

Autism Advisory
and Support
Service

ANNUAL REPORT

2018/2019



Incorporation

Autism Advisory and Support Service Inc ABN 63 073 684 085 is a not for profit incorporated association. Its members are the current Committee.

Its registered office is located at 88 Memorial Ave Liverpool NSW 2170.

Charitable status, tax concessions and fundraising

Autism Advisory and Support Service is a Health Promotion Charity (HPC). It is endorsed as an Income Tax Exempt Charity and receives certain other tax concessions and exemptions consistent with its status as a HPC which relate to Goods and Services and Fringe Benefits taxes. Autism Advisory and Support Service has been endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR).

Autism Advisory and Support Service is registered under applicable fundraising legislation as required in NSW where it raises funds as follows: New South Wales: Registration number CFN 21161

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Our Mission

To empower children and adults with Autism and their families through knowledge and support.

Our Values

- Innovation
- Authenticity
- Community
- Passion
- Responsiveness

Executive Summary

Autism Advisory and Support Service (AASS) was established in 2007 by a group of parents from South Western Sydney to fill the void in the health care sector encountered by families of children with Autism.

AASS was established as a support, network and advisory service to empower children and adults with Autism and their families through knowledge and support, and to positively impact and influence their social and emotional development.

AASS has the legal status as a not for profit incorporated charity. AASS relies heavily on funding grants, donations and sponsorships to fund the important supports and programs we run. AASS has grown since its inception in 2007 and has been able to expand its range of service delivery. Since its inception AASS has:

- opened the AASS Community house/ drop in center, located in Memorial Avenue, Liverpool, complete with Autism friendly therapy playground and sensory garden;
- established, coordinated and hosted support groups in a range of languages;
- established, coordinated and hosted social group for young adults with ASD and neurotypical mentors;
- established a school outreach program providing therapeutic opportunities to students in Schools for Specific Purposes and Support Units;

- provided a range of group and individual therapies including Speech Therapy, Music Therapy, Art Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Psychology;
- established, coordinated and hosted social skills therapy group for 7-15 year olds;
- established, coordinated and hosted structured therapy play group for 1-6 year olds;
- established, coordinated and hosted Art Therapy Play Group via an Art Therapist;
- run a resource library;
- run a sensory toy and resource shop;
- established, coordinated and facilitated the only 24 hour Autism hotline in the world;
- hosted a range of Professional Development seminars, conferences and workshops on a wide range of topics.

AASS continues to provide these services and others as they strive to close the gaps in service provision for children and adults with autism and their families.

AASS began by supporting families in South West Sydney and now has grown as a support service to families around Sydney and in every state of Australia.

AASS handles approximately 500 enquiries/ cases per month.

What we do

AASS relies heavily on donations, fundraising and grants to deliver our unfunded services.

Our Executive Committee has a diverse set of skills and come from varied professional backgrounds, offering unique expertise to AASS. Those professions include; education, business management, law and politics.

AASS fills the gap in service provision that exists, and does so at an affordable cost to families. This is important, as studies have shown that raising a child with a disability costs at least three times more than raising a child without a disability.

The main benefit that AASS provides is that we can personally identify with the issues faced by parents accessing our service. We have all experienced the isolation and grief that a diagnosis brings:

- the frustration of searching for affordable and appropriate services;
- the battle to find a suitable educational environment for our children;
- the guilt connected with focusing on the child with the disability and not enough attention on other children;

- the burden of wondering what will become of our children when they are older.

When a family comes to AASS for assistance, our empathy and understanding is real. We have learnt about ASD from our lived experience, not a textbook. We understand that ASD should not be approached with a “one size fits all” attitude. This unique perspective brings families coming back to volunteer when they are more comfortable with their situation.

We do not need to advertise our service as word of mouth, in particular from other service providers, keeps us very busy.

For parents and carers waiting for a formal assessment and diagnosis, looking for the right intervention and joining the long waiting lists can be extremely overwhelming, confusing and frustrating. AASS provides unbiased advice, encouragement, guidance and support.



President's Report

What a year of change and inspiration.

The team at AASS continues to grow and touch the lives of so many in our community, extending beyond geographic and cultural borders.

The organisation strives to bring hope and opportunities to our most vulnerable community members. This work continues to be delivered despite the challenges presented by the NDIS.

The past 12 months have seen growth in our client services, premises and team. AASS has expanded our services for clients and we have grown our Support Coordination arm to better support families on their NDIS journey. AASS has developed stronger relationships with NDIA, universities, TAFE's, schools and sporting organisations and we have been actively involved in advising various Autism and inclusion working groups.

