

Hepatitis C Council of SA Annual Report 2005-2006



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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT



It is with pleasure that I am able to report to members and stakeholders on my first year as Chairperson of the Hepatitis C Council of South Australia. I will begin by addressing some of the significant achievements that the Board has been involved in during the 2005-2006 financial year, including the launch of the Hepatitis C Council of SA's Strategic Directions 2005-2008, and the subsequent development of the Council's Business Plan, work on the South Australian Hepatitis C Priorities for Action 2007 document, and the Media Campaign held during state election time.

The outcomes of the Hepatitis C Council of SA's 'Strategic Directions 2005-2008' resulted from the extensive participation and contribution by staff, volunteers, members and stakeholders. Guided by the Strategic Directions, staff then all had input into the development of the Council's Business Plan.

The Council embarked on a campaign prior to the State elections in 2006 to raise the profile of Hepatitis C in the political arena. This process had an impact, with the response from the major and minor political parties keen to be engaged about the hepatitis C virus and its impacts, and willing to give their support for the development of a Hepatitis C State Strategy to combat the epidemic in this state.

Until a South Australian Hepatitis C Strategy is developed, the South Australian Hepatitis C Priorities for Action 2007 document will be completed by the end of 2006 to better coordinate South Australia's response in the interim period.



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Council commissioned a Building Safety Audit during 2005 and satisfactorily addressed some minor matters, which required action. The board also formed a working party to review and update the Council's policies and procedures in line with best practice and quality services.

During the year, the Board had a number of changes with the departure of Dean Wilkins, Leslie Dunbar and Helen Ingham. On behalf of the Board I would like to thank them for their time and contribution to the Council.

The Hepatitis C Council of SA continued to provide high quality services relating to hepatitis C information, education, referral and support for the South Australian community, and worked in partnership with many other agencies in the delivery of these services during the past twelve months.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the staff, volunteers, members and our partner organisations for their ongoing support and loyalty to the Council. I would also like to thank Kerry Paterson for calmly stepping into the role of Acting Manager during Dan Gallant's extended leave, and we look forward to having Dan on board again next year. Finally I would like to thank the team at the HIV, Hepatitis C Policy and Programs unit of the Department of Health for their continued support, and I look forward to another busy and exciting year at the Hepatitis C Council of SA in 2007.

Arieta Papadelos
Chairperson



MANAGER'S REPORT

In November 2005, the Hepatitis C Council of SA launched its '*Strategic Directions 2005-2008*' following an extensive consultation process, to coincide with its first three year service agreement signed with the HIV, Hepatitis C Policy and Programs Unit at the Department of Health. Following this, all staff contributed to the development of the Council's Business Plan, which puts into operation the Council's '*Strategic Directions 2005-2008*'. This longer term funding security has enabled the Council to better plan, develop and implement the hepatitis C education, information, referral and support services we provide for the South Australian community.

The advocacy role of the Council has also been developed during this year as we began a process of engagement with politicians about hepatitis C. Timed to coincide with the State election in March 2006, an e-survey was sent to all sitting members of both houses of Parliament, candidates of all marginal seats and all party secretariats. The survey asked a series of questions about political support for key hepatitis C issues, including support for a South Australian Hepatitis C Strategy, a mass media awareness campaign, and enhancing the uptake of hepatitis C treatment. Twenty-four responses were received from members of the Labor Party, the Liberal Party and the Democrats, indicating broad support around these issues. The election survey was followed up by a letter from the Hepatitis C Council of SA to members of parliament, requesting a meeting to further brief them about hepatitis C issues. Meetings were subsequently held with John Hill, the Health Minister; Carmel Zollo, Minister for Corrections, advisors to Gail Gago, Minister for Substance Misuse, and later in the year, a briefing has been organised for the Opposition Members of Parliament.





MANAGER'S REPORT

The Hepatitis C Council of SA continues its representative role on the South Australian Advisory Committee on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases

(SAACHHARD), and its Hepatitis C Sub-Committee at the state level. During the year, work continued on the document '*Hepatitis C Priorities for Action 2007*', which was developed out of the Hepatitis C Planning Day held in 2005 with a range of key stakeholders, to achieve a coordinated approach to the hepatitis C response in South Australia, in lieu of a state Hepatitis C Strategy. Final consultation will be undertaken on this document in late 2006, and it is due for release in early 2007.



As a Board member of the Australian Hepatitis Council, the Hepatitis C Council of SA has also been an active contributor to national policies and processes, such as advocacy for the removal of liver biopsy from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme S100 Criteria, which occurred on 1 April 2006. Potentially this makes way for a much broader group of people with hepatitis C to access treatment.

Many staff members of the Hepatitis C Council of SA also participate on a number of project advisory and planning committees at the local level. During this year, Council staff have been involved in projects to provide improved access to hepatitis C treatment for indigenous people and people who inject drugs.

The Hepatitis C Council of SA and a number of other non-government organisations in the HIV and Hepatitis C sector began a series of meetings this year with the Department for Correctional Services and the SA Prison Health Service to develop a Memorandum of Understanding. This process was undertaken largely to address issues of access for prisoners to external agencies providing health education within correctional settings. While the Memorandum of Understanding is not completed as yet, a number of opportunities arose out of this closer working relationship, for the Hepatitis C Council of SA to provide hepatitis C education both for key prison staff, and female prisoners.

This year, the Board of the Hepatitis C Council of SA approved the proposal for our organisation to offer zero cost membership for individuals with direct

MANAGER'S REPORT

experience of hepatitis C to remove any financial barrier for them to keep updated with hepatitis C information and services the Council promotes to our organisation's members.

There have been a number of staff changes at the Hepatitis C Council of SA over the past 12 months. During this time, we farewelled Gary Clarke, Peer Educator with the Rural Support Network *Getting It Together*, Elissa Mortimer, Information and Resources Officer and Fleur Lewis, the Publications Officer. In September 2005, we welcomed Cecilia Lim, as Information and Resources Coordinator, and James Morrison as Publications Officer to the Information and Resources team. In November 2005, Kerry Paterson began in the new position of Coordinator Education and Development, and Nicci Parkin also joined the Education team.

In June 2006, Dan Gallant, Manager of the Hepatitis C Council of SA began a period of extended leave, and we look forward to having him back at the Council in early 2007.

