

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2020-2021



[SHFPACT.ORG.AU](https://shfpact.org.au)

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## YOUR SEXUAL HEALTH MATTERS

- Cervical Screening and HPV Vaccine
- Breast checks and breast awareness education
- STI and HIV screening, checks and advice
- Reproductive and sexual health services
- IUDs and other long acting contraceptive options
- Canberra Menopause Centre
- Sexual difficulties and contraception services
- Services for people with disabilities
- Fertility issues and pre-conception advice
- Emergency contraception / Morning After Pill

## ABOUT SHFPACT

Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT) is a community not-for-profit, non-government, membership-based incorporated association and an ATO-endorsed health promotion charity and deductible gift recipient. We have served the Canberra community and the region for nearly fifty years. There are a range of ways you can engage with us by becoming a Friend or a Member of SHFPACT.

## FRIENDS OF SHFPACT

Becoming a 'Friend of SHFPACT' is a great way to show your support for the work and goals of our organisation, and means you will be kept up to date on SHFPACT activities through regular communications. Members and Friends of SHFPACT enjoy the following member benefits:

- › Discounted clinic consultations
  - › Discounted purchases from bookshop (5%)
  - › Invitation to annual member events
  - › Members communications (3 per year)
  - › Discount on training course fees (10%)\*
- \*SHFPACT Professional Members

Friends of SHFPACT are regularly called on to assist with the preparation of condom packs for distribution in the Canberra community. This activity can be an engaging way to start a conversation about safe sex in your family or social network! Friends of SHFPACT enjoy the same benefits of ordinary membership of the Association without the obligations of attendance or voting rights at general meetings.

**BECOME A MEMBER  
OR FRIEND OF SHFPACT  
AND SUPPORT OUR WORK!**

**GET  
INVOLVED**

## ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Association membership is another way to support our work. Membership includes community members and community organisations, government service providers, academics and health professionals.

Members of the Association have voting rights at general meetings and are eligible for nomination to the SHFPACT Council once a minimum period of financial membership is served. Association membership is a way to get actively involved in the life of SHFPACT.

## VOLUNTEERS AND STUDENT PLACEMENTS

SHFPACT welcomes inquiries from students in programs of study relevant to our areas of work for student placements and projects. In the past these have involved people studying health promotion, community education, sexology, nursing, medicine and gender studies, amongst others undertaking needs assessment and research projects, and participating in SHFPACT's service delivery activities.

VISIT [SHFPACT.ORG.AU](http://SHFPACT.ORG.AU) OR CALL **02 6247 3077** FOR MORE INFORMATION. ALL DONATIONS TO SHFPACT OVER \$2.00 ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.



# OUR WORK

## OUR PURPOSE

We improve sexual and reproductive health for the Canberra community within a framework of human rights, social justice, and prudent financial management for long-term sustainability.

## OUR VISION

We are a dynamic, effective and trusted organisation leading and contributing to coordinated responses that support sexual and reproductive health and rights, particularly of priority populations.

## OUR PRINCIPLES

We believe that sexual and reproductive rights are human rights related to sexuality, reproduction and relationships, and that the expression of sexuality occurs across the lifespan. We affirm and advocate anti-discrimination principles set out in ACT and Australian laws and international conventions.

## OUR IMPACT

We work using a public health and health promotion model to enable increased access to sexual and reproductive health services for all Canberrans with a focus on priority populations through capacity building approaches and working in partnership with others.

We prioritise the following populations to access and achieve improved sexual and reproductive health:

- Young people
- People on low incomes or who are otherwise facing financial hardship and disadvantage
- People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- People with disabilities
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- People who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or queer; people who are same-sex attracted; and people who are sex and/or gender-diverse

Furthermore, we recognise the needs of these priority populations are not uniform and many people may experience multiple forms of disadvantage. SHFPACT addresses sexual health barriers by:

- Consulting with particular communities to identify their needs
- Providing cost-effective, evidence-based programs and services that address identified needs
- Engaging in advocacy
- Building capacity/knowledge and agency
- Collaborating with a variety of agencies

Examples of this work include:

- Newly formed Youth Advisory Group
- Collaborations in the ACT STIBBV Health Advisory Committee
- Strong advocacy in Sexual Violence Reform initiative (ACT Government)

## OUR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. We will address barriers to and improve sexual and reproductive health and rights status of the Canberra community.
  - a. We will deliver high quality services that support and improve the sexual and reproductive health status and wellbeing for all Canberrans.
  - b. We will make our services known, accessible and used by those who need or benefit from them.
2. We will increase the profile of sexual and reproductive health issues and address barriers to reproductive and sexual health with policymakers, decision makers and the broader community.
  - a. We will collaborate effectively with key partners and build new partnerships to achieve common goals.
  - b. We will demonstrate and share effective models for improving reproductive and sexual health and rights, and address barriers to reproductive and sexual health.
  - c. We will lead responses that support sexual and reproductive health and rights, and influence public policy and systems to improve health outcomes and respect for sexual and reproductive health and rights for individuals, couples, families and communities.
3. We will strengthen our organisational systems, capacity and capabilities.
  - a. We will invest in the staff, facilities, information and communications technology infrastructure required to achieve our goals and mission.
  - b. We will accurately understand our relative strengths and competitive advantage, and plan accordingly.
  - c. We will invest our financial resources to support services, activities and programs that improve reproductive and sexual health and rights in the Canberra community.

GOALS



# OUR VALUES & PRINCIPLES APPROACH

## OUR VALUES

- We value person-centred and pro-choice service delivery.
- We value the benefits and challenges that come from our community's diversity, and are committed to learning with and from diverse community members to better advocate for and address their needs.
- We value the understanding of community health needs and health outcomes that derive from an analysis of the social determinants of health and wellbeing.
- We value sharing of information about community needs in order to collaboratively address diverse health needs through targeted prevention and intervention approaches.

## OUR APPROACH

- We work within a health promotion framework that unites the various services and diverse activities undertaken by the organisation in achieving our purpose.
- We work within, and advocate for, a comprehensive definition of sexual and reproductive health consistent with the World Health Organisation's definitions.
- We work using the lens of evidence-based healthcare.
- We work to achieve equitable access to high quality, affordable, relevant and accessible services for priority populations.

## OUR PRINCIPLES

- We affirm that sexual and reproductive rights are human rights related to sexuality, reproduction and relationships.
- We affirm that the expression of sexuality occurs across the lifespan, and that sexual and reproductive health needs evolve and change at different stages of life, and in different social and relational contexts.
- We affirm the anti-discrimination principles set out in ACT and Australian laws and international conventions.
- We affirm the need to use capacity building approaches and work in partnership with others.

