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Message from the Chairperson	2	Early Learning	2
Board of Directors	3	Awabakal Enterprises	2
Message from the CEO	4	Culture	2
Organisational Structure	6	Awabakal Partnerships	3
Business Services	8	Communication Team	3
Staff	10	Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS)	3
Newcastle Clinic	12	Community Sponsorship	3
Lake Macquarie Clinic	14	Financials	3
Maitland Clinic	16	Directors' Declaration	4
Raymond Terrace Clinic	18	Auditor's Sign Off	4
Dental	20		

### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Awabakal Ltd acknowledges that we operate and function on the lands of the Awabakal, Worimi, Mindaribba, Biraban, Bahtabah and Wonnarua people.

We wish to acknowledge the custodians of these lands, the Elders and community past, present and future.

We acknowledge and pay respect to the ancestors that walked and managed these lands for many generations before us.

We acknowledge and pay respect to the fight and struggle our people dedicated towards our culture and the contribution they made and make to the life of this city and our regions.

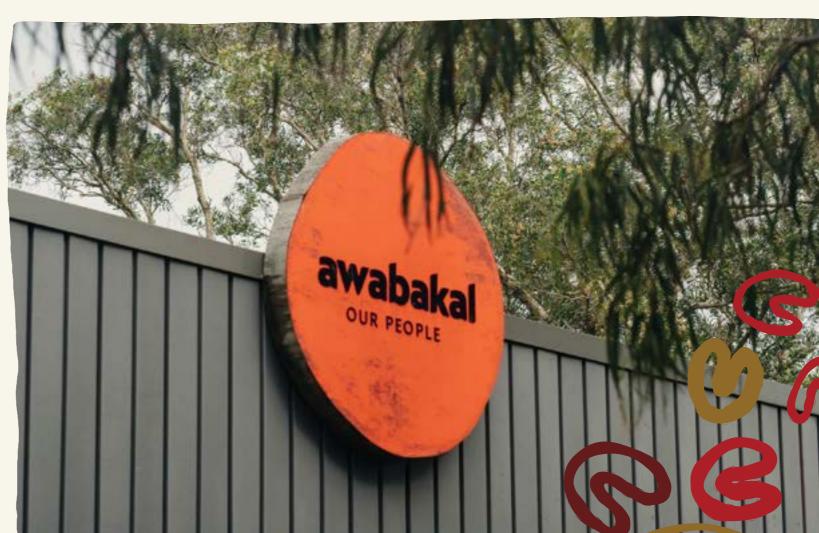
We acknowledge and recognise all Aboriginal people who have come from their own Country and who have now come to call this Country their home.

We recognise and respect our cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land, which continues to be important to our Aboriginal community living today.

We acknowledge our Elders – the knowledge holders and teachers.

We acknowledge our youth – our hope for a brighter and stronger future.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to our community members who have gone before us and recognise their contribution.



# Message from the Chairperson

### To our Members

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we work, live, and raise our families on. I pay respects to our Elders past and present and thank them for providing us the opportunity to have what we have today.

I would like to acknowledge the late Stephen Griffen a long-term Director of Awabakal Ltd, he was a committed Director who enjoyed his time with the organisation in a professional engaging way. He is sadly missed.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to update members on the strategic direction of the organisation and what this means for the organisation and the services provided to the community.

We have continued to increase services to all Regions in the newly established footprint of Awabakal. The new service area includes more services to the regional communities of the Hunter area and increased services to our urban population. The demand for all Awabakal services is continuing to grow at a rapid rate and we are busily building internal controls to be able to meet this demand.

The growth in Awabakal services has been funded internally, without additional support for Government. This means that we will see an operating loss in our

financial report as we continue to build processes for sustainability within our business structures.

We have particular challenges in responding to Government funding changes particularly in Aged care and our Medical Services. We will continue to refine our processes to accommodate these changes whilst continuing to deliver services our people need.

Our Organisational structure is evolving as we continue to move from a cooperative structure to a company limited by guarantee. We are beginning to operationalise standalone entities in Housing and Preschool. These entities are still connected to Awabakal Ltd however the management is more specialised allowing for growth and sustainability.

This year we have also reached out to many of our stakeholders for feedback. This has provided the Directors with valuable advice on what our members would like to from the organisation. We are looking forward to deliver on this in the future.