The Volunteer Program at the Council has undergone considerable development during the past year, with a new volunteer brochure developed and recruitment procedures updated. A new intake of nine telephone information and support volunteers were recruited and are still undergoing training and assessment, planning was undertaken to revamp the Council's C Talk program of positive speakers, and six volunteers were active in the Information and Resources team during this time. All of us at the Council were greatly saddened by the death of John Shannon in November 2005,



one of our volunteers who had contributed so much of his time, creative energy and enthusiasm to the Council over many years.

On behalf of us all here at the Council, I thank you for your interest and support in the work we do, and hope that you can take the time to 'read all about it' in the following pages of this Annual Report.

Kerry Paterson
A/g Manager



EDUCATION SERVICES

Education Services at HCCSA are delivered to a broad range of people across South Australia in our metropolitan and rural education programs. The Education Team provides services to both our primary target group - people with hepatitis C and those 'at risk' of becoming infected with the virus; as well as to our secondary target group - healthcare professionals, community support workers, students, and government agency staff.

In November 2005, Kerry Paterson was employed as Coordinator Education and Development, a new position at the Council, and Nicci Parkin joined the team as an educator. The Education Team facilitated the research of University of Adelaide Department of Anthropology and Department of Public Health Masters of Medical Science Candidate, Gemma Carey. Gemma has been undertaking research on the topic of the 'Place of Community in a Community Organisation'. In addition, John Sumner join us in April 06 as a part-time trainee from the Community Development Employment Program.

In accordance with the Council's Strategic Directions document, the education team has been working towards increasing access to education

services for people with hepatitis C amongst the identified hepatitis C priority population groups – young people, people who inject drugs, people in correctional facilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and people living in rural and remote South Australia. A mapping exercise of hepatitis C education for these hard to reach communities was undertaken and a report written, to inform the education work of the Council.

In the past 12 months, the Education Team provided 36 education sessions to primary target groups and 40 to secondary target groups in both metropolitan and rural areas of South Australia. The majority targetted people in the hepatitis C priority population groups, or the health workforce supporting these groups. The Hepatitis C Council worked closely in partnership with the HIV, Hepatitis C Worker Training Program at Relationships Australia this year to organise two introductory courses on hepatitis C for interested healthcare workers as well as initiating a full-day Nurses' Seminar featuring a range of local speakers.

Youth

Around three education sessions each term have been provided to young people at the Magill Flexi Centre. In addition to these sessions, the MOSAIC Art Project operated out of the Flexi Centre for 6 months during this period. A total of 37 young people participated in this Project, receiving prevention and health promotion messages about hepatitis C and substance use, then working with a community artist to express their thoughts and feelings about hepatitis C knowledge gained. The young people worked co-operatively to

EDUCATION SERVICES



Students (faces obscured) discuss art with guests at the Mosaic Art Launch

produce two large Mosaic pieces, as well as individual art designs. Staff at the Flexi Centre provided support for the young people to achieve key competencies to attain the nationally accredited module 'Building Healthy Relationships'. The art pieces were then adapted to produce posters and postcards with hepatitis C prevention and health promotion messages that were disseminated to youth agencies throughout South Australia. Promotion of the Council's education services was also given to the Services to Youth Council.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

Council educators worked in partnership with the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council on a hepatitis C health promotion project funded by the

National Illicit Drug Strategy, targeting Aboriginal youth at Warriependi School in Adelaide, Mt Gambier and Coober Pedy. This project involved workshops with young Aboriginal people in each location being provided with hepatitis C prevention and health promotion messages, developing 'advertisements' of these messages, which were then filmed in contexts they thought appropriate to their peers. Other education sessions during the year were provided to young Aboriginal people at Port Augusta, and at the Murray Bridge Nungas Club.

Each week, a Council educator and volunteers worked in partnership with the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council and a range of other health providers, to provide a Nunga BBQ in the parklands, as a means of engaging Aboriginal people who are homeless, with a range of health promotion messages and referral pathways.

Council educators and volunteers were also kept very busy staffing an information stall at 'Croc Fest' over two days in Port Augusta this year, with around 900 young people, the majority being indigenous young people, attending this popular festival. Council educators were also involved in staffing information



EDUCATION SERVICES

stalls during national Youth Week and Drug Action Week, targeting young indigenous people.

Seven education sessions were provided to the Aboriginal health workforce at Nunkuwarrin Yunti, SHINE, The Parks Community Centre, Murray Bridge Nungas Club, Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council and to a national gathering of Aboriginal healthcare workers at the ASHM Anwernekenke 4 Conference, held in Adelaide in April.

The Coordinator of Education and Development also met with the Aboriginal Health Council of SA to set up hepatitis C education sessions for their Board members and the Aboriginal Primary Healthcare Worker Forum to be held in the latter part of 2006.

People in Correctional Facilities

With support from the South Australian Prison Health Service, Council educators set up quarterly education sessions at the Adelaide Women's Prison during this time, one of which was held during this reporting period. Education staff and volunteers also participated at a Health Information Day, targeting Aboriginal people at Mobilong Prison.

Due to the nature of the prison environment, direct access to prisoners to provide hepatitis C education is quite a challenge for external agencies like HCCSA. Thus much of the education is targeted at Correctional Services staff and SA Prison Health Service providers. In 2005-06, education sessions were provided to staff at Port Augusta Prison, Community Corrections staff at Port Adelaide and prison nurses.

The Council participated in regular meetings with the Department of Correctional Services, SA Prison Health Service and other non-government agencies to develop a Memorandum of Understanding between agencies to address these access issues. One of the outcomes has been the opportunity to provide hepatitis C education and promotion of Council education services, to forums for key prison staff such as psychologists, Aboriginal Liaison Officers, Social Workers and Case Management Coordinators. This series of sessions will be completed by the end of 2006.

Building relationships with these organisations also provided opportunities to provide input into procedural documents, such as the Prisons Hepatitis C Testing Checklist used by prison health staff for prison entrants.

People Who Inject Drugs

Regular education sessions have been provided for people in drug rehabilitation centres at the Woolshed and Kuitpo. In April, Council peer educator, Fred Robertson, began weekly education sessions for in-patients, alternating between Joslin and Warinilla Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation program sites.

EDUCATION SERVICES



During the year, three education sessions were provided to Warinilla staff, and the country drug and alcohol workers from Drug and Alcohol Services of South Australia. Three sessions were also provided to TAFESA drug and alcohol students at Regency Park and Berri.

