



ANNUAL REPORT and Financial Statement

2018/19

HIGHLIGHTS

13 Policy Submissions 🗸



We produced 25 & 2 special bulletins



training, information and capacity building sessions for 2,5

Staff attended 50

personal development activities or training sessions

43

on items of importance to the community services sector



Aged Care Conferences

Produced **Webinars** election campaigns

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Community Industry Group gratefully acknowledges the valuable work of our colleagues in community service organisations, making it an industry of which we are proud to be a voice, an influence and a leader.

We thank our members for their support and acknowledge that we wouldn't be able to continue the important work we do without the valued contribution of our funding partners, NSW Department of Communities and Justice, NSW Department of Health, and Australian Government Department of Health.

Thank you to all of the organisations and individuals who have helped us make this another successful year.



ABOUT COMMUNITY INDUSTRY GROUP

Community Industry Group (formerly the Illawarra Forum) has been operating for over 26 years and we're extremely proud of the work we do.

We are the voice of community services in South East New South Wales. We empower the community service industry by representing to policy makers the views of our members and the communities they serve. We connect industry sectors to achieve mutual goals and keep services up to date with the latest issues and best practice.

Community Industry Group provides leadership by supporting community services to deliver high quality innovative services in an ever-changing market place with high level demands from consumers and policy makers.

Our staff are experts in their fields and are always available to assist members with advice and advocacy issues. We are honoured to provide a voice, influence and leadership for our members and the community services industry.

Our Vision

We have an equal place at the table where decisions which impact on community service organisations and communities are made.

Our Mission

- Support community organisations
- · Promote expertise and innovation
- · Foster industry development
- Pursue social justice in the region.



We are Community Industry Group

OUR **BOARD**

Eleonore Johansson

Chair

Eleonore has worked in the Community Services Industry for over 20 years. She is currently employed as the General Manager of Southern Youth and Family Services. Eleonore has a MA in Psychology, a Degree in Public Administration, and a Diploma of Frontline Management.

Marlene Calleja

Vice Chair

Marlene has worked in the community sector for more than 20 years, currently as manager of the Warilla Community Centre. Marlene brings considerable experience in, and passion for, small community organisations. Marlene's skills and interest include management, commerce, local government issues, community welfare and social justice.

Danna Nelse OAM

Treasurer

With many years local experience in the community sector, Danna currently works as Manager Community Development at The Rail Neighbourhood Association Incorporated. Danna is our longest-serving Board member, having been a foundation committee member and has been awarded life membership of the organisation in recognition of her service.

Grant Vukasinovic

Secretary

Grant is the General Manager – Person Centred Operations at Greenacres Disability Services. He has 27 years' experience in service coordination and senior management in the disability sector working in accommodation support, day and recreation services. Grant holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in psychology.

Alice Lans

Board Member

Alice is the CEO of Noah's Inclusion Services, a not for profit organisation specialising in working with children and young people and their families. Alice has had 20 years of experience working across the health, private, education and disability sectors and is a passionate advocate for children and families. Alice holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) from the University of Sydney.

June Lowe

Roard Member

June is a proud Aboriginal woman from the Yuin Nation who has over 25 years' experience working in both Commonwealth and State government, and for the last six years in a few small non-government organisations mainly in portfolios pertaining to Aboriginal affairs. June is currently employed as the Community Development Facilitator, Community Services Illawarra/Shoalhayen with Mission Australia.

Daphne Olsen

nard Member

Daphne is currently employed as General Manager at CareWays Community. Daphne has many years' experience in the community services sector and holds a Masters Degree in Management from University of Technology Sydney.

Verica Sajdovska

Board Member

Verica has over 20 years of experience in the community services sector, having worked in community development, settlement services, children, youth and family services, transport, aged and dementia care, carer support, management and other support services. Verica currently works as a manager of the Macedonian Welfare Association of NSW Inc and is passionate about promoting equal access to services and issues that are of concern to CALD communities.

Craig Smith

Board Member

Craig is the Executive Leader of Service Integrated Communities at Warrigal. He has worked in the Aged Care Sector in senior management positions since 2005. Craig has maintained a strong commitment to the not for profit sector, working with Credit Union Australia as the Regional Manager prior to working in aged care. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from University of Wollongong.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Eleonore Johansson

For more than 25 years, Community Industry Group has proudly pursued its role of promoting the social justice agenda, and the past twelve months has proven the increasing importance of advocacy organisations in supporting and promoting the work of community service organisations, and in progressing better outcomes for people experiencing disadvantage.

weight' in both its advocacy work, and in delivery of capacity building initiatives for community organisations.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the whole team for their dedication and commitment to providing the Voice, Influence and Leadership for not for profit community organisations in South East NSW. In particular, I want to thank our CEO, Nicky Sloan, for her leadership, for her knowledge and for her enormous commitment to this industry and the region.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to my colleagues on the Board of Community Industry Group, and thank them for their dedication to providing guidance and governance to the organisation. This organisation relies on the skill and commitment of a volunteer Board, and we are indeed fortunate to have directors who not only bring governance experience, but are also representative of the range of community services. This year, as we farewelled Larissa Daniels after many years' service, we welcomed Verika Sajdovska to the Board. In addition to her governance skills, Verika brings the voice of culturally and linguistically diverse communities to the table. I look forward to working with her and the whole Board as we lead the organisation to achieve its vision of being at the table when decisions are made which impact community organisations, and local communities.

Our members face significant challenges in the current environment. Policy reviews and reforms abound, and funding for community organisations has become more tenuous as the agenda moves relentlessly towards more competition and contestability. We are lucky, in this region, to retain a peak body which can bring together organisations in a strong and collaborative manner, and can advocate on their behalf from a position of neutrality and respect.

While policy and funding reforms challenge the viability of the sector, the level of need and disadvantage in the community continues to grow as people living on low incomes struggle for survival in this time of escalating housing, energy and living costs. In particular, the low rates of income support payments has resulted in increasing levels of need in the community. This, in turn, impacts our sector, as people experiencing complex issues and desperation turn to not for profit organisations for basic supports such as food and clothing. Community Industry Group has continued to provide a voice for disadvantaged communities in the region, informed by expertise and case studies from our members.

