



Annual Report 2018-19

Volunteers helping
students thrive





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Volunteer Story

Two generations helping students thrive through volunteering

MEG & TULLY LANE - RURAL WA VOLUNTEERS

Meg Lane's enthusiasm for volunteering and helping children is palpable. Retiring from a career in education, she wanted to stay connected to students and continue helping in any way she could. Meg has been an EdConnect volunteer for 10 years and has been mentoring three female students at Djidi Djidi Aboriginal School in Bunbury WA this year.

Meg's granddaughter, Tully Lane, has also signed up to volunteer with EdConnect. "My grandmother always raves about her volunteering experiences. She is very hands-on with all of us grandkids and loves sharing the activities she does with her students," says Tully.

At 85 years of age, Meg Lane loves a good challenge and likes the focus of planning activities for her mentees each week. "I don't want to just sit around in a rocking chair. At my age, volunteering gives me a sense of purpose," says Meg.

Samantha Goodlad, Principal says, "Meg volunteers in our school on a weekly basis and is a grandmother figure to three of our most vulnerable and disadvantaged girls. One thing is for sure, we know these girls always attend school on a Wednesday and that's because it's 'Meg's Day'. Her influence extends beyond the 'day to day'. The memories that she is helping these girls create will last a lifetime."

Meg Lane advocates for young people, as well as older generations, to get involved in mentoring students. "The children love young volunteers - young people have a real asset by just being young." When asked what she would say to anyone considering volunteering with EdConnect, "Do it. There's nothing better."



"I don't want to just sit around in a rocking chair. At my age, volunteering gives me a sense of purpose"

Annual Report from the Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the annual report for 2018-19. This year has been one of consolidation of finances, optimisation of current systems and the embedding of a new structure to support and position the organisation for further growth.

We continue to be single minded in our focus on connecting intergenerational volunteers with disadvantaged or at-risk young people for educational success and wellbeing. Amongst the highlights to achieve this end have been the recognition of the inspiring work of our volunteers, staff and school partners, an organisational review, renewal of the Board and consolidation of our positive relationships with our funders and supporters.

EdConnect had an unprecedented turnout (around 140 attendees) from the community for the Annual Awards Evening on Thursday, 2nd May 2019 held at The Rise in Maylands WA. The evening focused on awarding and recognising the influential work the volunteers contributed to local students, schools and the community. The attendees included EdConnect Board members, volunteers, member schools, community leaders, stakeholders and corporate partners who showed their support in our continued drive to service at-risk students across Australia. This was a memorable and moving occasion. In addition, for the first time, there were separate events to recognise the Pilbara mentor and Peel volunteer of the year.

Our funders and supporters are vital to the continuing impact that EdConnect has in the lives of the young people in the schools that we support in WA, NSW and Victoria.

Securing a new funding agreement with our major funder, the WA Department of Education, from 2019 was a highlight, increasing our reach to more schools in regional WA. The ALCOA Foundation has again entered a three-year agreement to support the work of EdConnect in schools in the Peel region, and the Roy Hill Community

Foundation has entered its second partnership with EdConnect in the Pilbara, resulting in our first Liaison Officer based in Port Hedland.

It was an exciting moment when a three-year grant was secured from the Sidney Myer Foundation. Alongside continued funding from The Kimberley Foundation, Give Where You Live Geelong, the William Buckland Foundation and the Victorian Department of Education and Training, we have been able to consolidate and introduce the program to more schools on the east coast. The Gandel Philanthropy-funded Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) project in Victoria completed phase one and has moved on to pilot the program in a small number of schools. This project is now being evaluated.

We sincerely thank organisations which have supported us over many years and those who are first timers in 2018-19. In particular, we farewell and thank Pat Kiddey, our WA Department of Education contact for many years, who worked tirelessly to ensure that this partnership provided maximum benefit to at-risk students.

A Lotterywest grant for organisational development was instrumental in facilitating an external structural review and redesign. The resulting changes which were implemented in the first half of 2019 have been rewarding as they have proven the benefits of having a structure in place that is able to better support EdConnect's operations and vision for growth. In a similar vein, an external review of the financial structure has guided the organisation to undertake a restructure of the chart of accounts and move towards greater transparency and enhanced financial reporting.

As a consequence of the changes and our growth, some staff have been farewelled and new

appointments have been made. The retirement of East Coast staff presented an opportunity to reshape the geographical areas covered by the Liaison Officers in the Melbourne metropolitan area. While the details of those retiring and new appointees will appear later in this report, we would like to thank and acknowledge all staff for their ongoing dedication and creativity in adapting and finding solutions to challenges as they arise while working with schools and volunteers to provide the best service possible to vulnerable young people. In particular, we thank retiring finance officer Bonnie McGregor who has been part of the organisation for nearly 14 years and Narelle Laing, the inaugural East Coast General Manager, who made a significant contribution during her time with EdConnect; increasing brand awareness, engaging with key stakeholders and extending the funding and the program into more schools.

