

# ANNUAL REPORT

**TRANSFOLK**  
**of WA**

**2022–2023**

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# Acknowledgement of Country

Transfolk of WA operates on unceded Aboriginal land where Communities and families have existed, loved and cared for place for over 60,000 years.

We acknowledge the traditional Custodians of the lands on which we all connect, support and embrace each other.

We keep in our hearts the resilience, resistance and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the Elders that have been, that will be, and that are today. We particularly acknowledge Blak trans and gender diverse people and hold deep gratitude for the relationships we have strengthened and gained over the past year.



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# Acknowledgements

## Thank you

TransFolk would like to acknowledge the following groups and organisations for the financial support they provided in 2022/23.

- Department of Communities
- WA Primary Health Alliance
- Pegasus Legacy Trust
- Derby West
- ConnectGroups
- Mental Health Commission

**A huge thank you to all of our volunteers. We couldn't do this without you!**



# Chair's Report

This year has been bustling with activity, bringing with it numerous capacity challenges. It is with a heavy heart that we bid farewell to Hunter, who provided unwavering leadership as the chair of TransFolk for over two years.

We are lucky to have a team of exceptional staff and volunteers whose invaluable contributions have been pivotal to TransFolk's recent recognition and success. Their profound knowledge and unwavering dedication for the community have been the cornerstone of our achievements, making the impossible possible. Every accomplishment echoes the community's effort and dedication, and for this, we are forever grateful.

The composition of the TransFolk Board for 2023-2024 will usher in a new era, fueled by the dedication of community members who are committed to enhancing outcomes for trans and gender diverse folks. These new faces will breathe fresh life and vitality into TransFolk, marking a period of rejuvenation. It is an exciting leap towards broader horizons and renewed possibilities for our community.

I stand with immense pride as I acknowledge everyone who played a role in the growth of TransFolk. I am excited about what the future will bring, and I am confident that the organisation will continue to champion the rights and voices of our community and to make a meaningful impact in the lives of many.

**Milo** (he/him)

Acting Chair

# About Us

**A peer support service for transgender people and their loved ones in Western Australia.**

## Vision

All trans and gender diverse people are valued and empowered members of communities.

## Purpose

Informing, empowering and advocating for trans and gender diverse people to survive and thrive.

## Our Values

### **EMBRACE DIFFERENCE**

We seek out, embrace and encourage difference.

### **ELEVATE LIVED EXPERIENCE**

We prioritise the lived experience of trans and gender diverse people.

### **BUILD COMMUNITY**

We bring people together and support each other.

### **TAKE ACTION**

We represent our community with integrity and tackle difficult issues even when it's hard.

### **SUSTAINABLE CHOICES**

We act with transparency to be socially, environmentally and economically sustainable.

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# Scoping a trans health service

This year, one of TransFolk's key projects has been scoping a trans health service. The project was funded by the WA Primary Health Alliance and involved comprehensive community and stakeholder consultation.

## Community consultation

The community generously shared insights about their healthcare experiences, needs, and the anticipated outcomes from successful healthcare engagements. Key findings highlighted that trans people need access to quality affirming healthcare, including comprehensive care that meets their general non-specific health needs in a safe environment, as well as specific gender-affirming care and therapies delivered by competent and knowledgeable professionals.

*"It's nearly impossible to find someone who I don't have to explain my gender, body, and needs to. It is exhausting." – participant*

*"[Gender affirming care] has been literally essential to my wellbeing." – participant*



# Creating the case for a community-controlled, peer-led trans health service

## Proposing a model

The scoping project clearly articulates the need for significantly improved healthcare for trans people, and the need for a community-controlled, peer-led, trans health service in Boorloo/Perth. It proposes a model and describes the Guiding Principles of the service, the Ways of Working, and Range of Services provided.



## Next steps

The report outlines a development plan and recommendations for action. TransFolk of WA will seek to secure funding over the next financial year to begin the next stage of implementation.

### Guiding principles

**Community  
Connected**

**Trans Affirming**

**Holistic &  
Collaborative**

**Safe & Accessible**

“Build. A. Gender. Health. Clinic.” – participant

“A dedicated trans health clinic, one stop shop for everything we need.”  
– participant



# Trans Youth Space

Trans Youth Space is a weekly peer support and community space for trans, gender diverse, nonbinary, Sistergirl, Brotherboy, and gender questioning young people between 14 and 20 years old.

August 2023 marked the first full year of program delivery for Trans Youth Space.

