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epilepsy ACT

Annual Report



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Welcome

Welcome to Epilepsy ACT's 2022/23 annual report, a snapshot of our year filled with service and community engagement. Inside these pages, you'll find a mosaic of activities and happenings that define our ongoing commitment, including a crucial look at our financial standing. From impactful education and training programs to vibrant community events, we have been actively strengthening our connection with the epilepsy community.

A special thank you to ACT Health for their support and funding, which allows us assist and support the 4000+ Canberrans who will be diagnosed with epilepsy in their life time. Without this support, our mission would not be as impactful or far-reaching. Together, we continue to inform and support our community and the people affected by epilepsy in the Australian Capital Territory.



ACT
Government

Health

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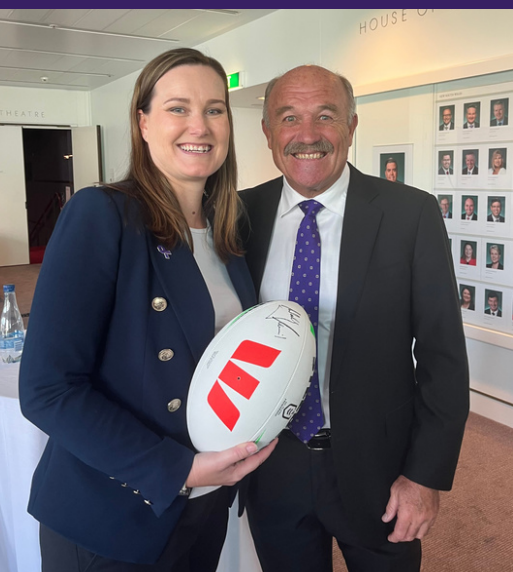


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Vision and Mission

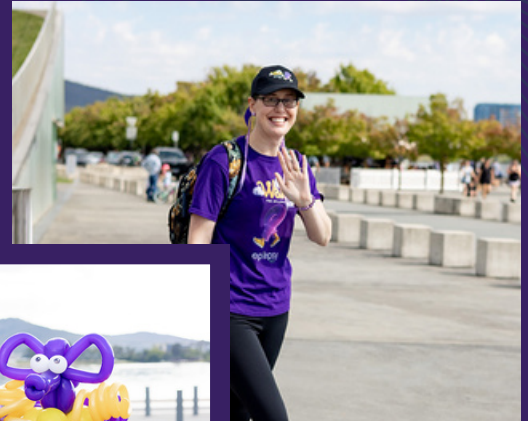
++ Vision

++ For every person living with epilepsy in our region to feel safe, connected and able to reach their potential.

Mission

To provide accessible support, information, education and connections for people living with epilepsy in the ACT and surrounding region, their families, support network and the community

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Our Board & Team

++ Board Members

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Erinn Pages - Chair (till June 2023)
Richard Eccles - Vice Chair & Acting Chair (from June 2023)
Sophie Irving - Treasurer
Fiona Allardyce - Secretary & Public Officer
Louise Gray
Mark Parkinson
Alison Darcy
Vicki Page
Peter Brown
Jake Boyle
David Thomas (till June 2022)

Our Team

Fiona Allardyce, CEO
Mell Burke, Admin Officer
Chelsea Sorensen, National Epilepsy Support Service Operator (Commenced Jan 2023)
Tina O'Reilly, Support Worker & Educator (Oct 2022 to Apr 2023)

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2023

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Epilepsy Smart Australia Program

Epilepsy ACT proudly participates in the Epilepsy Smart Australia Program, a national initiative led by the six member organizations of Epilepsy Australia. Launched in November 2022, the program aims to deliver information, education, and support to individuals impacted by epilepsy, regardless of their background or location. Playing a crucial role as a service delivery partner, Epilepsy ACT has directly witnessed the program's beneficial effects, notably evident in the National Epilepsy Support Service (NESS) helpline. This helpline serves as a vital link, connecting individuals within the epilepsy community across state borders.

The program, years in the making, provides high-quality epilepsy information, resources, and services based on the latest evidence, ultimately enhancing the quality of life for those living with epilepsy. Epilepsy ACT has utilized the program to broaden the scope of its Comprehensive Support Workers, extending services beyond mere information and referral. This expansion includes the creation of management plans, educational sessions on diagnosis, training in emergency medication, and additional supportive offerings.