Other highlights of the past year include a large increase in presentations and workshops AASS has been involved in and run, raising awareness and educating workers and families on Autism and inclusion.

Our 24 Hour Autism Hotline continues to attract and retain quality volunteers, ready to provide a listening ear to anyone who calls, and those call numbers have trebled.

The next 12 months we want to extend those boundaries further.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the AASS team for their dedication to a smooth transition of the organisation through the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme. The team have continued to passionately follow AASS's mission and assist many people throughout their Autism journey as well as raise awareness of Autism and the importance of acceptance, inclusion and participation to ongoing quality of life.

Nadia Napoletano
President



CEO's Report

The past financial year has seen us settle into the NDIS. The more we travelled the NDIS highway, the more we learnt about the systems and language required for more successful outcomes for our clients.

Our 12 page discussion paper on NDIS issues and recommendations was well received by NDIS Board members and Government representatives alike. It was exciting to see some of our recommendations come to fruition for the benefit of participants. We look forward to continuing our work with the NDIS to inspire a successful scheme and outcomes for all involved.

The confusion around the NDIS and the increase in the prevalence of Autism has been reflected in the increased demand on our family support service. The families we serve are amongst the most vulnerable in our community. They include families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, individuals in the justice system, families with a range of complex needs and families who are socially and financially isolated. Our family support team are now overwhelmed with the demand on our service, in particular as it is not funded. Our aim is to secure Government funding to expand our service to meet local demands.

The team at AASS take pride in supporting a range of students to positively influence their futures. We host Students studying Medicine, Speech Pathology, Social Work and Occupational Therapy.

We also hosted 6 students with additional needs from St Joseph Trades Skills Centre as part of their vocational course in Business Administration.

The past year has seen an increase in requests to our team to be guest speakers and to provide professional development on Autism by a range of school and other services. Our team take great pride in sharing their expertise with a variety of audiences and particularly enjoy the positive feedback at the end of the sessions.

The AASS 24 Hour Australia wide Autism Hotline is the only one in the world. We started this service in 2009 as a valuable source of information, support and relief from social isolation. Our wonderful team of trained volunteer parents man the line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The past year has seen calls to the line increase three fold. We have experienced a growth in referrals from organisations such as Lifeline, Beyond Blue and local area health services to our unfunded service.

I sincerely thank all of our sponsors and supporters whose generous donations are allowing our unfunded programs to support our families in need. I would also like to thank our Board, whose governance has supported us to increase our capacity to serve more individuals with Autism and their families.

My team and I look forward to another year of growth while serving our community with passion and dedication. I look forward to sharing our progress with you.

**Grace Fava OAM MAICD JP
CEO**

Treasurer's Report

On behalf of the Board of Autism Advisory and Support Service, I would like to present the Financial Report for the year ended 30 June, 2019.

The organisation has consolidated its service model during the year, with the continued rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme in South West Sydney and indeed Australia wide. We have met the significant challenges from continued systemic issues encountered by the National Disability Insurance Scheme rollout and produced a very positive financial outcome for the year.

AASS has continued to build and implement processes and efficiencies to support our service model, and, most importantly, to ensure the highest possible quality of service and support for our clients.

We have focused more attention on our fundraising efforts this year and this has allowed us to diversify our income base and given us the opportunity to provide more supports where they are truly needed. Our Toy Store is growing and continues to supply affordable resources to families and frontline workers as well as further support AASS's mission.

Moving into 2019/20, we are excited about continually improving our services and supports, expanding our services into high demand areas, and evaluating the social impact of AASS in the Autism community.

AASS will continue to look for ways to diversify income sources to ensure the financial stability and viability of our service.

For further information about the organisation's financial performance, please refer to the Financial Statements and accompanying notes.

Dominic Pelle
Treasurer



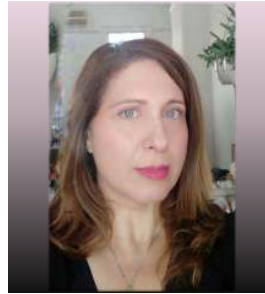
The AASS Executive Committee



**Grace Fava OAM
MAICD JP
Founder and CEO**

Certificate IV Frontline Management | Adjunct Fellow Faculty of Health Sciences at University of Western Sydney | Board Member with Catholic Cemeteries Trust.

Grace has worked in many diverse fields including Pharmacy, Office Administration and Accounts Receivable for various organisations. Her passion for Autism was ignited when searching for services for her two boys who both regressed with Autism and Global Developmental Delay. Grace is responsible for the day to day running of AASS and overseeing all aspects of the organisation.



