



STREETSMART

ACTION AGAINST HOMELESSNESS



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

YEAR ENDING
JUNE 2024



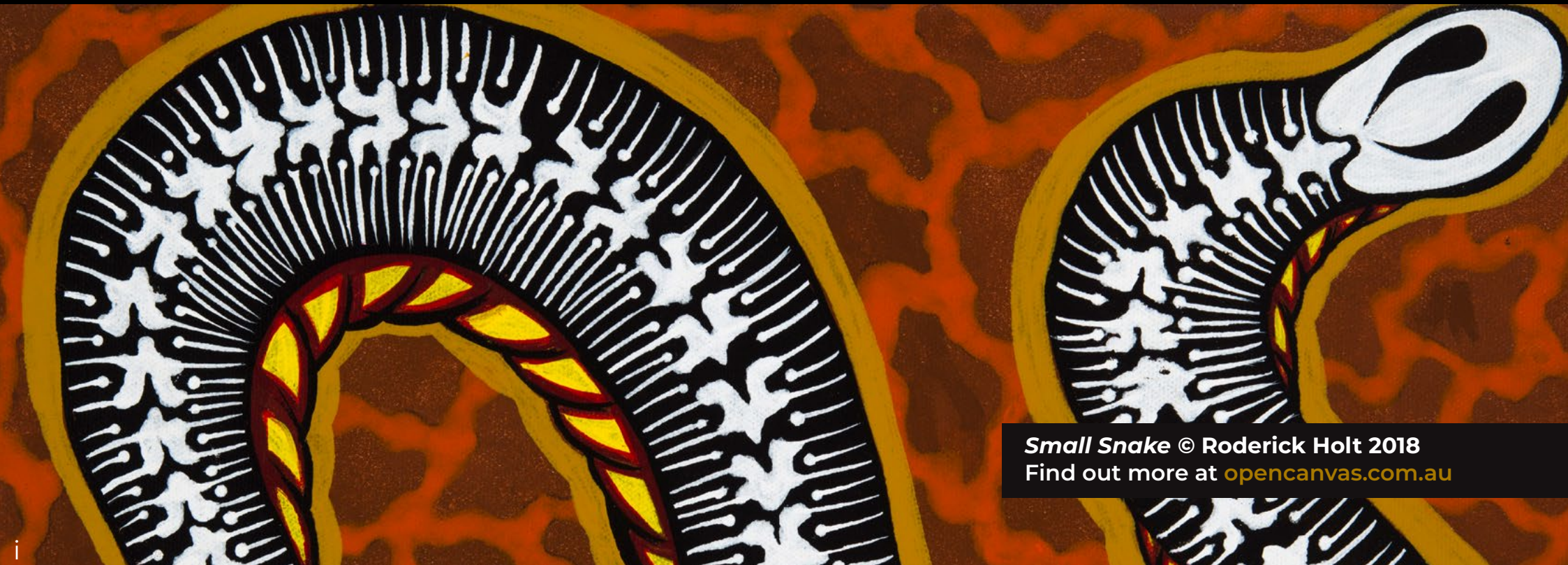
Acknowledgment of Country

As a team that operates from Naarm (Melbourne), we acknowledge the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin nation, the Traditional Owners of this land.

We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present. StreetSmart delivers our work on unceded land

across Australia which always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land. We recognise and celebrate the resilience, histories and cultures of First Nations peoples and their continuing connection to Country. We acknowledge theirs as the oldest continuing culture on Earth.

StreetSmart believes in supporting First Nations led solutions to homelessness and are proud of our collaborations with and support of Aboriginal led community controlled organisations. We continue to walk with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples towards voice, treaty, and truth.



