



Blue Light Victoria

FY2023 Our Year in Review

Inspire, engage and equip young people to be their best self

In the spirit of reconciliation, Blue Light Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Blue Light Victoria has a conscious commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion and view these elements as essential to fulfilling our vision and mission.

In keeping with our core values of connection, growth, innovation, and respect, Blue Light Victoria continues to listen to, learn from and embrace the differences and perspectives of young people, partners and communities that we work with.



Message from our Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer

We are delighted to present to you our Annual Report for the Financial Year 2023, a year that has been marked with growth in reach and an unwavering commitment to our vision of inspiring, engaging and equipping young people to be their best self. This year **over 12,000 young people** across metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria benefited from the positive impact of a Blue Light Victoria (Blue Light) program or initiative. As we reflect on the year that has been, we are grateful for your continued support and the impact that it enables us to have with young people and local communities.



Michelle Arundel
GAICD, Chair



Elissa Scott
GAICD, CEO

We are proud to report the successful rollout of our **DASH (Dynamic, Active, Safe and Healthy)**, program for Years 5 and 6 students. Throughout this year DASH has positively impacted the lives of hundreds of young people across primary schools in Western Victoria, creating connections to community and empowering young people to have a voice in local issues. It has seen us **expand our network of stakeholders** to not only incorporate Victoria Police but an array of other emergency services including Ambulance Victoria, ESTA (000), Fire Rescue, a range of government departments and local community groups, strengthening relationships between young people and members of these organisations. Feedback from everyone involved has been incredibly positive and this has been reflected in positive interim findings from our external evaluation. It has been really exciting and we are grateful for the financial support received from the federal government enabling program delivery.

Our secondary school program, **Blue EDGE (Educate, Develop, Grow, and Empower)** continues to be strengthened and shows positive outcomes for young people. This year saw us make a successful application to the Department of Education for Blue EDGE to be **included on the Schools Mental Health Menu**. Inclusion is a significant recognition of the impact that this program can and does have on young people's mental health and wellbeing, as well as their ability to make healthy and safe decisions. As part of our continued desire to ensure that our programs are based on what young people tell us they want and need, we held focus groups across metropolitan and regional Victoria with over 60 young people from our Blue EDGE programs participating. The vital input and feedback resulted in some amendments being made to our program delivery and facilitator training. Blue EDGE also featured on Channel 9 news as a feature story in May 2023, showcasing the positive relationships built between young people and Victoria Police.

Blue Light has **21 branches across Victoria** overseen by dedicated volunteers. To each branch we extend our heartfelt thanks. Your dedication of time and commitment to Blue Light is very much appreciated. The positive impact you make on the lives of young people within your local communities is inspiring and we are grateful for the range of engaging activities provided, from energetic discos to personal fitness programs; 1:1 mentoring and skate days, that cater to the diverse needs and interests of young people.

In order to continue this vital work, FY2023 has seen us striving to **diversify our funding streams**, seeking sponsorship and donor support. We understand the financial challenges faced by many and we greatly appreciate the continued support of our donors, sponsors and community members. It is through your commitment that we can adapt in this challenging fiscal environment, ensuring that our mission remains strong.

This year we made the decision to sell our campsite at Maldon. The Maldon campsite required significant maintenance and in the long term was unsustainable coupled with a change in our strategic direction.

Blue Light is overseen by a Board of Directors who we thank for their tireless work throughout the past 12 months. Their guidance and leadership has been instrumental in driving our vision and mission forward. This year we farewelled two Board members, Lorna McCarthy and David Broderick, both who have supported and advocated for Blue Light over a number of years. We also welcomed Geeta Kulkarni onto the Board whilst Caitlin Mathews took a period of parental leave.

Thanks also goes to our Board subcommittee members who support the Board and have been integral to the broader Blue Light operations.

Our hardworking staff deserve special recognition for their adaptability, willingness to go above and beyond, and tenacity. In the past year, our team has continued to grow reflecting the increasing breadth and depth of initiatives we are now able to offer across the state, and we are grateful for each team member's dedication.

