

# ReMida

# Perth

Creative  
Reuse  
Centre



## 2023 Annual Report

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# From the CEO

2023 was an exciting year for ReMida as it embarked on the Storytellers Project funded by Lotterywest and participated in the ReMida conference in Sweden.

ReMida delivered high-quality programs and services to its 400-plus members, customers, and suppliers alongside special events and projects.

The Management Committee invested much of its year in formulating an updated strategic and operation plan to focus the organisation’s activities over the next 2-5 years.

Central to these efforts were discussions on leveraging ReMida’s charity identity, DGR status and its overarching fundraising efforts. The revised strategic plan will be tabled at the 2024 AGM and available to members and stakeholders shortly after.



The operations team focused on the core delivery outcomes for each program while exploring opportunities for growth and development as they arose.

Additional focus was directed at ReMida’s social media presence, and we continue to see steady growth in our audiences across Facebook and Instagram. We were fortunate to secure a project team from 180 Degrees Consulting to dive deep into how ReMida can better invest in that space.

This year was ReMida’s third FRINGE event, which was well received by audiences and was the most financially successful production thus far. Special thanks to Anthea, Petushka, Jess, Bek and Sacha for volunteering their time to make the show possible. FRINGE has become the unofficial launch of ReMida’s year and the art program.

ReMida’s achievements are only possible because of the efforts of our volunteers, Management Committee, suppliers, members, customers and stakeholders, all of whom collectively comprise the ReMida community. We are incredibly fortunate to have a dedicated team of volunteers and staff who work tirelessly for the organisation’s success each year. Thank you, and we look forward to what is next for ReMida.

**Dr Paul Armishaw,**  
Executive Officer



**“ReMida achieves remarkable things, every year, thanks to the efforts of a small, passionate and dedicated Team.”**

## **2023 Outcomes Snapshot**

### **Materials**

**550 kms travelled**

**1132 wheelie bins collected**

**320.25 cubic meters diverted  
from landfills**

### **Education**

**846 tubs of materials used**

**141 sessions delivered**

**39,200 people engaged in a  
ReMida workshop**

### **Members**

**420 active members**

**13,125 individual material  
collections.**

**9,500 followers on social  
media**



# ReMida's Programs and Services

## Materials



Material Processing

ReMida collects discarded materials from over 70 suppliers across Perth. We prioritise items that fall outside traditional recycling practices.

People can also donate items to ReMida and the donations program plays an important role in the diversity of materials we can offer to our members.

Our capacity to receive items varies and we prioritise supplier collections to ensure an effective use of the available space at ReMida.

ReMida is a creative reuse centre; this means that we repurpose materials into other activities, we do not recycle items directly.

ReMida materials are primarily used in arts and education activities. It is a philosophical model of reuse that assigns value and purpose to items that would otherwise end up in landfills.



The Main Collection Space

## Education

ReMida delivers early years, primary and secondary incursion and excursion workshops inspired by the Educational Project of Reggio Emilia.

The workshops utilise non-traditional items from our materials program to provide a distinct and challenging workshop experience.

ReMida workshops offer a challenging and balanced creative experience that conforms to the WA curriculum and the Early Years Framework.



Shoe Making STEM Workshop



PDs are an Active Learning Experience

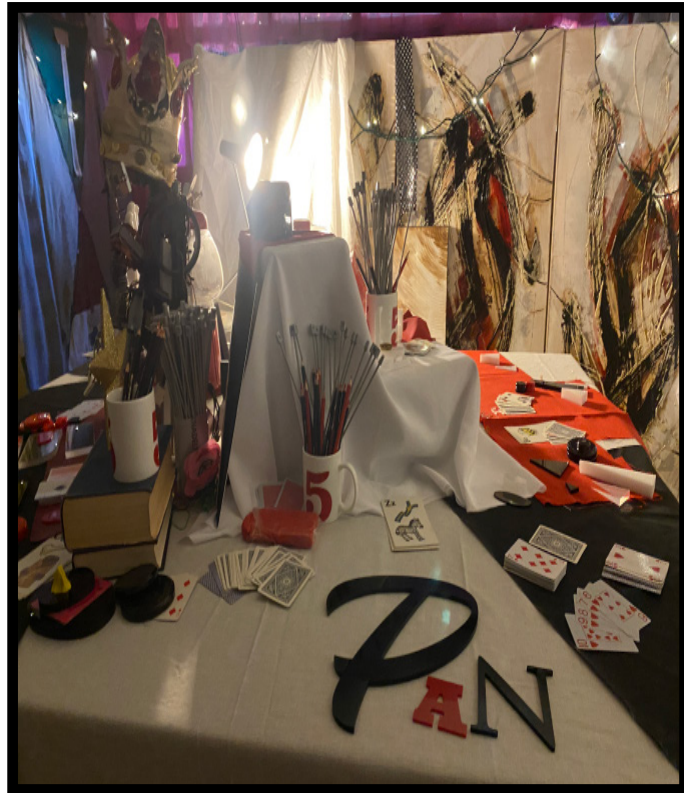
ReMida offers a range of professional learning sessions for educators and artists. The sessions are inspired by the Educational Project of Reggio Emilia, ReMida's materials philosophy and its approach to sustainably-based art practices Postdiscardism.