Small Snake © Roderick Holt 2018
Find out more at opencanvas.com.au

Our Impact 23/24

Key Impact Statistics



\$1,679,975
distributed

\$1,172,465
through grant funding

\$507,510
through sleep kits



67,516
people assisted

33,682
through grant funding

33,834
through sleep kits



532
organisations supported*

329
through grant funding

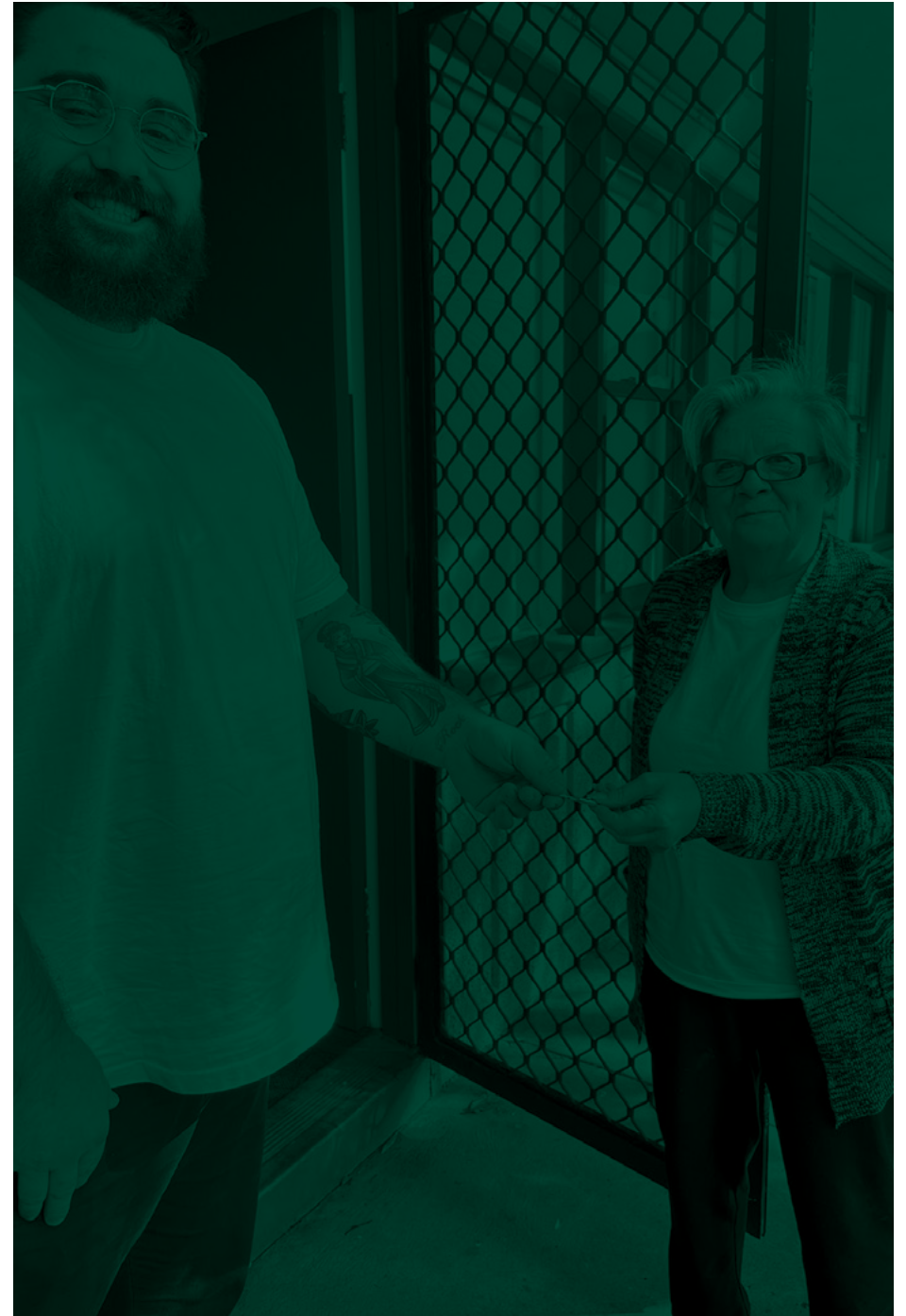
387
through sleep kits

* some organisations received both types of support

\$5,818,541
Social Impact Value created

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CEO Foreword

In what was another year of exceptional giving, it warms the heart to see the diverse range of impact we have been able to achieve through our collective giving community.

Collective Giving occupies a special place for StreetSmart and in the social impact landscape, with the ability to harness both a strategic and responsive approach to supporting grassroots community organisations across Australia.

As the housing and homelessness crisis has deepened through 2023-24 and impacted all communities, StreetSmart Australia has a firm footprint across both metropolitan and regional communities, with **60/40 split** of distributed grants and sleep kits respectively.

One of the absolute highlights of the year was the remarkable generosity and breadth of donors to our Winter Appeal and End of Year Appeal, generating **\$247,400 in support for accessible housing and accommodation, food**

security, pets and homelessness, and material aid.

Another highlight this year was the growth of the StreetSmart team, as we welcomed the newest addition, Liz Bayrak in the Campaign and Events Coordinator role, which executes our legacy hospitality fundraising campaigns – DineSmart and CafeSmart. It is incredible to see the growth of next generation team members help elevate and bring about fresh ideas into the work we do.

Our partnership with the national icon homewares brand, Sheridan Australia continued, with an extension of partnership until 2027. This will see an **8 year commitment** from the brand, who have continued to be true champions in activating the bedding and linen material aid program.

Our Theory of Change, finalised this year, outlines how our allyship and support of smaller services, projects and innovative responses to vulnerabilities within communities make a real difference, and lead to systemic change.

Thank you to every single person who donated, the board of directors, our small businesses who stood up for their community, raising funds during what has been a very fluid time, and to our corporate and philanthropic partners who continue to underpin and enable our theory of change to become our reality.

And finally, a special thank you to the leaders, the case managers, volunteers and the organisations whose work inspires us every day.

Geoff Hills
Chief Executive Officer



State of Homelessness

The past 12 months have seen the following trends emerge:

A lack of affordable housing is driving people into homelessness

With housing costs up 22%, and vacancy rates below 1%, people are being evicted into homelessness.

An increase in rough sleeping

There's been a 23% jump in people rough sleeping after seeking support from Specialist Homelessness Services.

Surging demand, but falling donations

Community partners report increases in demand of up to 60%, coinciding with stagnant/falling donations.

Poverty and food insecurity

People are prioritising housing above all else, and food insecurity now affects over 3 million Australians.

Children and Young People

Those aged 19-24 have the highest rates of homelessness of any age group and are battling to find safe accommodation.

Domestic and family violence

35% of all people experiencing homelessness say violence is the leading cause of their situation.

Our Unique Approach



We believe everyone should have a safe and secure place to call home. It is a basic human right. Ending homelessness will take a whole of community response.



Through innovative activations we enable and empower communities to raise vital funds and awareness to bring about change for people experiencing homelessness or at risk.



We keep it grassroots, we keep it local. We seek out, support and partner with small organisations and projects, in the communities where funds are raised.

Our Theory of Change

StreetSmart's Theory of Change tells the story of how our actions as an organisation leads to change for the communities and people we impact. It links what we do, with who will benefit, and how.