At our heart Blue Light is about creating connection, early intervention and prevention opportunities for young people. We know that it is through these things that results can be profound and life changing for young people and where the biggest impact happens. Thank you for being a part of our journey, and we look forward to continuing to **inspire, engage and equip young people** for years to come.

Michelle Arundel & Elissa Scott

Chief Commissioner Shane Paton APM – Blue Light Patron, Elissa Scott – Blue Light CEO, Anthony De Fazio – BankVic CEO, Debra Robertson APM – Blue Light Board Member, Michelle Arundel – Blue Light Chair at the 2023 Patron's Lunch



Statement from our Patron Chief Commissioner Shane Paton APM

As Patron of Blue Light, I commend the team and the many volunteers for what has been a year of growth in programs and an unwavering commitment to the delivery of early intervention and prevention programs for young people throughout Victoria.

Blue Light ran 381 programs and events over the last financial year, benefitting over 12,000 young people. The growth in its programs and reach across Victoria has been significant but does not even begin to show the impact that Blue Light has on the lives of young people and their local communities.

Blue Light's engagement with young people through programs like Blue EDGE and DASH has a lasting and positive impact on their lives. Both programs are evidence-based and designed to build resilience and wellbeing through activity-based learning.

This year has seen the successful delivery of DASH a nine-week program for primary school students that aims to build a sense of belonging and connection to their local communities. This program culminates in a student-led project that focuses on issues facing their local community, some of the concerns raised by young people through DASH have included online anti-social communication, drug and vape use, climate change, recycling, and graffiti. Victoria Police together with a range of emergency service providers, has had the privilege of seeing this program come to fruition with delivery across regional Victoria and witnessing the solutions delivered through the program.

Blue Light is also to be commended for the continued successful delivery of the Blue EDGE (Educate, Develop, Grow, Empower) program, which provides physical training, health and wellbeing education to secondary school students across the state. Victoria Police supports this program, attending each session alongside participants, as community role models. The inclusion of Blue EDGE on the Department of Education's Mental Health Menu is also a significant achievement and makes the program more accessible to secondary schools across Victoria.



**Chief Commissioner,
Shane Paton APM, Blue
Light Patron**

The Blue EDGE and DASH programs align with Victoria Police's Schools Engagement Model (SEM). The SEM, launched in December 2021, supports positive engagement between police and schools and aims to ensure the engagement is planned, purposeful and tailored to local needs. Blue Light is one of the key organisations we have worked with in delivering the SEM and I acknowledge its role in ensuring the success of the program in its inaugural year.

Blue Light partners with Victoria Police to support facilitation and connection with young people across the State. We have seen first-hand the benefits of Blue Light programs and remain a proud partner. In the past year, over 373 police officers have contributed to its programs and events across Victoria. Our partnership also extends to the strategic level through Victoria Police's representation on its Board of Directors.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Blue Light team on its hard work and achievements throughout the last year. It's hard to believe that the team still found time to run Blue Light Discos – an Australian icon since 1976 and an inherent part of youth culture developing positive police-youth relationships.

I am confident that the coming year will be another year of significant growth and I wish the team every success for 2023-2024.

Chief Commissioner Shane Patton APM

Blue EDGE Shepparton, Victoria



BLUE LIGHT FAST FACTS

85



in school programs



12,000 YOUNG PEOPLE

who are benefitting from Blue Light's programs and activities

21

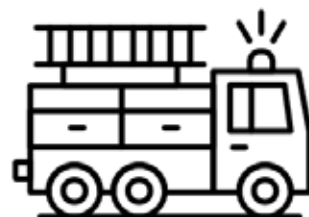


branches across Victoria



398 VICTORIA POLICE

MEMBERS assisting with Blue Light programs



55 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

who are assisting in Blue Light's DASH program



296 EVENTS

held by branches across the state



210 VOLUNTEERS



2,608 HOURS

of in school programs and branch events

Blue EDGE

Our Blue EDGE program continues to thrive. From running the pilot in 2019, to receiving an Australian Federal Government grant we are now in a position to move the model to a fee-for-service arrangement which strengthens the diversification of funding streams for Blue Light.



