



ANNUAL REPORT 2019



The Biggest Life Possible

Goulburn Options Is a community based, not for profit, registered charity providing support services, including those delivered under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Our aim is to assist participants as they seek to live their ‘biggest life possible’.

Assisting individuals to meet their goals means we are also supporting carers and families.

Goulburn Options was born from community action in 1981 and has grown to become a leading service provider in Seymour and the Goulburn region. The organisation is strongly integrated into regional life, enjoying community collaboration and employing 48 local staff alongside 45 volunteers.

We are committed to leading an inclusive community that enables and encourages diversity

"I make my friends through Art"
Susan



We encourage people of all abilities to,
"Live their 'biggest life possible."

With our support, Susan enjoys being creative with friends and sharing her Art with the community. That's just one of the ways we help people to live the life they choose.

Goulburn Options

Appreciating individual capability, recognising the value of diversity and promoting equity.

You are welcome to call Megan Hill if you would like to discuss your options.

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Highlights Of The Year

What an exciting year it has been with full implementation of NDIS.

The Board acquired 4 new members and worked effectively to achieve all objectives for 2018-2019.

The constitutional review is complete and policy development continues through the work of the Policy Committee chaired by Ewan McDonald.

The Fundraising Committee, chaired by Margaret Sheppard, achieved remarkable success with a combination of raffles, wine sales and events. The High Tea and the Art Show not only raised funds but helped to lift our community profile. Thank you to all our volunteers and community supporters, especially Adam Knight, the staff at the Tallarook Hotel and Mandy Gloede our art instructor. Congratulations to our Goulburn Options artists for the wonderful exhibition and painting sales.

As the charity nominated by Tallarook to participate in the 2019 Lexus Melbourne Cup Sweep we drew barrier 1 with Master of Reality as our horse. On cup Day for a few seconds we thought the horse had crossed the line first, and that we had won \$50,000. Unfortunately, this was not the result but, nevertheless, we were grateful for the opportunity, the publicity, and the funds raised through the Melbourne Cup visit to Tallarook. Thank you to everyone concerned.

The Go Again Op shop continued to increase its sales. Thank you to the energetic team of volunteers and especially to the after-hours crew of Bev, Liz, Julie and Lyn. Not only does the shop support our fundraising, it makes an enormous contribution to recycling in Seymour. We appreciate the ongoing loyalty of the Seymour community and the generous donation of goods for sale.

As a result of our fundraising efforts we can proudly announce that we will build a new commercial kitchen at the High Street centre in January. This will open up new training opportunities for our participants in 2020.

Our next goal is the completion of the sensory garden, with a verandah and ramp providing direct access from the activities room.

To complete my report, I thank my Board members, CEO Rosey Panelli, Managers Rebecca Staring and Megan Hill, the wonderful staff, volunteers, businesses, trades people, and members of the public who have provided assistance to Goulburn Options throughout the year.

Bob Edwards - Board President



2019 - Challenge or Opportunity

Change and challenge are not new to Goulburn Options. However, born from community action almost 40 years ago, the organisation has applied determination and creativity to survive and to thrive. These characteristics continue to underpin the organisation as we adapt to the biggest change in service delivery ever experienced in the disability sector.

In 2019 Goulburn Options has again proved itself to be robust and flexible in the face of major adjustments, with the Board, staff and volunteers working together to achieve our vision. As ever, the wellbeing of our participants, their families and carers has the top priority, with staff supporting and advocating for participants to ensure that their NDIS plans meet all needs and that programs are in place to support their pursuit of personal goals.

With our strategic direction defined we will continue to strengthen our capability to present diverse opportunities for supported lifestyle options including employment and housing. We will continue to build bridges and networks as we strive to lead an inclusive community that enables and encourages diversity.

The foundation for ongoing success is the continued development of a resilient and responsive organisation. Our growth in 12 months has been significant. We need to invest in systems and people as we embrace growth and innovation.

Thank you to the extraordinary people that make up the Goulburn Options community, especially managers Megan Hill and Rebecca Staring whose loyalty to Goulburn Options combined with their expertise is exceptional.

This organisation clearly has heart as well as muscle which is why we can go forward confident that we have what it takes to support our participants to live 'their biggest life possible'.

Rosey Panelli - Chief Executive Officer



Goulburn Options Snapshot

Support services are provided at the Seymour centre and throughout the community of Goulburn region.

