



NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH NT

ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023





POLICE

 Neighbourhood
WATCH NT
www.nhwnt.org.au

**REPORT ANY
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**

Emergency Only
000

Police Assistance
131 444

Crime Stoppers
1 800 333 000

Government Services Government



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OUR VISION

Safer, better connected and more inclusive Territory communities.



ABOUT US

WHO WE ARE

Neighbourhood Watch NT Incorporated is a not-for-profit organisation with a vision of creating safer, better connected and more inclusive communities.

We aim to do this with a focus on two key elements:
Education & Connection

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

EDUCATION

Provide relevant and inclusive community safety information to all Territorians.

CONNECTION

Help bring Territorians together to build safer and better informed communities.

OUR VALUES



COMMUNITY

We encourage community connection and inclusivity.



TRUST

We have a firm belief in each other, our organisation and our members.



RESPECT

We are respectful, in all aspects, in all that we do.



ACCOUNTABILITY

We are transparent, open and honest in all we do.



ADAPTABILITY

We are adaptable in our approach to meet the needs of communities.

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

I am proud to present the 2022-2023 Neighbourhood Watch Northern Territory Incorporated (NHWNT) Annual Report, which covers the Financial Year of 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

As in past years, NHWNT has continued its growth and development throughout the Territory. Financially, it has been a difficult year, we have utilised our cash reserves, and have struggled to obtain additional funding from government sources and commercial entities. From our research, quite a number of not-for-profit organisations have experienced similar funding issues.

Considering our lack of funding, the team has done a remarkable job in expanding the reach of NHWNT throughout the Territory and developing new products. The continued growth and development of NHWNT is due to the dedication and hard work of our staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters, who have all worked together to provide a meaningful impact on the community.

NHWNT's intention is to provide the community with online tools and educational materials working towards our vision of a safer, better connected and more inclusive community.

NHWNT is continually looking at innovation to meet the community's needs. To that end, we successfully launched *MyVault*, in December 2022. *MyVault* is a mobile application, developed in consultation with the NT Police and acts as a home asset register. The application allows Territorians to store important information about personal property, such as the storage of product photos, receipts and general information which can be utilised should the assets be lost or stolen. This allows timely information / descriptions to be provided to NT Police or insurance companies.

NHWNT launched a revitalised Stop.Look.Lock Campaign in collaboration with Strike Force Trident, with new television and radio community safety content reaching Territorians. We also saw the return of the Crime Prevention Elves throughout the festive season. During the year we continued to build on our robust education and connection programs, including *How Safe is My Place?*, *Neighbourhood Watch 4 Kids*, and the *Absentee Advice Form*. Our partnership with Victims of Crime NT remains strong, with seven Personal Safety Sessions and three Business De-Escalation Sessions conducted this year. Thank you to Sharon from Personal Protection Strategies for facilitating these sessions with insight and compassion.

Awareness of your immediate surroundings is one thing but something else that everyone needs to be aware of is scams and cyber security threats, especially older persons and people in remote areas who are particularly vulnerable. In April 2023, NHWNT partnered with IDCARE* for a Territory-wide face to face tour to spread scam prevention and cyber safety information. There was strong community attendance and positive feedback which validated our efforts and showed how many Territorians have been affected by scams in recent times.

NHWNT, like all organisations, requires funds to operate and to that end, we are supported by our primary funding partner, the NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services (NTPFES). Presently, we are working through our 2023-2028 funding agreement with the NTPFES which should be signed off soon.

Throughout the year, we have also been supported by Jacana Energy and the Community Benefit Fund with their event grants. Our staff appreciate their new computers, which the Community Benefit Fund funded. NHWNT would also like to take this opportunity to thank councils and community groups throughout the Territory who have supported us in many ways in the last 12 months.

Very few not-for-profit organisations can survive without volunteers and NHWNT is no exception. Our volunteers continue to be the mainstay of our organisation and their service does not go unnoticed, well done to you all. In the last year, we have welcomed some new faces onto the NHWNT Board of Management and said goodbye to others.

