About EDV

Eating Disorders Victoria (EDV) is the primary source of support, information, community education and advocacy for people with eating disorders and their families in Victoria. We connect those whose lives are affected by eating disorders with the people, services and hope they need for recovery.

Our mission is to see a future where the incidence, duration and impacts of eating disorders are reduced and ultimately eradicated.

EDV Helpline
A free and confidential telephone, email and drop-in support service for anyone affected by eating disorders, including up-to-date listings of professionals with experience in treating eating disorders.

EDV Psychology & Dietetics
Private psychology and dietitian sessions for people experiencing eating disorders and related issues, as well as for the family and friends who are supporting a loved one.

Support Groups
Monthly support group meetings for those in recovery and for family and friends in locations across Melbourne.

Education and professional development
Workshops, presentations and courses aimed at the early intervention and support of people with eating disorders for professionals, workplaces, schools and the community.

Facilitated Group Programs
Group programs specifically designed for carers, people in recovery and people who are at risk of an eating disorder.

Peer Mentoring Program
Peer support program matching people transitioning from hospital treatment with a mentor who has fully recovered from an eating disorder.

Body Project Australia
Early intervention program for girls aged 14-18 who are experiencing body dissatisfaction. EDV provides program delivery as well as facilitator training.

Resources
www.eatingdisorders.org.au is a comprehensive website providing information about eating disorders, including fact sheets. EDV also have a specialist library of books and DVDs which are available to members.

THE FACTS

Almost 1 million Australians are estimated to have an eating disorder - 230,000 of those are in Victoria.

47% of people with an eating disorder have Binge Eating Disorder and the incidence is roughly the same for men and women.

Dieting is the single biggest risk factor for developing an eating disorder.

Anorexia Nervosa has the highest mortality rate of any psychiatric disorder.

The burden of disease of eating disorders is 4x higher than that of anxiety and depression.
In this report

A fresh strategic approach in 2017 re-positioned EDV's work to be guided under the following pillars:

- **Information**
  Addressing the lack of understanding around eating disorders by bridging the knowledge gap and providing referral pathways for both consumers and relevant stakeholders in the health sector.

- **Navigation**
  Providing individuals and families with the confidence to navigate the treatment system and connect with appropriate services.

- **Support & Care**
  Providing a range of support services for anyone affected by eating disorders, as well as engaging with individuals in recovery and providing ongoing support to maintain their recovery.

How we do this!

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Victorian Minister for Health Jill Hennessy with EDV CEO Jennifer Beveridge and Volunteer Award Nominee Georgia Harrold
**From our Chair**

EDV has an ambitious mission – to reduce the intensity and duration of eating disorders for 230,000 Victorians. While this is no small task, being clear about this long-term goal allows us to be equally clear about what is important for us to achieve each day.

This being my second Chair Report, I am proud to say that we have made good ground toward our goal this past year. And, it has taken the efforts of service volunteers, staff, directors, donors and funders – as well as a broader network of stakeholders – to help us advance.

I’d like to recognise, first and foremost, our volunteers, without whom we could not have the impact that we do. From your assistance on the Helpline to your efforts as ambassadors in our Stories of Recovery program, we couldn’t do it without you. We appreciate your commitment, passion and loyalty.

Our staff, led by our Churchill Fellowship-winning CEO Jennifer Beveridge, are a committed, passionate, focused and driven crew who work hard to connect the policy, service and funding world with the reality that people face every day. The board is grateful to Jen and her team for the work they do. I’d particularly like to mention the extension of the Peer Mentoring Program and the accreditation against the National Standards for Mental Health Services as highlights for this past year.

Finally, thanks to my fellow board members for committing to this journey and for your work this past year. Amongst other things we have transitioned to a skills-based board, built a functioning Committee system and have implemented an online board reporting system. EDV is lucky to have such a smart, committed and passionate set of people in this key governance role.

Finally, a thank you to those of you who continue to put your faith and trust in our services. We look forward to supporting you in 2019.

Russ Wood
Board Chair

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**From our CEO**

2017/18 has been a busy and rewarding year at EDV as we continue to support many of the 230,000 Victorians affected by eating disorders, and their families and the broader community.

This time last year I was preparing to visit leading international eating disorder organisations and services as the result of a scholarship from the Churchill Trust. The outcomes from this tour are summarised on pg. 5 of this report, and there is a link to the full report. I am encouraged by the connections EDV now has with a global community of passionate organisations working hard to reduce, and ultimately eradicate, the impacts of eating disorders.

