

Bobby Goldsmith

Foundation

# IMPACT REPORT

2022 - 2023



Matt Rule  
Community Ambassador

HELPING PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV  
TO THRIVE



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Bobby Goldsmith Foundation acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we are based.

We work on various lands including Sydney, Western Sydney, South Western Sydney and Northern Rivers and pay our respects to the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation.

We extend our acknowledgement to the Kaurna people, the Traditional Custodians of the Adelaide region in South Australia.

To all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across Australia, we pay our respects to their elders, past and present, and recognise their deep spiritual and cultural connections and relations to Country.

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TW: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that the report contains the name and image of a deceased person.

# HONOURING THE LEGACY OF TERRILEE SIMPSON

We unfortunately inform our readers that Terrilee Simpson, referenced in our Impact Report 2022-23, has passed away.

Terrilee's contributions and advocacy in the HIV sector and broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander landscape were immeasurable and we acknowledge her significant impact and legacy.

Please note, any references to Terrilee Simpson in this report are made with the utmost reverence.



Terrilee was a mother, daughter, proud First Nations Wiradjuri woman, long-term survivor of HIV and beloved Bobby Goldsmith Foundation Community Ambassador. She had also recently been employed at BGF as a Community Support Worker, where she assisted other people living with HIV to thrive.

Terrilee was a revered and admired leader in the HIV sector and contributed immeasurably to improving health outcomes for women living with HIV through her passionate involvement on the Gilead Advisory Board, Positive Leadership Development Institute and participation in Queensland Positive People, NAPWHA and Bobby Goldsmith Foundation's respective Boldly Positive campaigns.

Terrilee had a comforting presence and radiant warmth that made you feel like you had an immediate connection with her, and she effortlessly became a part of the BGF family and community. Terrilee wholeheartedly shared her story of resilience living with HIV to challenge HIV stigma, advocate for First Nations peoples, women and families and spark a positive change by all means possible.

We extend our deepest condolences, support and love to her family, friends and our community.

May she rest in power and peace.

## WHO WE ARE

Bobby Goldsmith was one of the first Australians to die from an AIDS-related illness in June 1984. His friends got together to find a way of giving him the care he needed to remain at home as they wanted to make his last weeks as comfortable as possible. He died with dignity, at home, where he wanted to be.

His friends established the important precedent of providing support and services for people living with HIV. If direct support could be provided for one person, it could be done for many.

We are a legacy of that dedicated group of friends - a charity which has been supporting people living with HIV for nearly 40 years.

Founded in 1984, we provide practical, emotional, and financial support to people living with HIV in NSW and SA.

We are Australia's longest serving HIV organisation, providing client services and health promotion programs in NSW and SA.

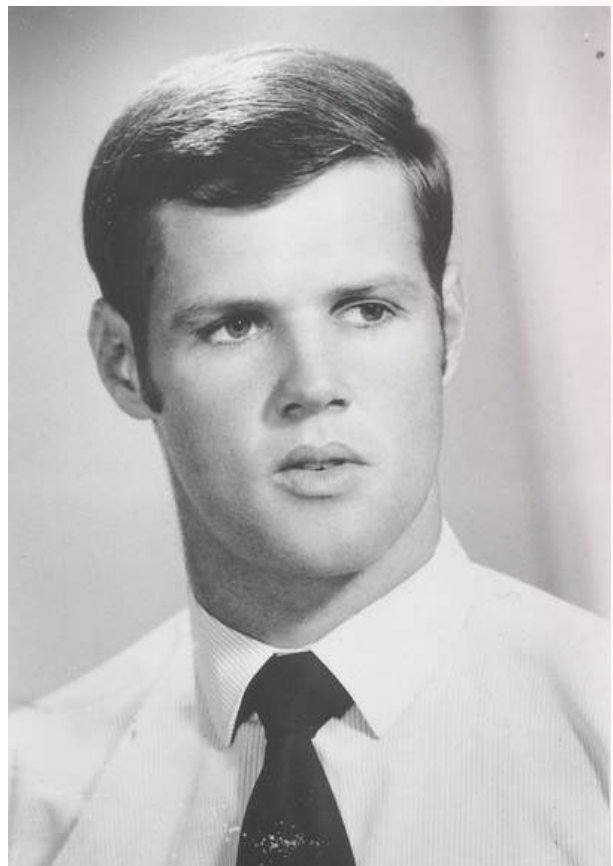
We are unique as the only not for profit in Australia providing frontline services and support to people living with HIV no matter their age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion or gender.

We have no political or religious affiliations, just a deep-seated desire to help people live well on their terms through practical, tailored assistance.

We're also an equal opportunity employer dedicated to providing a safe, inclusive workplace and services.

And last but not least, we're a registered not-for-profit. So, every donation is tax deductible.

Together we can ensure no one has to face HIV alone.



Bobby Goldsmith

## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to help people living with HIV to thrive.

We focus on being agile and adapting to the changing needs of the people we support so that our services remain relevant and accessible to everyone, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity or cultural and linguistic background.

