

 **PositiveLifeNSW**
the voice of people with HIV since 1988



Annual Report 2012 – 2013

The peak body in NSW for people living with and communities affected by HIV/AIDS for the past 25 years.



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Designer: Slade Smith
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Printed by:

On the cover: A mandala represents the connections, paths and spheres of influence that Positive Life NSW offers its members.

Annual Report 2012 – 2013

Vision

All people living with HIV are able to live valued and meaningful lives, free from the impacts of stigma and discrimination, and contributing to the end of HIV transmission.

Mission

Positive Life NSW is the state-wide peer based organisation that speaks for and on behalf of people living with and affected by HIV. We provide advocacy and leadership in advancing the human rights and quality of life of people living with and affected by HIV in NSW.

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President's Report

At the Positive Life NSW World AIDS Day event held on 01 December, 2012 at the Powerhouse Museum, The Hon. Jillian Skinner MP, Minister for Health, Minister for Medical Research launched the *NSW HIV Strategy – 2012-2015, A New Era* setting a new direction for the New South Wales response to HIV. The strategy has a set of targets aligned with the United Nations Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS agreed by all member countries in 2011, including Australia.

Positive Life NSW was a participant in the development of the framework and recognised we would have to adjust our program delivery and services to align with the new strategy. This has been a task requiring a fine balancing of funds and program reorientation enabling the organisation to better meet its obligations to our funders and our members.

This year the Board has establishing working groups, advisories and committees to work on the following:

- Board Succession Planning
- Positive Life NSW Constitutional Review
- Policies and Procedures
- Positive Life NSW Strategic Plan

Each group was established to investigate ways that the continuity and a seamless transfer of corporate knowledge could best be maintained as the changing dynamic of the Board evolves, that the organisation complies with updated state and federal requirements, and that all policies and procedures are current and relevant to the needs of Positive Life NSW and its members.

The largest tasks undertaken by the Board this year have been the rewriting of the organisation's Strategic Plan identifying a series of strategic goals and the opportunities that lie ahead for the agency; and the reworking of the organisation's Constitution. Our Strategic Plan has incorporated a number of strategies that are aligned to the *NSW HIV Strategy 2012 – 2015, A New Era* which will enable us to grow as an organisation and become more responsive to the changing environment and the diverse community which we represent and serve. It is the blueprint and vision for our future development and planning, but

has had to take into account the flux in funding and service agreements for this coming period.

Positive Life's Constitution has had to be updated to reflect changes to the Corporations Act, conforming to new rules and legal regulations, and provide opportunities to ensure Board stability, building on expertise and thus facilitating the growth of Positive Life NSW. This will be sent out for extensive community consultation over the next few months.

Our Strategic Plan has incorporated a number of strategies that are aligned to the NSW HIV Strategy 2012 – 2015, A New Era which will enable us to grow as an organisation

Following on from this work Positive Life NSW joined with the National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA) and our respective PLHIV member organisations in the launch of *Poz Action* - a new campaign which effectively recognises and takes ownership of all the often unrecognised work we undertake collectively on behalf of the body positive. Through our membership in NAPWHA as the peak body and through each individual state and territory organisation representing people living with HIV in Australia we achieve a lot – we lobby governments and change policy, improve and streamline access to treatment and services, educate and provide peer support, and aim to improve the health and lives of all people living with HIV. The *Poz Action* symbol will be used to highlight the work that we do and our achievements in the areas of –

- Stigma/resilience
- HIV transmission, exposure and non-disclosure, and law reform
- Research needs
- Prevention/health promotion and
- Quality of life and wellness through social policy linked to outcomes

NAPWHA has plans to launch *Poz Action* as a website, and all of our programs and advocacy work will be re-branded with the symbol creating a synergy and recognition across everything we do.

Recently we launched a new resource in conjunction with NAPWHA and ASHM at the ASHM Conference in Darwin. The DVD and accompanying booklet *Being Positive: Healthy Living for Australians with HIV* includes information about healthy living programs, interviews with HIV positive

men and women about their own maintenance strategies, and referral pathways. Based on the real life experiences of NSW-based positive people, we hope it will be a useful tool particularly those who are newly diagnosed to come to terms with various aspects of living with HIV.

We have had a number of significant advocacy and policy achievements this year and our work in this area has received great acclaim not just for its excellent quality and analysis but for the sheer volume of output produced. Positive Life NSW achieved three of its priority goals this year with the introduction of the Enhanced Medical Access scheme, changes to improve outpatient dispensing, and advocating for co-payments for medications. Currently we are about to launch a new Treatments campaign based on choices around health and wellbeing for people living with HIV. We have also continued our partnership this year with the HIV AIDS Legal Centre (HALC) on a range of advocacy and human rights issues. We produced and launched in consultation with HALC a new resource called *Disclosing your HIV Status: A guides to some of the Legal Issues* which is about protecting and empowering positive people's rights around disclosure of their HIV status and the right to privacy in the New South Wales jurisdiction. Protecting human rights and the right to privacy has, from the beginning of the HIV epidemic, been recognised as essential to an effective public health response to HIV.

Our program work continues to go from strength to strength resulting in Positive Life's raised profile and increasing visibility. Our reaching out to members in both the greater Sydney and regional NSW areas through our participation in Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Fair Day and Coast Out Fair Day in Coffs Harbour, our community forums, the revitalisation of the Positive Speakers Bureau, and our new peer inclusive social event The Quarterly, are just some examples of this, but we have had many more successes over the year.

I would like to pause now to pay tribute to both Douglas Barry and Malcolm Leech who sadly passed this year. Malcolm and Douglas were fierce champions for Positive Life NSW and contributed their considerable energies and passion to inform, educate and advance the interests of people living with HIV.

Douglas was a Distinguished Member of Positive Life NSW and a previous member of our Board who on many occasions provided invaluable legal advice on a range of important policy and advocacy issues. He was instrumental in drafting Positive Life's original Constitution, and I would like to acknowledge his outstanding contribution to the organisation and for all people living with HIV in NSW.

Malcolm was posthumously awarded Distinguished Membership of Positive Life NSW unanimously by the Board in recognition of this tireless work and dedication to the organisation. He was committed to people living with HIV being heard, to being full and equal partners in HIV education, research, policy and programming. He understood that by sharing his lived experience he would contribute to others being able to maintain and improve their health, and to make choices that would have a positive impact on themselves, their partners and the community in general. Malcolm's record of public service in the HIV sector was as exemplary as it was prolific, but his passion and commitment to the community of people living with HIV was never more evident than in his advocacy and ambassadorship in the various roles he played at Positive Life NSW. His enthusiasm led to him working in a voluntary capacity as the coordinator of the Positive Speakers Bureau, and from 2006 to 2012 Malcolm served on the Board of Positive Life NSW in the roles of Ordinary Director, Secretary and President. He was a powerful and determined advocate for all people living with HIV, and was instrumental in instigating change and a new direction for the agency.

To conclude I must thank our Board, staff and volunteers of Positive Life NSW for their ongoing commitment to the organisation and its values. Positive Life NSW is the sum of all its parts and we could not achieve all that we do without the collaboration and participation of each of those parts. I am incredibly privileged to have worked with the depth of experience and knowledge we have within the current Board, and the support I have received as President. I believe this is also probably the most diverse Board in Positive Life's history – we have a mix of men and women, gay and straight, young, older, and those who are recently diagnosed versus those who have lived long-term with HIV. Equally I am honoured to have worked with such a highly-respected and well-regarded CEO and a staff and volunteer base whose passion, enthusiasm and work ethic speak for themselves. They must be congratulated for their hard work over all the many and varied programs we work in and their dedication to ensuring that the voices of positive people are heard, acknowledged and very much present at the table endorsing the GIPA principle of 'nothing about us without us'. This has not been the easiest of years, but from it we have built stronger and more productive working relationships which will only benefit the agency as a whole as we go forward.

Jane Costello
President



Chief Executive Officers Report

The NSW HIV Strategy 2012-2015 – A New Era has been a key influence and driver in relation to program and service delivery for Positive Life NSW during the 2012-13 periods. The organisation undertook a review into what we deliver, how and why, and then reoriented and adjusted program delivery to meet the requirements of the HIV strategy. New business, budget and strategic plans now align with the NSW HIV Strategy.

The new Board of Positive Life undertook a comprehensive governance training process and established working groups to review the board succession process, policy and procedure requirements and constitution. This has been a major undertaking and I would like to congratulate the Board on its achievement.