### William Edward Smith

Chairperson

# Board of Directors







William (Edward) Smith





Deputy Chairperson



Warwick (Wok) Wright





### Remembering **Uncle Stephen Griffen**

Born 1st March 1952 at Tamworth Hospital to loving parents Colin & Gloria Griffen.

Stephen's parents moved from Tamworth to Newcastle in 1957, following family and settling into a job on the railway. The tiny suburb of Teralba became home!

He valued courage, respect, and strong family connection. He never lost sight of his culture and deep seeded family values with love for his parents, siblings and his wider family.

Speak up. If you got something to say, say it loud and proud.

Stephen Griffen Director 2015 - 2022

Stephen served on the Board for Awabakal Ltd since 2015 until his passing and was an active Awabakal member all his life. He was also a long-standing member and executive with Koompahtoo I Al C.

Stephen was passionate and a strong advocate for appropriate kidney care and improved access to dialysis for Aboriginal people.

He participated in the Elders Olympics and was an active member for our Aboriginal rugby league teams.

He was loved by many and is missed dearly.

# Message from the CEO

Firstly I would like to thank the Awabakal team for their continued effort to keep our communities safe and well.

Our Management team have been busily refining their Regional structures and plans to address the evolving needs of our communities.

We are starting to identify the priority issues in each of our regions and although there are commonalities in each of them, there are some priority areas that are unique to each community.

For example in our largest Region, the Lake Macquarie area, Chronic Disease Management is a priority issue for our clients. We are pleased that we are now able to clearly highlight what is important for us to focus our attention on to ensure we are making a difference for our people.

We have also commenced the roll out of our new model of care which involves our trained Aboriginal Health Practitioners. This is a very exciting time for Awabakal clinics in being able to provide clinical care by our own Aboriginal community. This is a strategy we will continue to invest in, we are very proud that we are able to provide our patients with skilled clinicians who are part of our community.

Another important component of our model of care is to increase the number of our patients having a Heath assessment. A Health assessment provides the opportunity for our clients and patients to take a proactive approach to addressing any identified health needs. This can include weigh loss to managing heart disease and diabetes. I would encourage you to talk to all your family about having an assessment which will start with talking to our Health Practitioners about any concerns you may have about your health.

This is particularly important for our Aged Care and NDIS clients who will have additional health care needs to their existing plans. We have skilled aged care and NDIS coordinators that can assist our clients with getting a health assessment.

