



Kalparrin

2020

Annual Report

Kalparrin is proud to acknowledge the Noongar people and the traditional custodians of the land on which Kalparrin is based.



The Highlights 2019/20



11 new families joined Kalparrin on average each week, bringing the total number of families supported to 4,551, (15% increase).



Kalparrin membership grew to 16,626 total members, (15% increase).



4,100 families exchanged knowledge, insight, information and experiences via Kalparrin Families Peer Support Network each month.



1,382 'Next Steps' family consultations were conducted, providing practical advice, guidance and connection.



Launched online COVID-19 library of resources with reliable information, sources and resources.



50 weekly e-Newsletters delivered direct to members' inboxes with relevant information and free or low-cost opportunities for the whole family.



264 families supported via Kalparrin's in-hospital support program.



Provided 2,015 families with a platform to buy, sell, donate or exchange disability aids and equipment.



Launched video peer support program to support parent carers during COVID-19 lockdown.



Launched the Super Power Kids Project, an 18-month community awareness and educational campaign.

Super Power Kids

In October 2019, Kalparrin launched the Super Power Kids project, a transformative, new initiative designed to raise the profile of children living with disability.

Showcasing the unique gifts and abilities of 35 children, this 18-month community awareness and educational campaign aimed to inform, educate and change the way that people perceive and interact with children living with disability.

Using powerful imagery and storytelling and partnering with respected and high profile organisations, Super Power Kids included the production of a 200-page hardcover book that was launched at the 2019 Awesome International Arts Festival, directly followed by a three-month photographic exhibition at the State Library of Western Australia.

Books were also distributed to nominated schools as an educational resource for teachers to use in classrooms when discussing diversity, inclusion and strategies to create mutually fulfilling, rewarding and respectful relationships.

At time of writing, plans were underway for a permanent Super Power Kids installation at the Perth Children's Hospital.

The Super Power Kids book is available to purchase at www.kalparrin.com.au



Report From the Chair

2019-20 represented a challenging year for all Australians particularly those caring for young people with a disability or additional needs. In my first year as Chair I am proud that the Kalparrin team has continued to connect and support our members despite the impacts of COVID-19.

Indeed, our membership continued to grow throughout the year and we saw 591 new families join Kalparrin in 2019-20. Welcome!

Adapting to COVID-19 saw the board, management and whole team make rapid changes to our business model. While we have been gradually increasing the online delivery of our services, I am proud that the team were able to temporarily transition quickly to an 'all digital' business model during COVID lockdowns, including the successful trialling of online peer support, and collating a comprehensive hub of COVID-19 information, which was invaluable to members.

While we have returned to providing our important in-hospital support, the lessons and experience of this time will continue to inform the future direction of Kalparrin.

In 2019-20 Kalparrin recorded a loss of \$34,857. However it is important to note this represented a deliberate decision by the board to maintain continuity of service as we continued to

work through the end of State disability funding, and transition to the NDIS. I know directors were grateful that they were able to make this decision due to long-term sound financial management which has enabled the organisation to build a significant financial reserve.

The board, management and the whole team worked hard to set a strategic direction for Kalparrin which will open new funding streams as NDIS implementation is completed and ensure we can continue connecting and supporting our members for years to come.

I would like to thank all the volunteer board members who bear directors' responsibilities and contribute their time, expertise and insights as part of providing good governance for Kalparrin. I particularly wish to thank Luci Ardagh who stood down as Chair during 2019-20. Luci guided the organisation as Chair through a period of substantial change, including the appointment of our current CEO. Thank you Luci!

Carrie Clark as CEO and the whole Kalparrin team have worked tirelessly in service of members throughout the year. Their jobs are always challenging, but particularly so through lockdown and COVID-19 measures. Challenges have included moving quickly to remote work while exploring new ways of connecting and supporting our members. Perhaps the cruellest impact for our kind and caring team has been the inability to provide much needed hugs for those who may be struggling. There are no words sufficient to express the thanks and appreciation due to the whole Kalparrin team.

I also extend the board's massive thanks and appreciation to the numerous volunteers who make a huge contribution to Kalparrin's success.

Finally, thank you to all our members who care for and support each other – you are the reason Kalparrin exists and the centre of our purpose.

As we reflect on 2019-20 and look forward to the year ahead, the interests of our members will remain central to the strategic vision and the future of Kalparrin.



Simon Corrigan
CHAIR
Kalparrin



CEO's Report

Kalparrin began the 2019/20 financial year with fanfare and huge excitement as we launched the Super Power Kids Project at the 2019 Awesome International Arts Festival together with a three-month exhibition at the State Library of Western Australia.

An 18-month community awareness and educational campaign, the launch was truly a night to remember with Kalparrin's Super Power Kids and their families in attendance as the book and exhibition were officially unveiled for the first time.

We were also delighted to usher in Simon Corrigan as the new Chair of Kalparrin and to welcome new board directors, Kim Flintoff and Belinda Honess, both of whom are parents raising children with disability and additional needs.

On a profoundly sad note, the loss of Hannah Wiezel, Kalparrin's much-loved Family Support Officer, was a devastating blow in August. Hannah was an integral member of the Kalparrin team and her loss as both a colleague and a friend resonated deeply throughout our organisation and with Kalparrin families alike.

As we are all now acutely aware, the year took an unwelcome turn with the eruption of COVID-19 in early 2020 and the subsequent constraints and restrictions that were imposed on families. As events unfolded, Kalparrin quickly implemented strategic and operational changes to maintain continuity of support to families whose needs broadened dramatically.