- Participants 75
- Staff 48
- Volunteers 45

Programs are designed to build

- Independent living skills
- Work Skills
- Recreation and leisure participation
- Health and wellbeing
- Community access
- Social connections

Specialised programs include

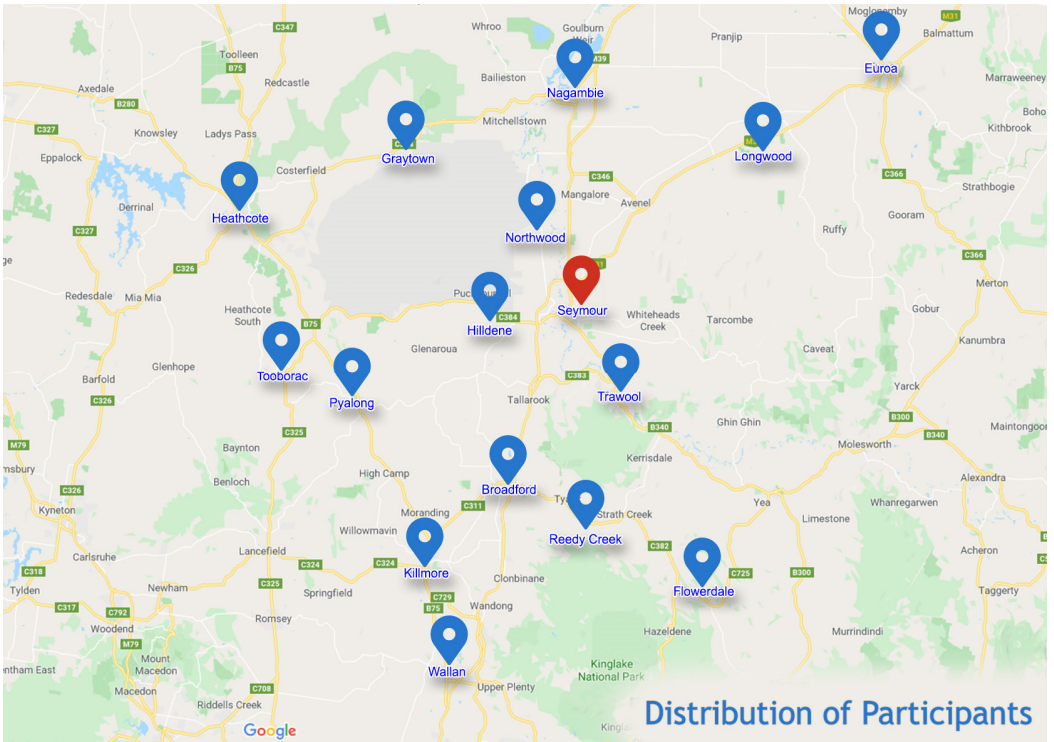
- GO Art
- GO Radio
- GO Ragz
- GO Floral
- GO-Again Op Shop
- Horticulture
- GO Floral
- The Maintenance Crew

Supports are available for groups or individual needs. We can tailor services to accommodate requirements such as attendance at medical appointments, event participation or holidays.

In-home independent living supports are also available for people who require assistance to remain in the family home or for people who require support to live independently.

Short term accommodation (respite) is available if required.

Support Coordination is available to NDIS participants regardless of whether they attend Goulburn Options activities.



Our Board

The Board governs the organisation and is accountable to its members for its performance. The Board has nine members elected by the members of the Association.