CANBERRA MENOPAUSE CENTRE

# MENOPAUSE AND YOU



**SUPPORT**

FIND OUT HOW MENOPAUSE MAY AFFECT YOUR LIFE AND WHAT THE CANBERRA MENOPAUSE CENTRE CAN DO FOR YOU. **CALL 6247 3077**

## OUR SERVICES

### CLINICAL SERVICES IN THE AREA OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

SHFPACT provides a client-centred suite of reproductive and sexual health primary healthcare services, including sexual health screening, contraception, pregnancy, menopause, and women's and men's healthcare. Services are provided from a primary clinical site and through outreach activities.

### COUNSELLING

SHFPACT provides Canberra's only free unplanned pregnancy counselling service that is client-centred, non-directive and refers for all pregnancy options.

SHFPACT supports people with disabilities through one-to-one and group counselling programs to enhance relationships, sexuality, sexual and reproductive health, and social safety skills and understanding.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SHFPACT delivers theory and clinical attachment training for medical practitioners, registered nurses and allied health professionals in sexual and reproductive healthcare, and a wide range of professional development and training activities to support workers in the education, youth, community, and disability support and advocacy sectors to improve reproductive and sexual health.

### COMMUNITY AND SCHOOLS EDUCATION

SHFPACT provides comprehensive, responsive and tailored programs to a broad range of community groups and schools on all aspects of sexual and reproductive health and rights, and sexuality and relationships education.

### HEALTH PROMOTION AND INFORMATION SERVICES

SHFPACT works with community partner organisations to promote access to sexual and reproductive health services, and improve sexual and reproductive health literacy through community-based health promotion projects and activities.

SHFPACT provides a range of health information resources in person, in print and online to inform decisions about sexual and reproductive health.

# COUNCIL & PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

In another challenging year globally and locally as the COVID-19 pandemic and response evolved, we are proud to present this report as an overview and summary of SHFPACT's wide range of activities.

The adaptive capacity and flexibility demonstrated by the SHFPACT team in the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic set the organisation up well for responding to the high level of demand for clinical, education and training services that followed, and which was sustained across the whole financial year covered by this report and beyond.

Uncertainty about how the pandemic would unfold and how public health responses would impact on SHFPACT's ability to deliver services in our community, on our team, and on our budget and financial position was met with a very cautious approach by Council and management to all expenditure in order to ensure that the organisation could weather further challenges that might arise, especially given our limited eligibility for further government stimulus supports after September 2020. Ultimately, the entire year July 2020 to June 2021 was remarkably unaffected by these considerations, but the confidence this might have imbued earlier was not clear until much later. The risk that at any moment an outbreak in the Canberra community could radically alter everything was felt throughout the year, and our ability to confidently plan training delivery further afield for the SoSAFE! Framework was also limited. Adjusting our activities to meet community demand and ensure COVID-safe delivery of services remained a senior staff and management preoccupation throughout the year.

In the end, conditions meant that we met and exceeded activity targets and cautious budget targets across all areas of the organisation, and effectively demonstrated our capacity to shape flexible ways to continue to deliver healthcare, health education, and workforce development training services to our community.

Local and national advocacy from the reproductive and sexual health services sector ultimately resulted in recognition and restoration by the Australian Government of Medicare items for telehealth. We are grateful for the supportive response and continuing advocacy of ACT Minister for Health Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA on this front, and for the recognition by Australian Minister for Health Greg Hunt MP of the diversity of the primary healthcare sector that enables this mode of service delivery to continue from July 2021.

Around the ACT Election 2020 in October, the SHFPACT Council and Executive Director were active in engaging current members of the Legislative Assembly and candidates, sharing our strategic directions and discussing the importance of reproductive and sexual health for the Canberra community. Across major party platforms, recognition and commitments to the NGO sector broadly, and to specific reproductive and sexual health priorities within SHFPACT's advocacy and service delivery focus were committed to. Engagement with returning and new MLAs since the election has continued.

In a year where community attention nationally refocused on continuing high levels of sexual violence, and young people's calls for better school-based education on consent, SHFPACT is proud to join other researchers, advocates and community organisations in the establishment of the Relationships and Sexuality Education Alliance, with its focus on harnessing our collective experience and expertise to influence and advocate for universal access to Comprehensive Relationships and Sexuality Education for all children and young people in the Australian Capital Territory. Executive Director Tim Bavinton was a keynote speaker at a roundtable convened by ACT Education Directorate of education sector stakeholders to renew attention on respectful relationships, consent and sexuality education in schools. And we noted the announcement by ACT Deputy Chief Minister Yvette Berry MLA with ACT Victims of Crime Commissioner (and former SHFPACT Council member) Heidi Yates, Dr Vanita Parekh of the Forensic and Medical Sexual Assault Care service in Canberra Health Services, and CEO of Canberra Rape Crisis Centre Chrystina Stanford to convene a stakeholder group to review and make recommendations on improving prevention and response to sexual violence from June onwards. SHFPACT staff have been invited to join the working groups and Steering Committee for this project from June 2021 onwards.

SHFPACT staff continue to make a strong contribution in the consultation, advisory and policy advocacy arenas in our local community and through ACT Government processes including: the ACT STI/BBV Health Advisory Committee; the NGO Leadership with ACT Health (formed as part of the response to the cultural review of public health services); contributing to consultations on the Territory-Wide Health Services Plan; the development of a commissioning approach to health NGO contracting in the ACT; and sitting on the community reference group for the ACT Health LGBTIQ+ Health Scoping Study.

In our ACT Budget Consultation submission 2020-21, SHFPACT proposed a project built on renewed global efforts to prevent cervical cancer, addressing the unscreened and underscreened populations through a collaborative partnership approach, in addition to our calls for greater programmatic policy approaches to reproductive and sexual health policy and health services planning, and for renewed funding for support services in reproductive and sexual health for people with disabilities. We were very pleased that the election commitment from the returned ALP-led government to restore ACT Government funding for sexual health education and related activities for people with disabilities was announced in the 2021-22 ACT Budget in October 2021.

SHFPACT successfully navigated its first renewal of registration as a provider under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the auditor recommending renewal (confirmation still pending from the NDIS Commission), a key focus of quality improvement and accreditation compliance in this period.

With an eye to growing future needs and after a period of caution regarding recruitment as the organisation managed the impacts of the pandemic response, in the last year we have more confidently engaged new team members to build our capacity to respond to sustained demand of SHFPACT's services. In our Clinical Services and Reception team we welcomed Dr Melanie Dorrington (who resigned from her position on SHFPACT Council to join the Clinical Services team), Dr Martina Mende and Dr Daneille Butler who all work in other roles in general practice, Megan Campbell RN (Sept 2020 to March 2021, who left with SHFPACT's support to take up a role in the ACT Women's Health Service), and Tegan Higginson in Reception and Clinic Support. We were very pleased to welcome Dr Sheridan Kerr to the SHFPACT team in April 2021, joining the Executive and Management team as Senior Director Organisational Development and Quality Improvement, with a focus on implementation of our strategic plan. Sheridan brings a wealth of experience and expertise from her career working with children, young people and adults in policy, research and education contexts, knowledge translation and education consultancy supporting the needs of students with disabilities.