## OUR VALUES

### We value

#### Compassion

we genuinely care about the wellbeing of our community members

#### Solidarity

we stand alongside all people living with HIV

#### Empowerment

we support people to live the best life of their own choice

#### Inclusivity

everyone with HIV is welcome



David Polson, AM  
Community Ambassador

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

There are so many things to be proud of over the last year and a quick snapshot includes (but is definitely not limited to):

Our success in becoming a NDIS registered provider that will ensure that our Community Support Workers continue to take on new community members and provide continuity of care to those who rely on the daily support of BGF.

Our expansion of our Health and Wellbeing programs with the launch of 'Social Days Out' – all-day excursions that provide opportunities for people living with HIV to have a safe space to meet other peers, catch up with old friends and share new experiences together. We've seen community members take excursions up to the Blue Mountains, learning new skills at a life drawing class and doing a walking tour of Vivid Sydney.

Our outreach visits by Case Managers and Case Workers which have helped ease the isolation felt by many of our clients during the last few years of Covid restrictions and our financial counselling support which has helped to ease the burden felt by many this past year as the cost-of-living crisis has really set in.



Nick Lawson  
CEO  
Bobby Goldsmith Foundation





Our honour in appointing Ita Buttrose AC, OBE as BGF's Co-Patron. For decades, Ita has stood as a steadfast pillar of support for people living with HIV, tirelessly championing social justice. She is an exceptional advocate for our cause and with her support, we are confident in our ability to continue improving the quality of life for all our community members.

**“We have had many opportunities to bring the wider BGF family together this year. As with many in our community, Sydney World Pride kicked off 2023 and we were honoured to take part in this global rainbow event.”**

We had the opportunity to amplify the voices of people living with HIV and the work of BGF through the range of activities that we took part in, having a lot of fun along the way. Walking across Sydney Harbour Bridge as part of the Pride March with many of our community members was personally a highlight for me and will remain an unforgettable experience.

Alongside the celebration of all things World Pride, we experienced a great loss with the passing of our inaugural Community Ambassador, Simon Dunn, in late January 2023. Simon was a prominent voice in the LGBTQIA+ community and through his work with us at BGF, an incredible ally to people living with HIV. We feel privileged to have worked alongside him. His legacy will live on through BGF and the lives he touched.

To all our supporters, thank you for your generosity. With your support we have been able to empower people living with HIV to thrive and a future they can look forward to.

To all our volunteers and Board members, thank you for all the enthusiasm, dedication and positivity you've brought to every BGF meeting, committee, or event that you participated in.

Finally, we thank our staff. The support we provide to people living with HIV is only possible thanks to our staff and their tireless work. The success of BGF is built on the compassion, enthusiasm, and passion that our staff show every day to our community members, and we are so grateful for it. I thank them for their dedication.

Nick Lawson,  
Chief Executive Officer, BGF

## HIV IN AUSTRALIA TODAY

**29,460**  
NUMBER OF PEOPLE  
LIVING WITH HIV  
IN AUSTRALIA <sup>[1]</sup>

**86%**

**IDENTIFY AS BEING A  
PART OF THE LGBTQIA+  
COMMUNITY**

**49%**

**REPORTED THEIR OVERALL WELLBEING  
(INCL. PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL  
WELLBEING) TO BE FAIR/POOR**

**37%**

**HAVE EXPERIENCED SOME FORM OF  
STIGMA IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS**

**36%**

**HAVE A CURRENT DIAGNOSIS OF MORE  
THAN ONE MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION**

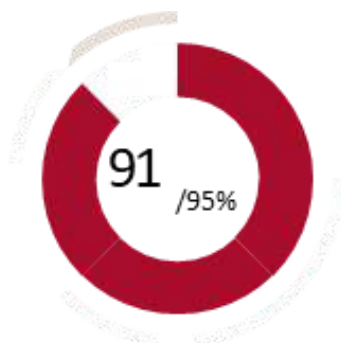
**26%**

**HAVE A REPORTED ANNUAL INCOME OF  
LESS THAN \$30,000**

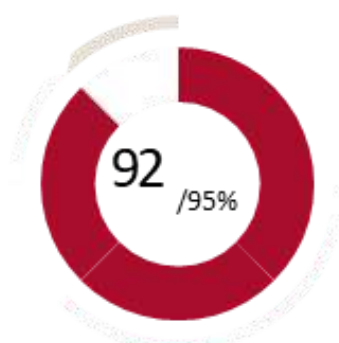
## EMERGING POPULATIONS THAT HIV DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTS

- ↗ MIGRANT COMMUNITIES
- ↗ WESTERN SYDNEY
- ↗ FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES
- ↗ HETEROSEXUAL WOMEN

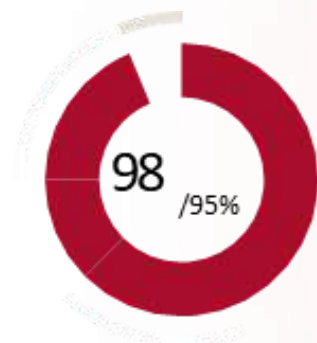
## UN GLOBAL HIV TARGETS AUSTRALIA'S PROGRESS



Diagnosed



Treated



Virally  
Suppressed

"THE FOURTH95"  
BGF's Focus



72  
/95%

THE GOAL:  
95% of those living  
with HIV report a  
good quality of life.

