



In October 2022, it was a moment of great pride as I stood alongside the SYC Executive to unveil our 2023-26 Strategic Plan. This plan charts a dynamic path toward realising our vision of wellbeing, independence, and opportunity for all. It acknowledges our strengths and embraces the opportunities before us, propelling us toward greater impact and positive change. Our Strategic Plan also introduces a re-energised vision, mission, and values for the organisation.

With a rich history spanning 65 years, our shared purpose and dedication to making a positive impact on our community shines through in all facets of our work, including the successes and experiences of our clients and the unwavering commitment of our staff. While our new vision, mission, and values pay homage to this shared purpose and history, they also empower us to look ahead to the next 65 years and how we can continue to enable people to succeed.

Reflecting on the past financial year, it's incredible to share the journey SYC has embarked on. At our flagship site, 'The Foundry,' we've successfully equipped young people with employment skills, job opportunities, and a remarkable boost in confidence. Across more than 40 employment services locations, we've provided unwavering support, training, transport assistance, and counselling to help our clients gain and sustain meaningful work. In our education and training services, we've supported hundreds of students in attaining qualifications, acquiring new skills, and achieving success in employment. Through our independent housing initiatives and specialised residential care program, we've offered safe, secure housing and a foundation

from which individuals can seek opportunities for their wellbeing and independence.

In our quest to become more data-driven in our decision-making and advocacy, our data snapshot series has been instrumental in understanding the experiences of thousands of tenants who engage with our tenancy advice and advocacy service. As we comprehend more and more about the housing crisis and the role organisations like ours can play in collaborating with the sector, we've taken significant steps toward providing affordable, safe housing. Recognising that having a home is crucial for wellbeing and overcoming disadvantages, our recent land purchase in Ridgehaven, South Australia, holds promise for creating opportunities in affordable housing provision. This initiative is pivotal to our commitment to address the housing affordability crisis.

Our work in justice services continues to be a cornerstone of our organisational capability. The Navigator program, in particular, has led to a 10% lower re-offending rate compared to the national average. The impact of this program was acknowledged this year with the Community Partnerships Award by the

Department for Correctional Services, underscoring our commitment to sustainable, positive community impact. Our youth justice team has also demonstrated incredible passion for their work and dedication to supporting young people in reconnecting with the community. Young individuals engaged with this team have completed nearly two thousand hours of community service, supporting their education, wellbeing, sense of belonging, and capabilities.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our remarkable team, dedicated volunteers, invaluable partners, and the SYC community for their unwavering commitment to our vision of wellbeing, independence, and opportunity for everyone. Every individual at SYC contributes immeasurably to our organisation through their relentless belief, collaboration, and courage daily. I also extend my thanks and acknowledge the invaluable support and expertise of our Board and the leadership of our Chair, David Hallett, for guiding SYC to continued success.

Mark Hoffman-Davis,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Mark Hoffman-Davis', is written over a white background.

CEO