Finally, we would like to thank Board members for their committed leadership and governance diligence throughout the year. The Board does an incredible amount of work in support of the CEO and the Chair, joining forces to guide the organisation in its strategic direction.

In recognition of the growth of EdConnect Australia as a national organisation the Board embarked upon a process of renewal, commencing with a resolution, accepted by members at the 2017-18 AGM, to increase the maximum number of Board Directors from 8 to 9.



Norma Jeffery
Chairperson

Following an in-depth assessment of Board members' skills mix, a Board recruitment drive was undertaken to refresh and increase expertise in the areas of financial performance, social media and marketing, resulting in the appointment of three new directors. David Barwise, joined in September 2018 to fill a casual vacancy and Mandy Burns and Ben Peacock were appointed as additional directors in November 2018.

With regret, we farewelled Board member, Cathryn McArthur, in June 2019. During Cathryn's period on the Board she contributed significantly to the successful amalgamation and transition of two organisations operating in three states to EdConnect Australia as a single nation charity. In particular, she played a leading role in securing the inaugural funding from the Victorian Government and in building strategic relationships with eastern states philanthropists.

The year ahead looks promising; commencing with a review of our strategic direction in October. With new funding and exciting projects on the horizon, we invite schools, volunteers, government, corporate and philanthropic funders, sponsors and our many stakeholders to continue to support EdConnect Australia as we help more students to learn and thrive in this sometimes, complex world.



Gerri Clay
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Directors

EdConnect Australia is a not-for-profit non listed company limited by guarantee with no tradeable securities. Directors serve on a voluntary basis and do not receive remuneration.



Norma Jeffery
Chairperson
BEd



Ian Hasleby
Non-Executive Director
BA, MAICD



Elena Mogilevski
Non-Executive Director
BA (Hons)



Dr Anne Mathews
Non-Executive Director
BSc, MSc, PhD, FLWA, AFAIM,
MAIFST, MASM, GAICD



Cathryn McArthur
Non-Executive Director
BComm (Hons), BA



Joseph Hoe
Company Secretary
JP, CFP®, FCPA, MTax, SSA
SMSF Specialist Advisor™



Mandy Burns
Non-Executive Director
Ba Psych



Ben Peacock
Non-Executive Director
Ba Economics



David Barwise
Executive Director
LLB, LLM

Board Attendance

	Number Eligible to Attend	Number Attended
David Barwise	6	6
Mandy Burns	3	1
Ian Hasleby	6	5
Joseph Hoe	6	5
Norma Jeffery	6	6
Dr Anne Mathews	6	5
Cathryn McArthur	6	3
Elena Mogilevski	6	4
Ben Peacock	3	2

Fundamentals of Our Volunteer Program

Focusing on disadvantaged or at-risk young people for educational success and wellbeing is fundamental to EdConnect's purpose. The range of factors that can contribute to disadvantage are multiple, both from a school and student perspective. Schools are impacted by factors such as the socio-economic status composition of the school, the size and/or location. Students can be disadvantaged by their personal circumstances e.g. families needing government financial support, mental or physical illness, single parent homes.

The Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) is a scale used in Australia that allows fair and reasonable comparison among schools with similar students, providing an indication of the socio-economic background of students. In 2018, 45% of schools accessing EdConnect's program had an ICSEA index of < 1,000. We offer two types of volunteering roles: Learning Support (in class) and Mentoring (one-on-one), with a student.

Learning Support Volunteer

Learning support is completely flexible; designed to support schools and students by providing direct academic support under the direction of teaching staff, practical help and life skills.

In our member schools, teachers and school staff are encouraged to provide their learning support volunteers with a

clear description of the activity they will be involved with and the aim for each school term e.g. to improve the child's reading ability, to get the student to open up more, to improve subtraction skills, to cover the new books in the library, to maintain our edible garden.

Literacy support is the area where volunteers are in highest demand followed by Numeracy, Science, Arts and crafts, Technology and Sport. In addition, we assist in a range of areas including but not limited to breakfast clubs, homework clubs, library and administration.

Mentor Volunteer

The mentoring program is in demand in both primary and secondary schools providing students who might otherwise struggle, with a mentor to help them realise their worth and potential. In 2018 there were 880 students mentored by a volunteer, a 10% increase in the number of students mentored compared to the previous year.