Blue EDGE is designed to Educate, Develop, Grow and Empower young people. It is an evidence-based program designed to increase engagement, resilience and wellbeing through activity-based learning. The program is tailored to groups of 20 young people in Years 7 - 9, and focuses on key capabilities such as emotional regulation, confidence building, safe decision making, peer and community connections.

The program includes dynamic workshop activities that are proven to increase confidence and model skills including connection, self-reflection, resilience, and a growth mindset. It also breaks down barriers by creating opportunities for young people to increase trust in police and other adults. Blue EDGE aims to grow students' sense of safety and wellbeing within themselves, amongst their peers and in their local communities.

We have increased our workshop offerings to schools to target current issues in the community such as healthy decision making, mental health and wellbeing and alcohol and other drugs including vaping. The response to this has been overwhelmingly positive.



Blue EDGE Fast Facts



40 Blue EDGE programs delivered



684 students participated



1,130 program hours



213 police members involved



Blue EDGE on the Mental Health Fund Menu

In recognition of the important role schools play in supporting the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people, the Department of Education has created the Schools Mental Health Fund. The Victorian government has invested \$217.8 million over four years, with all schools receiving funding under this initiative for mental health programs.

The menu provides schools with opportunities to purchase evidence-based programs. In September 2022, Blue EDGE was accepted onto the menu, allowing us to increase our reach across the state. The initiative has already been accessed by schools which will support us to develop a new funding stream for Blue Light.

Blue Light is extremely proud of our inclusion on the menu, as all programs were externally assessed for how well they support student mental health and wellbeing.

"I think I got the most out of our mental health session, it gave me more ways to deal with mental health and helped me strengthen my understanding of mental health and it's spectrum." - Student

Hear from one of our team...

My name is Tracey Hayes and I'm a Gunai Kurnai woman. My role at Blue Light is Specialist Facilitator delivering the Blue EDGE program to young people throughout Gippsland, and here is my story.

After many years of hardship, my children and I found ourselves having to start our lives over – that was the moment I embraced my culture and its ways by letting my ancestors guide me on my true path.

I commenced a Diploma of Counselling with VACCHO designed for Aboriginal Social and Emotional Wellbeing roles within Aboriginal organisations and spent the next few years working in many amazing organisations.

Like for so many, COVID disrupted my employment, but once it passed I commenced with Blue Light as a Specialist Facilitator for the Blue EDGE program. I was back doing things I have a strong passion for – working with young people and knowing that I will have a positive impact on their lives big or small! I have seen firsthand, the impact programs like Blue EDGE have on young people's lives, it's rewarding to see the results.

As a Gunai Kurnai woman my culture plays a big part in my teaching and everyday life. There will always be a cultural perspective to my work and life as I believe it plays a huge role in supporting mental health and wellbeing. It enables us to be in touch with ourselves, letting our passions and skills guide us and building support networks. As I have said many times to young people it's a good way to "fill up your backpack with resources".

As part of my commitment to honouring my culture I commenced learning Endangered Languages with Gunai Kurnai my chosen language, I am now a Specialised Educator in in the field of Culture and Language.

Young people are our future, what we do now impacts on the next seven generations. Hopefully my impact on young people is life-long and a step in the right direction for them and the programs and organisations I am a part of.



Tracey Hayes



Blue EDGE Bairnsdale, Victoria



DASH

DASH is a fun and interactive 8-week program for students in Years 5 and 6. It deepens community connections and belonging for young people, increasing their awareness of and trust in local services, supports and each other.



The program culminates in a student led project that harnesses the capacity of young people to generate solutions for real needs in their local community.

