

Annual Report 2015-2016



**Australian
Sex Workers
Association**

A collection of red umbrellas hanging from a metal frame against a dark background. The umbrellas are arranged in a circular pattern, with some partially overlapping. The text is centered over the middle of the image.

MISSION

Through its objectives, policies and programs, Scarlet Alliance works to achieve equality, social, legal, political, cultural and economic justice for past and present sex workers in order for sex workers to be self-determining agents, building their own alliances and choosing where and how they live and work.

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ABOUT SCARLET ALLIANCE



Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc. was formed in 1989. Scarlet Alliance represents sex workers and Australian state and territory based sex worker community organisations and projects at a national level. Scarlet Alliance works collaboratively with researchers, academics, health professionals and government in order to develop and improve health programs, policy and research.

Our current membership includes individual sex workers, as well as state and territory based sex worker organisations, projects, networks and groups throughout Australia, along with our associate membership. This diversity ensures Scarlet Alliance is able to represent the issues affecting sex workers Australia wide.

Our member organisations provide over 20,000 occasions of service per annum to sex workers in Australia, and have knowledge and experience in the community based response spanning three decades. Most importantly our diverse membership is an example of communities, in this case sex work communities, effectively participating

in our own response to HIV and the many issues that impact on a sex worker's ability to work safely.

Our member organisations' work is carried out through active partnerships with key service providers such as sexual health, legal, drug and alcohol services, police, and welfare services. Access and equity training is provided to these key service providers in order to meet the needs of sex workers and reduce stigma and discrimination.

Scarlet Alliance is a sex worker organisation and our values reflect the highly successful Australian sex worker community-based response to HIV. Our member organisations, individual members, staff and executive are sex workers, and we are part of the solution to the HIV epidemic.

Australian sex workers have proven in the last two decades to be highly skilled, capable in our every day working lives of prevention of HIV and STI transmission, negotiation of safer sex practices, and presenting highly relevant sexual health education aimed at our sex work clients. The sex worker rights movement engages a range of tools and principles in our health promotion work with sex workers, such as peer education, community development, a rights based framework, harm reduction and workplace, health and safety.

We take pleasure in providing you with this 2015 - 2016 Annual Report. We hope it provides an insight into the varied work of Scarlet Alliance, our membership, and the financial position of the organisation, while highlighting key issues for sex workers in Australia.





Peer Education

The success of sex worker organisations and projects in Australia can be attributed to the employment of current or past sex workers as peer educators. Peer educators have lived experience of sex work, so are intimately acquainted with sex worker concerns.

An understanding of the needs of other sex workers in relation to confidentiality is an important asset to developing trust and relationships. Also, an understanding of sex worker cultural norms and a familiarity with key sex work skills means that peer educators can interact in appropriate ways with sex worker communities, and share skills and experiences with less experienced sex workers.

Sex work peer educators have long demonstrated their expertise as educators to other sex workers and clients of the sex industry. With in-depth and first-hand experience of the sex industry, peer educators formalise information, providing highly knowledgeable health education, support, referrals and equipment to other sex workers.

Sex worker community-based response

Australia has very low rates of HIV and STIs amongst sex workers, due to the response by sex workers, community-based sex worker organisations, other agencies and government.

Scarlet Alliance directly liaises with sex worker communities in order to inform its policies and programs, demonstrating a high level of understanding in regards to community development in the fight against the transmission of HIV and STIs.

This successful approach to community development has removed significant barriers, enabling sex worker communities to mobilise as community-based organisations working in partnership with government to achieve public health outcomes.

The Australian government working with sex worker communities in this way has allowed for successful community participation in developing, designing and informing HIV prevention service delivery, policy, and program development.

Sex workers and wider community benefits

Community development has meant that sex workers become skilled peer educators as well as being able to educate our clients. Sex workers in Australia skill-share within our workplaces; the outcome is education of the wider community who access our services. This is a key element to Australia's successful response to HIV: sex workers have adopted high levels of condom usage as well as developing specific skills to negotiate safer sex practices with clients, who are largely uneducated in regards to HIV and STIs.

