

2023 Annual Report

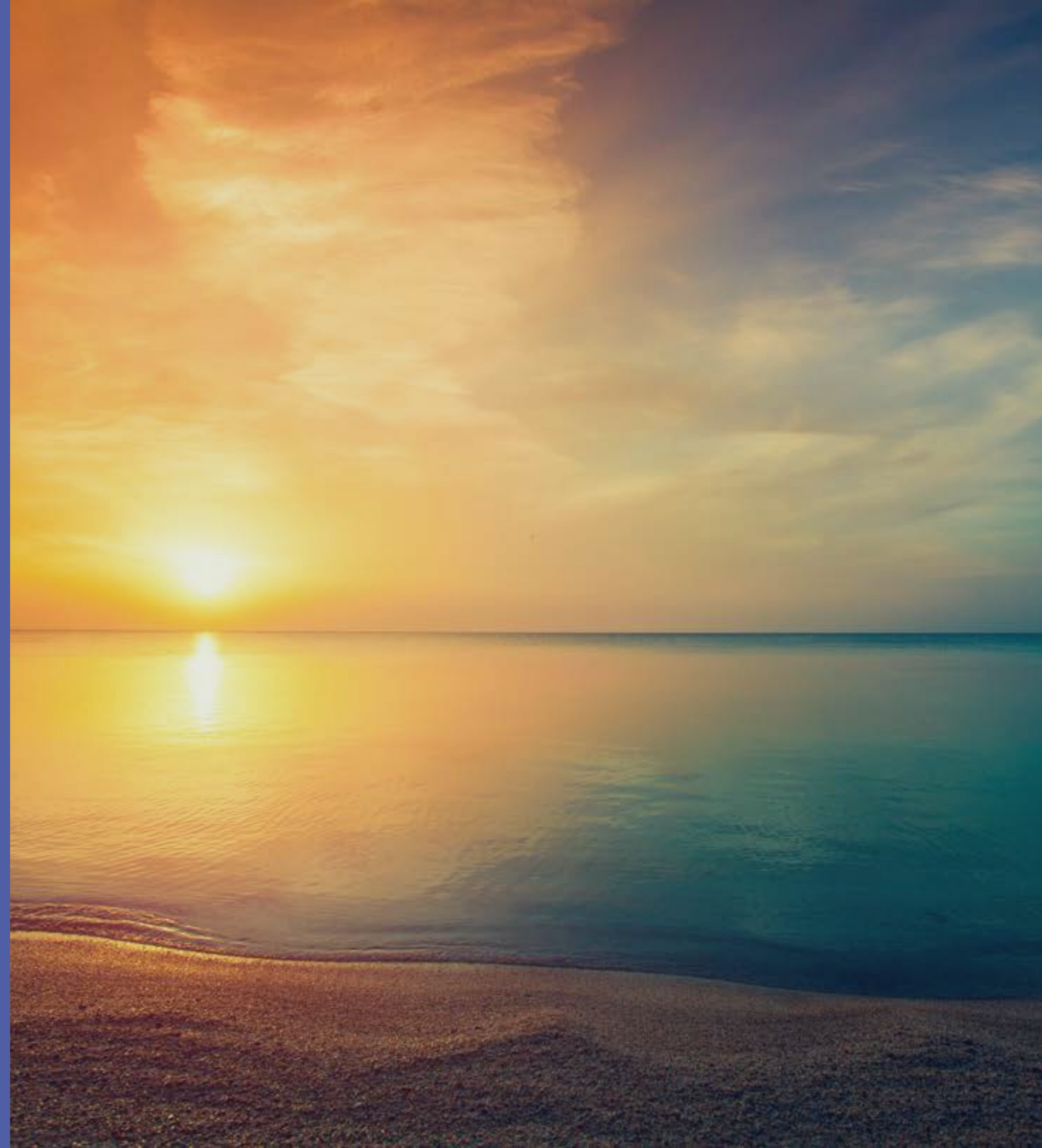


Acknowledgements

Funded by the Australian Government
Department of Social Services

Go to dss.gov.au for more information

Aussie Deaf Kids acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands across Australia and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.