Unfortunately, we saw Jenny Malone (our Past Chairperson) resign after five years in the role to spend more time with her family, also, our Treasurer Andy Lewis relocated with his family to Southern Queensland. Our Board NT Police Representative Superintendent Paul Faustmann moved into a different role within the Police Force. All of you will be sorely missed and we wish you all the best for the future, thank you for your service. I extend my gratitude to my fellow Board members (past and present), for your support, guidance and contribution over the year, and look forward to the challenges of the coming year.

Ashleigh Ascoli (our Northern Executive Officer who is on maternity leave), welcomed a beautiful baby girl in March 2023, and we look forward to her return on completion of her leave. Veronica Larsen our Southern Engagement Officer continues to work tirelessly for the organisation with enormous vigour. To cover the Executive Officer role whilst Ashleigh is on leave Chris Brack was hired in January 2023, welcome aboard Chris.

Sadly, after two years, we said goodbye to Senior Constable Linda Farrand, who has been redeployed within the NT Police family. Ally Slack, our Marketing and Administration Officer, continues to grow with the organisation and I am continually amazed at her passion and dedication to her role.

Well done everyone, thank you for your hard work. I look forward to another exciting year working together to help create safer, better connected and more inclusive communities.



Geoff Boyton
NHWNT Chairperson

* IDCARE is an Australian and New Zealand free national identity and cyber support service which is also a not-for-profit organisation.

OUR TEAM

OUR BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Neighbourhood Watch NT Board of Management is responsible for the overall governance, management and strategic direction of our organisation.

Our Board is a team of dedicated community-minded individuals who volunteer their time, skills and expertise in the interests of community safety. Neighbourhood Watch NT extends its gratitude to our Board members and thanks them for their ongoing commitment and dedication.

The 2022-2023 Board of Management are as follows:



GEOFF BOYTON

Chairperson



GABRIELLE MAPPAS

Vice Chairperson & Public Officer



JENNY DUGGAN

Katherine Regional Coordinator



**SUPERINTENDENT
SONIA KENNON**

NT Police Representative



SALLY LANGTON

LGANT Representative



SANDY ALP

Board Member



MARK SNOWDEN

Board Member



SHELLIE LAY

Board Member



JOCELYN CULL

Board Member

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Neighbourhood Watch NT relies on volunteers to help spread our community safety and crime prevention messages.

The following Volunteers will be awarded Volunteer Appreciation Certificates at the 2022-2023 Annual General Meeting.



BERNIE SANDERS

Bernie has been volunteering in the Katherine region for many years, providing amazing support to her community and dedicating her time to helping Katherine residents.



JENNY DUGGAN

Jenny has been the Katherine Regional Coordinator for over six years. She has an incredible passion for community safety, and is always out and about taking action and spreading the NHWNT message!



JOE WAQALEVU

Joe is a long-standing volunteer in the Batchelor region. You'll find him at the Batchelor markets and other events having a yarn with locals and promoting community connection and safety!



MARY WHEATON

Mary has been involved with NHWNT for many years, regularly volunteering at events in the Darwin/Palmerston region. She is a great advocate for connecting people with their community.



PATRICK CLAESSEN

Patrick has been a dedicated volunteer since 2020. He has recently relocated interstate and we wish him all the best on his future endeavours and thank him dearly for his time and energy volunteering.



RAZ BALIAN

Raz has been a volunteer since late 2022 in the Darwin region. He is always up for a chat and getting out there in the community, promoting our safety messaging and community connection.



SHELLIE LAY

Shellie is one of our amazing board members and is very dedicated to her community. You will find her volunteering her time in the Palmerston region and making a positive impact in her community.



VANESSA MOUNSEY

Vanessa began volunteering with NHWNT at the beginning of 2023 and has been involved in community events promoting our messaging of community safety and connection in the Darwin region.

