

# Sydney ALLIANCE

## ANNUAL REPORT

2022

December 2022





# SYDNEY **ALLIANCE**

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## SYDNEY ALLIANCE WHO ARE WE?

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### **STRONG AND CONNECTED COMMUNITIES**

The Sydney Alliance brings together diverse community, union, faith, charity, and not-for-profit organisations to advance the common good and achieve a fair, just and sustainable city.

We do this by deepening relationships and building collective power between diverse people, organisations and communities, which strengthens civil society. We call this community organising.

*'The Alliance is the largest and most diverse coalition of communities in Sydney'*

We believe that being part of strong and connected communities enables Sydneysiders to grow and develop as leaders, participate more fully in democracy, and shape their own future.

The Sydney Alliance launched with 45 member organisations on 15 September 2011. At 48 organisations today, we are still going strong.

The Alliance is the largest and most diverse coalition of communities in Sydney.

We are a part of an international network of community alliances called the Industrial Areas Foundation Northwest.



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SYDNEY ALLIANCE

## MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIR



*Steph Cunio*

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What a year!

It's hard to believe that it was only a year ago that my kids returned to school after four months of home learning.

Covid-19 has been horrible for most of us on many levels, particularly for international students. This is why I so am proud and honoured to be Board Co-chair at a time when our student work has evolved into a placement program with Western Sydney University and the student hub can mature as a place of connection and support for international students.

*'I have organised tirelessly with many others to build and strengthen our Alliance'*

Beginning in my role as Co-chair was daunting as standing on the tall shoulders of the amazing Mary Waterford is not for the faint hearted.

Like my responses to many opportunities in my life I initially had the typical, gendered reaction of 'I am not good enough'. A couple of my activist sisters quickly agitated me out of this attitude.

I reflected that I have been involved in the Alliance since 2008, have worked at the Alliance on secondment, have joined every

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union and climate organisation I've worked at to the Alliance, I come from a faith community, and I have organised tirelessly with many others to build and strengthen our Alliance.

I finally realised that it had to be me, but that I didn't have the capacity to do it alone – so I pitched a co-leadership arrangement. Luckily Nish jumped on board, and I believe we are a

*'... the Alliance has proven time and again that we can evolve and adapt'*

complementary team. Nish brings faith and community sector experience and I bring union, climate and Jewish community organising experience. We are from different generations and different parts of Sydney. The diversity our Alliance stands for is reflected in your Co-chairs.

Along with new board Co-chairs we have had several new staff join the Alliance and have farewelled the much-loved Thuy Nguyen from the team. As challenging as staffing changes can be, the Alliance has proven time and again that we can evolve and adapt. The increased grant money we have brought in, the sharpening of our focus on climate justice and the bedding down of the Assistant Organiser Placement Program are all evidence of this.

I am proud to have been part of our Alliance since inception and to be Board Co-chair in this moment of growth and evolution.

May the richness and diversity of Alliance organisations and leaders continue to be our strength.

In unity,



STEPH CUNIO  
*Co-chair of the Board*

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SYDNEY ALLIANCE

## MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIR



*Nishadh Rego*

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The COVID-19 pandemic has been profoundly disruptive and painful for so many people. It is hard to think of a time when strong relationships and common purpose mattered more.

Time and again in the last two and a half years, the Sydney Alliance has brought unions, community organisations, faith groups, and diaspora communities together to support and organise with those willfully left behind or forgotten in governments' pandemic responses.

*'It is hard to think of a time when strong relationships and common purpose mattered more'*

Support for and solidarity with international students, refugees, and other migrants has been a key part of this picture, a commitment which I believe is particularly important and reflective of Australia at its best.

We may have come out of the eye of the COVID-19 storm, but these are yet uncertain times. As ever, the Alliance has continued to adapt.

Leaders are connecting face-to-face again, and there is a strong commitment to a city-wide listening campaign, after years of relative disconnection. Alliance members are building a strategic and long-term campaign centred on issues of housing and



climate justice ahead of an important NSW State Election in March 2023.

The continuation of the Voices for Power project, and the consolidation of the Assistant Organisers' Placement Program with Western Sydney University, both speak to an ability to build leadership and relational power in innovative ways, underpinned by growing capacity to garner funding to do so.

*'Friends and mentors convinced me to be comfortable in my own skin, trust my instincts ...'*

The Alliance will miss the wisdom and experience of Thuy Nguyen on the staff team but is very fortunate to have a group of talented and committed community organisers to step up and carry forward the growing program of work.

Speaking of stepping up, when Mary Waterford and Steph Cunio asked me to Co-chair the Alliance with Steph earlier this year, I wondered what I could offer to the role, and whether I could fill Mary's very large shoes!

Friends and mentors convinced me to be comfortable in my own skin, trust my instincts, and draw on my professional experiences in international, faith, and community sector advocacy, policy, and organising work.

I feel proud and privileged to work with Steph Cunio and the Board, David Barrow, Chantelle Ogilvie-Ellis and the rest of the staff team, and all the leaders in our communities in our common mission for a more just, fair, and sustainable city, ahead of a big 2023.

Onward!



NISHADH REGO  
*Co-chair of the Board*

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SYDNEY ALLIANCE

## MESSAGE FROM THE **LEAD ORGANISER**



*David Barrow*

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Hundreds of meetings I've had with leaders throughout the year have made it clear that everyone in NSW – whether a member of a synagogue board, church council, community group or trade union – is wrestling with rebuilding their civic institutions after the 2021 lockdowns. Covid-19 was not simply a disruption. It was a prolonged disruption that broke lifetime habits of people across Australia.

There is a big difference between civic organisations that rest on participation through force of habit, and institutions where members have opportunities to develop their interest, leadership and legacy.

Organisations and teams in the latter category have fared better in the post-lockdown rebuild. Many people who participated in their organisation through force of habit did not come back after the long break of habit that was the pandemic.

But the extended lockdowns also created space for people to reflect. There is not a person I have met who did not have a personal, psychological, or political insight from that period.

Organisationally this has meant a great reshuffle: early retirements, people stepping down from voluntary roles, members having new callings and disengaging from their previous institutions. On the other hand, organisations with deep relationships and a living sense of mission have attracted newcomers. Some organisations even found themselves in the crisis.

The experience of 2020-2021 uncovered the injustices faced by temporary migrants, essential workers, and all the members of our community whose real wages have not moved in years. It also uncovered for those of us in Western Sydney the deeply held biases against the region within the government and police.

Unions, community groups and faith institutions not only leaped in to respond to the crisis, but have renewed their relationships, policy frameworks, and chutzpah to rise to the challenges uncovered.

What's all this got to do with the Sydney Alliance?

The approach of the broad-based community organising at the heart of the Alliance is one that recognises civic organisations as critical to the health of society. It is an approach that supports organisations to not only come together across diversity to win positive outcomes for our communities, but to grow their memberships, challenge the dominance of corporations and governments, and thrive.