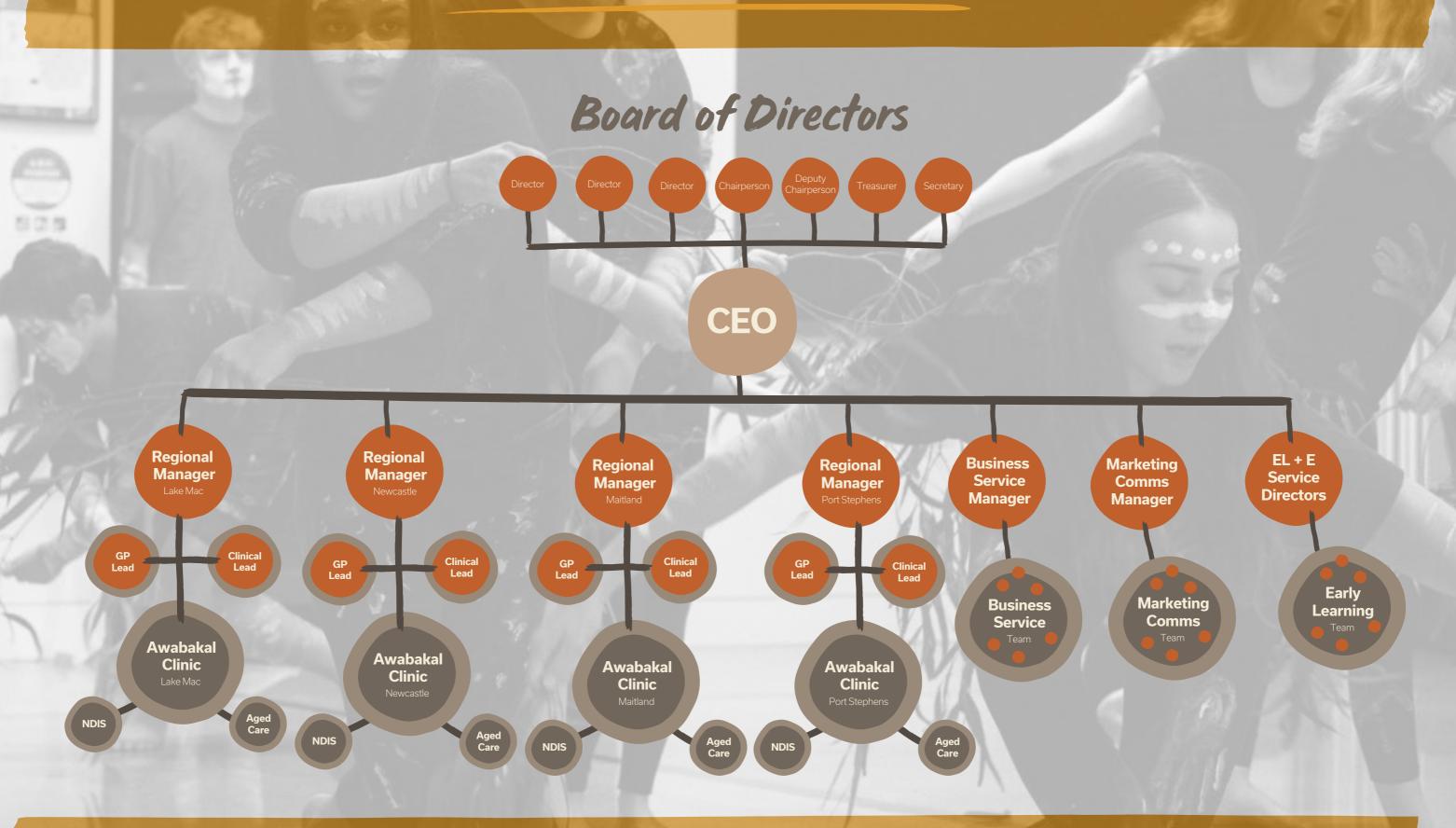
Our Preschools are continuing to provide the best possible start to our up-and-coming leaders, we are pleased to confirm that we are now providing more additional supports to our pre-schoolers than ever before. Our Preschool team are working internally to operate as an independent entity which will allow the service to grow and develop as a sustainable service to the Awabakal community. Awabakal Preschool remains part of the Awabakal Ltd structure however is working as an autonomous entity.

And lastly, thank you to our members and community for working with us and continuing to support Awabakal Ltd.

**Raylene Gordon** Awabakal CEO



# Awabakal Structure



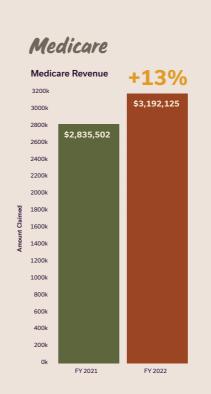
Awabakal Annual Report 2021-2022

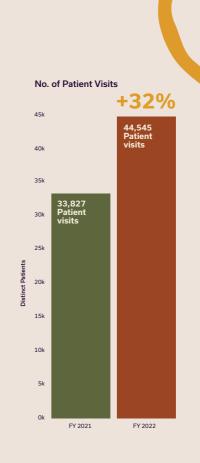


# Business Services

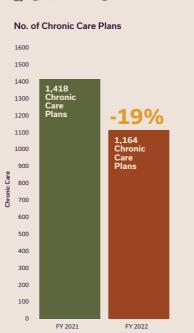
# No. of Aged Care Participants No. of Aged Care Participants No. of Aboriginal Participants Serviced #1.3% #1.3