# HOW WE HELP

HIV can affect every aspect of a person's life – from their financial stability and employment status, through to their mental health and relationships with partners, family and friends. This is why we provide a range of services and programs that empower and support people to live well.

From diagnosis onwards, we work with our clients to limit the challenging circumstances of social isolation, economic poverty and stigma that are often so detrimental to their physical and emotional wellbeing.

We achieve this through a range of services:



## Case Management

Providing those community members with complex needs with more holistic support and care coordination.

## Case Work

Supporting our community members in practical, financial and emotional ways whilst linking them to the services they need.

## Financial Counselling

Supporting and advocating for people with HIV who are also experiencing significant financial stress, impacting their overall quality of life.

## HIV / AOD Integrated Services

Providing support to people with HIV who are also experiencing homelessness, alcohol and/or drug dependence issues, providing a wide-range of HIV-related support to address their physical, mental and social needs.

## Community Support Program

Delivering regular in-home community-based practical assistance and care.

## Health and Wellbeing Programs

Programs that develop practical life-skills, support self-expression, reduce social isolation and build peer connectedness.

## OUR IMPACT



**716**

### NUMBER OF CLIENTS

Approximate number of people living with HIV (PLHIV) that we have supported across all services over the last year.



**2,300**

### FINANCIAL COUNSELLING

Occurrences of financial counselling and support provided to 90 PLHIV experiencing financial stress.



**587**

### PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES

PLHIV who have been assisted with mild to complex needs by our Case Management, Case Work & HIV/AOD Service Team.



**15,200**

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Hours of assistance with daily living activities provided by our Community Support Workers across 7,300 shifts.



**1,530**

### PRACTICAL SUPPORT

Occurrences of practical support (EAPA vouchers, WDO's, Filling the Gap referrals, etc) provided to clients.



**287**

### HEALTH AND WELLBEING PROGRAMS

Clients who have improved social connection and quality of life through taking part in our programs.

## Case Management

Roy is a colourful character with loads of personality. He has been part of the BGF community for about 5 years.

Roy is blind and lives in an aged care facility in the Northern Beaches. He has no family and is quite isolated, so his connection to his BGF Case Manager Lauren is something vital to him. Lauren is Roy's 'rock', and he firmly believes that he 'wouldn't be here without them.'

Sometimes the support Roy needs from Lauren is as simple as a haircut or a trip to the beach. At other times, it's the need for social connection and Lauren will bring Roy to our community events, giving him the chance to spend time with other long-term survivors.

## Financial Counselling

She has always been independent and proud of the way that she has been able to raise her kids largely on her own, on a single income.

Terrilee is a proud First Nations Wiradjuri woman and long-term survivor of HIV.

Escaping a dysfunctional relationship however, Terrilee found herself struggling to cope with the bills. Her car had mechanical issues that were proving impossible to resolve. Without a car, Terrilee was unable to get to work. Without work, she was unable to pay the rent and things felt like they were spiraling out of control.

"I felt like I wasn't making any ground, no matter how hard I tried. I felt like I was drowning in debt and there was just no end to it all," she said.

Terrilee met with Emma, BGF's Financial Counsellor, who helped her set up a budget and apply for a NILS loan to replace her car so that she could get to work.



"Emma allowed me to just stop and look at one thing at a time. Every one of the little financial steps she supported me through enabled me to have a little bit more head space. Emma was invaluable in getting me back on track and teaching me how to manage my finances so that it wasn't a day-to-day stress for me anymore. I can breathe again," said Terrilee.

## Health and Wellbeing Programs

In his mid-20s, Shane is part of the younger generation of people living with HIV.

He got in touch with BGF in early 2023, in his darkest hour. He was desperate for the weight and shame that he felt from his HIV diagnosis to be lifted and to find relief from the loneliness that had become his life.

Shane initially signed up for BGF's Positive Self-Management Program and as the course progressed, he could feel himself coming out of his shell. He believes he spoke more words in the eight weeks of the course than he had done in the last five years. He was finally able to address his HIV status head on and meet others living healthy lives beyond their diagnosis.

Since then, Shane has gone on to take part in art therapy and fitness programs and attend several Social Days Out.

Shane talks about feeling a renewed sense of purpose and self and that he now has hope and a clear vision for his future. Knowing support is just a text or train trip away and finding a sense of community has helped him shed the layers of shame and isolation.

"Every day I am now empowered by and connected with everyone who ever lived with this diagnosis before and after me," said Shane.

Our Community Support Workers support Clayton to live independently, helping him with his shopping and taking him to his medical appointments. They also make sure that he stays connected to his community, taking him out and about when he's up for it.

### Community Support Program

Clayton is long-term survivor of HIV and has been receiving support from BGF for four years.

Clayton was super keen to take part in the Mardi Gras parade this year as he wanted to be part of all the glitter and sparkle of World Pride. He hadn't marched in the parade in over 20 years, and he was delighted that with the support of his Community Support Worker, he could ride in BGF's float.