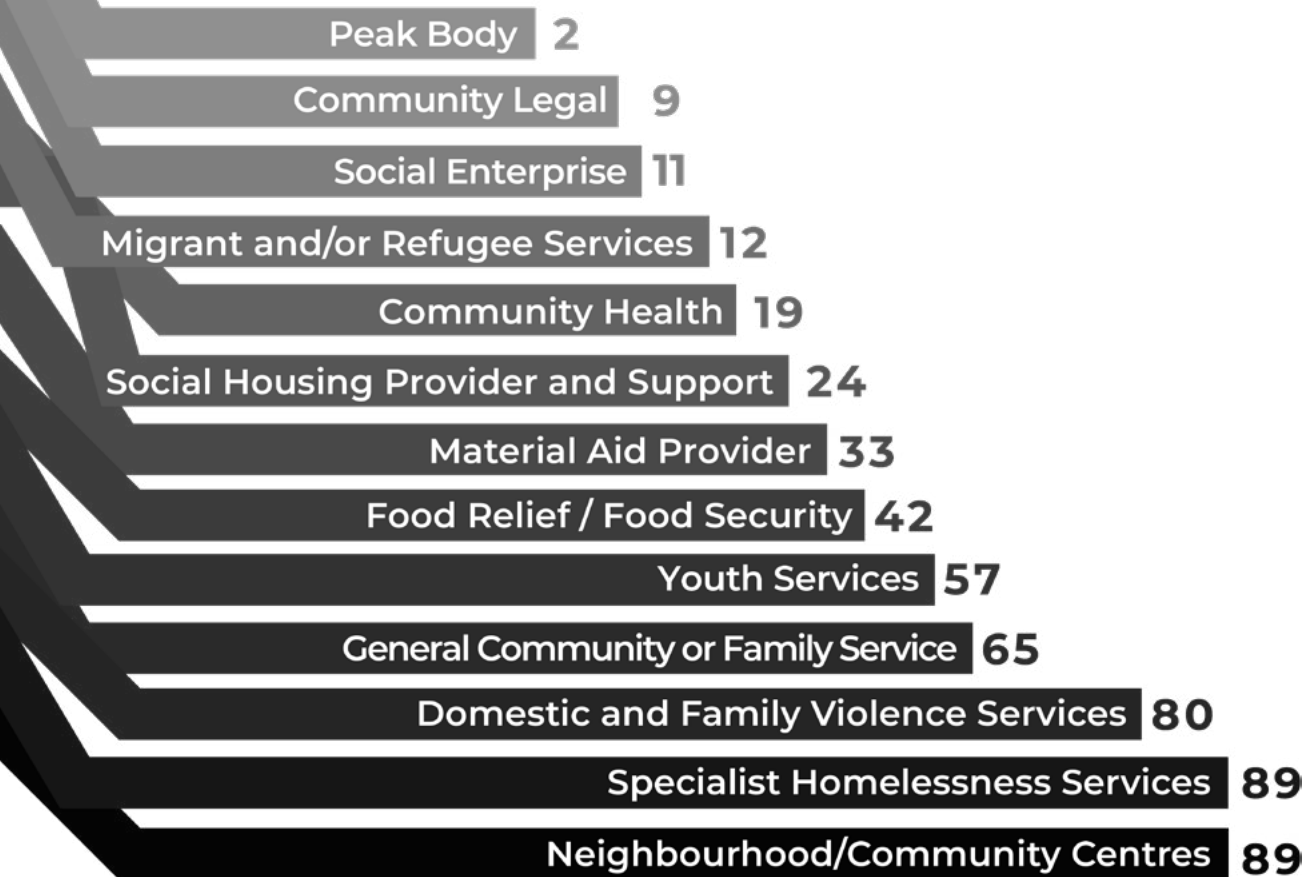


Empowering grassroots community organisations

We know local leaders, volunteers and community groups are best placed to identify what support their communities need.

They are the lifeblood of so many suburbs, towns and regions and play a critical role in creating caring and resilient communities, yet experience real barriers to fundraising, are under-

resourced, and often find making formal applications for funding challenging. Our focus is on supporting these smaller organisations through simplified grant and material aid programs. ***In 2023-24:**



11%

of our distributions supported volunteer only organisations with no paid staff.

44%

of our distributions supported organisations with less than 10 staff.

66%

of our distributions this year supported organisations with a turnover less than \$2 million.

*Types and quantities of community partners supported in FY23-24

Supporting vulnerable people

With an evidence-based approach, we have continued to ensure that our grant making addresses emerging trends and particularly vulnerable cohorts.

For example, as the sector reported rises in rough sleeping, we responded with targeted grants. Guided by data from the ABS and peak bodies, we also work to address

the disproportionately high rates of homelessness experienced by **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, young people, LGBTQIA+ communities and women and children.**

Of our total support distributed this year:



17%

of beneficiaries were sleeping rough, in a car, tent or makeshift camp



34%

of beneficiaries identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander



80

specialist domestic and family violence organisations supported



8%

of beneficiaries identify as LGBTQIA+



57

Dedicated Youth Services supported

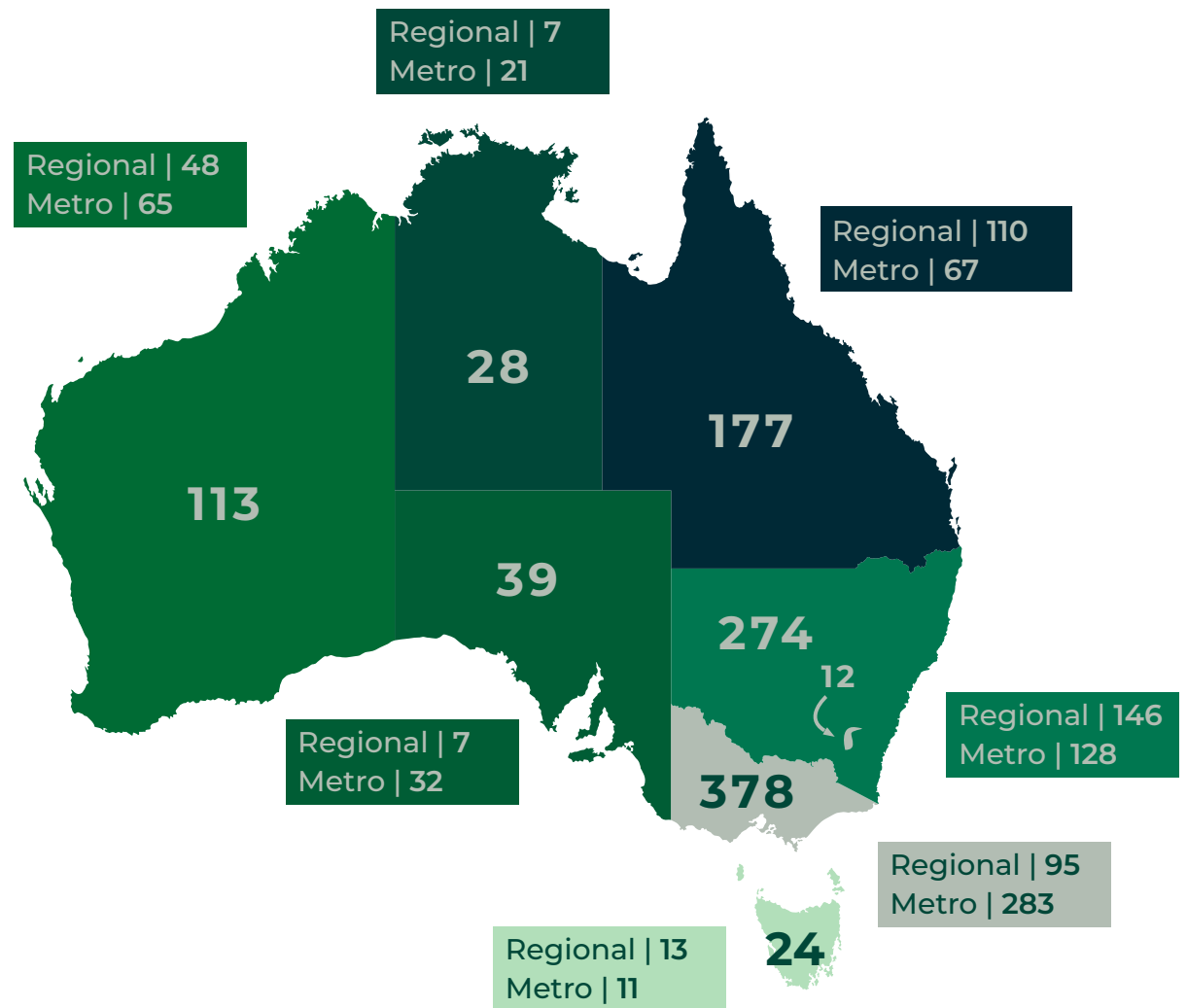
Targeting regions and communities of high need

Our data-driven approach also allows us to identify regions and communities with high rates of homelessness and vulnerability.

Using national scale data from the census in combination with localised reports like the Advance to Zero dashboards, we channel funding into regions of high need such as regional, rural, and remote communities, and those in underserved metropolitan areas. Far from being an 'urban only' experience, the breadth and depth of our impact support mirrors the geographical spread of homelessness in Australia.

60/40

% of distributions in **Metro** and **Regional** communities FY23-24



Community Partner Testimonials

“StreetSmart Australia have a deep understanding of the issues people experiencing homelessness face every day and work hard to support creative, effective solutions to these issues. They also have a great awareness of the challenges faced by organisations such as ours that are working ‘at the coalface’ to support those experiencing homelessness.”

Miranda Gillespie
Southern Peninsula Community
Information and Support Centre

“StreetSmart are a very progressive organisation that backs big ideas from their inception! This has led to many high impact charities (including Bridge It) getting off the ground and positively impacting the lives of people who are at risk of homelessness.”

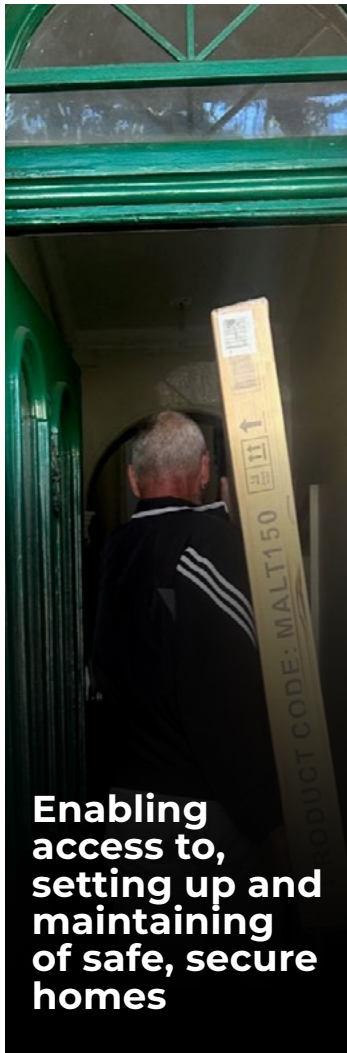
Carla Raynes
Bridge It

“Your grants make all the difference to a small organisation like Karinya that has limited resources, one of the most limited being time! The less time spent filling in forms and ticking boxes the more time can be spent engaging with the young people we work with and focusing on their immediate needs. Thank you!”

Tasha Griffiths
Karinya Young Women’s
Service

StreetSmart Impact Pillars

Supporting & strengthening grassroots community organisations across six main areas of impact.