As you will see throughout this annual report, success for the Alliance is measured

*'broad-based community organising... recognises civic organisations as critical to the health of society'*

across five categories. We:

- 1) Develop new **leaders** for our member organisations, who step into their role as non-partisan political actors
- 2) Strengthen our partner **organisations** so that they are living, breathing, and acting in line with their mission with new energy and insight
- 3) Build a diverse, deeply rooted, and well-resourced **alliance** across the state that acts for the common good
- 4) Win on **issues** that impact the day to day lives of millions of our members across Sydney and NSW.
- 5) Shift the landscape of **power** by changing the way that power operates in our state.

I want to recognise the Sydney Alliance Council, Hunter Community Alliance steering committee, research action teams, local groups, Board and staff for the enormous work that has produced the achievements outlined in the coming pages.

Our work is never done, but together it can be a joy.



DAVID BARROW  
Lead Organiser

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## DEVELOPING LEADERS

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### TRAINING

#### Foundations Training

In the past 16 months, we trained 250 leaders through our two-day Foundations Training, which covers the core concepts of community organising and introduces leaders to the work of organising. We equipped trainees with the tools they need to be more effective leaders and strengthen their organisations.

#### Assistant Organisers

We trained 83 social work students as Assistant Organisers through our program with Western Sydney University this year. They supported the Alliance's organising efforts in Western Sydney in particular, and many of them will go on to organise in social work contexts throughout the continent.

#### Advanced Training

After two-and-a-half years without our national, six-day Advanced Training, we were excited to train 48 leaders through this program, 25 of whom were from NSW. The training builds on learnings from Foundations Training and focuses more deeply on power, organisations, relationships, and leadership.

#### Uluru Statement from the Heart

The Uluru Statement from the Heart team trained a further 90 Alliance leaders on the Statement, taking the total number of people trained to 350.

### STEPPING UP

Training is core to achieving the Alliance's mission of transforming Sydney into a more just and sustainable city. Our training expands and strengthens the leadership within our organisations, and deepens the relationships between them. Training also better positions us to act for the common good.

The Alliance is about building people up and strengthening our ties to one another so that together, we can change our city for the better. This year, we supported hundreds of members of our communities to step up and into democratic activity.





*"Every day being in Sydney Alliance is a new day with a bunch of new experiences. I have learnt to step out from my comfort zone many times. For example, my speech in front of the councillors – I had never done that before."*

– Maheshi Bandara,  
Sydney Alliance  
Assistant Organiser

Photo left:  
Semester 2  
Assistant Organisers  
at their graduation  
in November

Photo right:  
Foundations  
Training in April



## BUILDING PEOPLE POWER

### Sharing stories

- We had **44** leaders co-chair Sydney Alliance assemblies, and 97 more shared their stories publicly.
- More than **380** people shared their stories at community listening events across the city, and 66 people acted as small group leaders at a training or listening event.

### Participating in politics

- More than **150** people met with their local elected officials, 85 of whom were meeting an MP for the first time.
- More than **115** people attended their local council meetings, 77 of whom did so for the first time.

### Joining our staff and co-chairs

- We trained **nine** new staff as paid organisers on short-term or long-term stints with the Alliance.
- **Six** Co-chairs have run the Sydney Alliance Council.
- We have **two** new Co-chairs on the Sydney Alliance Board.



*Photo left*

*Jewish Community Social Justice Summit on Gender Equity in August*

*Photo right*

*Community listening action at the Australian National Imams Council in November*

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## STRENGTHENING ORGANISATIONS

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Along with leadership development seminars to strengthen our organisations, we ran issue-specific political strategy workshops to inform their projects and connect them with partners working on the same issues. We also facilitated the sharing of in-depth analysis between partners at key political moments including after local and federal elections, at major party conferences, and after government reshuffles and resignations.

In the words of some of our partners:

*"The group Power Analysis run by Sydney Alliance was a drawcard for members of our community and many of them have continued to meet with our team, since. They make strong contributions arising from their local knowledge, which enriches our work to increase the supply of crisis accommodation and gives encouragement to our previously small team."*  
Heather Loomes – Co-chair, Camden Wollondilly Wingecarribee Network

*"Collaborating with Sydney Alliance has provided our youth with strong community organising skills, particularly the ability to communicate and engage in an authentic way through storytelling. The training facilitated by Sydney Alliance has strengthened Vinnies youth members' advocacy skills and ability to form strong, positive and powerful connections with others."*  
Marissa Papaspiros – Vinnies NSW Sydney Central Youth Council

*"Being part of the Alliance has created the relationship for our team with Shelter NSW, who provided incredible support and knowledge as we created a submission in response to the Draft Hornsby Town Centre Masterplan."*  
James Noble – Thornleigh Community Baptist, Alliance Hornsby team



**Solidary Seminars**

In 2022 we introduced Solidarity Seminars, giving Alliance partners a platform to showcase their projects, and the values and traditions that inform them, to new cohorts of emerging leaders. This year 24 Solidarity Seminars were hosted by partner organisations and allies across civil society.

Our Assistant Organisers from the Western Sydney University placement program and other leaders across our network who attended walked away from the seminars with a greater appreciation for the diversity and richness of civil society. They also got the opportunity to support the work of the host organisations during or after a seminar, for example by stepping up as small group leaders at member listening events or joining a campaign rally.

**Muslim Caucus**

This year we developed the Alliance’s Muslim caucus, which now has 22 key leaders – nine of whom are members of its core team. The caucus is made up of representatives from all four Muslim partners of the Alliance: Muslim Women’s Association, National Zakat Foundation, Australian National Imams Council and the Muhajirin Association for Community Development.

The caucus meets to organise Muslim community involvement in Sydney Alliance teams and ensure strong Muslim representation

on political and social issues in Sydney. By participating in Alliance training and actions, organisations improve their members’ skills in leadership and community organising. The Muslim core team ran a successful Solidarity Seminar on Islamic traditions and a community listening event at the Australian National Imams Council in November.

**Jewish Caucus**

The Jewish caucus has 61 members from 19 organisations. The caucus’ work is generously supported by Plus61J. This year, Emanuel Synagogue ran training on relational organising for their staff and executive team, and congregations and communities across Sydney held listening events to build their membership.

Members had the opportunity to learn through the Social Justice Summit on Gender Equity and a table talk on racial diversity in the Jewish community, both run by Plus61J, plenums run by the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies, and Foundations Training.

Jewish partner organisations welcomed the broader Alliance into their work, including 35 Assistant Organisers who attended Youth HEAR’s Holocaust Commemoration service, and at the National Council of Jewish Women’s ‘Pink Breakfast in the Sukkah’, an interfaith fundraiser for breast cancer. Moriah College welcomed 15 Assistant Organisers and leaders with experience of seeking asylum from the House of Welcome to run a table talk.

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## BUILDING THE ALLIANCE

♦  
*Sydney Alliance*

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It's been a big year of recovering and reconnecting across the Sydney Alliance after a long stint of Covid-19 lockdowns. We resumed face-to-face actions in a major way including for our Convention, Council meetings, and actions in our communities and organisations.

We expanded our resources, organising significant soft money (grants) and retaining our commitment to hard money (dues), as outlined in the financial report. We also secured funding for our Refugee Leadership Fund, which supports people with lived experience of seeking asylum to share their stories and participate in community organising, and our Assistant Organisers' program, which trains social work students in community organising.

### **TOGETHER IN DIGNITY**

Congratulations to the 237 leaders – of all ages, walks of life and organisations – who came to the Sydney Alliance Convention: Together in Dignity for the important work of building community on 2 August.