After completing the pilot of DASH in June 2022 we received funding through the Australian Government Black Summer Bushfire Recovery grant that has enabled us to deliver programs across Western Victoria.

Community trauma over the last few years has seen widespread disconnection and social isolation amongst children and young people. DASH facilitates meaningful and protective partnerships with Victoria Police, emergency services and other community experts to achieve a sense of belonging in, and connection to the local community.

“Because of DASH I will show empathy towards people with a different opinion to my own.” – Student

DASH in Numbers



45 DASH programs delivered



882 students participated



608 program hours



55 community partners involved
& 23 Victoria Police members



DASH Community Projects

At the end of each DASH program, one group is awarded funding to implement their idea for change. Each project relates to the recovery and resilience of communities impacted by the 2019-20 bushfires.

Throughout the FY2023 we have seen numerous projects come to life including a mental health scavenger hunt, a kindness mural, reusable coffee cup planters and fitness classes for young people to improve their mental health and wellbeing.

Mental Health Scavenger Hunt, Stawell Victoria

This project was driven by students who were passionate about increasing awareness of mental health in their community as part of bushfire recovery. The scavenger hunt was designed by students as a means to both support wellbeing and create connections for young people participating. The event focussed on awareness of the natural environment, using attention and senses to slow down, enjoy the autumn changes and reduce stress.

The project was promoted across the Stawell community and surrounds with information available online as well as printed resources. The entire community got onboard including students both young and old, families, the disability community some groups even bought their pets along. All who participated connected with the local community and each other whilst roaming Cato Park completing the mental health quiz and entering a competition throughout the campaign. Congratulations to the DASH participants from Stawell 502 Primary School on a successful project.

Schools where we delivered programs in FY2023

Blue EDGE

Bairnsdale Secondary College
Bendigo South East College
Coburg High School
Greater Shepparton Secondary College
Gisborne Secondary College
Highview College
Hume Central Secondary College
Kurnai College - Churchill Campus
Lyndhurst Secondary College
Mt Erin College
Maryborough Education Centre
Newcomb Secondary College
Northern Bay College
Orbost Secondary College
Portland Secondary College
Red Cliffs Secondary College
Traralgon College
Viewbank College
Weeroona College Bendigo
Woodmans Hill Secondary College
Yea High School

DASH

Ararat North Primary School
Avoca Primary School
Balmoral K-12 Community College
Bannockburn P-12 College
Beaufort Primary School
Buangor Primary School
Canadian Lead Primary School
Cape Clear Primary School
Concongella Primary School
Halls Gap Primary School
Heathcote Primary School
Inverleigh Primary School
Little Bendigo Primary School
Macarthur Street Primary School
Magpie Primary School
Marnoo Primary School
Maroona Primary School
Moonambel Primary School
Moyston Primary School
Stawel 502 Primary School
Navarre Primary School

Our Lady Help of Christians
Scotsburn Primary School
Sebastopol Primary School
St Arnaud Primary School
St Patricks Primary School
Stawell West Primary School
Warrenheip Primary School
White Hills Primary School
Willaura Primary School
Woody Yaloak - Ross Creek Campus
Woody Yaloak - Snake Valley Campus

Blue EDGE Bendigo, Victoria





Our Positive Impact...

"It was great to see his understanding of community expand and think outside the box. It was also fantastic to see him be able to be a part of a potential real life deliverable project."

- DASH, parent

"Blue EDGE was a truly an amazing experience where both staff and students benefited. One of our biggest success stories was seeing students that would not usually interact with each other become friends and bond."

- Blue EDGE, teacher

"Our students absolutely loved your lessons and have thoroughly enjoyed working on their presentations to benefit the Maroona community."

- DASH, teacher

"It was awesome to hear that so many of the students made friends during the program and felt more confident in speaking up about their opinions and ideas."

- Blue EDGE, facilitator

"The facilitators built a passion for change, equality and justice within our student group, with all of them willing to act on it! I would highly recommend this program to all schools."