The past year has also heralded changes for our own organisation. The roll out of the NDIS and the reform of the Tenant Participation Resource Service program resulted in significant cuts to organisational income, and subsequently to staffing changes. Despite these cuts and changes, Community Industry Group has continued to 'punch above its

CEO REPORT

Nicky Sloan

Reflecting on the many achievements and activities of the Community Industry Group over the past twelve months, I am once again in awe of the amazing skills, knowledge and productivity contained within this compact but highly efficient team. Indeed, many people are amazed to discover just how limited our resources are, given the range and scope of the work we deliver, and the influence we achieve.

This has been an important year for social policy and for the political future of our region, state and nation. Having both a state election and a federal election in the one year enabled us to highlight to our future representatives and leaders the issues which are important to our members and to their clients and communities. For the first time, we ran our election campaigns online, and were able to extend our reach and our messages across the whole of our region. We were also able to offer a range of resources to members and supporters, to ensure that their voices were also heard by our future leaders.

There is no doubt that the community services industry is currently at the vortex of a catastrophic collision of reforms and direction changes. From the challenges associated with the roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme, to the impact of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, to the impending impacts from the Their Futures Matter whole of NSW government reform, our members are feeling the squeeze as government urges them to increase outputs, or target new client groups, or add more geographical areas within existing funding pools.

One of our key messages to government is that it is unconscionable to keep pressing not for profit community organisations to deliver more within the existing budgetary envelope. We simply cannot accept that there is no more money for human/community service delivery when both NSW and Federal government are delivering budgetary surpluses. Particularly since these same governments which promote budgetary surpluses as a sign of fiscal responsibility, will not permit not-for-profits to retain a surplus if they are able to deliver agreed outcomes for less than their funded contracts.

In addition to our work ahead of the elections, over the past year we have contributed to numerous Inquiries and Consultations. A key message has been that government policies which focus on competition and contestability are having negative impacts within a sector which has always been eager to collaborate, partner, and maximise outcomes by working together.

We have strongly advocated that you can't apply free market theory to human service delivery. We have called on our political leaders to stop transactionalising support services, because markets don't look after vulnerable people needing support or care.

Our policy work continues to be informed by our members, and we are grateful to the many individuals and organisations who have provided input into our submissions and advocacy strategies.

In its 26 year history, Community Industry Group has always promoted diversity in our

CEO REPORT CONTINUED...

sector. This past year we have continued to fight to keep our small providers from being squeezed out by a move to collapse contracts into larger programs. We need a rich and diverse community service sector which values small, medium and large providers, and keeps its focus squarely on quality service delivery for people in need of support.

As our Annual Report demonstrates, in addition to our work in advocacy, we have supported the community sector in our region through a range of capacity building initiatives including training, webinars, large scale forums, and one on one support. We have lead the implementation of several action research projects to support members in the implementation of new government policy directions including the Wellness and Reablement pilot, the outcomes measurement trial, and the Aboriginal Recruitment and Retention pilot. We have facilitated key meetings and strategic planning sessions for a range of organisations, and have continued to offer one on one support for managers, Board members and community sector workers.

As a peak organisation, our most important asset is our membership. Our members give us our Voice, inform our Influence, and enable us in our servant Leadership. I am proud of the many ways we have sought to support, resource, and advocate for our members, and I thank all of our members for your continued support.

I also extend my grateful thanks to the Board of Community Industry Group. We are fortunate to have such a brains trust of talented, committed and erudite leaders to provide strong governance and guidance. I am thankful to each of them for their unwavering support, for their strong leadership, for their humour and humanity, and for their vision. Special thanks as always, goes to our inestimable Chair, Eleonore Johansson, who is the true embodiment of leadership, wisdom, dedication and energy.

I reserve my most grateful thanks for the Community Industry Group team. Every year, as I review the activities of the organisation in preparation for the annual report, I am inspired by the capacity, the tenacity and the incredible productivity of this small but dedicated group of tireless individuals. Without exception, this small team weaves miracles out of our scant resources to deliver the very best for our members and supporters. I am buoyed every day by their positivity, inspired by their dedication, and amazed by their creativity.

To my team I say thank you, I have boundless admiration for each and every one of you. It is an absolute privilege to work with such an incredible group of achievers.

We have strongly advocated that you can't apply free market theory to human service delivery. We have called on our political leaders to stop transactionalising support services, because markets don't look after vulnerable people needing support or care.

Port Kembla Community Campus

Community Industry Group, together with The Flagstaff Group, has negotiated a partnership with BlueScope Steel to deliver community facilities on a large parcel of greenspace, which includes several disused buildings.

This parcel of land is ideally located off Flagstaff Road in Port Kembla, close to transport links and to the highly disadvantaged areas of Warrawong and Cringila.

The vision is for the buildings and surrounding parkland to be repurposed as a Community Campus. The Community Campus will include services for people with disabilities, outreach community services as well as bringing opportunities for local community members.

The large tranquil greenspace surrounding the buildings will be revitalised, activating this currently unused space, and leading to increased community connectivity, inclusive of outdoor activities and employment opportunities. A Masterplan for the area will be developed with input from the community.

Community Industry Group will relocate to the Community Campus after renovations are completed in partnership with our supporters, Habitat for Humanity, staff members and volunteers. The former managers' residence *Mortlock House*, will be used for office space and the delivery of our support and capacity building programs for not for profit community organisations.



The Illawarra Way

The Illawarra Way (TIW) was a highly successful trial focussed on creating reablement pathways for older clients on the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP). The trial led by Community Industry Group's Project and Policy Officer, Chris Racar, involved the collaboration of nine organisations and two Regional Assessment Services.

Support services funded by the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) are delivered within a wellness and reablement framework which encourage and support an older person to be independent for as long as possible. Reablement is a time limited support strategy addressing a specific barrier to the person's independence and counteracting the need for ongoing support.

The Illawarra Way (TIW) Trial was the first project of its kind to increase the understanding and appreciation of the place of time-limited reablement responses in supporting CHSP clients, and to evaluate the effectiveness of reablement strategies.

The trial demonstrated that the home support system generally has the capacity and skills

to respond appropriately to older people requiring time-limited reablement support to live independently.

