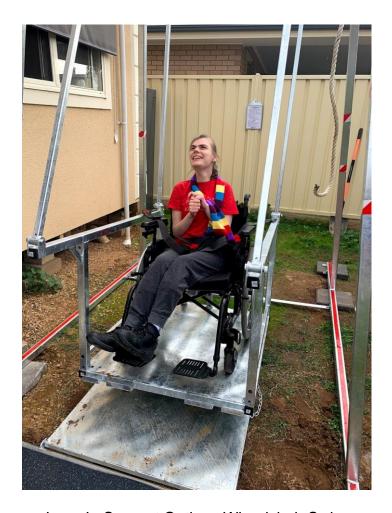


# INNOVATION FOR INDEPENDENCE

# ANNUAL REPORT FY20 in Review







PO BOX 540 MODBURY SA 5092 Phone: (08) 8261 2922 Email: admin@tadsa.org.au

Website: www.tadsa.org.au

1

# **ABOUT US**

Some of us face challenges, limited mobility, partial access to education, difficulty in getting our chores done. At the same time, we dream to be out there, to be able, to be inclusive, to be equal and overall, to be able to enjoy doing those things in life that matter the most!

Technology for Ageing and Disability SA Inc (TADSA) was born from the heart of the South Australian community, 43 years ago. Identifying the strengths of Assistive Technology, the creators of TADSA aspired to enhance people's lives and to create opportunities that might not otherwise be realised. The organisation has flourished from strength to strength onboarding different possibilities of Assistive Technology (AT) enabling inclusion and participation and helping them understand that independence is possible.

Changing and challenging the needs of a very broad segment of everyday people from toddlers, youngsters, teenagers and youth to the middle aged and elders, the organisation tailor-makes do'able' Assistive Technology to empower people from all walks of life.

Through multiple projects and the Freedom Wheels program, TADSA passionately invests in individuals to get them 'going' in various forms of life, from mobility, communication, play, education, shopping or any other aspect, that all this time, they thought would not be possible.

We are fortunate to have an incredible team of hardworking and talented volunteers who are the sheer strength of TADSA. Their hands-on knowledge spans many spectrums of expertise such as research, engineering, mechanics, communications, information technology, electronics, and many more essential skills.

Our number one priority is to improve the daily lives of people who are living with disability and age-related problems through the development and provision of unique and innovative equipment and other solutions.

We strive to always focus on the needs and perspectives of the people we serve and are bound by our fundamental principles. We make it personal - we constantly innovate - we are careful - we discover and create - and most of all we are persistent. We don't walk away when the going gets tough.

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## 1st July 2019 - 30th June 2020

#### **Board Members**

## **Board Members:**

Officer Holders:

Antonia Karydis - Frisan (Chairperson)

Paul Mathews - (Deputy Chair)

Stephen Thornton - (Treasurer)

Damian Del Campo (Secretary)

### General Board Members:

John Harmer

Pusheela Jummun (retired)

Yvonne Green

Diana Yau (retired)

## Co-opted Board Sub Committee Members:

Sam Molloy (Sam Molloy Consulting)

Iresha Degamboda (Marketing Sub Committee)

## **Staff Positions (part-time):**

General Manager Tracey Watters .7FTE

Public Relations Officer Ian Beaton .6FTE (1 July - 30 October)

## **Volunteer Office Positions:**

Project Manager
Assistant Project Co-ordinator
Assistant Project Co-ordinator
Project Follow-Up Officer

Ralph Drage
Des Rosenberg
Leon Boase
Ken Lawson

## Patron:

Libby Kosmala OAM Paralympian & South Australian Sports Hall of Fame Inductee

## **Hon. Auditor:**

Kevin Osborn CPA

# **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

On behalf of TADSA I am proud of many achievements as well as challenges we have met over the past year and pleased to share with you our 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report for 2019/20 financial year.