Board members

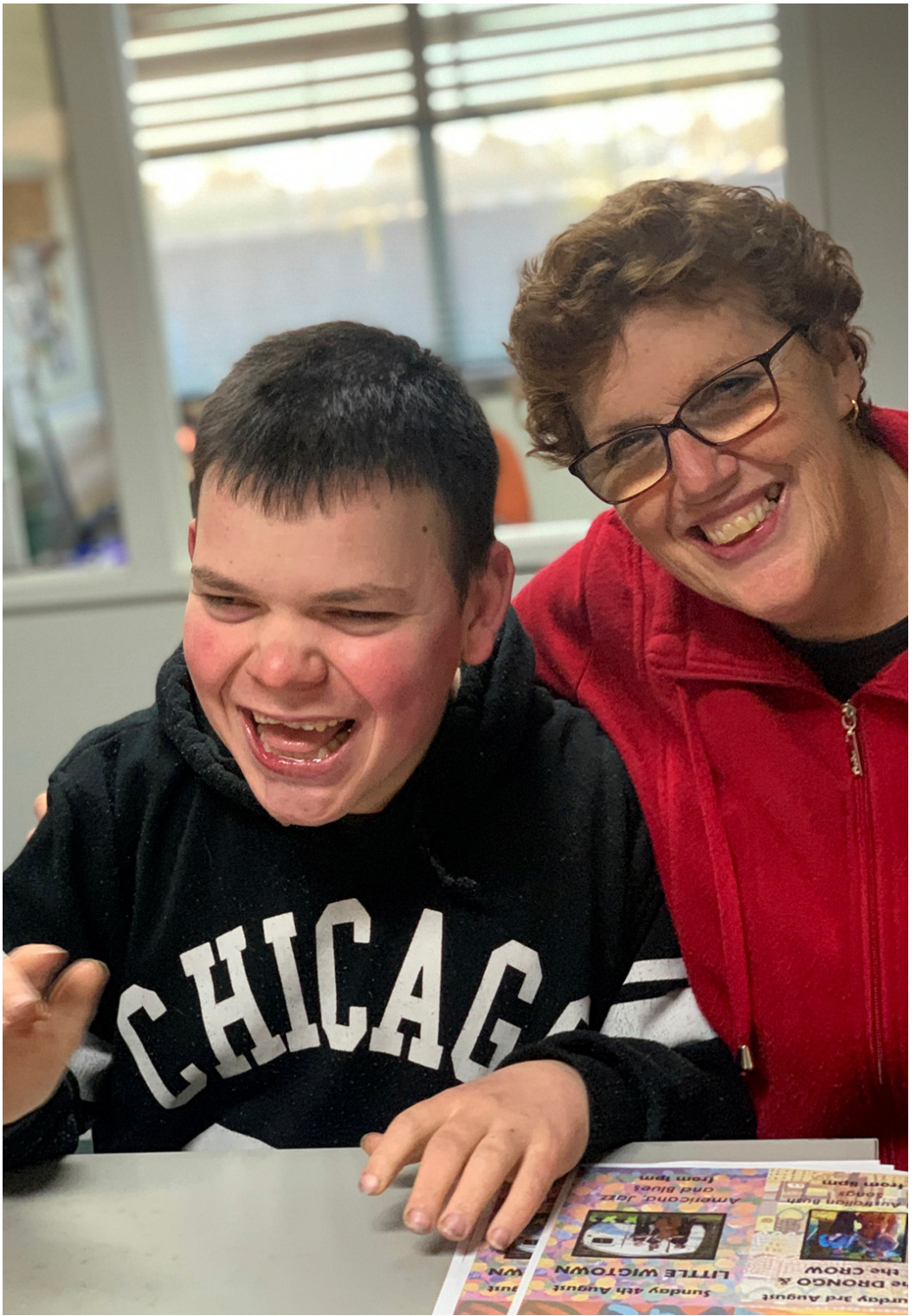
- Bob Edwards – President
- Raelene Eason – Vice President
- Michael Molony – Treasurer
- David Stokes – Secretary
- Gary Doherty
- Bill Keating
- Ewan McDonald
- Sarah Pyle
- Margaret Sheppard

Strategic Direction

Ability - Offer participants choice and support to live the biggest life possible

Community - Lead an inclusive community that enables and encourages diversity

Support - Build a resilient and responsive organisation



Supporters of Goulburn Options

Goulburn Options is the recipient of wonderful community support through donations, in-kind support, fundraising and grants. Our supporters are of all ages and come from every corner of our community. Heartfelt thanks to every person, business and organisation that has provided encouragement and support throughout 2019.

Service Awards

The Goulburn Options team is fortunate to include loyal staff and volunteers, who have contributed to the organisation over many years. The service awards celebrate each 5 years of service achieved.

Staff

- Debra Saunders 10 Years
- Jessica Smith 10 Years
- Amy Forcier 5 Years

Volunteers

- Judith Kecskes 20 Years
- Norma Walton 20 Years
- Marie Maggs 15 Years
- Bev Ridley 5 Years
- Jorgia Vanden Berg 5 Years





Goulburn Options

Seymour, Vic 3661

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GO-Again Op Shop 115 Anzac Avenue
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Thank you!

Goulburn Options would like to thank its participants for generously sharing their photos with us for this report.





Goulburn Options is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission.



Donations can be made at givenow.com.au/goulburnoptions