We are especially grateful for the sustained commitment and effort by all of the SHFPACT team, and their focus on ensuring that the people who use our services across our community get the healthcare, education, training and information they need. And the leadership demonstrated by the management group — Drs Clare Holberton, Jenny Leung and Rosa O'Kane; Anne Carroll and Hilary Freeman; Leanne Blewitt; Kylie King; Angela Rule and Aga Włodarczyk; and Dr Sheridan Kerr — in supporting their teams, monitoring and planning through the uncertainty and change, and attending to 'business as usual' throughout this year. This collective effort is reflected in the diversity of activities and work set out in the pages that follow.

SOPHIE FISHER  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

TIM BAVINTON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# COUNCIL

SHFPACT Council is the governing body of the organisation, its Members are elected from the wider membership at Annual General Meetings for two-year terms, or appointed to fill vacancies throughout the year with appointed Member terms ending at the next AGM.

A core continuing group of Council Members elected at the 2019 Annual General Meeting continued throughout the financial year in the key roles of the Executive Committee. Three elected Members resigned during 2020-21 due to changes in circumstance that limited or prevented their continuing membership. And the term limit of three consecutive terms sees Janelle Weissman ending her period of service on the SHFPACT Council at the AGM 2021. As part of planning to support a smooth transition in this important leadership role, Janelle stepped down and Sophie Fisher was elected President of the Council in August 2021.

Council actively engaged in sharing SHFPACT's 2019-2023 Strategic Plan and directions with MLAs and candidates, to inform elected/prospective elected officials about the role SHFPACT plays across a range of activities in clinic, education, workforce development and community settings. The ACT Election 2020 saw the return of an ALP-led government with strong Greens representation in Cabinet, with election commitments across party lines to support the sustainability of the non-profit health and community services sector broadly, and specific commitments in SHFPACT's areas of work in reproductive and sexual health and rights. Council Members also contributed to submissions to ACT Government on a number of key policy advocacy issues.

## COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020-2021

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Janelle Weissman
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	Melissa Hobbs
<b>TREASURER</b>	Nirmala Krishnakumar (to November 2020) Josephine Schumann (from May 2021)
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Sophie Fisher
<b>MEMBER</b>	Bronwyn Clark
<b>MEMBER</b>	Sarah Avery
<b>MEMBER</b>	Melanie Dorrington (to December 2020)
<b>MEMBER</b>	Rachael Burkitt (to April 2021)

# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

As advised to SHFPACT Members and stakeholders last year, prior to the impacts of the global pandemic response, SHFPACT's financial revenue and financial position were consistent with previous years' patterns, with a continued focus on financial sustainability goals established by the Council in 2016.

During the 2020-21 financial year, SHFPACT and the wider ACT community enjoyed a long period of time without new COVID-19 infections or public health orders. SHFPACT was effectively able to deliver a full range of services under adjusted but not severely restricted conditions.

As noted in last year's report, the July to September quarter of this financial year saw a rush to deliver postponed/deferred work in schools education. The Education, Health Promotion and Training team delivered nearly two normal quarters of work in that period. And this high level of demand continued for the remainder of the financial year.

As a result of a strong and sustained demand for fee-for-service activities offered by the organisation, SHFPACT's eligibility for the Australian Government JobKeeper program ended in September 2020.

SHFPACT narrowly fell short of the eligibility requirements (15% reduction in revenue for charities) at the September and subsequent checkpoints.

Management notes that the average across both the April-June quarter of the previous financial year, when the most severe financial impacts of the initial pandemic lockdown were felt, and the subsequent July-September quarter in the 2021 financial year exceeded this threshold. Ultimately, we were pleased that conditions did not require this additional support after this time, but this was not always apparent through the year.

Management took a conservative approach to all expenditure, including capital expenditure and hiring new staff to fill vacancies, in the context of uncertain impacts of public health responses on our capacity to deliver normal services and not meeting eligibility for ongoing JobKeeper support should a significant restriction in services occur.

As a result of:

- the combination of this conservative approach;
- the actual sustained capacity to deliver services without major disruption from COVID-19 outbreaks;
- the extraordinary financial supports received from both ACT Government and Australian Government to weather the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic response on operational activity across the Australian economy; and
- the timing of recognition of these financial supports in the 2021 financial year (although some funds were received in and covered some periods of the previous financial year), SHFPACT has posted an unusually high surplus result for financial year 2020-21 of \$307,494 (prior year surplus of \$49,433).

There was a significant improvement in the cash flow position of the organisation as a result of these combined economic stimulus and support measures, and the considerable reductions in expenditure during the financial year.

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This extraordinary result also accelerated SHFPACT's progress towards meeting the financial sustainability targets set in 2016 in the context of loss of recurrent revenue and the uncertainty of transitions to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) environment. SHFPACT achieved Council targets of a current ratio of 2:1 (FY2021 2.4:1, compared with FY2020 1.62:1), and a minimum months-of-operating buffer in the range of 2-3 months (estimate 4.72 months at June 2021, comparison 2.65 months at June 2020).

It remains the intention of the organisation that consistent program surplus results will ultimately be reinvested in accessibility strategies for priority populations in line with SHFPACT's purpose and mission, and enable the organisation to invest in its strategic priorities set out in the SHFPACT Strategic Plan 2019-2023, as well as progressing areas of work that are not supported by government funding.

SHFPACT Council approved an interim budget in June 2021 anticipating a deficit result for financial year 2021-22 as a result of a commitment of resources from the surplus in FY2021 to the recruitment of a senior executive staff member focused on organisational development, quality improvement, and implementation of strategic goals. A specific note regarding this commitment is included in the audited financial statements.

The announcement by ACT Government in ACT Budget 2021-22 (which was delayed due to the COVID-19 outbreak and lockdown from August 2021) of restored funding to SHFPACT commencing from January 2022 for the provision of support services for people with disabilities represents a positive outcome of sustained advocacy and representation to Government over several years to ensure this area of work for the sexual health and wellbeing of people with disabilities in the Canberra community is recognised and resourced, and contributes positively a better-than-projected financial outcome for the 2021-22 financial year and will be reflected in the budget forecast review and update later this year.

BellchambersBarrett conducted this year's audit of the financial statements, returning an unqualified audit result. This is the second audit completed by BellchambersBarrett following their appointment at the 2019 AGM.

SHFPACT Council and management wishes to thank the staff at BellchambersBarrett for their professional and flexible engagement throughout this process which was conducted under lockdown conditions.

## SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

Photo by [ayusrimoyo.com](https://www.ayusrimoyo.com)



NATIONAL CONDOM DAY 2021

# 2020-2021 SHFPACT SERVICES

## PROVISION OF REPRODUCTIVE AND SEXUAL HEALTH CLINICAL SERVICES

SHFPACT makes a direct contribution to ensuring high quality, accessible and affordable clinical services for the Canberra community by:

- Delivering free sexual and reproductive health clinical services funded by our service funding agreement with ACT Health, including in outreach settings.
- Applying a billing concessions policy to other unfunded family planning, reproductive health and sexual health services that minimises or eliminates the cost barrier for clients.
- Facilitating outreach clinical activities to reach individuals and communities who may not access a mainstream clinic.

The SHFPACT Clinic operates primarily on a fee-for-service basis – a bulk-billed/concession or standard fee is charged for most services. Services that are billed to or rebated by Medicare are not funded by or reported to ACT Health.

In 2020-21, SHFPACT Clinic provided **4,040** consultations in total.

**724** clinic consultations (**18%** of total) were directly funded by ACT Government, and provided free to the client. An additional **671** nursing consultations (**17%** of total) were subsidised by funding from ACT Government, and the combined figures are now included since July 2019 under updated service funding agreement reporting arrangements.

**21.5%** of SHFPACT's unfunded (MBS-rebateable fee, not reported to ACT Health) clinic consultations are bulk-billed or low-fee services in line with the organisation's own concession eligibility criteria. The annual unfunded value of the provision of low-cost consultations to the organisation remains around **\$100,000**.

Combined, more than half of SHFPACT's total clinical services are provided to minimise financial barriers to high quality clinical healthcare for priority populations, and many of these are provided through outreach activities.

The routine and regular flow of patient care delivered in unfunded clinical services is central to SHFPACT's ability to provide high quality, intensive clinical training placements for medical and nursing professionals.

These workforce development and clinical training programs are substantially funded and subsidised through financial support from ACT Health.

SHFPACT Clinic continues to be a trusted referral point by general practice, and other primary and specialist healthcare services, to address more complex health needs in our areas of distinctive clinical expertise: contraception, menopause, cervical screening, and other investigations related to important health conditions like pelvic pain and painful sex.

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In July 2020, eligibility for MBS items for telehealth consultations was severely restricted by the Australian Government in response to 'fly by night' operators setting up to take advantage of their initially widened availability as a COVID-19 pandemic response.

Service providers and advocates across many sub-specialties of healthcare, including reproductive and sexual health, sought to see this eligibility restored as an essential safeguard for healthcare access during the pandemic, and as a result of the demonstrated increased access the initial broader eligibility had afforded many people in the Australian community.

Many informed commentators, including primary healthcare providers, noted that a narrow and rigid view of primary healthcare appeared to have been applied that did not reflect the diversity of specialised services and models that operate in the primary healthcare sector.

SHFPACT sought the support of ACT Minister for Health Rachel Stephen-Smith to assist in addressing this barrier, and the organisation is grateful for the consistent and cogent position put by the Minister at every opportunity. Eligibility for sexual and reproductive healthcare services to MBS telehealth items with less restrictive criteria was restored in July 2021.

Just under one in ten clinic consultations was conducted by telephone/telehealth during 2020-21.

The ACT experienced more than 12 months – coinciding largely with the 2020-21 financial year covered by this report – without local transmission of COVID-19. The experience gained from the initial pandemic response in April-May 2020 greatly assisted the management team to make informed and speedy decisions regarding continuing clinical services delivery when public health orders saw the ACT move back into a period of lockdown in August 2021.

During the period covered by this report, however, the SHFPACT clinic continued to operate under modified COVID-safe arrangements, but without severe restrictions. These arrangements had some impact limiting the numbers of clients that could be seen to maintain safe working and service conditions.

## UNPLANNED PREGNANCY COUNSELLING

SHFPACT provides the only free, all-options, unbiased pregnancy counselling service in the ACT, to assist women with an unplanned pregnancy by providing information and counselling support.

The service can also extend to their partner and other family members, or partner-in-pregnancy.

This service is provided at no cost to clients to reduce barriers to the service and meet the needs of young and/or financially disadvantaged women in this area, and is funded by ACT Health on an availability basis.

**30 COUNSELLING SESSIONS WERE PROVIDED TO 29 WOMEN AND 1 MAN BY THE UNPLANNED PREGNANCY COUNSELLING SERVICE.**

SHFPACT has developed health information resources in print and online relating to unplanned pregnancy.

These include a Pregnancy Options brochure which provides information for women and their partners facing an unplanned pregnancy, including referral points and contacts; and an Early Pregnancy information handout which provides basic information regarding health in pregnancy, pregnancy care, birth options and referral points and contacts, including relevant health information resources online.



## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING, SUPPORTING CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES WORKFORCE

Beyond direct service delivery activities in clinical services, health education and sexual health promotion, SHFPACT works towards improving the accessibility and quality of services provided to the Canberra community through our significant focus on workforce development.

### These activities include:

- Medical education: including delivery in the ACT of the nationally recognised FPAA Certificate in Reproductive and Sexual Health for Doctors course, short courses on Long Acting Reversible Contraception including clinical competency assessment, and a well-regarded cervical screening skills workshop for ANU Medical School students. SHFPACT clinicians also present on key topics within the organisation's specialist expertise for other GP and medical student programs, such as menopause and complex contraceptive management.

- Nurse education: including the Well Women's Screening course for registered nurses (focused principally on primary care nurses), clinical attachments and observation placements for RNs building skills in sexual and reproductive health, and an ongoing placement program with the UC Midwifery program.
- Teacher education: ACT Teacher Quality Institute (TQI) accredited short courses in sexuality and relationships education for early years, primary school and secondary school.
- Community sector: SHFPACT offers a range of tailored options for workers in the community services, youth, disability support and allied health sectors to improve the knowledge and skills of workers in the areas of reproductive and sexual health, human sexuality and relationships, and social safety skills. These sector-specific workforce development activities have been particularly affected by the transition to NDIS for both SHFPACT and disability support service providers, and by the impacts of public health measures to ensure health and safety in community services.
- SoSAFE! Training: SoSAFE! is a visual and conceptual framework promoting social safety and social skills, designed specifically for the learning, communication and cognitive needs of people with moderate-severe intellectual disability and people on the autism spectrum. Training programs in the use of the SoSAFE! Framework are delivered regularly throughout the year to health, education and community services workers, and parents/carers of people with disabilities.
- As part of its commitment to support the skilling and professional development of pre-service professionals across the health, education and community services industries, SHFPACT hosts placements for students in undergraduate and postgraduate study programs from a variety of vocational and tertiary education institutions. Students on placement work under the supervision of SHFPACT staff at all times, and have the opportunity to meet course learning goals in a real work context. Student placements are typically engaged on projects or activities that make a real contribution to the work and impact of SHFPACT in the community.

