



ABORIGINAL SOBRIETY GROUP INCORPORATED
Annual Report 2005/06





ABORIGINAL SOBRIETY GROUP INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2005/2006

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Front Cover & Throughout:

Nunkuwarn Yunti of South Australia Inc. Artefact Collection
No. 21. Bark Painting, 'Anjura Spears Walaburru the Mullet'.
Artist: Benny Muduruk, Burrara, Upper Blyth River, C. Arnhem Land.

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



Polly Sumner Chairperson

As Chairperson, I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Aboriginal Sobriety Group Inc. (ASG) for the 2005/2006 financial year.

Despite a lack of adequate funding support, ASG continues to find ways to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people deal with drug and alcohol dependency and associated issues.

Even though funding cuts resulted in the closure of Annie Koolmatrie House (AKH), ASG found a way to reopen the much in demand hostel by securing premises with Aboriginal Housing that could co-locate AKH with Cyril Lindsay House (CLH) and share staff resources. This is just one example of ASG's determination to succeed and commitment to the community.

I would like to again extend my congratulations to Mr Basil Sumner, Chief Executive Officer, and his team for their dedication, loyalty and commitment to ASG's clients. Their passion is evident in the way they write their end of year reports.

The many highlights of this year included:

- Reopening of Annie Koolmatrie House.
- Co-location of the men's and women's hostels.
- Complete establishment of the Riverland branch with a full quota of staff.
- Funding for two capital works projects; the first to provide a purpose-built facility in the Riverland and the second to upgrade facilities at Lakalinjeri Tumbetin Waal (LTW).
- Development of a social inclusion program by the Assessment, Referral and Counselling (ARC) team.
- The graduation of the ARC Program Manager in the Diploma of Narrative Approaches and the various training and development programs undertaken by all other staff.

- Increased networking and promotion by all programs resulting in clarity of service for clients and efficiency of service delivery.
- Increased interest and delivery of Talking Circles and Smoking Ceremonies.
- Meeting with a board member from the internationally renowned Nechi Institute and their interest in working more closely with ASG.
- Over 270 clients for the new Northern Metropolitan branch.
- The Riverland ASG accumulating a client base of over 200.

One of the major concerns from last year remains, which is the increased presentation of clients with mental health issues. Some present initially with sobriety issues but are later found to have been misdiagnosed and actually have mental health issues. This has placed extreme pressure on ASG's staff for a few years now and yet we still have not received any additional funding to provide adequate skilled support in this area.

Another area of concern remaining is the Dry Zone which continues to place increased demand on the Mobile Assistance Patrol (MAP) which is required to travel extended distances as a result. Both vans need replacing due to the extreme number of kilometres travelled and funding consideration should be given for another shift, at least over the summer months, to cater for the increased demand.

ASG is one of the most systemic drug and alcohol recovery pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and yet whilst it receives commendation from intrastate, interstate and overseas organisations, it needs to receive the same level of commitment from our government in order to make the changes in the Aboriginal community that it can and will achieve.

ASG needs a dedicated Detox Centre to relieve the stress on mainstream after-hours' services and to ensure that our people receive the culturally appropriate care that is required to stop them from reoffending. We also need additional funding to support the many women and children who wish to enter AKH. In addition, funding for appropriately skilled resources is required to attend to the ever increasing number of clients presenting with mental health issues – our staff are not funded to deal with this.

In closing, I would like to thank our Board members who have consistently supported ASG and lobbied for improved funding and resources.

I would also like to thank the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (Health and Ageing), Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (Health and Services), Aboriginal Hostels Limited, Adelaide City Council and the Department of Human Services for funding ASG's programs and services this year.

Polly Sumner
Chairperson

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Basil Sumner Chief Executive Officer

As Chief Executive Officer, I am pleased to report on the activities of the Aboriginal Sobriety Group Inc. (ASG) for the 2005/2006 financial year.

Despite various setbacks and political issues, all ASG staff remained loyal and committed to delivering services to our clients and I wish to thank them for their efforts.

This year, many new clients accessed our Substance Misuse Recovery Pathway, and some achieved complete sobriety and went on to live an independent lifestyle.

With the closing of Annie Koolmatrie House (AKH) in 2004, Aboriginal Housing came to our aid with the provision of three buildings in the western suburbs; two are hostels and the third is an office. Unfortunately, one building was infested with white ants which required months of treatment. Despite limited funds, AKH was reopened early in 2006 as the need for the women's hostel was too great. Since the reopening, there has been a constant flow of female clients wishing to use the facility but due to limited funds, we could only accommodate a couple at a time. ASG also relocated Cyril Lindsay House (CLH) to the new premises and this helped with administering the women's hostel.

Our Riverland Program is well established with a full quota of staff. ASG now offers Stolen Generation Counselling and a Drug and Alcohol Misuse Program in addition to the MAP service. We also obtained a house through Aboriginal Housing which has been set up as a stabilisation house. The house was refurbished with funds from the State Department of Health and we are very thankful for their support.

Last year we received capital works funding for two projects. The first project is a purpose-built facility in the Riverland. With the tender process

completed, consultations with the community and key stakeholders were undertaken and Berri was chosen as the preferred location. Work is now underway to search for an appropriate site. The second capital works project is to upgrade our rehabilitation farm, Lakalinjeri Tumbetin Waal. This project is almost complete and we are very happy with the results, as are our clients. Upgrading the men's and women's dormitories was the first priority and a disabled toilet and ramps were also built.

A majority of ASG's clients are at the crisis end of the scale and it has always been a philosophy of mine to 'catch the horse before it bolts' or, in other words, focus on early intervention and prevention with youth with the hope to educate, upskill and build their self esteem and confidence to prevent them from getting to the crisis stage. With this in mind, we are developing a youth early intervention/prevention and diversion program, which will also tie in with our health and fitness program. This program is in its infancy but it is envisaged that it will be up and running next year.

With the expansion of ASG, our programs are outgrowing the administration. We are currently identifying an effective ratio for administration to program staff, as both sectors are equally important.

Our MAP service still experiences additional pressure at times due to the shift of clients to the outer areas as a result of the dry zone. Next year, we will be looking at trialling a second service during the summer to cater for the increase of clients, especially on the weekends.