OUR OPERATIONAL TEAM



(ON LEAVE FROM MARCH 2023)
ASHLEIGH ASCOLI
Northern Executive Officer



(MARCH 2023)
CHRIS BRACK
Executive Officer



ALLY SLACK
Marketing & Administration Officer



VERONICA LARSON
Southern Engagement Officer



(JUNE 2023)
MAXANNE SELCK
Southern Community Officer



**SENIOR CONSTABLE
LINDA FARRAND**
Police Support Officer

Our passion and commitment to community safety and community connection is the driving force behind our organisation. We are run for Territorians, by Territorians - we understand the Territory and have a passion for its people and their safety.

— Chris Brack, Executive Officer



The NHWNT Team at the 2023 Strategic Planning Session

OVERVIEW & HIGHLIGHTS

NHWNT are excited to report on another year of helping to create safer, better connected and more inclusive Territory communities. In 2022-2023, we developed a number of new initiatives whilst building on our existing programs.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Over the last twelve months, NHWNT attended 67 community events across the NT, including Seniors Expos, Bunnings Community Safety Week stalls, Family Movie Days, Brekkie in the Park, Coffee Connection events, NHW4Kids presentations, as well as rural and regional shows. We engaged a wide variety of Territorians through events, providing community safety information and resources as well as a chance to connect with their local community.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

In July 2022, Neighbourhood Watch NT launched our Volunteer Learning Management System. The system supports our volunteers in understanding our organisation's purpose, values, key messages and safety requirements of their role through an interactive and accessible learning experience.

All of our work has been made possible through the significant funding and support we continue to receive from the NT Police, and the contribution of our dedicated Volunteers and Board of Management.



IDCARE & NHWNT TOUR



In April 2023, Neighbourhood Watch NT partnered with IDCARE to hold Scam Safety and Cyber Crime Awareness Sessions across the Northern Territory. Together, we provided sessions in eight towns across the NT, reaching as far south as Santa Teresa and as far north as Nhulunbuy.

IDCARE facilitated the sessions based on their Cyber Resilience Outreach Clinics (CROCs) model, an established program delivered throughout Australia. The busy two weeks we spent meeting Territory residents and hearing about their personal experiences with scams was both insightful and confronting. IDCARE taught participants how to implement safety layers into their daily routines, helping reduce their chance of being a victim. We also connected Territorians to IDCARE's services; they help scam victims recover and pursue justice.

Following the presentations, we collaborated to create a flyer highlighting the scam and cyber security dos and don'ts, keys to staying safe and who to contact if impacted by a scam, cyber crime or identity theft.

We are grateful for the efforts and passion of the IDCARE/CROCs Team and look forward to partnering with them again.

STOP. LOOK. LOCK.



stop. look. lock.

In August 2022, we launched a revitalised Stop. Look. Lock. Campaign starring Detective Senior Sergeant Mark Bland of Strike Force Trident.

Our four new community safety videos gained widespread recognition on Channel 7 and through our social media campaign. The videos highlighted the potential for opportunistic crimes and offered simple yet effective measures that Territorians can employ to reduce their vulnerability. These informative videos cover safety tips on property, home, vehicle and personal security. The videos can be viewed on the NHWNT website or Facebook page.