Mission

Aussie Deaf Kids aims to empower parents raising a child with hearing loss through online support, information and advocacy.



Vision

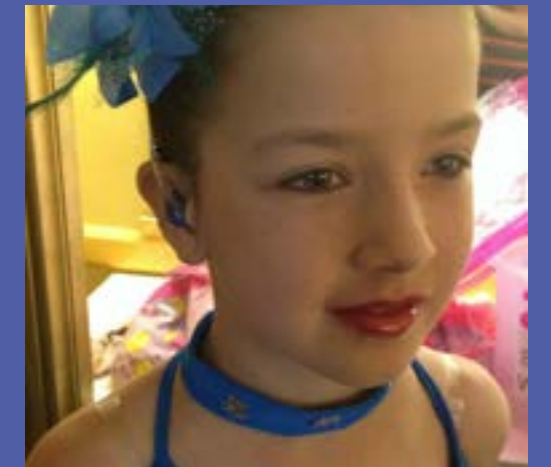
To be a respected source of independent information and support for families with a child who is deaf or hard of hearing in Australia



Our commitment

Aussie Deaf Kids is committed to promoting the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people and their inherent rights to be safe, happy and empowered.

Just a huge thanks for all of your efforts in supporting families of children with hearing loss. Any information I can get hold of to inform and educate us is extremely valuable! (Parent)



This is why I love this group so much... thank you everyone so much for your opinions. (Parent)



I think Aussie Deaf Kids are doing a fantastic job supporting and advocating for families, carers, and the community. It takes on a strengths-based approach to empowering people who have lived experience of caring for young people with hearing difference. (Parent)



FROM THE CHAIR AND CEO

In 2001, we started as a grassroots online support group for parents with children who are deaf or hard of hearing, prompted by an article in the Sydney Morning Herald declaring, “Let’s stick together: Somewhere out there is a discussion group tailor-made for you.” Online groups were very new. They were a way of getting families together from the comfort of their homes. Today, families can access our online support and information from anywhere, anytime. The digital revolution has been a blessing and a challenge for our small organisation.

On the plus side, our organisation is not constrained by needing physical space and the costs associated with office space and infrastructure. We can employ people across the country to work where they live. The advent of free video-conferencing software has revolutionised how our organisation can operate. Our board can meet regularly online, although we meet face-to-face annually at our Board retreat. Our operations team meet weekly and chat in the virtual tearoom, allowing us to get to know each other and feel part of a team.

The downside is the rapid change in how we consume information. Adapting to short and to-the-point information is challenging while ensuring parents have balanced and evidence-based information to make informed decisions. Website design changes rapidly, creating issues for a small organisation with limited funding to upgrade and change. Inevitably, it involves endless volunteer hours and extended timelines.

Evidence from research and our parent community is always encouraging. We know how important it is for families to connect with other families – people who understand. We know the value of information that provides parents with a sense of confidence and competence in their ability to raise a child with hearing loss. The path is different for everyone, and we appreciate how members in our groups are always willing to reach out to others, share information and provide encouragement and support to each other.

Roslyn Wyburn - Chair

Ann Porter AM - Founder & CEO

To the whole Aussie Deaf Kids community - the ADK board, our funders and donors, our supporters, our staff and the compassionate and committed parents in our online groups - thank you for your ongoing support. You have helped us make a difference.

CELEBRATING PROGRESS, GROWTH, AND IMPACT

Governance

Aussie Deaf Kids is a public company limited by guarantee under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth). Ultimate responsibility for the governance of the company rests with the Board of Directors. The Board is responsible for setting strategic directions and monitoring progress towards the achievement of the company's mission to empower parents raising a child with hearing loss through online support, information and advocacy. The Board is responsible for ensuring Aussie Deaf Kids Limited's financial viability, solvency and sustainability.

The Board of Directors are the Executive Members of the Company. Executive Members are entitled to attend general meetings of the Company and are entitled to one vote each at such meetings. The Board meet at least four times a year. Aussie Deaf Kids Limited is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).



