



**Empowering youth,  
inspiring brighter futures!**

# **TIA Australia 2016 Annual Report**

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TIA Australia  
PO Box 380, Rundle Mall  
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## Because every young person deserves an opportunity to thrive

### Our highlights

- 90 cents in every dollar going to ValenTIA program in Bolivia
- 12 Months since our residency program commenced with 6 young people living in the ValenTIA Transition Centre
- TIA provided aid to 8 vulnerable teenagers that need it most (including food, shelter, clean water, hygiene products, toilets and sexual and reproductive health services)
- Over 200 young people have taken part in the life skills workshop program across 11 institutions
- We raised over \$56,000 from events, corporate supporters and individual donors. Double what we raised in 2014/15.
- Some examples showing value of money spent: \$18,000 on living and accommodation for our ValenTIA residents, \$5,000 on schooling and education programs for young people
- 100% of TIA Bolivia's staff in Cochabamba are Bolivian nationals
- 7 years since TIA started changing young lives in Bolivia

### Changing young lives

Many of you will remember the journey from living with family into life as an independent young adult. Maybe it was an exciting, if somewhat scary time, full of dreams and opportunity. Most likely your parents, family, friends and teachers helped you prepare for life as a 'grownup'.

But it could equally have been a journey forced upon you by circumstance - full of fear and one you were totally unprepared for. This is the reality for thousands of young people currently living in state care in Cochabamba Bolivia. When these children reach eighteen all support ceases and they are alone, often turning to crime, drugs and life on the streets - with few prospects and little to no support to break the cycle of poverty and neglect.

That is where TIA makes a difference - one that can literally change lives - providing life skills, opportunity, guidance and most importantly hope to young people transitioning to independence from state care.

With the generous support of our VolunTIAs, donors and corporate sponsors, TIA's projects have made considerable progress in the past year and we thank everyone in Australia, Bolivia and around the world for helping change the lives of these young people.

## A message from our Chair

**Gillian Bester**



Dear all,

What a year it has been. I feel TIA is just like a youngster stepping out of state care and finding its own way in the world as an adult. We grew up a lot this year and our focus on strategic direction and expanded management committee expertise are good examples of that.

The management committee has spent considerable time focusing on the growth and development for TIA, as we work on both our short and long-term aims.

In the short term we have our residential program in Cochabamba well-established, and the relationships with institutions where young people receive our workshops are excellent, with our programs in strong demand.

In the long term, we continue to develop our ability and expertise in delivering programs and workshops aimed at enhancing the ability of our young clients to enter society as independent and capable people, able to realize their full potential as adults, and break the cycle of poverty and disempowerment.

In Australia, we have focussed on building and strengthening strategic partnerships including growing our corporate supporter base and raising awareness about TIA's mission. Working towards endorsement as a deductible gift recipient has also been a priority of ours so that we can attract funds from grant makers and philanthropic bodies, as well as more individual donors. We recognise that recruiting and retaining the life blood of our organisation - our VolunTIAs - is crucial for our ongoing success and this remains one of our key priorities.

We have been very lucky to attract a number of new members to the management committee and we are now a team of six. Tessa, Jennifer and I were delighted to welcome Gail Spark, Rob Spurr and Barry Mitchell to the committee. We now have a wide range of experience and all are working hard to ensure TIA has a long and sustainable future. Gail has taken up the role of Secretary and has worked miracles in ensuring TIA meets our regulatory and legal requirements. Rob is our new Treasurer, applying some good discipline and rigour to our financial systems. And Barry has taken on

the role of Executive Director on the ground in Adelaide and is working closely with our volunteer team to raise funds for Bolivia.

As with all hellos, there are sad goodbyes. In September, I replaced Sonja Mapleston as Chair. Sonja is currently on maternity leave and we look forward to welcoming her back to the committee soon. We also said goodbye to Kanchana Pathirana who had been a trusty, devoted and hard-working Executive Director. I'd like to acknowledge the amount of work and dedication she gave to the role and am thankful she remains a part of the TIA family in Adelaide.

Our Australian team have done an amazing job holding an impressive amount of fundraising events but I also need to thank our regular sponsors. We would not have survived this year without Sentient Computing, whose reliable monthly contributions have kept TIA's head above water. Thanks too to Positive Lending Solutions who has also come on board with regular donations. We also have a number of individuals who put their money where their mouth is. Thank you from all of us in Australia, but particularly from our team on the ground in Bolivia where your dollars make a real difference.