The system led to good outcomes for clients, enabling them to reach their agreed, short-term goals. The trial process also demonstrated that only minor adjustments were needed to current home support sector systems to successfully accommodate the aims of their clients.

Ultimately, the Illawarra Way Trial identified the essential components of an effective system for reablement that makes an enormous difference to the lives of older people who wish to remain independent.







Community Industry Group presented a free Navigating Mental Health Services Forum and Market Place for members and other stakeholders in June 2019. There was an overwhelming response to the forum with more than 150 delegates enjoying the guest speaker presentations and the popular two minute Power Pitches from the market place service providers.

- Local Elder, Uncle Gerald Brown, from the Illawarra Koori Men's Group gave a Welcome to Country and spoke about the mental health challenges faced by Aboriginal people, especially the men and boys he sees at the group.
- Deputy Commissioner Pamela Routledge spoke about the NSW Mental Health Commission's Living Well policy document and the current review. She encouraged everyone to visit the website to contribute comments to the review and congratulated Community Industry Group on organising the forum and agreed that one of the biggest issues for sufferers and carers is navigating the system.
- Dr Alex Haines, Regional Manager of the Illawarra Shoalhaven Suicide Prevention Collaborative, spoke about the work of
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- the group, gave some alarming statistics on local suicide rates and highlighted the important role the media can play with an emphasis on positive stories of recovery.
- Dr Vanessa Lee, Chair of RUOK's
 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander
 Committee also reported many distressing
 statistics from the Aboriginal & Torres
 Strait Islander community and spoke on
 how historical trauma is deeply entrenched
 in the community. Dr Lee highlighted their
 toolkit 'Stronger Together'.
- Sally Stevenson AM, General Manager
 of Illawarra Women's Health Centre,
 spoke passionately about the high levels
 of domestic and family violence in the
 Illawarra and the long term impacts of
 trauma both socially and economically.
- Acting Inspector Lee Ingmire, Mental
 Health Officer, Lake Illawarra Police District
 spoke about the training she provides to
 police officers and explained the legal
 responsibilities of police when responding
 to mental health crisis situations.

All the speakers generously agreed to provide their slides from the day and the overall response from participants and market holders was extremely positive.

The Navigating Local Services Series will continue in the 2019/20 Financial Year with a Navigating End of Life Issues Forum.

NDIS National Day of Action

Community Industry Group, as the secretariat for the Illawarra Disability Alliance, participated in the NDIS National Day of Action rallies in Wollongong and Nowra on Friday 3 May 2019. Our CEO, Nicky Sloan, spoke about the potential for market failure to the large crowds of participants, carers and local politicians.

Hundreds of supporters attended the rallies to recognise that the NDIS is not yet working for everyone. Participants and carers face complex processes, and many people are not getting the support they need.

Employment is often left out of plans and many people who would like to be working are unable to access secure, supported employment opportunities.

The Illawarra Disability Alliance coordinated the rallies locally, and were proud to announce that the Wollongong rally was the largest in Australia.

Attendees voted unanimously to support the resolution which called on the Australian Government and the NDIA to implement with haste the following improvements:

 Provide high quality participant plans with a transparent process of review and or appeal that is fair and timely.

- Allow participants to have their plans automatically indexed and rolled over annually unless they choose to review their plans because of changed circumstances.
- Remove unnecessary and costly red tape and complexity for participants and service providers.
- Guarantee the future of ADEs with a sustainable funding model which takes into consideration any costs associated with any future Fair Work Commission decision, and
- Ensure ongoing adequate pricing to cover real costs of doing business including staff training and investment to provide quality services.

Disability service providers are hopeful that the attention raised by the rallies will lead to better NDIS planning and real sector safeguards to ensure secure supported employment for participants.





South East NSW Training

In early 2019, Family and Community Services NSW (FACS) contracted Community Industry Group to conduct research on sector skills gaps and needs in South East NSW.

The results were used to develop and coordinate sector-specific governance and capacity building training for community services organisations. Community Industry Group subsequently developed, designed and delivered a professional development program throughout the region.

Training was offered in Batemans Bay, Bega, Cooma, Goulburn and Queanbeyan. Topics included:

 Change Management - Positioning your organisation in an ever-changing environment.

Same but Different - How to diversify your organisations income stream.

• **Leadership Matters** - Facilitating groups to turn good ideas into great outcomes.

• **Get on Board** - How to build and motivate Boards and Committees of Management.

 Marketing Matters – Promoting your organisation to clients and key stakeholders. The successful delivery of this program over a two week period was facilitated by three Community Industry Group trainers.

Evaluations from the sessions were overwhelmingly positive, with 87.6% of participants saying they would like more professional development opportunities in their region.





Election Campaigns

With both a NSW election and a Federal election in the 2018/19 financial year, Community Industry Group was called up to conduct strong election campaigns on behalf of our members.



As we represent service providers across a large and diverse geographical area with many electorates, we created an online presence with information about the candidates, contact details and letter templates for customisation. We asked our members to provide questions to be posed to candidates, and published their replies.

We focused our efforts on the five issues that most consistently arise from our members:

- The right to a home (affordable housing and homelessness)
- · Domestic and family violence
- Transport (especially regional disadvantage)
- Mental health
- The future of small to medium community service providers (including neighbourhood centres)

We also released two videos highlighting the issues of transport disadvantage and the right to a home. These featured on our website and social media channels.

There is no doubt that the outcomes of these elections are important in determining the ongoing future success of community service organisations and our local communities and we continue to lobby for improvements in the community sector.

Community Industry Group enjoys a good working relationship with local MP's and Ministers, which progresses our vision of having an equal place at the table where decisions which impact on community service organisations and communities are made.



NSW Indexation Campaign

In June 2019, organisations that receive funding from NSW Department of Communities and Justice were advised they will receive indexation of just 1.75% for the following financial year. This rate was the lowest in many years, and signified direct impacts on future staffing and therefore on service delivery.

The National Wage Decision for the 2018/19 financial year heralded an increase of 3% for workers employed under the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability (SCHADS) Award. This means a deficit of 1.25% for wages alone, (typically around 80% of organisational budgets) in addition to all of the other costs associated with delivering services.

Community Industry Group worked with local leaders to urge community service providers to write to the Premier, the Treasurer, the Minister for Family and Community Services and to their local MPs to ask for a review of this indexation rate.