Two issues which still remain outstanding are the increased presentation of clients with acute mental health disorders and the lack of an Indigenous specific detox centre. The increase of clients with acute mental health disorders and co-morbidity has reinforced the need for appropriate mental health services. ASG does not have the resources to treat these clients and often there is no appropriate mainstream service to refer them to. An Indigenous specific detox centre has been on ASG's agenda for a while now. Our clients need a culturally appropriate centre they can access with flexible hours of service.

Education of the wider Australian population is required to raise awareness about Aboriginal history, culture and people to change the widely held perceptions and increase the opportunity for equitable employment and socio-economic conditions. Unfortunately, the perpetuation of institutional racism, public racism and stereotyping against Indigenous Australians is still occurring and sadly reinforced by the media. One only has to watch the television or read the newspaper to see the injustices. Answer this, how can a fear mongering story of terrorism have the same significance as Aboriginal beggars in the Square? It doesn't make sense but obviously our local newspaper feels it has the same significance by placing both articles on the same front page.

Fortunately, there are people who fight alongside us and believe in our cause. I have many friends, associates and work colleagues who are proactive in the fight for justice for Aboriginal peoples and this is very heartening.

In closing, I would like to personally thank ASG's funding organisations, especially the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (Health and Ageing) as they have not only been very supportive of our programs but have been strong advocates for ASG. I'd also like to thank the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (Health and Services), Aboriginal Hostels Limited, Adelaide City Council and the Department of Human Services. I also wish to acknowledge the ongoing organisational support provided by Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia Inc. and the guidance from the Board of Management.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Basil Sumner'.

Basil Sumner
Chief Executive Officer

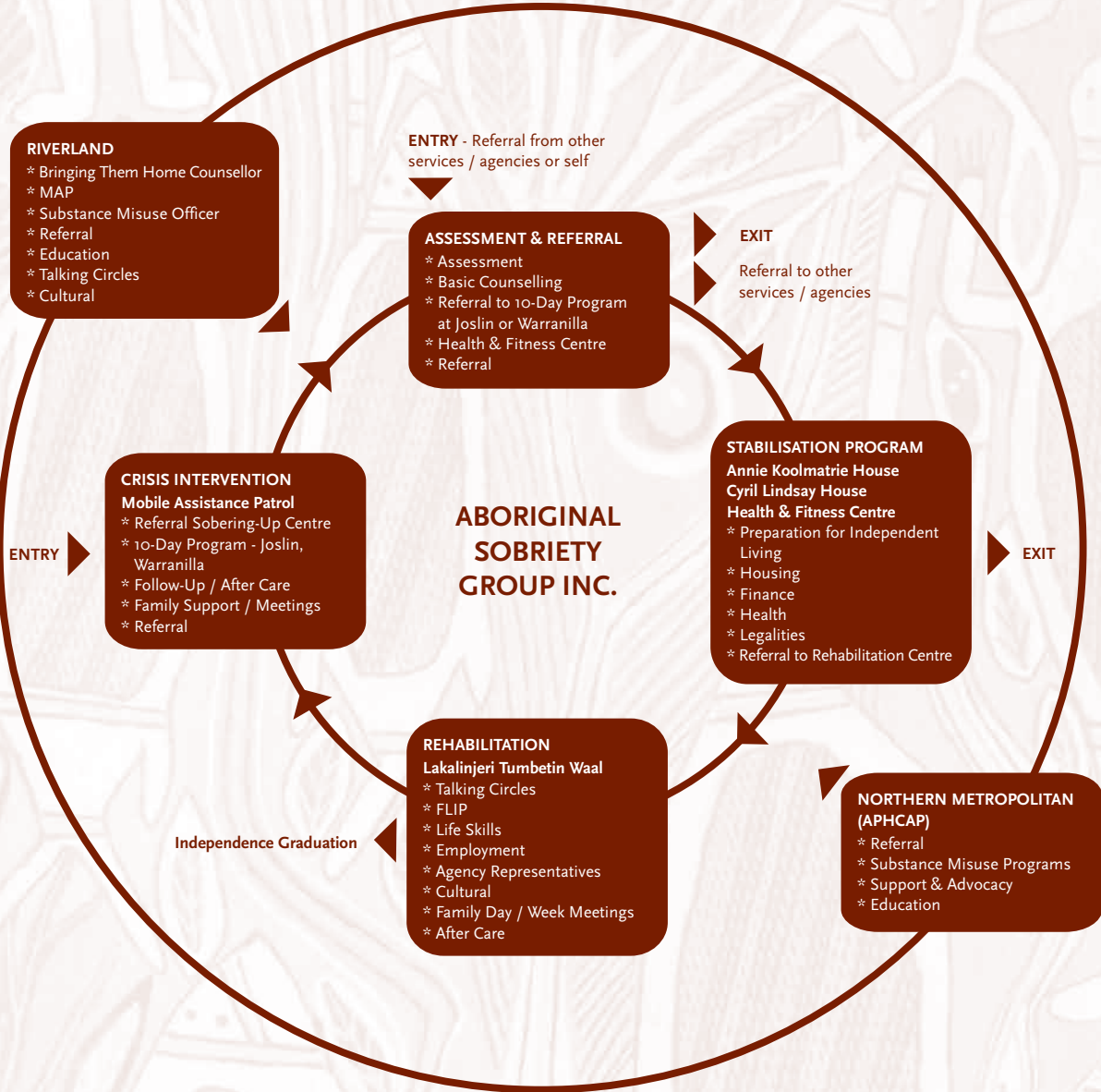
STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

During the year, ASG installed the Communicare database and transferred its statistical collection to this system from CHAR. As the two systems collected and reported data differently, ASG is unable to provide a comparison of last year's statistics with this year for the 2005/06 Annual Report. Compounding this, a full year's statistics is not yet available from the new system and a sub-section would be misleading. ASG has, however, been able to extract an overall client summary from the two systems as follows.

