



ANNUAL REPORT

2022-23

Hepatitis B Voices Australia

Acknowledgments

Hepatitis B Voices Australia acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and future. We acknowledge that the land on which we stand always was and always will be Aboriginal land.

We acknowledge people living with and affected by hepatitis B – and all lives lost globally due to hepatitis B. We deeply appreciate the global movement of lived experiences, advocacy, resilience and spirit to eliminate hepatitis B.

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AN OVERVIEW OF HEPATITIS B VOICES AUSTRALIA

Hepatitis B Voices Australia is an independent, not-for-profit community led organisation that supports, represents and advocates for the health and well-being of people affected by hepatitis B in Australia.

We are the first hepatitis B community-led organisation that is wholly led by people affected by hepatitis B in Australia. The voices of affected communities are central to our work.

Our purpose

To amplify the voices of the affected community to eliminate the impacts of hepatitis B.

Our vision

The voices of people living with hepatitis B will be central in the response to hepatitis B and eliminating its impacts.

Our values



Lived Experience



Equity



Diversity



Collaboration



Respect



Transparency

Our history

Hepatitis B Voices Australia launched in November 2022 by a group of passionate people living with hepatitis B across Australia. Our goal is to improve health outcomes for people impacted by chronic hepatitis B across all aspects of the response including hepatitis B prevention, management, cure and elimination.

Our framework is centred in lived experience, robust evidence, social justice, cultural safety and trauma-informed practices. People living with hepatitis B are the experts in their own experiences and are change makers. Our approach is utilising the multi-faceted intersectional experiences, strengths and resilience of affected communities.

Our services



Advocacy and Policy Development

- Capture and convey the needs of the hepatitis B affected community to enable effective advocacy.
- Guide policies in all areas that impact the affected community.



Research and Training

- Work with researchers to design and execute research that benefits the affected community.
- Develop training programs for both sector and community to enable effective conversations between all parties.



Consultancy Services

- Offer training, workshops and facilitation on the interactions between affected community and consultees in an efficient, culturally safe, and representative manner.



Community engagement

- Undertake peer-led community engagement and support activities with sector collaboration.
- Develop community networks and effective partnerships.

Our People

Board Directors



Nafisa Yussf (2022 – present)

Co-founder, Director and Board Chair

Nafisa Yussf is co-founder and Director of Hepatitis B Voices Australia. She has an extensive background and expertise in public health; community engagement, social research, and advocacy and policy development working in both government and not-government sectors.

Lien Tran (2022 – present)

Co-founder, Director and Vice-Chair

Lien is a Vietnamese researcher at the WHO Collaborating Centre for Viral Hepatitis, Doherty Institute, Australia. Her research focuses on hepatitis B care delivery in primary care. She is current Regional Board Member for the World Hepatitis Alliance, representing the WHO Western Pacific Region.



Prof Thomas Tu (2022 – present)

Co-founder, Director, Secretary

Associate Professor Thomas Tu is a molecular biologist and currently leads a research group at the Westmead Institute for Medical Research (Sydney, Australia), where his team focuses on curing Hepatitis B and preventing liver cancer. A/Prof Tu is also the founder and Director of HepBCommunity.org, a global support network for people affected with HBV. He has won multiple awards for his research and outreach, most recently the 2022 Young Tall Poppy Science award.



Board Directors

Uyen Vo (2022 – present)

Co-founder, Director, Treasurer

Uyen is a co-founder of Hepatitis B Voices Australia. After arriving to Australia, Uyen struggled to find hepatitis B resources and support. 2017-2018, Uyen joined LiverWELL Board. In 2018, Uyen co-found an online support group for Vietnamese living with hepatitis B; and the newcomers to navigate health care in Australia. It's also a casual platform promoting the ASHM Prescriber Map in Australia.



Aye Aye Khaing (2022 – present)

Co-founder, Director

Dr. Aye Aye Khaing is a co-founder of Hepatitis B Voices Australia. She has a Master of public health and is passionate about community engagement and public health. In Myanmar she was a medical graduate who worked in Malaria programs, and projects in international not-profit organization. Aye Aye is currently pursuing her medical registration in Australia. She is an advocate and a Hep Hero at LiverWELL.