8

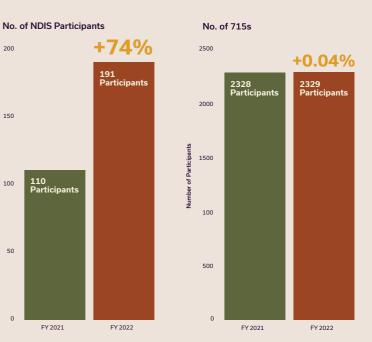




## Health Assessments & Chronic Care







Awabakal Annual Report 2021-2022

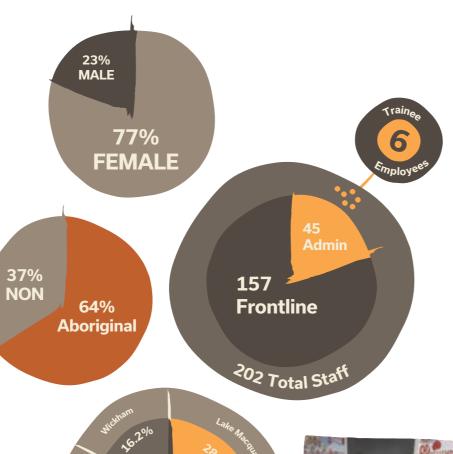


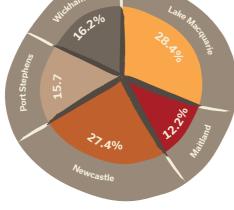
# Staff















# 2021 Awabakal Staff Awards

### INDIVIDUAL AWARDS



The Initiative Award
Marook Perry

The Strong Leader Award
Deb Swan

The Spotlight Award Kelly Engel

The Courage Award
Jess Hartwig

**The Team Player Award**Simone Jordan

Welcome to Awabakal Abby Jeager

The Lifetime Achievement Award
Dr Dean Wright







### TEAM AWARDS

Above and Beyond NDIS Newcastle

**Stronger Together**Aboriginal Health Practitioners

The Making a difference Award Lake Macquarie Staff







### Medical

- Focused on raising the clinical expertise and profile in the community of the Aboriginal Health Practitioners
- AHP graduated their course and commenced a vaccination course
- · Care coordination focus with AHP paired with GP for chronic care management
- Social Worker commenced 4 days per week

- Art Therapist commenced, for both individual appointments and group work
- Occupational therapist commenced
- Dental Building was officially opened
- Renovations to clinic completed
- Optometrist commenced
- Psychiatrist commenced
- CDM Chronic disease management training for GP's and nurses
- Trauma informed care training through AH&MRC

### **Aged Care**

- 90 aged care clients
- Support workers are dedicated to aged care to support our elders getting out and about
- Women's art and craft group running at
   Doubled the workforce to 30 Jesmond neighbourhood centre
- Care coordinators commenced AHP training
- Care coordinators working with clinical lead to ensure care plans are up to date and with a health focus
- Care coordinators working on ensuring the systems in aged care meet to current standards

### **NDIS**

- 64 participants
- 6 Support workers commenced the AHW course that includes clinical hours in the clinic
- support workers
- 2021 the NDIS team were awarded the Above and Beyond Award at our staff awards
- Groups running Mondays and Thursdays at Hamilton South
- Participants painted a mural on the medical building
- Regular trauma informed care provided to the team by the Newcastle Social Worker

Awabakal Annual Report 2021-2022 13





### Medical

- Partnered with Nikinpa in Toronto to run regular COVID vaccine clinics
- Re-started weekly outreach in Toronto from May
- Dr Dean retired after 7 years with us
- Dr Joyce is the new lead GP
- Dr Fiona, Tegan, and Emma came back from Mat Leave. Currently 9 GPs total

- Podiatrist started part time, Ellie
- Hired a part time social worker
- Started a partnership with Lake Macquarie Mental Health, to utilise their resources to treat high need patients
- Men's group weekly (both on site and offsite) for aged care, NDIS and Awabakal patients
- Cultural awareness training undertaken for all new staff



### **Aged Care**

- Started holding regular aged care forums
- 2 more coordinators joined the team to manage plans
- Over 115 aged care clients
- Ironbark, falls prevention group, held each Monday
- Holding cultural group on Fridays: weaving, language and art
- One Aboriginal Health Worker is completing their course, while working in aged care

### **NDIS**

- COS, Lyn, moved into the region to give better care
- Currently 35 participants





# Maitland

Since we have opened our clinic at Maitland we have had an overwhelming response from community and have out grown our building already. Our plan for 2023 is to relocate to a bigger building so we can expand our service delivery and meet community demand.

- 2 new doctors Dr Michelle White and Dr Angus Ching. Now Maitland has four GPs.
- Completed Accreditation and plan to become a training facility for Registrars.
- Training 5 Aboriginal Health Workers & 1 Aboriginal Health Practitioner.
- Formed partnership with Mindaribba LALC to plan outreach clinic in Cessnock in January 2023.
- Successful funding application to purchase a van equipped to deliver health care in the home.

- Chernai Smith receptionist completed her Bachelor degree in Business Administration and stepped into a new position as Integrated Support Coordinator.
- Levi Franks (Aboriginal Health Practitioner) was successful in getting into Newcastle Uni to study Medicine, we wish him all the best and hopefully he returns some day.
- Developed our Wakool Strong Health & Wellbeing group activities that include Social activities, Physical activities, Cultural activities, Arts & craft, Community engagement and Capacity building.
- Maitland has been proactive in the local community attending Schools, Maitland Council activities and Maitland Hospital when requested to promote health & wellbeing.