TOTAL ABORIGINAL SOBRIETY GROUP CLIENTS
Aboriginal: 7062 Other: 2693

Age Groups		
Age	Female	Male
0-4	135	137
5-9	213	181
10-14	205	220
15-19	600	505
20-24	695	802
25-29	455	703
30-34	462	666
35-39	454	682
40-44	331	612
45-49	296	407
50-54	189	268
55-59	84	156
60-64	49	91
65+	55	102
Total	4223	5532

SUBSTANCE MISUSE RECOVERY PATHWAY



ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE



Donna Ngulbiltjik Robb Program Director

ASG has experienced substantial growth this year which has put extreme pressure on the Administration team. Our Substance Misuse Program, Aboriginal Primary Health Care Access Program (APHCAP) in the northern suburbs and the Riverland Program at Berri are now well established and clients are utilising these services. Annie Koolmatrie House (AKH) was reopened in early 2006 and was co-located with Cyril Lindsay House (CLH) at new premises in the western suburbs. Next year, ASG hopes to start an early intervention, prevention and diversion youth program.

In September 2005, we undertook a Quality Management Services review and were presented with an action plan of recommendations. We have also upgraded our old statistical program to Communicare, which provides us with a more comprehensive format to record client data.

SUBSTANCE MISUSE PROGRAMS

MOBILE ASSISTANCE PATROL

The Mobile Assistance Patrol (MAP) Program not only provides a crisis intervention service to thousands of clients in the metropolitan and outer areas but is also renowned for its involvement in educational and training programs. This year, MAP delivered information sessions to schools, universities and other key organisations as well as helped other agencies to set up crisis intervention programs. Next year, we hope to trial a second service over summer to cater for the increased number of clients and to determine whether this will alleviate some of the pressure on our existing service.

MAP continues to work closely with many agencies including the SA Police, public hospitals, detox and rehabilitation centres, hostels, city councils, welfare and health agencies, to name a few. We look forward to maintaining these positive links and to developing new alliances in an effort to serve the community even more effectively.

ASSESSMENT, REFERRAL & COUNSELLING

Once again the Assessment, Referral and Counselling (ARC) team demonstrated its flexibility to change. They coped well with the changes within ASG and also within their own team as new members commenced.

This year, ARC developed a social inclusion program for clients, which focuses on issues such as substance misuse, health and well being, strategies for the prevention of relapse and fitness etc. They have also concentrated on lifting the profile of ARC via information networks and promotional activities. The team has worked with many clients to support them through ASG's recovery pathway and has seen some of their clients graduate from Lakalinerji Tumbetin Waal to independent living.

There has been a steady increase in the number of clients with acute mental health disorders and unfortunately ARC is not equipped to cater for them. Although the team has tried to refer them to adequate services, some aren't available. Another common issue with many clients is child abuse and these cases also need specialised services, follow-up and care.

ASG is proud to acknowledge the graduation of the ARC team's Program Manager, David Zarkovic, in the Diploma of Narrative Approaches offered by Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia Inc. The other members of the team have also undertaken training and development through TAFE courses, conferences and inhouse training.

STABILISATION

In 2006, with little funding, ASG reopened Annie Koolmatrie House (AKH) due to the constant demand from female clients for appropriate stabilisation care. Along with Cyril Lindsay House, AKH was relocated to the western suburbs. The three buildings provided by Aboriginal Housing at the closure of AKH in 2004 are now set up to cater for both the men's and women's hostels and a Manager's Office. Unfortunately, it has taken approximately a year to establish the service in this new area due to a severe white ant problem in one of the houses which took several months to treat. Whilst we are extremely happy to offer the service of AKH once again, we can only take a few clients at a time because of minimal funding.

Both hostels continue to cater for clients with drug and alcohol, and homeless issues. This year a large number of clients were referred to

our rehabilitation program and many returned home to their families. During their stay at the hostels, clients accessed our health and fitness program and participated in swimming sessions at North Adelaide which was a popular activity.

One of the main issues that we see is clients with acute mental health disorders. Regrettably we are unable to cater for them in the hostels but recognise this is a growing problem which will need to be addressed in the future.

REHABILITATION

Lakalinerji Tumbetin Waal (LTW) was the focus of one of ASG's capital works projects this year. Architectural company, Habitable Places, was employed to assist with upgrading the main buildings including the men's and women's dormitories and with constructing a disabled toilet and access ramps. These improvements will be finished early next year.

LTW clients continue to access various workshops and information sessions offered by external agencies such as Gambling, Hep C etc. and are offered ASG services including counselling, Talking Circles, and the Health and Fitness program which includes swimming sessions on Tuesdays. Staff development and training has remained an important priority to ASG with the Program Manager of LTW undertaking studies in management and one staff member commencing the Diploma of Narrative Approaches.

NORTHERN METROPOLITAN (APHCAP)

The substance misuse program has been busy this year with clients and also with education and promotional programs. They were involved in a couple of Drug Action Week activities, one of which was organised by the program and was extremely successful. The team also organised several community barbecues and delivered education sessions to schools and hospitals.

Throughout the year, this team saw 270 clients who presented for various reasons including drug and alcohol issues, housing and accommodation, family violence, employment, mental health issues, support letters etc. They too had an increased number of clients with acute mental health disorders who were referred to other services.

RIVERLAND

ASG's Riverland Program at Berri is now fully established with all positions filled including

a Bringing Them Home Counsellor, Substance Misuse Worker, two MAP Officers, Receptionist and Program Manager. Our capital funding project for the construction of a purpose built facility has begun, with the appointment of Chapman Herbert Architects. Community consultation has taken place and currently a site for the facility is being sought. The most practical site to operate from, which also has the support of the community and key stakeholders, is in Berri itself.

Staff have seen many clients over the past year and have offered several programs including a Family Well Being course, Kuchitty Miminies, a Fashion Parade for Youth Week, Safe Gambling, Talking Circles and a Women's Empowerment Group. They have also run promotional activities for Drug Action Week and NAIDOC. Another main event was the Toy Run to Gerard which was well received and attended.

ADMINISTRATION

Throughout the year, we promoted our service and programs through several events, which were not only important for ASG but were also well received and attended by the community. With David Zarkovic graduating from the Diploma of Narrative Approaches, two more staff members have enrolled and are doing well. Several staff have also enrolled in the Primary Health Care Certificate offered through the Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia Inc. ASG met regularly with key agencies regarding homelessness, dry zones, social and emotional well being, substance misuse, policing and legal issues. We remain involved in several groups ie:

- National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO)
- Kalparrin Council
- Aboriginal Prisoners and Offenders Support Service (APOSS) Board of Management
- Dry Zone Steering Committee
- Inner City Advocacy Group
- Prevention of Aboriginal Deaths In Custody
- West End Reference Group
- APHCAP Advisory Group
- Healthy for Life
- Magistrates Court Diversion Program Service Providers Meeting
- Aboriginal Police Liaison Committee

SUBSTANCE MISUSE PROGRAMS

CRISIS INTERVENTION

MOBILE ASSISTANCE PATROL

The Mobile Assistance Patrol (MAP) maintains a very high standard of service delivery to the Aboriginal and wider communities.

