

Reclink Australia Impact Report 2021



To view our full annual report visit reclink.org

Message from Chair, CEO and Founder

Reclink began with a network of community service agencies getting together to run sports program for their clients. Today Reclink curates a national network of over 500 community services agencies getting together to co-design and run sports programs across the country, supported by Reclink's Sports and Recreation Coordinators.

In the intervening 30 years Reclink has shown time and again through personal stories and research how important it is for people to be connected to sport, art, and recreation as a core element of their healing journey. It brings about three things that Reclink always seeks for participants:

1. Improved mental health
2. Improved physical health
3. Social inclusion

This year these three things have been the markers of impact for Reclink's programs across the country. As states went into and out of lockdown our coordinators were a connection point for many in our community. We provided online physical and mental health and wellbeing programs with up to nine sessions a day of different online activities. We took in donations of sporting goods and gave them to locked down families in need with isolated and bored children who had too much energy to burn. And we made phone calls. We know who is lonely and isolated in our communities, who is vulnerable and needing encouragement so we started phoning. When we could not get out there and play sport, we got on the phone and called, completed welfare checks and just said hi to our Reclink family.

Thanks has to go to our volunteers, including our Board, who have supported and led us through this challenging time. We also thank our member agencies and life members for working alongside us to develop and promote new programs, and our government and funding partners for believing in us enough to let us do things a little differently than usual. I think you will all agree Reclink has continued to deliver excellent partnerships and programs.

We (Peter, Michael, and Dave) are extremely proud of the work of Reclink through this period. As Peter likes to say "Reclink has always talked about bringing people out of isolation... now our conversation has become the national conversation." Supporting Reclink will ensure no-one is left in isolation. We are grateful for the commitment and work of our staff who go over and above every day, often working in ways that will never be highlighted or acknowledged by others but that make a significant difference in the lives of Reclink people.

Michael Brown, Chair
Dave Wells, CEO
Peter Cullen, Founder



Participant Stories

Patrick's Story

Patrick was in high school when the pokies first came out and he was hooked as soon as he started. He is embarrassed to say that this lasted 10 to 15 years, betting at least half to his entire pay during this time. By his mid-30s he was living a reckless life and \$35,000 in debt.

People involved in Reclink are raw and honest with their struggles; we can all learn something from each other. We come together, we play sport together and we work on our lives together.

Patrick, Reclink Australia past participant now turned employee.

His personal life was an absolute mess. His mental health was at an all-time low. Slowly, he turned things around. He got re-introduced to running. Reclink brings together his running and a healthy, positive approach to sport and adventure with his enjoyment of helping others.



Bec's Story

Bec had a short-term drug addiction for all the wrong reasons but through the Reclink program she has been off those drugs for two years. Participation in Reclink programs raised her confidence, self-worth, and improved her mental health and fitness.

I now see the importance physical exercise has on my mental health, thanks to Reclink.

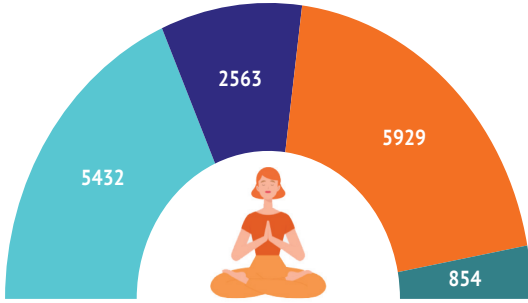
Bec, Reclink Australia participant

Since becoming involved with Reclink her life has improved and she is much more stable. Bec recently enrolled in a TAFE course and plans to study to become a vet nurse.



Our Impact on 100,000 Participants

Even during COVID we connected with over 100,000 people across the country. Here is a snapshot of how we connected.



Realink Connect

- Participants contacted by phone
- Activity participations
- Participants contacted through group messages
- Agencies/Organisations contacted

Women's Basketball League



LGA: Hume, Melbourne, Darebin, Moreland, Wyndham



Bushfire Relief Program

Districts of Mallee, Cann Valley and Orbost

Total participations

1,164 Participations

409 Male

702 Female

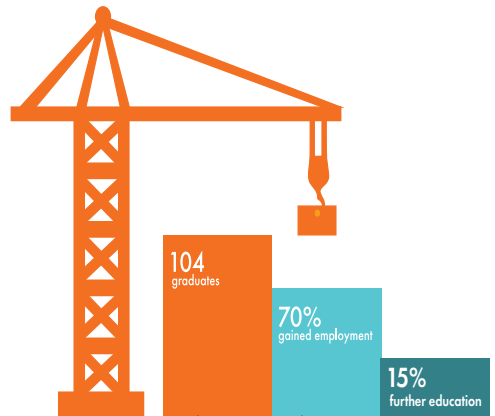
537 Under 18

Number of sessions

91 Sessions

15 Sport & Recreational activities

29 Agencies attended sessions



Skilling Queenslanders for Work

VIC Programs



17,385 Participations

25 Local Government Areas

745 Sessions

“ Our FLO students currently attend end of term activities supported by ReLink which has made a huge impact on their social skills and self-confidence by trying new activities that otherwise would not be achievable for our young people with various barriers and complex issues. For this reason I would love the opportunity for our students to attend the Explore SA program. ”

