

LIVING AND LEARNING
AT AJANI INC.

2/284 THOMPSONS
ROAD
TEMPLESTOWE LOWER



LIVING &
LEARNING
@AJANI



LIVING AND LEARNING
AT AJANI INC.

ANNUAL REPORT

2023/2024



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Living and Learning at Ajani Inc. acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways that we know as the community of Manningham.

We pay respect to Elders past and present.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Last year it was very difficult to address the Annual General Meeting due to the organisation's financial situation as at 30 June 2023 and the process the Committee of Management had been through to ensure Living and Learning at Ajani was in a good financial position to secure its future. The decisions that we made were not taken lightly but we were convinced that they were the correct ones at the time.

This year I am pleased to confirm that the decisions we made and the process we followed have had the predicted effect and we are now in a more secure financial position than 12 months ago. If you look at the financial statements you will see we have made a surplus of \$54,167 for the 2023/24 Financial Year. However, there is still a way to go before our financial position is fully secured. (For more detail please refer to the Treasurers Report). Before I talk about the future, I would like to acknowledge the great work that has been achieved in the last 12 months. Rebecca's report details what has been undertaken operationally and you can see the great results that have been achieved.

Due to the staffing changes that were made last year, Rebecca has run the operational side of Living and Learning at Ajani single handedly over the last 12 months. Assisting Rebecca has been Hayden and a willing and efficient group of volunteers and students. Rebecca has been able to use our volunteers' skills and attributes to great effectiveness to improve processes, particularly in the pantry, and to have the Centre running effectively.

Secondly Rebecca is the "Queen" of grant writing, which has assisted greatly in our program offering and offsetting some staff costs (refer to Note 4 of the Financial report for details of the grants we have secured). It is fantastic to see that Rebecca is working collaboratively with other services in Manningham to secure grants which benefit multiple organisations.

The downside of making the staffing changes last year is that some areas such as program development and promotion have not received the attention we would have liked. We understood this would happen when we made the staffing changes.

Increasing the program offering and better communicating with our Ajani community will be a focus for 2024/25. Through the efforts of Rebecca and the volunteers we now have a firm base to build in in the future. On behalf of the Committee, I would like to acknowledge the contribution Rebecca has made.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It would be remiss of me not to mention the Café. Twelve months ago Hayden, our Café Coordinator, was set a challenge to improve Café sales. Although the Café income is slightly down on last year, it should be recognised that this was achieved despite the café hours being reduced by 12 hours per week. Hayden is an integral member of Living and Learning at Ajani. His thoughtful and patient training of volunteers through to his rapport with the Ajani Community makes the Café a warm and friendly space to enjoy a coffee and something to eat. It is our intention this year to improve the food offering in the Café and to gradually extend the opening hours with the strategic use of volunteers.

Following our restructure, it was the Committee of Management's intention, to use volunteers assisting in the office for six months and then employ an administration assistant for a few hours per week, once we were back on a more secure financial footing. Our office volunteers have done such a fantastic job, we have been able to defer the decision for 12 months. It has afforded us the opportunity to fully assess our staffing requirements. It turns out that although we will need an administration assistant at some point in the future, what we need right now is someone with Promotion/Marketing expertise. The Committee of Management believe that the right person will improve our communications and will grow both our existing programs and introduce new programs, which will put us on a growth path going forward. It is proposed that some of the new programs will be no/low cost focusing on social connection to alleviate social isolation.

Recently we employed Larissa Manski as Promotion/Program Coordinator for 12 hours per week. We are pleased to welcome her to the Living and Learning at Ajani team.


The Committee of Management has worked hard this year ensuring that processes are in place to ensure financial security and effective administration however there is always more to do!

We are in the process of developing our next three-year operational plan which will be finalised by the end of the year. The Committee of Management are committed to continually improving what Living and Learning at Ajani can offer. Our to-do list is long. We will not achieve everything in the next 12 months but are hopeful to have the tasks on the Operational Plan complete over the three-year life of the plan.

I would like to thank the Committee of Management for being an amazing team to work with. We have come a long way in the last two years and I am grateful for their work and support. I also thank you for the fundraising that you have been involved in. Lesley, Liz, Carla, Sallie and Kai - Thank you.

Thank you to Rebecca and Hayden for their hard work and commitment to Living and Learning at Ajani. Thank you to the volunteers, particularly Michael for his work in running the pantry. Thank you to everyone who attends the Centre, we love having you here and hope you keep attending.

We look forward to working with you all in 2024/25.



Kathy Monley OAM
President
Committee of Management

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT



PRESIDENT
Kathy Monley



VICE PRESIDENT
Lesley Siebentritt



SECRETARY
Elisabeth Giuliani



**COMMITTEE
MEMBER**
Carla Speel



**COMMITTEE
MEMBER**
Sallie Hobson



**COMMITTEE
MEMBER**
Kai Robotham

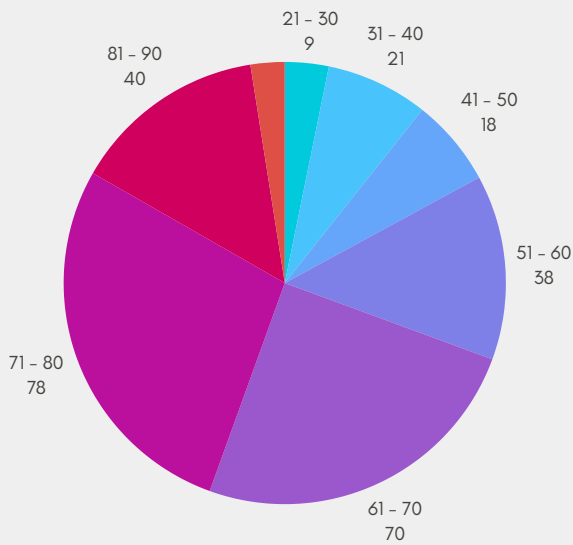
Living and Learning at Ajani Inc. is governed by a Volunteer Committee of Management.