ReMida PDs get the educators out of their chairs and working with materials they are a great resource for educators and artists alike.



# ReMida's Programs and Services

## Arts



FRINGE@ReMida

ReMida's artist in residence program supports young, emerging and early career artists who focus on the use of non-traditional materials. Alongside this, ReMida encourages its staff, volunteers, members and stakeholders to share their creative journeys by exhibiting works at Remida.

In 2019, ReMida hosted Icarus, an exhibition that showcased the potential of ReMida materials across multiple art forms. Over the last five years, ReMida has been involved in FRINGE world, created art installations and continued to develop the reach of its artist in residence program.

## Festivals

The ReMida Festival program offers bespoke sessions designed to match the event's particular themes. Every year, ReMida engages with over 20,000 people through its festivals. Popular offerings include the Silver Web and the Loose Parts Play areas.

A highlight for 2023 was Toddlerfest, a fantastic event organised and hosted at Scitech. A silver web was installed by ReMida facilitators, which children and families then decorated.



Toddlerfest 2023

## Jellyfish Plastics

Launched in 2018 with support from the Waste Authority's Community and Industry Engagement fund, Jellyfish Plastics by ReMida repurposes plastic bottle caps into beautiful, purposeful items.

Alongside its plastic repurposing, Jellyfish Plastics works with schools and community groups to establish their own plastics reuse hubs. ReMida has supported Durham Road and Apsiri Primary School in launching and maintaining two amazing hubs, which offer ongoing learning and skills development opportunities for their students, educators, and families. Each year, ReMida diverts around 600 litres of plastic bottle caps from entering landfills.





# 2023 Storytellers

## Funded by Lotterywest

Supported by Lotterywest and launched in 2022, Storytellers will collect 1000 stories from people across WA over the next fourteen months. The aim is to create a visual catalogue highlighting the act of Storytelling, in all its diverse forms, in a distinctly West Australian context.

The Project took us to Karratha for a series of excellent sessions at St Luke's and Roebourne District Highschool, as well as running some additional workshop sessions over the weekend.

Thanks to the generous support of Edith Cowan University, Storytellers held the Project Launch at Gallery 16 and showcased a series of visual, written and sculpted stories.

Lotterywest provided \$69,820 and ReMida contributed \$39,633 for a total project budget of 109,453. The Project will wrap up in early 2024, with a final exhibition in July.

Working with Lotterywest allowed ReMida to deliver the Project on a much larger scale. Without their support, the Project would not have been possible.



In early 2024, ReMida will host a series of metropolitan-based workshops to give the local community the greatest possible chance to be involved.

Storytellers have been one of the most exciting and intensive Projects ReMida has delivered, and we are very excited to see how it all comes together for the final exhibition in 2024.

# Acknowledgements

ReMida is supported by a community of educators, suppliers, members, volunteers and supporters whose input, effort and commitment makes what we do possible.