It has been a productive year, a period of change, challenge and opportunity. However our work continues to focus on the health and support needs of people living with HIV (PLHIV), from the newly diagnosed to those living long-term with HIV. Whether gay or straight, Positive Life strives to represent the interests of all people with HIV in NSW.

Thankfully people with HIV are now living longer and growing older. However, as they age, their risk of acquiring age related disease increases. Supporting those with complex health and psychosocial issues will continue to challenge service delivery and public policy priorities.

Positive Life NSW continues to provide education, referral, peer support and advocacy for all positive people. This work is an integral part of the response to HIV not only in New South Wales but also in other Australian jurisdictions.

Building Financial Sustainability

Financial stability is important to any organisation. Building a financially viable organisation means we have needed to adapt and review budgets, programs and income streams to meet the requirements of funders. At times, hard decisions have been needed to protect the organisation and to enable it to continue its work for people with HIV in NSW.

The board recognises the need to diversify and balance our funding sources, to try to reduce our reliance on government funding, and to increase our private, individual, and corporate donations. This strategy holds opportunities for the future.

I am pleased to report that Positive Life has successfully secured sponsorship from MAC Cosmetics for a range of programs. These programs include the Positive Speakers Bureau, policy initiatives and health promotion and social support programs. As with all corporate sponsorship agreements, Positive Life will be required to meet strict performance and reporting processes.

Representation, Partnerships & Research

Representation remains one of the corner stones of the organisations work. The outcomes from this work are not always immediate and tangible and have their own set of unique challenges. The work however, remains an important priority for the organisation and is fundamental in maintaining the centrality of people with HIV in the shaping of public policy and service delivery as well as clinical models of care. The interests and emerging needs of PLHIV are represented in a diverse range of government, non-government, clinical, and research sector settings. Representation does not sit on one person's shoulders and happens at different levels of organisation as a shared responsibility carried by the CEO, staff and Board.

**Whether gay or straight,
Positive Life strives to
represent the interests of all
people with HIV in NSW**



Sonny Williams Chief Executive Officer of Positive Life NSW speaking at World AIDS Day 1 December, 2012 at the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney.

Policy

In the context of new understandings about the role of treatment and prevention, the policy and systemic advocacy area is continually changing with an ongoing discourse around the health and transmission benefits of treatment and when to start therapy. Making access to treatment affordable and easy is a priority for Positive Life. We have submitted policy papers to the Ministry of Health on 'Anti-retroviral co-payments for people with HIV in NSW – A time for review', and 'Cost projections for a single anti-retroviral co-payment for people living with HIV in NSW'. If these measures are introduced by the government, the results will be truly transformative for community and significantly improve treatment uptake by people with HIV in NSW.

Positive Life NSW strives to provide opportunities for members to be leaders in their communities. As an organisation representing the strong resilient voices of people living with HIV in NSW, we will maintain and seek out new leadership opportunities and skill development in the community and other communities to share our unique perspectives. The year ahead holds great opportunities for Positive Life NSW.

Finally I want to thank and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of both the staff and the board. It has been a year of challenges and change. Their commitment to quality service delivery and the championing of all people with HIV sets our organisation in good stead for the year ahead.

Sonny Williams
Chief Executive Officer

Making access to treatment affordable and easy is a priority for Positive Life NSW



Attendees at World AIDS Day 1 December, 2012 at the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney.



The Hon. Jillian Skinner MP, Minister for Health, Minister for Medical Research who launched the NSW HIV Strategy 2012-2015 – A New Era at World AIDS Day 1 December, 2012 at the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney.



Treasurer's Report

On behalf the Positive Life NSW Board I am pleased to present the 2012-2013 Annual Financial report for the organisation.

The Positive Life NSW overall result for the 2012/13 financial year was an \$84,593 deficit after all depreciations, accruals and provisions. The deficit is a result of the agencies outlay on employment expenses to implement a restructure, contractor's fees, and resource expenses.

We have maintained a healthy fiscal position over the previous year ending with a working capital ratio that remains steady at 2.3 and reserves to expenditure ratio of 18%.

Total income for the year exceeded the budget by \$32,823, largely due to higher grants, donation, and reimbursement income received during the year. Total income for received for the financial year was \$897,470. Total expenses for the organisation were \$982,063.

Advice has been received from the principal funding body NSW Ministry of Health on Friday 16 August 2013 that the Ministry will not be implementing the competitive tendering process in the 2013-14 financial year as previously advised and current funding levels will be maintained into the 2014-15 financial year. This provides the agency with considerable more confidence and reasonable certainty to implement its business plan in the short term and more flexibility to shape new programs and further restructure as required.

Whilst the directors acknowledge that there are credit and liquidity risks due to the current funding environment, they wish to note that additional revenue streams are being actively explored.

Positive Life NSW continues to work with its stakeholders, sector partners and funding bodies to strengthen its achievements and is taking action to address the going funding issue and to protect the financial security of the association. Since 30 June 2013, the directors have undertaken the following initiatives:

- Entered into discussions with potential pharmaceutical corporate donors to fund existing health promotion projects which play an important role in underpinning

the organisations' strategic objectives and responsibilities within the 2012-2015 NSW HIV Strategy.

- Targeted funding from M.A.C Cosmetics has been secured in July 2013 and further additional funding has already been applied for by the organisation from the same donor program.
- Continued their focus on maintaining an appropriate level of overheads and in particular the ratio of salary and on costs to overall expenses, which has dropped to an ideal 45% in the 2013-14 Positive Life Budget.

I believe the organisation has done very well in managing its finances and has placed itself in a strong position going forward. I would like to thank Sonny Williams, Harry Richardson, Matrix and the Positive Life Board for their due diligence and support during the financial year. Finally, on behalf of the Board I would like to say thank you to ESV Chartered Accountants, who have provided a comprehensive and professional audit.

Cameron Colwell

Positive Life NSW continues to work with its stakeholders, sector partners and funding bodies to strengthen its achievements

POZ ACTION

What comes to mind when you read those words? I would hope that as a starting point you identify with the collective identity of all people living with HIV and secondly, that something is occurring. What I hope to do is to articulate what this statement and brand means, and how you and the organisation which acts to represent you, can engage with the concept.

This brand idea is an outcome from the current strategic directions for the National Association of People Living with HIV Australia (NAPWHA). The organisations of HIV positive people from around Australia, their representatives and employees that constitute the membership of NAPWHA clearly articulated the need to find a way to enhance the work that occurs in each positive organisation in Australia, from the national through to the separate state based organisations.

There is a need to work smarter and to collaborate more effectively with less duplication of the work that occurs, as the positive response in this country matures. Further, there is increasing pressure being placed on positive organisations around the country with a tightening of resources and an increased scrutiny of the work that is being undertaken. There is a question around the role of multiple positive organisations in this era of highly successful treatment options and a totally changed dynamic of HIV as a chronic but manageable lifelong condition.

So what is the brand idea? As a starting point it is the articulation of the issues that matter to positive people in Australia; it is a way of unifying the policy work across all positive organisations; and also a way of working to maximize the potential of positive people and their advocates. Finally, it is hoped to be a way to engage the whole positive population in the work that we do, to celebrate our achievements and engender action.

POZ ACTION is a rallying call that we must do something to change the current projection for the HIV epidemic that has seen a consistent increase in the infection rate in this country for the past decade. There has been a lot of talk about the fact that we now know by looking at examples around the world that the course of the epidemic can be changed dramatically. We know that at the least an end to AIDS is possible, and even an end to the transmission of HIV, if not an end to the HIV epidemic as we have seen occur with the Polio epidemic.

So why isn't Australia leading the world's response to the epidemic like we did at the onset of the epidemic? What did we do back then that we have stopped doing, and what do we need to do to get back to being the world leaders that we could be? After all, we have achieved success in being able to contain the epidemic in this country but we have become complacent and accepting of a certain level of infections which given the increasing number of people living with HIV would be expected. We stopped advocating for laws, policy and practices that we knew impacted on the course of the epidemic, a complacency set into the response because no one challenged the accepted dynamic, and we have lacked leadership that drives change.

As positive people we have adapted to the changing dynamic that has occurred in the last thirty years to the course of the disease; no longer do we see unexplained deaths or conditions without cause, no longer do we struggle to stay alive without treatment, or experience difficult treatments and their very toxic side effects. Today's challenges are associated with living longer with HIV infection and lifelong treatment and the challenges of HIV co morbidities.