The Australian experience of community development has demonstrated that education does create safer sex practices. Sex workers are highly educated in safer sex practices, through accessing services provided by local community based sex worker organisations. Sex workers have the opportunity to take ownership of our profession, whether long term or transient, ensuring maximum holistic health benefits. The benefits to the wider community include improved public health outcomes as well as sexual and reproductive health outcomes.



Protest against the Salvation Army outpost of their Headquarters in Sydney on International Whores Day 2016

PRESIDENT REPORT

Writing this report is a chance to reflect on the huge achievements Scarlet Alliance has made over this past year as well as consider the challenges remaining that we continue to work on. Scarlet Alliance has built upon our existing strong foundations in continuing to maintain focus in working towards our aims and objectives in an environment that often remains hostile to sex workers in many ways.

Laws, practices and policies can often operate in ways that functionally undermine, criminalise and destabilise the efforts of sex workers in looking after ourselves, our co workers and our communities. But through working together and organising as a community of sex workers we become stronger and better advocates- not only for ourselves, but for all sex workers. Respect and recognition of the diversity of our community allows us to be more informed, more nuanced and to build solidarity with the communities many of

us also belong to. Our experiences as sex workers and as a sex worker organisation mean that we are positioned to understand our communities own needs and collaborate to achieve them. By reflecting on our own experiences we are also able to empathise and work constructively with other organisations and communities in solidarity and respect of the expertise that they bring on their own experiences and for their own communities- with the principle of 'nothing about us without us'.

Through our strategic plan and by facilitating opportunities for consultation with our membership throughout the year we are in a unique position to be able to advocate on sex worker issues at a national level. We remain committed in our accountability to our membership and our objectives across all areas of work. Our many achievements, often despite seemingly insurmountable obstacles are outlined in this report.

This year saw a definitive, negative shift in the federal government’s approach to health BBV and STI funding. Previously in line with the highly successful partnership approach to BBV and STI for affected communities, the federal Department of Health provided funding to community organisations to determine appropriate responses for their communities and provide advocacy, leadership, advice and representation to and from communities and government. This response has been recognised as the most effective in responding to BBV and STI’s for marginalised communities such as sex workers. However, the government has replaced this effective approach with an open competitive tender process for funding specific, pre determined activities. This has resulted in a significant negative impact on community organisations and eroded our capacity to respond appropriately to the changing needs of our communities. Scarlet Alliance were one of the only national organisations successful in securing funding under this new competitive tender process. Despite this success, the changes in funding has meant a significant portion of our core work is now unfunded. We are no longer funded for our National Forum, for our leadership and representation work, for our policy and advocacy and for our resources and publications such as the E-newsletter and Scarlet Letters. Instead we are funded for the provision of online BBV and STI resources for sex workers and for our SANTAP peer



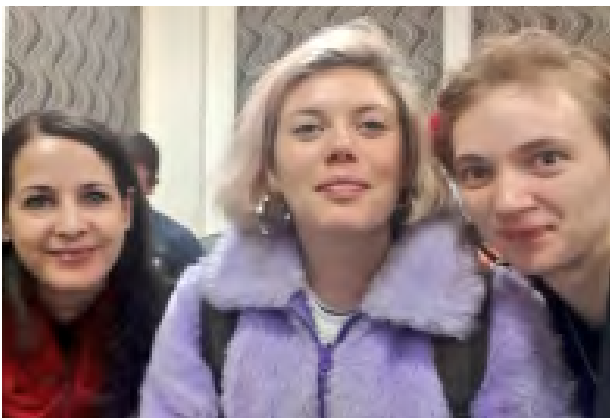
Panel at Macquarie University Law Society with Polly and Miya from the Migration Project

education training online. While these funded areas are activities that will be of benefit to sex workers, this shift has resulted in a significant reduction in the staffing and capacity of Scarlet Alliance.

Scarlet Alliance remain committed to ensuring best practice, evidence informed, rights based focus in all our work and adhering to our aims and objectives in meeting the needs of sex workers. Unfortunately it still remains an uphill battle in highlighting the need for such standards to be held to, and for proper consultation and community involvement to be seen as essential and critical to all issues, policies and programs that affect us.