Dr Kim Ngo (2023 – present)

Director

Dr Kim Ngo is an Australian medical graduate with 20 years clinical experience who is currently working for NSW Health as a mental health practitioner. She has an active interest in promoting community awareness and advocacy especially in disadvantaged populations such as those suffering with mental health disorders.



Volunteers

Mylisa Vu (2023 – present) **Board Volunteer**

Mylisa is a volunteer for Hepatitis B Voices Australia. She is currently studying a Master of Public Health and working at the Westmead Institute for Medical Research, as the project manager of HepBCommunity.org. Her passion is in health and providing the community with the care and support they need to improve their health and wellbeing.



STRUCTURE & MANAGEMENT

Hepatitis B Voices Australia is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

Hepatitis B Voices Australia is governed by a voluntary Board that oversees governance and supports operational matters. Our Board has a range of lived experiences and expertise in public health, community engagement, policy, advocacy, medicine and scientific.

A diverse Expert Advisory Group will be established to support Board with technical expertise.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Hepatitis B Voices Australia is critical for community to lead the response and elimination of hepatitis B and its impacts through effective partnerships.

Since our launch in November 2022, we are proud of our many accomplishments, including: implementing a strong foundational governance infrastructure, developing policies and procedures, and moving towards achieving our Strategic Plan. We have made strong partnerships with the viral hepatitis sector across Australia.

We are delighted to have made important contributions to the draft National Hepatitis B Strategy 2023-30 consultations – we thank the Commonwealth government for their leadership, and we look forward to the release of the Fourth National Hepatitis B Strategy.

As part of our plans to expand and diversify our Board Directors, in 2023 we welcomed Dr Kim Ngo. Kim brings valuable lived experience and 20 years of expertise working in the mental health and community sector.

We have seen the enormous impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on people's engagement in care and ability to access testing and ongoing care and management. We look forward to working with the sector to ensure community co-design and partnerships is at the forefront in hepatitis B engagement, care, research and policy to ensure people living with hepatitis B are appropriately engaged in their care.

Moving forward, our priorities for 2023-24 will be to build upon our Strategic Plan 2022-25 implementation including strengthening board governance capabilities and infrastructures and establishing funding and engagement strategy.

I am deeply grateful to our Board Directors and volunteers for their passion, determination, and dedication they have poured into Hepatitis B Voices Australia.

On behalf of our Board, we thank our supporters, volunteers, sector partners and launch sponsors for their unwavering support of Hepatitis B Voices Australia. We look forward to working with you and strengthening our effects to support our communities.



Board Chair

OUR OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our Strategic Plan 2022-25 guides us to focus on our strategic priorities and opportunities to achieve our purpose and long-term vision.

Organisational growth: build capacity and expertise, focusing on good governance, financial sustainability and membership

Goals

- Expand Board capability and capacity.
- Develop our structure and processes.
- Build membership and financial sustainability.
- Establish our Expert Advisory Group.

Partnership: develop strategic partnerships with community groups, policy makers and researchers to achieve national presence and influence

Goals

- Build relationships across our sector and community to establish national presence and influence.
- Collaborate with researchers to guide hepatitis B research.

Policy and advocacy: develop and influence Australian policy to ensure it is respectful culturally safe and evidence-based

Goals

- Develop national policies for appropriate and culturally safe hepatitis B language and community engagement.
- Influence national and state hepatitis B policy.

Community support: support and strengthen our community through mentoring and peer education

Goals

- Develop community engagement strategy.
- Develop a peer education strategy.
- Develop programs for community mentoring and leadership.

2022-23 HIGHLIGHTS

On November 10, 2022, we launched Hepatitis B Voices Australia in Melbourne with over eighty attendees in-person and virtually – MCed by Diana Nguyen, Australian comedian, writer and creative entrepreneur. We are grateful and overwhelmed with the generous support from the viral hepatitis sector and communities.

For 2022-23, our primary objectives were to expand our organisational growth, partnerships and policy and advocacy. We have made significant accomplishments including:

Launch of Hepatitis B Voices Australia

- First community organisation wholly led by people living with hepatitis B.
- 80+ attendees.
- 10 generous sponsors.



