



**National
Survivors
Foundation**

Annual Report 2025



www.survivors.org.au

1300 12 44 33

hello@survivors.org.au





Each year comes with new challenges, but at National Survivors Foundation, our collective work with many dedicated stakeholders helps us create a safer, more hopeful community for all.

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Directors' Report



2025 has been a year of significant evolution and rebranding for IGFF, with the organisation having officially transitioned from In Good Faith Foundation to National Survivors Foundation (NSF).

This change was made following our 2024 AGM to more accurately capture the environment in which we now operate, and to align our organisation more closely with our existing National Survivors' Day brand.

Since making the transition to NSF, we have experienced very positive feedback from our key stakeholders and feel this change of organisational name provides a much clearer expression of the work we seek to do and a greater intuitive understanding for our prospective clients and supporters for the years ahead.

We note that despite the name change, our core business and organisational mission remain mostly unchanged, and have no material impact on the services we provide to our pre-existing Survivor cohort.

NSF has also established a separate not-for-profit arm called Trauma Informed Solutions to operate as a for-fee service to provide education and similar services for organisations looking to implement trauma-informed strategies and improve their responses when working with Survivors or individuals experiencing trauma. We look forward to working in this space in the years to come and providing our expertise to organisations that seek to improve their day-to-day management of this complex issue.

In 2025 NSF was delighted to welcome the official patronage of their Excellencies, Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of Australia and Simeon Beckett SC. Enjoying the official patronage of Australia's highest office is significant recognition of the immense calibre of work NSF undertakes and is a testament to the evolved landscape in which Survivor experiences are being acknowledged.

We thank their Excellencies for their ongoing support and patronage.

The third National Day of Recognition for Survivors of Sexual Assault and Institutional Abuse was another great success with high-profile National Survivors' Day events hosted at Admiralty House by Her Excellency, Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General, and Australian Parliament House by the Honourable Prime Minister Anthony Albanese MP.

As with 2023, the Day received considerable national media coverage and political support from politicians across jurisdictions and ideologies.

The Board acknowledges the tireless work of our Ambassadors, National Advisory Committee, and NSF staff who have established the significant influence and impact of this important day for Survivors.

Finally, the Board wishes to acknowledge the incredible efforts and commitment of all the staff at NSF.

As a Board, we are pleased with all that we have achieved as an organisation in 2024-2025 will continue to oversee and assist the direction of NSF as an organisation in 2026.

Richard Jabara
Chair

Darryl McFarland
Deputy Chair

CEO's Report



Always at the forefront of positive change that makes a tangible difference in the lives of those with lived experience, our work has been championed under the In Good Faith Foundation brand for almost 30 years.

And in those years, tremendous strides forward have been made, shifting not only expectations of how we as a society respond to reports of abuse, but also what we know about who can be/is impacted.

It was with this in mind that our 2024 AGM unanimously adopted our new name – **National Survivors Foundation**.

A name more aligned with and reflective of an organisation that remains committed to working with and for Survivors, reflecting not only contemporary understandings of organisational abuse and trauma but also the variety of changes for those who might seek our services.

In becoming the National Survivors Foundation, we also honour our pioneering work in launching National Survivors' Day – the first day in the national and international calendar to exclusively recognise the depth of resilience, courage and determination held by those within the Survivor community.

Continuing the theme of change-making, NSF hosted and provided the platform for a variety of events recognising National Survivors Day around Australia in 2024. More than ever, 2024 represented the collective breadth, reach and importance of the Day with remote communities, First Nations legal centres, and the Australian Parliament House all hosting Morning Tea events.

As part of this mandate, NSF has led collaborative efforts to develop legislative solutions for Bird v. DP, seeking to remove civil litigation barriers that confront our clients and ensuring that justice remains achievable regardless of the chosen pathway.

These outstanding achievements have also garnered the patronage of their Excellencies, the Governor-General of Australia, Sam Mostyn AC, and her husband, Mr Simeon Beckett SC, delivering non-partisan recognition of a small team that has achieved significant change and collectively improved outcomes for Survivors.