## Funders

Lotterywest - The Storytellers Project

The Department of Finance - Workplace Giving

## Member Engagement

Durham Rd - Jellyfish Plastics

Aspiri Primary School - Bin Chicked Recyclers

Nido Willetton - Material Donations

West Coast Secondary - Material Processing

## High Volume Suppliers

Clinipath

Clutterbugs

Curtin World

Peterkin Paper

Tauro Turf

## Volunteer Recognition

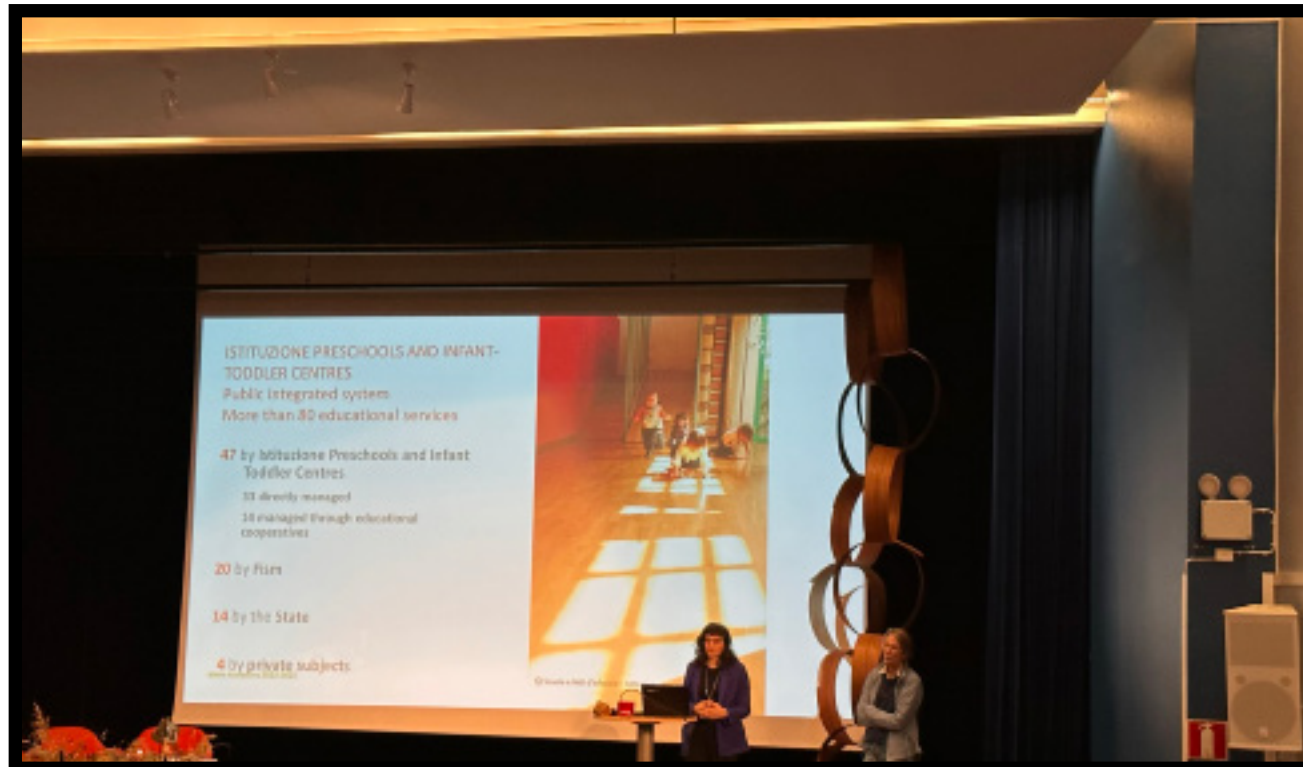
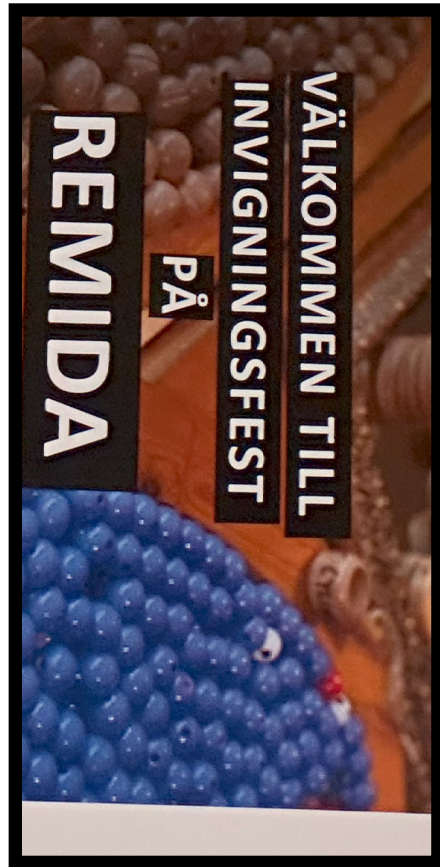
Deb Mulvey - years of service

Raye Rickard - Jellyfish Plastics champion

Shriley Thaker - dedication

Rita and Jerri - best coworking team





The Team from ReMida Vaggeryds hosted the 2023 ReMida conference over three days in October.