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities

A hepatitis C education update was presented to PEACE HIV, Hepatitis C Multicultural Services workers, and two information stalls were held at Virginia Vietnamese Community events during the year.

People living in Rural and Remote SA

Getting It Together – Rural Action on Hepatitis C

The *Getting It Together (Rural Action on Hepatitis C)* Project was established in April, 2005 for people with hepatitis C in rural communities to develop connections with the Council, with the aim of supporting increased local community peer support activity.

A steering committee was established in April 2006 with representation from: HCCSA (a community member, GIT Community Workers and Rural Education Worker), SAVIVE, Drug and Alcohol Services SA -Country Services, Relationships Australia - HIV and Hepatitis C Worker Training Project and Woodcroft Community Health Service.



Two Community Workers (Gary Clarke and Michelle Morrison) were employed to coordinate the Getting It Together Network project with an emphasis on recruiting Network members and facilitating Network weekend meetings.

The key strategies of the project included:

- recruiting people for a series of five rural network meetings
- providing network participants with knowledge and skills development in relation to hepatitis C, health advocacy and consumer representation
- providing network participants with an opportunity to articulate their stories/experiences of living with hepatitis C in rural, regional and remote SA, which would then be developed for use



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- in relevant HCCSA education and information resources
- documentation of key issues to inform HCCSA rural advocacy and policy development
- provision of support for the identification of individual and collective advocacy issues
- identification of strategies on which to build future local and statewide rural, regional and remote peer support activities

At the time of writing this report there has been regular attendance by a core group of four participants from rural and regional SA. Stories are currently being developed utilising cartooning and digital story formats. These stories will be utilised in HCCSA education resources. Peer support activities are being planned for the next 12 months. These will focus on the establishment of local peer support activities in three rural areas and the development of 'peer info phone link-ups' commencing in January 2007.

A rural page on the HCCSA website is also being developed along with a new resource which will target people in rural, regional and remote communities newly diagnosed with hepatitis C.

We thank the GIT Community Workers for their creative and focussed work during the past year and the GIT Steering Committee members for their valuable input.

HeplinkSA

The Council's education team initiated HeplinkSA, an interagency for South Australian health and community workers with an interest in hepatitis C, based on a model from NSW.

HeplinkSA consists of an e-list where members can share hepatitis C research, policy documents, notices of events and training and ask questions relating to hepatitis C. Forums are also organised by the Council, and promoted to interested health and community workers. The first forum was held in April at Nunkuwarrin Yunti with guest speakers reporting on items of interest from the 5th Viral Hepatitis Conference, held in Sydney in February 2005. Around 60 people attended the Feedback Forum to hear reports from a range of speakers. HeplinkSA aims to provide future forums via videoconferencing to a number of rural sites.

C Talk - Positive speakers

'Positive speakers' are people who are living with hepatitis C or have recently cleared the virus, who work with the education team to challenge, illuminate and investigate what its really like to live with hepatitis C through the use of personal stories.

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By sharing their stories, positive speakers help people gain a better understanding of the emotional, physical, psychological and social impact of the virus. Speakers hope that their stories will help to challenge stereotypes and the considerable discrimination experienced by hepatitis C positive people.

Positive speakers work with education staff to provide personal perspectives across any of these strategies. The education team maintains a 'pool' of positive speakers, who are fully inducted into the HCCSA and are paid for their speaking engagements. C Talk is HCCSA's positive speakers' program and an integral part of the Education Program at HCCSA. In January 2006 the old program was reviewed and some additional innovations in program delivery planned:

- Training program reviewed and refreshed
- Inductions into HCCSA for graduates of the training program
- Ongoing 'extension' program
- Pathways into peer education
- An induction and training program for C Talk with a new intake of people is planned for July 2006.

C Stories

The C Stories Program was developed to provide an anonymous medium through which hep C affected people could tell their stories without being identified. Free software is used to put together images, sound and narration in a digital story format, and it is easy to access and use.

The idea was inspired by a collection of personal digital stories made by women living with HIV/Aids in Victoria, seen at a PLWHA conference in Adelaide in late 2005. It was immediately clear that the medium could be used to tell the stories of people affected by hep C.

Professional development for the education team in digital story production followed in March 2006, and a pilot workshop was trialled at the GIT weekend early in May 2006. The workshop participants were encouraged to experiment with the software and given free artistic licence to produce their stories, resulting in a number of collaborative and individual stories.

The enthusiasm of the participants for the medium was encouraging, and the continued use of the C Stories program is planned for the future. The C Stories will be published on the HCCSA website, used in the education program, and in the promotional activities of the Council.

Education Team

Kerry Paterson, Sharon Drage,
Nicci Parkin, Leslie Wightman,

INFORMATION & RESOURCES



OVERVIEW

2005-2006 saw much change in Information and Resources. We had a new Coordinator and Publications Officer and saw the loss of a much-loved, long-time volunteer.

The Program set new directions in several areas and undertook a number of major projects – some previously planned, some new – while maintaining other on-going work. As always the Information and Resources program owes much to the team of volunteers who do the resource distribution in the Council. We would like to acknowledge and thank them for their invaluable contribution. In 2005-06 Information and Resources was supported by six volunteers who together put in an average of 24 hours a week.

NEW DIRECTIONS

Magazine

The Hep C Community News was revamped to focus more on issues and developments in the sector, and less on day-to-day HCCSA activities. A monthly in-house publication filled the gap on Council updates. A guide for contributors was developed outlining the aims, style and requirements for submission of articles.

Media

Rather than merely responding to negative press with angry letters, our Program took the initiative to keep the media informed of issues in the sector by:

- sending out every issue of the news magazine to over 80 media outlets. (A direct result is a Victor Harbor radio station contacted us for an interview.)



INFORMATION & RESOURCES

- contacting media to congratulate them on good stories (New Idea) and offer correct information where information have been misleading (Nick Xenophon in the Australian, House on Channel 10).
- contacting media outlets with suggestions for pieces on hepatitis C (ABC Health Minutes)
- maintaining regular contact with reporters where opportunities arise.
- nominating the Council site for links on other websites (MyDr.com) and exchanging links with other organisations (VNCASA, organ-transplant.scripps.org),
- supporting and providing information to workers in the sector who have access to media space (Lynley Jones of Riverland Health Authority).