I hope to see you at a TIA event in the next year.

*Gracias por todo.*

## International Director's report

**Tessa Henwood-Mitchell**



Hola to all our beautiful supporters all around the world,

It's my favourite time of year again, one to reflect on our challenges and our successes, and look ahead to the year to come. I sometimes have to pinch myself to make sure I'm not dreaming when I realise just how far TIA has come over the past 7 years. From the vague and ambitious idea of a naïve and optimistic 20-year-old social work student, to a successful and effective non-profit organization that changes the lives of hundreds of young people each year - what a journey it has been!

As TIA's International Director I have been based in Bolivia working alongside our local team for almost 2 years now. The ValenTIA Transition Project, which we started creating about three years ago, was only really in its beginning stages when I first moved here. We were running workshops with two centres and were in discussions with two more. We had not even opened the transition centre or began our residential program. Now, almost two years later, and as you will see in this report, we have grown so much! We now are working with 11 different centres with over 150 young people in our workshop program, and we have 6 young residents in our residential program, as well as many other young people accessing our other services on a daily basis. We have developed a fantastic reputation with the local government and many children's homes, non-profit organisations and NGOs. We are part of a Latin American network of organisations that work with young people leaving care, and we were even invited to present our work at an international conference hosted by UNICEF in Buenos Aires, Argentina, late last year.

But none of this would have been possible without our incredible local staff. We have been extremely fortunate to find a group of committed, motivated, professional, passionate and innovative people who drive our vision and take it further than we would have imagined possible. I have loved to work alongside this

group and learn from them, dream with them and face the challenges and triumphs that we face on a daily basis together. Rest assured, our young people here are in extremely good hands!

While I'm speaking of our young people, let me tell you about a few of them that we have had the huge privilege of watching grow:

### Armando

One of the first young people I met when I first moved here in 2014 and started visiting our workshops and meeting the young people we were working with was Armando. He was a boisterous 16 year old teen, fun-loving, energetic, engaging, and a great communicator. I was quickly told that he hadn't always been like that. When he first started attending our workshops 6 months prior, he was withdrawn, hostile, aggressive, and unwilling to participate. I was told by the centre that he was living in that he had been that way ever since he had begun living there two years prior after coming out of a life on the streets. That was certainly not the same boy that I met in December of 2014. As one of our first participants of the workshops, it was incredible for us to realise so early on that we were obviously doing something right. Armando told me himself that thanks to the workshops that we were running at his centre weekly, and the guidance and friendship of our facilitators, he learned to communicate in a more positive way, he felt more confident and believed in himself again. Recently I saw him again, and he again told me how much we had helped him and how grateful he was for everything we did, explaining that without us he didn't know what would have happened to him, but now he is working, studying, and has great friends and a solid support network.

### Adriana

Adriana is a young girl whom I hold particularly close to my heart. I met her when I came to Bolivia for the first time in 2008. She was living in the government run children's home Ciudadela SEDEGES (now called Centro Q'anchay), and was only 9 years old. I worked with her younger sister Gabriela and she would often come to visit her and we would chat. She would often write me really sweet little letters and draw me pictures. Every year when I returned she would be one of the first to run up and give me a hug. She was very shy and quiet when I first met her, often waiting to speak until we were sitting in her room in private. About 1.5 years ago Adriana first started participating in our workshops when we began running them at Centro Q'anchay. She was then 16 years old. After about 6 months I went to visit and see one of the workshops, and I was just amazed to see that Adriana was one of the most confident, articulate, and active participants in the whole group! This was not the same girl that I had known for so long. Since then she has blossomed into an incredible young woman, with so many hopes and dreams, and a tonne of self-confidence and motivation to achieve them. While I'm writing this we're getting ready for her to move into our residency program because she turns 18 on September the 23rd! She was also the protagonist of the documentary that was made about TIA earlier this year, so make sure you watch that and you will understand why Adriana is such a special young woman.