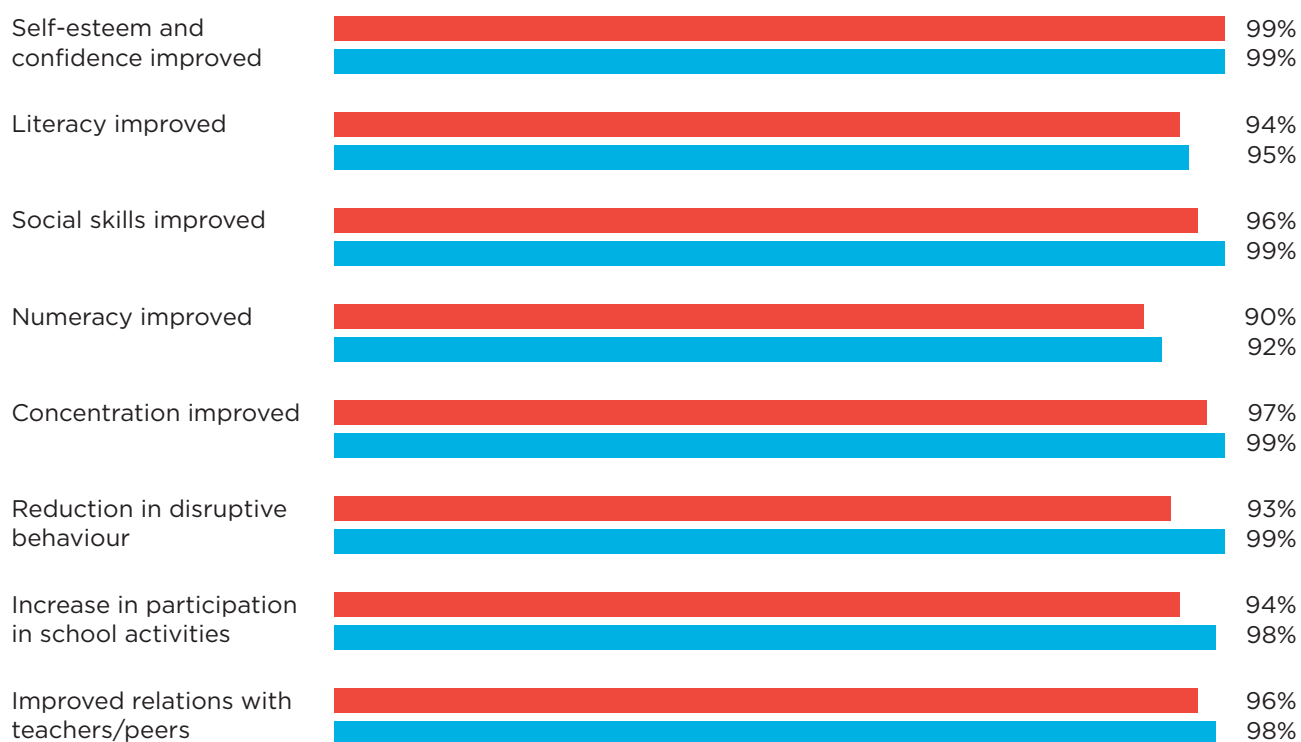
As an outcomes-based program it is designed and is formally evaluated to measure how the one to one support can improve the student's confidence, social and emotional wellbeing, which ultimately can improve academic performance. Mentors may help students find solutions to challenging situations, or simply being there to talk, laugh and think about the future. They have been described as friends, confidants and role models.

Students

EdConnect brings together three important groups in each local community – schools, students and volunteers – in a model that is mutually beneficial and positively impacts on the unmet needs of each group. Our strong commitment to evaluating the program quality and outcomes facilitates monitoring the impact of the program to the communities we support and informs our proactive approach to continuous improvement.

Each year we survey the member schools and receive valuable feedback from the teachers/school coordinators who rate the impact of the program on students. The table below shows the reported impact on students in 2018 and compares this with the average results across a three year period.

Impact on students



■ 2018

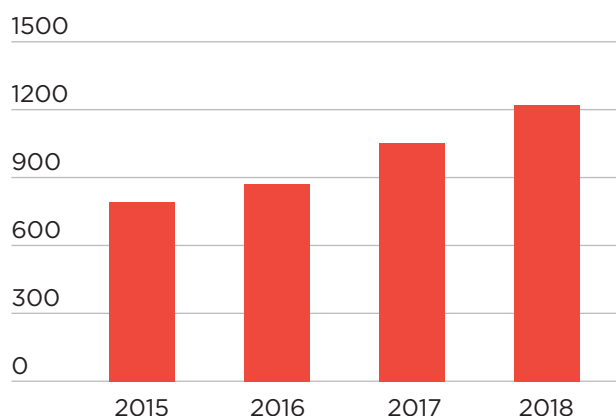
■ Average across past 3 years

Volunteers

Surveying our volunteers occurs annually and demonstrates a range of direct benefits that are a result of volunteering. We also asked volunteers “What do you like best about volunteering with EdConnect?” Some of the themes that

emerged included; being part of the community, giving back, meeting people and making a difference to a child’s life. Benefits to mental health and wellbeing has consistently been the indicator rates most highly by volunteers in recent years.