Fortunately for us, as sex workers we are used to working within and overcoming challenging environments. Looking to the future we have strong organisational policy and procedures, a strong culture of promoting good governance and accountability, a commitment to advancing sex worker rights and a passion and drive to make things happen.

Ryan Cole
President



Executive committee members Jill, Queenie and Ryan at Lesbian, Bisexual and Queer Women’s Health Conference in Melbourne 2016



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

This year after years of dedicated service, we said farewell to Janelle Fawkes as our CEO in March and welcomed Jules Kim to the role. Janelle was the organisations first CEO and played a key role in growing Scarlet Alliance into the organisation it is today.

The selection of a new CEO to lead us into this next phase was a daunting task, however the appointment of Jules Kim to the role has ensured there was a smooth transition, due to her active involvement with the organisation previously and commitment to the role. Jules has extensive knowledge and leadership skills and brings an exciting new energy to the organisation.

Scarlet Alliance has also been impacted by external challenges. The funding environment has felt uncertain at best and rapid changes have required us to rethink much of our funded work. While we have faced an increasingly restrictive new funding environment, we have continued to demonstrate the important value of the work we do and how we do it. The executive

committee itself this year has had a good balance of new and returning members allowing for the dynamic mix of experience and enthusiasm necessary to continue guiding the organisation towards the goals, visions and strategies outlined in our Strategic Plan whilst managing significant changes and challenges.

As we work through the year, towards our own strategic goals as well as responding to issues reactively as they came up, it can be easy to overlook the magnitude of some of our successes and how effectively sex workers and sex worker organisations have worked together to produce such achievements.

This report provides a summary of some of the work the executive has done this year to move us closer towards realising the visions in our Strategic Plan. This work could only happen due to the amazing support provided, and work done, by our membership!

VISION 1: Scarlet Alliance is guided by & supports its membership

A short term goal for achieving this vision is through continuing to improve on our representation of sex workers, particularly those more marginalised within the community. The executive members undertake many opportunities to represent sex workers in a range of ways throughout the year. This benefits our community by addressing misinformation and progressing issues through provision of an alternative understanding.

Two examples from this year is the work we did with People for Sex Workers Rights WA and Magenta to support CJ Palmer after she was wrongly arrested and placed in a men’s prison. We also responded when the Salvation Army put out its discriminatory and stigmatising Red Shield Appeal, protesting with individual sex workers and sex worker organisations on International Whores Day, after negotiations for an apology and retraction failed by community standards.

VISION 2: Scarlet Alliance is an autonomous, viable, representative, transparent and accountable peak national sex worker organisation

Throughout the year the executive remains accountable to our members in a range of ways. One of the key ways we communicate our activities to the membership is through the E-newsletter and social media. The solid foundation created through previous executive committees has been built upon in ensuring Scarlet Alliance continues to be an autonomous and viable organisation- with the office move enabling our

organisation to continue to have our own physical space within budget.

As part of our Strategic Plan we have also undertaken work to prepare for the next stage of an evaluation of individual membership in early 2017- to ensure we are representative, and as part of our commitment to our members we have made initial investigations into affirmative action policies.



VISION 3: Scarlet Alliance is recognised as a leader and expert on sex worker policy and programming and actively seeks to challenge stigma and discrimination faced by sex workers

Considering the conservative political environment that seems to dominate Australia currently, it has been a major achievement to maintain decriminalisation as the model of sex industry regulation in NSW. Both Scarlet Alliance and our membership have continued to strongly advocate for full decriminalisation across Australia, while simultaneously defending against attempts to erode rights we have gained as a community in other areas this has included our continued support of the South Australian campaign for decriminalisation and the 'Save Scarlet Tasmania' campaign which was only successful due to the backing of our membership.

Scarlet Alliance and AIVL [Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League] created a joint press release in the lead up to the International AIDS conference in Durban- 'For Some Of Us, AIDS Is Not Over' calling for nobody to be left behind in our struggles for rights. We joined with our organisational member in the Northern Territory- SWOP NT- following their lead in raising concerns with the problematic Police Administration Act amendments which occurred without community consultation and contradicted human rights and preventative health strategies.