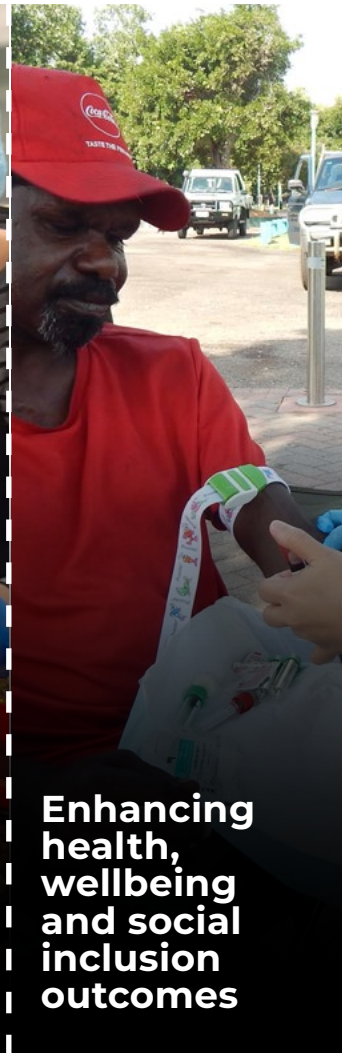
Enabling access to, setting up and maintaining of safe, secure homes



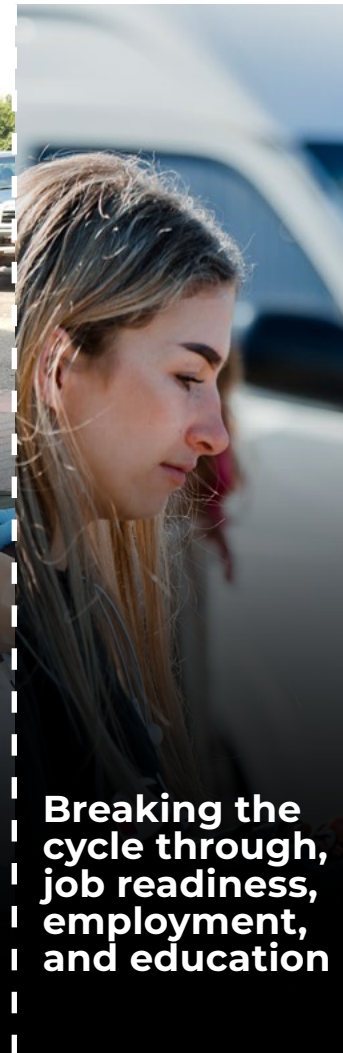
Providing emergency support and basic essentials for those in crisis



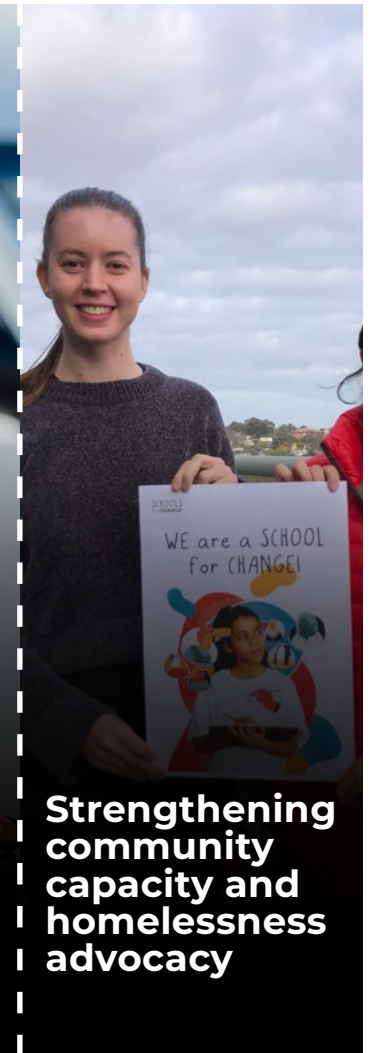
Improving food security and reducing hunger



Enhancing health, wellbeing and social inclusion outcomes



Breaking the cycle through, job readiness, employment, and education



Strengthening community capacity and homelessness advocacy

Enabling access to, setting up & maintaining of **safe, secure homes**

Pillar One | **51.8%** of
our distributions



Housing is key to ending homelessness. That's why our work helps to prevent, respond to, and end homelessness through housing first programs, tenancy set-up, legal support and more.

Key Statistics

35,001 people supported

\$870,740 in grants and
SleepSafe distributions

90 grants given



Ending chronic homelessness through Housing First

Frankston Zero (Frankston, VIC): \$5,000 grant

Frankston Zero is a collaboration of local organisations that take a 'Housing First' place-based approach to reduce the numbers of local people, on the Mornington Peninsula, experiencing rough sleeping.

“When people are accommodated into their forever home they often have no household items to turn the house into a livable home. The grant we received really is a gamechanger, as the cost of setting up a home, when you have nothing but the clothes on your back, is very expensive.”

Neami National/Frankston Zero, VIC.

Olivia's Story

Olivia* first experienced homelessness at 18 years, arriving in Australia as a refugee. Now 24 years old she has significant mental health issues and has cycled through emergency accommodation, hospital, prison, and sleeping rough. Through the Adelaide Zero program Olivia* moved into a public housing tenancy with very few possessions. A StreetSmart grant enabled Olivia to access a table and chairs, sofa and television for her house, making it feel more like a home, assisting to sustain a tenancy. With a stable home, Olivia has begun studying and is free from prison and hospital admissions.

Creating permanent homes for older women

The Shelter Collective (Rockhampton, QLD): \$5,000 grant and \$3,330 SleepSafe Kits

The Shelter Collective is a volunteer-run collaborative charity responding to the housing and homelessness crisis in the Rockhampton region. The group have renovated 10 cottages that have sat unused for over 10 years, enabling women over 55 facing homelessness to have a stable, affordable home. StreetSmart provided continual support, with an early donation providing all the door hardware during the build, as well as Sleep Kits for residents.

SLEEPSAFE

SPOTLIGHT

387

organisations supported

\$1,262,174

saved for the sector in time, wages and replacement costs

33,834

sleep kits distributed

SleepSafe is a collaboration with Sheridan Australia that funds and distributes linen and towel 'kits' to those facing homelessness, through partnering with grassroots community services.