To assist our members we created template letters that could be used as a basis for their

own correspondence and encouraged them to personalise these templates to suit their circumstances. We urged our members to stand together to ensure that as an industry we receive sufficient funds to deliver vital services for vulnerable people.

Community Industry Group held meetings, wrote many letters to our government representatives and promoted the issue through our website, social media and newsletter to ensure our members were aware of the dire future consequences of this announcement. We're proud of the collaborative effort of members and supporters in the region, and are hopeful that the low indexation rate will be increased in coming months.





Southern Region

Community Industry Group hosted two Aged Care Forums in the Southern Region this year with one in Queanbeyan and the other in Batemans Bay.

These free events aim to support aged care providers offering CHSP, Home Care Packages and Residential Aged Care services across the Southern NSW Health Region. A wide variety of topics were covered, including CHSP updates, best practice in Wellness and Reablement, Elder Abuse prevention, palliative care, practical dementia support, workforce development and industry innovation.

Hosted by Amadis Lacheta, our Policy & Project Officer – Regional Issues (who is based in Batemans Bay), the forums were well attended, and provide a welcome opportunity for staff across the aged services sector to learn, share and network with each other.

Other initiatives in the Southern Region include Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training, End of Life Support Workshops, Older Persons' Mental Health First Aid Training and Dementia Awareness for Aged Care Staff

and Volunteers. My Wellbeing resources have been shared with numerous aged services providers across the region to support greater wellbeing in their older clients and develop reablement goals and pathways.



SNAPSHOT

Seniors Week

As a contribution to the Seniors Festival, Community Industry Group sponsored a workshop entitled *Elders Unite Through Art* at Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation in Port Kembla. Aunty Lorraine Brown and Narelle Thomas facilitated the booked-out session.

Aunty Lorraine explained the meanings of some of the artworks on display, created by Aboriginal artists. Following this all participants were invited to produce a cultural artwork to take home. We received very positive feedback about the event and thank everyone involved.

Dementia Australia brochure

Community Industry Group is proud to have been part of a collaborative project with Dementia Australia along with Aboriginal artists Aunty Lorraine Brown and Narelle Thomas, and Aboriginal consultant Darci Wu to create the *Worried About Your Memory* brochures.

The cover art was created by Lorraine Brown and Narelle Thomas and represents the process of memory loss when dementia starts.

Printed copies of the brochure were offered to our members for use within their own organisations and an electronic copy is available on our website.

Illawarra/Shoalhaven Aged Care Regional Forum

Over ninety Commonwealth Home Service Providers (CHSP), Regional Assessment Services (RAS) and government departments attend the Illawarra/Shoalhaven Aged Care Regional Forum which are offered bi-annually at the Gerroa Boat Fisherman's Club.

The forum provides a place where participants can brainstorm and openly discuss all aged care matters by working through queries and concerns together. Various government departments and Regional Assessment Service workers provide updates at each forum. Guest speakers are invited to give updates on issues of importance.

The full day event ensures participants come away fully informed about new initiatives and ideas. They also benefit from networking with others from their sector.





NAIDOC Week

The theme for NAIDOC week was 'Because of her, we can' and ran from 8 to 15 July 2018.

Community Industry Group was proud to be involved in many NAIDOC week events through staff members participating in committees, providing sponsorship and attending or assisting at events in the Illawarra, Shoalhaven and South Coast.

NAIDOC at Curio Gallery

Community Industry Group collaborated with Coomaditchie Aboriginal Corporation artists to present an exhibition for NAIDOC week at Curio Gallery, Central Chambers in Wollongong Mall. The gallery is a Wollongong Council Cultural Services initiative.

At Coomaditchie, art practice is one of the ways used to retain and teach culture and history. The artworks responded to the *Because of her, we can* theme and were on display during the month of July.

Sponsoring Elders table

We were pleased to be able to, once again, sponsor a table for local Elders at the Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards ceremony, hosted by Kiama Council.

Committee Representation and Events

Joni Braham, Project and Policy Officer – Aboriginal Initiatives, participated in several committees including The Shoalhaven NAIDOC Committee and assisted at the Nowra NAIDOC Family Fun Day event. Her band, Which Witch, even performed during the event.

Community Industry Group staff members attended many NAIDOC events across the

Illawarra, Shoalhaven and South Coast including NAIDOC @ Koonawarra, NAIDOC Family Day Ulladulla, Warrawong NAIDOC Family Fun Day, and Bundaleer Salt Water Festival.

Staff members also attended Shoalhaven National Sorry Day Walk on 24 May 2019 and Illawarra Walk for Reconciliation which was held on 31 May 2019.

Because of her, we can

The team at Community Industry Group also participated in a special in-house NAIDOC activity to recognise the theme of this year's NAIDOC week. Each member of the team researched a remarkable Aboriginal woman, and shared what they had learned. Through this great initiative, we all learned more about inspiring Aboriginal women including Barangaroo, Celuia Mapo Salee, Dr Thancoupie Gloria Fletcher (Thanakupi) AO, Fanny Cochrane Smith, Justine Saunders, Rose Richards, Oodgeroo Noonuccal and Pearl Gibbs.





Learning About Local Culture

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Thursday 13 December 2018 at the Innovation Campus in North Wollongong.

The event was well attended by members and stakeholders and included the awarding of life membership to long-standing board member, Marlene Calleja. We also farewelled board member Larissa Daniel and welcomed new board member Verica Sajdovska.

At the conclusion of the official business, guest speaker Jodi Edwards informed us about the Budbili Mudjingaal project, which resulted in the creation of a traditional Aboriginal possum cloak.

The cloak is now used as a teaching tool, graduation gown and a way to engage people with this traditional Aboriginal practise.

Many intricate traditional artworks have been burnt into the cloak and it is truly beautiful and an aweinspiring garment. Our AGM guests were encouraged to feel and try on the cloak, a rare opportunity for which we are very grateful.





Community Care Collective

Four Community Care Collective meetings were held in the 2018/19 financial year.

The meetings were strongly supported, with significant numbers of Commonwealth Home Support service providers and Regional Assessment Service Assessors in attendance at each meeting.

