



BUILDING FUTURES

Annual Report
2024

CONTENTS

Chair's Report	3
CEO's Report	4
Program Evaluation Report	7
Financial Report	8
Leadership	10

“
PREPARING
young lives now
so they won't need
REPAIRING
LATER
”



HIGHLIGHTS

93.13

% of teachers say that the Kids Hope program has had a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of the mentored child this year.

100

% of teachers say that they would recommend the Kids Hope program for other students.

97

% of teachers say that the Kids Hope program is easily implemented into the school setting.

CHAIR'S REPORT

This year commemorates 20 years of Kids Hope making a difference in the lives of vulnerable children in Australia. So many young lives have been changed due to the encouragement and care shown by our Kids Hope Mentors. All of whom have committed just one hour, with one child, at one school, each week. They are without doubt, our Kids Hope heroes!

This year we have had the privilege of hearing story after story of the impact that our simple mentoring model has made over the 20 years.

School Principals spoke of the positive impact on mentor children and in their school community. Mentors spoke of the amazing value they experienced by simply turning up and encouraging a child each week.

Church leaders and Coordinators spoke of establishing trusted relationships with their local communities. Kids Hope provides the framework to serve well and build healthy community relationships.

Our Kids Hope Patrons, Tim Costello and Marylin Leermakers both spoke of their part in World Vision bringing the Kids Hope program to Australia just over 20 years ago. Being a Mentor back then was so important to positively impacting children's lives. Now, its even more important! They asked the question, 'What can you do to make a difference?'

Simon Warrick, our newly appointed CEO, spoke of the powerful transformation that a mentor made in his own life as a young boy. He is now passionately driving the goal of increased opportunities for one-to-one mentoring across Australia. He has bolstered these goals by facilitating grants and donations from corporate and philanthropic foundations, individuals and many church communities - all to provide the essential finances for a sustainable future for Kids Hope.

The Kids Hope team has also worked tirelessly this past year to maintain support for our churches, schools, Coordinators and Mentors. This was despite the increased time commitments created by our digital transformation project. Thank you to this small team who continue to make a big difference.

Thanks also to Gail Cameron, our former CEO, for her excellent leadership and healthy transition to Simon. Gail informed the Board in late 2023 that a new season of leadership was emerging, and that her five year tenure had come to an end. Gail's passion for Kids Hope has however continued as an advocate and supporter.

Australians have experienced a challenging year with economic headwinds and life stresses which have subsequently increased financial pressure on charities like Kids Hope. However, thanks to the dedication of our Board, who continued to provide excellent governance, Kids Hope continued to provide life-transforming outcomes for over 800 children across Australia.

What can you do that is so full of purpose? Give your time to be a Kids Hope Hero as a Mentor. Give generously. Lead in a School or a Church to build the framework for those great relationships.

John Allison
Chair

What can you do to make a difference?

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

CEO'S REPORT

One hour a week with one caring adult—it's a simple act that changes everything for a child. Thousands of stories of that change have already been written, and tens of thousands are yet to be told.

In the first few months as CEO I couldn't help but be overwhelmed with the dedication and passion there is for Kids Hope in our local communities. I have met with Mentors, Coordinators, Pastors, Donors, Principals, Chaplains and other School Staff to better understand their involvement, their motivations and their impact.

My observations have been crystal clear. They are all working together with a singular focus - transforming the lives of children experiencing vulnerability. This is the key value that drives all that we do at Kids Hope.

It ensures that mentored kids receive the dedicated attention of a caring adult - an adult who commits to spend one hour with them once a week showing them that they really matter. And it works!

I am in awe of impact of this simple yet profound model. I have listened to the stories of kids lives that have changed for the better and they have inspired me over and over. As a person who would have benefited with a Kids Hope mentor when I was growing up, I am driven to see Kids Hope mentoring available for every Aussie kid who needs it.

However, since COVID, it has been a challenging few years for Kids Hope so I'd like to honour Gail Cameron (former CEO) and the team for carrying this amazing organisation through the complexities of that season.

We have worked hard to build on past work by reviewing our processes, support structures and our model. The need is very significant and the demand is ever increasing.

Ultimately we are striving to see more programs running in schools so that more kids can be mentored. This is a big task but I am excited to lean into the future.

To the Mentors, Coordinators, Pastors, Donors, Principals, Chaplains and other School Staff, past and present, you are what makes Kids Hope great!

All I can say is thank you and I look forward to continuing to build this amazing organisation together.

Simon Warrick
CEO

SINGULAR FOCUS



Kids Hope mentoring available for every Aussie kid who needs it.





Mentors are the salve that our current generation of vulnerable children need.



INCREASED DEMAND

PROGRAM EVALUATION REPORT

There was an intensifying interest for Kids Hope during FY 23-24 year. On top of the many programs that eagerly restarted after a brief Covid-related hiatus, our **school waiting list increased by 38%**. This clearly highlights our growing reputation as a wellbeing program that works!