Epilepsy Smart Australia represents a major collaboration among epilepsy organizations nationwide, with a focus on innovative governance and program management. As the program encompasses various sectors such as disability, schools, aged care, and workplaces, Epilepsy ACT actively engages in the Epilepsy Smart Workplaces initiative, providing e-learning modules to empower individuals living with epilepsy to maintain employment. As the four-year pilot project concludes in 2024, Epilepsy ACT is committed to advocating for ongoing support and exploring avenues to reduce reliance on government funding in the next proposed funding period.

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Connecting to our Community

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This year, we have established meaningful connections within the epilepsy community. Our new support worker, Tina, has been a dynamic force, engaging with families and individuals affected by epilepsy to craft personalized Epilepsy Management Plans. We have provided support, training, and education to schools, workplaces, and various community groups. We have given talks at The Canberra Hospital, and these have contributed to a more informed and supportive environment for individuals with epilepsy.



Epilepsy ACT has actively collaborated with ACT Health and Education departments to enhance policy education, ensuring a more comprehensive understanding of epilepsy within educational and healthcare settings. Our support worker Tina has provided reassurance, information, and unwavering support to those navigating the challenges of epilepsy.

In tandem with our community-focused efforts, we've ramped up our digital presence, keeping our followers updated via our website, social media, and e-newsletters. This strategic enhancement aligns with our commitment to connect with a wider audience, fostering a community that is well-informed, supported, and united in the face of epilepsy.



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Make March Purple



Make March Purple, the Australian-wide month-long celebration leading up to Purple Day on March 26, is a powerful national awareness campaign for epilepsy. This initiative was originally sparked by the ingenious idea of nine-year-old Cassidy Megan from Canada. Throughout the entire month of March, the campaign garnered tremendous support, with pharmacies and The Tradies Club actively participating in the cause by selling merchandise. The community rallied together to illuminate landmarks, and the vibrant message reached far and wide through digital and outdoor advertising. The impact extended even further as the epilepsy community took to social media, collectively spreading awareness and fostering a sense of unity.

The culmination of Make March Purple on Purple Day itself was a resounding success, with a record number of merchandise sold. The engagement and participation of various entities, from local businesses to iconic landmarks, underscored the growing reach and impact of the campaign. The sea of purple that engulfed communities on Purple Day not only raised crucial funds for epilepsy but also succeeded in creating a heightened awareness about the challenges faced by individuals living with epilepsy, turning the world purple in a symbolic gesture of support and solidarity.



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Training & Education



Our commitment to training and education has been reaching new heights, leaving a lasting impact on various fronts. We've successfully educated numerous schools, workplaces, and disability workers, fostering a community that understands and supports those affected by epilepsy. The shift towards online training has proven to be a game-changer, with approximately 200 individuals benefiting from our comprehensive programs. Covering crucial topics such as Understanding & Managing Epilepsy and Administration of Emergency Medication, our training initiatives are equipping participants with the knowledge and skills needed to create safer and more inclusive environments. This expansion in education reflects our dedication to empowering individuals and communities with the tools to navigate epilepsy confidently and responsibly.



2023

Fundraising & Events



This year has been woven with the vibrant threads of success, community, and compassion. Our events, ranging from a virtual walk and a Christmas in July Party to the Walk for Epilepsy and winning the Westfield Heroes grant, went beyond mere gatherings — they served as a driving force for connection, bringing people together through a shared journey of experiences and fun.



Virtual Walk

In a united effort, we collaborated across Australia for a Virtual Walk for Epilepsy—an event spanning 25 days, symbolising the 1 in 25 people who will be diagnosed with epilepsy. With 66 dedicated participants, we not only raised \$14,520 but also heightened awareness for this important cause. A heartfelt thank you to everyone involved; your support made a meaningful impact in our collective stride towards a better future for those affected by epilepsy.



Westfield Heroes

Our CEO embarked on an inspiring journey when nominated for Westfield's Local Heroes grant. Making it to the final three, Fiona, along with Epilepsy ACT, engaged in extensive marketing efforts to secure support and votes. Their hard work paid off as they clinched victory, and were presented with a \$20,000 cheque—an accomplishment that not only recognises their dedication but also promises positive impact for the community.