With these changes positive people are stepping up to the challenge of leading the response through advocacy not paralleled since the early days of treatment activism. Positive people are central and vital to effecting changes in the HIV response if we are ever to achieve the goal of a world without HIV/AIDS. POZ ACTION is our brand for all the work that positive organisations undertake: we lobby government and effect changes in policy, streamline access to treatment and services; and educate, support and generally make life easier for people living with HIV.

We have led the move to adopt ambitious targets to stop transmissions so that we no longer have an increasing number of peers, and increased treatment for those of us already infected through global, national and state advocacy. These targets have now been accepted and endorsed by all sectors of the HIV response. What we have yet to see is comprehensive action at a national and multi jurisdictional level. Whilst New South Wales has made some of these shifts they will not be truly effective until this occurs throughout the country starting with the Commonwealth, encompassing the other States and moving through to the whole of civil society.

From the positive perspective the actions that need to occur to change the status quo are addressing HIV stigma and building resilience in positive people; law reform as regards HIV transmission, exposure and non-disclosure; the future research needs of the positive community; prevention and health promotion; quality of life, wellness and social policy; and equitable access to treatments.

Having identified these issues as central to our work we can through coordination and cooperation identify the work that has been undertaken which can be accepted or adopted on behalf of the whole positive collective, and used as the basis upon which to build the next piece of work.

POZ ACTION is a showcase for our achievements but more importantly it is something that all positive people can feel proud to have achieved. It is our rallying call that we can all contribute by taking action as a positive person, a positive community, and a global positive movement to change the course of the HIV epidemic. This epidemic is only enabled and allowed to continue through inaction and complacency. POZ ACTION is able to change all that. Celebrate our achievements and embrace the challenge that is POZ ACTION!

Robert Mitchell
President
National Association of People Living With HIV Australia



The Positive Speakers Bureau has in the last twelve months experienced a targeted redevelopment and reinvigoration acting on recommendations set out in the PSB Review and closely following Positive Life NSW's Strategic Goals.

In the 2012-2013 financial year the PSB has:

- Identified a core bureau made up of active, dedicated and passionate speakers who will help to promote and grow PSB's profile into the future.

The Positive Speakers Bureau engaged in ongoing recruitment of new speakers due to normal attrition and to update the range of life stories from the long term to the newly diagnosed and to be able to demonstrate the positive changes that have taken place in topics such as treatments and side effects and in the changing HIV lived experience.

- Provided invaluable training and professional development to all the speakers with The Advanced Communication Course that took place in November 2012 and following the Strategic Goals set out in the *NSW HIV Strategy 2012-2015, A New Era* the PSB addressed priority areas such as Workforce Development by adding Media Training to its training and professional development program planned for 2013.

Professional training for speakers provides the opportunity for participants to improve their self-esteem, personal and professional opportunities.

- Acted in the priority area of improving the health and well-being of people living with HIV by producing a Positive Speakers Bureau DVD to be used as a marketing and educational tool to reduce stigma and discrimination in a variety of settings.



- Pro-actively networked with other sectors of the community such as the corporate and private sector, staff training and aged care and with the wider community in general providing the PSB with a much larger contact and prospective client database as well as creating innovative partnerships and relationships.
- Piloted a Rural Program in the Northern Rivers after identifying parts of the community in need of education, health promotion and support by using the positive speakers located in that area of NSW with the goal to continuously develop and expand our capacity as a provider of high quality health education.
- Initiated the development and implementation of a marketing plan based on the highlights mentioned above to better promote the PSB to a broader audience and to continue to raise community awareness about the impact of stigma and discrimination on the lives of people with HIV.

José Machado





Policy

Supporting HIV health, human rights and treatment access, uptake and adherence

Reducing cost of HIV medication

Removing structural barriers that impact negatively on treatment uptake and adherence are priority policy challenges for Positive Life NSW. Providing convenient access and affordable HIV treatment for all people with HIV in NSW are important factors if we are to achieve improved health outcomes for people with living with HIV and also reduce transmission rates.

Research has shown that financial stress and the cost of co-payments for HIV medicines are significant barriers to uptake, maintenance and adherence of antiretroviral therapy (ART). People with HIV also experience higher rates of morbidity. The management of multiple chronic health conditions is associated with higher out of pocket spending. If treatment uptake and adherence levels are to be improved, financial barriers to starting and continuing treatment need to be addressed. Positive Life provided a strong case to the NSW Ministry of Health's *HIV Strategy Implementation Taskforce* for the NSW Government to consider waiving - or at easing - co-payments for ART to people with HIV in NSW. The case included cost estimates for waiving co-payments for the entire diagnosed and undiagnosed population with HIV, and also for those experiencing financial hardship. We estimate that the annual cost of waiving ART co-payments for all people with HIV in NSW would be less than \$5 million annually. If co-payments were waived for people earning less than \$60,000 per annum or similar, the cost would be approximately \$1.2 million annually.

A single ART co-payment scheme in NSW

Our case was well received by the Ministry of Health and they subsequently endorsed a policy position for charging one dispensing fee regardless of the number of different HIV medication prescribed. Positive Life provided cost estimates to the Ministry for the implementation of a single ART co-payment scheme in NSW. The cost of the subsidy is estimated to be between \$1.42 million and \$1.8 million annually dependent on treatment uptake levels. Both submissions can be viewed on the Positive Life NSW website under advocacy/submissions.

ART co-payments in other Australian States and Territories

Other Australian States and Territories have expressed interest in undertaking work in their own jurisdictions to ease the HIV co-payment cost burden for their HIV – positive population. The rationale and methodology used in calculating the cost estimates for waiving co-payments in NSW have been provided to PLWHA organisations in Queensland, Victoria and South Australia. Positive Life is hopeful that other States and Territories will advocate to reduce the ART co-payments cost burden in their respective jurisdictions.

Medicare ineligible with HIV in NSW

Positive Life considers that a more sustainable solution is required to address the ART access needs of people with HIV who are ineligible for Medicare in NSW. A significant proportion of these people will go on and to successfully achieve permanent residency and Medicare services. Denying these individuals access to HIV treatment is considered poor public health policy by Positive Life. A submission to the Ministry of Health has been developed that examines visa categories and Medicare access, conditions in relation to those who come from countries with a reciprocal health agreement with the Australian Government, and data from the Australian HIV Observational Database Temporary Resident Access Scheme (ATRAS). The ATRAS scheme provides interim treatment access to 180 Australian Medicare ineligible over a four year period. The study ends in 2016 and nearly half of the people in the ATRAS study reside in NSW. Not all people with HIV who are Medicare ineligible are enrolled in the ATRAs study and Positive Life is keen to assess any unmet need. We have surveyed HIV and sexual health clinics in NSW to better understand and estimate the number of patients who are Medicare ineligible, the percentages who

are in clinical need of ART, and where they are sourcing their medication, if at all. This data will inform recommendation in the submission to the Ministry of Health.

The EMA Scheme

A more convenient approach to dispensing HIV medication was urgently required with increasing numbers of people now employed and hospital-based pharmacies only open from 9-5pm Monday to Friday. The Community Pharmacy Pilot Project (2001), successfully allowed people to collect HIV medications from targeted metropolitan community pharmacies. Since that time, Positive Life has advocated for a community pharmacy dispensing option. However, restrictive Commonwealth regulations have delayed progress. A change of State Government together with the release of important new research into the health and transmission benefits of HIV treatment provided the needed

change impetus. In late 2011 a working group began brokering a new access model and on World AIDS Day 1 December 2011, The Hon. Jillian Skinner MP, Minister for Health, Minister for Medical Research announced the introduction of the Enhanced Medication Access Scheme (EMA). The EMA scheme is run out of the Albion Centre pharmacy and enables people with HIV who are stable on treatment to have their medications mailed to their home or a nominated community pharmacy. People no longer need to take time off work to travel to, and wait at, a hospital pharmacy. EMA has been well received, particularly by those who find it difficult and time consuming to get to a hospital pharmacy and by those who live in regional NSW. 235 people have enrolled in EMA and 57 community pharmacies have signed up to the service. Positive Life continues to play an active role in improving the EMA scheme and making sure that it meets its intended need.

Housing for people with HIV in NSW

In late 2012, Housing NSW conducted a consultation with the HIV sector in response to changes to Private Rental Assistance. They were keen to assess how the changed policy would affect people with HIV. Positive Life provided data to Housing NSW on emerging issues for people with HIV. This included data on population size, population demography and the impacts of age related morbidity on employment and its impact on future social housing demand. Positive Life was invited by Housing NSW to become a member of the Housing NSW NGO Partners Reference Group. The reference group was established to maximise outcomes for social housing clients and communities in NSW by providing a forum for non-government peak organisations to provide expert advice and feedback to Housing NSW on a range of issues. Since joining the reference group, Positive Life has consulted with HIV service providers from around NSW about what is/is not working in relation to the provision of public housing for people with HIV in metropolitan and regional NSW. We are currently working through the list of issues with Housing NSW that were identified in our submission.