- DASH, teacher

"I loved watching the sense of pride in their local community grow and develop amongst the students and it was an honour working alongside them as a community partner to support their ideas."

- DASH, Community Partner

"The students generally became more confident, not only with each other, but with police and teachers, which shows their growth in recognising we are all just people. They gave good, well thought out input into group discussions and were brave enough to discuss some challenging issues about their own lives."

- Blue EDGE, Victoria Police member

"Thank you for coming and teaching us each week. It is great to learn about our community and how we can act every day in our lives."

- DASH, student

"It has been a wonderful experience where I have watched my daughter begin Blue EDGE quite shy and reserved... The personal growth she has had is amazing, and I am truly thankful for the program."

- Blue EDGE, parent

Blue Light Branches

With COVID finally behind us our branches were able to get back to delivering a range of activities for young people across the state with increased numbers of young people attending. Some of the highlights from our branches across Victoria:

- Kyabram continued to offer a wide range of programs including it's popular flagship program KyFit. KyFit is a weekly fitness program and this year a grant from the Gardiner Foundation was secured to support the programs continuation. They also held two "Skate Scoot Bike" competitions with Shreadability, a colour fun run, two visits to watch the AFL in Melbourne as well as a number of Blue Light discos.
- Bendigo upgraded their coffee trailer to a coffee van making it easier to grow the number of companies they visit and events they attend throughout the year. The Bendigo team also participated in a strategic planning session with the Cube Group and our CEO which enabled future planning and ideas for longer term sustainability. A huge thank you to the Cube Group for providing their support pro bono.
- Beaufort Motorcycle Club together with Cops n' Kids continued to deliver a broad range of activities across the local Beaufort and Ballarat communities.
- Blue Light Discos have been run across Victoria by our branches and all show consistently higher attendance rates than in the previous three years.

A special thank you to everyone who volunteers across our branches and to the Victoria Police members who lead and participate in branch activities. Your commitment and dedication has a significant positive impact on young people and local community.





"It's programs like KyFit that our children will remember and that have a positive influence on their life. My son is definitely more active, confident and happier. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication." - Kyabram Blue Light, parent

Blue Light Branches

Alpine
Bacchus Marsh
Ballarat
Beaufort Motorcycle Club
Bendigo
Cops N Kids Ballarat
Diamond Creek
Geelong
Hastings
Hepburn Region
Kinglake
Kyabram
Latrobe
Mill Park (Epping)
Portland
Preston (Darebin)
Sunbury
Tatura
Wellington
Wimmera
Wonthaggi
YANG (Stawell)

Branches Fast Facts



11,491 young people



296 events



870 program hours



161 police members involved



210 Volunteers

Impact & Evaluation

The University of Melbourne



Blue Light partner with The University of Melbourne, Assessment and Evaluation Research Centre to evaluate our school programs, ensuring high quality service provision. We are grateful for the support

from the University as we strive to ensure that our programs have the biggest impact that they can and capture the needs and wants of young people well. Each program contains pre and post surveys for young people together with surveys for our stakeholders including school staff, Victoria Police and emergency services members and other key community stakeholders. Our commitment to evidence based programming continues to be strengthened through our relationship with The University of Melbourne and enables us to demonstrate the positive impact that our approaches have.

92%

of DASH students surveyed said after the program they know more about how they can make a difference in their community

82%

of Blue EDGE students surveyed said after the program, they can now come up with healthy ways to express their feelings and emotions

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Conference

In May 2023 Blue Light was honoured to present at the Australasian Child and Adolescent Mental Health Conference. Our participation provided a platform to share our insights, research, and development of the DASH program with participants from Australia and the Asia/Pacific region. The presentation was very well received by attendees and provided significant networking opportunities for Blue Light with people across Australia and internationally.

Blue EDGE Churchill, Victoria





Child Safety

Blue Light is committed to providing a safe environment where young people feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives.

This year we have continued to review our practices to ensure strong compliance with new Victorian Child Safe Standards. Our team has also participated in an array of training and development initiatives on the new standards together with specialised Aboriginal cultural awareness training and trauma informed practice.