We got through a fair bit in one night: we shifted from reacting through the crisis of the pandemic to taking proactive steps on our agenda, committed to acting on elements of the Alliance strategy, and immersed ourselves in the stories of the passionate, insightful, and driven leaders that power the Alliance.

*"It was so energising and inspiring to reconnect face to face with Alliance friends and colleagues and to celebrate the wins as well as lament the challenges from the past couple of years. It reminded me that we need deep and meaningful connection with each other as we face future challenges to advancing the common good in our city." – Jenny Ross, Hornsby team & Baptist Churches NSW ACT*

In organising, action is to the organisation as oxygen is to the body. At the Convention, the Alliance took a deep breath.

It was also a logistical feat. Well done to all the organisers who devoted their time and enthusiasm to making the night work.



Photo top

Hunter Community Alliance  
Discernment Assembly in September

Photo bottom

Article in *The Daily Telegraph*  
featuring *Voices for Power*  
leader Sheik Adid Al-Rubai



## HUNTER COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

Over the past year the Hunter Community Alliance has flourished, culminating in a Discernment Assembly in September. The action highlighted the work done in 2022 collecting hundreds of stories through Listening Campaigns held across the Hunter.

The stories painted a picture of resilience and helped to pinpoint the way the Alliance moves forward with creating change. Based on these stories, the Research Action team have been putting together proposals for two forums in March next year.

At the end of 2022, two members of the Hunter Community Alliance will join the Sydney Alliance Board as we move into our joint future as the NSW Alliance.

## COLD COMFORT OVER POWER

JOHN ROLFE

THE cost of power has become so prohibitive for western Sydney's Adid Alrubai and his wife that they now do the dishes in cold water.

Their adult son Abulateef has Down syndrome and his special needs often result in the washing machine running until midnight – on the cold-water setting.

"We use hot only when we have a bath," Sheik Adid, of Mt Druitt, said.

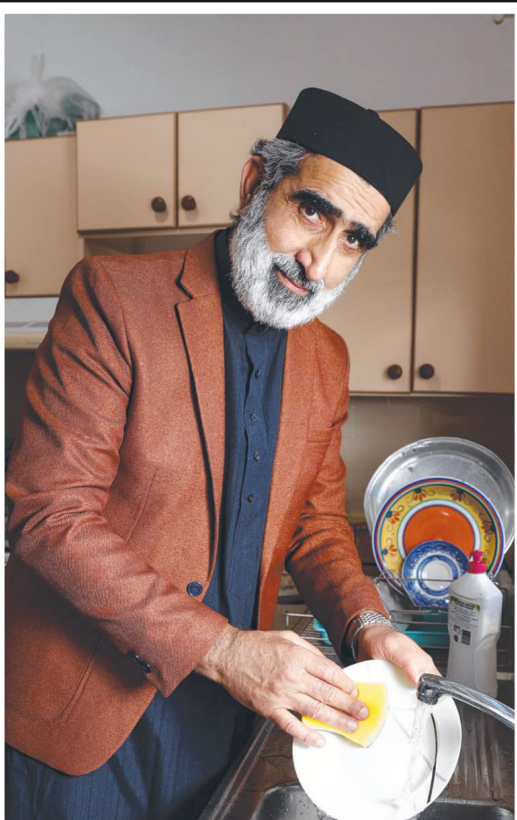
The community leader, who works part-time as a school bus driver, is a member of a group set to meet with NSW Energy Minister Matt Kean at Parramatta on November 30.

The nonpartisan group, *Voices for Power*, is seeking support for projects including community-owned solar gardens and a mobile "energy hub" that would provide expert independent advice on how to get a fairer deal on energy.

"We hope (with) Matt Kean to solve some of these problems," Sheik Adid said.

In a previous home, his family had access to solar energy. The most recent winter was a particular struggle where they live now.

"All the family was in one



## MAKING A SPLASH

The Sydney Alliance featured on the radio and in print and online news this year for our training on community organising and the Indigenous Voice to Parliament, as well as our *Voices for Power* work for clean and affordable energy for all, which appeared in *The Daily Telegraph*.

We also landed a segment in the ABC documentary *Big Deal* directed by Craig Reucassel and a chapter in the book *Together We Can* by Claire O'Rourke.

## WINS ON ISSUES

*What we achieved together*

It's been a big year of wins and milestones for the Sydney Alliance across a wide range of issues. It goes to show what we can achieve when we band together, organise actions and apply sustained pressure to decision-makers.

### **Uluru Statement from the Heart**

The Alliance's Uluru Statement team, working with Youth off the Streets and under the leadership of Nicole Laupepa and Jacqui Parker, refined the Walking Together workshop this year. The Inner West Council has adopted our training program, which will be rolled out to 1000 people in the Inner West and likely other councils across the continent. This was launched at a packed-out Marrickville Town Hall attended by 400 people, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, Indigenous Affairs Minister Linda Burney, and Inner West Council Mayor Darcy Byrne.

### **Afghan Refugees**

We all watched the fall of Kabul with sadness, and the Sydney and Hunter Community Alliances were spurred to act. Our delegations fanned out to meet members of parliament and applied pressure consistently over six months. Hundreds of us called on the federal government to open the doors to those fleeing the Taliban. In March, the government listened: they announced an additional intake of 16,500 places for refugees from Afghanistan.

### **Energy Bills Buster**

In June, the NSW Government announced a \$128 million Energy Bill Buster Program, a policy the Sydney Alliance's Voices for Power team had been promoting to now NSW Treasurer and Environment Minister Matt Kean since 2020. Under the scheme, low-income households eligible for an energy rebate can access 10 years' worth of rebates in a lump sum contribution towards a solar system or home appliance upgrade. The scheme has flaws, but the Alliance continues to pressure the government for a scheme that works for renters and an expansion of the number of people who can access support.

### **Local Development**

Alliance teams won commitments on affordable housing and community development from local councils across Sydney this year. The Hornsby team secured a commitment from Hornsby Shire Council to include 474 affordable homes in the development of Hornsby Town Centre. After Cumberland Council wiped out its community grants budget completely, the Alliance's Cumberland team won the reinstatement of \$500,000 for local community organisations.



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**The Sydney Alliance plays a critical role in the life of the city. It creates a space for people to talk to one another honestly, and personally, about their struggles and hopes.**

It's a bridge between the world of policy and the real, lived experiences of people. That beautiful Australian idea of giving everyone a fair go requires continual work to become a reality, and the Sydney Alliance is a place you can go to contribute to that effort.

– Gabriel Metcalf  
CEO, Committee of Sydney



Photo: A Sydney Alliance assembly in November, where NSW Treasurer Matt Kean committed to placing community-led solutions to surging power bills on his agenda.

## SHIFTING POWER

*A Stronger Civil Society*

*“The Alliance’s work developing local teams and advocating directly to Councils during the local elections last year... has had a noticeable impact, improving the awareness of Councils’ responsibilities and powers in this area, and breaking down misunderstandings held by Councillors about social and affordable housing.”*

– James Sherriff  
Membership & Engagement Officer,  
Shelter NSW

### LOCAL TEAMS

Local groups are a growing and important part of the Alliance’s power. Our ability to act is built on the relationships between leaders of organisations, and this starts at the local level. A prime example of the way local teams are constantly shifting the landscape of power in favour of communities is their work on housing.