Whilst a change in our space can happen either with seismic force or through small increments, the constancy of the team at NSF plays a vital role in making sure those impacted by sexual violence and abuse receive the support and care needed for their recovery.

Clare Leaney
CEO





Survivor Services



Evolution in an ever-changing Survivor landscape involves populations adapting to dynamic social and cultural conditions through mechanisms like access and empowerment, which includes behaviours and changes made possible through our generational recognition of “harms done” and efforts not only for social justice but for individually meaningful reparations.

These changes can lead to rapid shifts and diversification, including the scope and specialisations of services such as National Survivors Foundation (NSF) learning from 25+ years of institutional abuse support and advocacy. The resilient power of people to adapt to challenging environments and circumstances, underlies the persistent support providers such as NSF are reaching for and our staff are determined to sustain.

Throughout 2024-25, NSF Survivor Services supported people’s Redress journeys through any stage and entry point, such as people questioning their Rights; exploring legal advice; comprehending eligibility for multiple Redress Schemes; seeking therapeutic care; and being heard and respected by their NSF Caseworker.

We may question what behavioural inheritance there is in our efforts to help people; in practical ways regarding physical safety, and welfare and emotional support, active listening and encouragement? What of these constructive behaviours can be passed down to subsequent generations, influencing traits in response to ongoing pressures that include crimes against our most vulnerable such as infants, children and young people.

How do we contribute to sexual abuse recovery and prevention? Is it through legislation, that may be updated from the lobbying efforts of those with lived experience and impacted community populations? Is it through education and raising awareness, for the most vulnerable through the art and storytelling of picture books – or education, aimed at leadership who may be unaware of the powerful ripple effects of trauma informed care?

Trauma impacts unexpectedly and does not discriminate. Anyone, of any age, can experience an injury, illness, disability, even death of a part of themselves, or of a loved one and family/community members. The health of social conditions and how people around you respond to change-impacts can make the crucial difference between thriving and sustenance or merely, survival. In all of these ways, NSF Survivor Services strive to evolve in support of everyone’s capacity - for stability, resilience, safety and recovery.

Rachel Last
Executive Manager of Survivor Services



Governance and Grants



IGFF devoted significant energy and focus during 2024-25 to evolving our identity and our focus. At the November 2024 Annual General Meeting, the IGFF Membership agreed unanimously to broaden the focus of our service to encompass support for Survivors of abuse in a variety of contexts, and to adopt a new name: 'National Survivors Foundation Ltd' (reflecting this broader focus and to strengthen our alignment with the success of National Survivors' Day).

The first half of 2025 saw considerable effort devoted to preparing for the transition, with the Communications team developing strategies and materials for bringing our Survivor clients and other stakeholders on the journey, and the governance and financial teams completing the *many* administrative steps needed to prepare for our September 2025 formal name change.

NSF continued to work closely with the Commonwealth Department of Social Services (DSS) throughout the year, ensuring that the experiences and interests of Survivors remain front of mind in the setting of policy. NSF and DSS were able, in an environment where government expenditure continues to be highly constrained, to secure additional funding to meet some of the unmet Survivor demand for our support for future years, and to continue and grow our outreach into under-supported regional communities. NSF and DSS were also able to agree arrangements for us to provide support (in future years) specific to assisting the many Survivors who have been issued notices from the National Redress Scheme (NRS) requesting additional information to support their NRS application.

In total, the collaboration between DSS and NSF delivers continuity of excellent casework and advocacy support for Survivors engaging with the National Redress Scheme as their path to redress and recovery.

NSF also continued to work closely with the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH), which provided significant grant funding contributing to NSF's support for the

substantial numbers of Victorian Survivors progressing their redress through civil litigation pathways or the criminal prosecution of those responsible for the abuse they suffered.