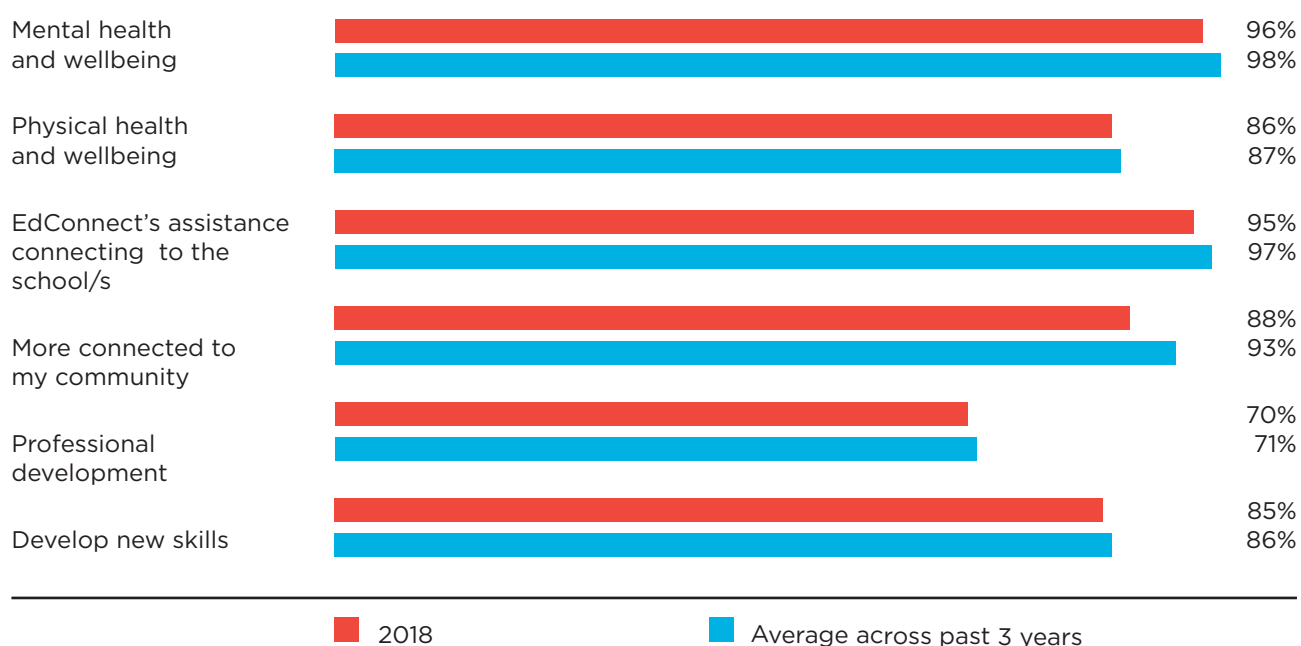
EdConnect Number of Volunteers



Volunteers length of service

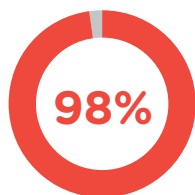


Impact on volunteers

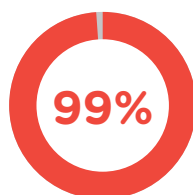


Schools

Member schools tell us



of teachers support
our volunteering
program



of schools report
the program works in their
schools



reported that
we provided useful guidance
and support

The top 3 benefits as rated by schools were:

1.

Being able to offer one
to one assistance to
those who need it most

2.

Having a positive older
role model for children
to interact with

3.

Being able to extend
those children who have
particular abilities



Volunteer Story

Don't ever doubt the impact a little love can have

ALAN GREENHALGH - WA METRO MENTOR VOLUNTEER

Yesterday, I was feeling pretty low as a result of chronic pain and sleep deprivation. However, I dragged myself along to the local primary school where I mentor three "at-risk" boys, all of whom have pretty sad home lives (suffice to say it would break the hardest of hearts), wondering "am I actually doing any good?"

I had started a basic cooking program with the boys as a change from the usual board games and other activities we do to give them a chance to talk to me about anything they like and hopefully equip them with a few handy skills at the same time. School holidays had interrupted our interaction and I hadn't received any feedback on what they thought of the idea.

Walking into the classroom I received the usual greeting from the kids after being prompted by their teacher. I replied in kind and then looked around for one of my mentees who appeared to be absent. Suddenly, there he was behind me with a big beaming smile of welcome.

We exchanged high fives and adjourned to an adjoining block to use the kitchen to make a batch of Anzac biscuits. Long story short, while our funny looking biscuits were cooling I sent the boys back to class who were protesting that the time had gone too quickly. I replied that I would deliver the baking when it had cooled and say goodbye until next week.

Here's the good bit, the point of this story. Their teacher approached me and said, "Your mentee really loves you. You make such a difference in his life and he really missed you during the holidays. Thank you for all you do! (She had tears in her eyes at this stage). His Nan asked me to thank you too!"

