



Supporting your choice



Contents

Mission	4
Message from the Chair & CEO	5
Financials	6
Board of Directors & Senior Management Team	8
NDIS	10
Care for Children	11
Acacia Park Enterprises	12
Housing and Supported Independent Living	13
LifeSkills & Community Participation	14

Ascent is a leading not for profit organisation with 67 years' experience in supporting people with disability in their daily life.

As a registered NDIS provider, we deliver specialised supports that ensure people with disability can safely live the life they choose under the NDIS.

Through our commitment to maintaining a pool of available trained staff who can meet the short and longer term needs of the people we support, we can deliver a flexible approach to support individual choice and we are able to provide quality support to meet changing circumstances.

We believe that everyone should be able to live a fulfilling and inclusive life as is possible, with reliable flexible supports available to ensure their choices can happen.





OUR MISSION

To provide quality support for people with disability, to enable the pursuit of their goals and aspirations.

OUR VISION

We aspire to be the leading provider of Disability Support Services and Community Support in the New England and Northwest NSW.

OUR PARTICIPANTS

We support people with a disability, their families and Carers.

Message from the Chair & CEO

This year we continued, rather than began, to test our service delivery capabilities in responding to the growing intensity of the Covid - 19 pandemic.

During the first half of the year, we adapted daily to comply with the NSW Department of Health directions. The ongoing Covid - 19 surge impacted heavily on staff by setting new challenges to maintain continuity of support involving infection control measures, delivering support while wearing full PPE. lockdowns, site closures and complying with the mandatory vaccination regulations.

The Covid - 19 reality finally hit us during the second half of the year when we experienced the first, and many subsequent Covid - 19 infection transmissions contracted by the people we support. During this period intense workforce pressure was experienced due to the isolation regulation imposed on staff who tested positive to Covid - 19 or who were a close contact. Recruitment of additional new support workers has been ongoing, however as is apparent in all sectors, we too have struggled to maintain a full workforce. The continual replacement of direct support staff has placed stress on recruitment, induction, and training resources.

However, the dedicated Ascent Team has continued to step up, remained focused, and have demonstrated remarkable resilience through this time to ensure Quality Support has been delivered across all our services.

Financial sustainability in difficult times

Despite very difficult trading conditions during Covid- 19 and the recent extreme weather events, where our Centre Based services have been impacted by reduced client numbers or closed and our commercial business activities have been significantly impacted, a solid financial result has been achieved for the year.

Our NDIS Service Delivery revenue improved over the year with an overall positive operating surplus recorded.

Looking Forward

The Leadership Team and the Board are looking forward to celebrating a Covid-19 free New Year with an agenda to reset and finalise the development of a new five-year strategy to guide the organisation.

In Summary

It is evident that we are continuing to live in uncertain times however Ascent remains committed to our Mission and Purpose, we are well resourced and in good shape to respond to demand and adapt to future change.

We gratefully acknowledge the ongoing support received from all our Clients, Families and Carers, Staff, Business Partners, and Funding Providers.