In April 2013, issues were raised with Positive Life by ACON in relation to the operation of Private Rental Assistance for people with HIV. These issues were relayed to Housing NSW. In May 2013 Positive Life chaired a meeting between NGO service providers and Housing NSW Senior Management to address the list of issues and develop improved communication pathways between NGO service providers and Housing NSW. Positive Life is committed to working with Housing NSW to achieve better housing outcomes for people with HIV in metro and regional NSW.



Changing the policy of non-reconstruction of HIV infected bodies post-autopsy

The Department of Forensic Medicine (DOFM), Glebe, refused to reconstruct the bodies of HIV infected individuals after conducting an autopsy. NSW was the only jurisdiction in Australia with this policy. The policy has caused unwanted disclosure of the HIV status of individuals and distress to partners and family members of the deceased. The policy was particularly problematic for the families of rural and Aboriginal people with HIV. Positive Life considered the policy unnecessary and discriminatory. We considered that it reinforced and perpetuated the stigma of infectiousness attached to people with HIV and HCV. Positive Life expressed concern to the DOFM in a submission. The DOFM informed Positive Life that they were developing and trialling a new technique for the restoration of bodies after autopsy which eliminated the use of the suture needle and therefore improved safety of DOFM staff. Reconstruction of HIV/HCV infected bodies was subsequently implemented following further refinement and roll-out of the trialled technique.

Getting HIV included in the LGBTI Ageing and Aged Care Strategy (Cth)

As part of the Older Australians from Diverse Backgrounds stream of Living Longer Living Better aged care reform package, the Commonwealth Government announced consultations with groups representing people from diverse backgrounds to assess the requirement for further development of strategies to support their needs in aged care. Positive Life noted minimal inclusion of HIV and its impacts on gay and bisexual men in the draft National LGBTI Strategy, noting that more than 50% of the Australian population with HIV will be over the age of 50 and 17.3% are predicted to be over the age of 65 by 2020. It was also noted that significant proportions of these individuals will experience multiple age-related morbidity at younger ages than their HIV-negative peers. Since the majority of this population will be unable to rely upon traditional family care giving structures, they will be more reliant on formal community-based and aged care services to meet their increasing health and social support needs. The submission made a number of recommendations to the guiding principles and strategy goals.

HIV complex care and ageing

The development of effective and sustainable models of integrated care are important elements in the future health care service development needs of people with HIV with chronic age-related disease. To effectively respond to the increasingly complex clinical and social contexts present in this emergent group, service requirements need to be better understood and planned for. Positive Life provided a literature review of the research on HIV and ageing to the South Eastern Sydney HIV Complex Care and Ageing Working Group. The paper informed the development of a forum for service providers which is planned for August 2013 and will contain a number of presentations of experts in the area of HIV and ageing.

Rights if the Terminally Ill Bill 2013

Positive Life and ACON provided a submission supporting the Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 2013. Positive Life and ACON considered that when no other options are available to a person to relieve their pain and suffering that their rational requests to a medical practitioner to end their pain and distress should be respected and granted. Positive Life and ACON therefore considered that the Bill provided strict and acceptable conditions in relation to the operation and monitoring for the assisted dying process. The Bill was defeated.

Revised Policy on Contact Tracing for Borne Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmitted Infections

The Ministry sought feedback on the draft policy and it was not by Positive Life that some clinicians would be more capable than others of striking a sensitive and tailored balance to contact tracing in relation to societal attitudes to diseases such as HIV and HCV. In the case of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and culturally and linguistically diverse populations with HIV, these issues become even more complex and difficult to balance and sensitively address. Adequate support and follow up by clinicians of initial cases and their subsequent contacts will be crucial to achieving an acceptable duty of care on the part of health care providers and in achieving improved individual and public health outcomes.

NSW Legislative Council's Inquiry into the use of cannabis for medical purposes, February 2013

A joint submission by Positive Life, ACON, NAPWA and AFAO was provided to the Inquiry.

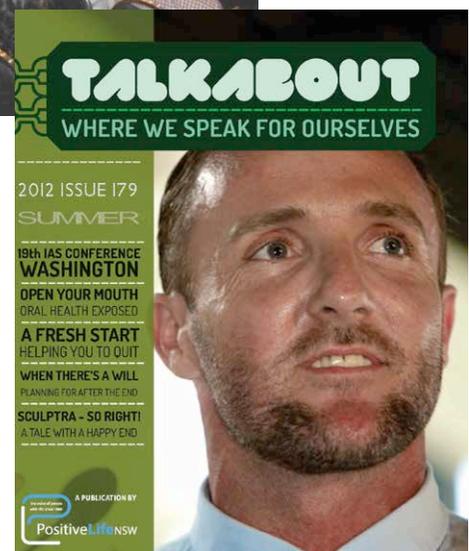
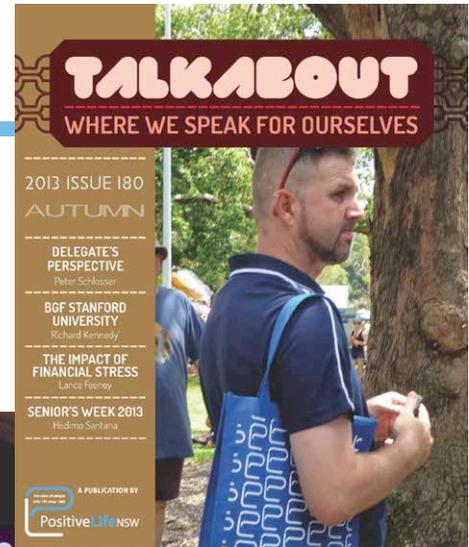
Lance Feeney



COMMUNICATIONS

Talkabout MAGAZINE "WHERE WE SPEAK FOR OURSELVES"

The new look for *Talkabout* introduced in early 2012 has been incorporated into the magazine for the 4 issues over the 2012/13 year. *Talkabout* encourages contributions from people with HIV as the basis for the majority of its content. Additional content that is relevant to the target audience is sourced from HIV sector organisations and service providers. Positive Life NSW project staff are also now regular contributors, as are organisations like HALC (HIV/AIDS Legal Centre) and Bobby Goldsmith Foundation. The content for the publications focuses on personal perspectives of any aspect of living with HIV but also features articles on preventative health, lifestyle, nutrition, medical research and programs and services for people living with HIV. In the 2012/13 financial year Positive Life NSW published and distributed 16,000 copies of *Talkabout* through more than 500 distribution sites. In addition to the member and subscriber mailouts, our distribution sites are organisations including ACON Branches, Pozhets, Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service, Australasian Society of HIV Medicine, community and community health organisations, migrant resource centres, Positive Living Centres, sexual health clinics, doctors' surgeries and hospitals. The street distribution includes sex on premises venues, bars, gyms, cafes, cinemas, bookshops, music and video shops and chemists.



Life.Mail

Life Mail is Positive Life NSW's electronic direct mail opt-in e-newsletter. Individuals and organisations can subscribe to Life.Mail by supplying an email address and subscribers can unsubscribe at any time via email link. *Life.Mail* was published 8 times in the 2012/13 financial year. Due to personnel changes there has been a temporary gap in publication but this is anticipated to be reinstated during the next financial year. Members and stakeholders are informed about Positive Life NSW activities and events via regular targeted email notices in the meantime.

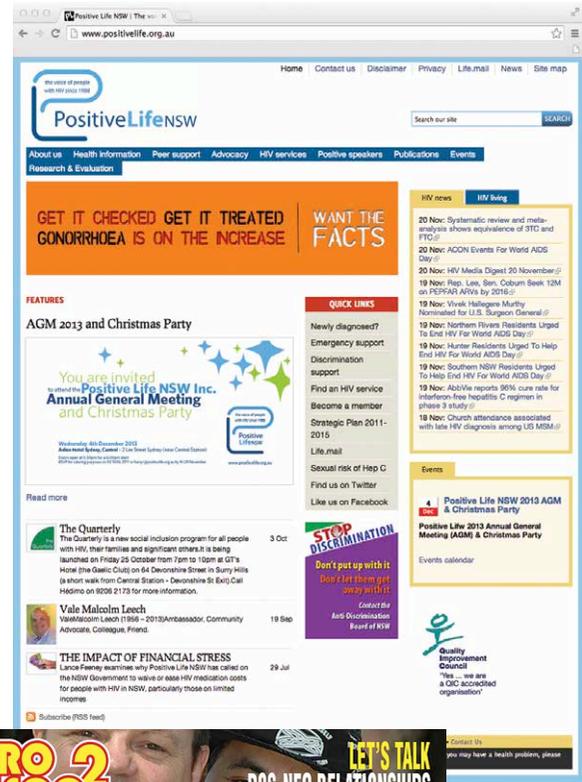
Positive Life NSW Website: www.positivelife.org.au

Positive Life NSW maintains a website presence to inform the public and HIV-positive people about our organisation and programs. The website underwent a major overhaul in 2012 and considerable rebuilding of functionality during 2013. As it becomes more central to the way the agency communicates with its constituents and needs to integrate more closely with future social media plans, a move from Drupal to a new operating platform will be considered in the next financial year.