In 2022, the Sydney and Hunter Community Alliances held many local actions on housing attended by decision-makers from local, state or federal governments, including:

- Blue Mountains – delegations met council candidates
- Burwood – delegations met with council candidates

- Camden-Wollondilly delegation met council candidate
- Campbelltown Local Assembly, 71 participants
- Cumberland for the Common Good, 133 participants
- Hornsby Housing Assemblies, 136 and 216 participants
- Inner West Housing Assembly, 106 participants
- Kuring-Gai Housing Assembly, 84 participants
- Lake Macquarie Local Assembly, 125 participants
- Lane Cove – delegations met with council candidates
- Newcastle Assembly, 110 participants
- Northern Beaches Candidates Forum, 77 participants
- Parramatta for the Common Good, 64 participants
- Sutherland for the Common Good 87 participants

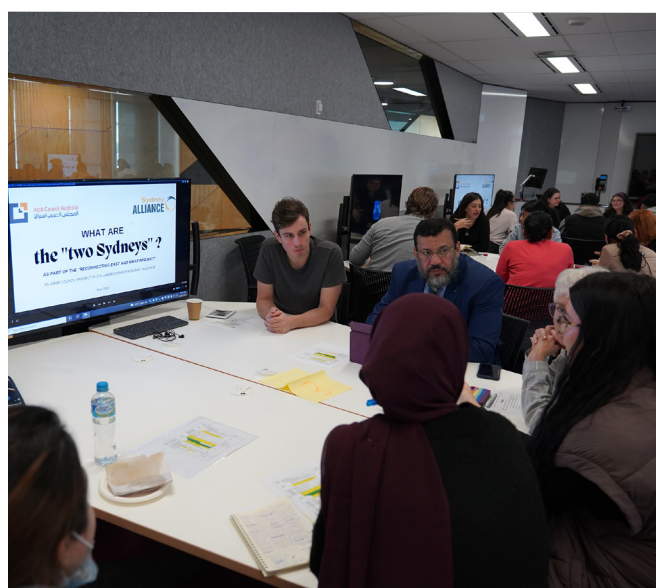
### EAST-WEST RECONNECT PROJECT

The ‘two Sydneys’ that were so carelessly divided by the state’s pandemic response came together in May to reconnect. The East-West Reconnect Project started with a powerful speech by Randa Kattan, CEO of Arab Council Australia, which highlighted the lasting effects of the pandemic response but also that the inequality between the Sydney’s east and west was not new.

At the first meeting for the project, people shared their experiences of the lockdown and discussed ways to address the disparity between eastern and western suburbs, and to bring them together moving forward.

The project is led by the Arab Council Australia in collaboration with the Sydney Alliance, with a particular focus on young people. It aims to support, build trust and establish resilient community networks between Sydney’s east and west.

*The East-West Reconnect Project*





*Voices for Power organisers and leaders Diana Olmos, Nesrine Nasour, Nirjala Pandey, Asha Ramzan, and Rev Alimoni Taumoepeau*

## VOICES FOR POWER

Climate change affects us all, but not equally. In Sydney, people based in the western suburbs have borne the brunt of living or working in 55-degree heat, high energy bills, and repeated flooding. Yet Western Sydney – the most ethnically diverse area in Australia – has been excluded from the climate and energy debate.

Voices for Power brings people who are most impacted by climate change to the negotiating table, to ensure climate and energy policies tackle inequality. We teach people how to get a fairer deal on their energy or access affordable solar power, and that collectively, we have the power to contribute to climate change policies.

Whether it is fairer energy policies, affordable renewables for low-income households, or shade and air conditioning in overheated schools, it takes people power to win changes for our communities. In 2022, we focused our organising efforts in Western Sydney, and we are excited to grow our impact next year.

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## WELL DONE TO OUR MEMBERS & SUPPORTERS

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Thank you to our Partners, Friends and philanthropic supporters, who make our work possible through their generous support. Thank you also to the private sector institutions who support our projects through our partner organisations. To the many generous donors who have supported us throughout the year, thank you.

### **PARTNERS**

#### **Welcome to our new partners:**

Mission Australia

Solar Citizens

Youth Off the Streets

#### **Partners as of July 1 2022**

Arab Council Australia

Australasian Union of Jewish Students

Australian Association of Social Workers

Australian Conservation Foundation

Australian National Imams Council

Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney

Catholic Diocese of Parramatta

Catholics in Coalition for Justice and Peace

Climate Action Network Australia

Faith Housing Alliance

Fresh Hope Housing Inc

Jesuit Refugee Service Australia

Muhajirin Association for Community Development Inc

Multicultural Youth Affairs Network NSW

Muslim Women Association

National Tertiary Education Union

National Zakat Foundation

Nature Conservation Council of NSW

NSW Council of Social Service

NSW Jewish Board of Deputies

Our Lady of Dolours Parish Chatswood

Parramatta-Nepean Presbytery

Rail, Tram and Bus Union

Settlement Services International

Shelter NSW

Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees' Association

Sisters of St Joseph

St Francis Social Services

St Vincent de Paul Society NSW

Sydney Community Forum

Sydney Policy Lab

Tenants' Union of NSW

United Workers Union

Uniting

Uniting Church Synod of NSW ACT

Whitlam Institute within the University of Western Sydney

World Wildlife Fund

### **FRIENDS**

Blue Mountains Environmentally Sustainable Network

Blue Mountains Refugee Support Group Inc

Engadine Uniting Church

Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby NSW

Hindus for Human Rights

Mentoring Men

Neighbourhood Matters

Northmead Uniting Church

Older Women's Network NSW

Opportunities Australia

ParraCAN

Peninsula Voice Inc

Reconciliation for Western Sydney

Springwood High School P&C

Strathfield-Homebush Uniting Congregation

Sweltering Cities

The Humanism Project

Union for Progressive Judaism

Women's Reconciliation Network

Youth HEAR



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## GREAT WORK LEADERS

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Thank you to everyone who has stepped up in their organisation into a leadership role with the Sydney Alliance. Well done to our volunteers and Assistant Organisers for doing an amazing job acting for the common good. Whether you have helped lead an action or shared your story through the media, we value your commitment to a better future for all.

### Co-chairs

We recognise the outstanding work of:

Outgoing Chair of the Sydney Alliance Board, Mary Waterford AM

Current and outgoing Co-chairs of the Sydney Alliance Council: Joannie Lee (Democracy in Colour), Julia Sussman (YouthHear), Sarina Foulstone (Australian Conservation Foundation), Justine Lloyd (National Tertiary Education Union) and Nok Sothanaphaisan (United Workers Union)

Leaders of the local organising teams across Sydney: Northside-Kuring'gai, Hornsby, Campbelltown, Bankstown, Parramatta, Cumberland, Northwest Voices for Power, Sutherland, Northern Beaches, Camden-Wollondilly-Wingecarribee Network, Hills Yarning, Randwick & Inner West

Leaders of the Hunter Community Alliance

Leaders of International Student, Housing, People Seeking Asylum, Voices for Power, and Uluru Statement from the Heart teams.