**Nadia Napoletano
President**

Nadia Napoletano has a background in legal and governance matters. Nadia has leadership experience across the public and private sectors in executive management positions in legal services, governance, procurement, business planning and strategy, work health & safety, risk management, policy and regulation. She has experience in leading and establishing governance frameworks in public sector environments, as well as leading and undertaking business transformation projects.



**Fiona Zammit
B Ed
Vice President**

Fiona Zammit is a founding member of AASS. She is currently holding the position of Vice President on the Executive Board. Fiona has a Bachelor of Education and is currently employed by the Department of Education as a Learning and Support Teacher. She is passionate about providing inclusive educational opportunities for students with additional needs.

Fiona is married with 2 children. She credits her son, who has Autism, as the inspiration behind what she does.



**Dominic Pelle
Treasurer**

Registered Tax Agent and Accountant Principal, Dominic Pelle is a fellow of the Institute of Public Accountants (FIPA) since 1999. Dominic has a Bachelor of Business degree with a major in Accounting completed at the University of Western Sydney and has also completed an Advanced Diploma in Accounting.

Dominic is also a registered agent with the Australian Securities & Investment Commission (ASIC) and is a member of the National Tax and Accountants Association (NTAA).



Bassema Ghaznavi
Secretary

Bassema is a founding board member of AASS. She has a Bachelor of Social Science (Social Welfare), a Diploma in Disability and Case Management and Cert IV in Employment Services (Community services) Traineeship. She has a background in Disability Employment Service (DES), advocacy and support in a voluntary capacity and Support Coordination. Prior experience is in sales and marketing. Bassema has a teenage daughter with autism who has been the driver for her passion and motivation to assist people with disabilities and their families to feel empowered and included.



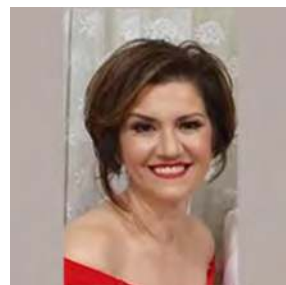
Laurie Ferguson

Laurie Ferguson has lived in the Western Sydney suburbs of Guildford and Granville his entire life. He has a MA (History) and a BEc from Sydney University. Laurie served as a member of NSW State Parliament from 1984 to 1990 and represented the federal electorates of Reid and Werriwa from 1990 to 2016. His contact with AASS stems from his time in Werriwa from 2010 to 2016.



Anne Marie Elias
Resigned from Committee
23/7/2019

Anne-Marie Elias is a collaborative Alchemist | Change Strategist | International Speaker & Facilitator. Anne-Marie advises government, business and NGOs on leveraging the innovation ecosystem to solve problems. She preaches the gospel of disrupting the status quo and re-purposes methods used in tech, start up, entrepreneurship and design to innovate responses to tipping point problems. Collaboration is her calling card and she brings together cross sector efforts to support social change initiatives. Anne-Marie is on the board of VibeWire, Western Sydney Women and the Autism Advisory and Support Service Board.



Ms Susan Dinkha
BA, Dip Law (SAB)

Susan is a lawyer with extensive commercial experience gained in both corporate and private practice. She has worked for public companies as legal counsel and in legal and compliance management roles. She has provided consultancy services to public companies and not-for-profit organisations. She holds a Bachelor of Arts and Diploma in Law.

24 Hour Autism Hotline Report

The AASS 24 Hour Australia Wide Autism Hotline remains an integral part of the Autism world. It is a valuable source of information, support and relief from social isolation.