## Strategic Plan

The Board continued with Strategy Map planning, 2020 to 2023 which focused upon strategic investments in targeted branding and marketing, business development, defining a clear value proposition, internal communication and engagement, human resource planning/recruitment and systems/processes and education/training. In February 2020, the Board members, and several volunteers (for the first time) attended a strategy workshop; the collective intelligence a sum of 385 years! As a result, a number of milestones were created and allocated to Board members and volunteers and with the direction of the general manager were focused to bring about improvements in (TADSA) member engagement, member communication, increased project referrals, signed partnership agreements, an agreed value proposition to be developed and visible on all communications, increased volunteer numbers and increased revenue from grants and projects. Fortnightly meetings followed by quarterly reviews continue to ensure steady positive outcomes for TADSA.

## **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**

TADSA continues to provide innovative solutions to many NDIS participants and has successfully achieved verification approval as a Registered Provider from the NDIA Safety and Quality Commission for a further three years to 07/11/2023. In addition to NDIS solutions TADSA continues to provide its solution services to the aged in the broader South Australian community and its regional areas.

## NATIONAL FOCUS TAD

There has been a significant investment of time by the Board and management to ensure that connections through information, linkages, and capacity building (ILC) continue with our Federated body TAD Australia. I was extremely delighted that TADSA as of 23 February 2020 were going to benefit from the ILC Economic and Community participation grant - My Active Life. And on another high the involvement with Impact100 SA grant led by Tracy Watters (GM) has significantly increased TADSA's awareness in the South Australian community.

## A Fond Farewell

I wish to sincerely thank both retired Board members Diana Yau and Pusheela Jummun for their efforts and contributions to TADSA. Particularly I wish to thank Pusheela for her significant contributions to recruitment, marketing, and strategic partnership engagement across her two-year term.

## A Challenging Year

The first part of 2020 was an extremely challenging period for TADSA. I am extremely impressed and grateful to the TADSA team who have worked through this period more positive and enthused than ever. I especially like to thank our GM, Tracey Watters and all TADSA volunteers for their hard work, cooperation, support and patience in responding to the COVID-19 adjustments. I also take this opportunity to sincerely thank my fellow Board colleagues for their ongoing support and confidence in me to lead

TADSA. A warm welcome to all our new volunteers over this period and a sincere thanks to you and best wishes to those volunteers that have moved on.

#### The Year Ahead

The year ahead has continued to be challenging and at the same time exciting as we gain significant momentum with marketing particularly through the assistance of Sam Molloy (Molloy consulting) and we kindly thank him for his contributions. I ambitiously believe that there are significant opportunities for TADSA to not only increase their presence in the community but to also provide much-needed solutions significantly for the regional areas of South Australia.

I gratefully acknowledge the contributions and sincere efforts by our Tracey Watters (GM), my Board Colleagues, all our technical and non-technical volunteers and also wish to thank our TAD Australia colleagues, our many sponsors, donors and of course of Patron Mrs Libby Kosmala OAM for their support throughout the year. I am confident that TADSA will continue to remain relevant in our community and what is more it is much better placed to take full advantage of the opportunities presented to ensure it has a continued sustainable future.

Antonia Karydis-Frisan Chair TADSA

# From the General Manager



Having the opportunity of putting together the annual report brings the pleasure and satisfaction of seeing the plethora of new assistive innovations that are helping clients and their carers and families to achieve independence.

Whether it's a cleverly customized new drinking aid or modified cot for a new mum who is wheelchair reliant, there's certainly no shortage of independent thinking going on at TADSA. The task

itself highlights to me the dynamic inventiveness of TADSA technical volunteers who have custom-made or modified everything from hoisted pool chair to wheelchair swings and not forgetting the many dignity saving toilet adaptions and modifications!

In fact did you know the toilet is the room most commonly the subject of an adaptation, whether it is a seat changed, a grab rail added, or a flusher modified. It is one area where customised assistive technology really comes into its own, and where its true value can be appreciated.

Easing the everyday life of people with disability and age-related problems by upholding independence and helping them to retain dignity often means finding a balance between function and flair.

