



Dear STREAT Supporter

After a couple of years of research and planning we finally threw open our doors and arms to our first young people on 15 March 2010. That same day we pushed our first little food cart onto the streets of Melbourne. For years, no matter what the weather, with relentless determination we kept providing support, training and work opportunities to the young people who put their daily trust in us.

The following couple of years remained turbulent for our little social enterprise and we failed at as many things as we succeeded. But each of these provided an opportunity to try new things, to innovate, and to learn. Across our portfolio of social enterprise businesses – which has included carts, cafes, a catering company, a bakery and a coffee roastery – we've intensively supported and skilled over 587 young people and in total worked with over 3,114.

“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”

—AUDREY HEPBURN

But we dream of so much more for young people. Spurred on by our People + Planet focus and the critical need to address catastrophic climate change we're proud to be opening the gates of our first urban farms to young people.

This is the start of new training and employment pathways for young people into green jobs. We're particularly excited to be doing this work alongside friends.

When the pandemic brought the state to its knees in 2020, STREAT and many of its social enterprise peers within the food system were also crippled. But whilst we were on our knees in the dirt we started planting some tiny seeds together – literally and figuratively. Our first seeds – batches of culturally-appropriate meals and produce boxes into the food relief system – sprouted rapidly like microgreens and gave us a quick hit of flavour and nutrition and a desire to do more planting. Next, we started planting more diverse veggie crops, toiling side by side with a handful of social enterprises across a whole season together. Our collective harvests nourished not only thousands of people facing food insecurity, but also the scores of people within our social enterprises.

Collectively we built the first phase of Moving Feast, a collaborative social enterprise project to build a more healthy, fair and regenerative food system for Victoria.

We're now embarking upon a host of projects across the following themes:

- **Green jobs** — training and employment pathways into green jobs in the food system
- **Food sovereignty** — access to healthy, fair and regenerative food and food knowledge
- **Urban food-bowl** — urban, community and backyard food gardens
- **First Nation's Foodies** — indigenous food enterprises, products & experiences
- **Food loops** — regional food hubs and optimised food logistics
- **Edible experiences** — food-based eco-tourism and experiences
- **Ethical food products** — new food retail products and outlets
- **Circular economy** — new food systems products & services in food systems.

The Planet and its People will need us more than ever in this upcoming decade. We hope you'll be part of this journey.

With our enduring thanks and gratitude,

Becc + Kate

Rebecca Scott, OAM and Dr. Kate Barrelle, STREAT Co-founders



STREAT PROGRAMS

ENGAGEMENT

Outreach activities with at-risk and hard-to-reach young people, often undertaken in partnership with local police. Activities include sports programs and a jobs club.

TASTE OF STREAT

Half-day workshops for young people interested to check out what working in hospitality or horticulture might be like.

INTRO TO WORK

An individually-tailored 8-week program for young people wanting to access hospitality or horticulture-focussed work experience.

READY TO WORK

A 20-week fully supported program for young people seeking work in hospitality or horticulture. It includes accredited vocational training (a Certificate II), on-the-job training, work readiness workshops, creative and social engagement and individual case support (including linkages to specialist service providers) along with lots of time with our therapy dog Magic! This program provides of 500 hours of support and training for each young person.

PAID TO WORK

A 6-month program supporting STREAT graduates to transition into open employment with our partner employers. This program provides over 700 hours of support and paid work for each young person.

CREATIVE PROJECTS

Supplementary creative arts and storytelling projects.

A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MODEL THAT CATALYSES CHANGE IN ONE YEAR

In 2018 STREAT undertook extensive 'top-down' modelling with RMIT University to calculate the value it creates for the community. The model was based upon Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance numbers and the barriers faced by over 400 young people coming through STREAT between 2010-2018.

There are many young people in our community who battle every day just to survive.

To get by, young people need a wide range of government-funded services including health, housing and welfare.

The personal costs of their situation are unimaginable. The government costs are also high.

Each young person at STREAT costs our governments an average of \$50,476 /year. These costs are borne by the State and Commonwealth governments.