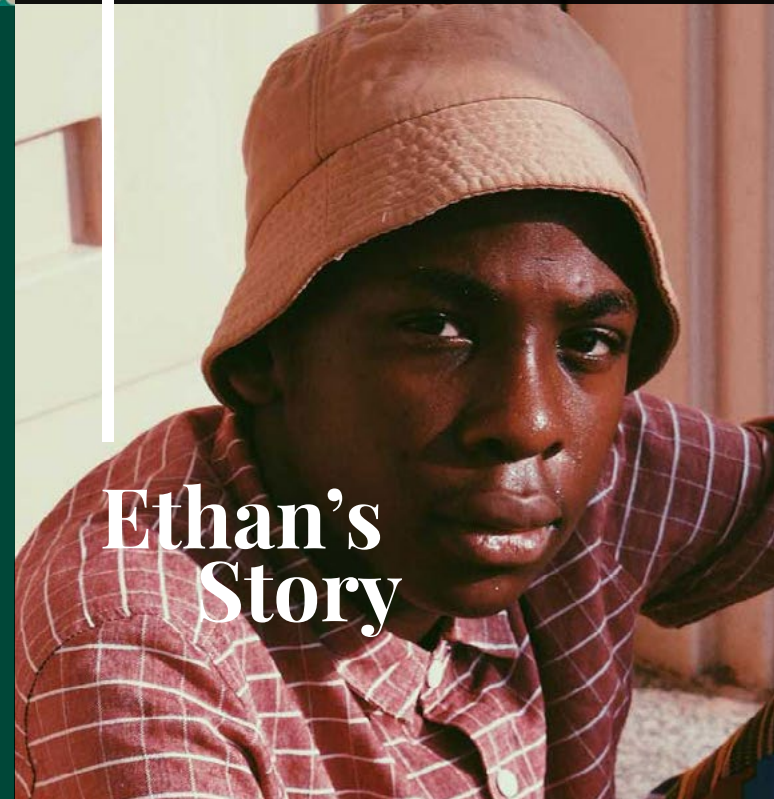


“The deliveries of SleepSafe kits are invaluable to our organisation. The time we now save not having to source these things from alternative places means we can focus more time on the people we serve. The SleepSafe kits we receive from StreetSmart are imperative to us being able to provide a clean and safe bed for each family who comes to the shelter.”

Great Lakes Women's Shelter, NSW

Ethan has recently been assisted to secure stable accommodation. Ethan is blind with little family support and is part of the Stolen Generation. He was living in emergency accommodation and thanks to StreetSmart funding and a SleepSafe kit, could get set up in his new home with bedding, towels and some food vouchers. This whole process has set Ethan up for success leaving him feeling cared for, empowered, valued, and having a sense of pride going into stable accommodation.

CAAPS Aboriginal Corporation, NT



Ethan's Story

Providing emergency support & basic essentials for those in crisis

Pillar Two / 16.2% of our distributions

When in crisis, meeting immediate needs helps to stabilise a situation and empower further action. Flexible funding helps provide clothing, showers, tents, phone credit, and more.

Key Statistics

3,523 people supported

\$271,815 in grant distributions

87 grants given



Tracy's Story

Flexible brokerage supports people like Tracy

Knox Infolink, (Knox, VIC) : \$8,000 Grant and \$360 SleepSafe kits

“Due to the StreetSmart grant, we have been able to provide warm clothing, sleeping bags, petrol vouchers, Myki transport cards and phone top ups, to ensure it is easier for clients to access other support services. For one young lady, Tracy*, we were able to pay 6 months of car registration, as she was living in her car. This meant that she could still legally drive her car and have a dry place to sleep.”

Keeping women exiting prison safe and connected

Women's Justice Network (Sydney, NSW): \$1,100 Grant and \$630 SleepSafe kits

“Women exiting prison leave with the clothes on their back and very little else, facing a housing crisis that is worse than ever. An essential item is a phone with credit, and a recent StreetSmart grant helped provide these for 8 women so they could contact family, case managers and WJN mentors and, manage and attend appointments.”



3rd Space | QLD

Oscar's Story



Oscar is 44 years old and lives with an acquired brain injury, a criminal record and complex mental illness. He has been experiencing homelessness for 3 years but without ID, couldn't apply for housing. Oscar had been to many organisations, but none could provide him with the funds he needed to get photo ID. Through a StreetSmart grant, Port Phillip Community Group was able to cover these costs for Oscar, enabling him to register for key housing services and support. For Oscar, receiving this quick support was incredibly important to making him feel heard and valued.

Improving food security & reducing hunger

Pillar Three / 16% of our distributions



Nutritious food is often first to go when someone is at risk of homelessness, and hard to source without a safe, stable home. Community meals, pantries, food relief hampers and vouchers help to meet this basic need.

Key Statistics

27,427 people supported

\$268,945 in grant
distributions

86 grants given

Nutritious food relief for Tasmanians sleeping rough

**Grans Van (Devonport, TAS)
\$3,500 Grant**

Gran's Van runs free food and hygiene services to support people in Devonport, Latrobe and Port Sorell in northern Tasmania. 6 nights a week they are out and about providing essential care and support with 30% of their clients sleeping rough. Programs provide a safe and inclusive space along with relief from some of the basic pressures of sourcing nutritious food and access to laundry services and essentials such as toiletries, blankets and sleeping bags, beanies and socks.

Gran's Van | TAS



“StreetSmart does amazing work within our region. It's wonderful that funds raised within our community are redistributed locally. It helps create an even stronger bond with our community.”

Albury Wodonga Regional Foodshare

Food vouchers give dignity of choice for vulnerable people

Tenants Victoria: \$5,750 Grants and \$180 SleepSafe Kits

“This small grant went a long way. Being able to provide food vouchers to boarding room residents through the StreetSmart grant enables them to pay for much needed medication, medical appointments and other critical things including clothes or shoes. A voucher provides much needed autonomy with choice around food items.”

Lucy's Story



Lucy* is a single mum, facing homelessness after escaping domestic and family violence. Lucy shared that “providing the basics has been tough but with the help of The Pantry I've been able to cook delicious meals. I feel less stressed, the children feel better. I'm just so grateful, thank you so much.