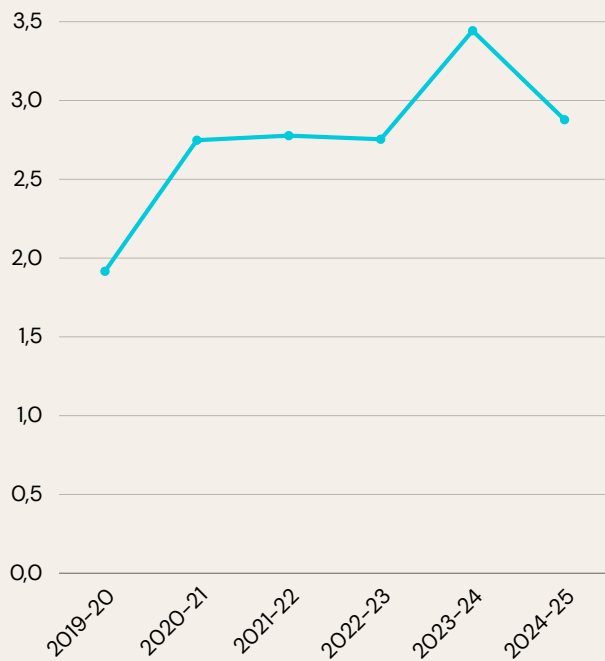
NSF also commenced delivery of the DFFH-funded National Redress Counselling and Psychological Care service, providing ongoing specialist advocacy and support for Survivors after they have accepted a redress offer under the National Redress Scheme, helping them to avoid 'falling through the cracks' as they deal with the long-term consequences of their abuse. NSF and DFFH were also able to agree arrangements for us to provide support for Survivors of historical abuse or neglect in institutional settings in Victoria before 1990 to seek redress under a Victorian government program set up for the purpose. This program provides opportunities for some Survivors to seek redress when they would otherwise not have a pathway to do so.

In early 2025, NSF completed a transformative project it commenced in 2023 with funding from the Oak Foundation, a large international charitable foundation that provides grants across the world promoting social justice and supporting vulnerable people to understand and pursue their rights. The project has delivered a template and strategies to strengthen protections from abuse for young people participating in elite and sub-elite sport, and to drive change towards more trauma-informed responses to disclosures in sporting organisations. This has formed a valuable leverage point for NSF to engage with government jurisdictions across Australia to lock in change. NSF and Oak continue to work together on how this work can be built on to drive broader, faster and more enduring change.

Phil Lindenmayer
Head of Governance and Grants
Company Secretary

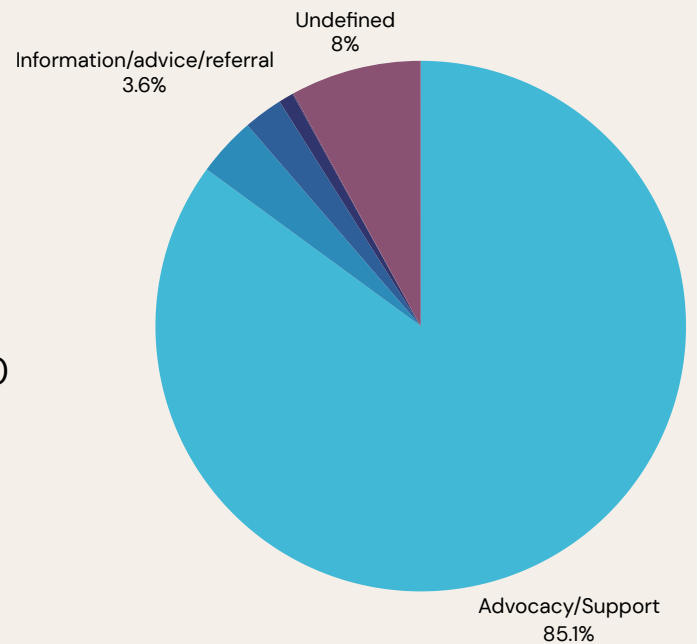
2024-25 KEY STATISTICS

Growth in Client Services



Number of Casework sessions (<1000 – 2900+) provided to national clients from July 01 2019 to June 30 2025.