Corporate Branding

To increase recognition of Council material a common email letterhead was developed together with common email signatures, a publications procedures guideline and a style guide providing detailed information on corporate colours, language guidelines and typefaces. Reprinted publications were adapted to reflect the Council's colours.

MAJOR PROJECTS

A number of major projects were planned for the Program at the beginning of 2005-2006, such as the upgrading of the Council's website, the Scaling up of Awareness Week and the upgrading of the Council's library. Other projects were initiated during the year in response to need.





INFORMATION & RESOURCES

Website redevelopment

The much anticipated overhaul of our website was undertaken in phases. Involving staff and community in developing the practically dormant site into a complex one with sophisticated features would have been slow and time-consuming, leaving the council without a working site for many more months.

Instead the site was renovated using existing contents. This interim site has improved navigation, larger capacity and templates for easy creation of new pages.

This enabled active use of the site and staff could then get an understanding of possibilities and limitations. It took pressure off the new site development so that more thought could be put into it. In practical terms, the Council got a working site much earlier and is better placed to rebuild its site such that it is more firmly grounded and stay relevant longer.

In the 4.5 months since the Interim site was set up there had been:

- 5,213 visits to the website, averaging 1158 a month,
- 14,847 pages were visited, averaging 3299 per month,
- 28,307 hits averaging 6290 monthly.

As a rough indication, during June 2006, of the top 25 locations that visited our website, 11 were from Australia visiting a total of 544 pages. Of these 11, seven could definitely be identified as from

South Australia (total=374 pages).

Library upgrade

Library upgrade was focused on new acquisitions and the cataloguing system. The electronic cataloguing system chosen – and successfully installed – was Bookmark, a well-tested, competitively priced and well-supported SA system developed with Department of Education support. The catalogue can also be accessed through our website. The online catalogue will be launched at the 2006 Hepatitis C Awareness Week.

Acquisition of new articles progressed as normal through the diligent efforts of our once-a-month librarian. Due to time constraints, acquisition of new books was slower than desired. The physical space of the library was also renovated with new, comfortable reading seats, two small desks for community members to work at and access the Internet. We also acquired a video/DVD player and TV for viewing tapes and CDs. These were installed with the help of a volunteer tradesperson.

Awareness Week

In 2005, the date for National Hepatitis C Awareness Week was moved to October to coincide with International Hepatitis C Day on 1 October. 2005-06 was therefore

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unusual in that there was no Hepatitis C Awareness Week in this financial year.

IDU Hepatitis C Treatment Resource

The IDU hepatitis C treatment resource was planned as a follow up of the 2005 Treatment Awareness Week. A working group including SAVIVE and DASSA was set up and a wider reference group established. The working group has met several times, developed three drafts and considered format options and timeline. This project is progressing according to plan and we expect to have the final products around end of 2006 or start of 2007.

2006 State Elections Campaign

The Information and Resources Program team supported the State Elections Hep C campaign by:

- producing the background paper,
- setting up the online survey designed by the Board in consultation with a media consultant and
- collecting and monitoring responses.

The campaign generated good responses and led to the concrete outcomes described in the Manager's report.

Database Development

This project grew out of a review of the data being managed by the different programs. All the data and lists have

overlaps and mutual relationships but are not functionally set up that way. Furthermore, some are in digital form, others in printed form only. The quality of data entry is also an issue. Following discussions among staff, this Program initiated a review of the Council's database management system and is currently getting quotes for the development of a coherent database.

VOLUNTEERS AND STUDENTS

Volunteers

Our six volunteers in 2005-06 put in a total of 1227 hours. This program was maintained with over 470 hours of mainly paid and some unpaid staff time. The year was marked by the loss of John Shannon – a long time volunteer, and the resignation of another volunteer due to health issues. After discussions and feedback from participants, resource volunteer meetings were reduced from monthly to once in two months, although lunches continue to occur monthly.

Communication and work in the mailroom was streamlined through internal email, electronic document printing instead of photocopying and email templates for stationery orders.

Students

A final year University of Adelaide Public Health student will be working in this program area for six months from July 2006.



INFORMATION & RESOURCES

RESOURCE DISSEMINATION

Orders

Over 42,900 resource items were distributed. This was down by 21600 on last year's distribution. This can probably be attributed to Awareness Week being moved out of the financial year. Of the 468 orders received, 44% were from individuals and 56% from organisations. 88 orders (18%) were from rural clients and 22 (4.7%) from interstate. There were 18 orders from 10 indigenous organisations.

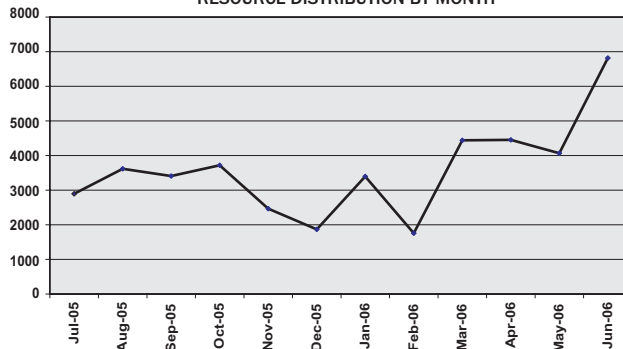
Resource Drops

Resource drops were reactivated in late 2005 after a long break. Staff at the targeted community centres, when contacted by telephone, gave very positive feedback on the initiative. A second drop is planned. The drops are coordinated primarily by one of the experienced volunteers and we aim to do at least one a quarter.

Information Stalls

We continue to participate at have information stalls at community events. These are usually supported by paid and unpaid staff from all programs but especially from IR and Education. The

RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION BY MONTH



Council ran 17 information stalls in 2005-06. Highlights included Crocfest (see Education team report), The Parks Community Health Information Day, Big Day Out, YAC-RAP, Indigenous Health Expo (see Education team report) and Man Alive! We are currently discussing with the Education Program to work out evaluation processes for information stalls.

NETWORKING

The Information and Resources Coordinator continues to attend Hoi Sinh meetings at the Vietnamese Community in Australia SA Chapter. Other Hoi Sinh participants include representatives from DASSA, The Parks Community Health Service, SA Police, PEACE and SAVIVE. We are also part of the South Australian Network of Drug and Alcohol Services. Formal contact with other hepatitis C councils was maintained via the National Resources Network and the Awareness Week Reference Group, both facilitated by the AHC.