# Port Stephens

### Medical

- Moved to telehealth during 2021 lockdown
- COVID outreach vaccine clinics held in Raymond Terrace, Murrook and Karuah
- 4 new registrars joined, including 2 Indigenous doctors
- 2 Aboriginal Health Workers in training
- Now have 2 fully qualified Aboriginal Health Practitioners
- Midwife/Registered Nurse Rachael commenced part time
- Added new admin staff to keep up with workflow
- Continuing relationship with Warlga Ngurra social worker, Jess Twice weekly GP outreach at Karuah

### **Aged Care**

- New aged care coordinator hired
- High demand for services, with 72 aged care clients
- Increased number of support workers to keep up with demand

### **NDIS**

- New NDIS coordinator hired
- 22 NDIS participants
- Started up groups for both Aged care and NDIS clients 1 day/week.
   Participants are also accessing groups in other regions
- Growing partnerships with Karuah Land Council, local primary and high schools, Murrook and Wahroonga Corporation.
- Purchased the Raymond Terrace clinic building







# Dental

Awabakal Ltd, in partnership with New South Wales Health, officially opened their newly renovated dental clinic in March.

Previously the clinic was two chairs operating out of a small section of the Medical Centre next door. The new facility, including an extra chair, was designed specifically to meet the demand of the local community's oral health needs.

Prior to opening, the waitlist had reached 3 months and preventative oral health was suffering.

Along with culturally appropriate health care, this partnership, between local AMS Awabakal and Hunter New England Health has also resulted in a number of career pathways for young Indigenous people, creating much needed job opportunities in the health industry.

The Awabakal Dental Clinic received a total \$394,000 funding from NSW Ministry of Health – Oral Health Unit, via the Centre for Aboriginal Health, for the development.

If you don't have healthy teeth, you can't always eat healthy foods. The condition of your teeth is directly related to your overall health













### **Partnerships**

Wickham Preschool - Exceeding
 This year our Wickham Preschool underwent their Assessment and Rating which is performed by the Department of Education. We are very proud to say we have maintained the highest given rating of Exceeding the National Quality Framework.

### World's Indigenous Peoples Conference

Aunty Jen and Aunty Bella partnered with Speech Pathology Lecturer Gwendalyn Webb from the University of Newcastle to develop the abstract "Listening to little yarns". This abstract focused on the success of the Awabakal's Mums and Bubs program led by Aunty Julie Rose and the family. The abstract showcased how incorporating culture as integral to education will support Indigenous children to grow strong and grounded in culture, delivering life-long benefits to individuals and community. This abstract was then presented by Gwendalyn Webb and Aunty Bella at the World's Indigenous People's Conference.

### Hearing Australia

The HAPEE Program (Hearing Assessment Program - Early Ears) tackle hearing loss and the long-term effects of ear disease in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in order to give them the best chance at fully participating in school and in life.

### StEPS Vision

The State-wide Eyesight Pre-schooler Screening (StEPS) program is an initiative of the NSW Ministry of Health and providing a vision screening assessment to all 4-year-old children within our services.

### Oral health

Supporting children in healthy oral health practices and providing them toothbrushes, toothpaste, and tooth brushing charts.



A congratulations to Aunty Dion who is now Awabakal Early Learning's Playgroup Coordinator. Our playgroups have been a great success this year and have seen the beginning of an incredible partnerships with Plattsburg Public School where the three sessions are held throughout the week.

- Parents and Learning program
   promoting parents engaging their
   children with literacy skills at home
   promoting literacy development in our
   little people.
- Waratah and Glendale High School
   Strengthening our partnerships
   together with dance groups within our
   NAIDOC celebrations, the Sista Speak
   program holding a yarning circle and
   successful student work placements
   throughout the year.
- Winanga-y Dreaming
  Uncle Roo lead the Awabakal language
  program within our services which has
  been a great success.
- CAGES foundation KOWA collective empowering preschool for future vision and growth.

### Goodbyes:

Aunty Natalie Smith, Aunty Katie White, Uncle Raymond Steadman, Aunty Nikita Hoskins

### · Hellos:

Aunty Kortnea Schillings, Aunty Sarah Mundine, Aunty Sophie Smith, Aunty Bianca Duncan, Aunty Vicky Sampson, Aunty Jade Campbell, Aunty Bethany Wright, Aunty Mary Chapman

### Congratulations:

Aunty Bethany Wright for her completion of her Certificate III Traineeship.