Representation by Scarlet Alliance also occurred on the Sex Worker panel at the Network of Women Students Annual Conference; a workshop at the Lesbian, Bisexual and Queer Women's Health Conference in Melbourne; speaking at the Anti-Poverty Network Women's Day Conference; the Social Research Conference on HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Related Diseases, while continuing as an engaged presence at AFAO [Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations].

A significant area of unmet need was highlighted by the cultural awareness training at our National Forum held in Sydney at the end of 2015. Developed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sex workers from different nations across Australia, the training was delivered by a diverse group of Aboriginal sex workers in person to our membership and organisation. For many years, Scarlet Alliance has been advocating for the need to have resourcing for more work to be done in this area- by and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sex workers. Unfortunately this crucial gap in understanding, representation, support and services remains unfunded but we hope the potential of what could be achieved with adequate resourcing can be seen and understood in moving forward.

VISION 4: Scarlet Alliance continues to use best practice monitoring and evaluation to strengthen processes and capacity

This year has seen a focus on re-credentialing of member and associate member organisations, as per the constitution. Executive members

have led the process which guides the member organisations through a series of standards that focus on sex worker leadership and a commitment

to the values of Scarlet Alliance. It is an important process that allows for evaluation and supports capacity building of our member organisations.

The member organisations who were successfully re-credentialed this year are SIN in South Australia

and SWOP ACT. Additionally the same tool is used to credential new member organisations and it is with great pleasure we welcome new member organisation, People for Sex Workers' Rights Western Australia, who were successfully credentialed.

VISION 5: Scarlet Alliance actively advocates for law reform and evidence-based policy

This vision separates peer based organisations from those which want to 'help' without challenging the harmful legal environments we work in.

thank our membership and all sex workers in Australia for giving us support while representing on our issues and advancing the Strategic Plan.

Submissions were written so as to advance the human rights of sex workers, such as the Victorian Sex Work Regulations Act 2016, which remained little altered unfortunately; the National Trafficking Compensation Scheme so as to ensure any migrant workers in the sex industry who have faced exploitative working conditions receive adequate compensation and the Inquiry into harm for children who access porn on the internet, for which we thank Zahra Stardust for her extensive feedback and assistance.

Earlier in the year in the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement: Inquiry into Human Trafficking, Scarlet Alliance argued for the end of the over policing of the sex industry.

On reflection, the sex worker community has a lot to be proud of this year. It has truly been a rewarding year for executive members in both mentoring and learning roles, and we would like to



Finance Officer, Jordan Holliday at International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers, Sydney, 17 Dec, 2015.

CEO REPORT

This year has been one of great change for Scarlet Alliance. We said farewell to Janelle Fawkes, who had been with Scarlet Alliance for more than 10 years. Janelle has been instrumental in not only the growth of Scarlet Alliance, but in raising the profile of sex worker issues and has been at the forefront of the fight to advance sex worker rights. During her time at Scarlet Alliance, Janelle has overseen our expansion from a desk in someone else's office with one paid staff member to a vibrant national organisation with partnerships throughout the region.

I had the good fortune in successfully interviewing for the CEO role earlier this year and it has been my great privilege to be able to continue on the rich history, advocacy, representation and activism of amazing predecessors such as Janelle Fawkes and others who have been responsible in building up Scarlet Alliance and sex worker rights to where we are now. I have extensive experience in sex worker community organising for more than 10 years, 7 of which was at Scarlet Alliance, and have acted up as CEO when needed for the last 4 years. Fortunately this experience has enabled a smooth transition for Scarlet Alliance despite significant challenges.

This year has been a difficult year for the National Peaks in Australia and for BBV and STI funding generally. Last year had already seen major cuts to Australian foreign aid resulting in the loss of our International Program and losses to regional programming impacting many across the HIV sector. Significant changes to the Federal Government's approach to funding for STI and BBV's including HIV has meant considerable downsizing of Scarlet Alliance staffing and capacity. This had resulted in many changes to Scarlet Alliance staff with

new staff in Communications, Policy, SANTAP and the Migration Project. But with change has come renewed energy and enthusiasm and despite the reduction in hours across most of the project areas, Scarlet Alliance remain committed to continue the important work in advancing sex worker rights.