It is truly great to see the enthusiasm, passion and dedication within the technical volunteer team whose efforts absolutely improve dignity.

One of the highlights among the projects custom-built this year is the multi-user wheelchair swing created for Jump In Support Options (See front page). It was also really encouraging to see the engagement and conversation it generated across our social media network of followers; such that it generated orders for two more, slightly different models.



Another less complicated but none the less dignity preserving item which attracted huge engagement across our social media networks is the 'Drinking Aid on Castors' made with the use of recycled chair bottoms. It is customised to the client's needs and able to be easily moved from room to room depending on where the client wishes to spend time and releases the carer from spending significant time ensuring the client's hydration and comfort.

Of course none of this work could be achieved without the tireless efforts of TADSA Volunteers and support from community.

We knew this year would be a challenging year for TADSA given the cessation of government funding and as such we were required to think and act differently in order to survive.

As a result we turned our attention to additional avenues for sustainability and growth and this has involved a significant amount of time and efforts particularly to improve public awareness of TADSA using either free or low cost marketing techniques including social media and a lot of grant submissions to numerous philanthropic and grant making organisations.

On October 19th 2019 we ran our first ever fundraising Garage Sale. Although it was certainly a lot of work, it generated positive engagement among our community of supporters who rallied to our call for goods and also volunteer-time helping clean, sort, set up and sell on sale day. On behalf of the board please accept our heartfelt thanks. It was a huge effort and we truly appreciated all your support. We raised \$2532.





We received grants from several sources including \$10,000 from the Australian Hotel Association (SA), \$3000 from BoozeBros, \$4500 from the Rotary Club of St Peters, \$20,000 from the Federal Government's Building the Local Care Workforce Grant program and we are truly excited to be in the Top 4 organisations to receive an Impact100SA grant, the winners to be decided in October this year.

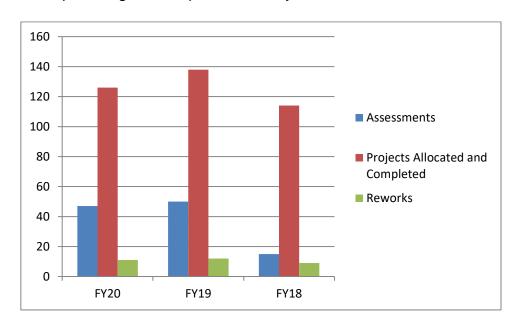
In closing, I would like to congratulate Board members and volunteers for their tremendous dedication and commitment in making sure TADSA survives the challenges of the future and also thank our sponsors, donors, stakeholders, other providers and organisations in the aged and disability sectors for their continuing support.

Sandy Bond & Reazhen Muhamad - TADSA Volunteers

# ASSESSMENTS, ALLOCATED PROJECTS AND REWORKS

126 projects were allocated and completed by 32 technical volunteers. Another 47 assessments were conducted and 11 projects were reworked to meet individual need and took a total of 2015 hours and equates to a dollar value of \$90,786 when calculated at the 2020 volunteering dollar replacement value hourly rate figure of \$45.10. This value does not include adminitration and business costs, nor the value of volunteers workshops, tools, equipment and ongoing maintenance costs that have so far been generously provided by TADSA technical volunteers. Source Vol SA/NT: ABS Cat. No. 6302.0 data

TADSA's skilled volunteers continue to work alongside clients and their occupational therapist or other health professional in delivering projects that meet their needs and expectations in providing the independence they desire.



Product research, information and referral to other providers/suppliers remains an important part of TADSA's service offering and throughout the year we receive calls from clients or their allied health professionals seeking discussion and advice about the possibilities available to them.