In other words, Kids Hope one-to-one mentoring matters! In classrooms where teachers are overworked and under-resourced, children often don't receive regular, dedicated care. As one teacher in a Kids Hope state school articulated, *"With 95% of the students getting the benefit of one teacher, the 5% needing that little bit of extra attention, tend to fall through the cracks. Kids Hope mentors fill that."* According to our 2023 Evaluation, **69% of children that are referred to Kids Hope, is due to their emotional needs.** Mentors are the salve that our current generation of vulnerable children need.

Our Evaluation Report supports this claim with **98% of children eagerly anticipating their time with their mentors.** One mentor said, *"She was so pleased to share with her peers that she had a mentor and when asked by them what a mentor was, she answered, 'She's a friend and someone I want to be with!'"* Often the mentor is the only reason kids come to school. As one school teacher highlighted, *"Attendance is affected enormously by the mentor's presence. He would never miss a Thursday!"*

Again, Kids Hope one-to-one mentoring really matters. It drives positive change in children's lives. Our Evaluation clearly highlights the **72.52% change in behaviour** due to mentoring (see graph right). As another mentor quoted, *"Teachers have come up to me to say how much he has changed."* And the change doesn't stop there. When a child feels validated, cherished and supported, they have room to grow emotionally. As one mentor shared, *"My mentor child has learnt to regulate her emotions, making home situations a little easier for her parents."*

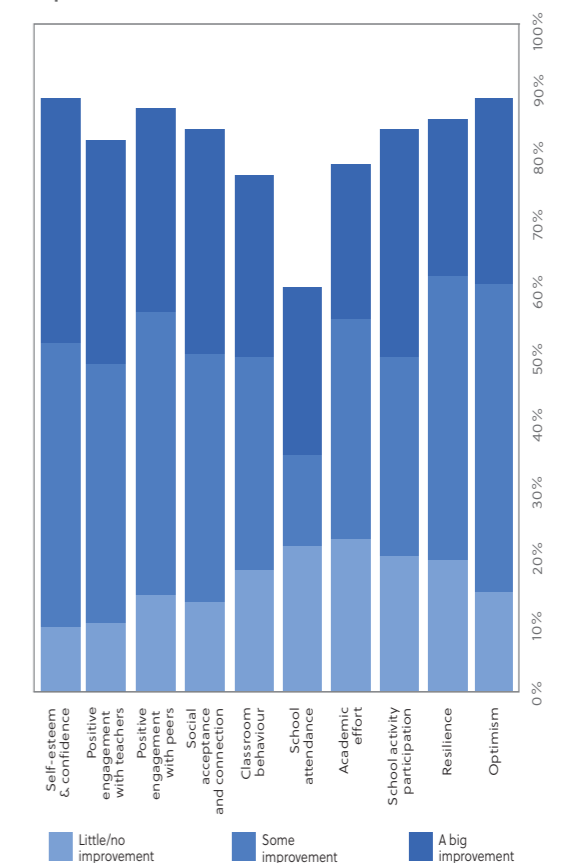
When emotional resilience increases in kids, they also grow in confidence. One of several mentors quoting about leadership roles in schools said, *"My mentor child is no longer*

called to the Principal's office for correction because of his behaviour. Instead, he was appointed as a leader for the school production."

The evidence clearly shows that mentoring matters, and not just for kids. Interestingly, with **93.72% of mentors saying they are also gain so much from the program,** everyone benefits!

And what of that increased school interest in Kids Hope? Thankfully with **97% of teachers saying the program is easily implemented,** and our continued efforts to build the programmatic and digital scaffolding on which to grow, we can now support all growth we experience in the coming financial year.

Lou Fogg
Operations



FINANCIAL REPORT

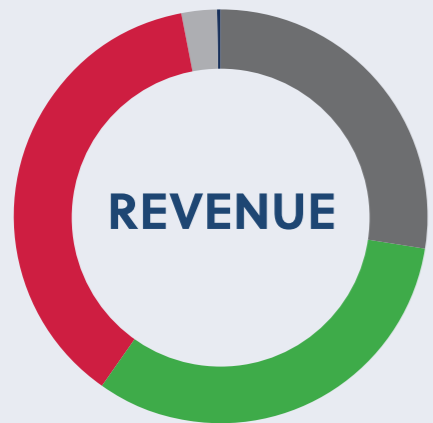
The 2023/2024 year saw some significant changes at Kids Hope. The capacity-building project took significant team focus and additional financial resources than were initially planned. This slowed the momentum of our program growth.

Although it was less than the projected income, we did see a **6% increase** in income. With the addition of a CEO transition, the board considered it imperative to allow for a prolonged handover, requiring Kids Hope to dip into its long-standing financial reserves.