Members of the Committee have oversight of the organisation and also have been generous with their time assisting at community events and fundraising efforts.

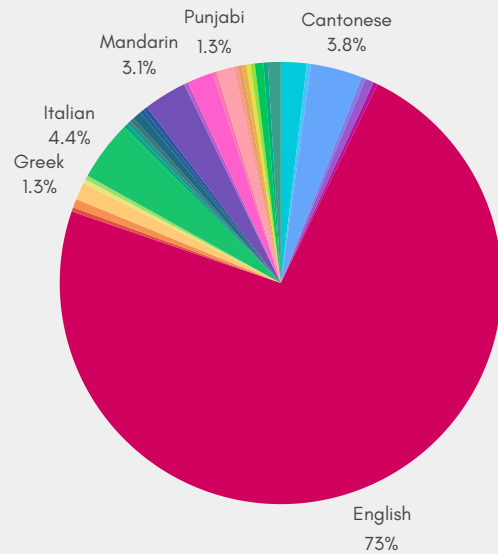
Members are elected at the Annual General Meeting, or may apply to join the Committee at other times during the year.

Our sincere thanks to all Committee Members for their ongoing dedication to the provision of high quality community services.

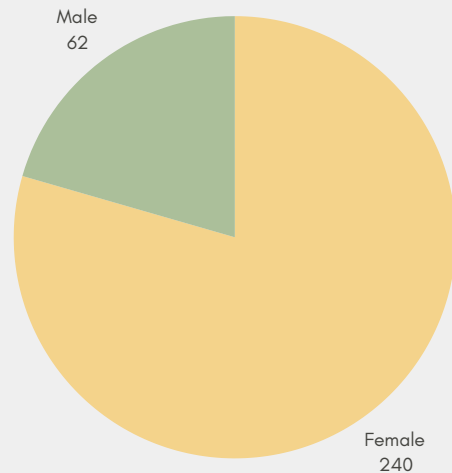
SNAPSHOT OF OUR CENTRE



Demographic by Age



Languages Spoken at Home



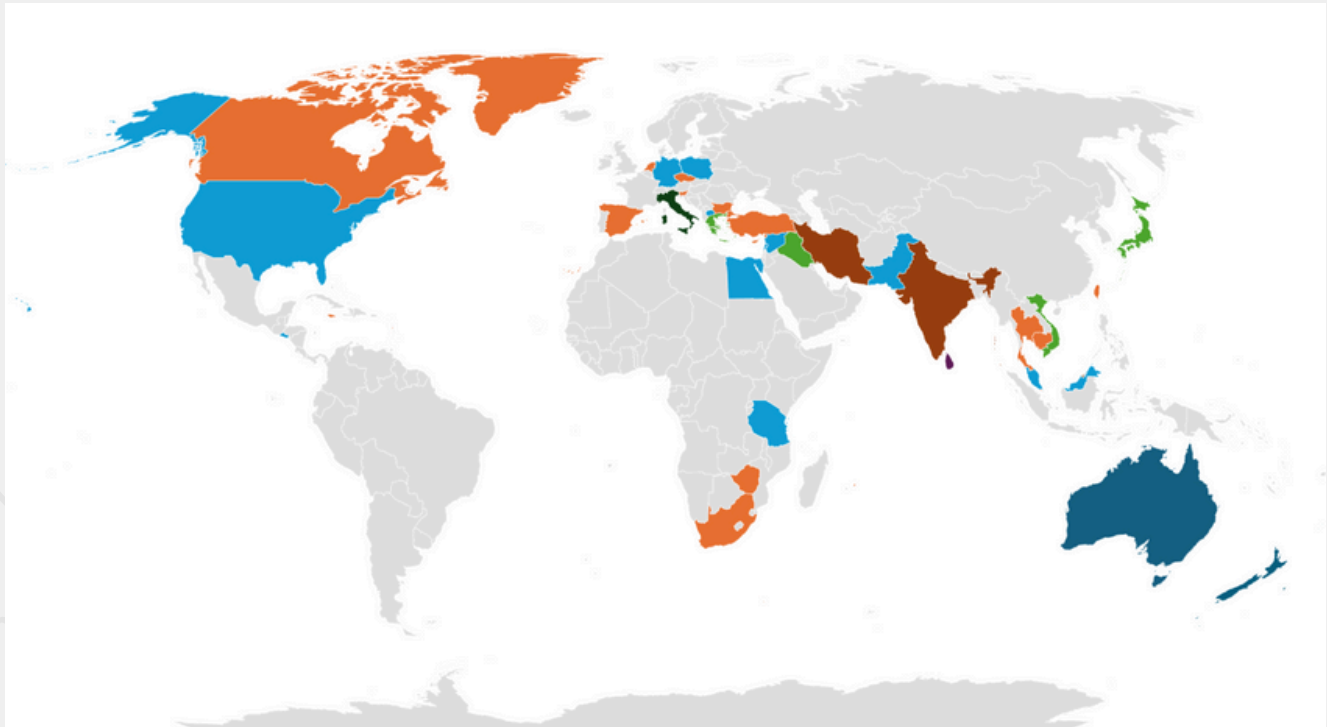
Gender of participants

OUR PARTICIPANTS

We are happy to report that the cultural diversity of this area was reflected in our enrolment numbers this year. Participants hail from over 51 countries.

The majority of enrolments are from people aged over 50 with 60+ being the key demographic for the centre. The majority of participants are female.