# A SHOWCASE OF TADSA PROJECTS

## Wheelchair Toddler Seat - EZ-Rider

Our client, Peter, has a spinal cord injury, which has adversely affected his right limbs. He lives on a large property on the Fleurieu Peninsula and required a very stable four wheeled, all terrain, and tipping wheelbarrow. The wheelbarrow had to have handles set quite high as Peter is very tall and has difficulty bending. He would also be leaning down through these handles and relying on them to support some of his weight as he moves the barrow around so a cross



section that extended between the handles similar to what you would see on a shopping trolley suited Peter's needs. The wheels needed to be quite large in order to manage the rough terrain on Peter's property. TADSA Volunteer John Stevens (pictured right) undertook the project. He built the frame from scratch and bought a lightweight barrow tray. The finished wheelbarrow has a brake and a locking mechanism to stop the tray from tipping.

#### Wheelchair accessible art easel

A mother, who is her son's carer due to disability, contacted TADSA looking for a way for her to carry his wheelchair on the back of her four wheel drive vehicle. The carrier needed to be attached to the vehicle's towing facility and it also needed to enable her to wheel the chair up a ramp to the carrier.



It was also important that she be able to open

the vehicle's rear hatch door while the carrier was attached. A waterproof cover was also requested. Two TADSA Volunteers undertook this project; Trevor Schwartz built and attached the carrier while Theo Van Deventer made the waterproof cover.

## Trampoline Steps 3922

A client who uses a wheelchair was pregnant with her first child and realised that she would not be able to attend to her newborn when he or she was in a cot. She contacted our project team and advised which cot she wanted to buy and the team believed it could be modified to suit her needs. After the client bought the cot, TADSA Volunteer Pat Pratt picked it up from the client and modified it. He cut the door in half, hinged each half on the ends of the cot, added some sash window locks to hold each half of the door closed and a sliding mechanism at the top to hold the



top secured when the doors are closed. He also added some clear acrylic between some of the upright slats so the child cannot access the window sash locks. The cot was delivered back to the client before she gave birth.

## Single User Wheelchair Swing

The Recreation Coach at the Ingle Farm Recreation Centre, who works with children with disabilities, contacted TADSA to ask if we could make some equipment similar to some he had seen overseas. Specifically, he wanted equipment to allow the children to play skittles and mini soccer indoors. TADSA Volunteer Gordon Sweeney completed the project by constructing two guide rails (in three metre lengths for easy storage), a net frame and a 'hole in one' ball catcher.



# **Unique Wheelchair Swing**

providing inclusive play-time at Jump In Support Options- Evanston, SA



Jump In Support Options are a family run disability support company that provides much sought in-home, community and out-of-home respite care to children and young people in Adelaide.

Around the start of the year 2020, they approached TADSA in installing a reliable swing that can hold children and even young adults in wheelchairs. Their objective was to offer an everyday-accessible and enjoyable play experience for children in wheelchairs, where any child, parent or carer in SA can walk in/bring-in their children for some all inclusive 'happy' time.

The swing was to be designed for children who cannot easily move out of their wheelchair into a traditional swing seat at the playground. The technical volunteers at TADSA were totally inspired to make this happen and succeeded in making a wheelchair-friendly swing which is hoisted on steel frames with sufficient ground cover. The swing can be pushed or users with upper body strength/manual dexterity can use the suspended rope pulley to move the swing.

A ramp laid out in front allows a wheelchair user to access the unit very easily. The ramp then folds down to give the swing a comfortable and secure lift around the user while swinging. The swing comes with a safety harness that helps in holding the user in place and in conjunction with the brakes of the wheelchair gives a safe and stable grip on the floor of the swing, in working against the gravitational pull.

TADSA has put many hours of great thought and effort into this design when assembling, making it free from any harm to he user's fingers, elbows, feet and head. What's unique about this is, the swing is strong enough to hold a weight of up to 200kgs (whereas as many community swings hold a lower weight). This makes it ideal even for the heavy-weight electric wheelchairs, that can easily be held on this. The easy glide of the swing relaxing on the mind and body as it gently sways, yet giving that desired thrill and excitement for the child/ adult.