In late 2017, EDV partnered with the US-based Body Project Collaborative to create the Body Project Australia, an early intervention program for teenage girls experiencing body dissatisfaction. EDV are the first organisation to bring the principles of this internationally accredited program to Australia and we have been busy training facilitators from Victoria, and beyond, to deliver Body Project Australia programs.

This year has also seen the completion of two cohorts in our pilot Peer Mentoring Program (PMP). The only program of its kind in Australia, the PMP has so far delivered excellent results (see pg.10), confirming the value and importance of peer support in helping individuals recover from eating disorders. With the completion of the third and final cohort of the pilot program set for mid-2019, we are currently actively seeking government funding to ensure the program’s long-term future.

Finally, I’d like to acknowledge that EDV reached an organisational milestone this year, receiving accreditation from QIP against the National Standards for Mental Health Services. Such an achievement is only possible with sustained effort from a dedicated and diligent team. Many thanks to all our volunteers, board members and staff for such committed effort to making our organisation stronger and focused on our purpose.

I hope you enjoy reading our 2018 Annual Report.

Jennifer Beveridge
CEO
2018 achievements at a glance

19
Body Project Australia facilitators trained

528
psychologist & dietitian appts

50
active volunteers

Organisational Accreditation against National Standards for Mental Health Services

59
Education sessions

1738
contacts through the Helpline

460k
unique website users
EDV Education Program

The Education team have been busy delivering workshops and presentations addressing the prevention and early intervention of eating disorders to Victoria schools, workplaces, professional bodies and community organisations.

- In total, EDV facilitated 59 education sessions this year - 20 more than in 2016/17
- Presentations to organisations included Diabetes Victoria and the Bureau of Meteorology

Students at Highvale Secondary College attend an ED 101 Session facilitated by EDV Education

Churchill Fellowship

In late 2017 EDV CEO Jennifer Beveridge travelled to the USA, Canada and UK to meet with leading global eating disorder clinical and community organisations.

Highlights include:

- Knowledge exchange with 21 different clinical and NFP/third sector organisations, totaling 51 meetings across 6 weeks.
- One week spent at the Harvard Kennedy School- Creating Collaborative Solutions Executive Program

Learnings:

- The complexity and challenge of helping people to recover from an eating disorder is experienced by skilled and dedicated people the world over.
- Government policy that is aligned to health and mental health policy is required to build accessible continuum of care for all ages, diagnoses and socioeconomic groups.
- Family inclusion in all settings for all people should be accepted practice as a necessary ingredient for recovery.
- Treatment options that are flexible enable clients to find and maintain motivation to change and recover. This can be difficult for clinicians but is immensely valuable for clients.
- Rigorous relationships between clinical and nonclinical organisations enable us to share and learn to create better outcomes for people.

Over 900 individuals attended an EDV Education session in 2017/18

Education Program Settings (%)

- Schools 63%
- Health Prof 22%
- Workplaces 4%
- Other 11%

EDV CEO Jennifer Beveridge at BEAT, the UK’s leading eating disorder charity

Thanks to Winston Churchill Memorial Trust in Australia for providing a scholarship to undertake the study tour.

Read Jen’s full report
About the Body Project

Originating in the USA, The Body Project is an evidence based program aimed at improving body satisfaction and decreasing the risk of eating disorders in young people aged 14-18 years old.

The program offers a unique approach to discussing body satisfaction and media influence on body image by allowing students to evaluate and critique the ideal body through a series of verbal, written and behavioural exercises.

The act of publicly critiquing the ideal body results in cognitive dissonance in students who originally supported this ideal and causes them to unsubscribe to this belief.

The Body Project Australia intervention applies principles, originally identified by social psychologists, that elicit discussion among participants leading to improved self-esteem and body confidence and a decreased risk of developing an eating disorder.

Facilitator Training

In December 2017, EDV partnered with the US based Body Project Collaborative to create the Body Project Australia (BPA). As the first organisation to bring this internationally accredited body acceptance program to Australia, EDV are uniquely placed to oversee the development of this program and to train new facilitators to deliver the program in a range of school and community settings.

- In 2017/18, EDV trained 19 professionals to become BPA facilitators
- More facilitators to be trained in 2018 with multiple training workshops scheduled
EDV Helpline

The Helpline continues to provide free and confidential information and peer support to anyone affected by eating disorders. The Helpline offers telephone and email support as well as a drop in service. The Helpline is staffed five days a week by a dedicated team of Volunteers.