Guest speakers throughout the year included Emma Ringland from the Illawarra Shoalhaven Suicide Prevention Collaborative, Gary Thomas from Dementia Australia and Margaret Crothers from Senior Rights Services.

One of the stand-out events was a Yarning Circles session with Leanne Olive from Illawarra Aboriginal Corporation and local Aboriginal Elders. Community Care Collective members were able to listen and learn from these amazing, strong and wise Elders.

Community of Practice – Marketing & Communications

Community Industry Group continued to expand on its servant leadership role this year, with the creation of a Community of Practice for marketing and communication professionals working in or supporting the community services sector.

Facilitated by Community Industry Group, the community of practice convenes with a breakfast meeting every two months. Meetings are hosted by members on a volunteer basis, and the agenda is created in response to member requests and current marketing initiatives and trends.

A highlight of the year was hearing from guest speaker Nick McClaren, an ABC Journalist who spoke to the group about media releases and trends for news items. Other meeting topics have included annual report trends, award nominations, advertising and events. Participants are encouraged to learn from each other and make valuable networking connections.

If you are a marketing or communications professional and are interested in joining our group please email us on info@cigroup.org.au

Illawarra Disability Alliance

Community Industry Group is proud to provide Secretariat duties for the Illawarra Disability Alliance (IDA).

IDA members are not for profit disability service providers working together collegially and collaboratively to deliver better outcomes for people with disability in our local community. Meetings are attending by CEOs or senior regional executives to ensure timely decision making on emerging issues.

Throughout the year the IDA coordinated awareness-raising initiatives for key disability-related issues including rallies in Wollongong and Nowra for the National Day of Action on the NDIS, lobbying Minsters and parliamentarians about issues of concern, production of four Issues papers, and the establishment of a new, more contemporary website to raise the profile of the IDA and provide important information about disability services in our region.

For more information about the IDA please visit www.illawarradisabilityalliance.org

Collaborations and Partnerships

Access Care Network Australia ACOSS ACSA ACSO Aged Care Assessment Team Albion Park Rail Neighbourhood Centre **Anglicare** Anglicare Moruya **Argyle Housing** Australian Government Department of Health Australian Services Union Australian Unity Banksia Villages Barnardos South Coast Bega Shire Council Bega Valley Meals on Wheels Bellambi Neighbourhood Centre Berkeley Community Centre Berry Rotary BlueScope Consultative Committee CALD Disability Network Careways Communities for Children Consultative Committee Community Advisory Committee Community Care Collective Coordinare Dementia Australia Domestic Family Violence Trauma Centre Ethnic Communities Council Ethnic Community Services Cooperative Eurobodalla Meals on Wheels Eurobodalla Shire Council **EWON** FACS Housing Online Services **FACS Housing Services** Fair Trading NSW Family Services Australia Financial Rights Legal Centre FONGA Grand Pacific Health Greenacres HammondCare Healthy Cities Housing Trust Illawarra Aboriginal Community Based Working Group iAccelerate Illawarra and South Coast Tenants Service Illawarra Disability Alliance Illawarra Elder Abuse Prevention Forum Illawarra Interagency Illawarra Regional Development Consortium Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District Illawarra Shoalhaven Social Investment Trust Illawarra Workforce Action Group Integrated Living Just Better Care Katungul Kiama Dementia Friendly Alliance Kiama Municipal Council Koorimunication Land and Housing Corporation Legal Aid Local Community Services Association Macarthur Disability Services Mental Health Justice Partnership Mercy Foundation Multicultural Access Program Network Multicultural Communities Council Illawarra NCOSS NDS NSW Dept of Family and Community Services NSW Dept of Health NSW Dept of Premier and Cabinet Office of Children's Guardian Opal Denhams Beach People With Disability PICAC NSW Property Council of Australia-Illawarra Branch Queanbeyan-Palareng Council Red Cross Regional Assessment Services Regional Development Australia Illawarra Regional Industry Education Partners RoundSquared Shoalhaven Aboriginal Network of Disability Services (SANDS) Scope Home Access Sector Support and Development Network Seniors Rights Service Shellharbour City Council Shelter NSW Shoalhaven Aboriginal Community Interagency Alliance Group Shoalhaven City Council Shoalhaven NAIDOC Committee Shoalhaven Neighbourhood Services Snowy Monaro Regional Council Southern Cross Housing Southern Highlands Community Transport Southern Youth and Family Services State Training Services Sydney Water Customer Council TAFE NSW Targeted Earlier Intervention Consultative Committee Tenants Union The Flagstaff Group Uniting University of Wollongong Warilla Neighbourhood Centre Warrigal Wayahead Wollongong **City Council** Wollongong Home & Community Support Network

Tools and Resources

During the 2018/19 financial year Community Industry Group:

- produced three videos to support our A Good Day's Work recruitment and retention campaign for the Aged and Disability Service sector.
- produced two videos to highlight our Election campaign issues.
- updated the Acknowledgement of Country fact sheet.
- created two Acknowledgement of Country information cards. These business-card sized reminders proved very popular throughout the year as they provide appropriate wording for performing an Acknowledgement of Country.

New Training Packages

Due to demand and to meet industry needs, Community Industry Group developed several new training packages including;

- Change Management positioning your organisation in an ever-changing environment.
- Same but Different how to diversify your organisation's income stream.
- Leadership Matters facilitating groups to turn good ideas into great outcomes.
- Get on Board how to build and motivate Boards and Committees of Management.
- Social Media for Not for Profit Organisations.

We also updated our marketing training package *Marketing Matters* - promoting your organisation to clients and key stakeholders.

Webinars

Community Industry Group was proud to launch several video webinars on topics of interest for the community services sector. These webinars are available on our YouTube channel and are regularly promoted on our social media channels.

- The Housing Spectrum outlines the complex housing system from homelessness to home ownership.
- Grant Writing Tips ten great tips for those seeking grant funding.
- Working with Interpreters explains best practice when working with interpreters.
- Good Governance explains the role of each board member and the importance of understanding your responsibilities.







Community Industry Group continues to be the voice of the community services industry in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven. We help to connect industry sectors in order to meet mutual goals and keep services up to date with the issues that could affect them. We ensure the voice of the community services industry is heard at all levels of Government, and that the decision makers are aware of the needs of our region.