The website currently includes information on our structure, membership, Board and strategic plan; our campaigns and fact sheets; peer support programs; the Positive Speakers Bureau; our systemic advocacy projects and submissions; and feature articles from Talkabout magazine.

The site also provides a directory of HIV-related services, links to the Australasian Society of HIV Medicine's S100 prescriber directory and a searchable list of HIV Services. We promote other organisations' programs and online surveys through banner advertising, which is provided free of charge. To date, the website content has been updated as new resources and publications have been released. The home page content was updated regularly with events, news, agency programs, campaigns and *Talkabout* stories.

Jonathon Street





Social Marketing & Education

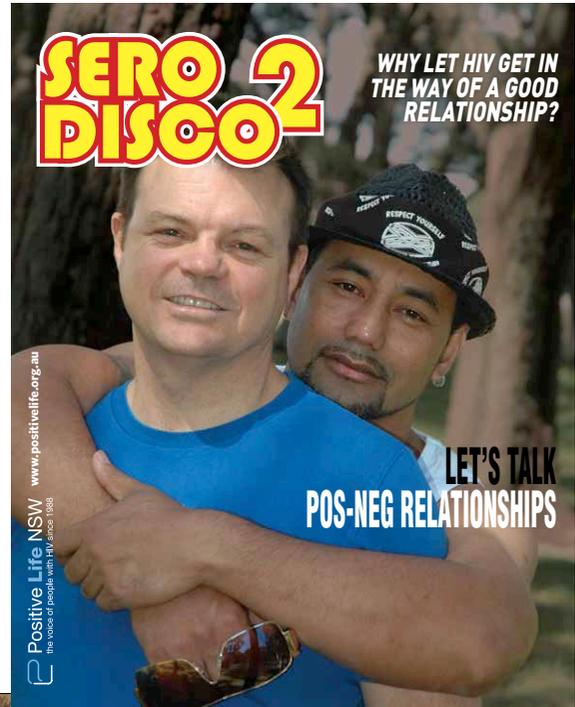
SERO DISCO 2 'Why let HIV get in the way of a good relationship?'

Sero Disco 2 was designed to help and inform a person in a serodiscordant relationship (where one partner is HIV – positive, the other is HIV- negative) or those considering a relationship with someone who was HIV positive.

Topics included starting and maintaining a relationship, viral load issues, medication, the disclosure journey, testing for HIV and sexually transmitted infections and more.

Given that the target audience of HIV positive gay men sees this campaign as addressing an important issue and given also the strong impact the campaign messages have had on engaging the audience, and due to demand for the magazine, in May 2013 we ran a reprint of 4,000 copies for distribution. The magazine was well received by those who read or perused it and very importantly, the campaign was equally effective at reaching Sydney respondents and rural/regional respondents. The website www.serodisco.org.au was launched in dynamic format to support the campaign and function on mobile devices and tablets.

A complete evaluation of Sero Disco 2 highlighted the value of the resource both in print, on-line and as a DVD, in particular also the reach of the health messages to younger gay men and HIV negative gay men, who showed demand for more information and that Positive Life NSW should continue implementing new phases of the campaign to build on the good work that has been achieved to date.



WRAPPED OR RAW (POS-POS SEX) Phase 2

Phase 2 of the campaign was launched in December 2012, building on the recommendations from Phase 1 of the campaign the specific website – www.wrappedorraw.org.au, was completely redesigned. Personal video stories feature more prominently on the updated site, playing automatically once visitors arrive on site; detailed sexual health information for people with HIV was also available on the site

The Wrapped or Raw campaign was mainly an online resource. Online advertisements had been used to promote the website as a source of further information on 'Pos-Pos sex', as well as promoting health messages regarding knowing each other's HIV status and the need for regular health checks. A series of brochures produced concurrently with the campaign was added to with the first printing of "Want the Facts – Gonorrhoea".

The website was adapted with dynamic templates for use on mobile and other devices.

Community Consultations

During the course of the financial year commenced a range of community consultations investigating the real and perceived barriers to HIV medication uptake. From the information gathered at consultation that we hope to produce a campaign around treatments.

Collaborative Work

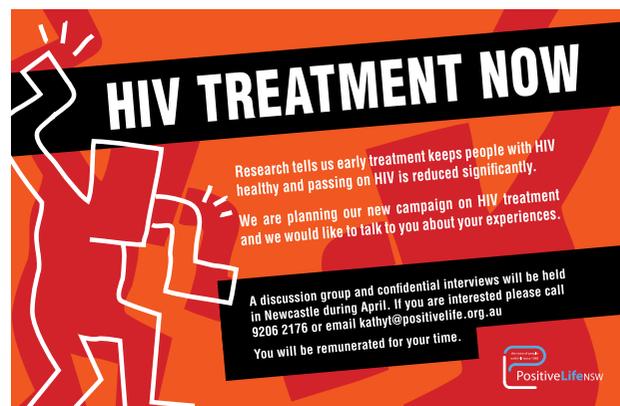
- Connect Study Advisory Group
- 'Opposites Attract' Serodiscordant Relationships Study (Viral load, HIV treatment and HIV transmission in serodiscordant male homosexual couples)
- SPANC Anal Cancer Study

Collaborative Resources

- Oral health SES LHD
- Enhance Medication Assistance Scheme Brochure

Thank you to all the HIV positive men and women who have supported and taken part in the work of Positive Life NSW.

Kathy Triffitt





Community Development & Health Promotion

Positive Peer Education and Support

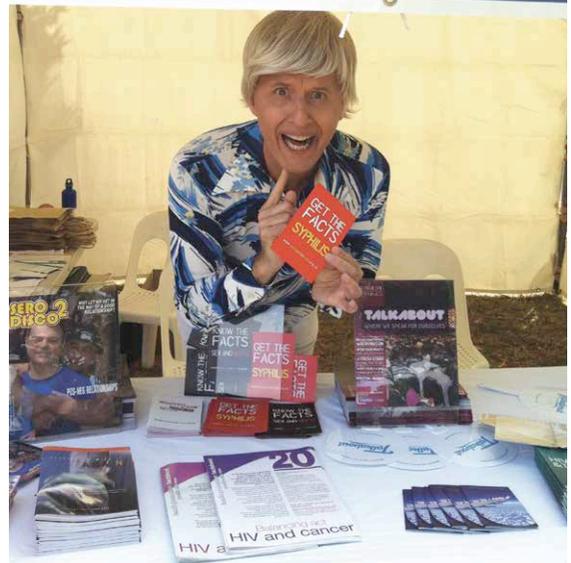
Peer education and support have been a key component of Australia's community response to HIV. A vital component of this response has been the peer support programs initiated by and for people living with HIV. These programs have developed and evolved over many years, adapting and changing to the needs of people with HIV.

Positive Life NSW currently supports a range of peer support programs. These programs are offered as structured workshops, facilitated peer support groups, discussion groups and informal social support opportunities.

Fresh Start

An initiative of positive Life NSW to help people with HIV quit smoking. Fresh Start is a peer-led course held twice a week for four weeks. We provide participants with information, support and referral.

The program has been running since July 2012 and we have held two courses for a total of 8 people, and a number of short courses for participants who were unable to attend the four-session course. The short courses are usually attended by couples.



Genesis

Genesis is a peer workshop for people newly diagnosed with HIV. The workshop includes opportunities for participants to tell their story your story, learn the basics of HIV and treatments to get the best from the doctor/patient relationship, understand the risk of sexually transmitted infection and negotiate disclosure with partners, family and friends. Five weekend workshops were held during the financial year with a total number of 43 participants. Genesis is a partnership program led by ACON.