"I'm 65 this year, and I thought to myself this was a good way to go out on top. And on an actual float because I can't walk the parade anymore, and also for World Pride.

It felt important too because some of the people I had the privilege of standing with on that float are even longer-term survivors than me. And I thought, wow I really am travelling with history here.

That these people have outlived the virus was an amazing thing. I was just so impressed by their enthusiasm, stamina and spirit and honoured to ride with them," Clayton said.

## Alcohol and/or Other Drugs

**Kicked out of the family home at 15 years old, Glen spent over a decade living on the streets.**

It made him grow up very quickly. In his mid-20s, Glen started using intravenously and his life started to spiral.

It was only on receiving his HIV diagnosis that Glen realised that it was time to start looking after his health.

"As strange as this sounds, my HIV diagnosis was actually a blessing in disguise. It woke me up to the importance of wanting to take care of my health. I considered the risks of not looking after myself and what that might lead to, and it was a scary thought."

Glen reached out to BGF through our Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) program, who found him a temporary place to live at Haymarket Foundation. Glen's AOD Case Worker at BGF was then able to advocate on his behalf to get him into more permanent housing which meant that for the first time in years, Glen had a safe place to go back to. The stability that came from having a place of his own gave Glen the breathing space he needed to get sober.

"My AOD counsellor never pushed me towards rehab. She allowed me to drive my own life. I realised that I needed to be the driving force of my recovery."

This is just one of the many ways BGF has supported Glen over the past nine years. Glen receives support through BGF's Financial Counsellor who has advocated on his behalf for a moratorium on his debts. This has really helped to elevate some of his financial pressures.

"If it wasn't for BGF, I don't know where I'd be. I'm living such a better life because of the support, love and kindness showed to me by the team at BGF."

After years of homelessness and living with AOD issues, Glen is living in a place of his own and getting back on his feet. He is studying a Cert 4 in mental health at his local TAFE and is determined to find a job where he can use his lived experience to help others.



Glen Armener  
BGF Case Worker Placement



## OUR PATRONS

### Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG



The Hon. Michael Kirby is an Australian jurist and academic who is a former Justice of the High Court of Australia. With the advent of HIV, Justice Kirby became involved in a number of national and international activities, including the UNAIDS Reference Group on HIV and Human Rights.

Michael became BGF's Patron in 2002.

### Ita Buttrose AC, OBE



Ita Buttrose is a legendary media icon, businesswoman, the 2013 Australian of the Year and the current Chair of the ABC.

Ita had a leading role in the development of Australia's AIDS policy in the 1980s as Chair of the National Advisory Committee on AIDS (NACAIDS) and over the last 40 years, she has shown an enduring commitment to the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Ita became a Honorary Life Member of BGF in 2013 and BGF's Co-Patron in 2023



# OUR COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS

BGF's Community Ambassadors represent a diverse body of advocates, all experienced in working with external shareholders to shed light on issues pertaining to HIV in Australia, the LGBTQIA+ community and our community members.

They're an important part of our fundraising activities and are available as spokespeople on behalf of our corporate partners, highlighting the important work and the difference our partners make to the lives of people living with HIV.



David Polson, AM

As a long-term survivor of HIV/AIDS, David's experience and wisdom are invaluable to the HIV movement and the LGBTQIA+ community. He is an experienced keynote speaker and passionate about educating to fight HIV stigma and create positive futures for people living with HIV.

## Etcetera Etcetera

Etcetera embodies what a true HIV ally is. As an international Drag Race star and non-binary trans and bisexual person, Etcetera Etcetera leverages her social media influence to educate and support trans, non-binary and people whose identities exist beyond a rigid gender and sex binary.





### Steve Spencer

Steve is a champion for equality and is immensely involved in LGBTQIA+ advocacy and the HIV sector. As a bisexual man and HIV peer, Steve sits on the board of NAPWHA, is a member of the Sydney Bi+ Network and is a co-founder of the PrEP community advocacy network PrEPaccessNOW (PAN).

### Terrilee Simpson

A proud First Nations Wiradjuri woman and long-term survivor of HIV. Terrilee discovered she was HIV positive after the death of her daughter from an HIV brain infection – she wasn't tested during pregnancy because she wasn't considered a risk. She has been fighting to change this way of thinking ever since. Terrilee is passionate about advocacy for all people living with and affected by HIV, particularly First Nations people, heterosexuals, women and families.



### Katherine Wolfgramme

Katherine is a multi-award winning and nominated, Australian Trans Advocate and Gender Diversity Consultant. She is renowned in the LGBTQIA+ space for her commitment to the community, her advocacy and her determination to raise up those most marginalised and vulnerable, shining a light on inequality and social injustice. Katherine is an HIV ally who uses her voice to raise awareness of BGF and HIV, particularly in the trans and gender diverse space.



### Hannah Conda

Hannah is an award-winning Drag Artist who was recently runner-up on RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under. She is a coveted performer of international acclaim. Through her platform, she has consistently used her voice to promote equality, acceptance, and love. Hannah's mission is to create safe spaces to discuss HIV.