SNAPSHOT OF OUR CENTRE



PARTICIPANTS BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH

Albania	India	Singapore
Australia	Iran	Slovenia
Brunei Darussalam	Iraq	South Africa
Bulgaria	Italy	Spain
Cambodia	Jamaica	Sri Lanka
Canada	Japan	Syria
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	Korea, Republic of (South)	Taiwan
Chinese Asia (includes Mongolia)	Lebanon	Tanzania
Cyprus	Macau (SAR of China)	Thailand
Czechia	Malaysia	Turkey
Dominica	Malta	UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man
Egypt	Mauritius	Man
El Salvador	Netherlands	USA
England	New Zealand	Vietnam
Germany	North Macedonia	Zimbabwe
Greece	Pakistan	
Greenland	Poland	
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	Scotland	

Living and Learning at Ajani

Real Impact. Real Value.

INCOME \$303,450

VALUE \$1,864,771

This figure includes
the value of:

Improved quality of life through social connection:
\$402,192

Volunteer contributions: \$208,677

Emergency relief provided: \$471,751

Services provided: \$81,355

Adult Community Education: \$700,796

Emergency relief value includes:

- Food and groceries: \$470,983
- Personal care & hygiene items: \$768

Services value includes:

- Facilities use or hire: \$9,396
 - Tax Help: \$4,200
- Fee for service activities: \$58,259
- Power Saving Bonus: \$9,500

This community value
equates to:

\$6.15 for every \$1 of income

\$19.57 for every \$1
of Neighbourhood House Coordination Program
funding

Over \$777.96 for every hour the neighbourhood
house is in use

Employment value

4.3 FTE jobs

including 3.1 direct and 1.2 indirect
Full Time Equivalent positions



These values are produced by Neighbourhood Houses Victoria based on data provided by Living and Learning at Ajani in the 2023 Neighbourhood Houses Survey. Only a limited range of activities where a determinable valuation method exists are included.



PARTNERS AND NETWORKS

- Access Health
- Bulleen Heights School
- CareNet
- Chisholm Institute of TAFE
- Doncare
- EACH
- EV Strengthening Volunteers
- Hamond Institute
- Job Prospects
- Journey Early Learning Templestowe
- Manningham Business Network
- Manningham City Council
- Manningham Food Relief Network
- Manningham Learns
- Manningham Libraries
- Melbourne Polytechnic
- Neighbourhood Houses Vic
- NIECH
- Onemda
- Pines Learning
- Park Orchards Community House and Learning Centre
- RMIT
- SwinLocal
- University of Melbourne
- Warrandyte Neighbourhood House
- Wonga Park Community Cottage



DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

Major Supporters



Community Bank
Doncaster East and Templestowe Village



Donors and Supporters

- Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association (ANHCA)
- Community Bank Doncaster East and Templestowe Village (Bendigo Bank)
- Citylife Church
- Irene Baird
- Jan and Geoff Roberts
- Jenny Magnusson
- Kathleen and Trevor Boys
- Keith Clarke
- Lesley Siebentritt
- Lillian and Ian Esposito
- Mei Peng
- Pets of the Homeless
- Pinchapoo
- Rebecca Sanders and Owen Kaluza
- Share the Dignity
- Sean Lean
- Serpell Primary School
- Templestowe Primary School
- Templestowe Valley Primary School
- Tony and Kathy Monley.
- Viva La Fruit

\$7489

raised through Bunnings BBQ's Manningham
Festival at Finns and Paint and Sip



CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

The past year has brought its share of challenges, but also some fantastic achievements that have helped the Living and Learning at Ajani to set itself up for future success.

Operations

Without doubt, the greatest challenge operationally for 2023 was the lack of core staffing. Without a Program Coordinator, I undertook as best I could the programming of courses and events, while Hayden Lowe, our Café Coordinator, assisted with our marketing where possible. For the rest, it has truly been a team effort. Committee of Management members Kathy Monley, Sallie Hobson and Carla Speel, together with Denise O'Hare in 2023, and Cindy Cheng and Jenny Magnusson in 2024, turned in regular days as volunteer administration and reception officers. Together, we have all learnt how to use our client management system Vettrak. A new set of office procedures (still in progress), have helped the office team feel informed, share tasks more effectively and make judgment calls with confidence. In true Neighbourhood House spirit, the procedures are a grassroots initiative, with office volunteers being the main drivers of the project.

One of the great back-of-house projects this year was the "great clean out", a project that had its beginnings 2022, but which expanded this year beyond the office. Staff, members of the Committee, office, gardening, cafe, pantry volunteers and students on placement have all contributed to this important, if still ongoing task. Our goal is to create welcoming space that is easy to use and which will enable us to run more programs and support more people to find social connection. Its benefits have been apparent to many, one of which is the increased sense of pride in our Neighbourhood House.

Funded Projects

We were fortunate to secure funding for a number of projects this year, which have added immensely to our ability to support our community members. A Stronger Communities Programme Round 8 grant, supported by the Office of Keith Wolahan MP, upgraded our community garden. With the funding we purchased and installed a new and much needed garden shed, a new compost tumbler and a host of new gardening implements and equipment items.

CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

To make room for the shed, the garden team, volunteers from the Live Fit for Men exercise group and student on placement Mark Crowe, relocated one of our wicking garden beds in December on a rather hot and blustery summer's day. In 2024, the garden group changed the layout of the other wicking planter box in the rear courtyard, so that gardeners could access all four sides of the bed. As a result, it is now possible to grow items with like rainbow chard and lettuces in our courtyard garden, as well as in the top garden beds behind the tennis courts, to provide our food relief clients with fresh, leafy greens.