www.nhwnt.org.au/stop-look-lock



222
TV SPOTS

VIDEOS ON
SOCIAL MEDIA
RECEIVED OVER
10,000
VIEWS



24,000+
PEOPLE REACHED
THROUGH
CAMPAIGN ON
SOCIAL MEDIA



Property Security



Home Security



Vehicle Security



Personal Safety

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH 4 KIDS

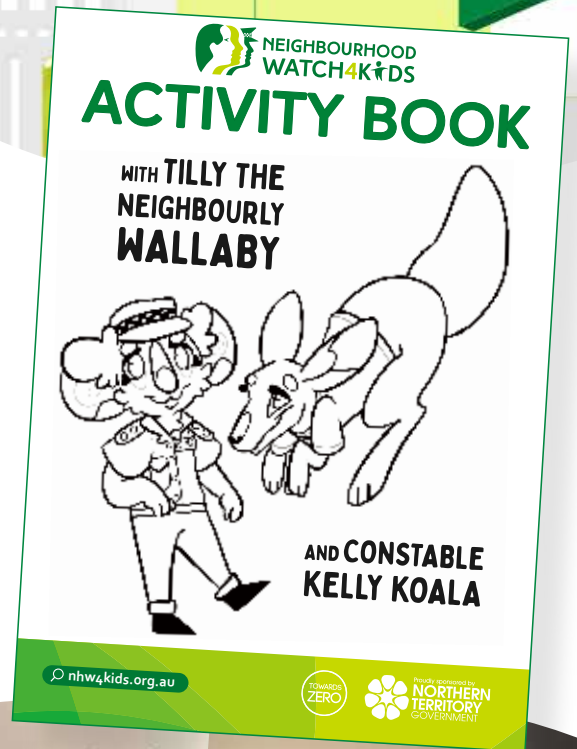
In January 2021, NHWNT launched Neighbourhood Watch 4 Kids (NHW4Kids). This e-learning portal takes children and caregivers on an interactive learning journey to improve safety knowledge and increase confidence. It empowers children to trust their instincts and have the tools to react appropriately to unsafe situations.

In August 2022, we created an interactive Activity Book encapsulating the lessons from our online portal to hand out to kids at events. Based on the number of smiles we've received, it has been a popular addition.

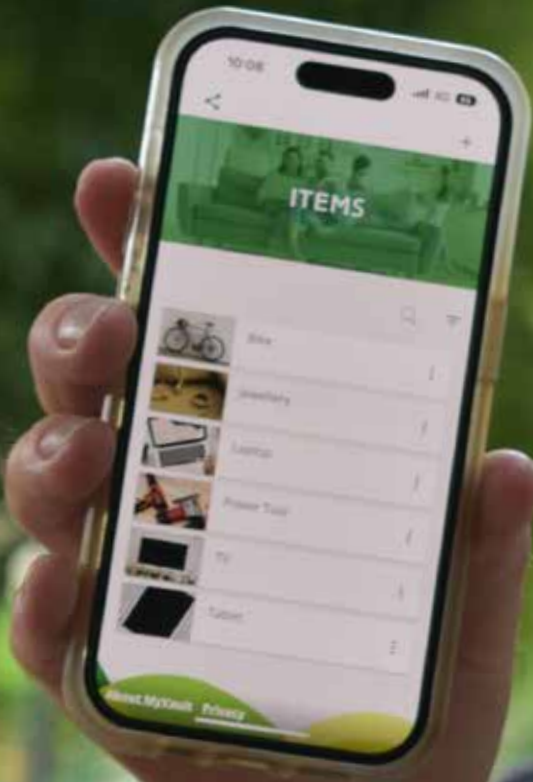
In 2023, we commenced the development of interactive sessions for upper primary children.

2,471
NHW4KIDS
WEBSITE
VISITS

5,366
VISITS
SINCE 2020
LAUNCH



MYVAULT BY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NT



5 STAR REVIEWS
ON THE GOOGLE PLAY AND IOS
APP STORE

In December 2022, we launched MyVault, a mobile application developed in consultation with NT Police that acts as a home asset register and allows Territorians to store important information about their personal property. MyVault makes reporting a theft or loss of property straightforward and aims to increase the user's chances of recovering lost or stolen goods.

The app has been downloaded by 191 users since its launch (55 on Android and 136 on Apple phones), and has received 5 star reviews on the Google Play and IOS App Store.



"It's good practice to keep a record of personal property and this is such a great way to do it! If I need to bring up an old receipt I can do it right on the phone without having to dig through paperwork. Love it!"

— Review on IOS App Store



Download MyVault now!



BUSINESS DE-ESCALATION SESSIONS



In response to community demand, we worked with Victims of Crime NT and Personal Protection Strategies to design and deliver Business De-escalation Sessions to front-line and retail workers.