### Thomas Grainger

Tomi Grainger is a drag queen and community advocate, managing a large pool of Australian LGBTQIA+ talent. A content creator themselves, they put a strong focus on supporting queer youth and raising awareness around important issues impacting the community. Tomi is one of BGF's most recent ambassadors, spreading a message of self empowerment and living as your whole authentic self.



### Matt Rule

Living with HIV for 12 years, Matt's advocacy journey has been marked by a commitment to breaking the stigma surrounding HIV. As a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, Matt brings valuable insights into navigating HIV in same-sex relationships. He is passionate about HIV advocacy in heterosexual communities, prevention and treatment in prison settings and challenges faced in seeking HIV care in rural areas.



## Hollywood Star



Hollywood is an international headline act and RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under Semi-Finalist. As well as being an accomplished performer and IMG model, Hollywood has a heart of gold and is committed to sparking inter-generational conversations with audiences around HIV stigma, treatment and prevention and how to support people living with HIV in Australia today.



Cirque du Noir  
Auction Gala 2023



## OUR SUPPORTERS BY NUMBERS

### Volunteers

**81**  
**VOLUNTEERS**

**321**  
**VOLUNTEER HOURS**

### Gala Auction and Trivia

**300**  
**AUCTION GUESTS**

**\$83,000**  
**AUCTION AND TRIVIA FUNDS RAISED**

### Donors

**\$253,800**  
**DONATIONS BY BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS**

### Funding

**\$2,272,000**  
**PROJECT FUNDING AND GRANTS**

### Community Fundraising

**\$97,000**  
**FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNITY GROUPS**

### Bequests

**\$37,394**  
**BEQUESTS**

# PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

We are continually thankful for the incredible support of like-minded organisations who support our mission to empower people living with HIV to thrive.

## Our Partners



## New South Wales Health Partnership



Health

Bobby Goldsmith Foundation acknowledges NSW Health's ongoing support and commitment to public health by supporting people living with HIV. NSW Health provides necessary funding for BGF to exercise our daily services and operations.

NSW Health's contribution to BGF helps ensure that our services are available for all individuals across New South Wales seeking tailored support.



# OUR THANKS

With heartfelt thanks to our major sponsors, prize donors and loyal supporters that make our work possible.

## Acknowledgements

Our thanks also go out to our annual supporters and our regular individual donors who are the backbone of BGF and the work we do - we are immensely grateful for their ongoing support.

A special thanks to our Board Directors who go above and beyond to support our work – President: Mathew Paine, Vice-President: Linda Bracken, Treasurer: Ramon del Carmen and our Board Members Andrew Smith, Dash Heath-Paynter, John Walton, David Kay, Ben Moh and Tina Eggers and to the Members of our Advisory Committees on Fundraising, Risk and Audit, Investment and Finance.

Finally, we are incredibly grateful for the tireless service and commitment of all our volunteers. BGF was created out of the friendship, love and kindness shown by Bobby's friends and our volunteers are continuing this legacy nearly 40 years later. We're so grateful for all that you do.



# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Accountability

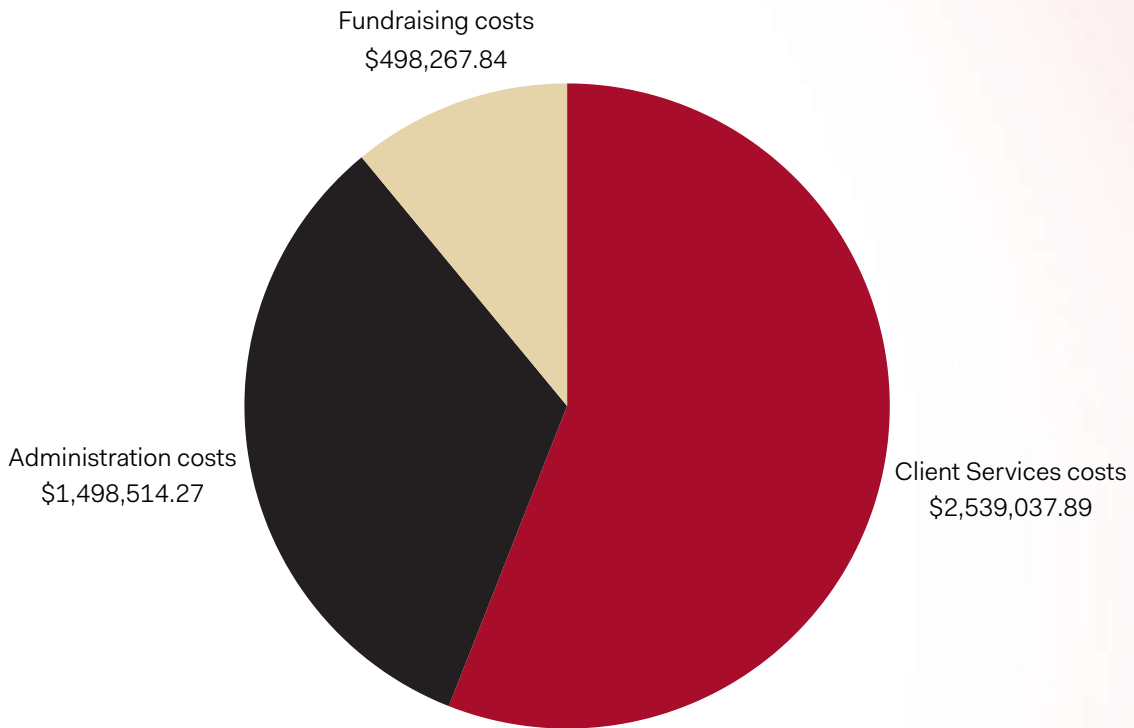
A copy of the full statutory audit report for 2022/23 is available on the BGF's website at: [www.bgf.org.au](http://www.bgf.org.au) or on request from BGF's office.