Every person within Blue Light has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role they play individually and collectively, to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all young people is at the forefront of everything we do.

DASH, Inverleigh Victoria

Fundraising – Why your support is so important

Unfortunately, not every young person in our community has consistent support and positive influences in their lives. Many young people experience challenges such as poor mental health and trauma, disconnection, family violence or social isolation. We get all kinds of young people taking part in our programs, including those who are at risk of disengaging from school, their community or family and making really poor choices. We have seen too that our work throughout FY2023 has been needed more than ever given impacts of the pandemic on young people's connection and wellbeing. Our work supports healthy and positive youth development, responding to risk factors and enabling young people to grow, connect and reach their full potential.

Patron's Lunch

Our Patron's lunch was held in February at the Victoria Police Airlie Leadership Development Centre. This was a chance for Blue Light to engage with people from across business and philanthropy to share learnings and to showcase our story. As part of the event attendees heard from our Patron, Chief Commissioner of Police, Shane Patton APM about his leadership experiences and his support of Blue Light and the importance of the work undertaken. It was a fabulous connection opportunity, and we are looking forward to continuing conversations. We are grateful to our long-term partner BankVic for sponsoring this event.

Back to the Blue Light Disco

2023 saw the return of our major fundraising event 'Back to the Disco'. This year we were entertained by funny man Peter Rowsthorn as Master of Ceremonies. Held at the RACV Club, over 300 people attended and danced the night away to tunes from DJ Eliza and together we raised over \$48,000. Our thanks again to BankVic for their generous sponsorship of the night and to all who donated auction and door prizes.

Anthony De Fazio – BankVic CEO, Peter Rowsthorn – MC,
Elissa Scott – Blue Light CEO, Michelle Arundel – Blue
Light Chair at the 2023 Back to the Blue Light Disco





Partners & Supporters

Blue Light is supported by many organisations through both financial and in-kind support. We would like to thank our partners for their continued support.



VICTORIA POLICE

Victoria Police support Blue Light in a number of ways including providing access to Victoria Police personnel to support the facilitation of our Blue EDGE and DASH programs across Victoria. Victoria Police members are the backbone of our branches, facilitating all branch activities across the state.

This year alone over 398 police members were directly involved in our programs and activities and creating a connection with young people. They also support our organisation with a range of in-kind services, access to Victoria Police training opportunities and marketing and communications support.



BankVic are one of our generous partners who provided financial, volunteer and in-kind support across a range of Blue Light activities. Their sponsorship of our "Back to the Blue Light Disco" ensured its success with invaluable funds raised to support our programs. They also supported our Patron's Luncheon and our clean up day at the Victorian Blue Light Youth Camp in Maldon. They worked tirelessly throughout the day with staff making a significant contribution to the clean-up process.



Wheelton Philanthropy is a generous supporter of Blue Light and our work in delivering early intervention and prevention programs. This support is primarily delivered through our Blue EDGE and DASH programs across Victoria.



Australian Government
**Department of Industry,
Science and Resources**

The Department of Industry, Science and Resources funded the delivery of the Blue EDGE and DASH programs in FY2023.



Melbourne Victory supported the Blue EDGE program. Trained coaches ran 17 fitness sessions to various schools throughout Victoria. They also donated several prizes for the Back to the Blue Light Disco.



The Alcohol and Drug Foundation funded the delivery of the Blue EDGE program in FY2023.



The CUBE Group supported the strategic planning processes for Blue Light and the Bendigo Blue Light branch.



Blue EDGE Red Cliffs, Victoria

Business and Community Partners

We would like to thank the following business and community partners for their continued support. They make a significant contribution to our organisation and our ability to deliver programs to young people across Victoria.