These sessions are interactive, three-hour workshops on de-escalating challenging situations and staying safe. The sessions guide participants through a range of strategies, including:

- o Situational awareness
- o Types of violence
- o Fear management
- o Personal safety strategies
- o De-escalation strategies

Attendance was very strong at the Palmerston, Katherine and Alice Springs sessions. We want to thank the Chamber of Commerce NT for their support.

OPERATIONS TARN & DRINA

OPERATION TARN

In October 2022, NT Police established Operation TARN to target anti-social behaviour and associated crime attributed to a small cohort of displaced people.

NT Police worked with several government and non-government agencies (of which NHWNT was one), to enhance community safety.

NHWNT shared safety tips and resources with the public and assisted NT Police in gaining local information with an interactive Persons of Interest display.

During October and November 2022, NHWNT had displays at Casuarina Square Shopping Centre, Gateway Shopping Centre and Coolalinga Central Shopping Mall.

OPERATION DRINA

Operation DRINA commenced in November 2022 to reduce anti-social behaviour and associated crimes in Alice Springs.

In March of 2023, our Executive Officer and Police Support Officer were at Alice Springs Plaza, sharing safety advice and resources and offering their support to the community.





2022 AGM & End of Year Celebrations

HIGHLIGHT SNAPSHOTS



67
community
events attended
in 2022-2023

3,800+
visits to the Neighbourhood
Watch NT website during
2022-2023

 www.nhwnt.org.au



5,500+
Social Media followers

74,400+
People reached on Social
Media during 2022-2023



**NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH4KIDS**

2,471
Neighbourhood Watch 4 Kids website visits
during 2022-2023

 www.nhw4kids.org.au

222
TV SPOTS



stop. look. lock.

24,000+
PEOPLE REACHED
THROUGH
CAMPAIGN ON
SOCIAL MEDIA



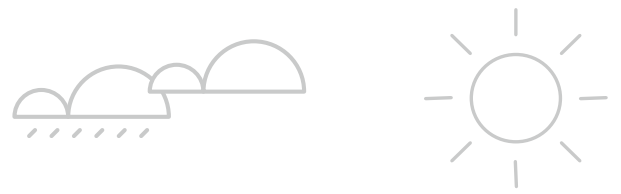
20
Neighbourhood
Watch NT
Volunteers



MY VAULT

5 STAR
REVIEWS ON
GOOGLE PLAY &
APP STORE

191
DOWNLOADS
SINCE
LAUNCH



7 Personal Safety Sessions
3 Business De-escalation Sessions

Seven Personal Safety Sessions and three Business De-escalation Sessions were held in partnership with Victims of Crime NT and Personal Protection Strategies.