Christmas Function

The Positive Life Christmas function represents an opportunity for members and clients to get together and meet up with staff and board members in a social environment. Our last Christmas function was held at the Polo Lounge on 12 December and was attended by 45 people with HIV, including board and staff members.

Mardi Gras Fair Day

Positive Life NSW has a strong level of involvement with our members and volunteers at Fair Day. It gives us an opportunity to interact with people with HIV, our members, the general public and HIV sector partners. Positive Life provides a range of information, referral and resources. 500 show bags containing relevant HIV resources were distributed by staff and volunteers during the day.

CoastOut Fair Day

CoastOut is held in Coffs Harbour in October. It is one of the largest regional GLBTI festivals in NSW and attended by over 1200 people. We held a stall at the Fair to showcase our work to our regional members and the community and support people with HIV in the Coffs Harbour area. Over 150 show bags containing relevant health promotion resources were distributed to fairgoers.

Seniors Week 2013

Positive Live NSW was an active partner in celebrations and activities during Seniors Week 2013. The major event was a film screening at the Dendy cinema which attracted over 250 participants. The event was an opportunity for older GLBTI people to come together and celebrate life. It provided an opportunity to showcase our work, and to

collaborate with the City of Sydney, NSW Police, ACON, BGF, Pride History Project, Older Women's Network, MAG, Gender Centre, and the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Choir among other agencies.

729

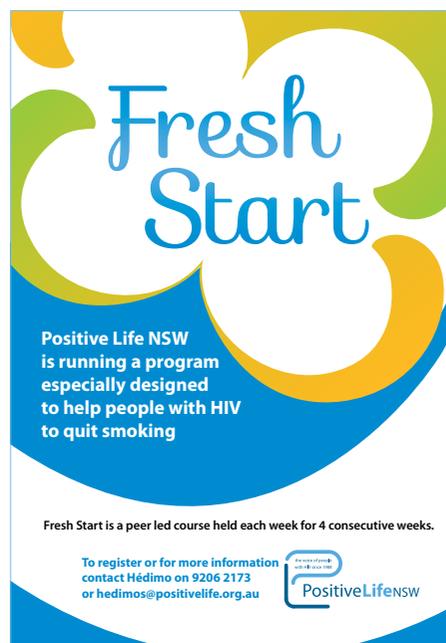
729 was a monthly gathering for those living long term with HIV. 12 to 15 participants attended the group on a regular basis. Discussions ranged from issues associated with health and wellbeing to developing skills around disclosure and dealing with stigma. 729 was phased out in October 2012 after achieving its intended goals. A new and more inclusive program will start in November 2013, sponsored by MAC Cosmetics.

Planet Positive

Planet Positive, was a social event for people with HIV and run in partnership with ACON. It was phased out in July 2012 and replaced by The Social, an ACON event designed to cater for to gay men.

Positive Life considers that there is a need for a social event that is inclusive of all people living with and affected by HV. With that in mind a new social event has been developed and will start on October 2013.

Hédimo Santana



Fresh Start

Positive Life NSW is running a program especially designed to help people with HIV to quit smoking

Fresh Start is a peer led course held each week for 4 consecutive weeks.

To register or for more information contact Hédimo on 9206 2173 or hedimos@positivelife.org.au

PositiveLifensw

Administration

The administration role within Positive Life has a hands on approach and must be across what is happening within the organisation. The function of administration oversees several different parts of the organisation each requiring particular skills from initial phone contact, mail-outs to members, contracts, finances, legal compliance, Quality Management and Accreditation, payment of accounts and debt collection, event management, secretariat support to the Board and CEO to co-ordination and maintenance of the Positive Life website www.positivelife.org.au, social media and publications. The Administrator supports project work during staff absence or where required.



Below is a summary of resources distributed during 2012-2013

Positive Life NSW Service Brochure	4,000
Positive Life NSW Speakers Bureau Service Brochure	4,500
Enhanced Medication Access Scheme Brochure	3,100
Talkabout Magazine – street and mail	16,000
Sero Disco 2 Magazine	2,500
Sero Disco magazine	500
Sero Disco CD's and Badges	500
Sero Disco 2 T Shirts	250
Promotional Fans	1,500
Fact Sheets	1,000 + online downloads
Website	42,000 unique site visits
Promotional Packs at events	1,065
Member related mail-outs	860
Positive Speaker Bureau direct promotion to NSW Schools	400
Positive Life NSW Resource promotion direct to Primary Health Care and partners across NSW	200

It has been a very busy year incorporating many changes and we are looking forward at the year ahead which will introduce more streamlined office technologies and an enhanced online presence for the agency.

Harry Richardson



The Board

Statements of interests

Jane Costello: is the current President of Positive Life NSW and has been involved with Positive Life NSW since 2008, firstly as a speaker and presenter for the Positive Life HIV Media Project, then in 2009 as a member and Ordinary Director of the board. Jane is also a member of the Positive Speakers Bureau and has participated in both Board advisory and working groups. Jane is the Australian Representative to APN+ and a member of both the NAPWHA National Network of Women Living with HIV and the HHAS (Pozhet) Consumer Reference Group.

Peter Schlosser: became a Positive Life member, volunteer and Positive Speaker in 1996. He has been a contributor to Talkabout Magazine for 15 years. In 2011 Peter was elected onto the Board of Positive Life as Ordinary Director and is currently Vice President. Peter also participated in board working groups and is the 2013 Positive Life NSW NAPWHA Board Representative.

Cameron Colwell: joined the Positive Life Board in 2011 as an Ordinary Director and has 7 years' experience within the GLBTQI community. Cameron is also a member of the Positive Speakers Bureau for the last 5 years. Cameron is currently studying Advanced Diploma of Accounting. Cameron's motivation for standing for the Board is to share his community experiences and financial expertise. Cameron is the current Treasurer of Positive Life NSW.

James Wilson: was first elected as an Ordinary Director in 2009 and then was elected Positive Life's Secretary in 2010. James has been a speaker with the Positive Speakers Bureau since mid-2008.

Rod Spark: joined the Board of Positive Life NSW in 2012 as an Ordinary Director and is also a Positive Speaker. Rod has extensive GLBTI community involvement over the past 20 years and wishes to continue the good work Positive Life NSW provides for the PLHIV community and in particular support the success of the IAS Conference in Melbourne in 2014.

Dianne Nyoni: joined the Positive Life NSW Board in 2012 as an Ordinary Director and is a very active Positive Speaker. Dianne is also a member of the NAPWHA National Network of Women Living with HIV and the HHAS (Pozhet) Consumer Reference Group.

David Crawford: became an Ordinary Director on the Positive Life NSW Board in 2012 has been able to utilize the many years of experience of personal and professional experience with HIV for the last 27 years as a nurse, now retired. He has a Masters in International Public Health with experience working overseas, and is passionate about the need to address discrimination, isolation, mental health, disability and suicide as primary concerns. Living in Tamworth, David also provides a valuable perspective on living with HIV in regional NSW.

Brian Rogers: brings his work experience providing budget and performance management solutions to federal, state and local governments globally and has a solid understanding of governance & finance and cultural diversity including some of the issues facing very diverse communities. Brian has been an Ordinary Director of Positive Life NSW since 2011.

Lance Feeney: is the Policy Analyst for Positive Life NSW and has been the staff representative on the Board since 2010.

Representation

NSW Attorney General and Justice Disability Advisory Council
Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS)
NSW Council of Social Services (NCOSS)
Kirby Institute (STREP study) – preventing morbidity and mortality from anal cancer
SESLHD Complex Care and Ageing Working Group
SESLHD Planning and Performance Committee
SESLHD Testing Project
BGF Client Service Advisory Group
Enhanced Medication Access Scheme (Steering Committee)
NSW Harm Reduction Alliance
World AIDS Day 2013 (Coordinating Committee)
NSW Oral Health Alliance
Policy Officers Network (POUT)
Eastern Sydney Medicare Local
Housing NSW NGO Partners (Reference Group)
Hepatitis NSW
Indonesian Delegation
Health Care Complaints Commission (Consumer Reference Group)
Insurance Council of Australia (National Consumer Reference Group)
AIDS Trust of Australia
AFAO Policy Team
ACON Housing
ACON Policy
NAPWHA Policy team
Centre for Social Research in Health (CSHR)
Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey
City of Sydney Seniors Working Group
Anti-Discrimination Board of New South Wales
NCOSS
Australian Federation of Disability Organisation Board - Deputy Chair
HIV/AIDS Legal Centre (Management Committee – Secretary/Treasurer)
Positive Life NSW Board Staff Representative
Health Consumers NSW Board
National Association of People With HIV/AIDS (NSW State Representative and Vice President)