Now I have just returned from a research trip to India and Nepal where I was looking at the after care programs and support that exists for young people there who are leaving care homes, and I have come

away from that experience believing even more in the work that we are doing here. What we are doing here is very rare, and so necessary. The young people I met in India and Nepal all said the same thing - that for them, the most important and helpful thing for them while they are in their transition into independence, is to have people in their corner, who believe in them and will support them and stand by them while they try, fall, get up and try again until they succeed. And thanks to all of you, our amazing supporters, I'm so proud to say that we do exactly that.

## Executive Director's report

**Barry Mitchell**



Dear TIA friends and supporters,

The past year has been one of growth and development for TIA, as we work on building a foundation here in Australia and in Bolivia to meet TIA's future goals.

Having our International Director resident in Cochabamba, and able to devote time to developing local relationships, as well as leading and guiding the staff there, has been a great asset in our ability to look forward and think about future projects, as well as consolidating the current ones.

In Australia, this means that we need to continue to raise funds to support the work of the team in Bolivia, and of course to continue to provide guidance and feedback where needed.

Our fundraising efforts have raised an impressive \$56,808 and this figure is the result of a lot of hard work and effort from our Australian team across three states. These include our Annual TIA quiz night, the highly popular *Asado* in the Adelaide Hills, movie nights, a bogan bingo night in Perth, and South American drinks, nibbles and music in Melbourne. Thanks so much to everyone who worked to make these events a success and to everyone who came along and had a good time!

This year has seen some changes in the Australian team, with the departure of our previous dedicated and hard-working Executive Director, Kanchana Pathirana. I have been privileged to work in this role since the beginning of 2016, and to work with our Management Committee and Executive team, as well as other volunTIAs.



In the short time I have filled this role, we have been able to consolidate and build our team, with the addition to the team of several skilled people, including Sarah Burrage as VolunTIA Co-ordinator, Patricia Ahumada as Events Manager, Rahul Furtado as Fundraising Manager, Sarah Jonas as Assistant Events Manager, and Rosaleine Almeida as Finance Manager, and one of our longest standing VolunTIA Zach Cassidy stepping into the role of Marketing and Communications Manager.

Together with our continuing Executive Team and the collective wisdom of the Management Committee we have been able to fulfil the year's aims, and to plan for the year ahead.

Thank you to all of our supporters, including our VolunTIAs, and those who have contributed financially to the work of TIA. We look forward to the coming year, and hope to have your continuing support.

Best wishes.

## **We believe every child deserves support and opportunity**

The ValenTIA Transition Project aims to empower young people as they move out of state care in a two-phase approach encompassing training and guidance prior to turning eighteen and transition support after they exit care.

### **Phase 1: Preparatory Workshops**

These workshops are developed and delivered by TIA's Cochabamba staff to young people aged between 14-18 years and residing in various children's homes around the state. They aim to prepare them for independent living in the areas of practical skills, job ready training, values, self-belief, health, sexual education, financial management, rights, responsibilities, and developing a plan for their future.

### **Phase 2: Transition Centre**

This centre has completed its first year of operation, providing support for adolescents transitioning out of state care. Components include: temporary accommodation (either in the centre or supporting external residency), tutoring, counseling, job skills training, support and assistance in studying and working, finding suitable accommodation, mentoring, community service, financial management, and basic life skills training.

### **About TIA**

TIA is an Australian grassroots non-profit organisation working in Bolivia, South America. We work with young people through their transition from state care into independence, because we believe that they deserve a chance to show the world their potential.

We are a registered charity and an incorporated association in South Australia, and a registered Foundation in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

Adelaide born Tessa Henwood-Mitchell started TIA in 2009 as a 21 year old after spending time volunteering in Bolivia and being profoundly impacted by the plight of children in state care. Seven years on TIA has helped hundreds of young people on their pathway to independence.

TIA means Aunty in Spanish and we are more than just an organisation - we're a family.

## Fundraising can be fun

A huge thanks to the tireless energy, vision and commitment of our VolunTIAs for making these events such a magnificent success.



### Asado

A traditional Argentine BBQ in the Adelaide Hills - raised \$5300.



### 7 year Anniversary Cocktail Party

Cool vibe at Mama Jambo to celebrate a milestone birthday - also raised \$500.



### VolunTIA Appreciation Brunch

A thank you for all our wonderful VolunTIAs!



### Movie Nights

Everybody loves the movies - and supporting TIA to the tune of \$1300.