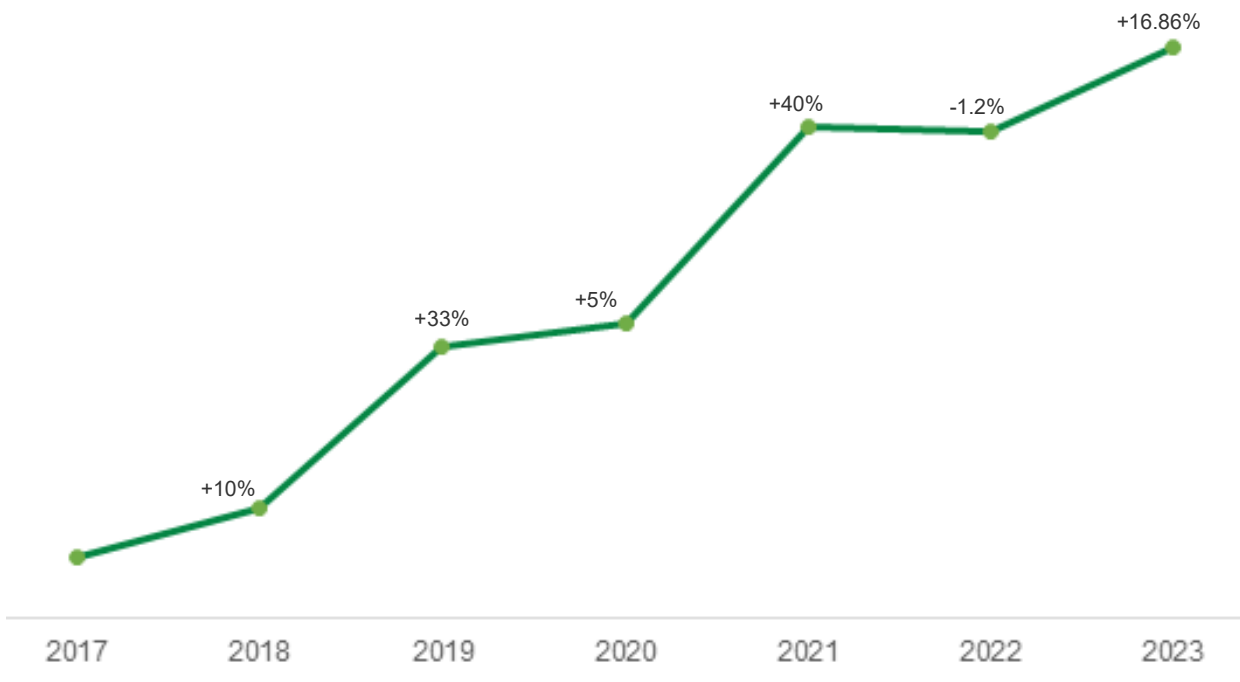


OUR MEMBERSHIP

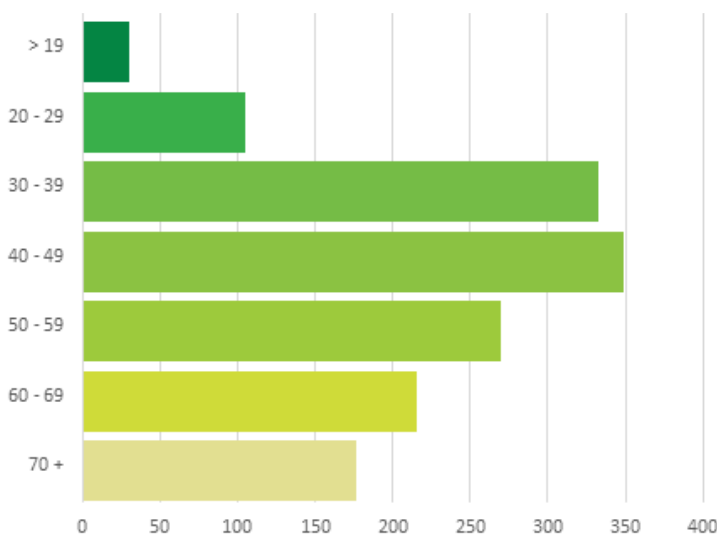
During 2022-2023 NHWNT membership consisted of 2,096 total members, including our team of 20 dedicated Volunteers. We have seen a 16.86% growth in membership over the 2022-2023 financial period.



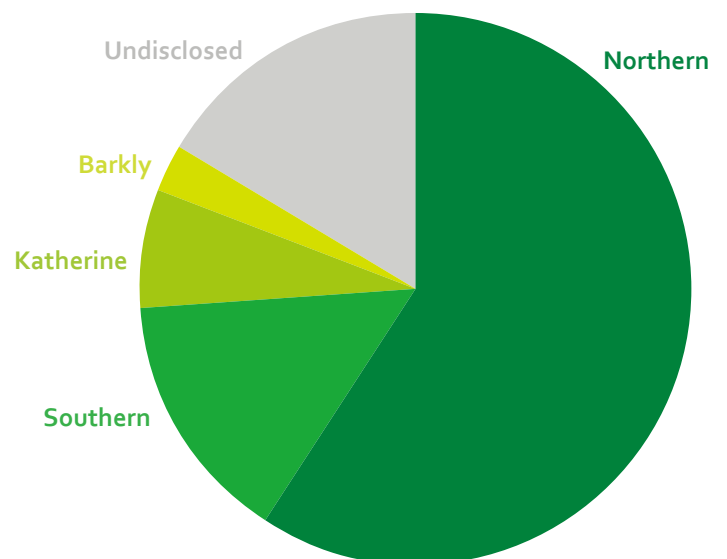
MEMBERSHIP BY YEAR



MEMBERSHIP BY AGE



MEMBERSHIP BY LOCATION



*617 members did not disclose their date of birth.