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This area of our organisation's service delivery was significantly affected by the pandemic response in 2020, which involved cancelling some programs for the entire calendar year. We are very pleased to report that SHFPACT's capacity and demand from the workforce were significantly increased in 2021:

**53** CLINICIANS PARTICIPATED IN 21 MEDICAL AND NURSING EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.

**258** PEOPLE COMPLETED THE SOSAFE! USER TRAINING COURSE.

**152** TEACHERS/EDUCATORS PARTICIPATED IN PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SEMINARS AND ACCREDITED TRAINING WORKSHOPS.

**192** TEACHERS/EDUCATORS PARTICIPATED IN THE TQI-ACCREDITED CORE TRAINING MODULE OFFERED BY THE ACT SAFE AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS (SAIS) INITIATIVE.

AN ADDITIONAL **36** STAFF ENGAGED THE ADVICE AND SUPPORT SERVICES OF THE SAIS INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT THEIR SCHOOL TO BE SAFE, WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE OF STUDENTS, STAFF AND FAMILIES.

**69** PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROFESSIONALS PARTICIPATED IN PROFESSIONAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES FOCUSED ON SUPPORTING EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

**2** SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS COMPLETED PLACEMENTS AT SHFPACT.

And we are pleased to report that demand for all training services delayed during the initial pandemic response remains high as we commence the new financial year.

## SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

SHFPACT continues to actively engage with primary and secondary schools to build the capacity of school communities to provide accurate, comprehensive, age and developmentally appropriate relationships and sexual health education.

In the wider community, SHFPACT participates in relevant health promotion and student support and orientation events, both promoting the availability of services at SHFPACT and distributing sexual and reproductive health information. We were particularly pleased to commence a sustained engagement with a residential college at ANU to shape sexual health education workshops with residents.

The roles of parents/carers and teachers in the lives of children and young people are central in this endeavour, and our services are provided to support and enhance these roles, not to replace them. SHFPACT prioritises the delivery of programs in schools to those where an existing program is in place and the use of external facilitators or guest speakers has been well considered.

Our delivery of programs directly to students supports our workforce development activities with current, credible and experienced educators providing skills development and content knowledge training to other educators across our education systems. This year the puberty education program delivered in primary schools was reviewed and expanded to a four-part series of lessons offered as a whole package.

Some schools elect to use SHFPACT's program in part and deliver other components of health education themselves. Demand for the in-class program exploded following the return to school following the first lockdown in Term 2, 2020.

As with professional education and training activities, this area of SHFPACT's work was substantially disrupted during the initial pandemic response. But demand for schools education programs that had been postponed during this period was met in addition to the usual end of year focus on sexual health education in the second half of 2020 and continued in 2021.

**635** PARENTS/CARERS ATTENDED PARENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES, MORE THAN DOUBLE THE NUMBER IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

**5,207** PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN SHFPACT PUBERTY EDUCATION PROGRAMS, MORE THAN TRIPLING THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

THIS YEAR SAW A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ACT SECONDARY HIGH SCHOOLS ACROSS ALL SYSTEMS (PUBLIC, CATHOLIC AND INDEPENDENT) REQUESTING PROGRAMS FOR THEIR STUDENTS FOCUSED ON RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS, SEXUAL CONSENT, AND OTHER SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION. **705** HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THESE PROGRAMS.

THE ACT SAFE AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS (SAIS) INITIATIVE CONSULTED WITH **172** YOUNG PEOPLE ATTENDING SUPPORT GROUPS FOR LGBTQ+ STUDENTS IN SECONDARY HIGH SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

IN 2019, **386** SECONDARY COLLEGE STUDENTS ATTENDED SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION PRESENTATIONS AS PART OF THE SHLRP PROGRAM. IN 2020, THESE WERE SUBSEQUENTLY DELIVERED IN A RECORDED FORMAT DURING THE PANDEMIC RESPONSE PERIOD TO MINIMISE LARGE STUDENT GATHERINGS AND VISITORS TO SCHOOLS. OVER **1,000** STUDENTS RECEIVED THE EDUCATION SESSION IN THIS FORMAT IN THAT YEAR. IN 2021, WITH THE RETURN TO TWO ACT SECONDARY COLLEGES FACE-TO-FACE **2,215** STUDENTS RECEIVED THE EDUCATION SESSION AND ENGAGED WITH THE HEALTH PROMOTION DESK AT THEIR SCHOOL.

MORE THAN **100** STUDENTS, EDUCATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM ACT GOVERNMENT AND NGO COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDERS ATTENDED A FORUM AND WORKSHOP HOSTED AT GUNGAHLIN COLLEGE TO MARK THE LAUNCH OF THE ACT SUB REPORT OF THE 'WRITING THEMSELVES IN 4' REPORT IN APRIL 2021.

**1,137** PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN OTHER COMMUNITY EDUCATION WORKSHOPS AND HEALTH PROMOTION ACTIVITIES.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL CONDOM DAY EVENT WAS HELD IN FEBRUARY 2021, DISTRIBUTING MORE THAN **6,000** CONDOM PACKS AND ROSES THROUGH CAFES AND SMALL BUSINESSES ACROSS CANBERRA. EVERY YEAR THIS POSITIVELY ANTICIPATED EVENT PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS SAFE SEX IN A LIGHT-HEARTED AND ENGAGING WAY. SHFPACT PARTICULARLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE COMMUNITY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND SUPPORT WORKERS AT LEAD WHO ASSIST WITH CREATING THE CONDOM PACKS AND DISTRIBUTING THEM EACH YEAR.

CONT...

## EDUCATION AND COUNSELLING FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

As in previous years, participant demand for group work programs and individual counselling continues to exceed demand for individual education and counselling services under NDIS arrangements. The team providing these services stretched to accommodate participants whose activities had been delayed or cancelled during the pandemic response in the previous year, and the demand for one-to-one counselling supports quadrupled compared to previous years.

SHFPACT offers four group work programs that include a mixture of group sessions and individual counselling. These are: 'Preparing for Periods' and 'ME and YOU' for young people and their parents; 'Family, Friends and Relationships' which is generally designed for young adults, but can also be delivered for older age groups; and 'Nice to Meet Me' which is tailored for young adults with higher cognitive function and lower support needs.

One of these programs, 'Family, Friends and Relationships', was delivered as a senior secondary college group program in ACT public schools on a fee-for-service basis for the first time in 2020-21.

81 PARTICIPANTS WERE ENGAGED IN OVER 66 OCCASIONS OF INDIVIDUAL SERVICE.

104 PARTICIPANTS WERE ENGAGED IN 13 GROUP WORK PROGRAM ACTIVITIES OVER 53 SESSIONS.

A major quality improvement focus for this program during the last year was navigating the first cycle of re-registration as an NDIS Provider by the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission.

## SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

Working with LEAD, who support people by providing opportunities to be active in the community



NATIONAL CONDOM DAY 2021

# OUR ADVOCACY

SHFPACT plays a strong advocacy role in the ACT (and on occasion, national) sexual and reproductive health area. We provide independent advice about a range of issues as described below. We contribute our policy advice through both formal and informal channels (including working groups and reference groups) to assist governments to make sound decisions affecting all Canberrans. At all times our advice is impartial and based on the best available research evidence.

We are also advocates in the health promotion and communication area. We adopt knowledge translation (KT) strategies to ensure when communicating with others we present the evidence in a way that is easy to understand and relevant to the end user.

Our Strategic Advocacy Goal is:

**We will increase the profile of sexual and reproductive health issues and address barriers to reproductive and sexual health with policymakers, decision makers and the broader community.**

- We will collaborate effectively with key partners and build new partnerships to achieve common goals.
- We will demonstrate and share effective models for improving reproductive and sexual health and rights, and address barriers to reproductive and sexual health.
- We will lead responses that support sexual and reproductive health and rights, and influence public policy and systems to improve health outcomes and respect for sexual and reproductive health and rights for individuals, couples, families and communities.

During the past year, SHFPACT contributed to sexual and reproductive health advocacy and other public policy initiatives through a wide range of activities.

## ACT GOVERNMENT

The SHFPACT team are involved in ACT government activities including:

### Meetings with MLAs

In the previous year, the team have met directly with the following MLAs:

- Rachel Stephen-Smith  
Minister for Health, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Minister for Children, Youth and Families
- Yvette Berry  
Minister for Early Childhood Development, Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, Minister for Women, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Sport and Recreation
- Marisa Paterson  
Member for Murrumbidgee
- Elizabeth Lee  
Leader of the Opposition
- Nicole Lawder  
Shadow Minister for Seniors, Shadow Minister for Women
- Emma Davidson  
Assistant Minister for Seniors, Veterans, Families and Community Services, Minister for Disability, Minister for Justice Health, Minister for Mental Health
- Rebecca Vassarotti  
Minister for Homelessness and Housing Services

CONT...

In these meetings, SHFPACT advocated for:

- The restoration of direct ACT funding of community-based health and education supports for people with disabilities in the areas of human sexuality and relationships, sexual and reproductive health, social participation and social safety.
- Improved needs analysis, resourcing and a 'programmatically approach' to reproductive and sexual health and STI/BBV priorities in the ACT.
- Investment in improving the cervical screening rate for unscreened and underscreened populations.

#### ACT STI/BBV Health Advisory Committee (HAC)

The SHFPACT Executive Director is Deputy Chair of the group and has been chairing meetings while Chair Dr Kerryn Coleman (ACT Chief Health Officer) is attending to the pandemic response in the ACT. The HAC Work Plan has focused on information gathering ('situational analysis') for key workplan priorities with a view to informing sub-sector discussions about commissioning approaches.

#### 2021-22 Budget Consultation



#### ACT Health NGO Leadership Group (NGOLG)

The SHFPACT Executive Director represents the NGO STI/BBV sector on the NGOLG. It arises from a recommendation in the 2018 Cultural Review of ACT Health, with the purpose of strengthening the relationship and communication between ACT public health agencies and the NGO sector.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the NGOLG has acted as a critical informant in health communications with NGO service providers, and played a central advisory role in the shaping of a commissioning approach to NGO health services funding.

#### Prevention Working Group – Sexual Assault Prevention and Response ACT Strategy

In June 2021, SHFPACT staff were invited to and joined the Prevention Working Group announced by Minister for Women Yvette Berry, bringing SHFPACT's expertise and experience in school and community based sexuality and relationships education and health promotion approaches to the shaping of a sexual violence prevention agenda.

This Working Group is one of four (plus an Aboriginal Advisory Committee) established to initiate work to inform the overall project Steering Committee when it is established by Cabinet.

L to R: Tim Bavinton, Rachel Stephen-Smith, Dr Sheridan Kerr, Janelle Weissman



#### ACT Health LGBTIQ+ Health Scoping Study

SHFPACT was represented on and actively contributed to the reference group.

#### Engagement with key ACT statutory stakeholders

The SHFPACT team works across the Territory collaborating with:

- Patricia Mackay (former Deputy Public Advocate)
- Helen Connolly (Deputy Public Trustee and Guardian)
- Tracy Harkness (ACT Senior Practitioner)
- ACT Board of Senior Studies

#### Vital Signs 2021

SHFPACT staff contributed to the review and update of this snapshot of the Canberra community produced by Hands Across Canberra and the Snow Foundation.

## MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

#### Radio interview

##### ABC Radio Canberra

3 February 2021

Interview with ABC Canberra Mornings show (Adam Shirley) on launch of the Writing Themselves In 4 Report (national).

#### Newspaper article

##### The Canberra Times

28 February 2021

Comment on STI rates during the pandemic.



#### Newspaper interview

##### The Canberra Times

12 March 2021

Report on school-based approaches to respectful relationships and violence prevention education.



#### Radio interview

##### ABC Radio Canberra

1 April 2021

Interview with ABC Canberra Mornings show (Adam Shirley) on the launch of the ACT sub-report for Writing Themselves In 4 and the associated ACT Education Directorate event with school students.

#### Newspaper article The Canberra Times

17 June 2021

Comment in an article on national and local concerns about a contraception access project by SPHERE at Monash University.



## KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION

The SHFPACT team have produced two documents this year that will prompt and guide conversations about inclusion and diversity in educational settings.

These documents distil research into actionable practice guidance for teachers and school leaders.

#### Supporting Students Affirming Gender at School

The Good Practice Guide has been launched by the ACT Safe and Inclusive Schools Initiative. The Guide deals specifically with the ways school communities can be proactive in gender-inclusive practice, and support students who are transgender and gender diverse (TGD) when they decide they wish to share or express their gender identity at school.

#### Including Intersex: Responding to issues affecting the educational experiences of intersex students in Australia

Released to mark Intersex Day of Awareness 2021, Including Intersex is a resource that fills a gap in information and guidance about the needs and experiences of intersex people specifically for education settings.

Including Intersex was developed and reviewed by intersex peer workers and is a collaboration of two ACT community health organisations – A Gender Agenda (AGA) and SHFPACT.

## RESEARCH AND UNIVERSITY COLLABORATIONS

SHFPACT engages with many academics working in the sexual and reproductive health and rights area, including:

### Writing Themselves In 4 (WTI4) research project

SHFPACT represented the ACT on one of four community advisory boards. WTI4 is the fourth iteration of a major health status survey series of LGBTQA+ young people in Australia undertaken by the Australian Research Centre for Sex, Health and Society (ARCSHS) at La Trobe University.

The community advisory boards met formally between March 2019 and the launch of the national research report online in February 2021. In 2018 an early ACT funding contribution to the project by the ACT Office of LGBTIQ+ Affairs was instrumental in seeding the research project nationally and ensured that an ACT sub-report was produced. 6,418 participants in the national survey represented the largest ever Australian cohort for a study on LGBTQA+ Australians, and the ACT participation of 300 young people ensured a statistically valid and robust sample for the ACT sub-report.

