



# YACWA's Strategic Plan 2024—2029





The Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands, waterways and plains on which we live, work and play on.

We extend our respect to Elders, both from the past and those who guide us today, and we embrace this connection with all young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who we work alongside of.



**This land has always been,  
and will always be,  
Aboriginal land.**

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# Message from our Chair and CEO

We are pleased to present our report on the planning and implementation of the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia's (YACWA) next 5-year strategic plan. As we collectively navigate the complex landscape of youth advocacy, participation and engagement in Western Australia, we recognise the need for a well-defined and forward-thinking strategy to continue our mission of empowering young people.

The past five years have seen significant changes in the youth sector, and the COVID-19 pandemic has intensified the challenges faced by young people. In response to these changes and challenges, our organisation is committed to evolving and adapting to better serve young people and the communities that support them. Our strategic planning process has been comprehensive, inclusive, and reflective of our dedication to the cause.

## Key Highlights of the Strategic Planning Process



### Stakeholder Engagement

We engaged in extensive consultations with various stakeholders, including young people, youth organisations, government agencies and community partners. This inclusive approach allowed us to gather diverse perspectives, ensuring that our strategic plan aligns with the needs and aspirations of our target audience.

### Environmental Scan

We conducted an in-depth analysis of the socio-political and economic environment, considering the implications for young people and youth advocacy. This helped us identify emerging issues and challenges that require our attention.

### Evaluating our Mission and Values

We reaffirmed our commitment to our mission of advocating for young people and supporting their participation. We have reviewed our values to align to the future of our work and that build on our foundations.

### SWOT Analysis

We conducted a thorough SWOT analysis, identifying our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. This exercise informed our strategic priorities and resource allocation.

## Key Performance Indicators and Monitoring



To assess the success of our strategic plan, we have identified specific strategic Objectives and Initiatives that will help us track our progress. We will regularly review these and adjust our programming as needed to achieve our goals effectively.

We express our gratitude to our dedicated staff, volunteers, Board members, and the entire YACWA community for their unwavering commitment to our mission. It is through

their collective efforts that we can embark on this journey to create a better future for Western Australia's young people.

The next five years present a significant opportunity for YACWA to make a lasting impact on the lives of young people. We look forward to collaborating with all stakeholders and partners who share our passion for youth advocacy. Together, we can build a brighter and more inclusive future for the young people of Western Australia.

## Purpose

To be a bold, trusted, go-to advocacy and systems shaping body for young people, the sector and communities that support them.

## Vision

All young people are respected, valued and enabled to shape the world they live in.

## Organisational Aspiration

To be an impactful and focused rights organisation by connecting and building the capability of young people, the sector and communities.



## Our Values

### Inclusivity

We actively and intentionally create an environment that welcomes and embraces diversity in all its forms, ensuring that everyone feels valued, respected, and included. We endeavour to work with, build and empower the diverse stakeholders we work with.

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### Courage

We take bold and principled actions that promote positive change, even in the face of fear, adversity or challenge. We nurture a sense of bravery, resilience and foster a courageous environment.

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### Curiosity

We seek knowledge, explore new ideas and are curious to better understand the world around young people, the youth sector, and the communities that support them. We believe fostering curiosity is vital for growth, lifelong learning and community development.

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### Connection

We establish meaningful and positive relationships fostering a sense of belonging, support and collaboration, working in partnership that enables the well-being and development of young people, the youth sector and the wider community.

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# Amplify the Impact of Our Advocacy

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Ensure that issues important to young people are reflected in broader sector advocacy

Build the advocacy skills and capabilities of the sector

Facilitate collective advocacy on targeted issues

Actively seek and elevate the voices of young people

Enable young people to be change-makers

Share our advocacy stories



# 2 Engage and Grow Our Membership

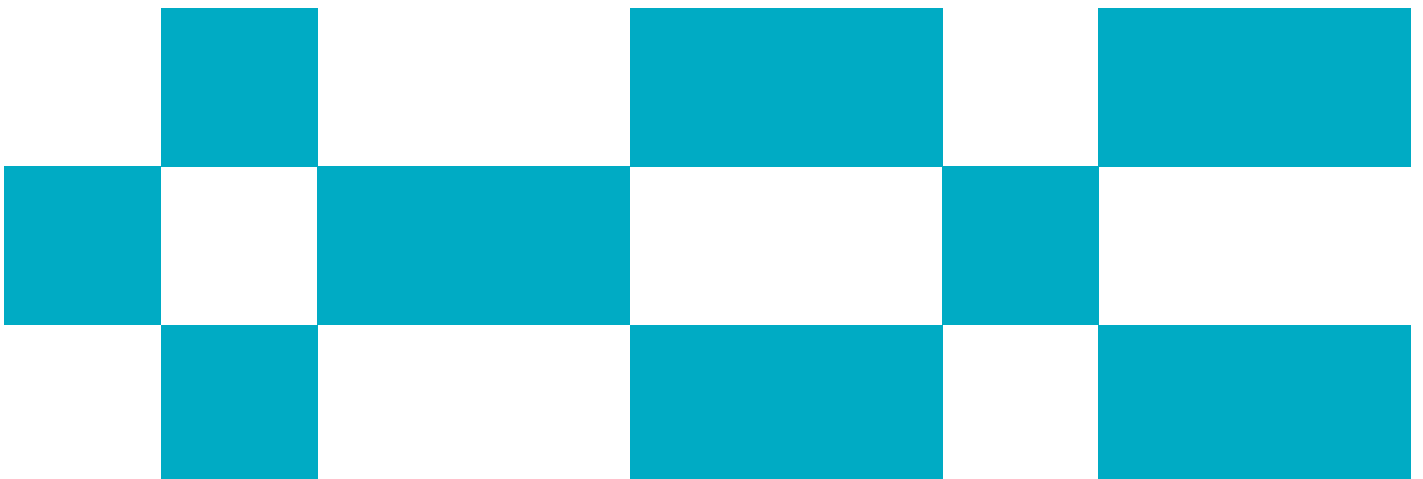
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Offer a sector and member learning and development program

Facilitate sector connections

Develop and implement a youth membership strategy

Develop and implement a two-way member communication and engagement strategy





# **Build a Sustainable Business and Governance Model**

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Secure sustainable funding to support our core operation

Explore and grow purpose-aligned private sector funding sources

Develop a for-purpose, sustainable advisory service

Optimise our operating model and organisational structure

Invest in and implement efficient systems and processes

Develop a meaningful and sustainable regional and remote inclusion strategy



## Strategic Objectives and Initiatives

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# Nurture and Grow Our People

Invest in learning  
and development

Continue to attract and grow  
a diverse workforce

Celebrate progress and value  
our contributions

Foster innovation and a  
mindset of curiosity



# yacwa

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