Will Warrick
CHAIR

Peter Westbrook
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

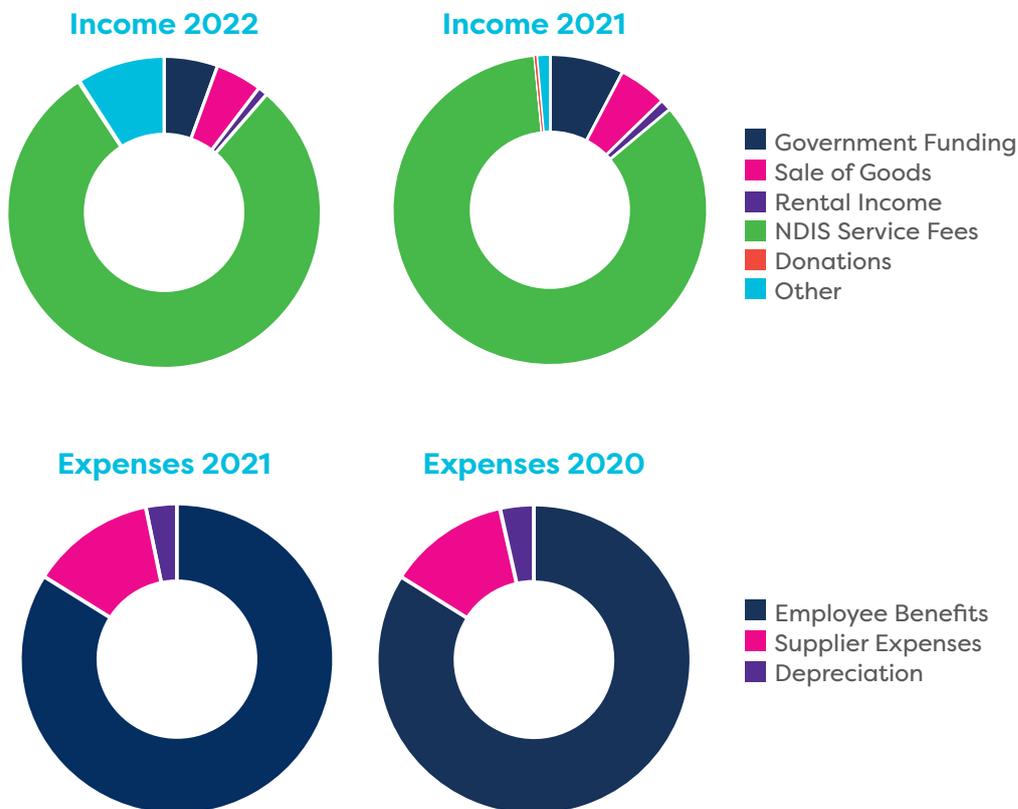
Financial Overview for the Year Ending 30 June 2020

The organisation improved its financial position during 2021-22 leveraging off the NSW Government JobSaver Payments that were secured as a result of COVID impacts. Even with all the continued COVID challenges we ended the year in a good financial position, with an operating surplus of \$476,100 and a positive cash result with cash on hand up \$396,266.

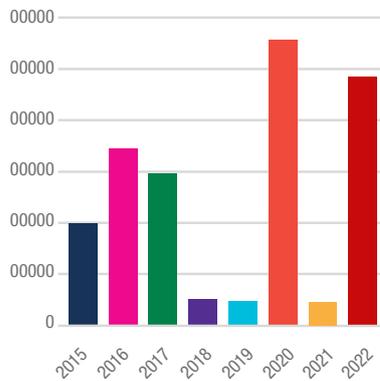
The COVID pandemic persisted in bringing with it a range of uncertainty, particularly in anticipating potential outbreaks, considering shutdowns, measuring the demand for support that will be required and then the additional training and precautions that are required to be put in place.

The impact of COVID was seen across a number of areas of the business with a decrease in demand for a number of services, especially during the shutdown periods. During 2021-22 services and activities continued as planned, however not all services returned to full capacity and we experienced periods of reduced service due to shutdowns.

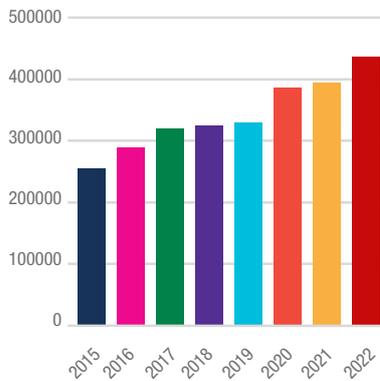
Over the past two years we have managed to make improvements to capital and infrastructure, with upgrades undertaken at most properties, this can be seen in the amount of cash spent on the Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment. The sale of Kent Ave is expected to be completed in August 2022, and this has been reflected in a move to Assets Held for Sale in the 2021-22 Balance Sheet.