Number of Casework sessions by service type provided to national clients from July 01 2024 to June 30 2025.



National Survivors' Day



Every Ribbon. Every Conversation. #EveryVoice

The third annual National Survivors' Day - 12 November 2024 - was an incredible success and continues to grow in significant influence and recognition.

The Day received exceptional media coverage and significant political support in 2024.

In 2024, National Survivors' Day achieved unprecedented recognition and support from key lawmakers, Heads of State, and State and Territory representatives.

The Day's official events calendar included a federal roundtable in the Australian Parliament with the key guest speaker, the Honourable Anthony Albanese, Prime Minister of Australia.

The event was well attended by Federal Parliamentarians from across the political spectrum, including high-ranking government ministers and senior federal committee members from all political parties.

The Mayor and City of Launceston hosted a key event, bringing together local government representatives and the Launceston community to endorse and support the experiences of Tasmanian Survivors.

A week ahead of National Survivors' Day 2024, Her Excellency, Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of Australia, hosted a morning tea for National Survivors' Day at Admiralty House, Sydney.

This event saw NSD Ambassadors, NSF CEO Clare Leaney, and NSF Board Directors Richard Jabara and Darryl McFarland in attendance to speak directly with the Governor-General on the experience and challenges faced by Australian Survivors.

All events placed the Survivor community at the centre, and we acknowledge the superb work of our Ambassadors and representatives who spoke and represented both themselves and the organisation.

National Survivors Foundation also acknowledges and thanks the Parliament of Victoria, specifically Paul Mercurio MP, and Brad Rowswell MP, for again co-hosting our Victorian parliamentary event and providing the opportunity to speak directly with Victorian lawmakers from across the aisle, to outline the experiences and challenges Survivors face.

We also acknowledge the many Federal, State and Territory Members of Parliament for using their respective Chambers and social media platforms to promote and acknowledge the Day in the lead up to and on the day of National Survivors Day.

Extensive media coverage was broadcast during the week of National Survivors' Day, featuring NSD Chair Joe Stroud, NSF CEO Clare Leaney, and NSD Ambassadors providing interviews and commentary.

Ambassadors and representatives featured in national media with televised interviews on major networks and radio, and provided the opportunity to outline their experiences and draw attention to the importance of the Day.

The National Survivors' Day media coverage report can be found here: www.nationalsurvivorsday.org.au/2024-in-review

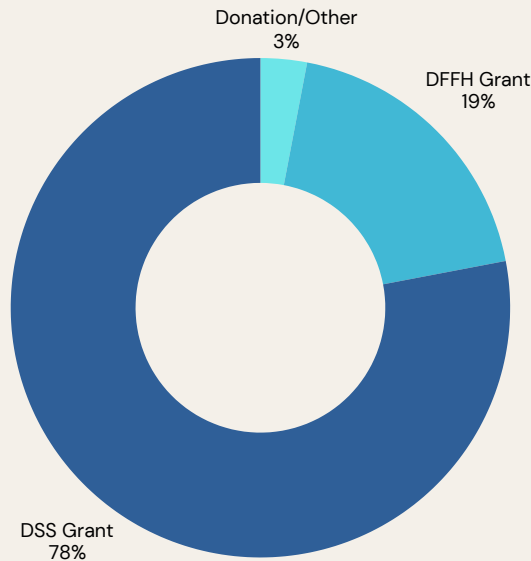
The National Survivors Foundation is working tirelessly to build on the growing success of National Survivors' Day and to ensure the Day continues to honour and support Survivors of Sexual Assault and Institutional Abuse across Australia.