From many parents or carers of children with a physical or intellectual disability, we hear that the public playgrounds do not offer inclusive equipment to play when it comes to their swinging or other play equipment.

As evidenced, certain playgrounds offer a singular swing that enables disabled access, but is locked up during the best part of the day- after 4PM and on Sundays or public holidays, while the rest of the play area is opened to the public, which clearly dispirits a child with a special need.

We feel every child has the right to enjoy a wonderful swinging sensation. Adults in wheelchairs can also use this piece of equipment for a great upper body work out and enjoy the swinging motion at the same time. Hats off to Jump in Support Options for their initiative and for TADSA for breaking the norms in innovating this perfect swinging device which many have come to love and cannot get enough of.

# FREEDOM WHEELS



Freedom Wheels, as the name implies give you wheels to explore the world providing children and adults the ability to escape the confines of their wheelchairs or crutches, creating a whole new possibility of being able to commute, play, ride, explore, race and travel to where one's heart desires.

Freedom Wheels are custom-built bicycles that are expecially designed, built and modified to suit the rider's age, height, weight and physical abilities. Our team of experts bike builders at TADSA are well experienced in custom-building all types and sizes of bikes using a range of specially designed support components suite to the rider's needs. These components indlue a range of outriggers, hand, foot and upper body supports and even carer/parent assisted steering and braking supports and are made to be detachable for easy transportation and storage.

The customisation process begins with an assessment of each individual at the comfort of your home, our compound or at a special assessment clinic to identify the bike, components and modifications suited to the individual.

Once the individual likes and dislikes are assessed, the team of Freedom Wheels technical volunteers build the bike to the specifications ready for pick-up or delivery.

The Freedom Wheels program has been incredibly rewarding. The one things that stands out are the smiles and laughter of the riders as they ride their own bike for the first time.

Testimonial: (name of rider) has lost 5 kgs since March, her balance has improved significantly and she has developed focus and determination to participate in recreational activity with her siblings and friends. *Allied Health Professional August* 2020.



Zander's first ride



**TADSA Volunteer and Bike Builder Des Chabrel** 

# TADSA Volunteers making great things happens since 1978

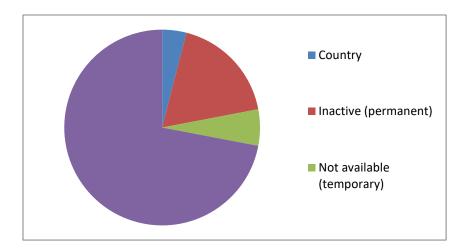
Making great things happen takes collaboration. TADSA volunteers Rod Hollitt, John Stevens, Des Chabel (and Project Manager Ralph Drage who you can just see behind the slots in the middle picture) come together to talk solutions.







At present we have 50 technical volunteers supporting the Assistive Technology program and 10 non-technical volunteers who support business functions such as finance, marketing, administration, project coordination and governance.





Recongising and celebrating volunteers during National Volunteer Week (May 2020) had to be a little different in the year of the coronavirus so TADSA joined dozens of other SA volunteer based organisations in celebrating their workforce online instead of the traditional National Volunteer Week Parade from the Torrens Parade Ground to Victoria Square. Thank you for your tireless efforts TADSA Volunteers. You are the lifeblood of the organisation.