INFORMATION & RESOURCES

The Hep C Network coordinated by this Program, was discontinued in April and replaced by HeplinkSA, an email list maintained by the Education Program. This Program supported the HeplinkSA network through initial technical advice.

We have also made informal contacts with the multicultural program of UnitingCare Wesley and the Oversease Chinese Association of SA. Both hold promise of strengthening further.

PUBLICATIONS

The Publications Officer's priority was to update and redesign all in-house publications and further develop the Hepatitis C Community News.

The news magazine has improved significantly over the last 12 months. As the council's main vehicle for communicating with the outside world, it is comprehensive, eclectic and appealing.

During the course of the year, a majority of our in-house resources were rewritten and redesigned with a fresh, uniform look. New resources include a fact sheet on HBV/HCV co-infection, and a South Australian edition of the HCCNSW's new booklet, "I Have Hep C". The SA reprint was partly sponsored by Roche. The Info and Resources team are currently working on the SA reprint of another popular booklet: Pregnancy Birth and Beyond originally published by the ACT Hepatitis C Council.



In addition to keeping the community informed about Council activities and programs, the monthly Internal Exam was introduced to keep the council's own workers abreast of news and developments. This is especially important for the volunteers many of whom come in only weekly.

In addition to Info and Resources activities and projects, the IR team provides considerable support to other program areas in desktop publishing and technical support in producing digital resources such as in the Getting It Together project and the digital stories project. One outstanding example of this is the series of cartoons produced by the Publications Officer working closely with the members of the GIT project.

Information & Resources Team

Cecilia Lim
James Morrison





INFO & SUPPORT LINE

Volunteers an integral part of the Hep C Council

The Info & Support Line Volunteers demonstrate a similar level of commitment to their work, as would be expected of paid staff. Our Volunteers are resolute in providing a high quality, accurate and affable information and support service that is sensitive to the needs of our callers. In the last year, Volunteers have given the Info & Support Line 1,387 hours of dedicated service, not including the many hours taken in training. The Council sincerely thanks Fred, Lyn, Will, Steve and Liz for their contribution over the last year. We also wish Steve and Liz well in their future endeavours as they have now moved on to broaden their horizons.

Congratulations to Fred for his long service award in recognition of Volunteering for over 7 years with the Council.

In May, after much planning, advertising and recruiting, the Council, in conjunction with George Valiotis, Coordinator of the HIV & Hep C Training Program from Relationships Australia commenced training new workers. Our training is very comprehensive involving 6 full days of theory and practical, followed by listening shifts, role-plays, supported phone shifts and an oral

and written assessment. When successfully completed volunteers will achieve certificate three in telephone counselling, this is a nationally recognised qualification. After formal training the education continues with monthly debrief meetings which include invited speakers to present from their area of expertise.

In 2005-06, the Info & Support Line received 849 contacts. Although the majority, 768 (91%) used the phone to access information, Sixty-three (8%) booked face-to-face appointments and 18 (2%) made contact via email. Some information requests are more unusual with (4%) requiring follow-up of information for the caller. Eighty per cent of contacts (669) continue to come from the metro area. However contacts from rural South Australia increased from 14% in 04-05 to 18% in 05-06. The remaining 2% were from interstate and overseas.

Information requests from the primary target populations accounted for over 80% of contacts. These include people living with hepatitis C, partners, family, friends, health and community workers who call on behalf of a positive person and people who are awaiting a test result or are considered



Fred receiving his long service award ►

INFO & SUPPORT LINE



at risk of possible infection. The remaining 20 % of information requests came from doctors, nurses, other health and community workers, employers, teachers, students and the general public.

Of the people living with hepatitis C who contacted the council, 58 % were male and 42% female. As in previous years, about 75% of partners, family or friends who call are female.

The most common subjects discussed were Council services, treatment, transmission and testing. Other topics not detailed in chart included,

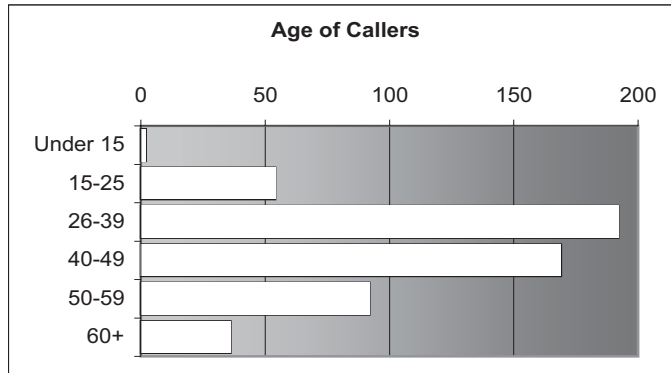
post exposure management of needle-stick injuries, pregnancy and breast feeding, standard precautions, process for specialist referral, side effects, complaints, genotypes and more. See graph on facing page.

Over 500 referrals were made to services outside the council. An additional 166 referrals were made to Council programs. Other referrals included trial nurses, clinic 275, Equal Opportunity Commission, Ombudsman, Patient advisors, Hep C Councils in other states, Offenders Aid Rehabilitation Service and Partners of Prisoners, the Travel Dr, Hep C nurses in Berri and many more.

Calming the C

The Calming the C is peer support group continues to meet every second Tuesday. The group shares a light lunch and provides opportunities for people to meet others, share experiences and gain support.

The group is very friendly and welcoming of new people. Over the past year, there were 232 attendances at calming the C, including several





INFO & SUPPORT LINE

friends, partners and family members of people affected by hep C. Many people considering or on treatment find the group particularly useful in understanding and normalizing the treatment process.