## Outcomes from the international conference of ReMida Centres, hosted by ReMida Vaggeryds.

ReMida Perth had the opportunity to participate alongside ReMidas from Sweden, Norway and Italy at the international conference.

The first two days were devoted to the opportunities, challenges and learnings from the early years centres. As part of the conference, we had the chance to visit a mini-ReMida that occupies the upstairs space in a newly opened early years centre and a waste and recycling centre that harvests pumpkins from the organic garden waste it receives.

We have not had an opportunity to engage with the International Network since the Malaguzzi Anniversary celebrations in early 2020, and it was a joy to visit with and be inspired by so many ReMida centres.

There was also the opportunity to learn from Dr Nina Odegard, whose PhD thesis focused on the value of aesthetic explorations with recycled materials. Nina is a passionate advocate and an inspiring teacher whose understanding of materials and their application to learning outcomes for people of all ages is truly world-class.

The conference inspired new elements in our professional learning and education programs, the full impact of which will unfold across 2024.

All the way back in 2004, before ReMida Perth was officially a ReMida centre. We were fortunate to have the support and encouragement of the international network through the team at ReMida Reggio Emilia. Events like the Malaguzzi Birthday Celebrations and the biannual conferences allows ReMida Perth to learn from and contribute into the work of the ReMida centres globally.



# From the Chairperson, Andrew Davy



*“ReMida continues to strengthen its financial reserves through the delivery of high-quality, Reggio inspired programs, alongside its arts, festivals programs and Jellyfish Plastics. 2023 was a time of growth and consolidation and we look forward to what 2024 has in store for us.”*

If the end of 2022 pointed to a growing confidence that ReMida was heading in the right direction, then 2023 was confirmation.

On many fronts the year delivered better than expected outcomes and offered new opportunities. Our core business performed strongly with memberships and workshops increasing significantly, and material collections continued to rise.

The Storyteller’s project progressed well and connected ReMida into new territories, including two trips into the Pilbara and various collaborative exhibitions, such as those with PICA and ECU. The Fringe show ‘The Spider and the Crow’ and thearts program continued to grow ReMida’s profile as an arts centre, and our social media presence continues to attract new followers.

We ended the year exceeding our budget targets, reinforcing the strong financial position ReMida has built. The Operations team, again led with endless energy and entrepreneurial spirit by Paul, capably delivered all that was asked of them.

The team was sad to lose Isabelle throughout the year, but gained Lauren and Charlotte, who along with Dougie and Sacha clearly did far more than just keep the lights on! And of course, they were ably supported by our enthusiastic team of vollies. On behalf of the Management Committee, I thank them all for their contributions.

ReMida has continued to seek new funding sources and pursue the strategy developed with WAUC in 2022. While new funding has been slow, the systematic and growth-based approach being adopted in seeking new grants

gives the Management Committee confidence that it will deliver rewards in time.

It has been very pleasing that we have been able to pursue this strategy while maintaining high quality services and performance in our core business and maintaining financial stability.

The Management Committee has also been subject to change. In 2023, Connagh, Watto and Mark all left after many years of service. Matthew will be stepping down from the committee this year (2024) and his attentive and diligent contributions will be missed. We thank them all for their various contributions and are grateful for their service.

Olaya Lope Casado and Rebecca D’Olimpio have recently joined our remaining members, Bridget, Nicola, Sarkis, Paul and myself, bringing new skills and energy to the Committee and ensuring that we remain an effective team ready to help ReMida create its future.

Finally, it my intention to step down as Chair of the Management Committee this year. It has been a privilege to serve ReMida in this capacity over the past 4 years, and I am truly grateful to all the support I have received from across the ReMida community, and particularly from Paul.