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Walk for Epilepsy

The Walk for Epilepsy this year brought together 135 participants, and though it was a bit smaller than previous events, the sense of community and support was stronger than ever. We proudly raised just over \$13,000, thanks to the generosity of our participants and the unwavering dedication of our community. The day was filled with infectious joy, as smiling faces dotted the 5km path around Lake Burley Griffin. A heartfelt thanks goes to the Rotary Club, Canberra Sunrise, for fueling our spirits with a delicious BBQ. The atmosphere was amplified by the tunes of our wonderful musicians, and the event wouldn't have been the same without the hard work of our volunteers. As the sun beamed down, participants enjoyed coffee, fairy floss, grazing boxes, and lemonade, making it a memorable day of unity and support for epilepsy awareness.



Christmas in July

Our Christmas in July Party brought together a cozy group of 25 people, fostering an intimate atmosphere that allowed for meaningful connections to blossom. The spirit of the season was alive and well, with laughter and joy resonating through the venue. A special shoutout to The Tradies Club for generously hosting us, providing the perfect festive backdrop for our celebration. Gratitude extends to our dedicated volunteers whose efforts behind the scenes ensured that the day was filled with crafts, fun, and the warmth of newfound connections.

Epilepsy Association (ACT) Incorporated

Committee Report

In accordance with the Associations Incorporations Act 1991 the Committee of the Epilepsy Association (ACT) Incorporated state the following in regard to the year ended 30 June 2023:

(a) The names of the Committee Members during the financial year were:

Name	Position
Richard Eccles	Acting Chair from 06/06/2023
Erinn Pages	Chair from 15/11/2022, resigned 06/06/2023
Louise Gray	Chair from 01/07/2022 to 15/11/2022, remains as a member
Fiona Allardyce	Secretary and Public Officer
Sophie Irving	Treasurer
Mark Parkinson	Member
Alison Darcy	Member
Vicki Page	Member
Peter Brown	Member
Jake Boyle	Member

(b) The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were to provide assistance to people with and raise awareness of epilepsy.

(c) No significant changes in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

(d) The result from ordinary activities of the Association for the year was a surplus of \$66,843 (2022: surplus of \$89,328).

Signed in accordance with a Resolution of the Committee.

Signature  Signature 

Name Richard Eccles Name Sophie Irving

Canberra ACT

November 2023

Epilepsy Association (ACT) Incorporated

Statement of Income and Expenditure For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Revenue</i>			
Donations		83,965	112,607
Grants		128,915	115,074
Fund raising activities		21,793	19,690
Other	2	121,687	86,465
<i>Total revenue</i>		<u>356,360</u>	<u>333,836</u>
<i>Expenses</i>			
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		2,948	2,683
Rent		10,724	10,080
Employee expenses		222,661	183,234
Administration expenses	3	53,184	48,511
<i>Total expenses</i>		<u>289,517</u>	<u>244,508</u>
 Surplus for the year		 <u>66,843</u>	 <u>89,328</u>

The Statement of Income and Expenditure should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Epilepsy Association (ACT) Incorporated

Statement of Assets and Liabilities As at 30 June 2023

	<i>Note</i>	<i>2023</i> \$	<i>2022</i> \$
<i>Current Assets</i>			
Cash	4	262,548	233,290
Receivables	5	46,695	13,978
Financial assets – term deposits	6	104,013	102,712
Accrued interest		1,236	683
Other assets		7,169	-
<i>Total Current Assets</i>		<u>421,661</u>	<u>350,663</u>
<i>Non Current Assets</i>			
Office equipment	7	12,241	10,332
<i>Total Non Current Assets</i>		<u>12,241</u>	<u>10,332</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>		<u>433,902</u>	<u>360,995</u>
<i>Current Liabilities</i>			
Trade and other payables	8	22,129	19,997
Employee benefits	9	9,736	5,804
<i>Total Current Liabilities</i>		<u>31,865</u>	<u>25,801</u>
<i>Total Liabilities</i>		<u>31,865</u>	<u>25,801</u>
<i>Net Assets</i>		<u>402,037</u>	<u>335,194</u>
<i>Equity</i>			
Retained surplus		<u>402,037</u>	<u>335,194</u>

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Epilepsy Association (ACT) Incorporated

Cash Flow Statement For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Cash Flow From Operating Activities</i>			
Grants received		128,915	115,074
Interest received		-	364
Other receipts		194,728	209,920
Payments to suppliers and employees		(287,674)	(233,860)
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities		35,969	91,498
<i>Cash Flow From Investing Activities</i>			
Purchase of equipment		(4,857)	(5,237)
(Purchase)/Proceeds from financial assets		(1,854)	181
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities		(6,711)	(5,056)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash held		29,258	86,442
Cash at the beginning of the year		233,290	146,848
Cash at the end of the year	4	262,548	233,290

Note: The prior year amounts presented in this cash flow statement have been adjusted due to reclassification and correction on certain items to conform to the current year's classification.