### Board

Steph Cunio (Co-chair), Nishadh Rego (Co-chair), Mary Waterford AM, Sandeep Kirpalani, Sr Marion Gambin, Sh Ahmed Abdo, Alex Claassens

### Staff

Liliana Capacchione, David Barrow, Chantelle Ogilvie-Ellis, Genevieve Kelly, Maggie Galley, Jess Harrison, Diana Olmos, Sarina Foulstone, Abdalnasser Abumustafa, Quyen Nguyen, Carolyn Noble, Saimi Jeong, Cat Coghlan

Staff who have finished with the Sydney Alliance: Thuy Nguyen, Daniel Nour, Dibya Chhetry, Agnieszka Czezowski & Callan Lawrence.



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**After almost 13 years at Trades Hall, in April this year the Sydney Alliance had to move offices unexpectedly. Whilst ‘moving house’ is never a fun project at the best of times, its arrival came at a particularly challenging time for me on a personal level.**

At first glance, one month's notice to vacate seemed an achievable deadline but with the Easter break and annual leave tacked on, the reality was a timeframe of two weeks! Fortunately, we had a new space to go to, but it required quite some work before we could occupy it – and there were contract negotiations to undertake. The fine balance between coordinating removalists and refurbishments at the eleventh hour was indeed stressful. Settled in our new premises, albeit a smaller workspace, the staff view is that it's more modern and functional than the old office. We're energised to continue our work at our new home.

- Liliana Capacchione  
Administration Manager



### **Vale Deborah Burt**

For ten years Deb supported and challenged the Alliance to be its best as the founder of the Friends of the Sydney Alliance and a critical member of the Sydney Alliance Board. The Alliance would not be here today without her support and sage wisdom. Deb taught us about fundraising and how to pitch to the wealthy. She gave professional, legal and life advice that was instrumental to the survival of the Alliance at a crucial time in its development.

Deb was practical, generous, forthright and warm. She had a dry wit and a rebellious streak which she conveyed not just in words, but with a twinkle in the eye.

In 2019 when she was diagnosed with terminal cancer, she called to say she was "interested in being on the Board so long as I am useful. And when I'm being carted off to hospice, I'll let you know with a call." A few months ago, we got the call.

We are deeply saddened that her light has gone out. Her legacy will live on in the Alliance. Deborah Burt, Rest In Power!





“

*The fact that the Sydney Alliance can have such remarkable impact across a range of issues is testament to the deep relationships they have cultivated. These relationships span from the grassroots, to the trade halls, the churches, synagogues and mosques, to board rooms and the halls of political power.*

*Using their relational approach, they can build both the steady, long-term movements required for systemic change and activate quickly in emergency issues.*

*They have my upmost respect.*

- Reverend Tim Costello

## LEAVING A GIFT



By leaving a gift in your will to the Sydney Alliance, you can make Sydney a more just and sustainable city for future generations. You will leave a legacy of diverse leaders working together for the common good, equipping them with training and mentorship to do this work.

We've already trained thousands of leaders and made significant gains for people in NSW – from \$6 million in emergency support for asylum seekers and temporary migrants in NSW to \$21 million in emergency accommodation support for international students in precarious situations.

Your gift will ensure the Sydney Alliance can keep supporting civil society organisations to shape public policy decisions on the issues that affect us. All gifts – no matter the size – make an impact.

### **If You Are Considering Leaving a Gift in Your Will, Let Us Know**

We've been surprised and grateful to receive gifts in people's wills which we weren't expecting. We would love to thank you personally for your generosity, so we encourage you to reach out if you plan to leave us a gift in your will – regardless of the size. We can also discuss how your gift may be used to build a more just and sustainable Sydney.

All information you provide to us will be confidential and in compliance with privacy laws. But please know that you are under no obligation to share with us.

### **How To Leave a Gift in Your Will**

1. Contact our Lead Organiser David Barrow at [dbarrow@sydneyalliance.org.au](mailto:dbarrow@sydneyalliance.org.au). David and the team would love to hear from you and can provide all the information you need.
2. Consult a qualified legal advisor to ensure the option you choose best reflects your intentions.
3. Discuss your decision with your loved ones so they understand and support your reasons for choosing the Sydney Alliance to realise your vision for our city.

Your gift will continue to help us build a better future for all.

**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY  
BUILDING LIMITED**

ACN 128 428 286

Financial report  
For the year ended 30 June 2022

**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED**

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## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The Directors present their report on the Sydney Alliance for Community Building Limited (the "Company") for the year ended 30 June 2022.

### **DIRECTORS**

The names of the Directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

|             |                             |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| D Burt      | Resigned 15/7/2022          |
| A Claassens |                             |
| M Waterford | Secretary 3/2/2022          |
| S Kirpalani |                             |
| A Abdo      |                             |
| S Cunio     |                             |
| N Rego      |                             |
| M Gambin    | Resigned Secretary 3/2/2022 |

Directors have been in office since the start of the year and continue in office unless otherwise stated.

#### Directors' Meetings for the Year

|                                | Meetings Attended | Meetings Held |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| A Claassens                    | 2                 | 3             |
| D Burt (Resigned 15 July 2022) | 0                 | 3             |
| M Waterford                    | 3                 | 3             |
| S Kirpalani                    | 2                 | 3             |
| A Abdo                         | 2                 | 3             |
| S Cunio                        | 2                 | 3             |
| N Rego                         | 2                 | 3             |
| M Gambin                       | 2                 | 3             |

Details of Directors' qualifications, experience and special responsibilities are as follows:

#### **A Claassens**

**Role: Director**

**Experience:** Alex is currently the State Secretary of the Rail, Tram and Bus Union (NSW Branch). Alex has long been an advocate for the rights of transport workers, joining the union as a delegate in 1992 and working through various positions until being elected to the highest position in the NSW branch in 2010. He is also an Executive Member of the National Rail, Tram and Bus Union. Alex has broad experience in governance having been involved in a diverse range of representatives' roles in non-government and government organisations for over 15 years. He is currently on the boards of Australian Mutual Bank, State Super and Transport Heritage NSW.

#### **D Burt**

**Role: Resigned Secretary 8/11/2021 Resigned Director 15/7/2022**

**Qualifications:** Bachelor of Economics (Honours), University of Sydney Master's in Environmental Management, University of New South Wales (60% completed so far)

**Experience:** Member of Friends of Sydney Alliance and have 20+years' experience coaching senior executives. Extensive experience in design and facilitation of all types of workshops. Experience as a Board member and served as Vice President, Eastern Suburbs Community College for two years.

**Special responsibilities:** At large representative

#### **M Waterford**

**Role: Director Responsibilities Secretary Appointed 3/2/2022**

Mary holds the position of Secretary of Sydney Alliance and is a Board member of Sydney Community Forum. She has worked in the community sector in Sydney in management, policy and advocacy roles for over 40 years and knows well both the challenges of Sydney and the power of working together as a united voice for inclusion and social justice.