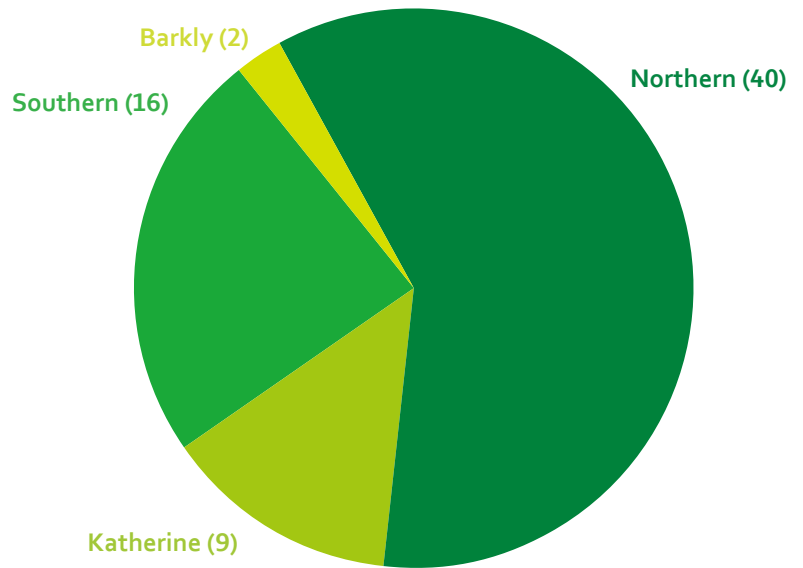
OUR EVENTS

During 2022-2023 NHWNT attended 67 community events across the Territory.

NHWNT, in alignment with our strategic goals of education and connection, organised and attended events to encourage behavioural change within the NT through sharing implementable safety information. In response to Territorians regularly asking NHWNT to attend or host gatherings, NHWNT takes part in and organises many community events throughout the year.

Events during 2022-2023 have included Family Cinema Days, Coffee Connection events, Seniors and Children Expos, community connection activities, rural and regional shows as well as community safety presentations.