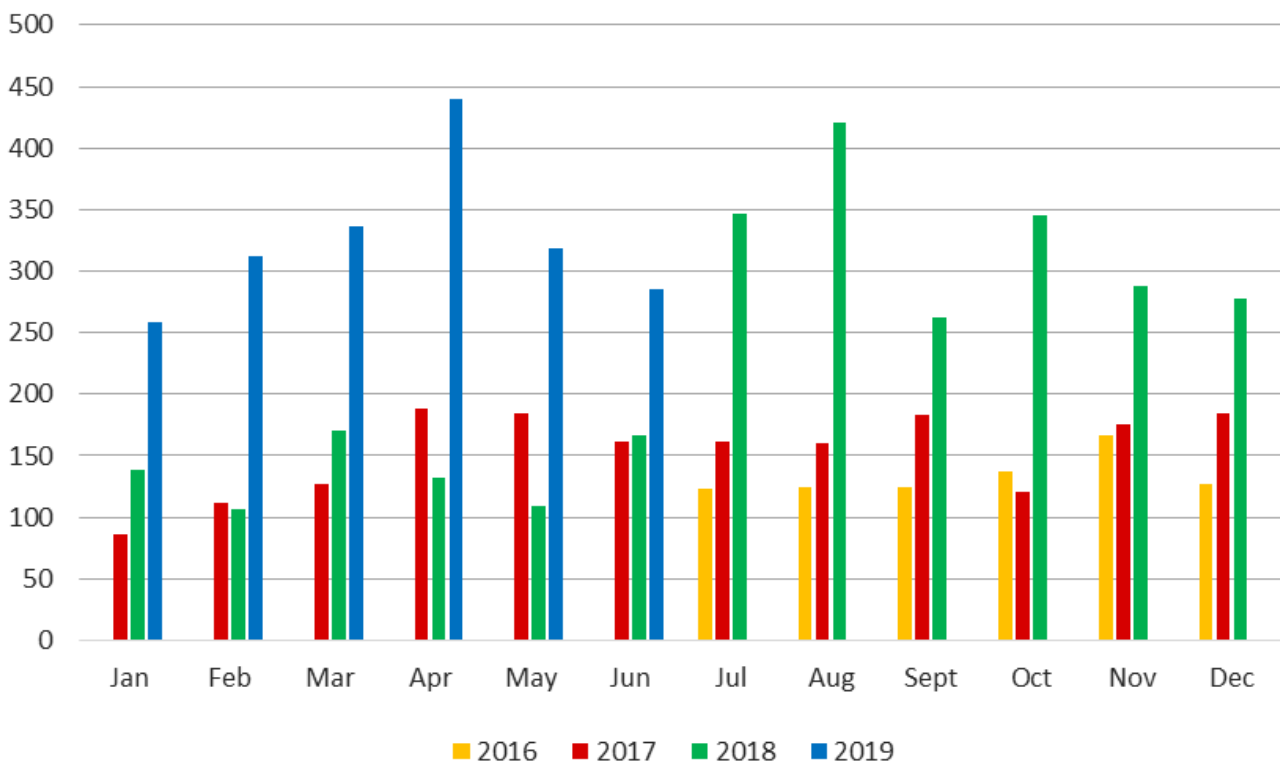
The AASS 24 Hour Australia Wide Autism Hotline is the only dedicated 24 Hour Autism Hotline in the world.

The service still remains paid for by donations and fundraising.

Our roster of trained volunteer parents offer guidance and encouragement to a range of callers such as individuals with Autism, parents and carers, siblings and friends, Health professionals, Doctors, Teachers and First Responders.

These callers contact AASS from around Australia, and we listen, support and guide through the maze of services. For many, the hotline is their only connection to the outside world.

Autism Hotline Stats July 2016 to June 2019



AASS Snapshot: 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

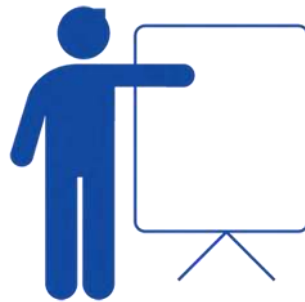


21 Employees
19 Volunteers

THERAPY CLIENTS
262 Individuals
10 Groups
4 Schools

AASS provided therapy in 22 schools

7
Allied Health
Student
Placements



PRESENTATIONS
4 Workshops
13 Schools



**Western Sydney
University
collaboration**

9 Medical Student
Placements
2 WSU Career
Expos

Complaints to
AASS
0

17,744 visits to
web site
aass.org.au



24 HOUR AUTISM HOTLINE

3,893 Calls to Hotline
75 calls per week

The rapy in Action



This year at AASS we have taken great strides in providing individual and group based therapy, and creating meaningful outcomes for our clients.

Over the year we have seen great changes in our clients, their skills and the capacities of their support networks e.g. family, school, teachers.

In **Social Skills Therapy Group** we kick started the implementation of our 10 week programs based on a multidisciplinary teaching and planning approach.

Speech Therapy saw the trials and implementation of Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC) and functional literacy activities.

Occupational Therapy incorporated teaching strategies from various developmental, sensory and functional approaches.

Psychology tapped into the strengths and internal motivations of clients to explore what works for them. We have implemented regular Autism assessments into our service range.

Music Therapy and Art Therapy encouraged the creative exploration of the clients skills and needs in free and boundless mediums.

Examples of how AASS has empowered our clients :

- JT has been with AASS for more than two years and this year he began to consistently use full sentences to communicate. This has opened up a new world of communication, social interactions and self-expression for him. JT can also maintain a play interaction for more than three turns independently in the session and at school. He is also beginning to show his unique personality and expressing independent ideas and opinions. He is becoming an empowered individual.



