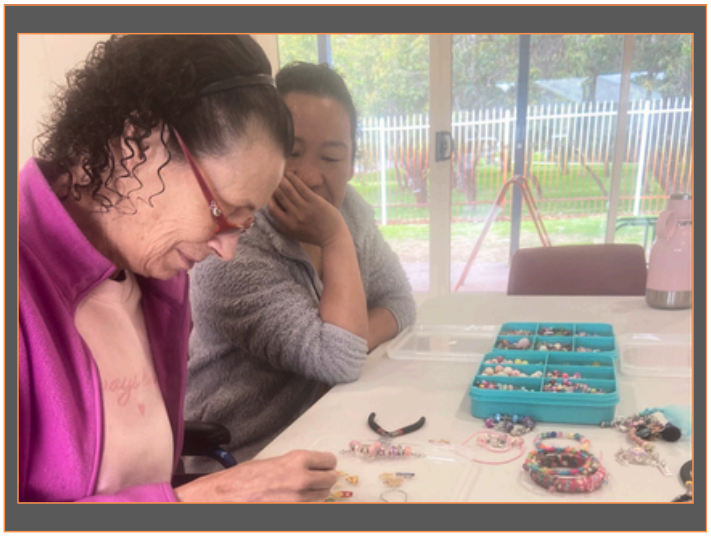














GOVERNANCE FOUNDATIONS

We may be a small, community-focused organisation, but we take our responsibilities seriously.

Throughout the year, we continued to build the governance, policies and processes needed to ensure Chapter 29 is safe, accountable, transparent and well positioned for the future.



Good governance gives us the foundation to focus on what matters most — creating safe, welcoming opportunities for people to connect, share their stories and write their next chapter.

CHECKLIST

- **Conflict of Interest** — Disclosures and interests are recorded and managed appropriately.
- **Risk Management** — Risks are identified, assessed and reviewed across our programs.
- **Safeguarding** — Processes are in place to protect vulnerable people
- **Incident Reporting** — Clear processes are in place for recording and responding to incidents.
- **Referral Policy** — Participants are appropriately referred into our programs and supported within our scope.
- **Financial Controls** — Appropriate processes support responsible management of funds and expenditure.
- **Volunteer Management** — Volunteers are supported with clear roles, expectations and appropriate procedures.
- **Privacy & Confidentiality** — Participant information is handled respectfully and appropriately.
- **Compliance** — Chapter 29 maintains its obligations as a registered charity and operates in accordance with relevant requirements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

With our first grant secured and the generosity of a significant community donation, we have been able to begin turning our vision into action. Every contribution has helped us take another step towards creating welcoming spaces where people can connect, share stories and feel they belong.

We remain mindful of our responsibility to use every dollar carefully and ensure that funds are directed towards creating meaningful outcomes for the people and communities we support. As we look ahead, we will continue to build a sustainable financial base through grants, donations, partnerships and fundraising, allowing Chapter 29 to grow its reach and impact.

		Total		
		Actual	Last Year	Variance $
4-0000	**Income**			
4-1000	**Fundraising**			
4-1001	Grant funding	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00
4-1002	Donations	4,988.72	0.00	4,988.72
	Total Fundraising	**12,988.72**	**0.00**	**12,988.72**
8-0000	**Other Income**			
8-1060	Other Income	600.00	0.00	600.00
	Total Other Income	**600.00**	**0.00**	**600.00**
	Total Income	**12,988.72**	**0.00**	**12,988.72**
	Gross Profit	**12,988.72**	**0.00**	**12,988.72**

		Total		
		Actual	Last Year	Variance $
6-0000	**Expenses**			
6-1120	Advertising & Marketing	2,080.95	0.00	2,080.95
6-1210	Contractor Fees	3,200.00	0.00	3,200.00
6-1540	**Insurance Expenses**			
6-1550	Insurance	1,223.00	0.00	1,223.00
	Total Insurance Expenses	**1,223.00**	**0.00**	**1,223.00**
6-1640	Merchant Fees	0.05	0.00	0.05
6-3020	Office Supplies	55.95	0.00	55.95
6-4440	Subscriptions & Memberships	500.00	0.00	500.00
6-4531	Pogram Supplies	179.62	0.00	179.62
6-4532	Venue Hire	2,600.00	0.00	2,600.00
	Total Expenses	**9,839.57**	**0.00**	**9,839.57**
	Operating Profit	**3,149.15**	**0.00**	**3,149.15**
	Net Profit	**3,749.15**	**0.00**	**3,749.15**