In 2023, the Ajani Food Relief Pantry has been a major focus, and with good reason- our client numbers exploded in response to cost-of-living pressures. We were fortunate enough to receive two rounds of funding for this work. The first was a grant from the Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association to improve pantry process and purchase dignity items like deodorant, soap, dishwashing liquid and laundry powder. Client feedback about the inclusion of these items was overwhelmingly positive. Our successful submission to the Bendigo Bank for further funding for Pantry supplies included a selection of these dignity items, as well as pantry staples, as direct result of the first grant. New commercial grade scales, together with improved data collection and recording processes mean that we now track the demographic profile of our pantry clients, how much food is donated to us, and how much food goes to waste each week. These statistics, which showed that client visits had increased 68%, helped volunteers when they felt overwhelmed to validate their feelings. They also made it easier for the organisation to allocate significant staff and volunteer time into overhauling our food relief collection model, the changes of which are outlined in our Services Report.

In 2023, we also received funding to deliver a COVID-19 health project and ran a successful Children's Week event. COVID-19, as many in our community are learning, is here to stay, but that was not the feeling when the project began. An intense round of infection that kicked off towards the end of November 2023 saw a massive increase in requests for free COVID-19 testing kits. That spike, together with our health information talks, helped our community to embed habits like testing and mask wearing to keep everyone safe. Our Bollywood dance session for Children's Week was also a great success, with our neighbour, Journey Early Learning, as well as local residents, joining in the fun.

Achievements

One of the great achievements of the year was securing funding from Manningham City Council for the next two years through the Neighbourhood House Grant program. This has made it much easier for us to continue delivering programs and services that improve the health and wellbeing of Manningham residents over the medium term. Part of the funding is specifically designed to facilitate partnerships between the five Neighbourhood Houses in Manningham, including our joint funded Carers' Project. The carer project has been a learning curve for this organisation, but attendance at this program has been very good, and it is clearly a cohort that needs the additional support that Neighbourhood Houses can provide.

CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

The other great achievement of the organisation in 2023-24 was in our ACFE delivery. As a Learn Local, we deliver courses for community members to help them to find pathways to employment, study and volunteering. Although our contract for Student Contact Hours is small, 2023 was the first time that the organisation successfully delivered a larger allocation of hours (in this case digital skills). Off the back of very concerned phone calls from our regional office in early 2023, this was a welcome result.

These results, completed under a very strict budget, and with limited staff hours, are very much a team effort. I am very grateful to Hayden Lowe, our Café Coordinator, for his wealth of knowledge about the organisation, professionalism and support of our social enterprise café volunteers, whose numbers have grown over the last 12 months, and now include Carmen, Jenny, Daniel, Kaliopi and Phi. Thanks also to the office volunteers' team, Kathy, Carla, Sallie, Denise, Cindy and Jenny, and to our regular Pantry team, Michael, Maxine, Edwina, Anthony, Judy and Allen. To Jenny, our bookkeeper, and Scott, our IT consultant, thank you for your patience and support as we refined our procedures and processes

To the program volunteers, many of whom have led these groups for years, and in some cases, decades I am very grateful for your continued support: Carolina, Lillian, Lyndy, Judy, Vicky, Suzanne and Nakisa. Our garden volunteers, led by Chan and Glen, thank you for all of your hard work, the garden has never looked (and tasted) so good. To our Tutors, thank you always; your enthusiasm for not only your subject matter, but for the people in your classes helps to make this a vibrant and welcoming space. I would also like to say a special thank you to our incredible students on placement, who have helped deliver projects, kept the food pantry running smoothly, and offered fresh perspectives and insights.

Last but certainly not least I would like to sincerely thank the Committee of Management. We began the year in financial crisis. Your unwavering support and dedication to the is organisation has been tremendous. The result was far better than we had dared to hope for. Here's to a brighter and more confident future.



Dr. E. Rebecca Sanders
Centre Manager



STAFF, TUTORS AND VOLUNTEERS

CORE STAFF AND CONTRACTORS

E. Rebecca Sanders: Centre Manager
Sandra Thurtell: Programs Coordinator
Hayden Lowe: Cafe Coordinator
Scott Moran: IT Support
Jenny Poynter: Bookkeeping

TUTORS

Ali Achard: Hatha Yoga Thursdays
Alison Cockerell: Horticulture
Alyssa Smith: Yoga
Anna Ferro: Gentle Flow Yoga
Bianca Mellor: Yoga
Carmen Climaco: Hospitality Level 2 and Cafe Support
Clalla Morishita: Yoga
Clare Manion: Art of Painting and Drawing
David Kuchmar: Digital Essentials Levels 1 and 2, Microsoft Office
Dorothy Alcaide: Sip and Paint
Gary Hegedus: Women's Self Defence
Karyn Montgomery: Raj Yoga
Kate Tempany: Live Fit for Men Fitness
Laetitia Bremaud: French Patisserie
Licia Ficulle: Hatha Yoga
Liz Giuliani: Active Ajani, Balance Posture and Stretching, Circuit Fitness Trainer, Hospitality, Level 2, Bulleen Heights School Cooking

Marg Dawdy: Ajani Active & Live Fit For Men
Mary Kastes: Active Ajani
Sanett Botha: Ajani Active & Circuit
Renaee Churches: Hoop Dance
Yvonne Graham: Hatha Yoga

Volunteer Tutors and Facilitators

Carolina Radatti: International Women's Group
David Kuchmar: Bridge, Digital Travel Skills
Lilian Esposito: Walking for Pleasure
Lyndy Mcqueen: Social Fitness
Nakisa Malakooti: Carers Walking Group
Riesa Lipschitz: Australian Sewing Guild
Suzanne Pascoe: The Applique Guild of Australia
Vicky Petsinis: Coloured Threads Knitting



STAFF, TUTORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Pantry Volunteers