This study series is instrumental to service design, public policy advocacy and community health needs assessment in Australia.

Both reports were published and launched during this reporting period.



### Senior Practitioner Research Group

This research group meets monthly to discuss alternatives to restrictive practices when supporting children and adults with disabilities. Many of the researchers in this group have a particular interest in promoting the sexual rights of people with disabilities, leading to the sharing of current research papers in this area.

### Australian Child Rights Taskforce

SHFPACT is represented on the Taskforce Steering Committee. The Taskforce is the peak body for child rights in Australia. Made up of more than 100 organisations (including researchers) advocating for the promotion and fulfilment of the rights of Australia's children, the goal is to ensure child rights remain on the agenda of the Australian Government.

## UNIVERSITY ENGAGEMENT



### University of Canberra Respectful Relationships Working Group

A SHFPACT staff member has been invited to be part of this group to develop a Respectful Relationships Strategy for postgraduate research students at the University of Canberra.

This work builds upon the Sexual Violence Assault Reform Work, plus the student led advocacy that we are supporting in our Youth Advisory Group (commenced in September 2021).

### University engagements

SHFPACT staff connected with a range of university contacts to explore and initiate a number of collaborative projects and progress shared priorities, including:

- Dr Michael Davies  
University of Canberra
- Dr Brett Scholz  
Australian National University
- Dr Amie O'Shea  
Deakin University
- Dr Alinka Fisher  
Flinders University
- Dr Nathan Wilson  
Western Sydney University
- Associate Professor Michael Flood  
Queensland University of Technology
- Professor Imogen Mitchell  
ANU Medical School/Canberra Health Services
- Professor Daryl Higgins  
Australian Catholic University
- Professor Mary Lou Rasmussen  
Australian National University

## COMMUNITY AND PEAK BODIES

### Relationships and Sexuality Education Alliance (RSEA)

SHFPACT staff participate as founding members of the alliance. It is a collaboration of researchers, public policy practitioners, service providers and community peak bodies to advance a more systemic and effective approach to relationships and sexuality education in the ACT and Australia. RSEA was incorporated in early 2021, and launched formally in October 2021.



### ACT Youth Assembly

The ACT Youth Advisory Council (YAC) held its biannual ACT Youth Assembly (postponed from 2020), where young people aged 12-25 were encouraged to participate in discussions about the four key topics:

1. Inclusive society
2. Environment and sustainability
3. Resilience, rights and respectful relationships
4. Youth employment

The SHFPACT team assisted the third group to facilitate their session. A report from the Assembly will be presented to ACT Government Ministers setting out the participants' ideas and recommendations for improving these areas for Canberra's young people.

### Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Association (ASHHNA)

SHFPACT staff belong to the peak organisation for nurses working in sexual and reproductive health and HIV in the Australasian region. ASHHNA supports nurses working in this area, encourages research, advances the standards and scope of sexual and reproductive health and HIV nursing practice, facilitates communication and connection between these nurses, and represents sexual and reproductive health and HIV nurses in discussions with government and non-government bodies at the state, territory and federal level.

### Society of Australian Sexologists (SAS)

Several SHFPACT staff lead the ACT chapter of SAS, which represents professionals working in sexual health, sexuality education, sex therapy and sexology. SAS aims to encourage and promote the practice of sexology and sexual health, with the overall aim of promoting positive integration of sexuality into people's lives.

### The Medical Association for Prevention of War (Australia) (MAPW)

SHFPACT medical staff are members of this non-profit organisation that works to promote peace and disarmament, and advocates for alternatives to armed conflict. MAPW works with other health organisations internationally to reduce and prevent the detrimental environmental and social effects of war and the serious negative impact on the physical and psycho-emotional health of populations.

### The Australian Contraception and Abortion Primary Care Practitioner Support Network (AusCAPPs)

AusCAPPs is an intersectoral group consisting of the NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence for Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health in Primary Care (SPHERE) in partnership with national and state based organisations. They advocate for women who are trying to prevent or manage unintended pregnancy, and support Australia's primary care workforce to provide best practice evidence-based care in this area of health.

### Women with Disabilities ACT (WWDACT)

WWDACT is a Disabled Person's Organisation (DPO) that practices systemic advocacy on behalf of women, girls, feminine identifying and non-binary people with disabilities in the ACT. They follow a human rights philosophy, based on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). SHFPACT staff work alongside them to improve access to services and supports.

# OUR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

SHFPACT is committed to quality improvement and to building and maintaining a culture of continuous improvement. Quality improvement ensures SHFPACT maintains its current high standards and reputation, continuously improves systems and processes, and adapts to changing needs.

## To build the culture of quality improvement, SHFPACT will:

- Involve staff, SHFPACT Council and other stakeholders in service review processes.
- Provide opportunities for people who receive service, families and carers to have input into the organisation's policies and processes relevant to service provision and protection of client rights.
- Document improvement plans, activities and outcomes.
- Gather information on performance by tracking complaints, incidents and achievements, and use this information to inform continuous improvement.
- Report internally on progress and performance.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

L to R: Josephine Brodgen, Dr Sheridan Kerr, Bronte Froome, Lily Hannen



ACT YOUTH ASSEMBLY 2021

## SHFPACT STRATEGIC PLAN 2019–2023 IMPLEMENTATION

### Our Key Actions 2021–22

Deliver activities to meet SHFPACT Budget and ACT Government SFA

Convene QI workshop and documentation plan

Implement key QI strategies in all programs, with a specific focus on NDIS

Quarterly analysis of program feedback

Risk management policy and risk registers

Develop annual advocacy strategy and priorities plan 2022 workshop with Council and senior staff

Move to Sharepoint file structure

Understand current staff wellbeing

Devise staff wellbeing workplan

Implement consistent management supervision and PL

Re-establish key team meetings tempo

Finalise and release SoSAFE! V3

# OUR STAFF

## RECEPTION AND CLINIC SUPPORT

- Tegan Bancroft
- Emily Bray
- Cara Dillon
- Raylene Foster
- Susanne Gardiner
- Kylie King  
Coordinator Reception and Clinic Support
- Mandy Mottram
- Carolyn Paris
- Femke Rensen

## SEXUAL HEALTH NURSES AND UNPLANNED PREGNANCY COUNSELLORS

- Anne Carroll  
CNC
- Amy Faden
- Hilary Freeman  
Nurse Education Coordinator
- Libby McCutchan
- Kristen Reed\*

## MEDICAL OFFICERS

- Tracey Baker
- Jill Bestic
- Melanie Dorrington
- Tara Frommer
- Heidi He
- Clare Holberton  
Senior Medical Officer
- Yoo-Mi Kim
- Jenny Leung  
Senior Medical Officer,  
Medical Education Coordinator
- Jennifer Leung\*
- Martina Mende
- Rosa O'Kane  
Senior Medical Officer