Whilst business imperatives remained the same, demand intensified. Our small, proactive and highly motivated team were quick to identify the emerging needs of members and find new ways to reach out, connect and deliver much-needed support, including piloting a series of eight-week, video peer support

groups which were met with incredible enthusiasm and gratitude.

All Kalparrin staff worked tirelessly and continuously throughout the year, including eight weeks from home where they shared the kitchen table with their children and other family members also working from home, to focus on supporting and advocating on behalf of parent-carers.

During the year, Kalparrin was involved in systemic advocacy, playing active roles with the Disability Access and Inclusion Committee (Child and Adolescent Health Service), WA NDIS Transition Governance Advisory Group and the WA Carers Advisory Council Strategic Planning process.

At the end of a particularly eventful year, I would like to sincerely thank and congratulate Kalparrin's board, our incredibly dedicated and committed staff and volunteers, our partners and all the generous people with whom we work for their help and guidance through the course of a difficult year. We couldn't do it without you. Thank you.



Carrie Clark
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Kalparrin

Vale Hannah Wiezel 4/12/1976 to 21/8/2019

It was with enormous sadness, that the Board and staff of Kalparrin farewelled Hannah Wiezel, our much loved Family Support Officer, who passed away in August 2019.

Hannah initially joined Kalparrin as a volunteer at Princess Margaret Hospital in 2011 becoming an employee in 2015. A natural fit and an obvious asset to the Kalparrin team, Hannah was able to apply her background and training in community services with her own lived experience to provide practical advice and guidance, social and emotional support to families, helping them navigate the health and disability systems, access funding and sources of support and connect with other families raising children at similar ages, stages or diagnoses.

Hannah was an outstanding member of the Kalparrin team, loved and valued by Kalparrin families who demonstrated an overwhelming outpouring of gratitude through social media upon the news of her passing.

Hannah's calm and gentle nature, her kindness, empathy and willingness to share her lived experience and professional knowledge made the world an easier place for so many families and for that we say a very big thank you.



Treasurer's Report

The greatest of thanks go to our long-term supporters, the WA Department of Communities – Disability Services, the National Disability Insurance Agency, Channel 7 Telethon Trust, the WA Child and Adolescent Health Service and the Stan Perron Foundation.

We also graciously thank participants of our Partnership Program plus numerous other donors who provided support throughout the year.

In the backdrop of a substantial increase in activity, continued transition to NDIS and unexpected implications as a result of COVID-19, Kalparrin sustained a net loss for the 2019/20 financial year of \$34,857.46. In response, Kalparrin drew on some of its reserves to pay for operations which saw a reduction in net assets to \$271,946.59.

Diversification in Kalparrin's activities reflects the significant increase in demand for services. Meeting this demand while maintaining core service delivery levels and containing costs

demonstrated the tremendous commitment of Kalparrin's staff, who comprise a small team of mostly part-time employees.

Looking to the year ahead, Kalparrin is well placed to secure additional funding that will return the balance sheet to past levels. We will seek to implement several new initiatives and further diversify funding sources, while continuing to deliver the core services on which our members rely. The future will undoubtedly present challenges but with a strong foundation and solid strategy to guide us forward, Kalparrin is well placed to expand the ways it can share the load for families raising children with disability and additional needs, well into the future.

- Grants and Sponsorship
- Donations and Fundraising
- COVID-19 stimulus / relief support payments
- Interest



- Wages, Salaries and On Costs
- Events
- Other



WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST THING THAT CHANGED FOR YOU BY TAKING PART IN THIS GROUP?

"The power of connecting to parents who are or were in my shoes and feel and hear and see my struggles and pains. These have been the biggest game changers for me."

Keeping Families Strong during COVID-19

When the COVID-19 lockdown commenced in March 2020, Kalparrin quickly mobilised to support the needs of isolated families, piloting a series of eight-week, video peer support groups.

With the aim of building connection and community, participating families were organised where possible into support groups according to their child's diagnosis, age and location.

The program delivered practical, emotional and social support together with information and guidance across a range of subject areas as indicated by the group. This information was delivered by Kalparrin's highly experienced team as well as professional guest speakers sourced from Kalparrin's vast business network.

Following overwhelming interest and the success of the pilot, Kalparrin immediately applied for grant funding with a view to implementing video peer support groups as a core service offering.

Little Telethon Star 2019

In late 2019, we were thrilled to learn that our nomination of Eva Molloy for the role of 2019 Little Telethon Star was successful.

Eva is a Kalparrin member and a Super Power Kid. Together with her family, Eva spent an incredibly busy year as an ambassador of the Telethon 7 Trust, of which Kalparrin has been a long-term beneficiary.

Congratulations to Eva on a job well done. The 2019 Telethon 7 weekend raised a ground-breaking \$42,596,034.



With Thanks

Our sincere thanks to all the individuals and organisations that support Kalparrin in many and varied ways, including those not listed here, and without whom we would not be able to support our more than 16,626 Kalparrin members.



BOARD OF KALPARRIN

Chair: Simon Corrigan

Vice Chair: Shawn Pearson

Treasurer: Michael Watts

Directors: Ben Berthon-Jones, Leanne Bridges, Jenny Downs, Kim Flintoff, Belinda Honess, Evelyn McKay, Emma Soactar

Patrons: Hon Barbara Scott OAM, Sarah and David Flanagan

Parents of Children with Special Needs Inc trading as Kalparrin.

ABN 20 440 047 551

Kalparrin

(Access via Ronald McDonald Family Room)

Ground Floor, Perth Children's Hospital

15 Hospital Avenue, Nedlands WA 6009

C/- Child and Adolescent Health

Locked Bag 2010, Nedlands WA 6909

Kalparrin is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient (DGR) under item 1 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.



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