From its launch in August 2022 to June 2023 Trans Youth Space ran for a total of 43 sessions. During this period the program provided 285 instances of peer support to 46 unique young people.

## Young People's Feedback

We asked young people about their sense of connection to their community.

- 100% of respondents reported increased community connectedness since attending Trans Youth Space.
- 89% of respondents indicated that Trans Youth Space had helped “a lot” with their sense of connection to community.





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# Peer Support

## Adult Peer Support

TransFolk's adult peer support groups have run three times per month throughout the 2022-2023 period, with both online and in-person options. These groups were made possible due to the generous commitment of TransFolk's volunteers.

## T Juniors

T Juniors has continued to run once a month over the past year providing a space for trans and gender diverse children and young people up to 18 years old to connect with each other and older trans peer supporters.

## Partner support

TransFolk has a partner support online group that creates a place for partners of trans people to connect with others with shared experience.

## Support for Parents

Our dedicated volunteers have continued to provide monthly peer support to parents and caregivers of trans and gender diverse young people. Demand for this peer support group has grown significantly over the past year.

## Binder Program

Our Binder Program provides free binders to those who would otherwise be unable to buy one. A binder is a tight top that helps to flatten the appearance of the chest. This program is possible thanks to generous donations.



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# Events

## Perth PrideFest

TransFolk marched in the Pride Parade, had a stall at Fairday, and held a trans pride picnic during Perth's November Pride month.

## Festive lunch

Our annual festive lunch was a blast with delicious food and friendly conversations.

## Regional events

We travelled to Albany Pride and held a successful stall at Fairday.

## Trans Day of Visibility

We held a community picnic at South Beach in Fremantle which saw many community members join us for the first time.

## Trans Day of Remembrance

TransFolk held a community vigil to honour lives lost to transphobic violence over the last year.



# Strategic Priorities

## How are we tracking?

Priority	Details	Outcome
<b>Advocacy</b> <i>To be actively engaged in legal and policy decision making relating to trans and gender diverse people.</i>	Gender reform bill	TransFolk has been actively involved in law reform.
<b>Support</b> <i>To provide peer support and resources to trans and gender diverse people that is responsive to their circumstances and needs.</i>	Provide peer support and resources	Youth Groups running weekly
<b>Health</b> <i>To improve the health outcomes of trans and gender diverse people.</i>	Clinic scoping project	Successfully delivered report
<b>Financial Sustainability</b> <i>To have stable funding and an income generating business model.</i>	TransFolk of WA requires stable funding to achieve its strategic objectives	Budgeting & Grant income
<b>Organisational Development</b> <i>To have sufficient resources to expand our reach and appropriately compensate our staff and volunteers.</i>	Maintain appropriate volunteer levels	An admin officer has been recruited to assist the board and staff

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# Finance Report

It's been a difficult but productive year for TransFolk of WA.

We have had more activity with the delivery of the Medical Project & Youth Grant activities, more staff with the 2 Medical Project and 2 Youth Project staff and the ultimate employment of our first administration officer. Board burnout has been a real issue for the past year with high board turnover increasing pressure on remaining board members. which has meant that many opportunities have been missed due to lack of capacity.

This turnover was not due to any internal issues other than the rapid increase in workload required of board members as a result of the organisation not having any employed administration or general management staff. To remediate this, we have now put in place an administration manager to assist with the day to day trading of the organisation and reduce pressure on board to be both operations and strategic. The funding for this position is coming out of TransFolk's retained funds so high priority should be given to covering this and other overheads such as rent in any new grant funding.

The new year will bring an almost complete change in board members which will be a welcome injection of new energy into the organisation. The current board is confident any new board will be able to keep moving forwards with the progress made and it's hoped that core funding for our overhead items such as a CEO, administrator and location will be obtained from discussions with funding bodies already in the works. which will dramatically improve the organisations ability to engage in more activities.

Thanks to all I've been involved with in my time as Treasurer and I hope for nothing but the best for the organisation moving forwards.

Thanks for all the support

Brooke Bennett  
(she/her)  
**Treasurer**

# Overview

TransFolk of WA is growing at a rapid pace. Whilst this is great for our community and our ability to deliver services into the future, it comes with increasing demands for volunteer pressures on our resources. In three years, we have grown from an organisation with an annual turnover of \$10,000 to having a turnover of \$431,000.