This feedback really made my day! I have received similar reactions from another school where I mentor. Never doubt yourself or the impact a little love can have!



2018-19 Highlights



Building new Partnerships

EdConnect partnered with The Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) Refugee Education Support Program (RESP), providing three schools with trained volunteers to establish and run homework programs for refugee students.

Forging links with the Local Learning and Employment Networks (LLEN) in Inner Melbourne and areas where EdConnect has school memberships has led to stronger local community engagement.

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) have supported EdConnect to progress two areas of program development this year. Following a successful year operating the program in Port Hedland, PwC's Perth based team have assisted in the investigation of challenges and benefits of introducing the volunteer mentor program into other towns in the Pilbara. A Melbourne based PwC team are working closely with EdConnect to evaluate the Girls in STEM pilot program in Victoria.

Volunteer Screening

Ensuring that young people receiving our services are safeguarded and supported is essential and screening forms a key element to achieving this goal. Hence the introduction of a new screening process by the WA Department of Education for staff and volunteers working in WA schools resulted in all active volunteers completing the National Coordinated Criminal History Checks (NCCHC) screening. This was a major administration task involving close collaboration with the WA government's screening unit and support from our member schools who assisted in verification of ID documents of their EdConnect volunteers.

Maximising efficiencies through technology

As a national organisation with staff and directors located across the country, a conscious shift to embrace working in a virtual office environment has had many benefits including enhanced working relationships and a stronger sense of national identity. The upgrading of our technology platform continues and this year the benefits of reduced data entry requirements for volunteers applying online has gained momentum.

2018-19 Highlights

Promotion and communications

Promotion of EdConnect's profile and programs has seen an increase in volunteers; a direct benefit of the organisation's recent investment in staff resourcing in the area of communications and marketing. The drive to build more video content is gaining traction, Facebook followers are increasing and of note the refresh of our website has been well received.

Innovation: Girls in STEM — a pilot program funded by Gandel Philanthropy

It has been estimated that 75% of the fastest growing occupations will include STEM related skills and knowledge. Critical thinking and problem solving, analytic capabilities, curiosity and imagination have all been identified as critical survival skills in the workplace of the future. Women are under-represented in the STEM workforce and school-based data provides evidence that low numbers of girls are choosing to study STEM subjects that will lead to a STEM related career path.

The project aim is to support students from disadvantaged communities to continue with STEM subjects in VCE and be inspired to pursue STEM careers through the development and delivery of a short-term mentoring program for girls.

A comprehensive consultation process has informed the program model and design that is now being piloted in a selection of schools in Melbourne and Geelong.

Officeworks Fundraiser "Round Up To Make a Difference"

The Perth CBD based Officeworks chose EdConnect as their round up June charity. The team fully supported this initiative, raised over their target whilst promoting EdConnect's work and impact on students to their customers.



EdConnect Australia Awards for 2018

EdConnect volunteers who deliver the program in schools are a very dedicated, highly committed and passionate group of people who give of their time freely, contributing to their local community and helping vulnerable and at-risk students to achieve educational success and wellbeing.

Each year we recognise the wonderful volunteers who support the program by awarding a Learning Support and Mentor Volunteer of the Year. It is always a hard decision knowing that all volunteers are worthy recipients. This year two new regional awards were introduced; the Pilbara Mentor of the Year and Peel Volunteer of the Year.

Mentor Volunteer of the Year

David Fox

David Fox who has been with EdConnect since 2017 and this year he mentored five students across three schools in the Perth Metro area, including Landsdale Primary School, Ashdale Primary School and Ellenbrook Secondary College. He is passionate about helping children with ADHD and finds creative and fun ways of helping them improve their concentration.

Leonie Mattock, Principal of Landsdale Primary, says, "David is knowledgeable about strategies and routines that best support children with ADHD and is proactive in researching information to help him support his students." She added that David's rapport with the students is so strong that they've all signed up to be mentored by him for the upcoming school year.

His nomination outlined his empathetic approach and dedication to helping students who experience challenges at school. "David is creative and flexible with the activities he does with the students – from playing soccer and cooking to helping with reading and computer based programs – he does it all"



Learning Support Volunteer of the Year

Pam Delaney

With over 15 years of volunteering with EdConnect, Pam Delaney has worked with students across all grade levels at Embleton Primary School and regularly attends assemblies, sporting events and school meetings.

Melissa Baldwin, teacher at Embleton Primary, says that she truly appreciates the time that Pam has shared with her class as well as in



the school as a whole. “Pam has been a voice of encouragement when students have struggled and a cheer squad for when they have achieved success.”

Pam’s involvement with the school is in such demand that Pam volunteers four days a week. “The feedback from the school about Pam is that she is an integral part of the school community – through her dedication and support to the students.”

School Coordinator of the Year **Beverley Pabedinskas**

School coordinators are an important element to the success of the program. Each member school allocates the school coordinator role to a member of their staff who works closely with the EdConnect Liaison Officer to place and support volunteers into the school.