### Bogan Bingo

The mullets and stubbies were out in in Perth raising \$1800 for TIA.



### Westpac Fundraising Week

Thanks to the generosity of staff at Westpac Lockleys we raised over \$2000.



### Melbourne TIA launch

South American music, food and fun to welcome our Victorian supporters - and raise a valuable \$3000.



### Film crew in Bolivia

We were fortunate to welcome the crew from Actuality Media - their movie will take TIA's story to the world.

## A big thank you!

A huge thanks to the people and companies who have made a difference in Bolivia:

### Major donors

Barbara Chenoweth

David Spark

Deanna Howland

Georgina Davil

James Peterson

Joanna Pike

Julia Parkin

Kathleen White

Kelly Eickhoff

Lisa Hammond

Megan Calder

RB & SM Johns

Robert Eisen

Robert Steere

Robyn Henwood

Robyn Williams

Sara Abdala

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Positive Lending Solutions

Pratten Foundation

Murray Projects

Walkerville Accountants

Projects Abroad Australia

Sheoak Yoga

The Lane Wine Company

Revenue SA

RAA

Principals Australia Institute

## Financial report

We provided over \$55,000 of funds for our ValenTIA Transition Project during this financial year. Following are our statements of accounts for the 2015/2016 financial year.

### Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income For the year ended 30 June 2016

	2016	2015
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donations - Individual Contributions	6,863	10,993
Donations - Corporate Contributions	8,228	
External Fundraising Income	2,020	1,841
Grants	-	-
Campaigns	653	436
Speaking Fees	-	1,577
Events Income	16,003	5,257
Other revenue	1,446	260
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>35,213</b>	<b>20,362</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
IT expense	242	270
Bank and PayPal Fees	191	80
Legal Fees	225	100
Insurance Expense	804	561
Travel Expense	-	249
Professional Development	-	440
Cost of Goods Sold (COGS)	573	630
Events Costs	1518	186
Corporate Sponsor Costs	-	55
Project Valentia Transfers	37,870	22,073
Other Expenses	-	494
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>41,423</b>	<b>25,137</b>
<b>Net profit / loss</b>	<b>(6,210)</b>	<b>(4,775)</b>

**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at 30 June 2016**

	2016	2015
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	490	6,178
Inventory	871	1,393
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>7,571</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Total Liabilities	-	-
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>7,571</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Capital	1,361	7,571
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>7,571</b>

**Statement of Changes in Equity**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2016**

	2016	2015
<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>7,571</b>	<b>12,346</b>
Profit / Loss for the year	(6,210)	(4,775)
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>7,571</b>

**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2016**

	2016	2015
<b>Opening Balance</b>		
Cash receipts from Donations, Grants and Fundraising Programs	35,200	20,343
Cash payments to International Aid Programs	(37,870)	(22,073)
Cash payments for Supplies and Services	(3,031)	(4,386)
<b>Net cash Generated from Operating Activities</b>	<b>(5,701)</b>	<b>(6,116)</b>
<b>Cash flows from Investing Activities</b>		
Interest received	13	20
<b>Net Cash Generated from Investing Activities</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Cash flows from Financing Activities</b>		
Net increase / (decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(5,688)	(6,096)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at 1 July	6,178	12,274
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at 30 June</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>6,178</b>

## WRA Overseas Aid Fund

All tax deductible donations received by TIA Australia were processed via the World Relief Overseas Aid Fund held by our partner organisation World Relief Australia (WRA). All funds received via WRA go directly to TIA Bolivia Foundation to deliver the ValenTIA Transition Project and therefore are not included in TIA Australia's financial statements. Following is a breakdown of the donations received and transferred to TIA Bolivia through this fund.

### World Relief Overseas Aid Fund - ValenTIA Transition Project For the Period ended 30 June 2016

	2016	2015
<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>1,430</b>	<b>19,898</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Donations	26,965 <sup>1</sup>	5,082
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>26,965</b>	<b>5,082</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Funds to overseas project	22,051	23,142
WRA Management Fee	2,160	408
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>24,211</b>	<b>408</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>4,184</b>	<b>1,430</b>

Note 1 Of this donation amount, \$5,370 was transferred to the WRA fund by TIA Australia. This amount is recorded as expenditure in TIA Australia's statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income.



