

# Impact Report 2022-2023

Social inclusion  
Physical health  
Mental health



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australia

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# Message from Chair, Founder and CEO

On behalf of the Reclink Australia Board, we are delighted to present the Reclink Australia Impact Report for 2023.



This year we are focusing on and celebrating the significant diversity of our programs and participants.

Given the breadth of our programs this year, we rely heavily, as ever, on staff and volunteers who possess a wide-ranging skill set to provide positive community impact, improvement of outcomes and create collaborative partnerships.

To this end, we acknowledge and thank to those who continue to work so diligently to ensure the smooth operation and delivery of the Reclink Australia model.

As a leadership team, we thank Cameron Hannebery, David Emerson, Melissa Brown, Margie Hill, Dr. Marnie Gibson, Kaanji Skandakumar, Liddy Clark and Richard Smith for their passion, dedication and support as Directors this year. You are all volunteers, and your time is truly appreciated.

To our Strategic Leadership team, Jason Carter (Operations Manager VIC, NSW, QLD and ACT), Richard Allanby (Operations Manager Tas, SA and WA), Rebecca Green (Employment Manager), Kerrie McMahon (Finance and Corporate), Marlene Cirillo (Fundraising and Communication), Peter McDonnell (People and Culture), Denise Robinson (Office Manager), we acknowledge your hard work and leadership of Reclink through this sustained growth.

To our entire team of staff members, from our Sport and Rec Coordinators to our office staff and casual sports coaches, you are the heart and soul of what Reclink Australia stands for. Your professionalism and commitment to your role does not go unnoticed. Rather, it is truly appreciated by all of us. Change is hard, and we are changing, developing and growing so we thank you for your commitment and passion through this.

We'd also like to thank our team of 400+ volunteers that give time graciously, willingly, and enthusiastically – all for the betterment of someone else.

Thank you to all our corporate supporters, government partners and member agencies for their ongoing support. All our collaborators are critical to the delivery of programs that are inclusive and improve health outcomes for communities facing disadvantage.

Thank you once again for your support, and we look forward to 2024.

**Michael Brown**  
Chair

P. C. Cullen A.M.

**Peter Cullen AM**  
Founder/Director

**Dave Wells**  
CEO



Finally, to our participants across the country - you are the reason we exist. Thank you for the enthusiasm and joy you bring to each session.

As so succinctly put by The Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister of Australia, when endorsing our recently published 'Power of a Football' book and reflecting on the work of Reclink Australia, "redemption, hope, pushing doors open for people and bringing out the very finest qualities of our communities. Put them together and they are a force for good".

It is this sentiment that is at the heart of what we do, and what we offer. We see these characteristics at the heart of all Reclink people.



# Spotlight on the Reclink Australia Sports Share Program

Sports Share was the vision of founder, Peter Cullen AM, whose work alongside a variety of sporting organisations over a long period of time allowed him to collect unwanted sporting goods and equipment which could subsequently be re-distributed to those most at need in the community.

As well as housing the array of sporting goods being prepared for re-distribution, the Sports Share facility in Melbourne's west has developed exponentially in this past year to become a central hub comprising many different activities for participants from diverse backgrounds to enjoy together.

What started off as Peter catching up with a small group on Mondays

at Sports Share for a coffee, exercise and lunch has expanded over the last 12 months to become a weekly gathering of up to 60 attendees from agencies across Victoria.

By creating an environment that has encouraged and nurtured social connections, participants engage in a variety of sports and recreation activities.

Mondays at Sports Share now involve free activities such as tai chi, Zumba, gardening, bike repair workshops, reflexology, haircuts, car washes, lunch, health and wellness presentations; as well as regular appearances from special guests such as North Melbourne Football Club star Nick Larkey and local boxing champion Mason Smith.

Reclink Australia is working hard behind the scenes to develop resources and infrastructure at Sports Share that supports the needs of community.

"We are greater together. That is the power and secret of Reclink Australia that's embodied by the Sports Share program,"  
**Peter Cullen**

"These guys are challenging me on a daily basis... without challenges, there's no growth, there's no change,"  
**Reclink Sports Share Participant**

# Creating employment pathways in Queensland

**In 2023, 143 participants enrolled in the SQW programs across QLD.**

**It is estimated that approximately 86% will complete the full qualification with over 66% gaining employment. An additional 6% go into studying or further education.**

Reclink Australia delivers Skilling Queenslanders for Work (SQW) projects, funded by the Queensland State Government, across Logan, Caboolture and Bundaberg.

The SQW program provides opportunities for people who have experienced significant personal or educational disadvantage, job-seekers facing barriers to work and under-employed workers. Additionally, the program builds strong connections with communities, local services and employers. The traineeships include Business Administration, Construction, and Conservation and Ecosystem Management.

The SQW Program has supported hundreds of people, like return-to-work mum Brooke, by identifying her strengths, interests, and values to pursue a career pathway that suited her.

Brooke was able to find work as a domestic cleaner in the NDIS industry, and two months later she secured a two year Individual Support Traineeship.

Not only has Brooke developed practical skills but her personal growth also become a feature among her colleagues.

"The program is designed to identify participants' strengths and offer a pathway forward in their chosen field," said Rebecca Green, SQW Manager said.

"With wrap-around support being provided and a strong focus on job-fit sessions – participants develop and strengthen their employability skills – positive outcomes are achieved."

Brooke has been successful in obtaining a traineeship and she has become a role model to her peers, providing support and encouragement to new and existing SQW applicants.