The School Coordinator of the Year was awarded to Beverley Pabedinskas for her work with Yale Primary School. Beverley has recently retired after being the chaplain at the school for nineteen years and the school coordinator for the EdConnect program for 15 years.

She was nominated for the award due the extra care she provides to all people associated with the school community. “She goes the extra mile to make sure everyone is cared for – she’ll visit staff members who have been sick and goes out of her way to help new teachers,”

“Beverley’s role is to look after the social and emotional welfare of the students and staff and she does it without even thinking about it – it is natural for her,” says Glen Read, Principal of Yale Primary School.



Alcoa Peel Volunteer of the Year **Ron Stone**



EdConnect, in partnership with Alcoa through the Alcoa Foundation, awarded Ron Stone with the inaugural Peel Volunteer of the Year award for 2018. Ron, previously employed with Alcoa of Australia for over forty years, started mentoring a secondary student at Coodanup College in 2018 and quickly created a strong connection to his mentee.



Judy Mclean, School Coordinator for Coodanup College nominated Ron to receive the award. “Ron is very sensitive to his student’s home life and has been a consistent and reliable role model for him,” says Mclean. “Ron’s work is important especially when some of our students don’t have the best home life. He has made a huge difference which has improved his mentee’s wellbeing and attendance at school.”

Ron recently assisted EdConnect’ Liaison Officer at an information session to interested volunteers where he spoke to the group about the benefits of mentoring high school students. “It can be daunting to mentor high school students as some volunteers feel out of touch with the age group, but Ron shared his experiences with the group which put their minds at ease. He has gone above and beyond to help and promote our organisation.”

Roy Hill Community Foundation Pilbara Mentor of the Year Karen Munro



The Pilbara Mentors program held an Inaugural Awards Night hosted by The Roy Hill Community Foundation (RHCF) to recognise and celebrate the volunteers in South Hedland on December 11, 2018. The Pilbara Mentors program is delivered by EdConnect Australia in partnership with the RHCF. The program has grown significantly this year and now operates in five Hedland schools.

The highlight of the evening was seeing one of the dedicated Pilbara Mentors, Karen Munro, receive the very first Volunteer of the Year award which was presented by EdConnect Chair, Norma Jeffery. Karen was the first mentor recruited to volunteer in the program when it commenced in 2016. She has made a contribution to the lives of a number of children through her dedication and commitment, always ensuring there is fun component to their time together. Karen said, “I am surprised and honoured by the award.” She was particularly thankful to her employer Goodline, who have supported her to be a Pilbara Mentor since the program commenced in 2016.



Our Sponsors and Supporters

We sincerely thank organisations which have supported us over many years and those who are first timers in 2018-19.

National Partners

The
Kimberley
Foundation

Sidney Myer
SIDNEY MYER FUND

THE
GOOD
GUYS

TANARRA
PHILANTHROPIC
ADVISORS

VADDIS

pwc

West Australian Partners

THE GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Department of
Education

Roy Hill
Community
Foundation

Alcoa
Foundation

CITY OF Armadale

City of
MANDURAH

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supported

Victorian Partners

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Government
Education
and Training

THE
WILLIAM BUCKLAND
FOUNDATION
WBF

GANDEL
PHILANTHROPY

GIVE
WHERE YOU
LIVE
Building a Better Geelong

JOHN &
MYRIAM
Wyllie
FOUNDATION

Our Team



Above: (L-R) Meg Heller, Karen Vincent, Sarah White, Gerri Clay, Helen Jones, Julie Mullett, Karen Barden, Bonnie McGregor



Below: (L-R) Danie McNeil, Helen Anderson, Sally Edgerton, Rhonda Velkovski



It's been a year of considerable staff changes, as we said farewell to several loyal and valued staff, a number of whom made the decision to commence a new stage of their life journey into retirement.

There has also been the excitement of welcoming new staff as we build a new team based on the functional outcomes of the organisational structural review completed in early 2019.

The role of Liaison Officer (LO) is critical to the effective recruiting, training and placing of volunteers; engaging with primary and secondary schools and building engagement with the local community. The year started positively with the first appointment of a LO in the Pilbara region based in Port Hedland, WA. Although sad to say goodbye to the three original Liaison Officers from Timehelp, Chris McGlade, Gaye Witney and Trish Jannu on the East coast, it presented an opportunity to reshape the geographical areas covered by staff in the Melbourne metropolitan area. Such is the calibre of these staff that all three continued to volunteer for EdConnect in their local schools.

Robert Munce and Narelle Laing moved onto new roles having made significant contributions

to EdConnect's organisational development and growth. In his training role, Rob developed, standardized and commenced the online versions of the training modules each volunteer completes prior to volunteering in a school. Narelle's energy and leadership continued the transition from Timehelp into the EdConnect program model, whilst looking for opportunities to expand the programs reach. Bonnie McGregor retired from her position as Finance Officer after dedicating a number of year overseeing the finances for EdConnect.