Positive Life NSW

ABN 42 907 908 942

Audited financial statements For the year ended 30 June 2013

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	Notes	2013 \$	2012 \$
Revenue from grants	10	846,581	812,334
Other revenue		39,375	77,763
Interest income		11,514	20,791
Employee benefits expenses	15	(600,586)	(529,697)
Depreciation expense		(12,798)	(8,337)
Occupancy expenses		(27,032)	(40,449)
Finance costs		(6,357)	(6,007)
Core activity expenses	13	(335,290)	(326,491)
Surplus/(Deficit) before income tax		<u>(84,593)</u>	<u>(93)</u>
Income tax expense	1(a)	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) after income tax		<u>(84,593)</u>	<u>(93)</u>
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>(84,593)</u>	<u>(93)</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

	Notes	2013 \$	2012 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	297,366	311,603
Trade and other receivables	3	13,105	10,666
Other assets	4	7,610	20,685
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>318,081</u>	<u>342,954</u>
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property plant & equipment	5	27,981	40,777
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS		<u>27,981</u>	<u>40,777</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>346,062</u>	<u>383,731</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	6	116,038	37,653
Provision - Annual Leave	7	45,628	47,074
Provision - Long Service Leave	7	17,610	21,625
Other liabilities	9	2,000	28,000
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>181,276</u>	<u>134,352</u>
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	7	-	-
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>181,276</u>	<u>134,352</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>164,786</u>	<u>249,379</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Accumulated surplus at beginning of the year		249,379	249,472
Current Year surplus/(deficit)		(84,593)	(93)
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS		<u>164,786</u>	<u>249,379</u>

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	<u>Accumulated</u>	<u>Total</u>
	\$	\$
At 1 July 2011	249,472	249,472
Total comprehensive surplus/(deficit) for the year	(93)	(93)
At 30 June 2012	<u>249,379</u>	<u>249,379</u>
At 1 July 2012	249,379	249,379
Total comprehensive surplus/(deficit) for the year	(84,593)	(84,593)
At 30 June 2013	<u>164,786</u>	<u>164,786</u>

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	Notes	2013	2012
		\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Receipts from donors & granting bodies		969,630	978,364
Payments to suppliers & employees		(1,005,416)	(978,297)
Interest received		21,549	10,739
Interest and other costs of finance paid		-	-
Net cash from operating activities	2(b)	<u>(14,237)</u>	<u>10,806</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Payments for furniture & fittings and plant & equipment acquired		-	(41,231)
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>(41,231)</u>
Net increase in cash held		(14,237)	(30,425)
Cash at the beginning of the year		311,603	342,028
Cash at the end of the year	2(a)	<u>297,366</u>	<u>311,603</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act NSW and the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991.

Positive Life NSW Inc early adopted the Accounting Standard AASB 1053 - Reduced Disclosure Requirements in 2010. It also adopts the relevant standards that specify Tier 2 reporting requirements as outlined in AASB 2010-2.

The financial report is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values, or except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on the

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Association in the preparation of the financial report:

(a) Income Tax

Positive Life NSW Inc. is a recognised public benevolent institution and is therefore exempt from paying income tax. No provision for income tax is made in this financial report.

(b) Property, Plant & Equipment

Property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

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

Class of Fixed Assets	Depreciation Rate
Furniture & Fittings	13 - 20%
Office Equipment	20 - 40%
Software	25%
Leasehold Improvements	Lease Life

The carrying amount of fixed assets is reviewed annually by the Board of Directors to ensure it is not impaired. There is no such indication that impairment existed at balance date.

(c) Leases

Lease payments under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

(d) Employee Entitlements

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled including wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave have been measured at their nominal amounts based on current remuneration rates.

Contributions are made by the Association to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(e) Grant Income

The Board of Directors recognises grant income on an accrual basis, therefore all grants committed for a financial year have been recorded as income for that year.

Any funds which have not been committed or expensed at the end of the financial year are recorded as a liability in the Statement of Financial Position.

(f) Cash

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand, at banks and on deposit.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(g) Other Revenue

Revenue from advertising is recognised upon the invoicing to customers. Any advertising revenue which relates to future publications is taken up as a liability in the Statement of Financial Position and recognised as revenue at a future date.

Interest revenue is recognised when credited, taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

(h) 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 Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the Statement of Financial Position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the Cash Flow Statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(i) Comparatives

Where required by Accounting Standards or to correct disclosure, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation of the current financial year.

(j) Statement of Compliance

Positive Life NSW Inc has elected to early adopt the Accounting Standard AASB 1053. It also adopts the relevant standards that specify Tier 2 reporting requirements.

(k) Impairment of Assets

The carrying value of plant and equipment is reviewed for impairment annually where change in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. The Board of Directors are of the opinion that no such impairment indicators exist.

(l) Presentation and Functional Currency

These financial statements are presented in Australian Dollars, which is the Association's functional currency.

(m) Economic Dependence

Positive Life is dependent on the NSW Department of Health for the majority of its revenue used to operate the Association. At the date of this report the Board of Directors has no reason to believe the Department will not continue to support Positive Life.

(n) Financial Liabilities

At balance sheet date the Association has access to a business credit card facility totaling \$5,000 of which \$1,489 has been utilised. Funding to the Association is provided by Community Sector Banking, Bendigo Bank.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 2 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Cash at Bank:		
Bendigo Bank	297,034	11,102
Bendigo Debit Card	2	1
Bendigo Term Deposits	-	300,000
	<u>297,036</u>	<u>311,103</u>
Cash on Hand:		
Petty Cash	330	500
	<u>297,366</u>	<u>311,603</u>

(a) Reconciliation of cash

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and at banks and investments in money market instruments. Cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:

Cash	297,366	311,603
Bank overdraft	-	-
	<u>297,366</u>	<u>311,603</u>

(b) Reconciliation of net cash flows from operating activities to operating profit after income tax

Loss for the year	(84,593)	(93)
Non-cash flows in profit		
Depreciation	12,796	8,337
Write off of fixed assets	-	1,774
Increase/(decrease) in assets		
Trade and other receivables	(2,439)	2,553
Accrued interest	-	(10,052)
Other current assets	13,075	2,436
Increase/(decrease) in liabilities		
Trade and other payables	78,385	24,689
Other liabilities	(26,000)	(32,022)
Provision - Annual leave	(1,446)	16,980
Provision - Long service leave	(4,015)	(3,796)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>(14,237)</u>	<u>10,806</u>

NOTE 3 - TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Other receivables	13,105	10,666
	<u>13,105</u>	<u>10,666</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
NOTE 4 - OTHER ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Other prepayments	849	-
Accrued Interests	-	10,883
GST receivable	6,760	9,802
	<u>7,609</u>	<u>20,685</u>
NOTE 5 - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT		
Furniture & Fittings - At Cost	3,234	3,234
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(2,123)	(1,516)
	<u>1,110</u>	<u>1,718</u>
Office Equipment - At Cost	68,852	68,852
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(44,912)	(34,028)
	<u>23,939</u>	<u>34,824</u>
Software - At Cost	7,342	7,342
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(4,412)	(3,107)
	<u>2,930</u>	<u>4,235</u>
Leasehold Improvements - At Cost	-	-
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>27,981</u>	<u>40,777</u>

(a) Movements in carrying amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year

2012	Furniture	Office	Software	Leasehold Improvement	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at the beginning of year	2,074	6,699	884	-	9,657
Additions	1,822	35,361	4,048	-	41,231
Depreciation expense	(403)	(7,236)	(698)	-	(8,337)
Write off	(1,774)	-	-	-	(1,774)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	<u>1,718</u>	<u>34,824</u>	<u>4,234</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,777</u>
2013	Furniture & Fittings	Office Equipment	Software	Leasehold Improvement	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at the beginning of year	1,718	34,824	4,234	(0)	40,776
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	(607)	(10,883)	(1,305)	-	(12,795)
Write off	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying amount at the end of the year	<u>1,110</u>	<u>23,941</u>	<u>2,928</u>	<u>(0)</u>	<u>27,981</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 6 - TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES CURRENT

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Trade Creditors	111,014	31,982
PAYG Withholding	5,024	5,671
	<u>116,038</u>	<u>37,653</u>

NOTE 7 - PROVISIONS

Annual Leave (including loading) - Current	45,628	47,074
Long Service Leave - Current	17,610	21,625
Long Service Leave - Non-current	-	-
	<u>63,238</u>	<u>68,699</u>

In the Statement of Financial Position a statutory provision of accrued annual leave is made of \$74,434 (2012: \$47,074) and long service leave of \$40,896 (2012: \$21,625). These provisions are calculated on the basis of employees receiving 13 weeks long service leave after 10 years continual service in line with the policy of Positive Life. Accrual for the Long Service Leave provisions occurs after an employee has reached 5 years of continual service.