Online and in the media

Spreading the word about eating disorders and the services offered by EDV through the website, social media and traditional media outlets.

- Over 460,000 users on the EDV website www.eatingdisorders.org.au in 2017/18 - this is over 100,000 more users than the previous year
- Over 4800 people visited our How Far is Too Far website www.howfaristoofar.org.au
- Combined total of over 6,500 followers on social media, with strong growth on all platforms
- National media coverage through the ABC of the Peer Mentoring Program

GP Education Program

General Practitioners are the first point of call for people who feel they or a loved one may have an eating disorder. EDV provide in-person and online GP training to ensure GP’s recognise eating disorders in patients and provide appropriate treatment pathways.

- 60 GPs trained through the South Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network (SEMPHN) training day
- 127 GPs completed the RACGP Online Learning: Recognising Eating Disorders in General Practice

The stats!

1738 contacts to the Helpline in 2017/18

- 1272 calls
- 32 emails
- 434 social media

Type of Helpline Users (%)
- Self 53%
- Parent 28%
- Health Prof. 7%
- Other 12%

Type of disorder issue (%)
- Anorexia Nervosa 46%
- OSFED 9%
- Binge Eating Disorder 18%
- Bulimia Nervosa 27%

Helpline user by gender (%)
- Male 20%
- Female 80%
Pathways to Recovery

Pilot program

At EDV, we know that the journey to recovery looks different for everyone, and the path often isn’t linear. In developing a pilot workshop specifically for people in recovery from an eating disorder, we focused on the development of a wellness toolkit, equipping participants with the resources and knowledge needed for the everyday challenges of recovery.

The workshop was structured into eight parts and held over consecutive weeks. Groups were facilitated by trained professionals with skills in eating disorder recovery. Highlights include:

- Workshops in four locations across metro and regional areas- Abbotsford, Dandenong, Ballarat and Geelong.
- Small, closed groups allowing participants to feel safe and therefore more open to expressing thoughts and feelings.
- Weekly occurrence of workshops providing continuity of attendance, engagement and reflection.
- Practical tips and strategies were found to be very useful, eg. breathing techniques to settle anxiety.
- All participants stated that the social aspect of the group was extremely beneficial and that it was something they looked forward to each week. It also served as a reminder that participants are not alone in their journey.

No judgement, comfortable environment to share our thoughts and stories.

- Workshop participant

Gareth and Rebecca
- Pathways to Recovery Workshop Facilitators

This program was funded through a one-off grant from the State Government of Victoria
EDV Psychologists and Dietitian

In 2018, the addition of an in-house dietitian expanded the scope of EDV's clinical services. All EDV clinical staff specialise in the treatment of eating disorders.

- 528 psychology and dietitian sessions
- Expansion of psychology team to include four psychologists working across three days, reducing wait lists and giving clients more flexibility with appointments.

Stories of Recovery

EDV’s Stories of Recovery Ambassadors shared their stories to a range of audiences this year. This included individuals currently in hospital inpatient and outpatient programs, medical professionals engaging in professional development, carers and families, the media and the general public.

- EDV recruited and trained 6 new Stories of Recovery Ambassadors, bringing the total to 10 active Ambassadors.
- In total, EDV Stories of Recovery Ambassadors spoke at 17 different events
- 218 audience members heard an EDV Stories of Recovery Ambassador speak

Body Project Australia Participant Workshops

EDV partnered with community health organisations to deliver the first Body Project Australia workshops to girls aged 14-18.

- Workshop in partnership with headspace Knox
- Workshop in partnership with Your Community Health and the City of Darebin for Thornbury Highschool

Carers Workshops

EDV developed a seven-part pilot program of carers workshops to support those currently caring for someone with an eating disorder. The program focused on the self care and well being of carers, as well as practical ways to manage supporting a loved one experiencing an eating disorder.

- Workshops held in four locations across metro and regional areas- Abbotsford, Dandenong, Ballarat and Geelong
- "Light bulb moment every week in understanding the illness better." - Parent
- "Finding new strategies to use is empowering." - Parent

This program was funded through a one-off grant from the State Government of Victoria.

"I am beautiful the way I am." - Body Project Australia Participant

It was incredible to see how far the speaker has come and how hard she has worked at recovery.

-Audience member, Stories of Recovery

Find out more about EDV's Services
Peer Mentoring Program

About the program

EDV’s Peer Mentor Program (PMP) is a unique and effective way to address the high relapse rate for individuals currently in or transitioning from hospital treatment.