Corporate services welcomed Meg Heller into the newly created role of EA/ Communications Advisor, Anne Fairbanks to the new position of Group Accountant and Danie McNeil was appointed as the East Coast General Manager.

In addition, EdConnect draws additional support from our volunteer base for specific administration tasks, the WA McCusker Internship program and in-kind support from corporations.

Our Team

Current staff

Karen Barden – Liaison Officer – Rural WA

Gerri Clay – Chief Executive Officer

Helen Jones – Administration Officer

Julie Mullett – Liaison Officer – South Metro WA

Vivienne Sercombe – Project Officer –
Girls in STEM VIC

Rhonda Velkovski – Liaison Officer –
West North West VIC

Karen Vincent – Liaison Officer – NE Metro WA

Sarah White – Liaison Officer – NW Metro WA

New appointments

Helen Anderson – Liaison Officer –
Northern region VIC

Megan Brouwer – Liaison Officer –
Port Hedland WA

Sally Edgerton – Liaison Officer – Geelong VIC

Anne Fairbanks – Group Accountant

Meg Heller – Communications Advisor /EA

Danie McNeil – GM – East Coast VIC

We farewelled

Narelle Laing – General Manager – East Coast


Chris McGlade – Liaison Officer – Geelong VIC

Bonnie McGregor – Finance Officer

Robert Munce – Training Manager

Gaye Witney – Liaison Officer – Inner west VIC

Trish Jannu – Liaison Officer – Northern – VIC



“I thoroughly believe in the mission and vision of EdConnect and want others to see the benefit of the program. I am immensely proud of the work we do at EdConnect. I value what we do and I love that we have the opportunity to make real change for so many young Australians.”

Sarah White,
EdConnect Liaison Officer

Volunteer Story

RENO DEMICOLI - VICTORIA MENTOR VOLUNTEER

Reno Demicoli is 72 years old that has been volunteering with EdConnect Australia since 2017 at Northern Bay College in Corio Victoria.

"This year I am mentoring and helping two students on a regular basis; a nine-year-old and an eleven-year-old. I help these students in their assignments and their hobbies. We play games, we make things, but most importantly we talk about their interests, their fears and their frustrations seeing their mums and dads living apart with all the complications these situations give rise to. I have earned their trust and as we go along, I hope I can make a positive contribution to their future.

In turn these kids have filled a deep hole in my life having lost my only two sons. As I attempt to find meaning in my "golden years", my contribution to these kids, many from broken and seriously problematic backgrounds, is a tangible way of contributing something to very young members of our community who are suffering through no fault of theirs.

It is very sad when a ten-year-old talks about anxiety, anger, depression and tells you she wants to die. This is where our vast experience of life can gently come to the rescue. I highly recommend becoming a volunteer with EdConnect. "

At every opportunity, Reno promotes our program and tries to get everyone to apply to become a volunteer. He tells school teachers he meets, gives them my details and recently arranged a meeting at the lifestyle village for me to speak about EdConnect."



"I have earned their trust and as we go along, I hope I can make a positive contribution to their future. In turn these kids have filled a deep hole in my life."

Overall Impact



For every **\$1.00** invested,
EdConnect Australia returns
\$4.12 in value back to the
Australian Community



16,471

Supported Students

1,219

Skilled Volunteers

2,441

Hours a week

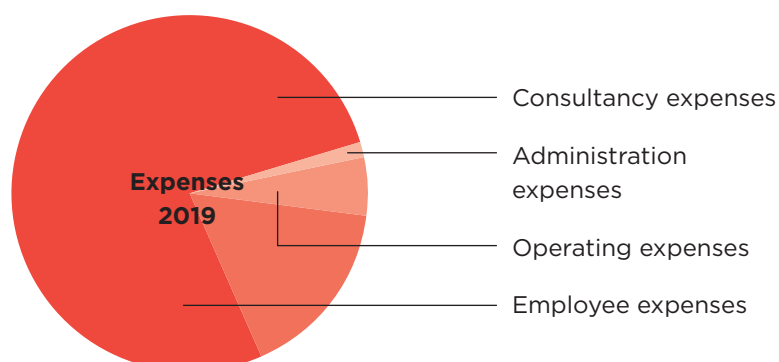
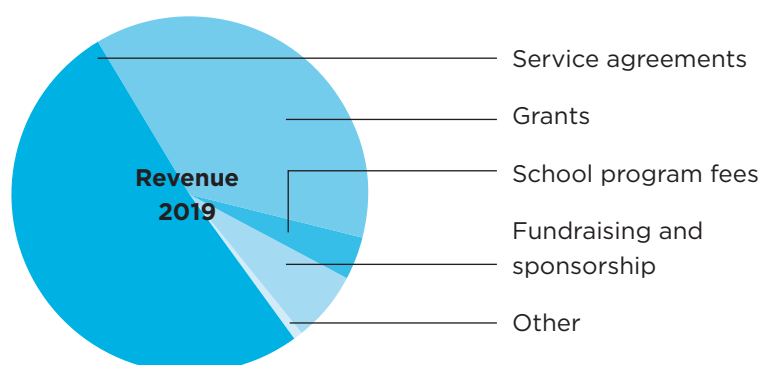
Equating to a value of:

\$4,248,316

Value returned to the
Australian Community

Concise Financial Report

	2018-19 \$	2017-18 \$
REVENUE		
Service agreements	598,696	485,803
Grants	438,188	342,301
School program fees	43,068	70,981
Fundraising and sponsorship	76,440	26,929
Other	7,208	4,331
Total Income	1,163,600	930,345
EXPENDITURE		
Consultancy expenses	17,341	0
Administration expenses	62,730	108,033
Operating expenses	186,984	114,124
Employee expenses	888,730	728,228
Total Expenditure	1,155,785	950,385
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	7,814	(20,040)



Operating Results

EdConnect Australia reported a surplus for the 2018-19 financial year of \$7,814 and total equity for the organisation of \$71,440. Revenue for the 2018-19 financial year grew significantly to reach \$1.163 million, a 25% increase on the prior year.

EdConnect was able to secure an increase in funding from the Western Australian Government over the next 3 years expanding the service to more regional schools. Combined with ongoing funding from the Victorian Government these grants provide base line funding to enable greater servicing of Victorian and West Australian schools. Corporate and philanthropic grants have increased by 28% principally due to a new grant received from the Sidney Myer Fund extending over three years, in addition fundraising and donations have doubled.

Maintaining a regional presence in the Pilbara and Peel regions of Western Australia is made possible through the generous support of The Roy Hill Community Foundation and the Alcoa Foundation respectively. Our thanks also go to the William Buckland Trust for continuing to supplement our services in Victoria, and Give Where You Live for enabling the provision of services in the Geelong region. A grant from Lotterywest has been instrumental in the development of the organisations West Australian operations.

This support from governments, the private sector, and the general public reflects the value EdConnect is able to bring to learning environments in schools and the high regard with which our organisation is held in the community. EdConnect looks forward to further growth as we look to build our national presence, connecting volunteers with young people to support their educational success and personal well-being.

For a copy of the full audited financial statement visit our website:

<http://www.edconnectaustralia.org.au/about-us/publications>

Directors Declaration

ACN 109 551 966

EdConnect Australia for the year ending 30 June 2019

The directors of The School Volunteer Program Ltd trading as EdConnect Australia (the company) declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes are in accordance with division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not – for – profits Commission Act 2012; and
 - a. Comply with Accounting Standards and Corporations Regulations 2001; and
 - b. Give a true and fair view of the entities financial position as at 30 June 2019 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. In the Directors opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the entity 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



Joseph Hoe

Director

19th September 2019

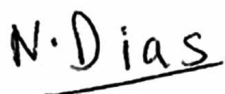
Auditors Declaration

Auditors Independence Declaration to The School Volunteer Program Ltd trading as EdConnect Australia

I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit for the financial period ended 30 June 2019 there have been:

1. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Australian Charities and Not Profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
2. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Armada Audit and Assurance Pty Ltd



Nigel Dias CA, RCA, BCom

Director, Audit Services

Registered Company Auditor Reg. No. 499186



Armada Audit & Assurance Pty Ltd
(Authorised Audit Company)

Dated this 19 day of September 2019
at Perth Western Australia

Our Vision

Every community helping young people to succeed.

Our Mission

To prepare and connect intergenerational volunteers with disadvantaged or at risk young people for education success and wellbeing.

Our Values

Inclusiveness We include all people regardless of their social background, ethnicity, gender or economic circumstances.

Excellence We are committed to delivering our services to the highest possible standard and in an accountable manner.

Empathy We listen, respect and respond to the needs of all our people.

Equity We strive to treat people in a fair and equitable manner at all times.

Respect We value the contributions, views and opinions of our people.

Trust We conduct ourselves with integrity, reliability and fairness in all that we say and do.





Connect with us

Join our growing nationwide movement
and help young people thrive

Registered office

The Rise, 28 Eighth Avenue
Maylands, Western Australia, 6051

Visit www.edconnectaustralia.org.au
to register your interest.

Call us on

Western Australia - 08 9444 8646
Victoria/New South Wales - 1800 668 550

Or email us at

edconnect@edconnect.org.au
and we'll be in touch.



Follow us [facebook.com/
EdConnectAustralia](https://facebook.com/EdConnectAustralia)

Have you thought about...

Committing to a regular gift
Leaving a legacy in your will
Volunteering with us
Entering into a corporate partnership with us
Telling everyone about us!