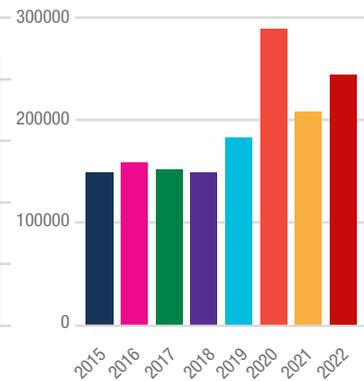
Operating Results



Net Assets



Cash In Bank



Statement Of Profit Or Loss And Other Comprehensive Income

INCOME	\$ 2022	\$ 2021
Revenue from Government	533,537	663,687
Rendering of Services	8,124,282	7,801,347
Interest	2,240	7,181
Other Revenue	965,623	240,874
Gain on Disposal of Assets	15,317	-
Total Income	9,640,999	8,713,089
EXPENSES	\$ 2022	\$ 2021
Employee Benefits	7,690,582	7,279,686
Supplier Expenses	1,180,509	1,087,819
Depreciation Expense	293,808	302,078
Total Expense	9,164,899	8,669,583
Surplus before income tax expense	476,100	43,506
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income attributed to the members of The Ascent Group Australia	476,100	43,506

Statement of Cash Flows

	\$ 2022	\$ 2021
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash receipts from customers	9,602,553	8,455,168
Interest received	2,150	8,641
Member's Subscriptions	-	-
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(8,813,084)	(8,598,670)
Cash generated from operating activities	791,619	(134,861)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Proceeds from Sale of Property, Plant & Equipment	21,638	-
Purchase of Property, Plant & Equipment	(416,991)	(695,540)
Net cash used in investing activities	(395,353)	(695,540)
Cash Flows from financing activities		
Repayment of Borrowings	-	-
Net Cash used in financing activities	-	-
Net increase (decrease) in cash	396,266	(830,401)
Cash at beginning of the period	2,050,221	2,880,622
Cash at the end of the period	2,446,487	2,050,221

Board of Directors and Senior Management Team



Will Warrick
Chairman



Brian McRae



Huntly Gordon



Jennifer Bailey



Bob Locke



Anthony Fox



Peter Westbroo
Chief Executive
Officer



Michelle Cooper
Finance and
Corporate Services

Statement of Financial Position

	\$ 2021	\$ 2021
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,446,487	2,050,222
Trade Receivables	757,755	702,026
Assets Held for Sale	177,990	-
Other Assets	494	2,504
Total Current Assets	3,382,726	2,754,752
Non Current Assets		
Property, Plant & Equipment	2,615,584	2,676,711
Total Non Current Assets	2,615,584	2,676,711
Total Assets	5,998,310	5,431,463
Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables	554,223	490,081
Provisions	737,026	683,301
Other Current Liabilities	219,000	257,651
Total Current Liabilities	1,510,249	1,431,033
Non Current Liabilities		
Provisions	112,504	100,973
Total Non Current Liabilities	112,504	100,973
Total Liabilities	1,622,753	1,532,006
Net Assets	4,375,557	3,899,457
Equity		
Members Equity	3,598,014	3,121,914
Capital Reserve – Funding Body Contribution	777,543	777,543
Total Equity	4,375,557	3,899,457

NDIS

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) provides funding for supports and services for Australians under 65 years of age, who have permanent and significant disability. Introduced in 2013, the scheme is overseen by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) and is now fully rolled out across Australia.

Ascent is a registered NDIS provider delivering Quality support to over 230 people with disability to meet specific individual needs and progress goals.

During the year we continued to assist all the people we support and their families to undergo the annual review their NDIS plan.

Ascent provides a broad range of support including:

- Assistance with daily life
- Accessing the community
- Providing social and recreational support
- Finding and keeping a job
- Behaviour management

Additionally

Ascent can provide you with Support Coordination to help you understand your NDIS Plan and decide the best way to spend your funds so that you can achieve your goals

Ascent can provide you with Plan Management as a great option to maximize the flexibility of your NDIS plan without the administrative burden of self-management.



Care for Children

Ascent is providing quality support to children with disability and their families. Assistance is provided with personal activities and support to develop life skills or to participate inclusively in the community.