NOTE 8 - NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

Number of employees at year end	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
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NOTE 9 - OTHER LIABILITIES CURRENT

Grants in advance	2,000	28,000
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>28,000</u>

NOTE 10 - OPERATING GRANTS

Grant income recognised		
NSW Department of Health	794,500	749,200
Other Grants	52,081	63,134
	<u>846,581</u>	<u>812,334</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
NOTE 11 - FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES		
Income from Fundraising Activities		
Miscellaneous Donations	10,546	1,335
	<u>10,546</u>	<u>1,335</u>
Less: Expenses of Fundraising Activities		
Fundraising expense - Everyday Hero	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Surplus/(Loss) on Fundraising Activities		
Miscellaneous Donations	10,546	1,335
NET SURPLUS ON FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES	<u>10,546</u>	<u>1,335</u>

The balance of fundraising income will be spent on activities which are ineligible for or unlikely to receive government funding or are most likely to enhance Positive Life NSW Inc. service provisions for its clients. With no fundraising expenses incurred, the net surplus margin on fundraising activities is 100%.

NOTE 12 - MEMBERSHIP SERVICES		
Board Meeting, Annual Reports & Annual General Meeting Costs	23,817	11,706
	<u>23,817</u>	<u>11,706</u>

NOTE 13 - CORE ACTIVITY EXPENSES		
Communications	22,387	45,462
Positive Speakers' Bureau	12,598	-
Community Development	9,253	30,825
Health Promotion/Social Marketing	84,421	62,834
Advocacy	1,671	6,518
Administration Services	204,960	235,645
	<u>335,290</u>	<u>381,284</u>

Last financial year, Community Development activity was split into Community Development and Positive Speakers' Bureau; Health Promotion/Social Marketing was split between Health Promotion and HP-Sero Sort

NOTE 14 - AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION		
Audit services have been agreed for \$4,500 this year and on a pro bono basis on 2011.	4,500	-
	<u>4,500</u>	<u>-</u>

NOTE 15 - EMPLOYEE RELATED COSTS		
Salaries & wages	506,895	467,140
Employee leave entitlements	46,633	13,184
Superannuation	43,349	40,394
Workers' compensation insurance	3,709	3,329
Staff recruitment costs	-	5,650
	<u>600,586</u>	<u>529,697</u>

NOTE 16 - INSURANCE		
The Association has the following insurance policies which were in place and current as at 30 June 2013.		
Workers' Compensation insurance is disclosed separately in Note 15.		
Specific & General Property, Crime, Primary Liability, Protector Liability, Non-Owned Motor Vehicles and Personal Accidents, Directors and Officers Insurance		
Premium paid:	5,324	4,981
	<u>5,324</u>	<u>4,981</u>

NOTE 17 - MEMBERS' LIABILITY		
In accordance with The Constitution of The Association the members shall have no liability to contribute towards the payments of debts and liabilities of the Association or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Association except to the amount of any unpaid membership fees.		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 18 - ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The Association was incorporated in Australia.

The principal place of business of the Association is Level 5, Suite 5.2,
414 Elizabeth Street
Surry Hills, NSW, 2010

The principal activity of the Association is to represent people living with HIV in New South Wales and to promote a positive image of people affected by HIV with the aim of eliminating prejudice, isolation, stigmatisation and discrimination.

NOTE 19 - Related Parties

Key management personnel:

The following remuneration rates were paid to key management personnel

1. Sonny Williams

Appointed : 18/07/2011

Short term employee benefits:

Salaries & wages \$112,197

Superannuation \$10,035

NOTE 20 - Subsequent Events

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

NOTE 21 - CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS

(a) Operating lease commitments

Being for rent of premises & office equipment

Payable:

- not later than 1 year

- later than 1 year but not later than 5 years

- later than 5 years

2013

2012

\$

\$

6,250

5,916

21,032

12,638

-

-

27,282

18,555

The Association has an MOU with ACON Health Limited for the lease of their premises. The term of the lease is not locked and either party can give the other 60 days notice to vacate the property.

(b) There were no material commitments requiring disclosure other than those already included under the notes to and forming part of the financial statements at balance date (2012: Nil).

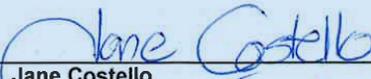
STATEMENT BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In the opinion of the Board of Directors the financial statements as set out on pages 1 to 10:

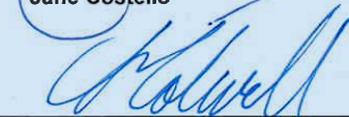
- 1 Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Positive Life NSW Inc. as at 30 June 2013 and its results, changes in equity and cash flows of the Association for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards
- 2 At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Positive Life NSW Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

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

President


Jane Costello

Treasurer


Cameron Colwell

Dated this 25th day of September, 2013

INFORMATION AND DECLARATIONS TO BE FURNISHED UNDER THE CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING ACT 1991 (the "Act")

Declaration to be made by the President in respect of fundraising appeals

I, Jane Costello, President of Positive Life NSW Inc. (the "Association") declare that in my opinion:

- (a) the financial statements present a true and fair view of all income and expenditure of the Association with respect to fundraising appeals; and
- (b) the Statement of Financial Position presents a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association with respect to fundraising appeals; and
- (c) the provisions of the Act, the regulations under the Act, and the conditions attached to the fundraising authority have been complied with by the Association; and
- (d) the internal controls exercised by the Association are appropriate and effective in accounting for all income received and applied by the Association from any of its fundraising appeals.

President


Jane Costello

Dated this 25th day of September 2013

Independent Audit Report to the Members of Positive Life NSW Inc

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial report of Positive Life NSW Incorporated, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2013, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and a statement by the board of directors.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Associations Incorporations Act 2009 (NSW)*, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed the applicable independence requirements of the Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

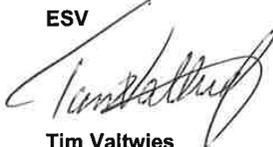
Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Positive Life NSW Incorporated as at 30 June 2013, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional and statutory reporting requirements in Australia including section 24 of the *Charitable Fundraising Act (NSW) 1991*.

Dated at Sydney on the 30th day of September 2013.



ESV



Tim Valtwies
Partner



Thank You

ACON Northern Rivers/
Illawarra/Hunter

Australian Federation of AIDS
Organisations

Aldo Spina

All our members, subscribers
and supporters

All those who have been willing
to take part in the development
of our campaigns and health
promotion resources

Andy Blazer

Australian Research Centre in
Sex, Health and Society

Australasian Society of HIV
Medicine

Board members 2011 - 12:
Malcolm Leech, Paul Ellis,
James Wilson, Jane Costello,
Scott McKeown, Brian Rogers,
David Crawford, Peter Schlosser,
Cameron Colwell
Staff representatives Lance
Feeney and Hédimo Santana

Bobby Goldsmith Foundation

Chris Bourne

City of Sydney

David Novak (Manhunt)

David Polson

Dermot Ryan

Douglas Jenkin

ESV Chartered Accountants

Garth Boulton

Garret Prestage

Graheme Newberry

Grindr

HIV/AIDS Legal Centre

The Hon. Jillian Skinner MP
Minister for Health and Minister
for Medical Research

Jae Condon

James DeVeres

Janssen-Cilag Pty Ltd

Karress Rhodes of KL Graphics

Karumah

Kirby Institute

Kurt Andersson-Noorgard

MAC Cosmetics

Martin Holt

Matrix on Board

Max Niggel

Morgan Carpenter

Multicultural HIV & Hepatitis
Service

National Association of People
With HIV, Australia

National Centre in HIV Social
Research

Nepean Blue Mountains Local
Health District

Nic Parkhill of ACON and
his staff

NSW Ministry of Health, AIDS
and Infectious Diseases Branch

Phil Mace

Positive Speakers Bureau
speakers

Pozhets

Priyadi Prihaswan

Recon

Slade Smith

South Western Sydney Local
Health District

South Eastern Sydney Local
Health District

Spiro Haginikitas

SX

Sydney Star Observer

Sydney Local Health District

Talkabout's pseudonymous
writers: you know who
you are!

Tobin Saunders

Western NSW Local Health
District