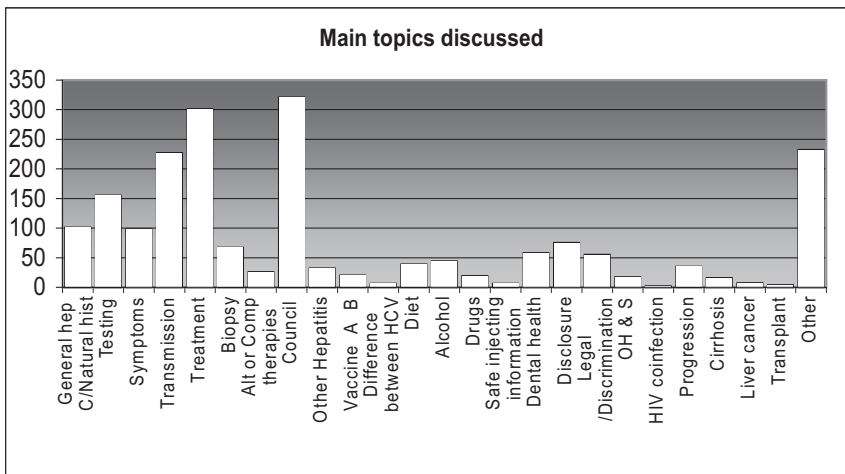
Quotes from the group

"I expected a group of people sitting in a circle not talking, but it wasn't like that at all. People were very friendly, talking and having a few laughs."

"This is the first time I have met anyone else with hep C"

"The advice about side effects on treatment has really helped me."

Deborah Warneke-Arnold
Coordinator
Information & Support Line



TREASURER'S REPORT



Total income from grants in the income and expenditure statement is \$592,274. This is the net result of the twelve months recurrent funding for the financial year of \$435,185, funding for the rural program for twelve months of \$89,599 and funding from the Commonwealth for the Coordinator Education & Development position of \$67,490. Rural grant income includes funds for extension of the program and monies received from the Commonwealth for the "Getting it Together Project". Project income of \$80,534 is one off grant income for Conferences \$5,700, Equipment \$10,000, Relocation funds carried forward from the previous financial year of \$50,000 and \$14,834 is for the Mosaic Art Program, completed in December 2005. The grant income reflected in the income and expenditure statement for "Other Grants" and "Project Income" reflects what has actually been spent during the 2005/06 financial year, rather than what was actually received from the Commonwealth Government. There are some Commonwealth grant funds related to Rural and other one-off projects which have been carried forward into the next financial year and these are shown in "Grants in Advance" (\$212,178) under Current Liabilities on the Balance Sheet.

Other sources of income for the year were: Interest - \$13,426, donations - \$439, memberships - \$537, positive speaker fee \$568, writeback of rent provision \$2,004 and sundry income of \$4,742. Sundry income comes from Sponsorship and hiring out of the training room. The total income for the year was \$695,033, which is \$149,983 greater than the previous year.

Total expenditure for the year was \$687,20, which is an increase on the previous year of \$178,458. The major expense was the salaries, wages

and oncosts for staff, totalling \$442,862, and rent and outgoing on the premises of \$61,984.

Total administration costs were \$26,118 above the previous year, reflecting the additional funds granted and the costs of more staff and larger premises. Rent and outgoings was up \$26k, Advertising expenditure up \$3k, Depreciation up \$4k and Staff training up \$6k. This was partly offset by lower expenditure on conferences \$6k, Equipment purchases \$4k, Bookkeeping \$2k and motor vehicle running costs \$2k.

Expenditure on Salaries and Wages was \$135k higher than the previous year, reflecting the salaries and wages for the new position of Coordinator Education & Development, extension of hours for a part time Publications Officer, a Metro Educator and casual salaries and wages to support the 'Getting It Together' Rural Program.

For the financial year 2005-2006 the Council had a net surplus of \$7,832.

The accounts for the financial year were audited by Peter Hall and Co Chartered Accountants.

Carol Holly
Treasurer



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Peter Hall CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

PO Box 8253
Sector Arcade SA 5000

25 High Street
Adelaide SA 5000

ABN 22 309 824 562

P 08 8231 8326
F 08 8231 0283
E office@peterhall.com.au

Principal
Peter Hall
Practice Manager
Matthew Rosenberg

11th September 2008

The Hepatitis C Council of SA Inc
PO Box 782
Kent Town SA 5071

Our Ref:HH195.MR.sw

Dear Lynn,

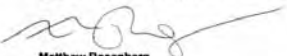
Please find enclosed the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2008. Two council members need to sign off on the 'Statement by Council' and 'Report by Council'. The report needs then to be returned to our office for Peters final sign-off.

Please also find enclosed a letter addressed to the Manager and Management Council marked 'Recommendations'.

Also enclosed is our audit fee for the year.

If you have any queries regarding the above please contact our office.

Yours faithfully
Peter Hall – Chartered Accountant


Matthew Rosenberg
Practice Manager

Peter Hall CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

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Peter Hall
Practice Manager
Matthew Rosenberg

TO THE MEMBERS

Hepatitis C Council of South Australia Inc

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

SCOPE

We have audited the accompanying Special Purpose Financial Reports of the **Hepatitis C Council of South Australia Inc** for the 12 months ended 30th June 2008 comprising the Balance Sheet, and the Statement of Income and Expenditure. Management are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the special Purpose Financial Reports and the information contained therein. We have conducted an independent audit of the Special Purpose Financial Reports in order to express our opinion on them to the Committee of the Association.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material mis-statement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the accounts, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. The procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether in all material aspects, the accounts are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting concepts and Standards and statutory requirements so as to present a view of the Association which is consistent with our understanding of its financial position and the results of its operations.

In common with organisations of this type, it is not practical to establish adequate records or controls over cash receipts prior to their receipt and entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit of cash receipts was limited to the amount recorded in the accounting records of the Association.