Allen Baker
Anthony Berezy
Edwina Smith
Judy Baker
Kathy Monley
Maxine Berezy
Michael Gentle: Pantry Coordinator
Rebecca Sandars

Tax Help

Myrna Manton

Cafe

Carmen Climaco
Jenny Cheng
Daniel Harnett
Jiahua Dai: Cafe Support
Judith Hayes: Cafe Support
Kaliopi Karipidis
Phi Vu

Office Volunteers

Carla Speel
Cindy Cheng
Denise O'Hare
Jenny Magnuson
Kathy Monley
Sallie Hobson

Community Garden Volunteers

Chan Yong,
Glenn Bailey
Guang Hui Li
Huiling Wu
Jin Li
Kwok Piu Chui
Ping Li
Priscilla Siu Wai
Rie Suzuki
Xia (Daisy) Zhang
Yuk Ching Lai

Fundraising Volunteers

Carla Speel
Elizabeth Guiliani
Kathy Monley
Sallie Hobson
Lesley Siebentritt
Manfred Siebentritt
Ross Hobson and the Hobson family
Rosina Cincotta
Anne Jacobs
Dianne Dowling
Linee Jayaladh
Rebecca Sanders



STAFF, TUTORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Students on Placement

Harjinder Kaur
Kamalpreet Kaur
Karen Nolan
Katrina Pritchett
Kulwinder Kaur
Mark Crowe
Marlet Sadah
Masoma Jamali
Nellie Hua
Priscilla Chiwota
Ruby Hazvinei Mugari Kunaka
Sunita Bohra
Sereyboth Yeo
Star Liu

1173

hours of community
gardening

5930

shots of espresso coffee
served

2505

cans recycled through the
Container Deposit Scheme



PROGRAMS REPORT

861
participants

While many people join our programs to learn a new skill or get fitter, they often return because of the social connection they find here. Many of our programs offer other health and wellbeing benefits too, from improving physical fitness and range of movement, to keeping the grey matter working by learning new things.

102
programs and
workshops

Although we ran fewer one-off workshops this year, many programs grew their participant numbers this year, in part due to the success of our letterboxing campaign and word of mouth advertising, but mostly due to the excellence of our tutors and the warm and friendly nature of the Neighbourhood House. Tutor illness continued to be an ongoing issue again this year, and we are grateful to all those who covered for tutors when they were ill, so that programs could continue as scheduled. One of the things that really struck home this year was how many of our digital literacy students had either been affected by scams or hacking, or knew someone who had, demonstrating the ongoing need for digital literacy programs.

41
different class
offerings

Highlights

- Ajani Walking Group's trips to the Bendigo Gallery to see the *Paris: Impressions of Life 1880-1925* exhibition and the Williamstown Botanical Gardens.
- Guest speaker Frank Constanzo from Constanzo Lawyers to deliver a special women's only *Wills and Estates* information session for the International Women's Group as part of Victorian Law Week.
- *Health Talk* presented in partnership with the Manningham U3A and Manningham City Council.
- Pre-school Bollywood dance session as part of Children's Week in partnership with Journey Early Learning.
- Black Forest Cake Workshop with Patisserie Chef Latitia Bremaud.



PROGRAMS REPORT

Programs that ran in 2023/24

ACFE - Classroom Confidence
ACFE - Cloud and Web Skills for the Office
ACFE - Digital Essentials Level 1
ACFE - Digital Essentials Level 2
ACFE - Digital Travel Skills
ACFE - Employability Skills through Community Gardening
ACFE - EmpowerAbility: Social Enterprise Skills
ACFE - Horticulture
ACFE - Hospitality Level 2
ACFE - Intro to Digital Essentials
ACFE - Intro to Hospitality
ACFE - Office Essentials
ACFE - Online Forms and Portals
Ajani Active-Balance, Posture & Stretching
Ajani Active-Older Adults-Daytime-Friday
Ajani Active-Older Adults-Daytime-Wed/Fri
Ajani Carers Group- Walks for Carers
Art of Painting - Daytime
Art of Painting - Evening Class
Bulleen Heights School - Kitchen Skills
Circuit Exercise
Cooking - Adult Gingerbread House
Cooking - Black Forest Cake
Cooking - Children Gingerbread House
Cooking - Croissants Level 1
Cooking - Croissants Level 1
Cooking - Croquembouche
Cooking - Macarons - Level 1
Cooking - Opera Cake
Hoop Dance
International Women's Group
Learn to Play Bridge - First Group
Live Fit for Men
Self Defence for Women
Sip and Paint
Social Fitness for Older Adults
Walking Group
Yoga Gentle Flow
Yoga Hatha - Monday am
Yoga Hatha - Thursday pm
Yoga Raj/Pilates Combo Mon am



CAFE HUB REPORT

The 2023-24 year was in part a successful one. During the year, we increased the café's takings by 3% on 2022-2023. Unfortunately, the café was required to reduce its opening hours to only three hours per day to reduce costs, foregoing potential revenue from activities in the afternoons. This brought challenges to all involved and took time for regular customers to get accustomed to the new hours.

An ongoing focus of the café is to increase volunteer involvement and training. Thank you to Carmen, Judith, Jenny, Daniel, Phi, and Kaliopi for your participation and assistance across the past 12 months. You have all developed your hospitality skills further. We continued to improve back and front of house systems with a consistent supply of snacks, sweets, and pre-prepared sandwiches, as well as a cleaning roster. The café has been fulfilling its social impact goals by nurturing community connectedness, with both regular attendees to our activities, other groups including U3A Manningham, Chinese Senior Citizens Club of Manningham, Dancin' Lines and other centre visitors. We have found that the café is an excellent place for people to meet and connect over coffee.