3T Fitness
AJ Photography
Alba Thermal Springs & Spa
Allambee Camp
AmazingCo
Ambulance Victoria
Aquamoves Shepparton
Arbory Bar & Eatery
Arthurs Seat Eagle
Ashleigh Magri
Ballarat Wildlife Park
Big Swing Golf
Big4
B.L.Fitzgerald Pty Ltd
Body Emporium
Bounce
Bruce Arygle
Bunnings Altona
Burnside Camp Angelsea
Camp Wilkin
Carolyn McSporrان
Cave Hill Creek
Change It Up Training
City of Ballarat
City of Greater Bendigo
Clifton Springs Golf Club

Club Lime Ballarat
Club Lime Coburg
Costco
Country Fire Authority
Crown Casino
Cunliffe & Waters
Degani
Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action
Depot Adventures
DJ Eliza
East Grampians Health Service
Elite Contender Gyms
Emma Wdsworth
ESTA (Triple 000)
Farm Truck
FB Fitness
Federation University
Fosterville Mines
Four Pillars Gin Distillery
Funky Fitness
Gabrielle Williams
Geeta Kulkarni
Gino Severin Art
Givergy
Glen Dimplex
Glimmer Photography
Golden Plains Shire Council
Google
Gumbuya World
Halls Gap Lakeside Tourist Park
Healesville Country Golf Club
Higgins Bakery
Holey Moley
Ian Mason
Jack Stack
Jemma Farrell
Jindabyne Nursery

Justin Frankel
Karoonda Park
Kaitlyn's Kitchen
KaiserCraft
Kinglake Forest Adventures Camp
K&L Gates
Live Wire Park
LOD Promotions
Lunge Fitness
MARS
Maryborough District Health Services
Microsoft
MCC
MCG
Monroe's Burgers & Beers
MOPA
Murray Life Adventures
Museums Victoria
Nick Dinsdale Personal Training
Noorla Yo-Long Blue Light Outdoor Adventures
Northern Grampians Shire Council
Peter Leigh
Peter Rowsthorn
Pier10
Pyrenees Shire Council
Puffing Billy
RACV City Club
Reclink
Riverland Bar
Roses Gap Recreation Centre
Saltair Spa Lorne
Sarah Kennedy
State of Grace
St Huberts
STAN

State Emergency Service
Spirit of Tasmania
Sydney's Cafe and Convenience
Tahir
That's Amore Cheese
The Committee for Warrenheip
The Corner Store Network
The Cutlery Co
The Ranch
The Summit
The Windsor
Tim Campbell & Anthony Callea
Verve Portraits
Victoria Racing Club
Virtual Room
Wildlife Wonders
Wildside Outdoors
Woolworths
Yarra Valley Chocolaterie
YMCA Bass Coast
YMCA Brunswick Baths
YMCA Lady Northcote
YMCA Lake Dewar
YK Partners
Zoos Victoria



Board of Directors

Michelle Arundel GAICD – Chair

Lorna McCarthy – Deputy Chair
(Resigned 12/12/2022)

Kevin Scott – Co-Deputy Chair
(Appointed as Co-Deputy Chair 12/12/2022)

Sussan Thomas GAICD – Co-Deputy Chair
(Appointed as Co-Deputy Chair 12/12/2022)

Caitlin Mathews – Treasurer
(Parental Leave from 18/1/2023)

Geeta Kulkarni – Treasurer
(Parental leave cover)

David Broderick – General Member
(Resigned 27/2/2023)

Kelly Jensen GAICD – General Member

Ian Lanyon – General Member

Peter Leigh – General Member

Lucy Powell – General Member

Debra Robertson APM GAICD CF – General Member

Slavka Scott – General Member

Blue Light Patron

Chief Commissioner, Shane Paton APM

Jo Parissis – Blue Light Subcommittee Member, Peter Rowsthorn – MC, Lorna McCarthy – Blue Light Deputy Chair at the 2023 Back to the Blue Light Disco