In our opinion, as so far as it appears from our testing and examination, monies recorded as receipts have been properly brought to account by the Association.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



HEPATITIS C COUNCIL OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2006

	2005 \$	2006 \$
Employment Expenses		
Wages	238,272	334,924
Other Wage Costs	1,561	5,974
Superannuation	19,975	28,581
WorkCover	4,522	7,347
Provisions for Staff Entitlements	938	9,427
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES	<u>265,268</u>	<u>386,253</u>
Programs		
Program Expenses	7,006	-
	<u>7,006</u>	<u>-</u>
Rural Program		
Salary & Wages	42,555	56,609
Other Expenses	11,875	21,718
	<u>54,430</u>	<u>78,327</u>
Indigenous Project		
Program Expenses	7,079	-
	<u>7,079</u>	<u>-</u>
Mosaic Project		
Artist Fees	6,061	5,356
Materials	690	97
Other	46	21,321
Scholarship	-	570
	<u>6,797</u>	<u>27,344</u>
Resource Collection		
Library	666	1,662
	<u>666</u>	<u>1,662</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	<u>75,978</u>	<u>107,333</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>508,743</u>	<u>687,201</u>
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	<u>36,307</u>	<u>7,832</u>

HEPATITIS C COUNCIL OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2006

	2005 \$	2006 \$
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
Opening Balance	32,624	68,931
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	36,307	7,832
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>68,931</u>	<u>76,763</u>
Represented by:-		
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank - Current Account	364,715	(16822)
Investment - ANZ V2 Account	9,878	323,198
Petty Cash	250	250
Receivables	103,839	677
Prepayment	5,025	4,417
Accrued Income	2,275	3,619
	<u>485,982</u>	<u>315,339</u>
Non-Current Assets		
Plant & Equipment - at cost	53,997	92,931
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>36,469</u>	<u>49,448</u>
Motor Vehicle	14,193	14,193
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>5,324</u>	<u>7,988</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>512,379</u>	<u>365,027</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors	49,174	11,511
Employee Entitlements	13,218	19,457
Grants in Advance	353,334	212,178
Net GST Payable	8,731	21,470
	<u>424,457</u>	<u>264,616</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provision for Long Service Leave	6,287	12,948
Provision for Redundancy (Employees)	8,000	8,000
Provision for Asset Replacement	2,700	2,700
Provision for Rental Increase	2,004	-
	<u>18,991</u>	<u>23,648</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>443,448</u>	<u>288,264</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>68,931</u>	<u>76,763</u>



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

HEPATITIS C COUNCIL OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC. INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2006

	2005 \$	2006 \$
INCOME		
Grants Recurrent	480,223	435,185
Other Grants	8,256	157,089
Donations	260	439
Interest Received	3,391	13,426
Membership	1,061	537
Positive Speaker Fee	280	568
Project Income	12,745	80,534
Reimbursements	516	509
Sundry Income	2,000	4,742
Provision Asset Replacement, Rent & Relocation	36,296	2,004
	<u>545,050</u>	<u>695,033</u>
LESS EXPENSES		
Administration		
Advertising	5,681	9,052
Audit Fees	2,250	3,610
Bank Charges	1,013	1,180
Book Keeping	12,872	10,868
Conferences, Meetings & Training	10,273	4,247
Computer Consumables	1,655	1,816
Consultants	2,822	3,715
Courses	856	215
Depreciation	11,646	15,540
Equipment Purchased < \$500	8,225	3,687
Information Technology Support	3,369	5,595
Insurance	3,469	2,500
Legal Fees	1,465	-
Memberships & Fees	1,451	2,120
Motor Vehicle Running Costs including Basecost	10,329	7,932
Office Maintenance & Repairs	435	1,309
Postage	6,676	6,214
Premises Rent and On Costs	35,887	61,984
Printing	7,529	9,720
Security	1,632	1,295
Staff Amenities	1,540	1,746
Staff Training	1,549	7,197
Stationery	7,324	6,897
Sundries	2,916	4,216
Telephone	15,081	13,637
Travel & Accommodation	9,352	6,921
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	<u>187,497</u>	<u>193,615</u>

Hepatitis C Council of South Australia Inc.

REPORT BY COUNCIL

During the financial year ended 30th June 2006

- (a) No officer of the Association, firm of which any officer is a member, or corporate in which any officer has substantial financial interest, has received or become entitled to receive a benefit as a result of a contract between the officer, firm or corporate and the Association, and;
- (b) No officer of the Association received directly or indirectly from the Association any payment or other benefit of a pecuniary value.

Paul Williams
Treasurer

Dated: 16/9/06

[Signature]
SECRETARY
15 Sep '06

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Hepatitis C Council of South Australia Inc.

STATEMENT BY COUNCIL


Year Ended 30th June 2006

As detailed in Note 1 to the accounts, the Association is not a reporting entity because in the Council's opinion there is unlikely to exist users who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs and these Accounts are therefore "Special Purpose Financial Reports" that have been prepared solely to fulfil the requirements of the constitution of the Association.

The Association has applied the provisions of Miscellaneous Professional Statement APS1 "Conformity with Statements of Accounting Concepts and Accounting Standards" relevant to special purpose Financial Reports. On this basis no Accounting Standards are applicable. Accounting Standards have only been applied to the extent that they coincide with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the Accounts.

In the opinion of the Council:

- (a) The accompanying financial statements present fairly the results of the operations of the Association for the financial year and the state of affairs of the Association as at the end of the financial year, and
- (b) the Council has reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.


Treasurer

Dated: 20/9/06


Secretary

15 Sep 06

Peter Hall
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, subject to the above limitation in scope, the **Hepatitis C Council of South Australia Inc** are properly drawn up:

- (a) so as to give a true and fair view of the Association's state of affairs as at 30th June 2006 and the Association's result for the year ended on that date, and
- (b) in accordance with the provisions of the Associations Incorporations Act 1985 and
- (c) in accordance with applicable Statements of Accounting Concepts and applicable Accounting Concepts and applicable Accounting Standards.

Peter Hall – Chartered Accountant
Registered Company Auditor



Peter Hall

ADELAIDE: 21/09/2006



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOT FOR PROFIT CLIENT: **Hepatitis C Council of SA**
 accounting specialists

DATE: **30 June 2006**

Prepared By: 30/06/2006 Reviewed By:

Description	Original Cost	Date	OWDV 1-Jul-05	Rate	Portion of Year	Diminishing Value	CWDV 30-Jun-06
Opening Balance	-985					0	
1997/98							
Samsung Fax Machine	735		64	25.00%	100.00%	21	63
Epson Colour Printer	366		44	37.50%	100.00%	11	33
Computer	2,023		54	25.00%	100.00%	20	15
Modem - KTX	167		20	25.00%	100.00%	5	36
Scanner	395		48	25.00%	100.00%	12	15
Monitor	999		25	40.00%	100.00%	10	15
3 * 5 Bookcases	640		129	20.00%	100.00%	26	103
Sliding Door Cupboard	283		57	20.00%	100.00%	11	46
Desk & Pedestal	343		66	20.00%	100.00%	14	55
4 Drawer Pedestal	209		42	20.00%	100.00%	8	34
3 Office Chairs	503		102	20.00%	100.00%	20	82
Kelvinator Bar Fridge	334		42	25.00%	100.00%	11	31
1998/99							
Overhead Projector	695		118	25.00%	100.00%	30	88
Portable Screen	175		44	20.00%	100.00%	9	35
Tape Recorder	325		55	25.00%	100.00%	14	41
Paper Folder	1,270		217	25.00%	100.00%	54	163
4 Drawer Filing Cabinet	281		71	20.00%	100.00%	14	57
2 Drawer Filing Cabinet	198		50	20.00%	100.00%	10	40
Laminator	395		69	25.00%	100.00%	17	52
Computer Desk	195		91	20.00%	100.00%	10	41
Desk & Return	349		91	20.00%	100.00%	18	73
Mobile Telephone	162		8	37.50%	100.00%	3	5
Toshiba Laptop	3,967		209	37.50%	100.00%	78	131
Microwave Oven	280		49	25.00%	100.00%	12	37
TV & Video Unit	964		171	25.00%	100.00%	43	128
Digital Camera	1,099		195	25.00%	100.00%	49	146
1999/00							
2 Desks	364		118	20.00%	100.00%	24	94
2 Office Chairs	166		54	20.00%	100.00%	11	43
4 Drawer Filing Cabinet	229		74	20.00%	100.00%	15	59
2000/01							
6 Lounge Chairs	316		107	20.00%	100.00%	21	86
2 Seaters	360		122	20.00%	100.00%	24	98
Kitchen Table & 4 Chairs	300		101	20.00%	100.00%	20	81
Outdoor setting	314		110	20.00%	100.00%	22	88
10 Meeting Room Chairs	1,320		518	20.00%	100.00%	104	414
4 Drawer Filing Cabinet	305		120	20.00%	100.00%	24	95
Mobile Display Board	1,762		271	25.00%	100.00%	68	203
2001/02							
Photocopier	11,000		3,424	25.00%	100.00%	674	2,750
2 Printers & Setup	1,180		15	37.50%	100.00%	15	0
2002/03							
Computer	1,068		218	37.50%	100.00%	218	0
2 Computers	1,068		218	37.50%	100.00%	218	0
2 Computers	3,205		675	37.50%	100.00%	675	0
Binding Machine	456		235	25.00%	100.00%	235	0
Laptop Computer	2,740		0	50.00%	100.00%	-69	0
2003/04							
Computer	1,023		255	37.50%	100.00%	255	0
Computer	517		137	37.50%	100.00%	137	0
TV	400		307	20.00%	100.00%	80	227
Camera	585		466	20.00%	100.00%	117	351

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Description	Original Cost	Date	OWDV 1-Jul-05	Rate	Portion of Year	Diminishing Value	CWDV 30-Jun-06
2004/05							
Magazine Display Unit	500		454	20.00%	100.00%	100	354
Resource Pigeon Holes x3	1,091		990	20.00%	100.00%	218	772
Vacuum Cleaner	423		382	20.00%	100.00%	89	297
Computer and Monitor	1,232		1,019	37.50%	100.00%	462	557
Laser Printer	466		359	37.50%	100.00%	175	184
Sony Data Projector	3,182		2,727	37.50%	100.00%	1,193	1,534
Adobe Creative Suite Software	635		613	37.50%	100.00%	238	375
Computer and Monitor	1,423		1,392	37.50%	100.00%	534	858
Total	53,097		17,528			6,433	11,106
Accumulated Depreciation			36,469				
Additions 2005/06:							
Filing cabinet	272	14-Jul-05		20.00%	100%	54	218
Microwave	271	16-Aug-05		20.00%	92%	50	221
Filing cabinet	272	19-Aug-05		20.00%	92%	50	222
CD Player	89	7-Sep-05		20.00%	85%	15	74
Corkboard	180	31-May-06		100.00%	8%	15	165
Filing cabinet 2 drawer	133	30-Jun-06		20.00%	0%	0	133
Year planner	159	30-Jun-06		20.00%	0%	0	159
Filing cabinet	400	16-Jun-06		100.00%	50%	200	200
Beggemaker	349	17-Jan-06		20.00%	50%	35	314
Library furniture	550	8-Mar-06		20.00%	33%	36	514
Digital Projector	533	11-May-06		20.00%	16%	17	516
Barcode system	2,090	11-May-06		20.00%	16%	67	2,023
Fridge	309	31-May-06		20.00%	8%	5	303
Laptop	275	27-Jun-06		20.00%	0%	0	275
computer	2,200	28-Jun-06		37.50%	0%	0	2,200
tables x3	1,812	30-Jun-06		20.00%	0%	0	1,812
rugs x2	518	30-Jun-06		20.00%	0%	0	518
Computer	409	30-Jun-06		37.50%	0%	0	409
folding machine	2,984	30-Jun-06		37.50%	0%	0	2,984
Desk, drawers and chair	411	30-Jun-06		20.00%	68%	125	411
Computer equip various	950	11-Nov-05		37.50%	66%	5,866	825
Sub-total	58,928		0			6,556	32,372
TOTAL	92,925		17,528			12,979	43,477
Accumulated Depreciation Office Equipment							49,448
Mazda 121	14,193		8,868	16.75%	100.00%	2,681	6,207
Accumulated Depreciation Mazda 121							7,996

Hepatitis C Council of South Australia Inc.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Association is not a reporting entity because in the Council's opinion, there is unlikely to exist users who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs and these Financial Statements are therefore "Special Purpose Financial Reports" that have been prepared solely to fulfil the requirements of the constitution of the Association.

The Association has applied the provisions of Miscellaneous Professional Statement APS 1 "Conformity with Statements of Accounting Concepts and Accounting Standards" relevant to Special Purpose Financial Reports. On this basis no Accounting Standards are applicable. Accounting Standards have only been applied to the extent that they coincide with the accounting policies set out below.

(a) Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical costs and except where stated do not take into account current valuations of non-current assets.

(b) Non-Current Assets

All assets held by the Association with an original cost exceeding \$500 have been capitalised.

(c) Depreciation of Plant, Equipment and Buildings

Depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value basis so as to write off the cost of each depreciable non-current asset over its expected useful life.

(d) Income Tax

The Association is a non-profit organisation and is exempt from income tax pursuant to Section 23(ea) of the Income Tax Assessment Act.