Highlights

We are incredibly proud of our achievements this year and the reach we achieve to communicate changes and opportunities in the community service industry.

Understanding the Royal Commission event bringing the findings of the Royal Commission, including implications and opportunities to improve child safety for human service organisations, to over 180 participants in partnership with Big Fat Smile.

In 2018/19 we:

- Provided 84 training, information and capacity building sessions for 2,317 people.
- Held the Navigating Mental Health conference, informing over 150 participants about mental health options in the Illawarra and provided an opportunity for networking and local providers to showcase their services.
- Produced 25 e-newsletters reaching over 1000 subscribers & two special bulletins.
- Coordinated the Community Care Collective meetings.
- Hosted four Aged Care Regional Forums informed aged care workers about the reablement and wellness projects, updates in the industry and provided valuable networking opportunities.
- Coordinated the Wellness and Reablement working group to finalise the CHSP project 'The Illawarra Way'.

- Established the Marketing & Communication Community of Practice group.
- · Produced four informative webinars.
- · Conducted two election campaigns.
- Published three A Good Day's Work videos to promote recruitment in the Aged and Disability sectors.

Member of:

Community Industry Group are a member of the following groups and organisations:

- ACOSS
- BlueScope Consultative Committee
- Communities for Children Consultative Committee
- · Community Care Collective
- Coordinare Community Advisory Committee
- Forum of non-government Organisations (FONGA)
- Illawarra Business Chamber
- Illawarra Disability Alliance
- Illawarra Shoalhaven Social Investment Trust Advisory Board and Working Group
- Illawarra Workforce Action Group (IWAG)
- Local Community Services Association (LCSA)Marketing & Communication – Community of Practice
- · NCOSS Regional Forum
- Our Community
- Regional Development Australia Illawarra (Board)

- Sector Support and Development Network
- Social Procurement Working Group
- Sydney Water Customer Council
- TAFE Regional Advisory Council
- Targeted Earlier Intervention Consultative Committee
- Tenants Union Board
- UOW Community Reference Group

Media:

Community Industry Group is regularly called upon by the media to comment on local and national community issues. In 2018/19 we produced nine media releases and registered 43 interviews or media mentions.

Interviewer	Topic
WIN TV	Growth of jobs in aged and disability care
VOX FM	About Community Industry Group
Win TV	Aged Care
Win TV	Community Campus
Illawarra Mercury	Community Campus
ABC Illawarra	Pressures to spend at Christmas and the impact and dangers for people on low incomes
WIN TV	Workforce Forum
ABC Illawarra	The need to raise Newstart and Youth Allowance
ABC Illawarra	Election NSW 2019 - Domestic Violence
Illawarra Mercury	Election NSW 2019- Domestic Violence
Moruya Examiner	Election NSW 2019 - Small community organisations
Mirage News	Election NSW 2019 - Small community organisations
i98	Election NSW 2019 - Affordable Housing
Mirage News	Election NSW 2019 - Affordable Housing
Illawarra Mercury	Election NSW 2019 - Affordable Housing
ABC Illawarra	Aged Care Royal Commission
Mirage News	Election NSW 2019 – Access to transport
ABC Illawarra	Affordable Housing



ABC Illawarra Election NSW 2019 - Mental Health Services Mirage News Election NSW 2019 - Mental Health Services Royal Commission into Disability and the Special Commission into the drug ice ABC Illawarra Energy subsidies ABC Illawarra Budget 2019 WIN TV Budget 2019 WIN News Aged Care, Home Care Packages Wave FM Make NDIS Work Rally ABC Illawarra Make NDIS Work Rally South Coast Register WIN TV Make NDIS Work Rally Make NDIS Work Rally Make NDIS Work Rally
ABC Illawarra ABC Illawarra Royal Commission into Disability and the Special Commission into the drug ice ABC Illawarra Energy subsidies ABC Illawarra Budget 2019 WIN TV Budget 2019 WIN News Aged Care, Home Care Packages Wave FM Make NDIS Work Rally ABC Illawarra Make NDIS Work Rally South Coast Register Make NDIS Work Rally Make NDIS Work Rally Make NDIS Work Rally
ABC Illawarra and the Special Commission into the drug ice ABC Illawarra Energy subsidies ABC Illawarra Budget 2019 WIN TV Budget 2019 ABC Illawarra Budget 2019 WIN News Aged Care, Home Care Packages Wave FM Make NDIS Work Rally ABC Illawarra Make NDIS Work Rally South Coast Register Make NDIS Work Rally WIN TV Make NDIS Work Rally
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ABC Illawarra Make NDIS Work Rally South Coast Register Make NDIS Work Rally WIN TV Make NDIS Work Rally
South Coast Register Make NDIS Work Rally WIN TV Make NDIS Work Rally
Register Make NDIS Work Rally WIN TV Make NDIS Work Rally Illawarra
Illawarra
Illawarra
Make NDIS Work Rally
ABC Illawarra Heating costs and dangers, energy prices
South Coast Register NAIDOC Week
ABC Illawarra NSW budget wish list
Vox FM Key Issues for the region
Illawarra Mercury Illawarra community sector unites to call for change to 'heartless' budget
WIN TV Budget and indexation
Nowra News NAIDOC Week
Mirage News Budget and indexation



Community Industry Group represents, empowers and builds the community service industry in the South East of New South Wales. We do this by representing to policy makers the views of our members and the communities they serve; providing professional development opportunities and building the capacity of services and networks to enhance delivery.

Representing

We continue to represent the community services industry by developing submissions and making appearances at parliamentary inquiries.

Submissions

- Submission for the single Charter of Aged Care Rights.
- Submission for Older Persons Transport and Mobility Plan 2018-2022.
- Submission for the Streamlined Consumer Assessment for Aged Care.
- Issues Paper: Care for Older People in their Home.
- Submission for Stronger outcomes for Families.
- Submission for Their Futures Matter Access System Redesign.
- · Smart Cities Strategy Workshop.
- Submission: NSW Upper House –Inquiry into the Implementation of the NDIS.
- Submission Australian Government Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme – Inquiry into NDIS ICT Systems.
- Submission Australian Government Dept of Health - Draft Charter of Aged Care Rights Consultation Paper.