Banking profits over the last few years has allowed the organisation to create a healthy cushion to protect against short term reductions in grant funding. The intention has been to ensure we have 2 years coverage of overheads and administration wages at any given time to allow certainty of continuity of operations.

The current year profit is due to the administration role not being filled until June 2023.

This newly filled role is vital to continuity of the organisation and will reduce board burnout . This wage is coming 100% out of TransFolk's own funds so the challenge for the new board will be to source funding to cover this instead of it coming from retained funds.



# Balance Sheet

It is an exciting time for TransFolk of WA. TransFolk are well positioned to deliver services many years into the future. We are also now well positioned as the peak WA body for gender diversity which enables us to be invited to contribute to, and be heard by, government in discussions about issues that directly affect our members.

I'd like to extend a big thank you to our Board, Employees and all our volunteers who have worked so hard to assist us to get where we are now.

## Balance Sheet

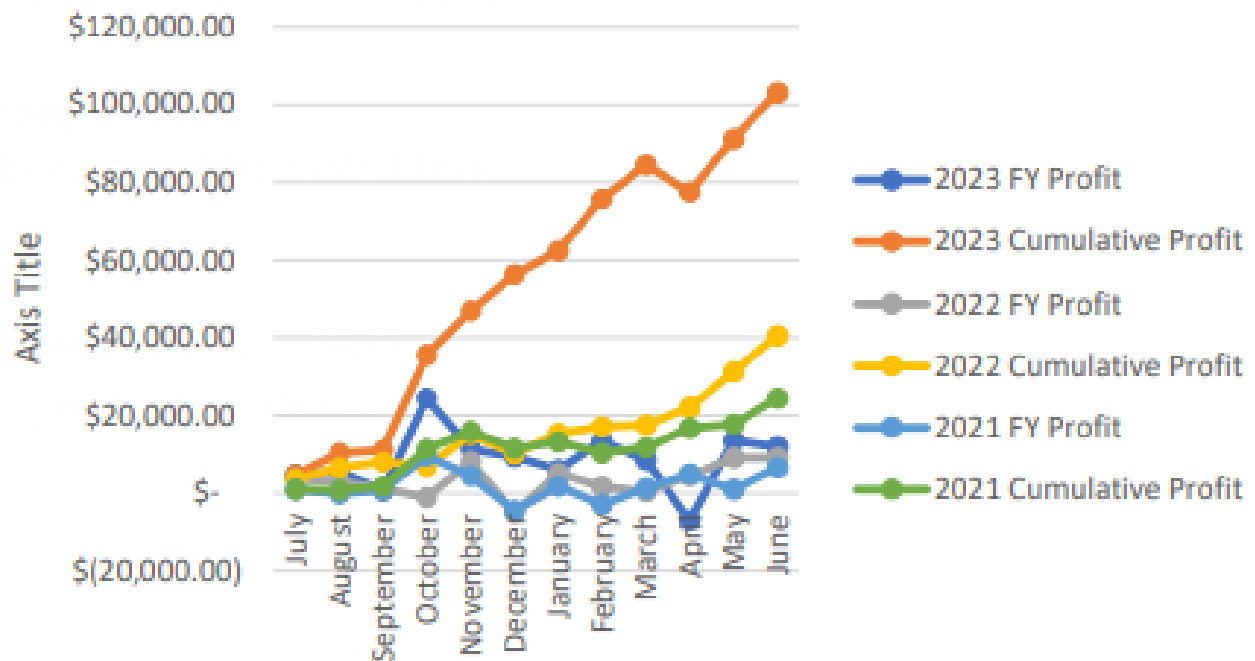