Mary was Executive Director of Western Sydney Community Forum from 2008 to 2015 and most

recently worked as a volunteer in Timor-Leste at Rede Feto, the peak advocacy network for women's organisations. She has been a member of Sydney Alliance since 2009. In 2014 she was recognised as one of Australia's 25 most influential leaders in the NGO sector and in 2016 was awarded an Order of Australia Award (AM) for significant contribution to the community through social service and welfare organisations as an advocate for equity, human rights and dignity. Mary is a lifetime member of the Australian Services Union (ASU). She has a BA in Sociology and History.

### **S Kirpalani**

**Role: Director Responsibilities Treasurer**

**Experience:** Sandeep holds the position of Treasurer on the Sydney Alliance Board. He is an Accountant by qualification and since leaving Ernst & Young in 2009, has worked on national skills development initiatives in India, mentored grassroots-level social enterprises and worked with social change agents seeking to challenge the status-quo around the world. Sandeep graduated with a Masters in Development Studies from the University of Melbourne in 2014 and recently finished an International Development assignment in Timor-Leste, the role being capacity building within a social business that sought to empower survivors of sexual violence. Sandeep is committed to the holistic development of young people and has a keen interest in urban social/ affordable housing issues in Sydney. Lastly, Sandeep is an exponent of mindfulness, humour and forgiveness in the world of social justice!

### **Sheik Ahmed Abdo**

**Role: Director**

**Experience:** Ahmed Abdo is a Sydney-born Imam, a scholar and respected teacher of Islam. After nearly ten years studying Islam in the blessed city of Tarim in Yemen he returned to give back to the people of Australia, his country. He studied in Dar al-Mustafa, an Islamic Seminary in Tarim, Hadramawt, under the tutelage of its Founder and Dean, Habib Umar bin Hafiz, a direct descendant of the Prophet Muhammad and worldwide authority on Islamic jurisprudence, theology, and spirituality. During his course of studies in Dar al-Mustafa, Ahmed studied the core Islamic sciences including Arabic grammar, jurisprudence, theology, prophetic traditions and spiritual wayfaring, with a particular interest in the area of Islamic Jurisprudence. He currently serves as an Honorary Chaplain and Religious Advisor, teaches Islamic Law and Spirituality courses through Shifa Institute which he founded to better inform people regarding the principles and teachings of Islam and how they apply in modern day society, particularly Australia. He also serves as the Secretary of the Council of Imams NSW, the state affiliated body to the Australian National Imams Council.

### **Steph Cunio**

**Role: Director**

**Experience:** Steph Cunio holds the position of Co-Chair on Sydney Alliance Board and is currently employed by the United Worker's Union as a Strategist in the new Organising & Pipeline area. Steph comes to this work after senior roles in Climate Action Network Australia, the Public Service Association and the ACTU. During her time in each of these organisations over the last decade, Steph has used the tools and skills developed through the Sydney Alliance to strengthen the internal and external capacity of these organisations. Steph was involved in the Sydney Alliance Founding Assembly in 2011, leading turnout coordination across the union, faith and community sectors. Through the Alliance, Steph had the opportunity to form deep and enduring relationships with a range of leaders across these sectors. Of significance has been how the Alliance and relational organising created an opening for Steph to be a part of her own community, the Sydney Jewish Community, through the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies. Steph comes to her role on the Board with a depth and breadth of relational organising experience, developed both on the ground and with positional leaders.

### **Marion Gambin rsj**

**Role: Director Responsibilities: Appointed Secretary 8/11/2021 Resigned Secretary 3/2/2022**

**Experience:** Marion Gambin rsj is a Sister of Saint Joseph and her Congregation is a partner organisation of Sydney Alliance. Marion's ministry background is in education, both as teacher and Principal in several catholic schools across NSW. She has also spent a number of years in the ministry of leadership with her Congregation, both in NSW and South Australia. She currently chairs the Australian Mission Network, a committee of Catholic Religious Australia, is a member of the Facilitation Team for the Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia as well as a member of her Congregation's Josephite Justice Network. Marion has a great passion for mission and for working in partnership for the common good.

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT - CONTINUED**

### **Nishadh Rego**

#### **Role: Director:**

**Experience:** Nishadh Rego holds the position of Co-Chair of Sydney Alliance Board and is currently Advocacy and Policy Manager at UNICEF Australia. Nishadh previously led the policy, advocacy and communications portfolios at Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia. Having grown up in South-East Asia to Indian-Catholic parents, Nishadh arrived in Australia to study in 2006, and has since been fortunate enough to live, work, and settle in Australia. Motivated by his own personal experiences of migration, and his professional experiences working closely with refugees and people seeking asylum, Nishadh is passionate about understanding and addressing systemic injustices that newcomers to Australia encounter, in a rapidly changing and uncertain world. Nishadh has ten years' experience working in a variety of advocacy, stakeholder engagement, and service delivery roles for JRS, Australian Red Cross and Baptistcare. Nishadh is also an avid writer, and has published commentary, book reviews, a book chapter, and a journal article on a range of themes including global and Australian migration policy, international politics, and sport. Nishadh has a Bachelor of Economics/Arts (Hons) from the ANU and a Masters of International Relations (Dean's Hons List) from the University of Melbourne.

## **PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES**

The Alliance has three goals. We work with our partner organisations to:

1. Increase and strengthen the leadership capacity of their members, their leaders, and staff.
2. Deepen the relationships across civil society by strengthening the relationships between our partner organisations.
3. Act for the 'Common Good'.

We aim to bring together diverse community organisations, unions and religious organisations to advance the common good and achieve a fair, just and sustainable city. The Sydney Alliance is a non-party political organisation.

To achieve these objectives, the Company has adopted the following strategies:

- Providing opportunities for people to have a say in decisions that affect them, their families and everyone working and living in Sydney.
- Building relationships between different community-based organisations and leaders in order to cultivate greater understanding and respect.
- Developing leaders by bringing together and training hundreds of people from different member organisations in community organising.
- Coordinating coalition meetings, running listening campaigns or being part of the strategising and implementation of an agenda for the common good in Sydney.

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

The result of the Company for the year was a surplus of \$62,428 (2021 deficit of \$11,145).

## **LIABILITY OF MEMBERS**

The Company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$10 each plus any unpaid membership fees towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Company. As at 30 June 2022, the total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up is \$380 (30 June 2021: \$380).