Who we are

- AASS works one day a week in a number of schools and our goals include: social skills; communication; AAC; following instruction and functioning in formal settings. Our school based social skills groups are perceived by the students as the 'cool club' due to its motivating and fun structure. As a result, our clients, as well as mainstream students, volunteer to participate in therapy. For the clients this has helped them to actively seek social interactions in a safe, structured and socially appropriate way.
- Tiana is a beautiful young lady whose dream was to work with children. She found it difficult to be offered a work opportunity as she has Autism. For the past two and a half years we embraced Tiana as part of our team. She volunteered with AASS and we supported her to build skills in time management, accountability, staff and client interaction and overall engagement in a mainstream workplace. It was with great sadness but much pride when Tiana left us after being offered a job in a child care centre where she has become a valued member of their team.



Tiana

Shannon (Program Coordinator)

Working at AASS gives me the opportunity to support clients and families to become more educated, independent and empowered to become more confident. I also enjoy providing educational talks and presentations to local schools and educational facilities in south west Sydney. These presentations are a chance to educate students, teachers and other health professionals about Autism, the challenges and the triumphs.

Steve (Behaviour Therapy and Social Skills Coaching)

The greatest reward that I get from my work in Cognitive & Behavioural Therapy is seeing clients improve their relationships. They do improve their relationships with others and with themselves as they become more skilled and proud of themselves.

Stephanie (Psychologist)

Psychology works with inner feelings and understanding of why people do the things that they do. For many parents and clients, this can be a challenge to understand. I love working with all of the clients, to be able to see them grow and for the parents/caregivers/teachers that I also work with to better see the person, rather than the diagnosis.

Thanh (Senior Speech Pathologist)

As the Senior Speech Pathologist, I provide clinical supervision and support to other therapists. I endeavour to provide a holistic therapy approach for clients in individual, group and school settings. My therapy targets goals in the areas of: social skills, language, communication, speech, alternative communication and functional life skills.

Rachael (Occupational Therapist)

My role is to help clients and their families develop skills to enable increased performance and participation in their daily activities at school, home and in the community. I enjoy helping people reach their potential and making a difference in their lives.

Who we are

Laura (Speech Pathologist)

My role as a Speech Pathologist involves helping individuals communicate their wants and needs. I have a passion for working closely with families and building their capacity to encourage communication at home. I love working with children and making therapy fun! It is so beautiful to see children find their voice and share their personality with the world.

Adrian (Music Therapist)

My role involves using music as a medium to engage and interact with people to improve their quality of life and well-being. I love working at AASS as I am able to help clients. The families I work with have stated how much they appreciate what I do working with their children as they have noticed a difference in them.

Elizabeth (Art Therapist)

My role as the Art Therapist for AASS is to facilitate Art Play workshops for children with autism and their families. I also run one-to-one therapy sessions which increase skills while nurturing and supporting therapeutic expression. I am passionate about working with the clients at AASS and offering art as a pathway to communication and individual growth.

Myrna (Family Support Coordinator)

I work as a NDIS Support Coordinator and as a Behaviour Support Clinician. I support individual clients in the community and schools and facilitate different Social Skills Groups in schools. I also assist with advocacy support to families and individuals with different issues, predominantly with accessing the NDIS, issues with regards to school suspensions, or accessing crucial services. Part of my role also involves providing professional development training to different organisations and AASS staff.

Kim (Speech Pathologist)

As a speech pathologist, I love building connections with my clients and their families. Sometimes it's instantaneous and sometimes it requires more work but when it happens, it's lovely to know that clients enjoy their time with me learning new skills. They also know that I'm delighted by their company.

Matthew (Music Therapist)

I am motivated and inspired by all the little things done by my clients in music therapy – the spontaneous songs, the uninhibited expression, and the surprising musical abilities they show. I have enormous respect for their willingness to go way outside their comfort zone to engage, interact, and share during their sessions.

Merissa (Events/Sensory Resource Shop Coordinator)

Organising events and fundraisers and the day to day running of our toy/sensory resource shop means I get to actively meet and talk with a variety of people in the community who share the common goals we have. It is so rewarding to be able to help families by way of offering advice and support as well as providing information and resources that will benefit their children.

Mari (Support Coordinator)

Being the first point of contact for clients is a huge part of my role as a support coordinator. My role is to help them become independent and skilled at navigating the NDIS so that they don't need me anymore.

Who we are



Carers Support Groups

Our Carers groups have provided valuable support to carers of people with Autism. This year AASS has facilitated our Carers Support Group, the Arabic Carers Support Group and created a Fathers Carers Group. All groups are run monthly and continue to grow.