A community-based crisis intervention program, MAP is funded by the Department of Health (Aboriginal Health Division) and the Adelaide City Council. The service operates seven days a week and covers a radius of 100 square kilometres from Mt Barker to Port Adelaide, Willunga and Two Wells as well as the metropolitan area and picks up over 10,000 clients per year both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal.

In addition to the high turnover of clients, MAP addresses issues of drugs and alcohol, homelessness, crisis intervention, and domestic violence. The team provides education and awareness with regard to substance misuse and referrals to counselling.

The ultimate aim of MAP is to promote sobriety in order to reduce incarceration and clients coming into contact with the judicial system.

Service Delivery

MAP operated with nine staff this year including a Manager, six full time staff and two casuals. Both vans are in urgent need of replacement with Van 1 at 320,000 kms and Van 2 at 260,000 kms. The service operates with one mobile phone and one pager service and uniforms are either funded by employment services or by staff themselves.

The team provides a quality service to all the major hospitals, police, drug and alcohol agencies, youth groups, government and non-government agencies etc. especially after hours, where there is limited service. MAP is seeking funds to establish an additional service during peak hours and also to increase staff training.

Relationships were maintained with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities through meetings, functions, and funerals. MAP also provided outreach services and regularly visited the hot spots in the metropolitan area including Hanson Road, Port Adelaide, Glenelg (in summer) and Salisbury interchange. In addition, the team supported and represented clients in court.



Abdul Farouk MAP Program Manager

The Dry Zone Legislation in the CBD is still placing pressure on MAP. There has also been an increase in the number of traditional clients coming from the North AP Lands which has also increased the demand on MAP because these people are neglected by health authorities.

It is pleasing to note that, due to MAP intervention, the number of children being brought into the city continues to decline.

The contributing factors to the success of MAP are:

- Prompt quality service to all agencies and clients.
- Close relationship with the community.
- Collaboration with agencies.
- Effective working relationship between management and staff.
- Monitoring, supervision and support.
- Regular staff debriefing and meetings.

Educational Programs

Several information sessions were delivered this year at schools, universities and other institutions. MAP was also involved with:

- HEP C BBQ at West Terrace
- NAIDOC Week
- Aboriginal Carnival
- Reconciliation BBQs
- Drug Action Week
- MAP work experience program for students

Networking

MAP works closely with many agencies including public hospitals, SA Police, detox and rehabilitation centres, hostels, city councils, welfare and health agencies, youth and crisis care, government and non-government agencies, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal agencies. This year, MAP was proactive in:

- Several meetings with various agencies.
- Business Watch meetings, Adelaide CBD.
- Supporting the Men's Group, Yerli Birko.
- Assisting with the Dry Out Centre in the northern area.
- Participating in the Health Program for Homeless People.
- Meeting with Magistrates from the Youth Court regarding the commencement of Youth Programs.
- Maintaining relationships with workers involved in the Youth Group.
- Working closely with ASG's stabilisation hostels.
- Liaising with the Aboriginal Prisoners & Offenders Service and Aboriginal Housing.
- Working closely with the City Watchhouse.

Training & Development

Inhouse training continued to be provided by the MAP Manager. Staff members also received training in the new statistical data system which has increased time efficiency. Further training is required in Occupational Health and Safety, self defense, first aid, conflict, negotiation, and counselling and communication skills.

Strategies and a Training Program have been developed for MAP staff to assist them with stressful situations.



MAP Team

ASSESSMENT, REFERRAL & COUNSELLING

This year, the Assessment, Referral and Counselling team (ARC) was involved in a number of changes:

- Two staff leaving and the induction of two new team members, male and female, to ensure gender appropriateness.
- Relocation and amalgamation of AKH and CLH.
- Increased emphasis on involvement with clients through a roster system that ensures constant support and guidance on site, as well as assisting hostel staff.
- Introduction of a 'Social Inclusion' program which addresses a range of issues including substance misuse, health and well being, remedies for relapse and fitness.
- Conducting individual counselling sessions for clients who are not ready to undertake stabilisation or rehabilitation programs.
- Providing additional support to other programs due to staff shortages, illness, etc. which has greatly affected the program's capacity to provide the necessary support required by hostel clients.



David Zarkovic, Samantha Gollan
Assessment, Referral & Counselling Team

Service Delivery

There continues to be a strong, steady flow of referrals, whether personal or from agencies. Community Corrections and Drug Court Units within the Magistrates Judicial System are placing some pressure on the ARC team to provide clients from within the prison system with immediate entry into a stabilisation or rehabilitation program for bail purposes on the day of sentence.

SUBSTANCE MISUSE PROGRAMS

These units have been informed of ARC procedures and the need for assessment preferably prior to the hearing day. Attempts were made to acquire prison passes but due to policy changes, they are no longer available to ASG.

The program has also experienced an increase in client mental health and well being and child abuse issues. Unfortunately, the ARC team are not equipped with the skills and knowledge to manage such situations so referral is usually the only option.

Educational Programs

A new brochure outlining ARC's services has assisted the team to attract appropriate referrals. ARC has also been involved in various events including Drug Action Week and NAIDOC Week where promotional materials have been given to community members, referrals received and positive responses from the wider community.

Networking

The ARC team has identified the need to form relationships with agencies which are committed to assisting Indigenous people into study programs and employment. The team has liaised with numerous employment agencies including ASK, Job Networks, Aboriginal Corporation of Employment, City Corporate, and educational institutions such as Tauondi College and South Australia Works, all of which expressed an interest in supporting the program. ARC has, therefore, been able to help a number of clients re-enter the workforce and secure some form of stable housing to enhance their confidence in independent living.

There have also been further developments made in relation to the implementation of a Men's Group by the Social Health Team at Nunkuwarrin Yunti. This involvement has brought male clients closer together through sharing in a way that the structured nature of individual counselling does not cater for. As this is a pilot program, it is hoped that ARC is granted funding to continue this positive work.