Aunty Karen Smith for reaching 20 years of service this year years at Awabakal Preschool Glendale. Aunty Karen has been dedicated to the learning, support, development, and success of our little people and has been fundamental in the leadership of our two services.





# Awabakal Enterprises

# Building a strong and sustainable local black economy

Our purpose is to ensure that our community and people are supported to develop culturally, socially, and economically. Our aim is to bring our community together to encourage discussion, debate, collaboration and to prioritise the economic needs of the Aboriginal community of Newcastle and the surrounding regions.



**Sean Gordon** Awabakal Enterprises CEO

### 2021-2022 Key Achievements

- 1. Secured Ownership of over \$26million in residential and commercial freehold properties
- 2. Negotiated the purchase of Wickham from the Department of Crown Lands
- 3. Developed new policies that will assist our community to build an economic base through home ownership and elder housing
- 4. Establishing a Real Estate Agent to better position our organisation to grow our property management portfolio
- 5. Working in collaboration with other organisations to develop facilities to better support our growing and ageing community





Awabakal currently has a Development Application lodged with Lake Macquarie Council to develop 3 houses in Belmont. During the past year we have installed solar panels on 28 houses and carried out upgrades such as kitchens or bathrooms to 15 houses.

Awabakal Enterprises assisted Biraban LALC to achieve funding to renovate 93-95 Main Road, Speers Point. Awabakal Enterprises was appointed as Project Manager for this project by Biraban LALC.



68 Residential Properties Managed

+23%
ON FY21

39 owned by Aboriginal Housing Office

29 owned by Awabakal Enterprises

68 Families housed in Awabakal managed properties







# Awabakal Partnerships

The rollout of COVID-19 Vaccinations in 2021 provided Awabakal Ltd with an opportunity to form and grow partnerships with a wide range of Indigenous and mainstream organisations including: Muloobinba, Koiop, WeCare, Wandiyali, PCYC NSW, Mindaribba LALC, Karuah LALC, Murrook, Jesmond Neighbourhood Centre, Lowlands Bowling Club, Hamilton South Community Centre, and Hunter New England Health.

Awabakal lead the local vaccination drive through our nimble outreach clinics across the region. Our partners provided venues, support staff and wrap-around community services.

### Other partnerships include:

- nib Foundation providing funding for our Community Sponsorship Program and Youth Leadership Camp
- Newcastle Knights developed Knight Strong to encourage our community to get their annual health check
- Northern Hawks, Awabakal Eagles, Maitland United, Windi Indies Cricket Club, Awabakal Eleven Cricket Club – Helped deliver our Tackling Indigenous Smoking program
- Wollotuka Institute Partnered with us to deliver 'Ngarrama' on the eve of Australia Day
- University of Newcastle Partnered to undertake research on smoking cessation
- Mater Hospital Palliative Care –
   Partnered to assist with the Mirromullia
   research project and supported the
   opening of the new centre























# Awabapod







# Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS)

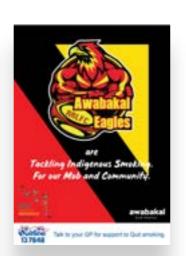
The TIS Program was looking a little different this year with the delivery of the program facilitated using formal partnerships with some of our local community and sporting clubs. These partnerships supported a population health model approach to education on smoking cessation and the health benefits when you quit.

This model created a natural expansion of the TIS program to include the wider community who do not necessarily use our services, as well as areas outside our region with a large ATSI population. Clubs used their identified ambassadors who have taken the lead in our community to ensure smoke free sporting events, supplemented by with strong messaging and education resources displayed and distributed at all events.

Leveraging our partnership with the Newcastle Knights, we were able to provide tickets and prizes as incentives to community members, in particular young people, for their involvement in tobacco and vape education.

We also partnered with a research team from the University of Newcastle to evaluate our Awabakal nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) program, 'I'm Quitting', and better understand suitable pathways for our community to give up smoking.