- Submission Australian Government
 Productivity Commission Inquiry into The
 Social and Economic Benefits of Improving
 Mental Health.
- Submission ICAC Inquiry Lobbying and the NSW public sector - the regulation of lobbying, access and influence in NSW (Operation Eclipse).
- Their Futures Matter, Child and Family System Transformation - regional engagement.

Appearances/Advocacy

- Advocacy on the issue of the need for more NDIS package improvements and less red tape.
- Advocacy to raise awareness of the need for funding to make Unanderra Train Station more accessible for people with disability, the elderly and families.
- Attendance at the Aged Care Royal Commission.
- Rally for NDIS National Day of Action.
- · Review of Sydney Water Pricing Strategy.
- Shadow Minister Roundtable on Ageing and Dementia.
- Advocacy on inadequacy of indexation in NSW budget.
- Recommendations for review of NSW Human Services Agreement.

Empowering

Community Industry Group provides capacity building for community organisations and the provision of professional staff development opportunities for individuals and organisations.

- Delivered 84 professional development sessions to 2,317 community service workers.
- Supported local events including NAIDOC Awards.
- Delivered a Navigating Mental Health Forum with guest speakers and two minute 'power pitches' from local providers.
- Collaborated with University of Wollongong researchers on a project for CHSP clients.
- Completed large-scale trial to increase the knowledge and understanding of the place of time limited reablement responses in supporting CHSP clients.
- · Development of four webinars.
- Continued work on the Aboriginal Employment Recruitment and Retention Pilot project.

Building

The Community Industry Group builds the community services sector in South East NSW through strategic planning, support and training for Boards as well as assistance in the development of policies and procedures.

- Facilitated strategic planning session for organisations and networks.
- Provision of management support and mentoring to current and future leaders.
- Provision of governance support to boards and management committees.
- Provision of secretariat for Community Care Collective.
- Provision of secretariat for the Illawarra Disability Alliance.
- Creation of the Community of Practice

 Marketing and Communications in the Illawarra.

Representations at:

- Aboriginal Recruitment & Retention Advisory Meeting
- ACS Illawarra and Shoalhaven Regional meeting
- ACSA Regional Meetings
- ASU Community Sector Leaders Network
- Barrack Heights Roundtable
- Bega Aged Services Interagency (BASI)
- Bega Valley Housing and Homelessness Forum
- BlueScope Consultative Committee
- Braidwood Interagency
- Braidwood Interagency Network (BANG)
- · CALD Aged Care Network meeting
- CALD Community Care Network meeting
- · CALD Disability Network meeting
- Child Protection Legislative Amendments Implementation Workshop
- · Community Care Collective
- Community Care Issues Forum
- Community of Practice Marketing & Communication
- Community Transport Forum, Queanbeyan
- Cooma Monaro Housing and Homelessness Forum
- Coordinaire Community Advisory Committee
- Cullunghutti Community Garden for Health meeting
- Dementia Interagency
- Eurobodalla Aged Services Interagency (EASI)
- Eurobodalla Dementia Network (EDN)
- Eurobodalla Disability Interagency Network (EDIN)
- Eurobodalla Housing and Homelessness Forum
- EWON Consultative Committee
- FACS Service Provider Funded Contract Management Working Group
- FACS Strategic Planning Forum
- Families NSW Shoalhaven
- FONGA (Forum of Non Government Agencies)
- Goulburn & Southern Slopes Housing and Homelessness Forum
- Grants Scheme Panel
- Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven
- Housing and Homelessness Collaboration
- Human Services Managers Network Southern NSW
- Illawarra Aboriginal Working Group
- Illawarra Aged Care Regional Forum
- Illawarra Disability Alliance
- Illawarra Domestic and Family Violence Trauma Recovery Centre
- Illawarra Interagency
- Illawarra Psych-Social Disability NDIS Reference Group
- Illawarra Refugee Issues Forum
- Illawarra Seniors Committee Meeting
- Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District Strategic Plan Consultation
- Illawarra Social Housing Forum

- · Illawarra/Shoalhaven Regional Forum
- Illawarra Social Investment Trust Advisory Committee
- Illawarra Workforce Action Group
 (IWAG)
- · Kiama Dementia Friendly Alliance
- Leadership Illawarra Program Mentor Me
- LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Network
- · Make Healthy Normal Grants
- · Meals on Wheels Food Forum
- Mental Health Brokerage
- · Mental Health Justice Partnership
- Mentor Walks
- Monaro Regional Interagency
- Monaro Regional Interagency, Cooma (MRI)
- Multicultural Access Project Network
- · Multicultural Youth Network
- · NAIDOC Shoalhaven Committee
- NCOSS Regional Forum
- Post budget breakfast with Minister for Finance, Services and Property
- Prevention of Older Person Abuse (POPA) meeting
- Queanbeyan & Palerang Housing and Homelessness Forum
- Queanbeyan Community Transport Forum
- Queanbeyan Interagency Network (QuANG)
- Queanbeyan Palerang Interagency
- Regional Assessment Team Meeting
- Regional Development Australia Illawarra Board
 Sector Support & Development
- Network (SSDN)

 Shellharbour Youth Network
- Shoalhaven Aboriginal Community Alliance Interagency (SACAI)
- Shoalhaven Aboriginal Community Alliance Interagency Meeting
- Shoalhaven Aboriginal Network of Disability Services (SANDS)
- · Shoalhaven Aged Care Meeting
- Shoalhaven Anti-poverty committee
- Shoalhaven City Council Homelessness Taskforce
- Shoalhaven Dementia Service Network
- Shoalhaven Disability Forum
- · Shoalhaven Homelessness Interagency
- Shoalhaven NAIDOC Committee
- South Coast Child and Wellbeing
 Notwork
- Stir it up advisory group meeting
- Sydney Water Community Advisory Council
- Sydney Water Customer Engagement Deliberative Forum
- · Ulladulla Interagency Meeting
- UOW Community Reference Committee
- Wollongong Home and Community Support Network meeting
- · Wollongong Seniors Festival Committee
- Wollongong Youth Network
- Workforce Innovation Project Steering Committee
- · Youth Shoalhaven Interagency.



Community Industry Group provides leadership to the community services industry by supporting the sector to deliver high quality, innovative solutions to meet the ever-changing demands of both consumers and policy makers.