Statement of financial position 30 June 2023

With comparative totals as of 30 June 2022

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Assets | \$33,765 | \$76,907 |
| Liabilities | \$22 | \$101 |
| Net assets | \$33,743 | \$76,806 |

Financials

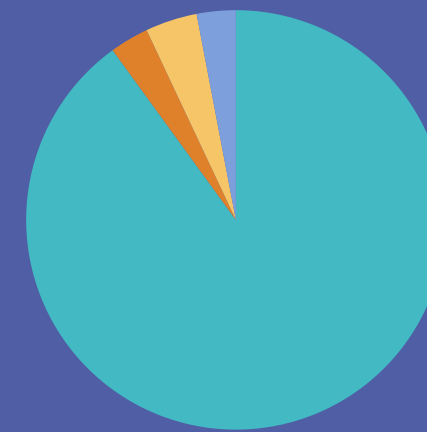
Allocation of Income







Total allocation of income
for year ending 30 June 2023
\$31,961

| | | |
|---|------------------|----------------|
|  | Government Grant | \$15,735 (49%) |
|  | Donations | \$15,729 (49%) |
|  | Other income | \$497 (2%) |

Allocation of Expenses



Total allocation of expenses
for year ending 30 June 2023
\$75,024

| | | |
|---|------------------------|----------------|
|  | Program delivery | \$67,567 (90%) |
|  | Administration | \$1,994 (3%) |
|  | Information technology | \$3,181 (4%) |
|  | Insurance | \$2,282 (3%) |



Our Board

Roslyn Wyburn - Chair

Michael Allen - Treasurer

Ann Porter AM - Founder & CEO

Flora Chan

Dr Jill Duncan



Our Team

Jane Colys - Information Coordinator

Ann Porter - CEO

Bec White - Social Media Coordinator

2022-2023 snapshot



aussiedeafkids.org.au

227,000 page views

24 Real Life Tips

7 Webinars



Facebook Groups

810 average active daily members

1,063 top posts

10,463 comments

12,220 reactions

Top 10 pages viewed on website

1. Signs of hearing in babies
2. Auslan resources
3. Deaf culture
4. Home page
5. Audiograms
6. Using hearing aids with babies aged 0-6 months
7. Your child has a mild hearing loss: What's the next step?
8. Building a loving, learning and language-rich environment through play and positive daily interaction
9. How do children learn sign languages?
10. Australian Deaf Community

Social media posts with most reach

- eBook for Teachers
- Making Christmas Deaf Friendly - Real Life Tips
- I don't like being deaf - Real Life Tips
- Travelling with cochlear implants - Real Life Tips
- Financial assistance for families with a child with disability - Real Life Tips
- Teaching your DHH teen to drive - Real Life Tips

Collaboration

Each year, Aussie Deaf Kids collaborates in working groups and research projects, including:

- Australasian Newborn Hearing Screening Committee
- Healthy Hearing Early Intervention Working Group
- Audiology Australia Paediatric Certification Working Group
- UNHS Expert Working Group
- Deaf Sector Round Table
- ANCHOR (Australian National Childhood Hearing health Outcomes Registry) - Murdoch Children's Research Institute
- AusChildDeafness - Community Advisory Group
- Working with culturally and ethnically diverse communities to address hearing loss - University of Queensland

GPODHH

Aussie Deaf Kids is a founding member of the Global Coalition of Parents of Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (GPODHH) and proud to support the work undertaken by GPODHH through:

- Membership of the World Hearing Forum
- FCEI International
- Cochlear Implant International Community of Action (CIICA)
- Coalition for Global Hearing Health



ANHSC 2023 Conference

PANEL – Co-design – meaningful collaboration with parents of children and young people who are deaf or hard of hearing

L-R: Jermy Pang, Dr Emily Kecman, Dr Claire Harris, Ann Porter, Prof Christie Yoshinago-Itano

Our supporters

Thank you to our supporters throughout the year.
You help Aussie Deaf Kids make a difference.