Training & Development

Members of the ARC team undertook various training and development opportunities this year including:

- Mental Health First Aid training, which assisted staff to identify and address conditions relating to the mental well being of clients.
- Attendance at a three day THEMHS Conference in Sydney relating to mental health in the workplace and associated issues.

One team member undertook further study at Salisbury TAFE relating to her specific job role whilst another graduated in the Diploma of Narrative Approaches.

STABILISATION

An alternate location offered by the Aboriginal Housing Authority in the western suburbs provided extended premises for Cyril Lindsay House (CLH) and enabled the reopening of Annie Koolmatrerie House (AKH).



Larissa Taylor **Program Manager**
Annie Koolmatrerie House / Cyril Lindsay House

Both hostels relocated to the alternate premises in the beginning of 2006. Comprising three buildings, one is utilised by CLH, the other by AKH and the remaining as the manager's office and staff room. The co-location has enabled staff resources to be shared between the two hostels providing the opportunity to reopen AKH.

Service Delivery

CLH continues to provide a service 24 hours a day, seven days a week to Aboriginal men presenting with a wide range of issues including homelessness, substance misuse, stolen generation issues, financial, and mental health. At the new location, there are six bedrooms which accommodates up to 11 men at one time.

There is also a large undercover area at the back of the house where clients have barbecues or relax while being protected from the weather.

AKH was closed in late December 2004 due to lack of funding. However, the profound shortage of accommodation specialising in cultural issues as well as the most common effects of substance misuse and domestic violence on women and their children, forced ASG to reopen the hostel in February 2006. ASG has partly overcome the funding issue through co-location with CLH and sharing staff resources, but is only able to provide services to a limited number of women at one time.

CLH is still receiving many clients with mental health issues and currently there is no staff trained to deal with these situations appropriately. Often, however, CLH is the only place of accommodation that is stable enough for these clients. Compounding this, whilst clients enter the hostels with substance misuse issues, it is often later found that they have an underlining mental health problem that has been misdiagnosed as a drug or alcohol problem. Staff do all they can to accommodate these clients, however, they do not get the full extent of assistance that is required.

Education Programs

Caseworkers provide counselling services to residents of both hostels, and along with other staff provide a quality service in the following areas:

- Financial and material aid.
- Access to the Health and Fitness Centre.
- Attendance at medical appointments.
- Employment and training opportunities.
- Transport to appointments.

More importantly, staff help clients with self-empowerment and the determination to live a healthy and happy life of sobriety.

This year, many clients returned home or graduated to Lakalinjeri Tumbetin Waal. Those not ready to undertake the programs at CLH often leave but return at a later date to try again.

HEALTH & FITNESS CENTRE

The Health and Fitness Centre (H&FC) provides stabilisation and rehabilitation residents with the opportunity to develop a health and fitness regime which will support a lifestyle free from substance misuse.



Colin Weetra **Health and Fitness Officer**

Service Delivery

In addition to stabilisation and rehabilitation clients, several schools and community groups used the H&FC this year. The disciplines taught by the H&FC assist students to pursue full-time employment, traineeships or further education. The H&FC has also seen several students undertake work experience as part of their career development program.

Employees of AHA, APOSS, Nunkuwarrin Yunti, ASG and community representatives also regularly use the H&FC to increase their level of fitness.

H&FC enjoys a multi-cultural environment with men, women and students from diverse backgrounds meeting in a relaxed and social atmosphere. This leads to an acceptance of people and improved understanding of cultural differences.

Educational Programs

Schools and community groups were taught about cardio-vascular fitness, resistance training for muscular and skeletal strength, stretching and flexibility and the basic points of boxing as a sport. It is also an opportunity to discuss the use of alcohol and substance misuse with students and to encourage them to lead a healthier lifestyle.

SUBSTANCE MISUSE PROGRAMS

The ASG Boxing Club membership continues to grow. Friendships and loyalties are formed as members support and encourage each other whether it is at boxing matches or just in the H&FC.

Networking

Throughout the year, the H&FC maintained working relationships with Boxing SA, Australian Institute of Fitness and the South Australian Institute of Sport, along with other social welfare groups, schools, community groups and agencies.

CULTURAL

The Cultural Advisor works with clients to revitalise their culture and spirituality, and to encourage self-belief and self-determination. The program also aims to educate and enable all nationalities to obtain a greater understanding of Aboriginal culture.



Major Sumner Cultural Advisor

Service Delivery

Clients from all ASG programs have greatly benefited from the Cultural Program this year. Smoking Ceremonies were conducted in private homes and Talking Circles provided weekly at CLH, AKH and the Berri office. Additional support and counselling was also provided to women and children from Ceduna and Yalata communities who stayed at AKH.

The interest in Talking Circles continues to grow throughout the community. To enable this program to be delivered more widely, training has commenced with staff from Nunkuwarrin Yunti and people within the community.

Smoking Ceremonies and Talking Circles have also been important in hospitals including those at Mt Gambier, Naracoorte and Bordertown. Other health centres throughout the metropolitan area have requested delivery of these programs.

Educational Programs

Throughout the year, the Cultural Advisor provided presentations to schools, organisations and communities.

Regular visits were also made to prisons including Mobilong and Cadell Training Centre. The prison program includes Smoking Ceremonies and Talking Circles and has been very successful with inmates. Magill Training Centre has expressed an interest to start the cultural programs there soon.

Networking

The Cultural Advisor continued to be involved with the Repatriation of Aboriginal remains and in assisting with 'bringing them home' to the Coorong from the Museum of Victoria. A DVD has been made of the Repatriations and a copy is available in the Library at Nunkuwarrin Yunti.

During the year, the Cultural Advisor also attended a World Archaeological Congress Conference in New Zealand in regard to the ancestral remains.

REHABILITATION

LAKALINJERI TUMBETIN WAAL

Lakalinjeri Tumbetin Waal (LTW) is now at the end of its fourth year of operation and has, so far, assisted over 200 people.



Douglas Longmore Program Manager
Lakalinjeri Tumbetin Waal

The rehabilitation farm is achieving great success in assisting clients to graduate to a lifestyle independent from substance misuse and associated issues.