Inspiring

- Navigating Mental Health Forum featuring guest speakers, power pitches and a services marketplace.
- 84 training, information and capacity building sessions for 2,317 people.
- Presentations to TAFE community service students and University of Wollongong social work students.
- Creation of the Community of Practice –
 Marketing and Communications for marketing
 and communication professionals working in
 or supporting the community services sector.
- Creation of A Good Day's Work promotional videos to inspire greater participation in employment for the aged and disability sectors
- Creation of four webinars on the following topics:
 - The Housing Spectrum outlines the complex housing system from homelessness to home ownership.
 - Grant Writing Tips ten great tips for those seeking grant funding.
 - Working with Interpreters explains best practice when working with interpreters.
 - Good Governance explains the role of each board member and the importance of understanding your responsibilities

Sustaining

- Provision of secretariat support to the Illawarra Disability Alliance.
- Provision of secretariat support for the Community Care Collective.
- Support for development of partnerships and collaborations between organisations.
- Keeping our members up to date on important issues with our fortnightly newsletter, invitations to discussion groups to form our submission responses and industry specific training courses.
- · Local Partnerships Grants.
- · Make Healthy Normal Grants.

Changing

- Targeted Earlier Intervention (TEI) facilitation workshops to assist services in relation to the TEI outcomes framework.
- Aboriginal Cultural Preparedness training for organisations.
- Social housing management transfer sessions.
- CEO Breakfast for ISLHD Strategic Plan.

Strategic Plan 2017-2020

VISION

We have an equal place at the table where decisions which impact on community service organisations and communities are made.

The 'go-to'
organisation
for influencers
and decisionmakers

A solid, significant & committed membership

A strong & informed industry

A strong, sustainable organisation

Strategies

- Develop a comprehensive understanding of the community services industry and the region.
- Raise the profile of the community services industry and promote its importance to the region.
- Be a voice for the industry through active membership of key committees, reference groups, and networks.
- Build relationships with influencers and decision makers, utilising skills and contacts of Board & staff.
- Be key media liaison for issues impacting community services industries, and vulnerable communities.

Strategies

- Explore expansion into South East NSW with accompanying change of name.
- Build relationships with community services in South East NSW.
- Develop and maintain networks and partnerships across industries & throughout community services industry sectors.
- Implement marketing & communications strategy to communicate our work and our value.

Strategies

- Communicate policy issues across the industry and develop regional responses and recommendations.
- Provide opportunities for industry networking and collaborative practice.
- Increase training provision, including in-house & e-training services.
- Source & develop professional development resources.

Strategies

- Develop and implement a Sustainability Strategy.
- Develop & promote fee-for-service products.
- Explore corporate sponsorship opportunities e.g. 'friends' program.
- Source and apply for new funding opportunities.
- Investigate opportunities for collaborations, amalgamations and mergers.

Financial Report Summary 2019

Statement of Financial Position as at June 30 2019

CURRENT ASSETS	2019	2018
Bank Cheque Accounts & Term Deposits	\$1,281,567.00	\$1,142,103.00
Receivables	\$24,856.00	\$69,265.00
Cash on Hand	\$138.00	\$128.00
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$1,306,561.00	\$1,211,496.00

NON CURRENT ASSETS	2019	2018
Deposit	\$1,737.00	\$1,737.00
Plant & Equipment	\$41,147.00	\$45,719.00
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS	\$42,884.00	\$47,456.00
TOTAL ASSETS:	\$1,349,445.00	\$1,258,952.00

CURRENT LIABILITIES	2019	2018
Creditors	\$26,807.00	\$28,597.00
Unexpended Grants & Grants in Advance	\$262,468.00	\$219,047.00
GST Net	\$1,655.00	\$15,085.00
Payroll Provisons, Income in Advance	\$63,077.00	\$111,092.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$354,007.00	\$373,821.00
NET ASSETS:	\$995,438.00	\$885,131.00

Statement of Income & Expenditure for Year ended 30 June 2019

INCOME	2019	2018
Grants Received	\$869,309.00	\$1,122,101.00
Grants Unexpended Carried Forward	\$219,047.00	\$158,671.00
Membership Fees, Training income	\$43,952.00	\$91,622.00
Interest & Miscellaneous	\$39,226.00	\$40,897.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,171,534.00	\$1,413,291.00

EXPENDITURE	2019	2018
Employee Costs	\$526,327.00	756,771.00
Program Costs	\$178,328.00	203,453.00
Administration & Sundries	\$121,604.00	163,653.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$826,259.00	\$1,123,877.00
Excess of Income over Expenditure	\$345,275.00	\$289,414.00
Amounts transferred to Unexpended Grants	262,468.00	219,047.00
Net Surplus/(Deficiency) of Income For Year:	\$82,807.00	\$70,367.00

Membership

Community Industry Group is the regional peak and resourcing body for the non-government community sector in South East NSW. Membership is open to non-profit community based social or welfare organisations that are based in, or work in, South East NSW, and to individuals.

Associate membership (non-voting) is open to for profit non-government organisations and government bodies (excluding political parties). Under the constitution all new memberships must be approved by the board.

Membership Benefits

- Invitations to contribute to regional responses to key government inquiries, discussion papers, and policy dialogue to help us form submission responses.
- Significant discounts on all training run by Community Industry Group.
- Access to Community Industry Group's extensive sector knowledge, advice and consultation from our highly experienced staff members.
- Discounted fees for facilitation including strategic and action planning, organisational reviews and program evaluations.
- Discounted registration fees for Community Industry Group Conferences, Member Breakfasts and Symposiums.
- Use of Community Industry Group training/ meeting room at member rates.
- Free advertising for Positions Vacant and your events within our e-newsletter which is delivered to a subscription base of over 1100 people.
- Voting rights at general meetings, including the Annual General Meeting at which the Board and Executive positions are decided (full members only).
- Support and be part of the organisation that is advocating for social change to help our community's most vulnerable individuals, supports all workers within the community services sector to build a strong and informed industry, and is the go-to organisation for influencers and decision makers.



To apply for membership visit our website **communityindustrygroup.org.au** or contact us on **info@cigroup.org.au**



Community Industry Group

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