Donors

Andrew Stewart
Belinda Kowalski
Bruce Porter
Emily McCaul
Fatmire Mustafa
Gary Straw
Grace Sin
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Ipswich Legacy Widows
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Simon & Katy Frewen-Lord
Tien Foong
Val Tapp
Vassilis Kourbetis
Victor Brady

Auditors

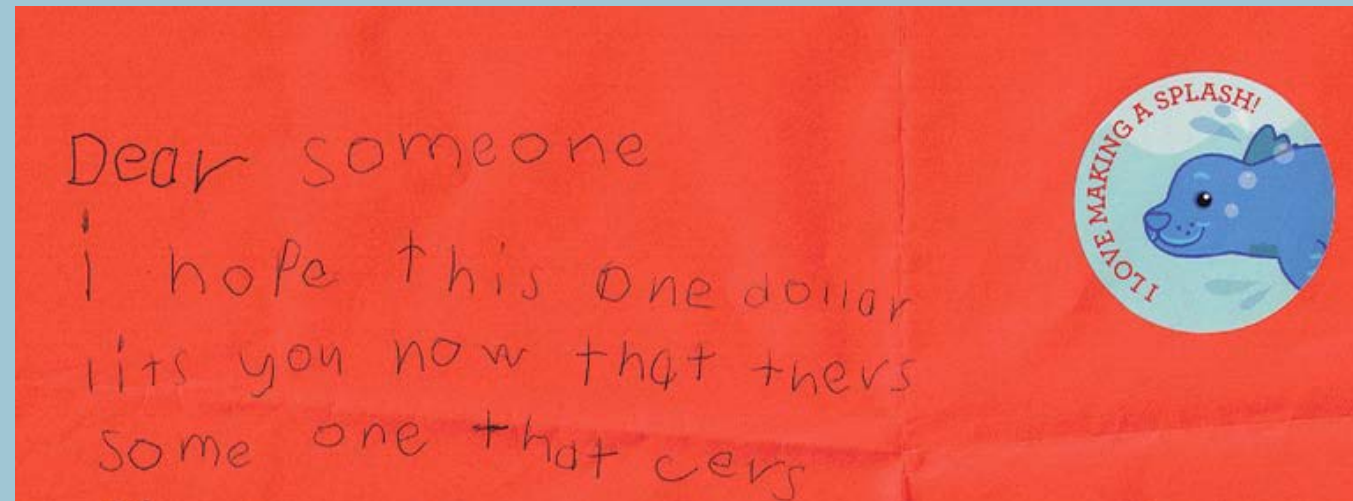
David Gallery & Ben Grech
StewartBrown
Chartered Accountants

Website

Damian Codotto
Mindwire

Katherine Stirling - video
interpreting

A little champion making a splash!



Received in the mail together
with a \$1 coin:

“Dear someone
I hope this one dollar
lets you know that there’s
someone that cares.”



2022-2023 Webinar presenters

Thank you to our webinar presenters.
Their willingness to volunteer their time and
expertise makes our webinars possible.

- **Dr Phil Harper** - Sports participation and opportunities for kids who are deaf or hard of hearing
- **Alex Jones and Fiona Graney** - Deaf Culture 101: Alex Jones in conversation with Fiona Graney
- **Kate Strohm** - Supporting siblings of children who are deaf or hard of hearing
- **Andrew Stewart** - FM systems and SoundField in the classroom
- **Drs Kathryn Crowe and Pauline van der Straten Waillet** - Setting up children who are DHH to be successful multilingual learners
- **Emma Ramsay and Craig Sharp** - Cochlear Ltd discusses data logging
- **Dr Karen Liddle** - The genetics of deafness – An update for parents

Website

aussiedeafkids.org.au

Facebook

facebook.com/aussiedeafkids

Instagram

[@aussiedeafkids](https://www.instagram.com/aussiedeafkids)

Email

info@aussiedeafkids.org.au

Postal

PO Box 231

Brunswick Heads NSW 2483

ABN: 39 127 705 793