EVENTS BY LOCATION

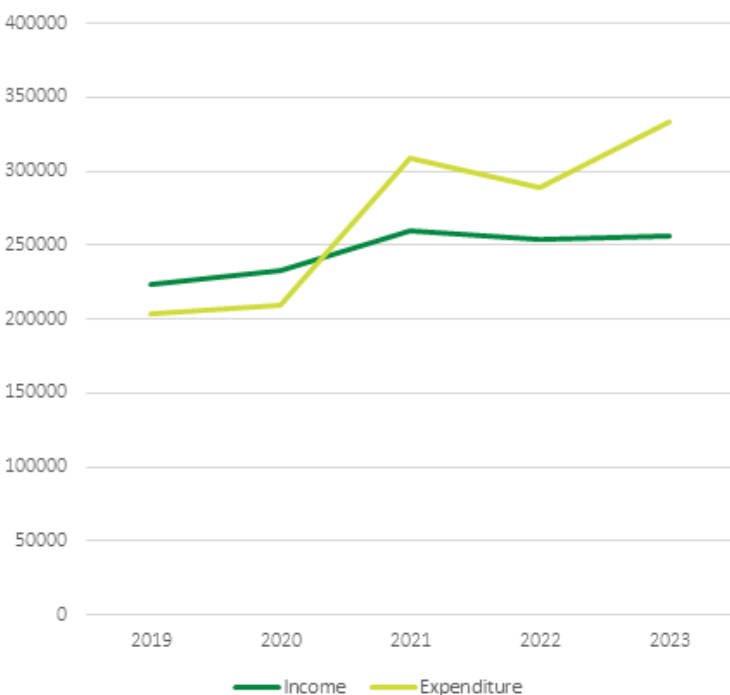


OUR FINANCIAL REVIEW

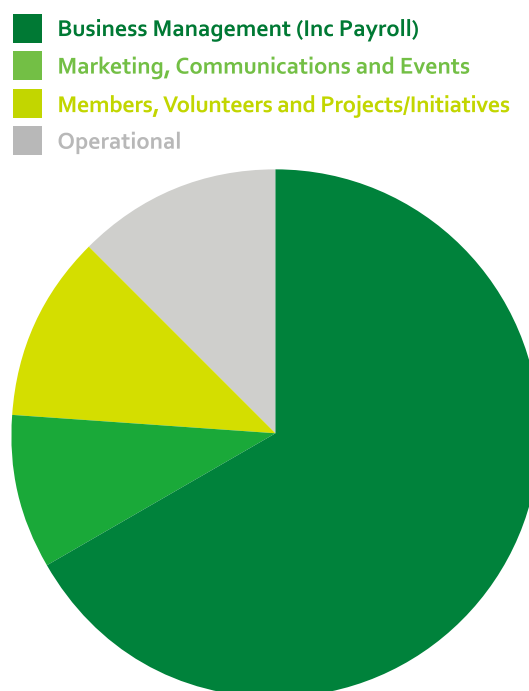
During 2022-2023 NHWNT's income was \$256,726 (ex GST). This income included our core funding received from NT Police to the value of \$224,320.

During 2022-2023 NHWNT received grants from the NT Government through the Community Benefit Fund and Jacana Energy. NHWNT's annual expenditure has totalled \$333,504 for this financial year. For a detailed financial breakdown please refer to the 2022-2023 NHWNT Audit.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY YEAR



EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES



FUTURE PLANS AND SUMMARY

NHWNT are excited to build on the successes of 2022-2023 with an action packed 2023-2024, developing and launching new programs while continuing to expand our proven and popular existing programs.

BUSINESS OUTREACH

We will continue to connect and develop relationships with local businesses and organisations.

COLLATERAL EXPANSION

We are excited to expand upon and update existing resources and tools to ensure our messaging covers advice relevant to Territorians and is accessible to a wider audience.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

We will continue to increase our reach and delivery of events across the Territory, increasing rural and remote specific events and initiatives. We will keep growing our subscriber member base, providing them up-to-date details on future member and community events, new campaigns, projects, community safety information as well as the latest crime prevention tips.

NHW4KIDS IN ACTION

We will continue to develop interactive sessions to engage an upper primary demographic, expanding their knowledge of personal safety and awareness and learning how to react in unsafe situations.

PERSONAL SAFETY SESSIONS

We will continue to partner with Victims of Crime NT and Personal Protection Strategies to deliver Personal Safety Sessions across the Northern Territory.

STREET SIGN REVITALISATION

We aim to revitalise old NHWNT signage across the NT, replacing outdated street signs with new, relevant signage.

TOURIST SAFETY

During 2022-2023, we created and distributed 'Travel Safety Tips' flyers to accommodation providers across the Northern Territory as a resource for guests and newcomers. During 2023-2024, we will explore how we can engage further with tourists and provide education on safely navigating the Territory.

VOLUNTEER DRIVE

Although we have seen an increase in volunteer membership, we have seen a decrease in active volunteers. During 2023-2024, we aim to increase our volunteer numbers by planning, developing, and implementing a recruitment strategy involving further incentives and engaging community-focused activities for our volunteers to participate in.

Thank you to our members, stakeholders and the community for your ongoing support. We look forward to another successful year of helping to create safer, more inclusive Territory neighbourhoods.







NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NT



Proudly supported by
**Northern Territory Police,
Fire & Emergency Services**