Looking ahead, I look forward to a continued increase in the number of new visitors to the café. With the centre's aim of increasing the number and range of programs, we hope that this will flow through to increasing the business in the café as well. I also hope to potentially occupy more space by expanding the chairs and tables in the forecourt when weather conditions allow. Finally, I look forward to when the café will run for longer hours than at present.

Hayden Lowe
Cafe Coordinator



SERVICES REPORT

2028kg
Food relief
distributed per
month

68%
increase in food
relief visits

52
Tax help sessions
delivered

Food Pantry

This year the number of pantry client visits increased by a staggering 68%. Many people accessed food relief for the first time in their lives, while those who had not attended the pantry for the last couple of years once again made contact with us. Fear of missing out behaviours, as well as traffic management issues in our building, saw us implement a new collection system: we changed our opening hours, instituted a number-based waiting room system and a one-way traffic flow. These changes took the pressure off our volunteers, who work very hard to run our pantry. Some very welcome and timely funding also improved our back of house processes, with improved data collection and privacy measures ensuring we collect the data we need, and don't keep what we don't. Regular donations via our partnership with Carenet, as well as Viva La Fresh, many individuals, as well as local schools helped us to spread grant funding further and we remain very grateful to all of our incredible supporters, especially the Doncaster East and Templestowe Community Bank (Bendigo Bank).

Tax Help

We are very fortunate to have the services of an incredible volunteer in Myrna Manton, who runs our Tax Help Program every year. Franking credits were a big theme in 2023, with many new clients having to complete multiple tax returns to catch up with new rules. The only Tax Help Service in Manningham, our service was booked out, and ran an extra week into November with the kind support of the Australian Tax Office.

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is a more pleasing task this year to talk about the financial position of Living and Learning at Ajani Inc. As you can see from the accounts, we have a surplus of \$54,514 for the 2023/24 year. This is a turnaround from last year of \$159,800 and has been achieved by increasing income (by \$80,231) and reducing expenses (by \$79,768), particularly staff costs.

As you can see from the accounts all areas of revenue are up from Financial Year 2022/23. The two biggest increases are Grant Income (competitive grants \$160,149), which is totally due to the work of Centre Manager Rebecca Sanders and fundraising, which was the result of the hard working Committee of Management. Thank you to Carla for organising fundraising through the Bunnings BBQ's and our stall at the Manningham Festival and to Liz for implementing the new "Sip and Paint" fundraising initiative. We intend to continue these initiatives in 2024/25 and add some new fundraising events.

Participation in programs has increased. The biggest increase has been in the most recent Term, which is unfortunately not in this reporting period. Term 4 has experienced the highest level of enrolments for some time which stands us in good stead for 2024/25.

Reducing costs has been difficult as most of our costs are fixed. In addition to the staff changes outlined at last year's AGM we have worked hard to reduce costs where we were able, including cancelling little used applications and being very focused with our spending. You can see that administration expenses have increased. This occurred because we received a significant grant for marketing which was expensed as administration expenses. In addition, the cost of utilities and the applications we rely on to run the business have increased.

When looking at our Statement of Financial Position please be cognisant that our major grant funding is annual and mostly paid at the beginning of the calendar year. The unspent grant money is represented in the current assets.

The Committee of Management has taken part in some training in "Financial Understanding for Not for Profits Boards". As part of this training, we were made aware that it is prudent to maintain reserves of the equivalent of 3-6 months of operating costs. Currently we have approximately three months of reserves. Over the next three years we will increase this towards the six months target.



\$160,149
awarded in
grants

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our larger grants are predominately received in Q3 of the financial year, which presents us with the opportunity to increase our income through interest payments from placing money on short term deposit. We have recently put in place a program of term deposits with the Bendigo Bank. The Committee of Management is cognisant that prudent financial management of Living and Learning at Ajani Inc. funds is vital for a healthy growing business.

The ACFE funding for our Digital Literacy programs will cease at the end of calendar year 2025. It is therefore imperative that we maintain good financial management to reduce the impact of the loss of this funding. Knowing in advance that we may lose this funding gives us the opportunity to secure alternative sources of funding.

The Committee of Management and staff have worked extremely hard to ensure that Living and Learning at Ajani has moved to a positive financial position. This has not been easy and has had an impact on both our time and our emotions. On behalf of everyone who is part of the Centre I would like to thank them for their diligence and hard work.

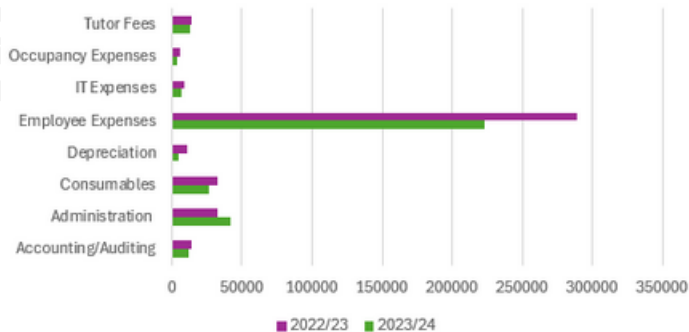
I have been acting Treasurer as we have been unable to attract someone with the relevant experience to the committee. While I have a background in the Finance sector, I am not an accountant. I would like to thank my husband Tony, for the benefit of his accounting expertise when I have needed some professional assistance. The Committee of Management will endeavour to secure someone with accounting skills to be our Treasurer.