The Cash Flow Statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Epilepsy Association (ACT) Incorporated

Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Retained Earnings	Total
Balance as at 1 July 2021	245,866	205,337
Surplus attributable to the members	89,328	40,529
Balance as at 30 June 2022	335,194	245,866
Surplus attributable to the members	66,843	89,328
Balance as at 30 June 2023	402,037	335,194

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

1. Statement of Significant Accounting

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB), the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 of the ACT and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. The Association is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The financial report of the Association was authorised for issue on the date of signing of the attached Committee's Report by the committee members.

(a) Depreciation of Office Equipment

Office equipment is depreciated over their estimated useful lives using the straight line method.

Profits and losses on disposal of plant and equipment are taken into account in determining the surplus for the year.

Minor capital items are written off in the year of acquisition.

(b) Income Tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Subdivision 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(c) Cashflows

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and deposits at call with the bank.

(d) Revenue Recognition

Operating Grants and Donations

When the Association receives operating grant revenue or donations, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15. When both these conditions are satisfied, the Association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant;
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement; and
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Association:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (for example AASB 9, AASB 116 and AASB 138);

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

(d) Revenue Recognition (continued)

- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the Association recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

Other income

All other sources of income are brought to account as income when the related goods or services have been provided and the income earned.

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

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 2 Other revenue

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Membership fees	135	-
Presentations	19,634	20,182
Interest	2,032	(177)
Telemarketing	500	4,545
Reimbursement	2,169	6,242
ESAP	88,717	55,673
Sundry income	8,500	-
Total	121,687	86,465

Note 3 Administrative expenses

Advertising and promotion	12,278	17,188
Bank charges	54	40
Consultants	454	2,833
Donations	372	-
Fund raising expenses	8,990	5,878
Gifts	1,228	416
Insurance	2,952	5,352
Internet	742	348
Legal fees	182	-
Minor assets	326	576
Motor vehicle recovery	4,030	-
Postage and telephone	6,270	4,362
Presentation/seminar	-	55
Repairs and maintenance	1,452	6,539
Stationary and printing	11,828	1,550
Subscription and membership fees	2,026	3,374
Total	53,184	48,511

Note 4 Cash

Cheque account	262,448	233,190
Petty cash	100	100
Total	262,548	233,290

Note 5 Receivables

Trade receivables	31,376	13,978
Other receivables	15,319	-
Total	46,695	13,978

Note 6 Financial assets

Term deposits	104,013	102,712
Total	104,013	102,712

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 7 Office equipment

Office equipment – at cost	32,340	27,483
Less: accumulated depreciation	(20,099)	(17,151)
Total	12,241	10,332

Note 8 Payables

	2023 \$	2022 \$
PAYG payable	9,474	10,332
Superannuation payable	6,295	5,022
GST payable/(receivable)	5,411	4,643
Long service leave accrual – ACT Long Service Leave Authority	949	-
Total	22,129	19,997

Note 9 Employee Benefits

Current – annual leave	9,736	5,804
Total	9,736	5,804

Note 10 Related Party Disclosures

There were no transactions with related parties during the year.

Note 11 Association Details

The Association operates solely within the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding areas to provide assistance to people with and raise awareness of epilepsy.

The Association is incorporated in the Australian Capital Territory under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* (Association No. A00951).

The registered office and principal place of business of the Association is:

Shop 16, 1st Floor
Grant Cameron Community Centre
1b, 27 Mulley Street
Holder ACT 2611

Note 12 Subsequent Events

The Committee is not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

Note 13 Financial Risk Management

The Association's principal financial instruments comprise cash at bank, term deposits, receivables and accounts payable. These financial instruments arise from the operations of the Association.



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