The program works by pairing participants with mentors who themselves have experienced and recovered from an eating disorder. The mentoring relationship continues for a period of 6 months, where mentors meet with participants every two weeks to help them work through the everyday challenges of recovery. Mentors are recruited by EDV, receive full training and are paid employees.

EDV’s Peer Mentoring Program is the only one of its kind in Australia and the outcomes of the program are currently being assessed by a team of researchers from the Australian Catholic University. To date, the program has facilitated 279 mentoring sessions and 22 completed mentoring relationships.

2018 achievements

- 13 mentors recruited for the second cohort of the program
- 11 new mentor/participant relationships matched, 8 completed
- All participants showed reduced eating and shape concern
- All participants showed reduced depression, anxiety and stress
- All participants showed improved self-worth and happiness

Currently, the PMP is available to individuals referred through The Melbourne Clinic and the Body Image Eating Disorders Treatment and Recovery Service (BETRS).

EDV thank the William Buckland Foundation, the Ian Potter Foundation, John T Reid Charitable Trusts and the Victorian Government for their funding of this program to the end of 2019. EDV is actively seeking funding to ensure the future of this program.

Why the program works!

"Connecting with someone who has lived experience is very different from communicating with a professional."
- Program participant

Participants and mentors are carefully matched according to interests, experiences and availability.

Participants tend to trust the knowledge and advice of their mentors because of their lived experience. They also feel accepted and validated by their mentors.

Mentors provide hope. They are proof that full recovery from an eating disorder is possible.

Learn more about the PMP
Thank you

Our volunteers are the heart of our organisation. All our volunteers have a special interest in eating disorders either through lived experience or relevant study, making their insights invaluable. Highlights from 2018 include:

- 25 new volunteers trained in the Helpline, Support Groups and Stories of Recovery speaking
- Over 500 volunteers shifts undertaken across the Helpline and Support Groups

Achievements

- Volunteer Georgia Harrold nominated for Outstanding Achievement for a Young Volunteer at the 2018 Victoria Minister for Health Awards
- Volunteers Michelle and Yvonne (pictured left) marked 14 years volunteering on the EDV Helpline. Thank you both for your incredible commitment!

Support Groups

- 218 individuals attended an EDV Support Group
I was diagnosed with binge eating disorder, but I had periods of bulimia. I saw a psychologist, dietitians, counsellors and did a whole lot of alternative stuff - kinesiologists, naturopaths, group therapy, the lot. What really resonated with me was the spiritual side of things - mindfulness, spiritual healing. That turned my whole world around and now I’m studying kinesiology.

Not only have I come out the other side, but I’m actually grateful for what's happened because that has led me on the path that I’m on, which feels like my absolute true purpose.

The best thing about being recovered is being able to feel joy again. The joy in little things, and big things – just the joy in life.

I used EDV as a resource for my own recovery and I always thought when I came out the other side of all of this that I would love to be able to give back or be involved in some sort of capacity. The Peer Mentoring program gives me that opportunity.

- Heidi is a Stories of Recovery Speaker and a Peer Mentor at EDV
I am pleased to present the audited financial statements of the Eating Disorders Foundation of Victoria Inc for the year ended 30 June 2018. A year of financial stability has seen EDV return to surplus with delivering a net surplus of $75,007 for result in an increase in Members Funds in to $146,698.

Income & Expenditure Statement:

Total income for the year increased to $904,729 representing an 18% increase on the prior year. The main changes in revenue against the previous year were:

- Government grants increased by $120,006 to $604,000, representing 67% of total revenue down from 78% in the prior year.
- Philanthropic Grants were steady at $155,000 and supported the successful Peer Mentoring Program. Funding of $250,000 from both philanthropic and government sources for this program has been secured for 2019.
- Income from fundraising activities increased by 44% to $40,045
- Fee income grew 6% to $98,579, compared to $93,599 in 2016/17. A substantial portion of this revenue derives from the private psychology sessions run from our Abbotsford offices. The costs associated with the growth of this service are represented in the increase in consultancy expenses for 2018.
- Total operating expenditure rose to 6% to $826,575, due mainly to the consulting expenses noted above, total expenditure grew 5% to $829,722

Balance Sheet:

Net cash flows from the operating surplus and receipt of grant and philanthropic revenues to be recognised in 2019 income has significantly enhanced the cash position by $332,771 to $495,318. The final loan instalment of the Foresters Finance loan was made in January 2018.

2019 Budget:

The management team is forecasting a modest surplus for the 2018/19 year on the basis of government grant funding being maintained at current levels, and an increase in philanthropic funding, to be applied against further expansion of the Peer Mentoring Program.