We look forward to an even better 2024/25

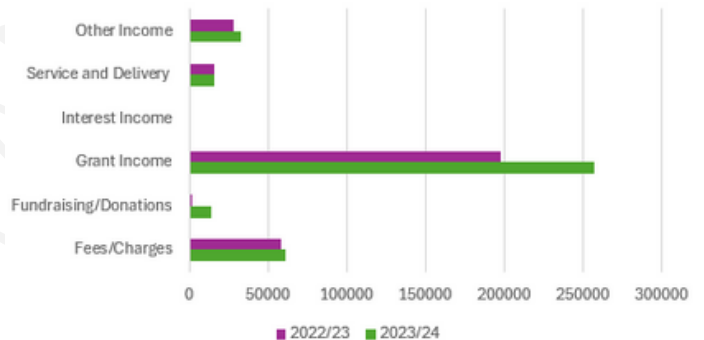


Kathy Monley OAM
Treasurer
Committee of Management

Expenses 2022/23 and 2023/24 Financial Year



Revenue 2022/23 and 2023/24 Financial Year



Living and Learning at Ajani Inc

ABN: 58 759 536 503

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

Living and Learning at Ajani Inc

ABN: 58 759 536 503

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For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

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LEAD AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER SUBDIVISION 60-C OF THE
AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMISSION ACT 2012

To the Committee of Living and Learning at Ajani Inc.:

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit for the year ended 30 June 2024 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

LDAssurance
Chartered Accountants



Stephen O'Kane
Partner

Dated this 6th day of November 2024
At 330 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Living and Learning at Ajani Inc

ABN: 58 759 536 503

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

Revenue			
Fees and charges		61,229	58,259
Fundraising and donations		14,535	2,195
Grant income	4	257,278	197,764
Interest income		1,198	769
Service and delivery income		16,382	16,192
Other income		33,059	28,271
Total Revenue		383,681	303,450
Expenses			
Accounting and audit fees		(11,830)	(14,276)
Administration expenses		(41,567)	(32,514)
Consumables		(26,740)	(32,856)
Depreciation expense		(4,297)	(11,215)
Employee expenses		(222,647)	(288,790)
IT expenses		(6,427)	(9,160)
Occupancy expenses		(3,462)	(5,907)
Tutor fees		(12,654)	(14,474)
Total expenses		(329,624)	(409,192)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		54,057	(105,742)
Other comprehensive income			
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		54,057	(105,742)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Living and Learning at Ajani Inc

ABN: 58 759 536 503

Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	209,417	176,931
Prepayments		-	1,700
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		209,417	178,631
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	6	12,618	10,906
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		12,618	10,906
TOTAL ASSETS		222,035	189,537
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	7	7,942	17,653
Employee benefits	8	33,274	53,858
Income in advance		29,816	21,080
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		71,032	92,591
TOTAL LIABILITIES		71,032	92,591
NET ASSETS		151,003	96,946
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		151,003	96,946
TOTAL EQUITY		151,003	96,946

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Basis of accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's financial reporting requirements under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

LDAssurance
Chartered Accountants



Stephen O'Kane
Partner

Dated this 6th day of November 2024
At 330 Collins Street, Melbourne.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LIVING AND LEARNING AT AJANI INC.

Report on the Financial Report

We have reviewed the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Living and Learning at Ajani (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year, notes comprising of material accounting policy information, other explanatory notes and certificate by members of the Committee.

This review report has also been prepared for the Committee of the association pursuant to the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commissions Act 2012*.

Committee's Responsibilities for the Financial Report

The Committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a fair and true view in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the Committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards on Review Engagements ASRE 2415 *Review of a Financial Report: Company Limited by Guarantee or an Entity Reporting under the ACNC Act or Other Applicable Legislation or Regulation*, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedure prescribed, anything has come to our attention that cause us to believe that the financial report does not satisfy the requirements of Division 60 of the ACNC Act including: giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and complying with the Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*. ASRE 2415 requires that we comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the review of the financial report.

A review of a financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Conclusion

Based on our review, which is not an audit, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report of Living and Learning at Ajani Inc. does not satisfy the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australia Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and the Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022*.

Living and Learning at Ajani Inc

ABN: 58 759 536 503

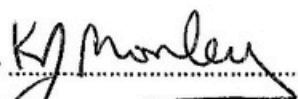
Management Committee's Declaration

The Management Committee declare that in their opinion:

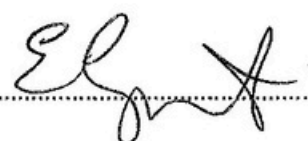
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulations 2022*.

Committee member



Committee member



Dated

6th November 2024.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

12 Cash Flow Information

Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

Surplus/(deficit) for the year	54,057	(105,742)
Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in profit:		
Depreciation	4,297	11,215
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in prepayments	1,700	(1,700)
- increase/(decrease) in income in advance	8,736	2,840
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(9,711)	(1,637)
- increase/(decrease) in provisions	(20,584)	26,409
Cashflows from operations	38,495	(68,615)

13 Events After the End of the Reporting Period

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Association in future financial years.

14 Statutory Information

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

Living and Learning at Ajani Inc
2/284 Thompsons Road
Lower Templestowe VIC 3107

Living and Learning at Ajani Inc

ABN: 58 759 536 503

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

7 Trade & Other Payables

CURRENT		
Trade payables	674	3,746
GST payable	2,870	2,305
PAYG payable	1,802	5,646
Superannuation payable	1,512	3,161
Accrued wages	623	1,909
Other payables	461	886
Total Trade and Other payables	7,942	17,653

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

8 Employee Benefits

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Long Service Leave	19,564	37,004
Annual Leave	13,710	16,854
Total Employee benefits	33,274	53,858

9 Auditors' Remuneration

Remuneration of the auditor, LDAssurance for:

- Review of the financial statements	2,000	2,000
- Preparation of the financial statements	1,000	1,000
Total	3,000	3,000

10 Contingencies

In the opinion of those charged with governance, the Association did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2024 (30 June 2023: None).