# Reclink's National Impact and Reach

**163,889**  
Participations

**13,657**  
Avg participations  
per month

**850**  
Avg sessions  
per month

**10,203**  
Sessions

**6%**  
Participants with  
a disability

**48%**  
Male

**52%**  
Female

**48,753**  
First time  
participants

**3%**  
Aboriginal and Torres  
Strait Islander

**27%**  
Culturally and  
linguistically diverse

**30%**  
Under 25s

## Most popular activities overall:

1. Basketball
2. Soccer
3. Fitness
4. Multi Sport
5. Football

## Most popular activities new participants:

1. Soccer
2. Multi Sport
3. Spikeball
4. Basketball
5. Fitness

## Most popular activities under 25's:

1. Basketball
2. Multi Sport
3. Netball
4. Soccer
5. Spikeball

## Most popular activities participants who have a disability:

1. Ten Pin Bowling
2. Fitness
3. Basketball
4. Lawn Bowls
5. Dance

## Most popular activities participants who are culturally and linguistically diverse:

1. Basketball
2. Soccer
3. Netball
4. Fitness
5. Multi Sport

● Indicates Reclink programs

# Adelaide Hills & Mount Barker Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Program

Reclink Australia has been working in the Adelaide Hills and Mount Barker region to help communities address activities for recovery and resilience after the 2019-2020 bushfires

In the outskirts of the Mount Barker Council is an old mining town called Brukunga. This small, isolated community was heavily impacted by the Cuddlee Creek bushfires, with many family homes and properties enduring complete and total property loss.

The town had goals of bringing the community together and forming connections. The residents' dream of forming a group, filled with locals who can help support the development of the town, was brought to realisation with the help of Reclink Australia.

In this region alone in the past year, Reclink Australia has reached over 2900 participants facing disadvantage.

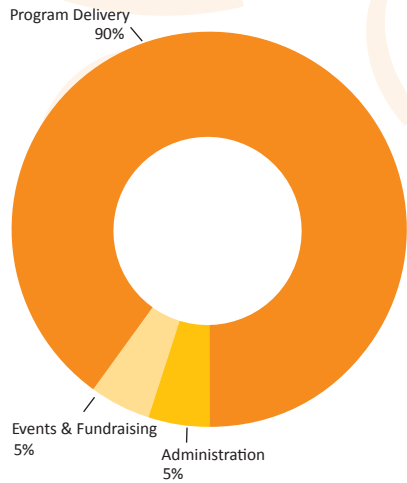
Through Reclink's sport and recreation programs, they have been able to connect with each other which has supported their mental health. Reclink has delivered over 108 sessions and more than 25 different activities were offered.



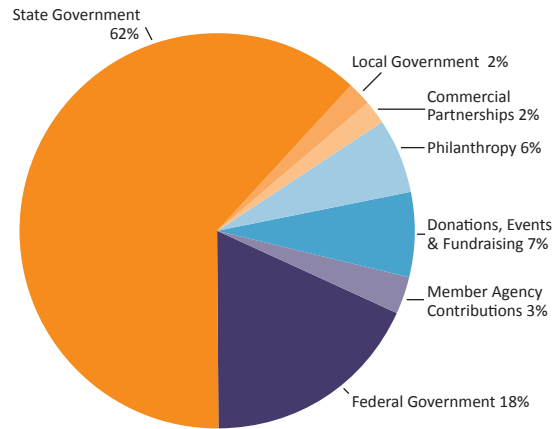
# Our finances

Reclink Australia engage Accru Melbourne to audit our financial reports. The full Financial Statements are available at [reclink.org](http://reclink.org)

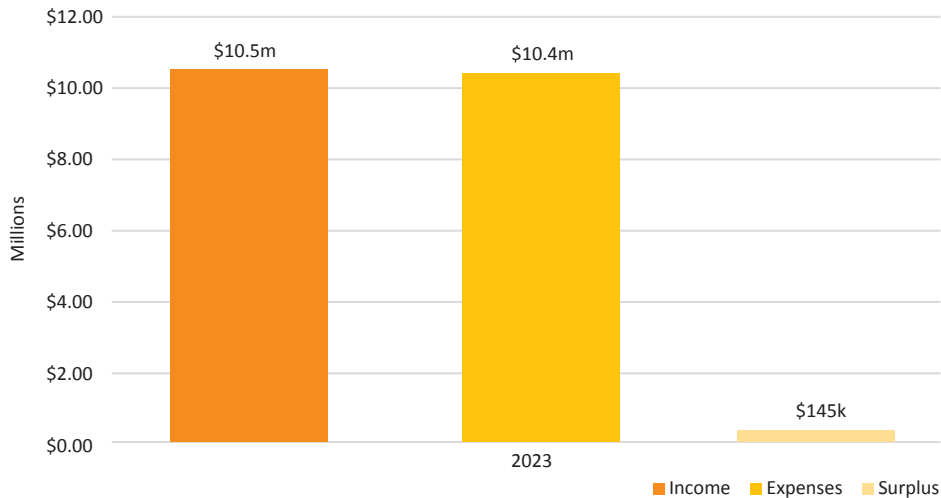
## Use of funds



## Source of funds



## Financial performance



# 30 years of Community Cup

From humble beginnings at a suburban oval in Melbourne in 1993, the Reclink Community Cup celebrated 30 years of the event in June 2023.

Over the years, the event has attracted the who's who of community broadcasting and music industries with thousands of people attending matches across the country.

The Reclink Community Cup is the biggest fundraising event for Reclink Australia. All funds raised from The Reclink Community Cup support Reclink Australia's sport and recreation programs.



# Our Values



**DIVERSITY**



**HONESTY**



**RESPECT**



**UNITY**



**COMMITMENT**



**OPENNESS**



**reclink  
australia**

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