Relationships Australia

Bike Confidence

210 Participants in Tasmania



Member agencies participation from sectors

Disability
Migrants
Employment
Youth & mental health



Street Games

2400 Participations in Rockingham & Perth CBD

NSW Swim Program

\$25,000

grant for a 200 participant program

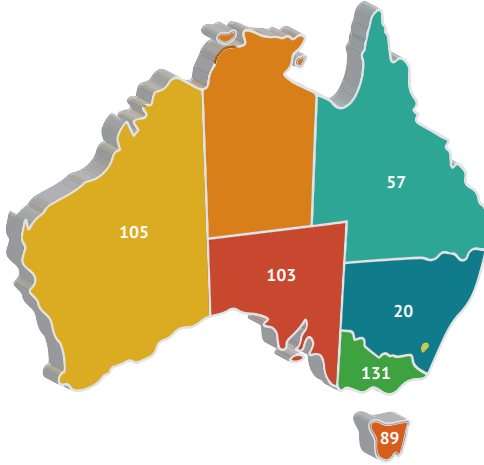
Our Safer Connected Neighbourhoods Program in the ACT had over 4,000 interactions with local residents this year, building community resilience and providing referrals to support services, including the establishment of a mobile GP service.



Our Future

Want to get involved and support our work? It's easy, you can come along to our Reclink Community Cups, support one of our many fundraising initiatives, volunteer with us, or make a donation today at reclink.org.

Our Member Agencies



- Australia's largest national program delivery network
- Collaboration and Co-Design
- Delivering sports and recreation opportunities for Australia's service users
- Bringing over 100,000 participants to Reclink programs

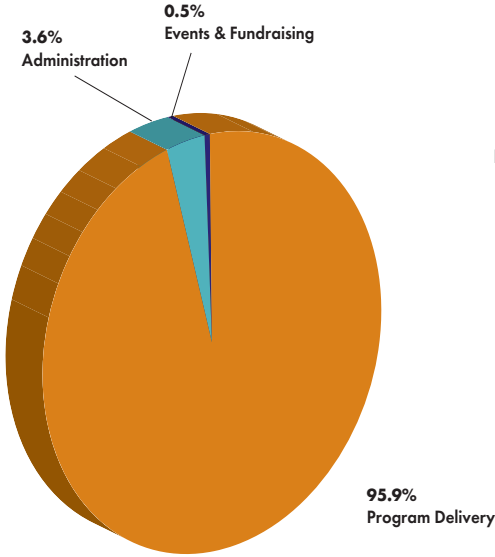
Investing in programs and partnerships in NSW



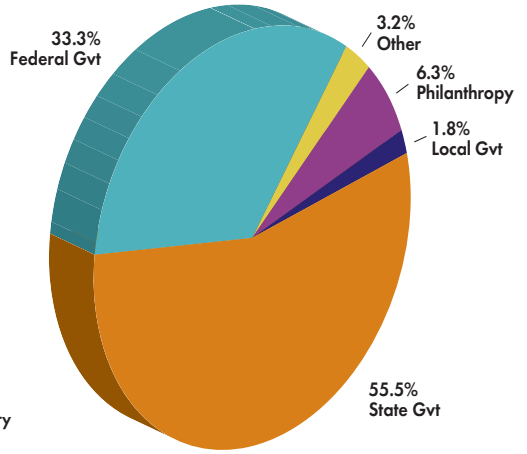
Brisbane, Fremantle, and Hobart Reclink Community Cup



Our Finances

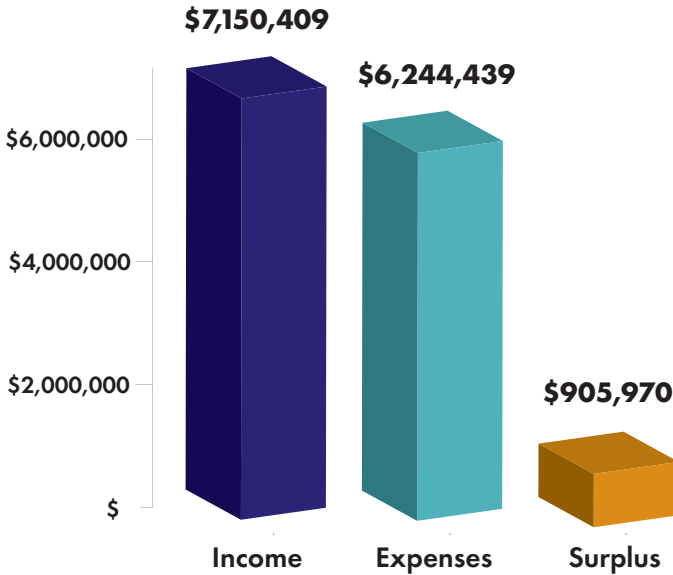


Use of Funds



Source of Funds

Reclink's audited financial statements are lodged with ACNC and available from reclink.org



Our Financial Performance 2021



Reclink Australia

ABN 53 046 843 443

ACN 131 719 027

115B Ferrars Street,
Southbank, VIC 3006

PO Box 201,
South Melbourne, VIC 3205

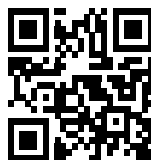
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australia

Rebuilding lives through sport and arts