## Income Statement

	2021-22	2022-23
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>		
Operating revenue	\$3,802,735	\$4,015,623
Operating expenses	\$4,535,820	\$5,036,475
Operating surplus/deficit	-\$ 733,085	-\$1,020,852
Financial income/loss	-\$ 276,247	\$655,553
Profit on sale of assets	-	-
Bequests	\$54,446	\$37,394
Net surplus/deficit	-\$ 954,886	-\$327,905

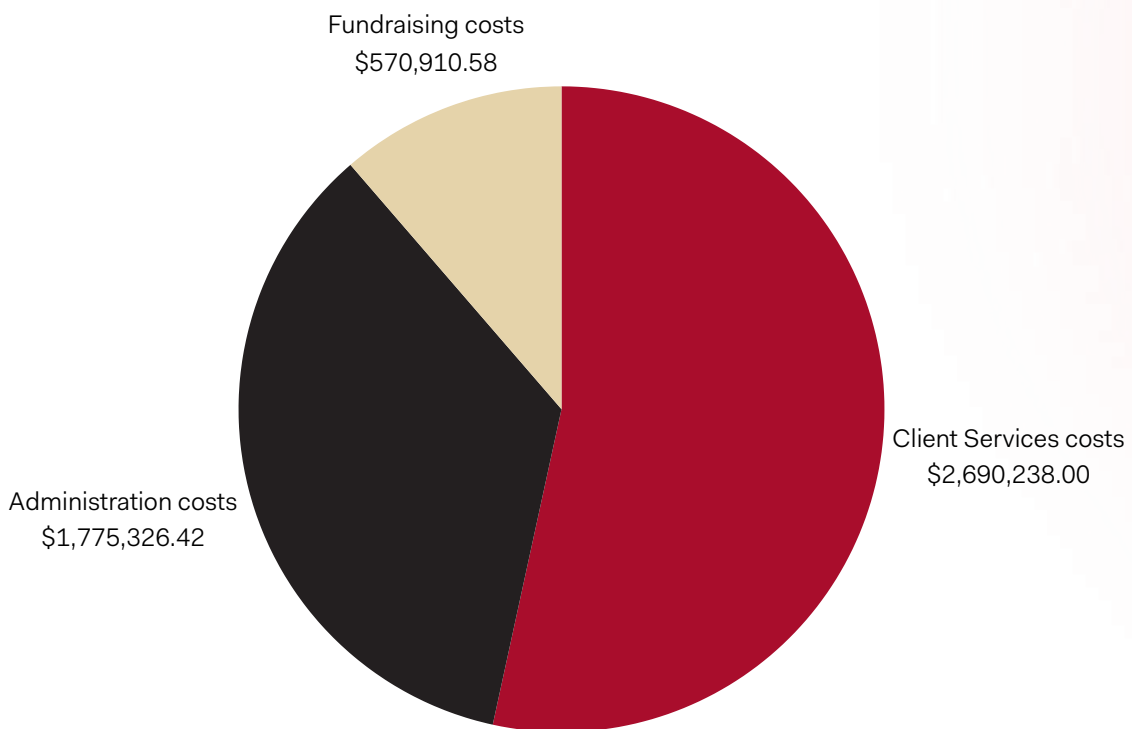
	2021-22	2022-23
<b>Assets and Liabilities</b>		
Total assets	\$9,611,582	\$9,913,934
Total liabilities	\$548,186	\$1,178,443
Total equity	\$9,063,396	\$8,735,491
<b>Cash Flows</b>		
Net cash from operating activities	-\$701,540	-\$527,976
Net cash from investing activities	\$197,572	\$743,187
Net cash from financial activities	-\$184,541	-\$203,114
Cash and cash equivalents as 30 June	\$166,359	\$178,456
<b>Ratios</b>		
Current assets/current liabilities	19.37:1	11.81:1
Cost of CS/total expenditure	53%	53%
Cost of admin/total expenditure	31%	34%
Billable services/total operating revenue	31%	34%