I would like to thank the EDV management and staff, Kim Cain (bookkeeper) and the Finance Audit Risk and Governance Committee for their diligence in monitoring the financial affairs of the EDV.

Martin Newnham
Treasurer
## 2017/18 at a glance

### Statement of Financial Performance for the Financial Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017/18 $</th>
<th>2016/17 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues from ordinary activities and special projects</td>
<td>904,729</td>
<td>766,192</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>826,575</td>
<td>694,124</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL CHANGE IN EQUITY</td>
<td>146,698</td>
<td>71,691</td>
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### Summary Statement of Financial Position

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017/18 $</th>
<th>2016/17 $</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>555,236</td>
<td>205,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>408,538</td>
<td>133,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET ASSETS</td>
<td>146,698</td>
<td>71,691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EQUITY</td>
<td>146,698</td>
<td>71,691</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financial Statements

Income and Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2017/18 $</th>
<th>2016/17 $</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>904,729</td>
<td>766,192</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employee benefits expenses</td>
<td>(587,304)</td>
<td>(581,938)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation expense</td>
<td>(8,874)</td>
<td>(14,174)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultancy expense</td>
<td>(121,931)</td>
<td>(65,609)</td>
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<td>Occupancy expenses</td>
<td>(31,692)</td>
<td>(31,013)</td>
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<td>Computer expenses</td>
<td>(15,648)</td>
<td>(17,477)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communications expenses</td>
<td>(9,913)</td>
<td>(9,769)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising and promotion expenses</td>
<td>(5,160)</td>
<td>(11,475)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage, printing and stationary expenses</td>
<td>(4,089)</td>
<td>(3,252)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other expenses</td>
<td>(42,024)</td>
<td>(41,911)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</strong></td>
<td>78,154</td>
<td>10,426</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long service leave provision expense</td>
<td>(3,147)</td>
<td>(14,210)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Current Year Surplus/(Deficit)</strong></td>
<td>75,007</td>
<td>(24,636)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retained Surplus at Beginning of the Year</td>
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<td>96,327</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Retained Surplus at the End of the Year</strong></td>
<td>149,698</td>
<td>71,691</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Assets and Liabilities Statement as of 30 June 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017/18 $</th>
<th>2016/17 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>495,318</td>
<td>162,547</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable and other debtors</td>
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<td>19,215</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
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<td>181,762</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Non Current Assets</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and equipment</td>
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<td>23,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non Current Assets</strong></td>
<td>17,623</td>
<td>23,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>555,236</td>
<td>205,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and other payables</td>
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<td>7,120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Borrowings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income in advance</td>
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<td>Other creditors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td>119,555</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Non Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowings</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>19,370</td>
<td>10,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>17,357</td>
<td>14,210</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>408,538</td>
<td>133,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>146,698</td>
<td>71,691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Members Funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Retained Surplus</td>
<td>146,698</td>
<td>71,691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Members Funds</strong></td>
<td>146,698</td>
<td>71,691</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grants, Sponsors and Corporate Partners

EDV would like to thank the following organisations for their generous financial assistance and/or in-kind support in the past financial year.

Major Grants

Other supporters and partners
Understanding Eating Disorders

An eating disorder is characterised when eating, exercise and body weight/shape become an unhealthy preoccupation of someone’s life. **It is not a lifestyle choice or a diet gone wrong.** Eating disorders are serious mental illnesses that cause significant distress and impairment on people's lives.

There are four eating disorders recognized in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5). They are:

- **Anorexia Nervosa (AN)**
- **Bulimia Nervosa (BN)**
- **Binge Eating Disorder (BED)**
- **OSFED (Other Specified Feeding and Eating Disorders)**

Eating disorders are complex illnesses, with many people alternating between eating disorder types throughout the course of the illness. For more information and the signs and symptoms of eating disorders, please visit our website [www.eatingdisorders.org.au](http://www.eatingdisorders.org.au)

**Why do people get eating disorders?**

Eating disorders do not have a single, identifiable cause. Factors such as dieting, poor self-esteem and perfectionism may play a role. Eating disorders do not discriminate and can occur across all ages, socio-economic groups and genders.

**What to do if you are concerned about yourself or a loved one**

The best thing you can do is reach out for help. Calling the EDV Helpline on 1300 550 236 is a great first step - we provide a safe space to openly discuss your experience and can assist you in finding practitioners with experience in treating eating disorders.