Speaking at Civil Society Hearings for the UN High Level Meeting on AIDS at UN Headquarters. New York

Despite this environment of funding insecurity, the success of Australia's partnership approach to HIV and STI's prevention for sex workers was not in doubt. This year Scarlet Alliance were invited to speak internationally on the importance of sex worker leadership to an effective response to HIV and STI's and the crucial need for the decriminalisation of sex work for sex workers health, rights and safety. I was invited on behalf of Scarlet Alliance to speak at the opening plenary session 'Creating the right environment: Delivering on the promise of ending AIDS by 2030' at the 12th International Congress on AIDS in the Asia Pacific (ICAAP) in Bangladesh in March. In April, at the civil society hearings for the High Level Meeting on AIDS at the United Nations headquarters in New York heard our evidence on the



On the podium for ICAAP12 Plenary, Dhaka, Bangladesh

harms of criminalisation and the success of decriminalisation in NSW from a lived perspective. In July, Scarlet Alliance presented 5 sessions and 3 posters at both the main conference and Networking Zone at the 21st International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2016) in Durban, South Africa. Although it is clear there is widespread recognition at international conferences and high level meetings of Australia's best practice approach to HIV and STI prevention, funding and legislative trends domestically are not reflecting this.

Earlier this year, the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) abruptly, without cause or consultation, decided to defund the only peer sex worker program in Tasmania. This decision would have left a significant gap in Tasmania's prevention response to HIV and STIs and place Tasmania's public health outcomes at risk. Domestically we have seen the continual challenges to best practice model of decriminalisation of sex work in NSW. Yet another costly inquiry into the proposed introduction of licensing was undertaken, despite the IPART Inquiry Final Report recommending against a licensing scheme for the sex industry in August, 2015. Fortunately the NSW Government decided again to not support a licensing system in response to the Legislative Assembly Inquiry into the Regulation of Brothels in May 2016.

As you will evidence from the report, this has not dampened the enthusiasm and determination of Scarlet Alliance Executive, Representatives, Spokespeople, Doubles, staff and membership and there is cause for optimism. The commitment, determination and dedication of sex workers secured the survival of the Tasmanian Sex Worker Project at the eleventh hour through the granting of transitional funds by the Tasmanian Department of Premier and Cabinet despite the DHHS decision to leave us behind. Around the country the continued advocacy, lobbying and organising of sex workers have led to some promising signs for the future. There is a commitment by the Northern Territory government to introduce decriminalisation of sex work during their first term. The results of the South Australian Statutes Amendment (Decriminalisation of Sex Work) Bill 2014 are before a select committee and legislative changes are imminent. And there are many more examples of the achievements in advocacy, representation, services and support by Scarlet Alliance and our member organisation and projects detailed in the pages of this report. As always, Scarlet Alliance are committed to ensuring that the voices of sex workers are upfront in all issues that affect us and we will continue to aim for equality, social, legal, political, cultural and economic justice for past and present sex workers..

Jules Kim
Chief Executive Officer

The evidence is clear:

DECRIMINALISE SEX WORK

TO REDUCE HIV



33-46% HIV reduction¹

LEADERSHIP & REPRESENTATION

Scarlet Alliance continued with our leadership and representation on a variety of issues.