Service Delivery

LTW continued to operate on a 24 hour, seven day a week basis to maintain the safety and security of clients and staff. Of the 35 clients assisted, 5 were repeats and 8 successfully graduated.

Many potential residents cannot be accepted due to security, mental illnesses, marriage/partner situations, drug dependency (methadone), and petrol issues etc.

In addition to LTW programs, representatives from other organisations provide information for residents. These include:

- Nunkuwarrin Yunti workshops on gambling and counselling.
- Hep-C information sessions.
- Centrelink on the benefits and pensions available.
- Murray Bridge Community Corrections on various topics including domestic violence and anger management.
- Murray Mallee Health on the potential dangers and growing epidemic of diabetes.

With capital works funding, extensive renovations were carried out during the year to ensure appropriate accommodation for physically handicapped residents, and adequate heating and cooling in the dormitories. Work planned for next year includes completing the renovation of the women's and men's dormitories and kitchen.

Educational Programs

The LTW Manager attended various functions and distributed information about the program. Mr Peter Lewis MP for Hammond attended a LTW graduation at which three clients graduated.

Among the organisations LTW shared information with was SHINE (sex education), Nunkuwarrin Yunti (Gambling), Justice Magistrate Clinton Johanson of Murray Bridge Nunga Courts, Murray Bridge Community Corrections, Kalparrin, and QUIT. In addition, the Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia Inc. brought one of their graduating classes to observe an alcohol and drug facility in action.

Networking

Many organisations have expressed an interest in modelling their rehabilitative work on LTW. Regular contact was maintained with Mildura, Pika Wiya, Correctional Services Australia, Woolshed, OARS, Ceduna, Port Adelaide Detox, Archway, Brain Injury Options, Nunga Courts, Port Lincoln, SA Police, Kalparrin, Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement, Lower Murray Nunga's Club, Centrelink, Murray Bridge Community Correctional Services, Drug and Alcohol Services Council, Coomealla Health, Umoona Health, Tauondi College, Bendigo Health, and the Salvation Army.

The program continues to attract widespread enquiry from many agencies interstate including the Northern Territory, Queensland and more recently, Victoria. One former client came from New York, USA.

A highlight this year was meeting with a board member from the internationally renowned Nechi Institute which was formed in 1974 to train counsellors and prevention workers in drug and alcohol prevention. The Institute has trained people from across Canada, USA, Australia and South Africa. Nechi has expressed an interest in working more closely with ASG to offer support and services to improve the continuum of care for Indigenous peoples – identification, intervention, rehabilitation, education, and prevention.

LTW staff also attended a weekend corroboree in Warnambool, Victoria, in late April.

Training & Development

The manager and staff have continued ongoing training and education in management, narrative approaches, and Alcohol and Other Drugs Certificates 3 & 4. The weekend worker undertook the practical section of the Certificate 3 in Community Services at LTW.

OUTREACH SERVICES

NORTHERN METROPOLITAN

The Northern Metropolitan Substance Misuse Program, funded by the Aboriginal Primary Health Care Access Program, continues to operate successfully from the Brady Street building at Elizabeth Downs.



Alban Kartinyeri, Christine Warren
Substance Misuse Program (APHCAP)

Service Delivery

Over 270 clients were seen this year. Reasons for contact varied from alcohol and drug issues to housing and accommodation; family violence; employment; mental health issues; support for court including support letters; confirmation of Aboriginality; identification letters for Centrelink; transport; food parcels; contact family members; and referrals from and to other agencies, organisations, groups and community members.

Next year, the program wishes to support the reformation and ongoing operations of the Kurna Men's Group.

Education Programs

Various events were attended to promote the activities of the program. A Sausage Sizzle in John Street, Salisbury for Drug Action Week saw several services come together to promote good living and healthy lifestyles. Planning meetings were held with other services including the Kinship Program, Muna Paiendi, Centacare Wodlotinatooi and Drug Arm in the North. The event was a great success with approximately 500 people visiting the stand, taking materials and linking with services in some way for support or help. Funding will be sought to conduct this event on a more regular basis.

The program intends to hold more information sessions next year at shopping centres and other venues in the northern metropolitan region. It is also hoped to deliver substance misuse education and awareness to participants on the Yorke Peninsula.

Networking

Northern Metropolitan continue to represent ASG on a number of committees including:

- Salisbury Council's 'Family Friendly Zone' meetings.
- Sobering Up/Detox Unit planning meetings.
- Drug Arm committee meetings.
- SA Police Drug Action Team meetings.
- Gawler Health Community luncheons.
- Kurna Plains Men's Group planning meetings.

The Kurna Plains Men's Group has unofficially commenced and is meeting on Monday and Wednesday nights at the Kurna Plains School. A Nunkuwarrin Yunti staff member has been actively involved in both planning and organising a reference group.

This year, several more connections were made with services in the northern metropolitan region. Some government departments contacted the program for assistance in relation to students who have been excluded from school due to substance misuse. Links were also established with Community Corrections who approached the program to provide substance misuse education to community service order participants on the Yorke Peninsula.

Training & Development

Staff attended training provided by DASSA and Flinders University covering a range of subjects including mental health, substance misuse, service delivery, planning, networking and linking clients with services.

RIVERLAND

The Riverland ASG branch has only been operating for two years and already has a client base of over 200.



Paul Elliot Program Manager Riverland

Service Delivery

Riverland provides a Mobile Assistance Patrol, Bringing Them Home Counsellor, and Drug and Alcohol Field Officer.

Two .6 positions in the MAP Program, male and female, provide a range of transport needs from crisis intervention to emergency transport for medical reasons, alcohol or drug related transport, hospital detoxification, mental health assessment, and appointments with doctors, courts, correctional services, Centrelink, courses etc.

The Bringing Them Home Counsellor has been working with women of different age groups in a range of ways from group work to individual counselling to address issues surrounding family well being, the art of change and personal development.

The Drug and Alcohol Field Officer works with men and provides Talking Circles, counselling, group work, and networking opportunities with other groups of men.

An Administrative Officer/Receptionist and Manager support the work of the program. On average the Riverland branch sees around 240 clients per month.

Talking Circles are open to men and women every Tuesday, a Women's Empowerment Group is held on Mondays and Fridays, and a Men's Group meets on Fridays.

In the new year, an Art of Change women's empowerment group is commencing.