Lina (Arabic Support Worker & Carers Group Coordinator)

My Arabic speaking families feel isolated because most of them have none or limited English. They have little awareness or understanding about Autism and how important therapy is for their child. My main aim is to support and encourage friendships between families. It has been great seeing friendships forming between each other and sharing their Autism experiences and ideas.

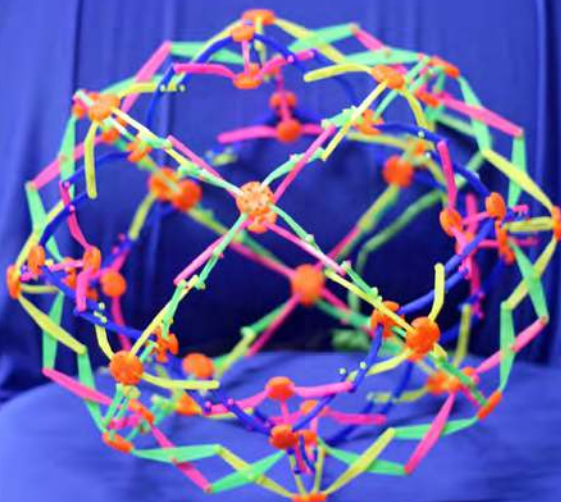
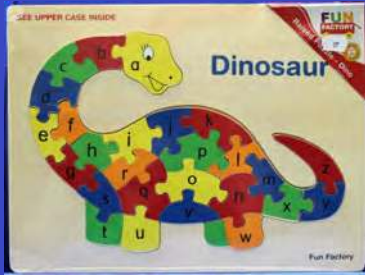
Lisa (Administration)

Being the face that greets people as they walk through the AASS doors allows me to build relationships with the families who access our service. Being responsible for the majority of phone calls that come into the AASS office and volunteering on the 24 hour hotline also allows me to help people on a daily basis. There is something empowering about knowing you have helped a newly diagnosed family with gaining support and resources to help them on their journey, or to just be a listening ear on a stressful day.

Vicky and Stephanie (Accounts)

While a lot of what we do is behind the scenes, we enjoy assisting our clients to better understand their funding and how to get the most out of it. We also love the opportunity to help families build their capacity to advocate for and manage their funding for themselves into the future.

Sensory Toy and Resource Store

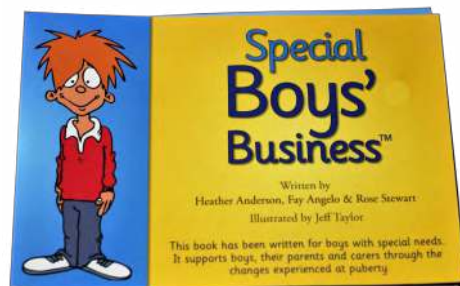


Over the past year, the AASS sensory toy and resource store has seen a **sales growth of 17.5%**, exceeding all expectations.

We are continually asked to showcase our items at a number of school and community events. Each year sees our range grow (**21.25% increase** from 2018) in line with requests from therapists and families.

388 lines in our catalogue (not including special orders not usually stocked)

Over 4,700 units sold (does not include sales at events)



AASS wish to thank the following families and organisations for their support:

Al Boustani Seeds Pty Ltd	Department of Social Services	Partisan Protective Services
Altona Sports Club	Domenic Leonello	Pina Pisano
Ban Hammou	DVKT Group Pty Ltd	Pride Soy Candles
Barney Kodsy	Event Cinemas Campbelltown	Quota
Blackmores	Fiona Zammit	R & D Leonello
Bonnyrigg Heights Primary School	First National Casula	Robert Fuller
Canley Vale RSL	Gattellari Electrical Contractors Pty Ltd	Romano Plumbing Pty Ltd
Canterbury Leagues Club	Grace Fava	Rotary Club of Liverpool Greenway
Carers NSW	Grill'd - Wetherill Park	Rotary Club of Liverpool West
Casula High School	Ian Butters	Sadleir Public School
Circle Bridge Legal	In Fine Print	Sharav Shrestha
Civil & Tunnelling Industrial Supplies	Judith Banks	Stephen Pham
Crust Pizza	Karen Boustany	Sydney Symphony Orchestra
Curran Public School	M and A Organisation	Triglav (Mounties Group)
Danjosh Constructions (NSW) Pty Ltd	Majestic Kitchens & Joinery	Waste Contractors & Recyclers Association of NSW
Deemhire Pty Ltd	Michael Zammit	Wattle Grove Preschool
	Moorebank Sports Club	Westfield Liverpool
	Nicol Sallustio	





**AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE
INCORPORATED**

A.B.N 63 073 684 085

**Financial Report for the year ended
30 June 2019**

AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED

A.B.N. 63 073 684 085

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

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AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED

A.B.N. 63 073 684 085

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of Autism Advisory & Support Service Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2019.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Nadia Napoletano
Fiona Zammit
Dominic Pelle
Grace Fava
Bassema Ghaznavi
Anne-Marie Elias
Laurie Fergusson
Susan Dinkha

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were to provide therapies to children with autism and unbiased advice and support to parents, carers and teachers of those affected with autism, and to empower children and adults with autism and their families through knowledge and support.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

OPERATING RESULT

The surplus for the 2019 financial year amounted to \$57,650.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.

.....
Nadia Napoletano

.....
Fiona Zammit

Dated this 3rd day of October, 2019.

AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 63 073 684 085

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Program Activities	2,505	1,346
Donations	52,684	32,589
Expo Income	182	2,946
Fundraising	68,070	17,072
Grants	88,358	153,204
Interest	5,252	5,747
Management and Administration Fees	354,892	253,571
Rent	-	400
Sensory Toys Sales	28,126	36,887
Sponsorship Income	7,600	220
Training and Presentation Fees	5,112	5,210
Therapy Income	1,031,891	744,943
Other Income	1,615	2,207
	<u>1,646,287</u>	<u>1,256,342</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Activity Expenses	835	2,434
Audit and Legal Fees	4,700	7,988
Bad Debts	2,760	-
Bank Charges	1,113	737
Consultants	-	1,600
Contractors	2,945	1,480
Depreciation	26,206	27,864
Equipment Rental	-	929
Expo Costs	738	3,123
Filing Fees	195	191
Fundraising Expenses	29,581	2,794
Gifts	2,209	2,022
Insurance	8,546	7,471
Interest	996	172
Management Fees	354,892	253,571
Meeting Expenses	825	1,343
Memberships and Subscriptions	1,204	1,244
Office Equipment	1,204	2,215
Office Stationery & Printing	4,221	3,401
Photocopier Expenses	4,628	2,793
Postage and Shipping	299	574
Program Costs	9,052	8,743
Recruitment	11,261	1,224
Repairs & Maintenance	15,276	13,351
Resources Purchased/Donated and iPads	223	575
Room Hire	-	545
Salaries and Wages	947,353	913,778
Sensory Toys Purchases	17,208	25,824

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 63 073 684 085

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Staff Training & Welfare	4,268	10,858
Staff Uniforms	290	747
Superannuation	88,235	85,877
Telephone & Internet	13,378	12,759
Therapy Donations	3,084	3,282
Travel Expenses	953	907
Utilities	3,043	2,796
Volunteer Expenses	969	814
Workers Compensation	25,947	-
	<u>1,588,637</u>	<u>1,406,026</u>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	57,650	(149,684)
Retained Profits at the beginning of the Financial Year	437,344	587,028
Retained Profits at the end of the Financial Year	<u>494,994</u>	<u>437,344</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 63 073 684 085

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

	Note	2019 \$	2018 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash	2	329,506	230,037
Receivables	3	50,683	28,826
Inventories	4	29,667	31,928
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		409,856	290,791
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	5	195,150	217,556
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		195,150	217,556
TOTAL ASSETS		605,006	508,347
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	6	110,012	71,003
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		110,012	71,003
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES		110,012	71,003
NET ASSETS		494,994	437,344
MEMBERS FUNDS			
Retained Surplus		494,994	437,344
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS		494,994	437,344

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 63 073 684 085

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009*. The Committee have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report:

a. Income Tax

The association has been granted an Income Tax Exemption and is exempt from income tax under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

b. Property Plant & Equipment

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

c. Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the committee reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

d. Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

e. Cash on Hand

Cash on hand includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

f. Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

g. Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

h. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

i. Accounts and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
NOTE 2 - CASH		
Cash on Hand	800	800
Cash at Bank	328,706	229,237
	<u>329,506</u>	<u>230,037</u>
NOTE 3 - RECEIVABLES		
Other Debtors	48,714	27,031
Prepaid Insurance	1,969	1,795
	<u>50,683</u>	<u>28,826</u>
NOTE 4 - INVENTORIES		
Sensory Toys	29,667	31,928
	<u>29,667</u>	<u>31,928</u>
NOTE 5 - PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Buildings	108,922	108,922
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(31,286)	(20,423)
	<u>77,636</u>	<u>88,499</u>
Office Equipment	42,086	38,286
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(28,290)	(22,383)
	<u>13,796</u>	<u>15,903</u>
Outdoor Equipment & Toys	87,067	87,067
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(83,402)	(81,569)
	<u>3,665</u>	<u>5,499</u>
Leasehold Improvements	152,074	152,074
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(52,021)	(44,418)
	<u>100,053</u>	<u>107,656</u>
	<u>195,150</u>	<u>217,556</u>
NOTE 6 - PAYABLES		
Creditors and Accruals	45,532	7,063
Wages and Payroll Deductions Payable	44,490	21,762
GST Payable	1,845	(583)
Funding in Advance	17,387	42,761
Funds Held	758	-
	<u>110,012</u>	<u>71,003</u>

AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

NOTE 7 - Additional information to be furnished under the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991

Autism Advisory & Support Service Incorporated received a total of \$128,353 (2018: \$49,881) from donations and sponsorships that constituted fundraising appeals. These funds were used to provide therapies to children with autism and unbiased advice and support to parents, carers and teachers of those affected with autism, and to empower children and adults with autism and their families through knowledge and support.

Comparative Information	2019	2018
	%	%
Total costs of fundraising to gross income from fundraising	23%	6%
Net surplus from fundraising to gross income from fundraising	77%	94%
Total fundraising income utilised to total expenses	8%	4%
Total fundraising income utilised to gross income	8%	4%

AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED

A.B.N. 63 073 684 085

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Autism Advisory & Support Service Incorporated as at 30 June 2019 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Autism Advisory & Support Service Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:



.....
Nadia Napoletano



.....
Fiona Zammit

Dated this 3rd day of October, 2019

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Autism Advisory and Support Service Incorporated

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Autism Advisory and Support Service Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2019, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by members of the committee.

In our opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Autism Advisory and Support Service Incorporated as at 30 June 2019 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in note 1 to the financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting obligations under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the committee for the Financial Report

The committee of the Association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and we have determined that the accounting policy described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporations Act 2009* and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining such internal control as the committee and management determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The members of the committee are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd

Level 16, 1 Market Street

Sydney NSW 2000

PO Box H195

Australia Square NSW 1215

p +61 2 9251 4600

f +61 2 9251 7138

e info@nexiasydney.com.au

w nexia.com.au

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Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- 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 Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by those charged with governance.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on the requirements of the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and the Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2015

We have audited the financial report as required by Section 24(2) of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991. Our procedures included obtaining an understanding of the internal control structure for fundraising appeal activities and examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting compliance with the accounting and associated record keeping requirements for fundraising appeal activities pursuant to the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and the *Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2015*.

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd

Level 16, 1 Market Street
Sydney NSW 2000
PO Box H195
Australia Square NSW 1215
p +61 2 9251 4600
f +61 2 9251 7138
e info@nexiasydney.com.au
w nexia.com.au

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Because of the inherent limitations of any assurance engagement, it is possible that fraud, error or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. An audit is not designed to detect all instances of non-compliance with the requirements described in the above-mentioned Act and Regulation as an audit is not performed continuously throughout the period and the audit procedures performed in respect to compliance with these requirements are undertaken on a test basis.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Opinion Pursuant to the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991

In our opinion:

- a) the special purpose financial report presents fairly a view of the financial result of fundraising appeal activities for the financial year ended 30 June 2019;
- b) the special purpose financial report has been properly drawn up, and the associated records have been properly kept for the year ended 30 June 2019, in accordance with the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and Regulation;
- c) money received as a result of fundraising appeal activities conducted during the year ended 30 June 2019 has been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and Regulation; and
- d) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Limited



Brett Hanger

Director

Dated at Sydney, this 15th day of October 2019

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd

Level 16, 1 Market Street
Sydney NSW 2000
PO Box H195

Australia Square NSW 1215

p +61 2 9251 4600

f +61 2 9251 7138

e info@nexiasydney.com.au

w nexia.com.au

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AUTISM ADVISORY & SUPPORT SERVICE INCORPORATED

A.B.N. 63 073 684 085

CERTIFICATE BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

We, Nadia Napoletano of Prestons, NSW and Fiona Zammit of Cecil Hills, NSW, certify that:

- a. We attended the annual general meeting of the association held on 9th December, 2019.
- b. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June, 2019 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.



.....
Nadia Napoletano



.....
Fiona Zammit

Dated this 9th day of December, 2019

SPONSORS 2018/2019:



AASS is a registered National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) provider

Autism Advisory and Support Service

*“Empowering children and adults with Autism and their families
through knowledge and support”*

88 Memorial Avenue, Liverpool NSW 2170

Phone: (02) 9601 2844

info@aass.org.au

Hotline: 1300 222 777

www.aass.org.au