The Pantry WA

Enhancing health, wellbeing & social inclusion outcomes

Pillar Four / 11% of our distributions



Homelessness and poverty are traumatic experiences, with wellbeing and social connection a key protective factor. Our work supports sports, recreational, social programs as well as street healthcare.

Key Statistics

1362 people supported

\$185,075 in grant distributions

43 grants given

Culturally safe and gender specific care

Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation (Darwin, NT): \$5,000 Grant and \$4,630 SleeSafe kit

“The HEAL program supports people living rough in Darwin-Palmerston areas, providing health, social transport, advocacy, personal hygiene access, education, bedding, and social and community engagement. The StreetSmart grant funded personal aid packs, with Gender specific packs for cultural appropriateness providing clients the opportunity to address some minor health needs with dignity”



Larrakia Nation | NT

Health on the Streets | NSW



Essential health care in isolated areas

Health on the Streets (Erina, NSW)- \$6,100 Grant

“On the Coast we are seeing a growing number of rough sleepers, many are working yet cannot afford a home and live out of their vehicles, and struggle with their health. Our StreetSmart grant will help us to continue our outreach service to these clients, often in isolated areas by funding a GPS system as well as medical consumables such as gloves, masks, and syringes.”

Reintegration through Soccer for women exiting prison

Big Issue Street Soccer, VIC, \$8000 grant

“Women released from prison generally face a range of challenges adapting from housing, unemployment, mental health and social isolation. They seek a positive outlet and community that will support their rehabilitation and help them from reoffending. This grant helps boost recruitment into the Women’s Street Soccer Program to support their reintegration into the community and assist them to get their lives back on track.”



Breaking the cycle through training, employment, & job readiness

Pillar Five / 5% of our distributions

Without prevention, ending homelessness is impossible. We create opportunities for at-risk and vulnerable cohorts to upskill, be trained, mentored, or access paid training experiences.

Key Statistics

203 people supported

\$83,400 in grant distributions

15 social enterprises supported

23 grants given

Hands on engagement for at risk young people

**Dismantle (West Perth, WA):
\$1,250 Grant**

The young people engaged by Dismantle experience a wide range of challenges. 96% experience poverty, 31% have experienced trauma or abuse, and many experience insecure or temporary housing situations, with the risk of homelessness a real possibility. Our grants contributed towards the ongoing delivery of BikeRescue, our dynamic youth development program that uses hands-on skill-building to engage and mentor young people in need of support.



Hamlet | TAS

Tip Jar Spotlight

\$11,200 distributed across 7 organisations

“The timing for this grant couldn’t be better. It will directly support the training of migrant and refugee women, who face the highest barriers to employment due to language barriers, lack of qualifications, or the necessity for flexible hours.”

Stepping Stone Cafe, ACT
(Ngunnawal Country)

Dismantle | Perth



“I don’t see this level of resilience from my students in any other project or learning experience. They walk taller during bike mechanic workshops. They look proud. Some even stay behind after class to finish their bikes.”

Teacher



The Alternative Dairy Co | TAS

Strengthening community capacity & homelessness advocacy

We stand as allies to the community sector, helping strengthen the capacity and resilience of smaller organisations. Through education and advocacy we build awareness and reduce stigma.

Through our community campaigns, education program 'Schools for Change', social media and daily conversations we work to educate and advocate fo build awareness, reduce stigma and effect systemic change.

Key Statistics

916 businesses engaged and activated as hubs of fundraising through CafeSmart and DineSmart and SleepSafe

108 downloads of classroom resources

194,000+ advocacy reach across social media

6,900+ views of our educational web pages, and 20 blogs published

Empowering communities to take action

We create opportunities for people, business, and organisations to bring about change for those facing homelessness in localised, meaningful ways.



CafeSmart 2023 united the Australian Coffee Industry to fundraise during Homelessness Week, connecting more than *750 cafes, coffee roasters and their communities to fund local responses to homelessness.*

DineSmart 2023 further engaged the community with the backing of *63 restaurants, which advocated for individuals experiencing homelessness through direct conversations with diners in December.*

The **TipJar** initiative reached seven cities, bridging barista communities with local training and employment programs designed to assist those facing barriers to employment.

Our **SleepSafe** program continues to successfully engage more than *90 Sheridan stores across Australia, raising both awareness and funds to provide safer nights for people in need.*



Through these strategic partnerships, we leverage diverse resources, expertise, and networks to amplify our initiatives and expand our reach. Partnerships can take various forms, including sponsorships, corporate giving, fundraising events, bespoke collaborative programs on a small or national scale, in-kind donations, and employee engagement opportunities. These contributions are vital in funding our campaigns and supporting frontline programs that provide essential services for those in need.

Schools for Change

Schools for Change is our educational and advocacy program, offering classroom resources and activities that help empower school communities, young people, parents and the next generation of social impact advocates. This year we've recorded 108 downloads of our resources, with school communities in NT, WA, SA, QLD, NSW, VIC, and TAS accessing these advocacy materials.

“These have been really valuable lessons that resulted in some deeply profound conversations about stereotypes, empathy, social justice and respect for others. We noticed our students having these lightbulb moments of ‘wow – I didn’t know that’ and ‘oh, I wonder why I thought that.’”

Carolyn, Brunswick South Primary School Educator



Brunswick South Primary School | VIC



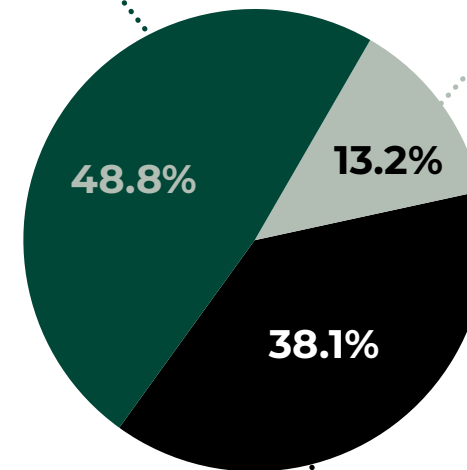
Our Collective Giving Model

Through our collective giving approach, we invite individuals, corporates, businesses, and philanthropic donors to create collaborative change.

