

Annual Report 2018-2019

From the **Founder**

Finding purpose in your life—that's challenging for anyone, let alone a person living with autism. AS Purposeful was founded to help more people who have autism with low support needs to realise their purpose through self-employment. But our purpose as an organisation could only ever become a reality thanks to lots of hard work, and so I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed so much to AS Purposeful Limited during our first full year of operation.

Of all our partners and supporters, it is Uniting Ability Links that most deserves special mention. Louise Knight, Kat Lindberg, and the rest of the Uniting team believed in our passion, understood our purpose, and provided us with the backing we needed to start this pioneering and innovative endeavour. I also want to thank our outgoing Executive Director Adrienne De Morais, as well as acknowledge the outstanding contributions made by our Masters of Social Work students. And finally, I want to recognise the work of our Non-Executive Directors, Brett Palmer and Tony Anderson, who have enriched our fledgling organisation with their expertise, experience, and commitment.

Start-up businesses are always challenging, and, as a social enterprise, AS Purposeful has been no exception to this rule. But despite the inevitable challenges—or perhaps because of them—we have achieved much to be proud of, and this has put us in an excellent position as we move towards service delivery in the coming months.

- David Harper, Founder & Chair

Our Performance



staff and volunteers

with lived experience as a person with autism or carer



Directors Paid Staff Students on Placement Volunteers

David Harper Founder & Chair Term: June 2018-present Attendance: 100%

Adrienne De Morais Executive Director Term: June 2018-June 2019¹ Attendance: 100%









1. Resigned 13 June 2019 2. Appointed 5 June 2019

Finances

	2018-19 (\$)
ASSETS	
Current	76,116.47
Non-Current	3,666.42
Total Assets	79,782.89
LIABILITIES	8,456.47
MEMBERS' EQUITY	71,346.42



Income & Expenditure FY2018-19



Brett Palmer Non-Executive Director Term: June 2018-present Attendance: 100%

Tony Anderson Non-Executive Director Term: June 2019²-present Attendance: 100%

Notes

Our Work

creation

much of our first year was focused on developing the intellectual property needed to support clients in the future, including workshops, procedures, and staff and volunteer training materials

growth

as our understanding of the market deepened, we updated our business strategy to ensure that we focused on long term success, expanding our service piloting as well as working to support clients with ADHD

structure

we also began to develop the fundamentals of our business, with an emphasis on ensuring that our client-facing services are supported by good backend systems and processes, reporting, and governance

our work this year was supported by organisations including:





passion

People with autism are often at their best when they are doing things they feel passionate about.

providing

People with autism often need more structure to succeed. 66% of employees with autism say they need more support.

purpose

We help our clients to harness their passions, using their strengths to create new purpose and meaning in their lives.



Our Future

Testing

We will begin delivering workshops to potential clients, as well as testing our intake procedures, gathering both quantitative and qualitative data regarding their effectiveness

Learning

We will use continuous improvement to ensure that key components of our services are market ready, and to inform future development work

Delivering

We will start commercialising services, and use the learnings we gather during this process to enhance our ability to respond to the needs of our clients

Target Markets

117,000 additional Australians with autism or ADHD

- 8,700 other Australians with autism who would prefer self-employment

- 3,100 Sydney residents well suited to business ownership



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