Andrew Davy

**Chair, ReMida Management Committee**



# Materials in Focus

## ReMida diverts over 300 cubic meters of discarded materials from landfill each year.

*The material diversion and collection program is a foundational part of ReMida's mission.*

ReMida collects discarded materials from over 70 suppliers in the Perth metropolitan area. The work of the collections team is further supported by the one hundred or so individuals and businesses that drop off their discarded items to ReMida directly.

**“The volunteers play a crucial role in keeping the materials program on track each week.”**

Our focus are materials that can be directly repurposed into a classroom, arts or activity setting; this allows us to maximise the time that volunteers spend each week in helping to sort and display the materials.

Regular visitors to the centre may notice that our space is always changing. Often, this is in response to the need

to ensure that we are getting the best possible use out of our sorting, display and storage space.

In 2023 ReMida collected 320.25 cubic meters of materials, from 75 suppliers, with 301 hours invested into collections and 1959 volunteer hours sorting and displaying materials.

We gratefully acknowledge the commitment of our suppliers in making the materials available.

A core priority for the collection team is balancing material availability with the display and storage space. Requests for bulk collections can be challenging for materials that require mid to long-term storage before they can be processed and displayed.

Wherever possible, shelves are stocked with diverse materials to maximise a member's collection experience. Occasionally, we will display materials

in bulk to encourage their collection and use in education and arts programs.

Popular collection items include large cardboard tubes, plastic end caps, fabric, shade cloth, cable drums and arts and crafts supplies. Early 2023, we took steps to increase the collection space in the stationary room, which included additional work and storage space for the volunteers.

Looking ahead to 2024, our focus will be the gradual development of both the material collections and donations program. The donation program is a great way to support the wider community in their efforts to prevent items that can be repurposed from entering landfills.

Special thanks to Doug, Anne, Carmelo, and Deb; they work tirelessly to ensure that materials are made from the suppliers and put onto our shelves.

**“It's about finding value and purpose. It's easy to say that something is too good for landfill. The challenge lies in giving the materials a purpose beyond their original use; something that will motivate people to reuse the materials over and over.”**

**Dr Paul**



# Education in Focus

2023 was another busy time for the education team, as we said goodbye to Isabelle and hello to Lauren, both of whom made a significant contribution to the program over the course of the year.

**A highlight from the year was our involvement in Scitech's Toddler Fest, and the return of the Silver Web to one of their main activity spaces.**

The majority of sessions were delivered in primary school settings, with the 8-10 age group the most represented within that cohort. Junk Bugs, Green Machines and Scarecrows were among the most popular sessions with thousands of individual works produced by students throughout the year.

Scrap Yard Trolls was a new addition to the school holiday offerings and proved to be very popular. The school holiday sessions represents a growth area for the education program and will likely be a focus for the team in 2024.

Behind the scenes, Lauren and Stephanie continued to refine the admin processes for customers at the time of booking and for facilitators and their end of session paperwork. An ongoing area of improvement for the program is the booking system, which can be cumbersome for customers and staff. The team also spent time improving the material packs to better support participant creativity across the sessions.

Closer to home, we continue to explore the viability of hosting sessions onsite.

Sessions at ReMida offer an exciting and immersive experience for participants but, at the same time, there are practical limitations for ReMida when we do this. Moving into 2024, we will revisit the logistics of onsite sessions as we recognise the value added to the overall workshop experience.

**Our time in Sweden in late 2023 inspired changes to the format of the play experiences as well as the development of a new series of sessions.**

We are excited by the outcomes this year and look forward to seeing the education program grow in 2024.



# ReMida's incursion, excursion and professional learning embed the Reggio Educational Philosophy into a WA context.



# The artist in residency program, alongside FRINGE and our festival offerings extends ReMida's philosophy into the WA arts scene.

## Arts in Focus

**Our start with FRINGE began mid-COVID and has become an essential part of our arts and events calendar.**

ReMida's participation in FRINGE gives us a chance to showcase the space and the talents of the staff, volunteers and artists who help craft the show. Throughout the FRINGE season, the building transforms into the Warehousiam, an otherworldly space where treasures and strange creatures reside.

The show follows an interactive treasure hunt format where the audience is plunged into the world of the Warehousiam with minimal warning as to what they can expect. Thus far, FRINGE has added \$5,000 in revenue for the arts program over the last three years, and we intend for FRINGE to become a permanent part of ReMida's arts and events calendar.