STREAT works to ensure that these young people thrive and have a healthy sense of self, home and work.

The organisation has an holistic approach, providing a range of supports and opportunities tailored to each young person.

SURVIVE

THRIVE

Services being accessed	Cost	Holistic Support Provided	Savings
PERSONAL ISSUES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health (ambulances, emergency departments, hospitals) • Mental health • Drug & alcohol • Justice (police, court, prison, community-based detention) 	\$22,478 VIC Govt. (45%)	HEALTHY SELF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualised case management from STREAT's youth team (clinical psychologist, social workers, youth workers, therapy dog) • Access to specialist services as needed (drug and alcohol, mental health, medical, family, legal and justice) • A group of supportive friends, mentors and workmates 	\$13,418 VIC Govt. (41%)
HOUSING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing (homelessness services, community housing) 	\$27,729 COMM Govt. (55%)	HEALTHY HOME <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to get a safe and affordable home 	\$19,077 COMM Govt. (59%)
WELFARE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newstart allowance, other welfare allowances (There's also a loss of taxation revenue when people are unemployed) 	\$50,476 costs pp/yr	HEALTHY WORK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accredited vocational training in hospitality (Certificate II) • 6 months of on-the-job training and work experience across STREAT's portfolio of hospitality and foodservice businesses • Transition support into a new job with a partner employer 	\$32,495 savings/yr

THESE COSTS CAN ACCUMULATE TO OVER \$3M ACROSS A SINGLE LIFETIME

THESE SAVINGS CAN ACCUMULATE TO OVER \$2M ACROSS A SINGLE LIFETIME

STREAT's work provides saving and exceptional value for governments.

This work saves \$32,495 of the government costs (64%).

Across its first decade STREAT has saved governments \$49 million.*

(STREAT receives less than 1% of government funding each year.)

*State government - \$20m, Commonwealth government - \$29m

"I learnt a lot from this experience. I learnt to be more confident in myself and to believe in myself more."

"I want people to have a better understanding about homeless kids - a lot of us are trying to make something from nothing with our lives."

"When I fuck up they tell me not to stress or apologise. They just help me get it right next time."

"They don't look at your past, they look at your future."

"It opened a new chapter in my life."

"Brilliant. They should have these rules other places. I mean, really, the rules are just about 'be nice in life, don't shit me and I won't shit you'."

"I think it's just that you all really do care about us. It's easy to feel you belong if someone cares. Not many people care in my world."

"STREAT restored my faith in humanity."

"They take things at your pace and don't force you and I like that. It made me feel safe."

"It kept me sane when I thought I was going out of my head."

"I asked to do two shifts a week and they said yes. No one has ever wanted to spend that much time with me before."

"You weren't afraid of my rap sheet. That made you the person I wanted to work with."

"It feels like a family ought to at STREAT, a good kind of family, not like some families..."

"The kindness began right from the start, even when talking about my shit background."

"It's hard to say how or why, but a sense of connection slowly grows up over you, like a friendly plant."

"I learnt how good men behave."

"They never gave up on me and I felt like someone cared about me and what was happening to me and my family."

"It makes you feel calm and unstressed having Magic [the therapy dog] around. Like taking drugs without taking drugs. That's good shit."

"I never thought we'd have someone in our family with a Certificate - like the kind you can hang on the wall like families on TV sometimes have."

"I would have been insane or dead without this program and this group of people. Fucking real."

"They make us feel as though we existed, they could see us, they acknowledged us every time by saying hello and using our names - every time!"

"STREAT kept me from doing bad things."

"This is the first time I've ever finished anything. In my life. That's a big deal for me."

"Trainees and staff are the first people in my life who accept me and support me completely."

"It's going to be hard to juggle childcare and do my Cert II, but one day they'll be proud of their Mum, and that makes me work hard."

"STREAT is good for my head and heart."

"STREAT is good for keeping me out of prison."

"I can breathe here."

"You've given me hope, a future and a solid job - you believed in me before I believed in myself."



STREAT A DECADE OF IMPACT 2010-2020