Education Programs

The Riverland branch has delivered six courses in the last year including:

- Family Well Being
- Kuchitty Miminies
- Art of Change
- Fashion Parade (Youth Week)
- Safe Gambling
- Women's Empowerment Group

Two Drug Action Week BBQ's were also held as well as a Toy Run to Gerard community for youth, Fun Run to Leigh Creek for youth, NAIDOC BBQ, and Cadell Training Centre Talking Circles. In addition, the branch has been represented at other community events and networked with other services.

Networking

Riverland ASG networks with various organisations through committees and meetings including:

- Aboriginal Primary Health Care Access Program
- Aboriginal & Islanders Health Advisory Group
- Rekindling Indigenous Family Relationships
- Police Aboriginal Liaison
- Homeless Forum
- Drug Diversion Meetings
- Gerard Council
- Courts - Family Care Meetings
- Domestic Violence Support Group
- Council Youth Meetings



ABORIGINAL SOBRIETY GROUP INC.
FINANCIAL REPORT 2005/2006

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Income Statement

For the Year Ended 30 June 2006

	Note	2006	2005
Recurrent Income			
Operational Grants		2,520,004	1,980,197
Interest Received		21,026	3,827
Rent Received		38,857	44,284
Sundry Income		7,257	2,264
Total Recurrent Income		2,587,144	2,030,572
Recurrent Expenditure			
Advertising, Sponsorship & Promotions		5,198	6,640
Audit Fees		27,400	13,342
Bank Charges		50	231
Cabcharge & Courier		-	46
Catering		15,817	343
Cleaning & Rubbish Removal		8,549	9,944
Computer Costs		36,557	40,292
Conference & Courses		455	40
Consultancy Fees		20,191	4,463
Data Processing Charges, Administration & Computer Support		54,477	14,913
Donations		800	750
Dreamtime Publication Relations		2,400	16,680
EAP Expenses		600	-
Electricity & Gas		16,354	17,381
Food		14,397	29,633
Fringe Benefits Tax		13,445	7,813
General Expenses & Supplies		19,871	5,139
Grant Funds repaid		46,291	-
Insurance - General		42,911	45,627
- Workcover		54,716	33,257
Legal Costs		63,583	22,185
Medical Prescriptions & Supplies		417	678
Minor Equipment & Consumables		848	1,117
Motor Vehicle Expenses		117,016	116,192
Postage		909	88
Printing, Stationery & Office Requisites		17,708	9,821
Program Expenses:			
- Drug Action Week		8,730	7,375
- IMEC		205	-
- QIP		4,321	-
- Riverland		59,088	-
- Talking Circles		-	22,450
Provision for Annual Leave		12,640	3,581

Income Statement

For the Year Ended 30 June 2006

	Note	2006	2005
Recurrent Expenditure (cont'd)			
Provision for Long Service Leave		(2,977)	12,106
Provision for Vehicle Replacement		30,062	63,500
Rates & Taxes		14,794	13,309
Rent		39,474	19,285
Repairs & Maintenance		13,720	12,977
Resources		1,378	-
Salaries & Wages		1,582,790	1,365,222
Security		1,058	405
Subscriptions & Licence Fees		1,313	2,403
Superannuation Contributions		132,387	115,924
Telephone		53,035	32,699
Training		7,200	31,429
Travel Allowances & Fares		7,737	2,899
Uniforms		-	1,763
Total Recurrent Expenditure		2,547,915	2,103,942
Operating Recurrent Surplus (Deficit) Before Unfunded Charges		39,229	(73,370)
Less Unfunded Charges and Provisions			
Depreciation & Amortisation		42,988	57,870
(Profit) Loss on Sale of Non Current Assets		(139,543)	-
Operating Surplus (Deficit)		135,784	(131,240)
Add Non Recurrent Income			
Capital Grants Received		110,541	63,491
Net Surplus (Deficit) After Capital Receipts		\$246,325	\$(67,749)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

ABORIGINAL SOBRIETY GROUP OF SA INC.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2006

	Note	2006	2005
Members' Funds at the beginning of the Financial Year		152,813	220,562
Net Surplus (Deficit) attributable to members		246,325	(67,749)
Members' Funds at the End of the Financial Year		\$399,138	\$152,813

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

ABORIGINAL SOBRIETY GROUP OF SA INC.

Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2006

	Note	2006	2005
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank	6	953,882	336,916
Sundry Debtors		140,109	85,331
		1,093,991	422,247
Non Current Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment at cost	2	735,182	860,332
Less Accumulated Depreciation		460,187	437,003
		274,995	423,329
Total Assets		1,368,986	845,576
Current Liabilities			
Creditors & Accrued Expenses	3	217,946	91,293
Unexpended Grants	4	439,351	328,644
Provisions	5	312,551	272,826
Total Liabilities		969,848	692,763
Net Assets		\$399,138	\$152,813
Members' Funds			
Members' Funds		399,138	152,813
Total Equity		\$399,138	\$152,813
Contingent Liability	7		
Capital Commitments	8		

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2006

	Note	2006	2005
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Cash Receipts		2,374,540	2,106,323
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(2,023,489)	(1,803,575)
Interest Received		21,026	3,827
Net Cash provided by (used in) Operating Activities	6	372,077	306,575
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Payments for Property, Plant & Equipment		(141,995)	(63,493)
Proceeds from Disposal of Property Plant & Equipment		386,884	-
Net Cash provided by (used in) Investing Activities		244,889	(63,493)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Net Cash provided by (used in) Financing Activities		-	-
Net Increase in Cash Held		616,966	243,082
Cash at the Beginning of the Financial Year		336,916	93,834
Cash at the End of the Financial Year	6	953,882	336,916

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2006

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 1985. The Committee of Management has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985, and the following Accounting Standards:

AASB 1031: Materiality

AASB 110: Events after Balance Sheet Date

No other applicable Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuation of non-current assets.

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

Under Section 50.5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 the income of the Association is exempt from income tax.

(b) Property, Plant & Equipment

Freehold Land & Buildings are brought to account at cost or at independent valuation. The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated in the following manner:-

- (i) Buildings - As it is difficult to separate the value of buildings from the freehold land the committee do not consider it necessary or material to depreciate buildings.
- (ii) Other depreciable assets - A fixed annual charge over the estimated useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Profit and losses on disposal of property, plant & equipment are taken into account in determining the surplus for the year.