Some examples of policy work, briefing papers and submissions include:

- Anti-Discrimination Laws Consultation Briefing Paper
- Briefing paper on NSW Regulation of Brothels Inquiry Report
- BBV & STI Prevention Programme Discussion Paper
- Input and feedback on draft Safework NSW Health and Safety Guide for Brothels
- Input and feedback on update of National Guidelines for the Management of People with HIV Who Place Others at Risk
- Submission to the Department of Health on the Electronic Health Records and Healthcare Identifiers: Legislation Discussion Paper
- Co-authored report for the Australian Institute of Criminology for the Research and Public Policy Series on Migrant Sex Workers in Australia based on the research conducted by the Scarlet Alliance Migration Project
- Submission to the Victorian Law Reform Submission on the Use of Regulatory Regimes in Preventing the Infiltration of Organised Crime into Lawful Occupations and Industries
- Submission to Committee on the Regulation of Brothels: Inquiry into the Regulation of Brothels in NSW
- Submission to Select Committee: Statutes Amendment (Decriminalisation of Sex Work) Bill 2015
- Submission to PEPFAR on 2016 Guidance Draft
- Submission to Scottish Parliament supporting Prostitution Law Reform (Scotland) Bill
- Submission to the UK Home Affairs Select Committee Prostitution Inquiry
- Submission to Joint Committee on Law Enforcement Inquiry into Human Trafficking
- Submission to Consumer Affairs Victoria on the draft Sex Work Regulations 2016
- Submission to Harm Being Done to Children through Porn Inquiry
- Submission to National Trafficking Roundtable regarding a national compensation scheme for trafficked people

Scarlet Alliance also produced a number of joint media releases on key issues including:

- Scarlet Alliance, SWOP NSW, Touching Base, Government's Brothel Licensing Agenda Not supported by IPART Final Report Released Today 11 Aug 2015
- NAPWHA, SWOP NSW, Scarlet Alliance, WA AIDS Council, Magenta, HIV transmission should be about public health, not criminal law 18 Feb 2016
- Scarlet Alliance, Magenta and People for Sex worker rights WA, Magistrate's decision to deny bail places trans sex worker at risk. WA 22 April 2016
- Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association; SWOP NSW and Touching Base welcome the NSW Government's decision to not support a licensing system in response to the Legislative Assembly Inquiry into the Regulation of Brothels. "World Renowned Best Practice Model of Decriminalisation to Remain in NSW". 10 May 2016.
- Scarlet Alliance and SWOP NSW, Salvation Army again exploit discrimination for financial gain, 2016



Panel on Sex Work and Feminism at the Women's Networking Zone at AIDS 2016 with L-R: Monica Jones (USA), Jules Kim (Scarlet Alliance), Nophisa(Sisonke, South Africa)

Scarlet Alliance continued to represent on issues for sex workers domestically, internationally and regionally. Some examples for this period include:

- **Gold Coast Southern Cross University** – half day workshop on sex worker health and safety with a focus on younger sex workers and queer sex workers. (September 2015)
- **Festival of Sex Work, Melbourne** – ‘Ask a Sex Worker a Question’ opening plenary session. National Overview of sex work policy and prevention, treatment and care issues. (August 2015)
- **World STI & HIV Congress and/or the Australasian HIV & AIDS Conference, Brisbane** – scholarship and invited co-chair, ‘Sex work and Sexual Health of Sex Workers’ Panel with Michel Alary. Scarlet Alliance and membership panel in the Advocacy Hub, including Candi Forrest from Respect Inc. Qld, Cameron Cox from SWOP NSW, and Jules Kim from Scarlet Alliance spoke on better HIV and STI prevention, treatment, and care for sex workers. (September 2015).
- **International Harm Reduction Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** – invited guest plenary speaker funded to attend.
 1. Abstract accepted for oral presentation by Ryan Cole at Parallel Session: Far From the stereotype: Drugs, Sex Work & Stigma. (Chaired by Annie Madden) "Harm Reduction & Leadership: who wins and who loses when sex work and drug use are seen as inherently dangerous and damaging?"
 2. Plenary Session: Leadership and Communities. This session highlighted examples of community driven campaigns in support of harm reductions and human rights. Jules Kim, Scarlet Alliance. (October 2015)
- **Pacific Sex Worker Consultation, Bangladesh** (November, 2015)



Panel at AIDS 2016 with representatives from ASWA, NSWP, Scarlet Alliance, APNSW, Chaired by Amnesty International