# Community Sponsorship



2 rounds over FY22 \$20,000 awarded 27 successful applications 70+ individuals benefited from community sponsorship 50/50 male/female recipient split 100% Aboriginal identifying

### Successful applicants by region:

- 54% Lake Macquarie
- 23% Newcastle
- 15% Port Stephens
- 8% Maitland

### **Categories:**

- 52% Sport
- 19% Art
- 10% Community
- 19% Education

























### For the year ended 30 June 2022

Statement of Surplus or Deficit and Other Comprehensive Income

		2022	2021
	Note	\$	\$
Revenue	2	17,807,683	14,788,586
Other income from ordinary activities	2	1,370,489	1,566,490
Revaluation of investment properties	8	4,875,000	-
Administration expenses		(3,309,916)	(3,432,118)
Bad debts		(13,558)	-
Depreciation and amortisation		(509,988)	(731,887)
Direct grant expenditure		(2,851,583)	(2,207,481)
Employee benefits expense		(11,938,312)	(10,184,579)
Occupancy expenses		(1,833,890)	{1,172,398)
Loss on sale of assets		-	(14,592)
Finance costs		(42,824)	(54,974)
Unrealised loss on financial asset investments		*5,323	(132,240)
Surplus / (deficit) before income tax		*3,558,424	(1,310,713)
Income tax expense	1(g)	-	-
Surplus / (deficit) from ordinary activities after related income tax		*3,558,424	(1,310,713)
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income		*3,558,424	(1,310,713)

<sup>\*</sup>These numbers were displayed as deficit in error in version 1 of this document and should be surplus.

**Total funds** 

**Statement of Financial Position** As of 30 June 2022 2022 2021 Note \$ \$ **ASSETS CURRENT ASSETS** 4 6,134,771 Cash and cash equivalents 3,234,144 5 Trade and other receivables 1,193,204 891,089 Prepayments 547,684 74,410 Other financial assets 2,085,715 2,080,392 Assets held for sale 6 2,538,669 **TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS** 9,297,301 9,482,777 **NON-CURRENT ASSETS** Property, plant and equipment 11,590,357 29,731,009 8 23,060,000 Investment properties Intangible assets 9 48,188 9,714 Right of use assets 10 60,751 190,092 **TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS** 34,759,296 29,930,815 TOTAL ASSETS 44,056,597 39,413,592 **LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES** 750,102 Trade and other payables 11 1,577,319 Short-term borrowings 2,975,178 2,998,433 **Short-term Provisions** 12 630,039 494,276 Other liabilities 13 2,594,164 4,439,866 Lease liabilities 58,461 130,943 8,813,620 **TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES** 7,835,161 **NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES** 12 Long-term Provision 167,112 136,975 Capital grant liability 391,667 460,791 13 3,895 62,359 Lease liabilities **TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES** 562,674 660,125 TOTAL LIABILITIES 8,397,835 9,473,745 **NET ASSETS** 35,658,762 29,939,847 **FUNDS** Accumulated surplus 32,743,506 13,884,010 Reserves 2,915,256 16,055,837

35,658,762

29,939,847

## Director's Declaration

# Awabakal Limited Meetings of Directors Insurance premiums paid for Directors.



# Auditor's Sign off

### Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Awabakal Limited I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2022 there have been no controventions of:

the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit, and

Cufde of Neels Assume PL

Awabakal Limited ABN 93 865 911 384

NEWCASTLE

### Awabakal Limited ABN 93 865 911 384

Independent Audit Report to the members of Awabakal Limited

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Group is in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing, Standards. Our responsibilities under these standards are their declared her Auditing Responsibilities for the Audit of the Francial Report settled or our report. We are independent of the Croup in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charles and Mocheyoffs Commission Act 2012 and the eticidal registerement of the Accordance and Australian Charles of the Australian Charles and Mocheyoffs of Commission Act 2012 and the eticidal registerement of the Accordance with the Commission Act 2012 and the eticidal registeries and the Australia. We have also fulfilled our other othical responsibilities in accordance with the Commission Australia.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, which has been given to the Directors of the Group, would be in the same terms if given to the Directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report was limited to the Directors' Report.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

### Awabakal Limited ABN 93 865 911 384

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report this freger.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objections are to obtain reasonable assurance about shelfer the financial report as a shelds in the tromated installancement whether due to last our every can be used as some another oper other includes or option. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted accordance with Austrian Auditor Scharder's will always deed at material installancement can be accordance with Austrian Auditor Scharder's will always deed at material if, individually or in the aggregate, the could reasonable by expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial could reasonable by expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial

- 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 purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.

### Awabakal Limited































### awabakal OUR PEOPLE