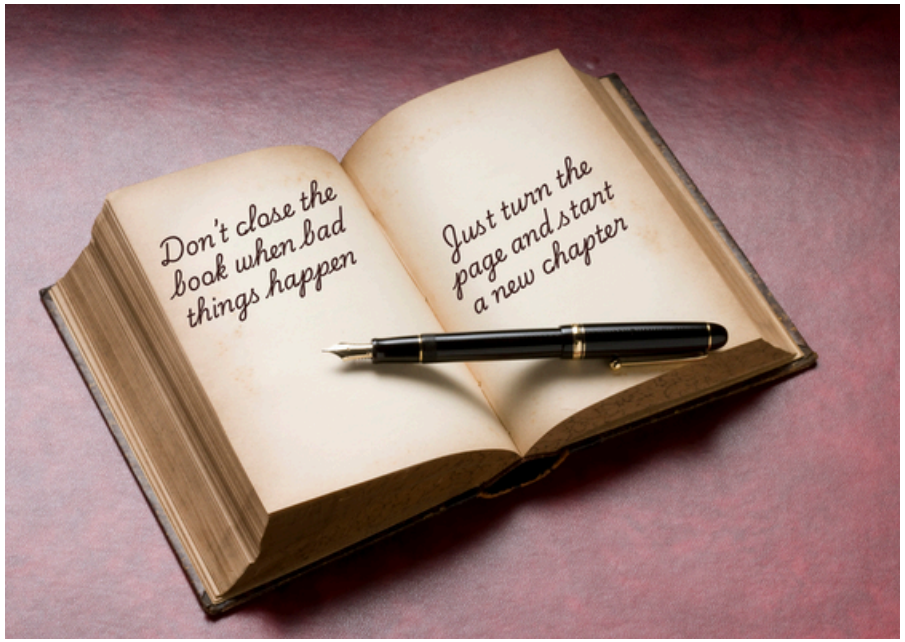
THE NEXT CHAPTER

Our first year has been about planting the seeds for what Chapter 29 can become.

We have established our foundations, launched our programs, built partnerships and begun creating spaces where people can connect.

Now, we're ready for the next chapter.

OUR GOAL IS SIMPLE: TO GROW OUR REACH, OUR IMPACT AND OUR CAPACITY, WITHOUT EVER LOSING SIGHT OF THE CONNECTION THAT IS AT THE HEART OF CHAPTER 29.



2027 | Growth
Grow our online presence. Expand our programs North and South of the River. Grow our volunteer database. Secure more community partnerships.

2028 | Scale & Sustainability
Extend our reach into regional WA and explore an interstate pilot. Grow our partnerships. Funded to employ our first staff. Establish a community-funded small grants program.

2029 | Legacy & Reach
Build a diversified and sustainable funding base. Establish Chapter 29 in another state. Publish a Chapters of Perth book celebrating community stories. Explore a telephone support service.

2030 | Thriving & Transforming
Create a dedicated Chapter 29 space for programs, workshops and connection. Epand after-hours support through qualified volunteers, and work towards providing access to free in-person mental health support.

THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to our Board, Advisory Panel, Mentors and Community Partners for sharing your time, expertise and belief in Chapter 29 throughout our first year.

Your guidance, encouragement and commitment have helped shape our foundations and given us confidence as we begin writing the next chapter.







HELP US WRITE THE NEXT CHAPTER

Our first year has shown us what is possible when a community comes together. As we look ahead, we want to grow our programs, reach more people and create even more opportunities for connection and belonging.

There are many ways you can be part of the next chapter:

- **Volunteer your time** -Share your skills, help facilitate a program or simply be there to welcome someone into the room.
- **Donate** - Every contribution, big or small, helps us provide activities, resources and opportunities for people to connect.
- **Partner with us** - Community organisations, businesses and groups can help us reach more people and create new opportunities.
- **Donate supplies or services** - Creative materials, venue space, professional skills and other practical support can make a real difference to our programs.
- **Spread the word** - Tell someone about Chapter 29, share our programs or help us connect with people who may benefit from what we offer.

EVERY CONTRIBUTION HELPS CREATE ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR CONNECTION.

Visit our website for the full Chapter 29 story.

W: chapter29.com.au E: connect@chapter29.com.au P: 0478 241 335

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