**WALKERVILLE ACCOUNTANTS**

*Pty Ltd*

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Tony Whyte

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**TIA INTERNATIONAL AID INCORPORATED**

Telephone (08) 8342 5940  
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ABN: 35 086 711 509

**AUDITOR'S REPORT**

I have examined the financial statements in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

The audit has been planned and performed in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide a reasonable level of assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of misstatement. My procedures include examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respect, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Concepts and Standards and Statutory requirements so as to present a view of the organisation which is consistent with our understanding of its operations.

My examination has been limited to the audit of the balance sheet and selected income and expenditure items.

Notwithstanding the above, in my opinion, these statements present fairly the results of the organisation for the year ended 30th June, 2016 and the financial state of the organisation as at 30th June, 2016.

DATED at Walkerville this 7 day of October, 2016



**BARRY HALFPENNY (C.P.A.)**

## Management Committee

Our Management Committee comprises 7 highly qualified individuals who each bring diverse expertise, skills and experience to contribute to TIA's governance and strategic direction. In 2015, our Management Committee was supported by a Fundraising Committee.

The members of the Management Committee as at the date of this report, and a brief profile, are set out below:



**Gillian Bester BSC (Hons)**  
**Chair**

- Member since November 2014
- Gillian is a business consultant with more than 14 years experience in business improvement, supporting change management initiatives and facilitating training.



**Gail Spark LLB (Hons) BA**  
**Secretary**

- Member since July 2015
- Gail has practiced as a corporate and commercial lawyer for over 10 years. She has provided advice to corporations and not-for-profits (and their boards) in many legal and governance matters.



**Robert Spurr BBus CPA GAICD**  
**Treasurer**

- Member since July 2015
- Member of Fundraising Committee
- Rob has more than 24 years experience in senior finance and commercial positions across Australia, South East Asia and South America.



**Tessa Henwood-Mitchell BSocWk/BInSt AssocDegLang**  
**International Director**

- Member since April 2009
- Member of Fundraising Committee
- Tessa is the founder of TIA Australia Inc and TIA Bolivia Foundation. She has over 10 years of experience working in international aid in Africa and South America.



**Barry Mitchell**  
**Executive Director**

- Member since April 2016
- Member of Fundraising Committee
- Barry is retired and previous was Executive Producer with ABC International and Manager of Industry Programs at the South Australian Film Corporation.



**Jennifer Blake BCom**  
**Chair of the Fundraising Committee**

- Member since April 2015
- Jennifer is an experienced Marketing and Communications professional with specialist skills in PR, strategic marketing, and campaign planning.



**Sonja Mapleston BA/BJ MA**  
**(maternity leave)**

- Member since November 2014
- Sonja held a role at UNICEF Australia as Manager of Corporate Partnerships, and prior to that she has worked for over 10 years with non-profit organisations, government and development agencies.

**Miscellaneous**

- Kanchana Pathirana retired as the Executive Director in March 2016.
- Bob Steere is also a member of the Fundraising Committee.

## Acknowledgements

Many thanks to all who have generously contributed to the TIA family this year. Together we have helped empower the youth of Bolivia to have bright and inspiring lives. We are united in our passion to make a real difference.

### Australian VolunTIAs

Andreina Adames

Barry Mitchell

Kanchana Pathirana

Karlos Lee

Laura Cortez

Linh Nguyen

Maddy Broadbridge

Patricia Ahumada

Rahul Furtado

Rosaleine Almeida

Sarah Burrage

Sarah Jonas

Zach Cassidy

### Bolivia Staff

Isela Velasquez

Patricia Fernandez

Mabel Condorí

Lorena Sandoval Mejia

### Bolivia VolunTIAs

Victor Hugo Rendon Gonzales

Nayoly Claudine Ave Pozo

Givana Pérez Mamani

Andrea Sainz

Karen Villarroel

Alejandra Villegas

Rocio Lena Delgadillo Blanco

### Bolivia Board

Daniela Viljoen

Vanessa Lema Zabala

Cristina Zabala

## Support us!

You too can provide financial or in-kind support to TIA or volunteer your time. It really does change the lives of young people. Please email [hello@tia.org.au](mailto:hello@tia.org.au)

## For more information

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