Joe Stroud
Chief Operations Officer

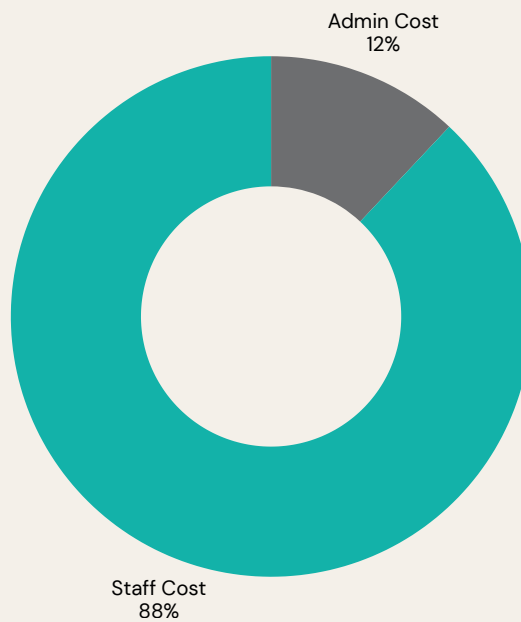
Finances

Revenue Breakdown

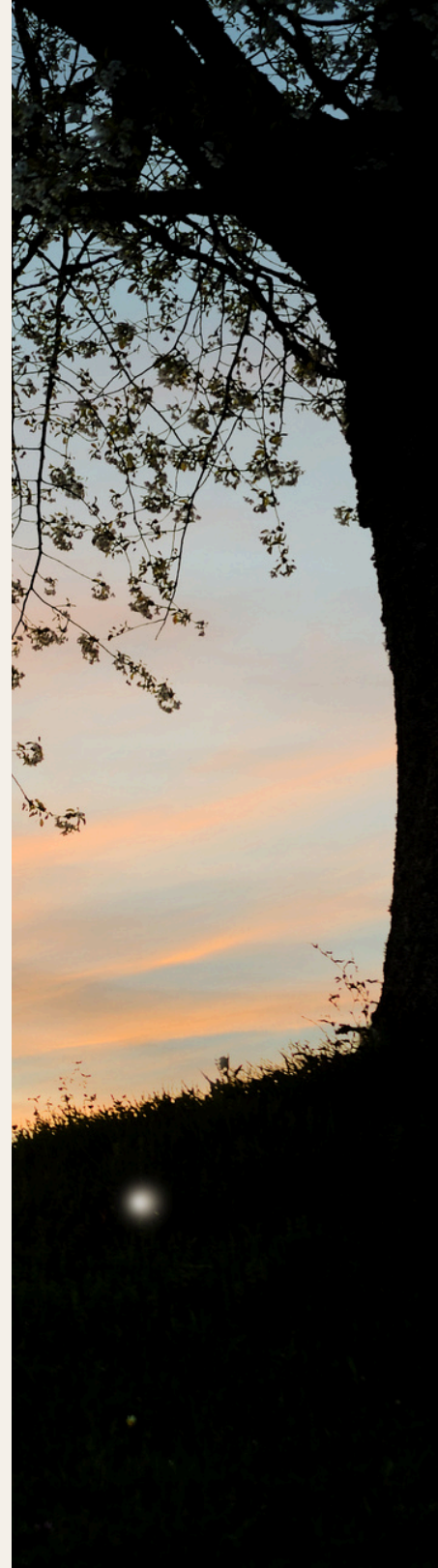
This financial year saw a substantial increase in both DSS and DFFH grants. Staff wages and on-costs constituted 88% of the total NSF expense thereby ploughing back bulk of the revenue into providing services.



The administration expenses were kept to the minimum despite higher costs due to inflation. The Board, Senior Leadership team and Staff at NSF remain fully committed to working hard, creatively and innovatively to continue to raise revenue/funds into the future to maintain and grow NSF's activities.



Srini Vasan
Chief Financial Officer



Funding Providers



Department
of Social
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and Housing

Our
Generous
Donors





Acknowledgements

Thank you to our generous donors for supporting our work and our people who help NSF achieve its vision of a better future for those impacted by institutional abuse.