## HEALTH PROMOTION, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Lauren Cannell  
SoSAFE! Framework Product Development,  
Sessional Community Education and  
Health Promotion Officer
- Gabriel Filpi  
Safe and Inclusive Schools Initiative  
Project Officer, Community Education and  
Health Promotion Officer
- Peter Hyndal  
Consultant, Safe and Inclusive Schools  
Initiative, Sessional Community Education  
and Health Promotion Officer
- Angela McCabe  
Schools Education, Community  
Education and Health Promotion Officer,  
A/g Manager
- Aga Włodarczyk  
Counsellor, Schools Education,  
Community Education and Health  
Promotion Officer, A/g Manager

## BUSINESS SERVICES, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Leanne Blewitt  
Manager Business Services Unit

## MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Alexander Thatcher

## SENIOR DIRECTOR

- Dr Sheridan Kerr

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Tim Bavinton

\*Staff member departed during year

## SHFPACT STAFF LOCKDOWN FRIENDS



Clare's cat Snafu often takes over her chair and job apparently.



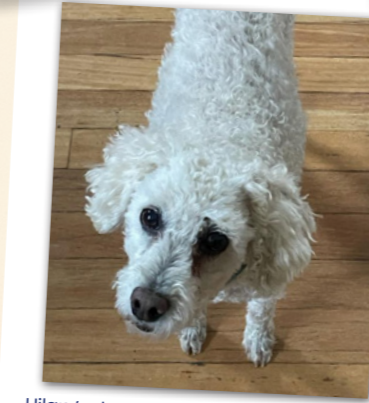
Anne's new little puppy Millie. Sooooo cute!



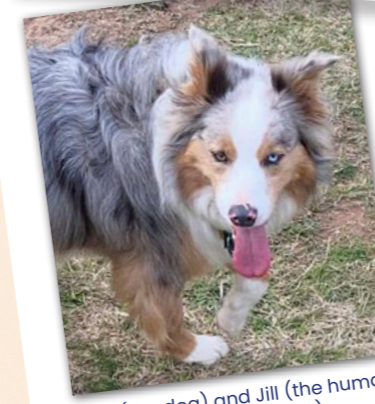
Libby's dog Ember learnt the art of camouflage over lockdown.



Susanne says her dog Tiger has the face of pure innocence.



Hilary's dog Zoe, looking for some lovin'... or food... or a pat... maybe all three!



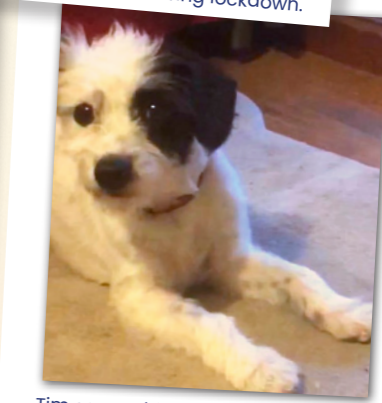
Jack (the dog) and Jill (the human) went up the hill :-)



Angela's dog Rosie... this is her "feed me and love me" face.



Kylie went all "scissorhands" and clipped Patsy herself during lockdown.



Tim says... This is Casper. He lives his best dog life. Be like Casper.



Angela's dog Dan spent most of lockdown under the kitchen table. Fair enough!



Gabriel's cat Basil enjoys apartment living, food and zoom meetings.

# SPECIAL THANKS

**Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT would like to extend a special thank you to the following organisations, partners and people.**

A Gender Agenda	Family Planning Tasmania
Association of Parents and Friends of ACT Schools (APFACTS)	Floral Craft
Assurance Accounts	Forensic and Medical Sexual Assault Care, Canberra Hospital
Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Association (ASHHNA)	FUSE Magazine
ACT Council of Social Services (ACTCOSS)	Griffin Legal
ACT Education Directorate	headspace Canberra and headspace Queanbeyan
ACT Health Directorate	Hepatitis ACT
ACT STI/BBV Health Advisory Committee members and secretariat	LEAD
ACT Walk In Centres, Canberra Health Services	Lifestyles
ACT Youth Advisory Council	Lithium Innovation Pty Ltd
Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine	Marcia Williams
Australian Education Union (ACT)	Meridian (formerly AIDS Action Council of the ACT)
Australian National University	Northside Community Service
ANU Respectful Relationships Unit	Nova Inkpen
ANU Students Association	Office of the Chief Health Officer (ACT)
ANU Medical School	Parents and Citizens Council of the ACT
Australian Primary Health Nurses Association (APNA)	Pyramid Education Consultants UK
Australian Research Centre for Sex, Health and Society (ARCSHS)	Royal Australasian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)
BellchambersBarrett	SHQ (formerly Family Planning Western Australia)
Bronwyn McNally	Society of Australian Sexologists (SAS)
Canberra Institute of Technology	Stephanie Marion-Landais
Canberra Rape Crisis Centre	Teaching Quality Institute (TQI)
Canberra Sexual Health Centre, Canberra Health Services	The STOP Campaign
Capital Health Network	Transformative Solutions (Peter Hyndal)
Capital Region Community Services (CRCS)	University of Canberra School of Education
Capital Pathology	University of Canberra School of Midwifery
Carers ACT	UC Medical and Counselling Centre
CentreRed IT	UC Students' Association
CIT Students Association	Ursula College, ANU
Community Audits Australia	Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Medical Service
	Women's Health Matters
	Women's Health Service, Canberra Health Services
	Women With Disabilities ACT (WWDACT)

We would also like to thank our Members and clients who donated to SHFPACT, and employees of the Commonwealth and ACT Public Services who donated to SHFPACT through payroll deduction schemes, contributing to our continuing ability to improve reproductive and sexual health in the Canberra community.

Presenters from our community partner organisations and community of professional support who contributed to outstanding learning opportunities for participants in our training programs.

Students and staff of ACT schools who supported delivery of sexual health and relationships education programs. Residents and staff of university residential colleges who facilitated and participated in sexual health promotion outreach activities.

Our peers and colleagues in family planning organisations across Australia through our shared membership of Family Planning Alliance Australia, and globally through affiliation with the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

Elected and appointed Members of the SHFPACT Council, who voluntarily contribute their time, expertise and wisdom to guide the organisation on behalf of the wider membership.

Members of the ACT Legislative Assembly for continued public advocacy to support all students to be welcome, safe and included in Canberra schools regardless of sexuality, intersex status, or gender identity/presentation, and for sexual health public policy that supports a diverse community.

## FAREWELL

Janelle Weissman, with Tim Bavinton, at her final SHFPACT Council meeting.

Her invaluable support will be missed greatly, not just to Council but to SHFPACT staff also.

We wish Janelle all the best returning to see her family in the US after several years away.



**THANK YOU JANELLE**





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