This model has empowered more people than ever this year, to join the fight against homelessness, reinforcing the message that together we can create meaningful change in our communities

Individual Donors

Corporate Donors



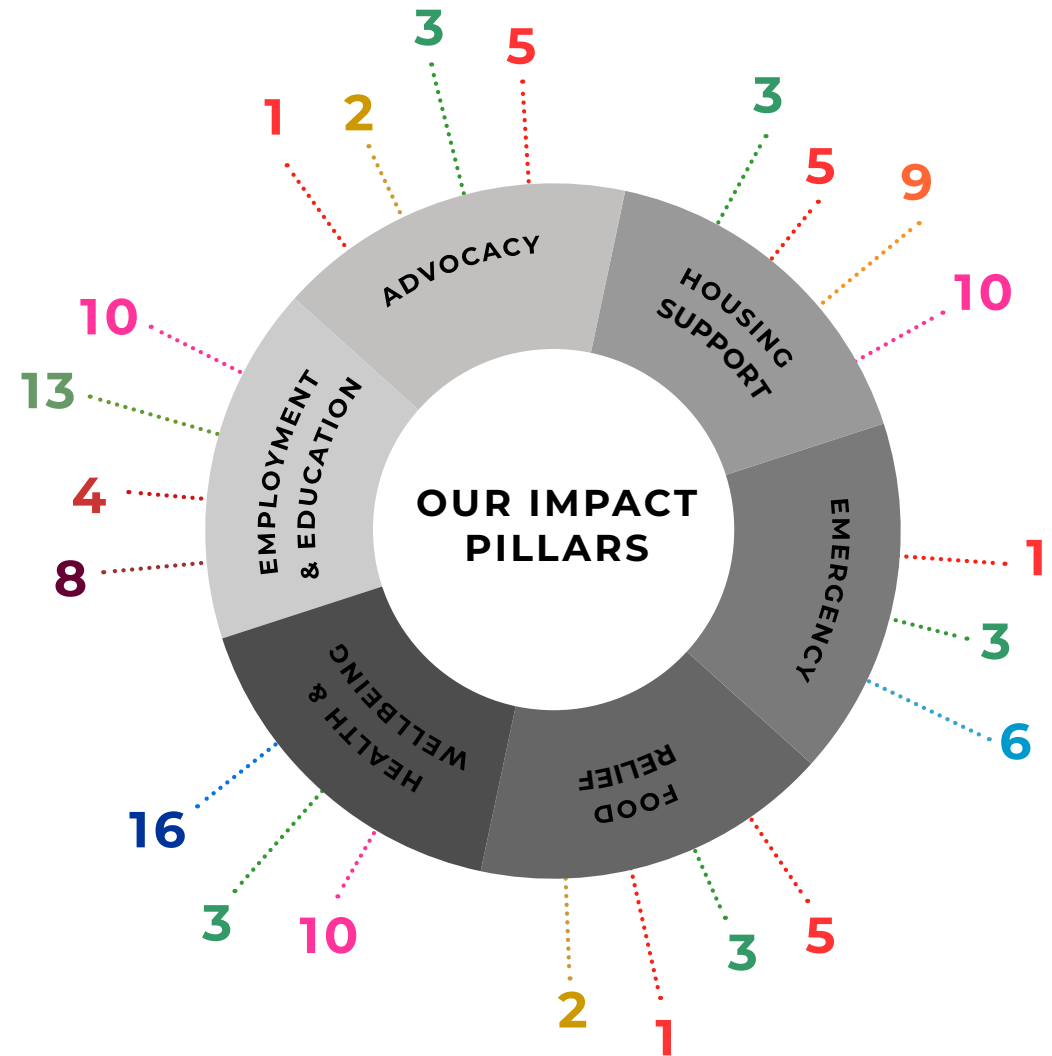
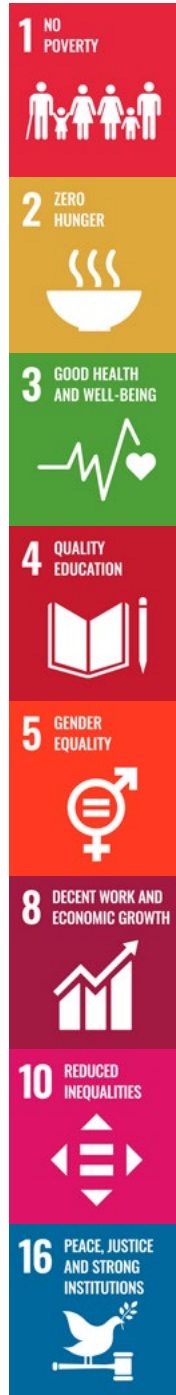
Philanthropic Donors

Our impact and the UNSDG's

Working towards communities that are free of homelessness and poverty requires a collaborative and multidimensional approach to champion environmental, social, and economic progress.

Throughout FY23-24 we continued to create holistic social change across our Impact Pillars. This graphic shows how our work directly contributes to the aims of specific UN SDGs.

Learn more here:
<https://streetsmartaustralia.org/unsdg/>



Thank you.

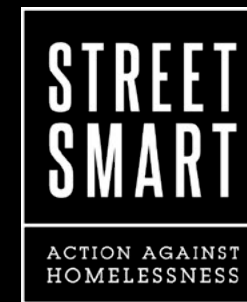
Thank you to all of our supporters, donors, advocates and friends for their generosity throughout 23-24.

It is thanks to you that we were able to not only help **67,516** people at risk or experiencing homelessness improve the resilience and capacity of **532** vital organisations and communities.



Contact

For further details of this report or any enquiries please contact Geoff Hills, CEO, geoff@streetsmartaustralia.org



streetsmartaustralia.org