### Our Expenses 2021-22



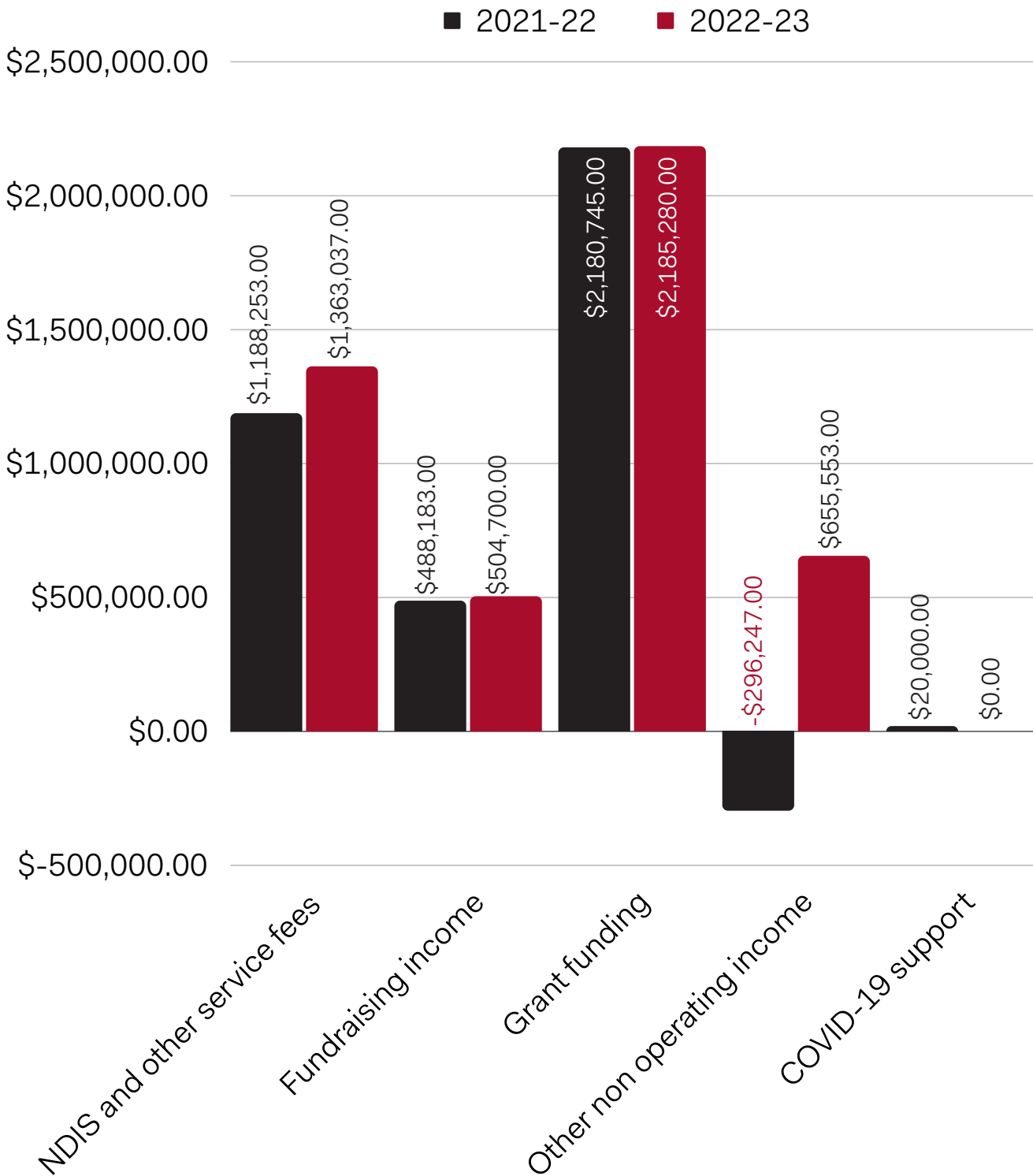
Total: \$4,535,820.00

### Our Expenses 2022-23



Total: \$5,036,475.00

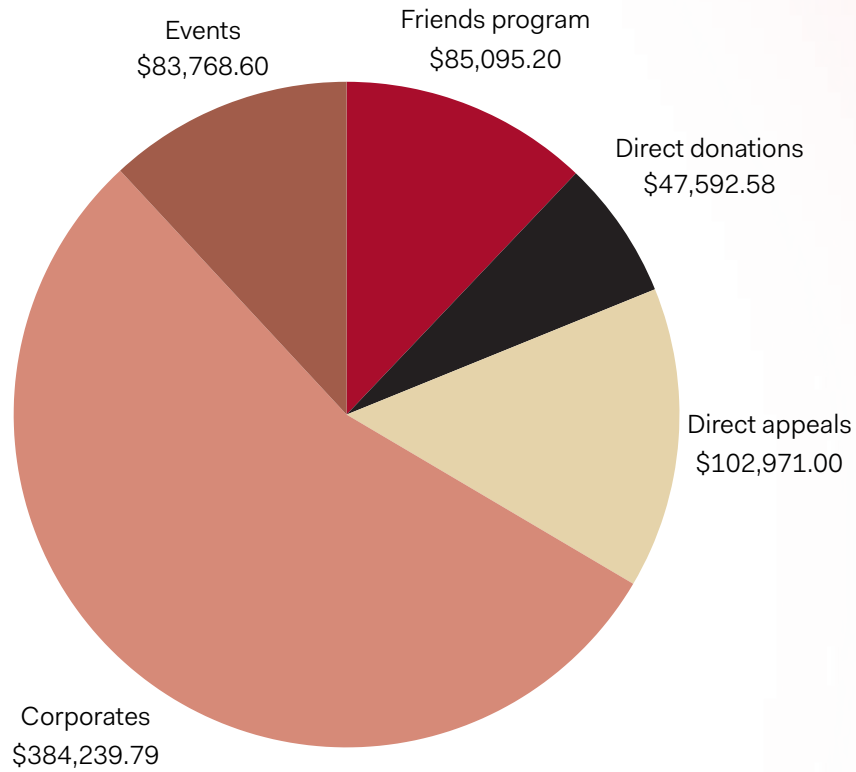
Our Revenue 2021-22



Total 2021-22: \$3,580,934.00

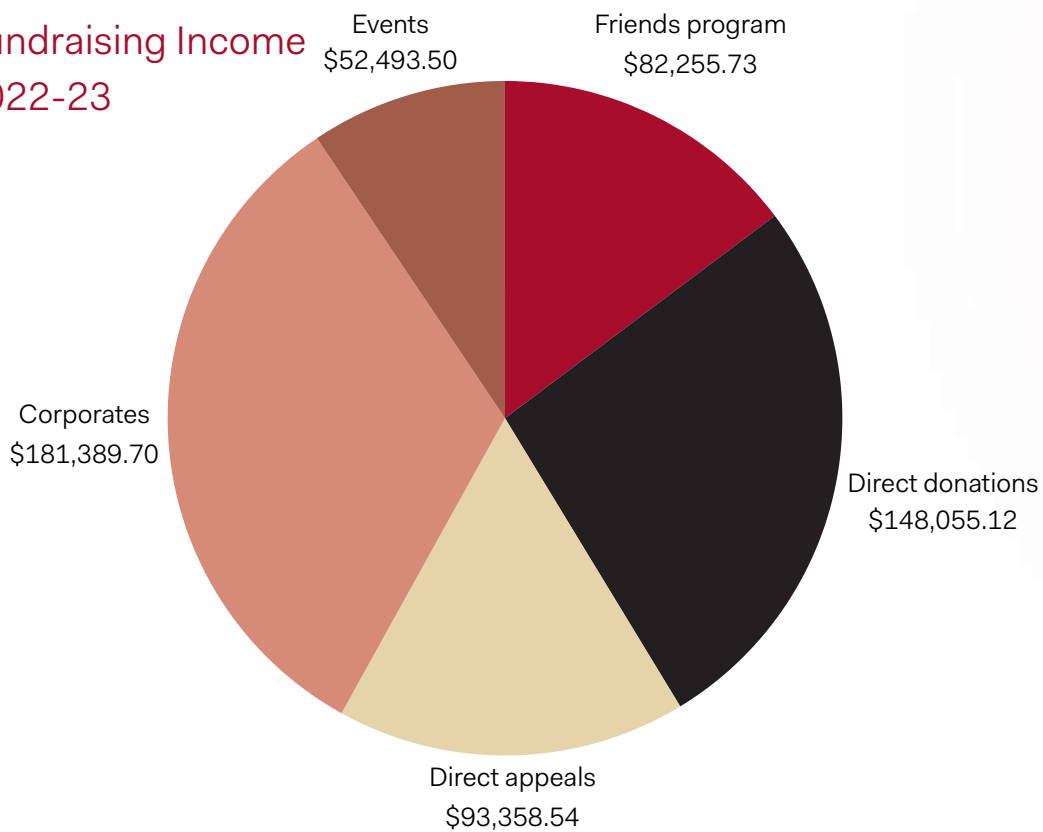
Total 2022-23: \$4,708,570.00

### Fundraising Income 2021-22



Net fundraising surplus: \$205,399.33

### Fundraising Income 2022-23



Net fundraising surplus: -\$13,357.99

THANK YOU!

Thank you for supporting BGF and our mission to help people living with HIV thrive.

You can help to make a difference to people living with HIV in the following ways:

### Join as a Friend

Our Friends are crucial to our development – we are a community based organisation and rely on a pool of talented supporters to provide expertise, inspiration and assistance. We hold regular events and keep Friends informed through our newsletter and updates to our website and social media platforms.

### Make a donation

All donations to BGF are greatly appreciated and can be made online or by post. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

### Make a bequest

Remember BGF in your will and your bequest will be a promise for a better life for people living and growing older with HIV.

**Bobby Goldsmith**  
Foundation

### Contact Details

PO Box 1444  
Strawberry Hills, NSW, 2012

E: [bgf@bgf.org.au](mailto:bgf@bgf.org.au)  
W: [www.bgf.org.au](http://www.bgf.org.au)

P: (02) 9283 8666

## REFERENCE LIST

1. Health Equity Matters. (2023). HIV in Australia 2023.  
<https://healthequitymatters.org.au/wpcontent/uploads/2022/11/hiv-in-australia-2023.pdf>