**The in-person artist in residency program will be returning to ReMida in 2024.**

A lingering impact of COVID was the artist's transition from the residency program to a predominantly online format. While this has allowed us to retain the program across 2020 and early 2022, and we have had some great artists participate, we are keen for the program to be active on-site at ReMida.

ReMida hosted three online residencies this year by the fantastic and talented Sarah Soulay, Olive Cheng, and Megan Barker. Each artist bought their distinct take on ReMid materials.

**ReMida's Festival program has been identified as an area of potential growth for the organisation.**

Festivals often give ReMida the chance to showcase the creative reuse of materials to a much broader audience. The challenge is that they can be time- and material-intensive, especially if they involve large, specially built structures.

2023 saw ReMida return to Scitech for Toddler Fest, spend a month at PICA as part of the Storytellers Project, and begin discussions with the City of Wanneroo for a Jellyfish Plastics-themed public art install in early 2024.

The takeover of the community space at PICA was an excellent opportunity to showcase the Storytellers Project, ReMida's creative streak, and community-based art workshops. The team at PICA were incredibly supportive and helped ensure our time in the space was a success.



## TREASURER REPORT

### 2023 Financial Overview

Under the Associations Incorporation Act 2015, REmida can be classified as a Tier1 organisation for the purposes of reporting and auditing.

There has been no requirement to complete a review or audit of the 2023 accounts.

Always Accountable continue to be engaged on a monthly basis to manage the bookkeeping and provide advice as necessary. The figures shown in this report are prepared on a cash basis.

#### Summary of financial performance for 2023 compared to prior year.

\$	2023	2022	Increase/- Decrease
Income	176,943	228,969	-52,026
Expenses	216,863	174,111	42,752
Surplus /-deficit \$	-39,920	54,858	

#### Cash position a Year End:

112,946	159,602	-46,656
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The expenses increase due to expenses associated with the LotteryWest Grant of \$69,820 received in November 2022 and all costs for the execution of grant were incurred in during the year ending December 2023.

#### Income Details

Income Type \$	2023	2022	Increase/- decrease
Grants	0	84,864	-84,864
Memberships	111,013	97,407	13,606
Workshops	49,956	36,800	13,156
Festivals	11,890	890	11,000
Professional Development	2,223	4,023	1,311
Professional Services	891	406	682
JFP	696	1,793	-1,097
Fundraising & donations	10	0	1,295
Other	265	3,929	-3,664
<b>TOTAL Income \$</b>	<b>176,943</b>	<b>228,969</b>	<b>-52,026</b>

ReMida's finances performed well amid what has been a challenging time for many West Australian charities.



Grants received during 2022 were from LotteryWest ("Me Storied Home") \$69,820 and City of Stirling, \$15,000. Noting that the Lottery West grant will be acquitted during 2023 and 2024.

There were no Grants received in 2023, however, ReMida Perth experienced strong growth in number of new and returning members. In addition to that, leadership was able to successfully tap into expertise and deliver extra services in workshops and festivals.

As RErinda is now a registered charity, donations are being collected.

#### Expenditure Details

	2023	2022	Variance
<b>Cost of services</b>	<b>18,478</b>	<b>16,153</b>	<b>2,325</b>
<b>Operating Expenses \$</b>			
Finance and Insurance Costs	15,133	6,780	-10,647
General Administrative Expenses	5,959	6,612	-653
Office Expenses	2,931	2,033	898
Utilities	1,591	1,516	75
Marketing	3,968	1,312	2,656
Payroll Expenses	164,787	134,350	30,437
Information Technology	4,481	3,677	804
Motor Vehicle	4,161	855	3,306
Grounds / Equipment	3,634	804	2,830
Travel	10,221	18	10,205
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>216,866</b>	<b>157,956</b>	<b>58,911</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>235,344</b>	<b>174,109</b>	<b>61,234</b>

Cost of sales includes workshop facilitation and direct incremental spend required to deliver professional services and development workshops. This was higher in 2023 in line with an increase in workshop and festival revenue.

Total operating expenses were higher to prior year due to deliver of Lottery West Grant and costs associated with increase in revenue in other segments.

Payment for Insurance in January 2023 and December 2023 (for the year 2024) is the reason for considerable increase in this segment.