11 Related Parties

All committee members of Living and Learning at Ajani Inc act in an honorary capacity. No committee member received or was entitled to receive a fee solely by virtue of their position as a committee member.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2024**

6 Property, Plant and Equipment

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Furniture, fixtures and fittings		
At cost	49,076	49,076
Accumulated depreciation	(46,423)	(44,910)
Total furniture, fixtures and fittings	2,653	4,166
Office equipment		
At cost	27,707	26,170
Accumulated depreciation	(26,304)	(25,885)
Total office equipment	1,403	285
Computer equipment		
At cost	30,849	30,849
Accumulated depreciation	(29,539)	(28,162)
Total computer equipment	1,310	2,687
Computer software		
At cost	1,818	1,818
Accumulated depreciation	(1,287)	(922)
Total computer software	531	896
Kitchen & office renovations		
At cost	16,650	16,650
Accumulated depreciation	(14,105)	(13,778)
Total leasehold improvements	2,545	2,872
Garden equipment		
At cost	4,472	-
Accumulated depreciation	(296)	-
Total garden equipment	4,176	-
Total property, plant and equipment	12,618	10,906

Living and Learning at Ajani Inc

ABN: 58 759 536 503

Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

2024

Balance at 1 July 2023

Surplus/(deficit) for the year

Balance at 30 June 2024

Retained Earnings	Total
\$	\$
96,946	96,946
54,057	54,057
151,003	151,003

2023

Balance at 1 July 2022

Surplus/(deficit) for the year

Balance at 30 June 2023

Retained Earnings	Total
\$	\$
202,688	202,688
(105,742)	(105,742)
96,946	96,946

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Living and Learning at Ajani Inc

ABN: 58 759 536 503

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
Note	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Receipts from customers	417,861	324,812
Payments to suppliers and employees	(380,564)	(394,196)
Interest received	1,198	769
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	12 <u>38,495</u>	<u>(68,615)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of plant and equipment	<u>(6,009)</u>	(6,311)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	<u>(6,009)</u>	<u>(6,311)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	32,486	(74,926)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>176,931</u>	251,857
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	5 <u><u>209,417</u></u>	<u>176,931</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

The financial report covers Living and Learning at Ajani Inc as an individual entity. Living and Learning at Ajani Inc is a not-for-profit Association, registered and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of Living and Learning at Ajani Inc is Australian dollars.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of Preparation

In the opinion of the Management Committee the Association is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial statements who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, AASB 107 *Statement of Cash Flows*, AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors* and AASB 1054 *Australian Additional Disclosures*.

These special purpose financial statements comply with all the recognition and measurement requirements in Australian Accounting Standards, except for the recognition and measurement requirements specified in AASB 16 *Leases*. At the commencement of the lease, the Association has not recognised a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. This does not comply with AASB 16 *Leases*.

Material accounting policy information relating to the preparation of these financial statements are presented below, and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

The Association has adopted the amendments to AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements* which require only the disclosure of material accounting policy information rather than significant accounting policies and therefore policy information which does not satisfy one of the following requirements has been removed from these financial statements:

-
- Relates to change in accounting policy
- Policy has been developed in the absence of an explicit accounting standard requirement
- Documents an accounting policy choice
- Relates to an area of significant judgement or estimation
- Relates to a complex transaction and is required to explain the treatment to the user.

2 Material Accounting Policy Information

(a) Revenue and other income

Revenue from contracts with customers

Revenue is recognised on a basis that reflects the transfer of control of promised goods or services to customers at an amount that reflects the consideration the Association expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services.

Generally the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, however where there is a difference, it will result in the recognition of a receivable, contract asset or contract liability.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

2 Material Accounting Policy Information

(a) Revenue and other income

Revenue from contracts with customers

None of the revenue streams of the Association have any significant financing terms as there is less than 12 months between receipt of funds and satisfaction of performance obligations.

Specific revenue streams

The revenue recognition policies for the principal revenue streams of the Association are:

Grant Revenue

Non-reciprocal grant revenue is recognised in profit and loss when the Association obtains control of the grant, it is probable that the economic benefit gained from the grant will flow to the Association and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied. When grant revenue is received whereby the Association incurs an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue is recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until the service has been delivered to the contributor, otherwise the grant is recognised as income on receipt.

Where the Association receives non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for zero or a nominal value, these assets are recognised at fair value on the date of acquisition in the statement of financial position, with a corresponding amount of income recognised in profit or loss.

Fundraising and Donations

Fundraising and donations are recognised as revenue when received.

Interest Revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Association is entitled to it.

(b) Income tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(c) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

2 Material Accounting Policy Information

(c) Property, plant and equipment

Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the Association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

Fixed asset class	Depreciation rate
Kitchen/Office Refurbishment	10%-33.3%
Furniture and fittings	10%-20%
Office furniture	10%-33.3%
Computer equipment	50%
Software	20%

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

(d) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits, those benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The Management Committee make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

Key estimates - impairment of property, plant and equipment

The Association assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluating conditions specific to the entity that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are reassessed using the higher of fair value and value-in-use.

Key estimates - employee benefits

As described in the accounting policies, employee benefits are measured at management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period. These estimates are made taking into account a range of possible outcomes and will vary as further information is obtained.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2024**

4 Revenue

Grant income

Commonwealth government

Department of Industry, Science and Resources

State government

Department of Education and Training

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Department of Jobs, Services, Industry and Regions

Department of Health (Vic)

Local government

Manningham City Council

Other grants

Other grants

Total grant income

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
	5,000	-
	67,207	36,418
	97,129	93,718
	-	3,988
	35,776	-
	200,112	134,124
	32,441	45,000
	19,725	18,640
	257,278	197,764
	145,710	114,248
	63,707	62,683
	209,417	176,931

5 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash at bank

Deposits at call

Total Cash & Cash Equivalents