## **AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION**

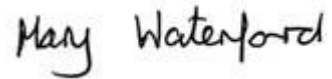


**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED**  
**ACN 128 428 286**

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out on page 5 for the year ended 30 June 2022.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors made pursuant to section 298(2) of the Corporations Act 2001.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Waterford". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mary Waterford

**DIRECTOR**

Dated in Sydney, 23 November 2022

---

**Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd**

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Sydney NSW 2000  
Locked Bag Q800  
Queen Victoria Building NSW  
1230

T +61 2 8297 2400

## Auditor's Independence Declaration

### To the Directors of Sydney Alliance for Community Building Limited

In accordance with the requirements of section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001, as lead auditor for the audit of Sydney Alliance for Community Building Limited for the year ended 30 June 2022, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

1. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
2. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd  
Chartered Accountants



James Winter  
Partner – Audit & Assurance

Sydney, 23 November 2022

[www.grantthornton.com.au](http://www.grantthornton.com.au)

ACN-130 913 594

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**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED**  
**ACN 128 428 286**

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

|  | Note | 2022<br>\$       | 2021<br>\$       |
|--|------|------------------|------------------|
| Revenue from continuing operations                         | 3    | 982,776          | 807,662          |
| Interest income  |      | 3,806            | 3,837            |
|  |      | <u>986,582</u>   | <u>811,499</u>   |
| Employee benefits expense                                  |      | (759,085)        | (639,897)        |
| Audit fee  |      | (7,500)          | (9,500)          |
| Dues and subscriptions                                     |      | (39,587)         | (24,573)         |
| Travel and accommodation                                   |      | (2,118)          | (4,150)          |
| Communication  |      | (2,419)          | (18,493)         |
| Office expenses  |      | (11,718)         | (7,133)          |
| Rent expenses  |      | (31,590)         | (25,784)         |
| Assembly expenses  |      | (6,676)          | -                |
| Administration fees  |      | (18,181)         | (8,333)          |
| Other expenses   |      | (45,280)         | (84,781)         |
|  |      | <u>(924,154)</u> | <u>(822,644)</u> |
| <b>Surplus /(Deficit) For the Year</b>                     |      | <u>62,428</u>    | <u>(11,145)</u>  |
| <b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>                          |      | <u>-</u>         | <u>-</u>         |
| <b>Total Comprehensive Income / (Deficit) For the Year</b> |      | <u>62,428</u>    | <u>(11,145)</u>  |

(The attached notes form part of these financial statements)

**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED**  
**ACN 128 428 286**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

|                                  | Note | 2022<br>\$     | 2021<br>\$     |
|----------------------------------|------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>            |      |                |                |
| Cash and cash equivalents        | 4    | 642,737        | 476,687        |
| Receivables                      | 5    | 15,622         | 126,624        |
| Other assets                     | 6    | -              | 2,912          |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>      |      | <u>658,359</u> | <u>606,223</u> |
| <b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>        |      |                |                |
| Property, plant & equipment      |      | -              | -              |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>              |      | <u>658,359</u> | <u>606,223</u> |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>       |      |                |                |
| Payables                         |      | 36,644         | 67,570         |
| Contract liabilities             |      | 22,924         | 23,346         |
| Provisions                       | 7    | 72,280         | 57,536         |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b> |      | <u>131,848</u> | <u>148,452</u> |
| <b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>   |      |                |                |
| Provisions                       | 7    | 30,083         | 23,771         |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>         |      | <u>161,931</u> | <u>172,223</u> |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                |      | <u>496,428</u> | <u>434,000</u> |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                     |      |                |                |
| Accumulated funds                |      | 496,428        | 434,000        |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>               |      | <u>496,428</u> | <u>434,000</u> |

The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED  
ACN 128 428 286**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

|   | <b>Accumulated<br/>Funds</b> |
|---|------------------------------|
|   | <b>\$</b>                    |
| <b>Balance at 1 July 2020</b>           | 445,145                      |
| Deficit for the year                    | (11,145)                     |
| Total comprehensive loss for the year   | <u>(11,145)</u>              |
| <b>Balance at 30 June 2021</b>          | 434,000                      |
| Surplus for the year                    | 62,428                       |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | <u>62,428</u>                |
| <b>Balance at 30 June 2022</b>          | <u>496,428</u>               |

The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED**  
**ACN 128 428 286**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

|  | Note | 2022           | 2021           |
|--|------|----------------|----------------|
|  |      | \$             | \$             |
| <b>CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>   |      |                |                |
| Receipts from participating organisations, COVID-19 stimulus funding, donations and other income |      | 1,180,468      | 886,953        |
| Payments to suppliers and employees  |      | (1,018,224)    | (880,459)      |
| Interest received  |      | 3,806          | 3,837          |
| <b>NET CASH PROVIDED BY/(USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>                                       | 8    | <u>166,050</u> | <u>10,331</u>  |
| <b>NET CASH PROVIDED BY/(USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>                                       |      | -              | -              |
| <b>NET CASH PROVIDED BY/(USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>                                       |      | <u>-</u>       | <u>-</u>       |
| <b>NET INCREASE / (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD</b>  |      | 166,050        | 10,331         |
| <b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR</b>  |      | <u>476,687</u> | <u>466,356</u> |
| <b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR</b>  | 4    | <u>642,737</u> | <u>476,687</u> |

The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

1. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**Basis of preparation**

The financial report includes the financial statements and notes of Sydney Alliance for Community Building Limited (the “Company”).

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the *Corporations Act 2001*. As the Company is a not-for-profit entity, it has applied the Australian Accounting Standards as applicable to not-for-profit-entities.

The financial statements have also been prepared on a historical cost basis, except where stated. The financial statements do not take into account changing money values or current valuations of non-current assets. The financial report is presented in Australian dollars, which is the Company’s functional and presentation currency.

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements were approved in accordance with a resolution of the Directors on 23 November 2022.

**(a) Revenue Recognition**

***Revenue recognition policy for revenue from contracts with customers (AASB 15)***

AASB 15 requires revenue to be recognised when control of a promised good or service is passed to the customer at an amount which reflects the expected consideration.

Revenue is recognised by applying a five-step model as follows:

- Identify the contract with the customer
- Identify the performance obligations
- Determine the transaction price
- Allocate the transaction price
- Recognise revenue

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.

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

SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED  
ACN 128 428 286

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2022

1. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)

*Rendering of Services*

Revenue from fees received for services (including training and course fees) is recognised when the service is provided.

*Revenue recognition policy for revenue streams which are either not enforceable or do not have sufficiently specific performance obligations (AASB 1058)*

*Participating Organisations Revenue*

Where the consideration from funding from participating organisations is received, this is recognised when the Company gains control of the asset. Costs are recognised on an accrual basis.

*Grants and other funding*

Assets arising from grants in the scope of AASB 1058 are recognised at their fair value when the asset is received. These assets are generally cash but maybe property which has been donated or sold to the Company at significantly below its fair value.

Once the asset has been recognised, the Company recognises any related liability amounts (e.g. provisions, financial liabilities, contract liabilities). Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any difference between the recorded asset and liability.

*Donations and contributions*

Donations collected, including cash and goods for resale, are recognised as revenue when the Company gains control, economic benefits are probable and the amount of the donation can be measured reliably.

*Interest*

Revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method.

**(b) Income Tax**

The Company is considered to be exempt from income tax, and accordingly, no amount has been paid or provided.



**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2022**

**1. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)**

**(c) Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense items.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

**(d) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and at bank, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short term, highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less, that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and bank overdrafts.

**(e) Receivables**

Receivables are recognised at original invoice amounts less an allowance for uncollectible amounts. Collectability of Receivables is assessed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. An allowance is made for credit losses where there is objective evidence that the Company will Receiveable will not be collectible the gross carrying value of the asset is written off against the associated allowance.

**(f) Property, Plant and Equipment**

Each class of property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost, including costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management, less depreciation and any impairment.

*Depreciation*

Depreciation on the assets is calculated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives to the Company commencing from the time the asset is ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of asset are:

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Furniture, fittings and Equipment | 10% - 20% |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at each balance date.

Gains and losses on disposals are calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the asset's carrying amount and are included in the statement of comprehensive income in the year that the item is derecognised.