Subcommittee Members

Tim Allred

Jess Anderson

Michelle Arundel GAICD

Jo Begbie

David Broderick

Bronwyn Brownlee

Mitchell Bull

Dale Huntington

Kelly Jensen GAICD

Geeta Kulkarni

Peter Leigh

Caitlin Mathews

Lorna McCarthy

Kevin Murphy

Jo Parissis

Lucy Powell

Millie Reed

Kevin Scott

Slavka Scott

Sue Thomas

Life Members

Mick Miller (1985)* (*deceased*)

Ivan Ray (1987)

Chris Rigg (1992)

Vic Dunn (1995)

Mark Townsend (1995)

Wayne Churchill (1997)

Bill Jefferies (2000)

Ceryn Campbell (2001)

Cheryl Fensling (2006)

Graham Blair (2007)

Stephen Brand (2012)

Richenda Tomlinson (2013)

Timothy Forster (2018)



Blue Light Team

Chief Executive Officer: Elissa Scott GAICD

Operations Manager: Karen Burns

Administration Manager: Kristin Marshall

School Programs Manager: Natalie Kisilevich

School Programs Manager: Leanne Bright

School Programs Coordinator: Oliver Scott

School Program Leads: Carol Cameron, Kate Clarke, Ben Harper, Kate Mitchell, Chrystal Potter, Jacinda O'Sullivan & John Williams

Lead Facilitator: Kate Seminlovic

School Program Facilitators: Bridie Allen, Jasmine Arthur, Hayley Douglas, Casey Greening, Brittany Grima, Cass Groves, Tracey Hayes, Morgan Kriss, Sarah Kua, Angie Lane, Mackenzie Lockwood, Mercedes Meikle-Stewart, Darryl Paterson, Olivia Piplios, Jemma Podem, Asha Rowse, Emily Scott, Joyce Sedunary, Kim Sharp, Georgia Smith, Samantha Sutton-Grubert, Katelyn Tucker & Hayley Wethling



Financial Snapshot

The audited financial result for the FY2023 is a deficit of \$41,217 representing 2% of our annual income. At 30 June 2023 we maintain healthy net assets and retained earnings of \$1,350,159.

We are focussing on diversifying our funding sources to build on this year's annual income totalling \$1,886,078.

Our work is made possible largely thanks to the financial support via grants secured from the Australian Federal Government and our generous Philanthropic supporters.

In FY2023, we received funding from the sources shown in the charts below. We also received a range of generous in-kind support ranging from strategic planning consultation, corporate volunteering and donations of resources and facilities.

Income



Federal Government Grants 77%

Donations & Fundraising 9%

Programs 5%

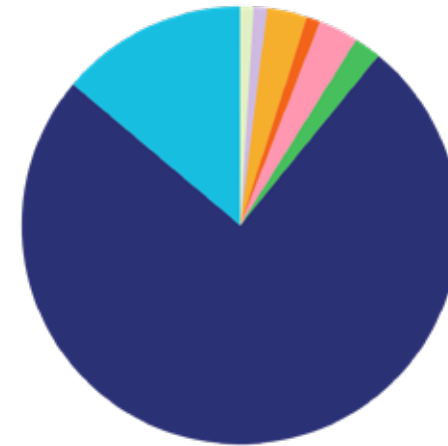
Other Income 5%

Property Income 2%

Membership Fees 1%

Other Grants 1%

Expenses



Federal Grant Expenses 75%

Employee 14%

Insurance 3%

Donations & Fundraising 3%

Other Grant Expenses 2%

Administration 1%

Property Expenses 1%

Programs 1%

Blue EDGE Shepparton, Victoria



Blue Light is a charity that delivers a range of early intervention and prevention programs for young people across Victoria.

Our vision is to ***'Inspire, Engage and Equip Young People to be their Best Self'*** primarily supporting those who are at risk of disengaging from School, their community or family networks. Our programs are evidence-based and aim to build resilience and wellbeing by encouraging health and safe choices.

Blue Light

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To support our work please go to bluelight.org.au. Donations of over \$2 are tax deductible.

Blue Light is registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not for profit Commission.

