



## **Annual Report 2018**

## Chairperson's Report 2018

2018 marks another great year for Carringbush, with strong grant success, further establishment of our position as a leader in the community sector and the development of a number of new teaching initiatives.

The year started with great excitement, as Carringbush was featured in a TFN (The Funding Network) event in February, in which presenters from three NFPs pitched their project ideas to an audience of potential donors. The event was a huge success and I wish to pass on a huge thank you and well done to our CEO, Margaret Corrigan, on her presentation about the often transformational role of volunteers and to board member Liz Stubbs, who championed Carringbush – the \$33,000 raised on the night was a fantastic effort!



It is really pleasing that Carringbush continues to be seen as a leader in the community sector, particularly in terms of its organisational approach to teaching learners who have had little or interrupted schooling and to the teaching of pronunciation. The CEO and staff members made presentations at a number of forums during the year, including the VALBEC (Victorian Adult and Basic Literacy Commission) Conference, ACAL (Australian Council of Adult Literacy) Conference, ACTA (Australian Council of TESOL Associations) conference, Pronunciation Symposium and VicTESOL Symposium.



The quality of Carringbush's work is also reflected in the success we have had in grant applications, including in partnership with Melbourne University for the 2018 VicTESOL (Vic Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) Research Grant. Hayley Black is to be congratulated for her Fellowship with Melbourne Sustainable Equity Institute (University of Melbourne) for a project on digital literacy for beginner level EAL learners. The success of our application for an additional Skills First Reconnect grant has enabled Carringbush to empower additional hard to reach learners to scaffold them as they work towards reaching their goals.

A grant from the ACFE (Adult Community and Further Education) Board has enabled us to complete a wonderful project creating a set of teacher training videos, focusing on strategies for teaching beginner – level adult learners. These have been accessed by hundreds of teachers through the Carringbush website. A second ACFE grant has funded the development of a set of interactive books, which can be accessed by teachers and learners via mobile phone apps. The books feature photographs of Carringbush students and text read by readers with a range of models of English. We eagerly await the finished product, which is due for completion early next year.





Carringbush's financial performance this year was also pleasing, with a Net Profit of \$110,000 indicating strong financial management.

The Carringbush team should also be commended on its willingness to give back to the community, with our CEO being a member of the VicTESOL executive, the ACTA committee, the Collingwood English School Council, the Richmond and Burnley Historic Society, and the Victorian

Electoral Commission CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) Advisory Group.

It has been an honour to be Chairperson of the Carringbush board in 2018; it is wonderful to be involved with such a dynamic organisation!

Monica Gould  
Chairperson



## CEO's Report 2018

In 2018, Carringbush staff members continued to work together and collaboratively with many others, to improve outcomes for our learners.

Our partnership with St Joseph's Primary School, Collingwood, supported by a grant from Helen MacPherson Smith Trust, has enabled us to work with parents to be more engaged in school and community.

Carringbush staff work with our team of wonderful volunteers to support our learners in a variety of ways, through employment mentoring, adult literacy tutoring, family literacy tutoring and classroom tutoring. Our Referral and Support Program volunteers provide valuable assistance, in all sorts of ways, to residents of the Richmond and Collingwood estates. We continue to welcome Monash College conversation group volunteers and our intern who made a wonderful video to promote volunteering at Carringbush. We all enjoyed a great get-together at a film night in November.



Working with other organisations as part of the LLQP (Learn Local Quality Partnership) has assisted us to strengthen our compliance as an RTO (Registered Training Organisation) and our partnerships with Sisterworks, Let's Read, Yarra Libraries and MiCare New Hope have allowed us to co-design innovative programs which meet the needs of learners.

Additional local area partnerships within the City of Yarra have seen us collaborate on projects such as We Stand Together (against racial vilification), addressing safety concerns on the Richmond estate, sharing information on services for refugees at the YSF (Yarra Settlement Forum).

It has been great to see all Carringbush students coming together at Community Lunches during the year. These gatherings provide an opportunity for students to develop their employability skills through volunteering and for all our students to enjoy themselves over a tasty lunch.

Students also responded very positively to the workshops presented by the Metro Fire Authority, in which participants learnt about fire safety with demonstrations and videos.



Carringbush teachers continue to work with our students using research-based strategies. Professional learning has included peer observations and how to incorporate principles of translanguaging into our practices. It is great to be able to build learning experiences from the many resources the students already have!



I would like to thank all the team at Carringbush for another wonderful year, and particularly the Board of Governance for their ongoing support. The work we do is important and together we play a valuable role in supporting Richmond and Collingwood residents to achieve their goals in education and their sense of belonging.

Margaret Corrigan  
CEO