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2022**

**1. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)**

**(g) Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting date the Company assesses whether there is any indication that individual assets are impaired. Where impairment indicators exist, recoverable amount is determined and impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income where the asset's carrying value exceeds its recoverable amount.

**(h) Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date.

Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled plus related on costs.

Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. In the case of Long Service Leave this results in an amount not materially different to that achieved by discounting future cash flows.

Contributions are made by the Company to employee superannuation funds and are charged as expenses when incurred.

**(i) Significant accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions**

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

**2. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

Every member of the Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company. In the event of the Company being wound up while an entity is a member, or within 12 months after an entity stops being a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Company (contracted before the entity ceases to be a member) and of the costs, charges, and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributions among themselves such as any be required, the amount undertaken by each member not exceeding unpaid membership fee, plus a maximum of \$10. As at 30 June 2022, the total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute in the event the Company is wound up is \$380 (30 June 2021: \$380).

SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED  
ACN 128 428 286

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

|  | 2022<br>\$     | 2021<br>\$     |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| <b>3 REVENUE FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>  |                |                |
| <i>Revenue from service obligation contracts - subject to specific performance obligations</i> |                |                |
| Training and Course Fees   | 6,407          | 68,743         |
|  | <u>6,407</u>   | <u>68,743</u>  |
| <i>Income - other contribution income</i>  |                |                |
| Participating Organisations Revenue  | 864,706        | 712,803        |
| Donations and contributions  | 111,663        | 19,484         |
| COVID-19 government support funding- cash flow boost and JobKeeper                             | -              | 6,632          |
|  | <u>976,369</u> | <u>738,919</u> |
| <b>Total revenue from continuing operations</b>  | <u>982,776</u> | <u>807,662</u> |
| <b>4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>  |                |                |
| Cash at Bank   | 642,604        | 476,274        |
| Cash on Hand   | 133            | 413            |
|  | <u>642,737</u> | <u>476,687</u> |
| <b>5. RECEIVABLES</b>  |                |                |
| Trade Debtors  | 14,922         | 124,993        |
| Less: Allowance for Expected Credit Losses   | (500)          | (500)          |
| Other Debtors  | 1,200          | 2,131          |
|  | <u>15,622</u>  | <u>126,624</u> |
| <b>6. OTHER ASSETS</b>   |                |                |
| Prepayments  | -              | 2,912          |
|  | <u>-</u>       | <u>2,912</u>   |
| <b>7. PROVISIONS</b>   |                |                |
| <b>Current</b>   |                |                |
| Provision for Annual Leave   | 46,173         | 40,436         |
| Provision for Long Service Leave   | 26,107         | 17,100         |
|  | <u>72,280</u>  | <u>57,536</u>  |
| <b>Non-Current</b>   |                |                |
| Provision for Long Service Leave   | 30,083         | 23,771         |
| <b>Total Provisions</b>  | <u>102,363</u> | <u>81,307</u>  |

**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED**  
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**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

**8. CASH FLOW INFORMATION**

Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities with result for the year:

|   |                |               |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| (Deficit) / Surplus for the year                            | 62,428         | (11,145)      |
| <b>Changes in Assets and Liabilities</b>                    |                |               |
| (Increase) / Decrease in receivables                        | 111,002        | (22,209)      |
| Decrease / (Increase) in other assets                       | 2,912          | (1,748)       |
| Decrease in payables  | (31,349)       | 56,592        |
| Increase in provisions                                      | 21,057         | (11,159)      |
| <b>NET CASH PROVIDED BY /(USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b> | <u>166,050</u> | <u>10,331</u> |

**9. Audit Fee**

|                    |              |              |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Audit Remuneration | <u>8,750</u> | <u>7,900</u> |
|                    | <u>8,750</u> | <u>7,900</u> |

**10. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE**

Nil

**11. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

Nil.

**12. RELATED PARTIES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Directors provide their services on an honorary basis for which there is no remuneration.

Member organisations contribute membership fees and support projects disclosed in Note 3 as Participating Organisations' Revenue.

Member organisations are also represented on the Board as disclosed in the Directors' Report.

Unions NSW provides support in the form of secretarial services and a rent subsidy.

Key management personnel (KMP) are those having authority for planning, directing and controlling the Company's activities, directly or indirectly, including Directors (who act in an honorary capacity) and key organisers.

|   |             |             |
|---|-------------|-------------|
|   | <b>2022</b> | <b>2021</b> |
|   | <b>\$</b>   | <b>\$</b>   |
| Total Key Management Personnel compensation | 319,509     | 290,538     |

**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED**  
**ACN 128 428 286**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

**13. COMPANY DETAILS**

Sydney Alliance for Community Building Limited is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Australia and domiciled in Australia.

The registered office and the principal place of business is:

Suite 9, Level 4  
377-383 Sussex Street

**14. DISCLOSURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING REGULATION 2021 (NSW)**

The Company holds an authority to fundraise under the Charitable Fundraising Regulation Act 1991 (NSW), though it is not registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

Fundraising activities held throughout the year consists of donations and contributions received.

|  | 2022    | 2021   |
|--|---------|--------|
|  | \$      | \$     |
| Details of aggregate fundraising income and expense from fundraising appeals |         |        |
| Donations and contributions  | 111,663 | 19,484 |

Funds raised from the donors are applied against the intended purpose of these donations if this has been communicated to the donor at the time of the appeal. The balance of fundraising income is applied to the general activities of the Company.

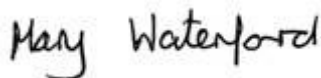
**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED**  
**ACN 128 428 286**

**DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

The Directors of Sydney Alliance for Community Building (the "Company") declare that:

1. The financial statements, comprising the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of changes in funds, and accompanying notes, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001:
  - (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
  - (b) give a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. In the Directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors and is signed for and on behalf of the Directors by:



Mary Waterford

**DIRECTOR**

Dated in Sydney this 23<sup>rd</sup> Day of November 2022

**SYDNEY ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING LIMITED**  
**ACN 128 428 286**

**DECLARATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING REGULATION 2021  
(NSW)**

On behalf of Sydney Alliance for Community Building I declare:

- 1) the Company is able to pay all of its debts as and when the debts become due and payable;
- 2) the 30 June 2022 financial statements of the Company satisfy the requirements of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and the Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2021;
- 3) the contents of the 30 June 2022 financial statement of the Company are true and fair;  
and
- 4) the Company has appropriate and effective internal controls.

*Mary Waterford*

Mary Waterford

**DIRECTOR**

Dated in Sydney this 23<sup>rd</sup> Day of November 2022

## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Sydney Alliance for Community Building Limited

Report on the audit of the financial report

### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Sydney Alliance for Community Building Limited (the "Company"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in funds and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Directors' declaration.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

1. giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
2. complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.



### **Information other than the financial report and auditor's report thereon**

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Declaration in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2021 (NSW) and the Directors' Report.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Responsibilities of the Directors for the financial report**

The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, the Corporations Act 2001, and the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2021 (NSW). The Directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Directors determine 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.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd  
Chartered Accountants



James Winter  
Partner – Audit & Assurance

Sydney, 23 November 2022