#### Balance Sheet Review (see appendix for full balance sheet report).

#### Cash position

The 2023 closing cash position was \$112,946.

#### Future Liabilities

Amounts payable at year end \$19,242

- ATO PAYG and Super payments \$4,486
- Annual leave and Long service leave \$11,715

The 2023 budget reflects the focus to deliver the Lottery West Grant - "A Me Storied Home" and growth in the Education and Holiday workshops.

	2024 budget*	2023 actual	Increase/ -decrease
Income		176,943	-72,719
Expenses		216,863	33,865
<b>Surplus/-Deficit</b>		<b>-39,920</b>	<b>-106,584</b>

	2024 budget	2023 actual	Increase/ -decrease
<b>Income streams</b>			
Grants		0	-84,864
Memberships		111,013	-7,407
Education		49,956	5,650
Festivals		11,890	3,210
Professional Development		2,223	6,889
Professional Services/ARTS		891	7,318
JFP		696	707
Fundraising & donation		10	-295
Other		265	-3,929
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>176,943</b>	<b>-72,719</b>

## Balance Sheet Review (see appendix for full balance sheet report).

### Cash position

The 2023 closing cash position was \$112,946.

### Future Liabilities

Amounts payable at year end \$19,242

- ATO PAYG and Super payments \$4,486
- Annual leave and Long service leave \$11,715

The 2023 budget reflects the focus to deliver the Lottery West Grant - "A Me Storied Home" and growth in the Education and Holiday workshops.

Other significant operating costs include Insurance, bookkeeping and IT related (systems and website).

With this budget the cash position for 2024 year-end is forecast to be \$106,000.

\*Further items that have subsequently emerged but not reflected in the above budget:

- 1) Purchase of IT equipment (c. \$7,000)
- 2) Reggio Conference in October (c. \$4,000)

## Appendix: financial statements

### REmida Perth Inc

### Profit and Loss

### January - December 2023

	<u>Total</u>
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Fundraising - Contributions</b>	111,012
<b>Other Direct Income</b>	65,655
<b>Fundraising - Gifts</b>	549
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>177,216</u>
<b>Cost of Sales</b>	
<b>Cost of sales</b>	<u>(18,478)</u>
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<u>(18,478)</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>158,738</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>	<u>1,098</u>
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>1,098</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
<b>Finance and Insurance Costs</b>	(15,133)
<b>General Administrative Expenses</b>	(5,959)
<b>Office Expenses</b>	(2,931)
<b>Utilities</b>	(1,590)
<b>Marketing</b>	(4,469)
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>	(164,797)
<b>Information Technology</b>	(4,481)
<b>Motor Vehicle</b>	(4,169)
<b>Grounds / Equipment</b>	(3,634)
<b>7-0000 Travel</b>	(10,073)
<b>Other</b>	<u>(147)</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>(217,383)</u>
<b>Net Earnings</b>	<b>(57,548)</b>



ReMida continues to explore growth opportunities for its programs and services to maximise its impact across WA.

**REmida Perth Inc  
Balance Sheet  
As of December 31, 2023**

	<u><b>Total</b></u>
<b>Assets</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Cash and Cash equivalent	77,978
Term Deposits	35,000
Other assets	1,170
Credit Card	(6,229)
Other Assets	6,217
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u><b>112,966</b></u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>112,966</b>
<b>Liabilities and shareholder's equity</b>	
<b>Current liabilities:</b>	
Superannuation payable	4,485
Annual Leave Liability	2,961
Long Service Leave Liability	8,755
<b>Other Liability</b>	<u><b>3,041</b></u>
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>19,242</b>
<b>Shareholders' equity:</b>	
Net Income	(57,548)
Opening balance equity	107,770
Retained Earnings	42,857
<b>Total shareholders' equity</b>	<u><b>93,079</b></u>
<b>Total liabilities and equity</b>	<b>112,321</b>

**Complied by: Sarkis Akopov, Treasurer  
On behalf of: the REmida Perth Inc. Management Committee  
June 2024**

# ReMida's Management Committee



Andrew Davy  
Chairperson



Nicola Wright  
Vice Chairperson



Matthew Brierly  
Secreatry



Bridget Staude  
Member



Sarkis Akopov  
Treasurer



No Problem  
can be  
solved at the  
same level  
of consciousness  
that created it.

Albert Einstein