(c) Employee Benefits

Provision is made in respect of the Association's liability for annual leave at balance date. Long service leave is accrued in respect of employees with more than seven years employment with the Association.

Contributions are made by the Association to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred. The Association has no legal obligation to provide benefits to employees on retirement.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2006

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)

(d) **Goods & 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 Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

(e) **Going Concern**
The accounts of Aboriginal Sobriety Group of SA Inc have been prepared on the basis that it is a going concern and that the Association will continue to operate.

The Association's future as a going concern is dependant upon grants and subject to compliance with the conditions attached to grants received. On this basis Aboriginal Sobriety Group of SA Inc will generate sufficient cash flow to be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

	2006	2005
Note 2: Property, Plant & Equipment		
(a) Freehold Land & Buildings (at cost)		
11 Palmyra Street, Torrensville	-	206,446
(b) Leasehold Improvements		
At Cost	60,850	10,850
Less Accumulated Amortisation	10,850	10,850
	50,000	-
(c) Plant and Equipment		
At Cost	425,592	406,213
Less Accumulated Depreciation	319,232	297,427
	106,360	108,786
(d) Motor Vehicles		
At Cost	236,340	208,723
Less Accumulated Depreciation	126,659	124,498
	109,681	84,225
(e) Motor Vehicles		
At Valuation	12,400	28,100
Less Accumulated Depreciation	3,446	4,228
	8,954	23,872
Total Property, Plant & Equipment	\$274,995	\$423,329

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2006

	2006	2005
Note 3: Creditors & Accrued Expenses		
Sundry Creditors	199,346	72,693
Accrued Expenses	18,600	18,600
	\$217,946	\$91,293

Note 4: Unexpended Grants

At balance date the Association had not expended all of its grant funds. These unexpended funds have been carried forward into the next financial year. Details of the program's unexpended grants are:

Quality Improvement Program	-	5,353
Kainggii Yuntuwarrin Program	136,793	156,641
Support Accommodation Assistance Program	-	61,649
IMEC Program	-	16,122
No Pulgi Program	-	32,379
APHCAP Northern Program	7,425	-
APHCAP Western Program	13,322	-
LTW Building Program	177,052	-
Building Program	50,000	-
City Watchhouse Program	54,759	56,500
	\$439,351	\$328,644

Note 5: Provisions

Provision for Annual Leave	136,163	123,523
Provision for Long Service Leave	82,826	85,803
Provision for Vehicle Replacement	93,562	63,500
	\$312,551	\$272,826

ABORIGINAL SOBRIETY GROUP OF SA INC.
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2006

	2006	2005
Note 6: Cash Flow Information		
(a) Reconciliation of Operating Surplus to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		
Operating Surplus (Deficit) for the year	246,325	(67,749)
Profit (Loss) on disposal of Non-Current Assets	(139,543)	-
Depreciation	42,988	57,870
(Increase) Decrease in Sundry Debtors	(54,778)	16,087
Increase in Payables	126,653	51,381
Increase in Provisions	39,725	79,188
Increase in Other Liabilities	110,707	169,798
Net Cash provided by (used in) Operating Activities	\$372,077	\$306,575

(b) Reconciliation of Cash		
Cash at the end of the financial period as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the Balance Sheet as follows:		
Cash at Bank	\$953,882	\$336,916

Note 7: Contingent Liability

A contingent liability exists in relation to the potential repayment of surplus funds to funding bodies. It is the board's view that any surplus represents unexpended funds and will not be repayable to the funding bodies.

Note 8: Capital Commitments

A contract has been signed for upgrade of buildings at Lakalinjeri Tumbetin Waal. The contracted sum for the construction is \$151,515 (excluding GST). As at 30 June 2006 \$50,000 has been spent.

ABORIGINAL SOBRIETY GROUP OF SA INC.
Statement by Members of the Committee
For the Year Ended 30 June 2006

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 being the balance sheet, income statement, statement of cash flows, statement of changes in equity and notes to the financial statements:

- 1 Presents fairly the financial position of Aboriginal Sobriety Group of SA Inc. at 30 June 2006 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
- 2 In accordance with section 35(5) of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985, the committee hereby states that during the financial year ended 30 June 2006:
 - (a)
 - (i) no officer of the association;
 - (ii) no firm of which an officer is a member, and
 - (iii) no body corporate in which an officer has a substantial financial interest, has received or become entitled to receive a benefit as a result of a contract between the officer, firm or body corporate and the association
 - (b) no officer of the association has received directly or indirectly from the association any payment or other benefit of a pecuniary value.
- 3 At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association 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:

Board Member

Board Member

Signed in Adelaide this 27 day of September 2006

Independent Audit Report to the Members of
ABORIGINAL SOBRIETY GROUP OF SA INC.

Scope

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report comprising income statement, statement of changes in equity, balance sheet and statement of cash flows, of Aboriginal Sobriety Group of SA Inc for the year ended 30 June 2006.

The Committee is responsible for the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Association's financial position and the performance as represented by the results of its operations. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

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

Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical announcements.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of Aboriginal Sobriety Group of SA Inc presents fairly the financial position of Aboriginal Sobriety Group of SA Inc as at 30 June 2006 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In our opinion the accounts on which the reports are based are considered adequate pursuant to Section 37(3)(d) of the Associations Incorporation Act, 1985, given the nature and scope of the activities of the association.



Trevor Basso - Partner
Basso Newman & Co
Chartered Accountants
Adelaide
28th September 2006

ABBREVIATIONS

AHA	Aboriginal Housing Authority
AHCSA	Aboriginal Health Council of SA Inc.
AKH	Annie Koolmatrie House
APHCAP	Aboriginal Primary Health Care Access Program
APOSS	Aboriginal Prisoners and Offenders Support Service
ARC	Assessment, Referral and Counselling team
ASG	Aboriginal Sobriety Group Inc.
CLH	Cyril Lindsay House
H&FC	Health and Fitness Centre
LTW	Lakalinjeri Tumbetin Waal
MAP	Mobile Assistance Patrol

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sober up the man
the wife wins
sober up the wife
the child wins
sober up the child
the family wins
when the family wins
the community wins

ASG Philosophy
(adopted from the Native Cree Canadians)



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