Ascent can offer families a comprehensive choice of supports designed to suit individual requirements.

We can also offer a choice of professional support staff who can work with you, in your home and in the community.

Individual support can be available to you daily, in the evening or on weekends. We will work with you to plan your regular support requirements and respond to your shorter-term needs

At Ascent, we believe that family involvement is essential for the wellbeing and happiness of the children we support and is at heart of what we do.

We encourage young people to plan for an exciting future, by supporting them to build valuable skills for life, work, and community involvement.

Activities may include art, music, sport or social activities and are offered on an individual or group basis.



Acacia Park Enterprises Finding & Keeping a Job

Ascent specialises in providing Supported Employment opportunities for people with disability at Acacia Park Enterprises.

Acacia Park Enterprises provides supported employment for around 40 employees who live with disability. We are committed to providing ongoing quality employment and training opportunities for our employees. A diverse range of job opportunities are available to match a wide array of career aspirations.

Our business activities include digital printing, car detailing, grounds maintenance, cleaning, secure document destruction, paper and cardboard recycling.



Housing & Supported Independent Living

Ascent provides general assistance with daily life and activities to enable people with disability to live inclusively within their local community. Our support is designed to meet individual needs and maximise independence.

Ascent can provide support with daily life and activities to enable you to live inclusively within your local community. Support is designed around your NDIS plan to meet your individual needs and achieve outcomes.

Support can be provided on an outreach basis, where staff can assist you in your own home with specific tasks, such as budgeting, cooking, domestic chores and managing appointments.

Formal support may only be for a small part of everyday life, with other activities being managed independently or with assistance from networks of your family, friends and community. Formal support could be for as little as 1-2 hours per week.

Higher intensity accommodation support can be provided for up to 24 hours per day within single or shared group home residences, where residents may require medium to high levels of assistance to complete basic self-care and domestic routines. Staff may provide one-on-one support with all daily household activities, as well as facilitating social and leisure opportunities in the community. They may also assist with tasks like banking, shopping, and attending appointments, or with accessing daily activities such as supported employment and community access.



LifeSkills & Community Participation

Ascent specialises in providing support to adults living with disability, injury, or social disadvantage to achieve their goals, increase their independence, and participate as a valued member of their community.

We can offer you a range of services that will support you in learning everyday skills including:

- Improved daily living skills in the community
- Improved relationships
- Increased social and community participation
- Improved life choices
- Transport to access daily activities

Support can be provided individually or in group activities both centre based or in the community.

Individual Skills Development

We can offer you centre-based skills development support to learn and participate in activities independently.

Group support or activities

Activities are designed to allow you to participate in a wide range of enjoyable activities such as cooking, gardening, music, art and craft, sport or fitness. You are supported to access the community and events.



We provide skill development for you to become more independent and improve your skills in:

- Cooking
- Budgeting
- Time Management
- Travel
- Social interaction
- Caring for health and wellbeing
- Being independent in everyday activities
- Communication with others

We work in partnerships with many local organisations such as NERAM (New England Regional Art Museum) and NECOM (New England Conservatorium of Music) to deliver a wide range of activities and programs.

We have a specialist Clinical Team comprising a Registered Nurse, Behaviour Specialist and Psychologist who work with families and participants to develop personalised medical and behaviour plans, supports and strategies.





How can you help?

**There are many ways for you to be involved or to support our work including -
Providing us with Ideas and Feedback, Using our Services, Becoming a Member,
Volunteering, making Donations of money or goods and Bequests.
Your contribution, however large or small, is truly appreciated.**

If you would like to donate, your generous donation will ensure we are able to continue providing that “extra” support for people, who live with a disability, to lead a normal life.

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO

Direct Deposit: National Australia Bank

BSB: 082-407 Account: 64111-8228

Account Name: The Ascent Group Australia

Please use YOUR NAME and “DONATION” as reference.

Alternatively, please forward cheques to:

The Ascent Group, PO Box 18, ARMIDALE NSW 2350

Thank you for your kind consideration