### TRANSFOLK OF WA INCORPORATED

As at 30 June 2023

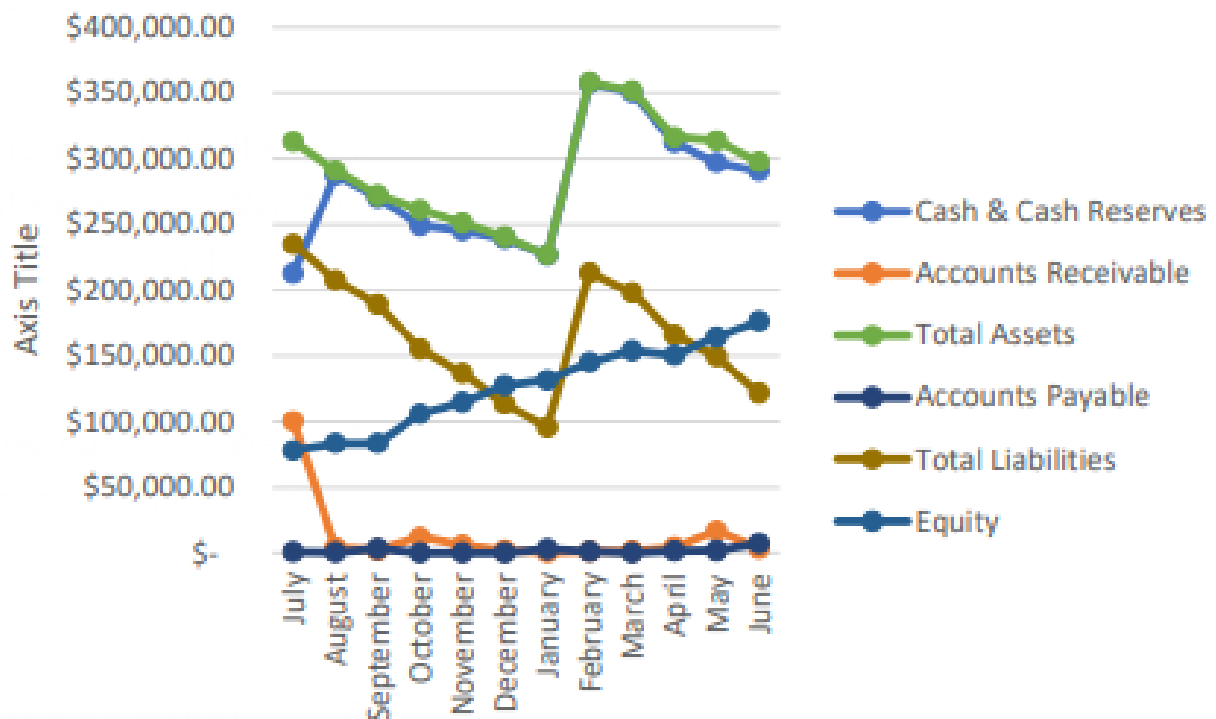
	30 JUN 2023	30 JUN 2022
<strong>Assets</strong>		
<strong>Current Assets</strong>		
Cash & Bank	289,486.88	218,316.54
Trade Debtors	2,509.34	8,026.85
Inventory On Hand at Cost	3,997.60	2,400.00
Bond Paid	1,082.54	200.00
<strong>Total Current Assets</strong>	<strong>297,076.36</strong>	<strong>228,943.39</strong>
<strong>Total Assets</strong>	<strong>297,076.36</strong>	<strong>228,943.39</strong>
<strong>Liabilities</strong>		
<strong>Current Liabilities</strong>		
Trade Creditors	6,862.33	655.00
GST	(689.94)	15,740.36
PAYG Withholding Payable	8,441.00	1,589.00
Other Employee Liabilities	23,806.47	2,473.11
Binder Provision	2,561.74	5,387.43
Unexpended Grant Funding	76,742.96	130,006.74
<strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong>	<strong>117,724.56</strong>	<strong>155,851.64</strong>
<strong>Total Liabilities</strong>	<strong>117,724.56</strong>	<strong>155,851.64</strong>
<strong>Net Assets</strong>	<strong>179,351.80</strong>	<strong>73,091.75</strong>
<strong>Equity</strong>		
Current Year Earnings	106,260.05	38,297.50
Retained Earnings	73,091.75	34,794.25
<strong>Total Equity</strong>	<strong>179,351.80</strong>	<strong>73,091.75</strong>