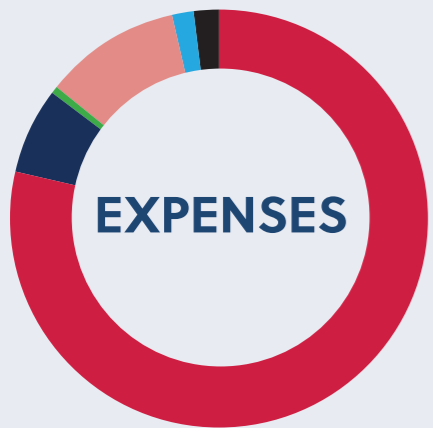
With all this said, we saw positive momentum in program growth in the last quarter and are confident we are headed in the right direction.

We are so thankful to our financial partners who share in the vision and desire to see kids facing vulnerability have a safe, trusted mentor in their lives.

Thank you!!



Affiliation & Training Fees	\$146,349
Grants	\$170,433
Donations & Fundraising	\$196,275
Investment Income	\$14,709
Other	\$630



Program Support & Growth	\$506,763
Professional Fees	\$43,035
Rental	\$3,181
Administration	\$69,020
Promotion & Travel	\$10,945
Other	\$11,130



CONSOLIDATING
STRENGTH

LEADERSHIP

We have many talented professionals leading and governing our organisation. They are passionate specialists who generously give their time to accelerate the impact of Kids Hope.

Take some time to acquaint yourself to our dedicated team.

OUR BOARD



JOHN ALLISON
CHAIRMAN

Chairman of LogicalTech Group and Company Director in IT and NFP sectors



BELINDA LOKE

Founder, Managing Director & Principal Lawyer of Legalex



SIMON WARRICK
CEO



CATHERINE KORN
SECRETARY

Lawyer, Anglican Minister & Social Entrepreneur



PATRICK PARKINSON

Professor of Law, University of Queensland

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

We are always on the lookout for talented professionals. If you or your organisation would like to support Kids Hope by volunteering your service, please contact Simon Warrick, CEO, at admin@kidshope.org.au

OUR PARTNERS

Thanks to the following organisations for their partnership with Kids Hope. With their ongoing investment we are able to continue our expansion throughout Australia.



OUR PATRONS



REV TIM COSTELLO AO

Rev Tim Costello AO was the CEO of World Vision for 10 years and as Kids Hope moved into an era of independence, Tim's personal interest and belief in the program inspired him to agree to be the patron of Kids Hope. We appreciate Tim's commitment to represent the Kids Hope cause as he travels extensively and communicates to a far-reaching audience of influential leaders, community representatives and people with a passion to make a difference.



MARYLIN LEERMAKERS

It was through Marylin Leermakers' vision that the Kids Hope program transitioned from World Vision to a separate entity. Marylin has always been passionate and dedicated to the cause and willing to go 'beyond the call of duty'. Marylin worked tirelessly to provide Kids Hope with a wonderful platform, with exemplary quality assurance and a proven reputation that will continue to develop and expand long into the future.

OUR AMBASSADOR



LISA MCINNES-SMITH

We are privileged to have Lisa McInnes-Smith as our Kids Hope Ambassador. Lisa is an international speaker and Hall of Fame presenter and has presented to more than two million adults across twenty-six countries. She is also the author of seven best-selling books. Lisa's heart for children and communities is inspiring and we are thrilled to have her representing Kids Hope and promoting the many benefits to schools and churches.

STRONG LEADERSHIP

JOIN OUR SUPPORT BASE

As a not-for-profit community organisation, Kids Hope relies on assistance to effectively impact the lives of thousands of children across Australia. Our one-to-one mentoring is provided free of charge to all public schools. Your generosity will support this life-changing mentoring and empower Aussie kids to thrive.



1 DONATE

Your **\$53** sponsors a **child with mentoring for a month**. That's less than \$2 a day!
Your **\$3200** sponsors a **school with mentoring for a year**. That's less than \$9 a day!

Donating is simple – you can **click** or **transfer**.

CLICK

<https://kidshope.org.au/donation/>

TRANSFER

Kids Hope Aus Ltd
BSB 033-002
Account number 797472

2 VOLUNTEER

Kids Hope does not run on donations alone. Hundreds of people give generously of their time and talents. If you would like to contribute in this way, please visit our website to find out how you can be involved: <https://kidshope.org.au/get-involved/>

3 CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

We are proud to collaborate with other like-minded organisations to empower vulnerable kids and communities to thrive. Our **Corporate Sponsorship Package** has several ways in which you can collaborate.

Email Simon Warrick at admin@kidshope.org.au to find out how you can become a Kids Hope Sponsor today.



Kids Hope is a not-for-profit community organisation which is partially funded by the generous donations from supporters.



YOUR
OPPORTUNITY



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