# **FINANCIAL REPORT**

# TECHNOLOGY FOR AGEING & DISABILITY (SA) INC.

ABN 90 797 478 904

# FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2020 INCOME & EXPENDITURE

	2020	2019
INCOME		
Donations	14,574	22,057
Newsletter	1,500	1,500
Page Turners		50
Wheel Chairs		110
Freedom Wheels	18,479	24,008
Grant Income Recurrent	27,552	104,574
Interest Received	3,615	5,287
Projects	41,073	30,585
Subscriptions		363
Sundry Income	2,692	1,130
TOTAL INCOME	109,485	189,664
EXPENDITURE		
ASES Audit		3217
Recruitment Costs	1,000	
Bad Debts	105	
Cleaning	1,810	2,061
Conference Expenses		
Insurance	2,329	2,285
NDIS Transition Grant Expense	1,875	3,500
Miscellaneous	1,009	1,503
ICL Grant Expense		1,698
Office Equipment		45
Office Expenses	3,008	2,316
Postage @ Phone	2,792	3,582
Printing and Stationery	666	1,200
Freedom Wheels Expenses	2,728	7,881
Projects	9,835	7,890
Public Relations	1,141	1,844
Rent	3,460	3,911
Salaries and Oncosts	88,892 692	120,220 605
Security Fundraising Exp	521	003
Travel Expenses	2,949	2,570
Volunteer Travel Expenses	2,040	2,010
Website Redevelopment		893
Marketing Plan	509	3,789
Membership Fees	368	248
TOTAL EXPENSES	125,689	171,258
NET DEFICIT FOR 2020	- 16,204	
SURPLUS IN 2019	10,207	18,406

#### TECHNOLOGY FOR AGEING & DISABILITY (SA) INC.

#### ABN 90 797 478 904

#### **BALANCE SHEET**

	2020	2019
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
Balance Brought Forward	205,570	187,164
0 17 5 5	40.004	10.100
Current Year Deficit	- 16,204	18,406
	189366	205,570
Represented by:		
ACCUMULATED ASSETS		
	-	
Cash at Beyond Bank	6,573	7,909
Cash at Beyond Bank	50,432	16645
Term Deposit Beyond Bank	136,787	155,628
Term Deposit Beyond Bank	8	27,398
Sundry Debtors less Provision	9,277	6,546
Prepaid Expenses		75
Inventory on Hand	9,906	6,582
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	212,975	220,783
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Sundry Creditors	186	778
Advance Grant Funds	19,100	770
GST Liabilities	1,115	922
Payroll Liabilities	3,208	13513
rayroli Liabilities	23,609	15,213
	23,003	10,210
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	0	0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	23,609	15,213
NET ASSETS	189,366	205,570

#### AUDIT REPORT

#### Comments

I have not been made aware of any outstanding amounts which would have a material effect on the reported results.

Inventory is valued at cost. A stocktake was taken, but was not subject to audit

#### **Audit Opinnion**

I have audited the accounts of Technology for Ageing and Disability (SA) Inc as at 30th June 2020 and find that subject to the above comments, they show the true financial position of the Organisation.

Kevin Osborn CPA

### TECHNNOLOGY FOR AGEING & DISABILTY (SA) INCORPORATED

STATEMENT BY THE TADSA BOARDThe Board of Technology for Ageing & Disability (SA) Incorporated (TADSA) has determined that the Organisation is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose report is prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 and the requirements of the constitution of TADSA and its members.

In the opinion of the Board, the financial report:

- (a) Presents fairly the financial position of TADSA for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
  - (b) At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that TADSA will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
- 2. Since the end of the previous financial year no officer of TADSA, no firm of which an officer is a member, and no body corporate in which an officer has a substantial financial interest, has received or become entitled to receive any benefit as a result of a contract between the officer, firm or body corporate and TADSA.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

Chairperson

Board Member

Dated at Adelaide this 7th day of November 2020

#### Thank you to donors

We acknowledge and thank everyone for their support, encouragement and financial assistance during the year.

Rotary Club of St Peters
Lions Club of Blackwood
BoozeBros Foundation
Mary Choate
Laureate Beta Chapter
Dakatah Dixey
Helen Young
Harcourts Foundation
Hotel Care
Travor Appleby
J & J Wilson
Lions Club Angle Vale
End of Financial Year Appeal Donors

End of Financial Year Appeal Donors

Enfield Community Centre use of room for monthly technical meetings

Royals Society for the Blind use of facilities and grounds

DIONA Civil Engineering company provision of room for TADSA Board Meetings

Sam Molloy Consulting Pro Bono Marketing Services



Celebrating 43 years of helping people disability and age-related problems through assistive and adaptive technology.

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