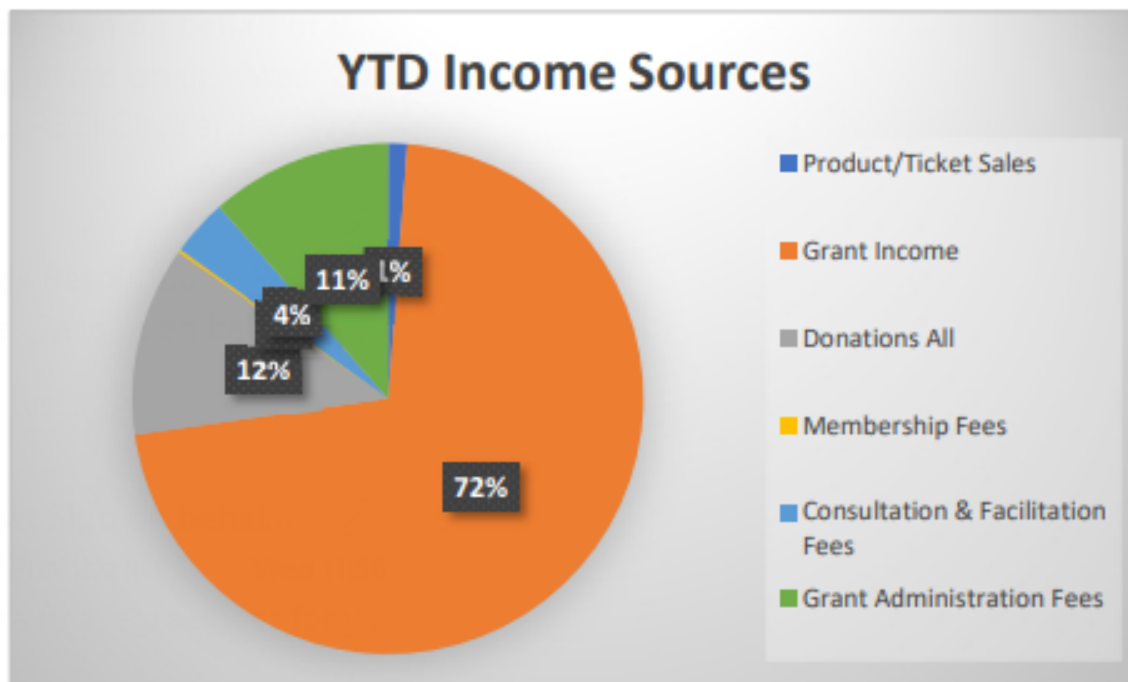
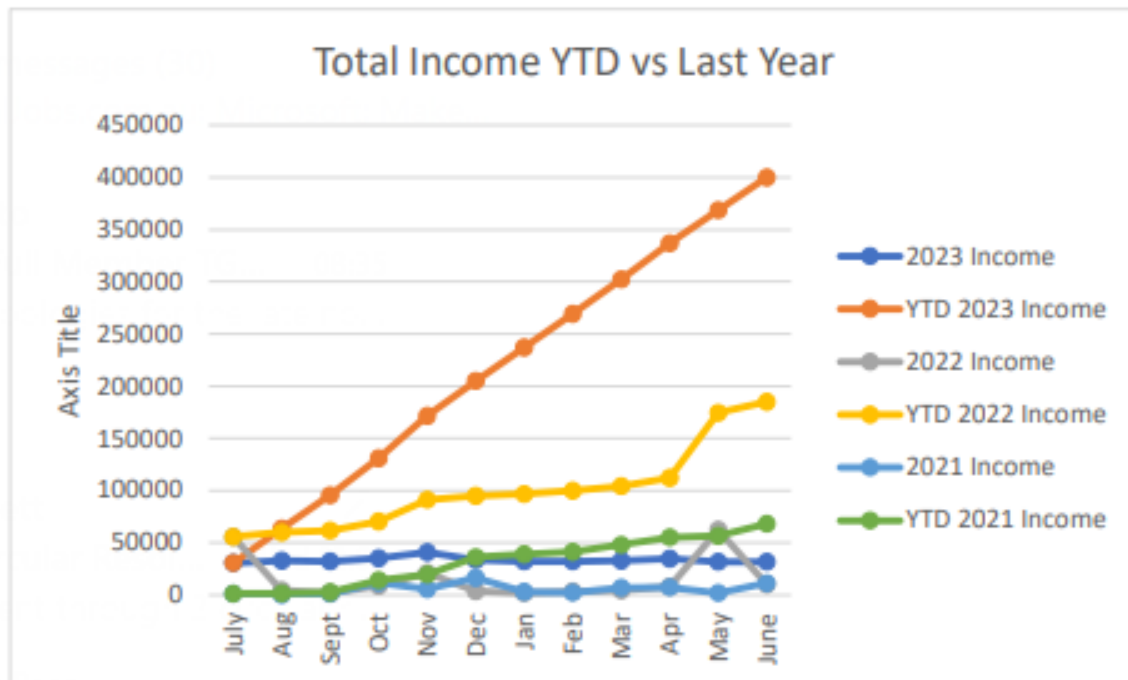
## Net Profit



## Balance Sheet Trends



## March 2023





# Thank You



## TransFolk of WA Inc

[transfolkofwa.org](http://transfolkofwa.org)