2022-23 HIGHLIGHTS

Organisational growth

- Established key foundational infrastructure, policies and procedures such as code of conduct, conflict of interest policy, recruitment policies etc.
- Developed operational plan to guide our Strategic Plan.
- Developed and implemented financial plan.
- Recruited new Board member.

Partnerships

- Established two Memoranda of Understanding with HepBCommunity.org and The Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine (ASHM).
- Collaborated and presented on more than 20 national and international conferences and workshops.
- Collaborated on 19 research and community research and projects grants.



Policy and advocacy

- Provided community-led contribution in the consultation process for the draft National Hepatitis B Strategy 2022-30.
- Actively participated in 13 Advisory Group Committees to provide critical community insights and expertise.



Forward looking

Hepatitis B Voices Australia will continue to collaborate with our communities and stakeholders to achieve our strategic priorities. We will strengthen governance infrastructure and develop a robust funding, engagement and membership strategies.

TREASURER'S REPORT

On behalf of the Hepatitis B Voices Australia Board, I am pleased to present the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Hepatitis B Voices Australia's financial position since incorporation for November 2022-June 2023 shows positivity and potential for future development.

- Total equity as of 30 June 2023: \$12,471.10
- Total revenue: \$26,889.16
- Surplus: \$12,471.10



Treasurer

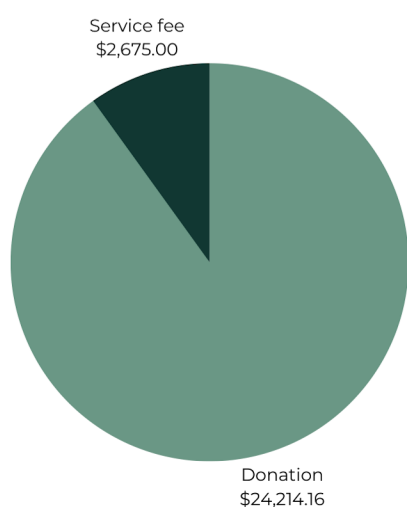
OUR FINANCE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

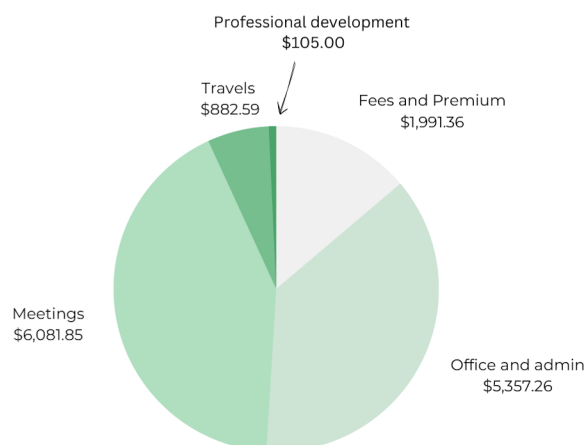
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Financial year 2022-23



Income

Grand Total : \$26,889.16



Expenses

Total : \$14,418.06

Balance: \$12,471.10

Statement of Financial Position

As of 30 June 2023

Assets	\$0
Liability	\$0
Equity	\$12,471.10
P&L balance.....	\$12,471.10

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & THANK YOU

Hepatitis B Voices Australia expresses our deepest gratitude to our ambassadors, volunteers, sponsors and partners for your support and collaboration. We look forward to working with you to achieve our common goal of improving the health and wellbeing of people affected by hepatitis B.

Our ambassadors



Prof Ben Cowie

Director WHO Collaborating Centre for Viral Hepatitis, Peter Doherty Institute.



Dr Lester Mascarenhas

General Practitioner, Utopia Refugee and Asylum Seeker Health



Dr Su Wang

Medical Director, Saint Barnabas Medical Center, NJ, USA

Our volunteers



Mylisa Vu

Board Volunteer

HEPATITIS B VOICES AUSTRALIA 2022 LAUNCH SPONSORS



Thank You

HOW YOU CAN HELP

To support or become a volunteer, email Hepatitis B Voices Australia info@hepbvoices.au



Make a donation

Make a tax-deductible donation via our website at www.hepbvoices.au.

CONTACT US

Address: 5 Alexandra Avenue,
Hoppers Crossing, VIC, 3029
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HepatitisB Voices Australia Limited
ACN: 659 939 456.

Charitable not-for-profit organisation.