- **ICAAPI2**, Dhaka, Bangladesh - Invited Plenary Speaker on Plenary 1, 'Creating the right environment: delivering on the promise of ending AIDS by 2030'. Speech focused on the success of Australia's partnership approach to HIV and STI's and current research on the crucial impact of decriminalisation of sex work to end AIDS. - Accepted oral abstract session on Scarlet Alliance National Training and Assessment Program. (March, 2016).
- Scarlet Tales Panel at Late Night Library Kings Cross. Mish Pony (Admin Officer and SANTAP Coordinator), Chantell Martin (SWOP NSW), Miya Pittaya (Migration Project Manager), Cam Cox (SWOP NSW), Desiree (Scarlet Alliance ATSI Working Party Member), Elena Jeffreys. (March, 2016).
- **CSHR 13th Social Research Conference on HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Related Diseases**, University of New South Wales - Male Sex Worker Panel. (March, 2016).
- **UN Civil Society** selected speaker for UN High Level Meeting on AIDS to represent sex workers at the Civil Society Hearings. UN Headquarters, NYC. (April, 2016).
- **South Australian Select Committee: Statutes Amendment** (Decriminalisation of Sex Work) Bill 2015 - evidence given at Parliament House SA. (April, 2016).
- **Selected speaker for meeting at UN General Assembly**, with co-facilitators for the High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS with Stakeholders and on the zero draft of the political declaration, as part of the preparatory process for the High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS. (May 2016).
- **International Civil Society Delegation Community Representative** for UN High Level Meeting on AIDS lobbying advocacy meetings. (May, 2016).
- **Joint Webinar with AIVL** on community-led research. (May 2016).
- **AIDS 2016** full scholarship received and invited speaker at 5 sessions:
 1. Beyond Blame: A Feminist Dialogue on Criminalisation of HIV Transmission, Exposure and Non-disclosure
 2. Interactive discussion: HIV criminalization in a context of power dynamics and violence against women
 3. Sex Worker Rights: Work, Not Crime
 4. Perspectives from sex workers from the Asia-Pacific: Flawed laws and social mores - how we work around and under them, and our advocacy to change them
 5. Sex work and feminism

Abstracts accepted for 3 poster presentations:

 1. Presenting the evidence - 20 years of Decriminalisation in Australia
 2. Migrant Sex Workers in Australia
 3. Scarlet Alliance National Training and Assessment Program Diploma in Community Development: providing a nationally consistent, best practice approach to peer education for sex workers. (July 2016)



Scarlet Tales at Late Night Library, Sydney. L-R: Mish Pony (Scarlet Alliance), Chantell Martin (SWOP NSW), Miya Pittaya (Scarlet Alliance), Cam Cox (SWOP NSW), Desiree (Scarlet Alliance ATSI Working Party Member) and Elena Jeffreys (activist and former Scarlet Alliance President)

Scarlett
Stafflet

**KEY
PROJECT
ACTIVITIES**

Scarlett
Staff

MIGRATION PROJECT

This year the Migration Project has brought in a new manager, Miya Pittaya, with appreciation and farewell to Jules Kim, as she moves on to be the Chief Executive Officer of Scarlet Alliance. Jules had been in the project manager role since 2009 and led the project effectively in advocacy, representation, peer support and capacity building and in promoting the recognition of migrant sex worker rights. Her professional role in representation for building up a wider understanding about the nature of the sex industry and migration were greatly done to a variety of bodies including government, community organisations and agencies involved in the anti-trafficking sector. A positive shift at a policy level and the value of peer support in the project were raised up along with her supervision and the Migration Project therefore is becoming recognised. We also have been fortunate to have Polly Leung take up the position of Migration Project Officer in July 2016.

While replacement for the project staff members has occurred, the Migration Project has continued to operate smoothly to provide important peer support in the field of capacity building and to underscore the potential of peer services for CALD peer educators around Australia. The project has encompassed capacity building via a range of support services for peer educators including the production of resources, peer translation checking, interpreting support, providing access to current information, and appropriate referrals. We have conducted training for new CALD peer educators to enhance their skills in peer education and outreach along with building connections with more experienced peer educators and migrant sex workers.

In May 2016, the project has encouraged

CALD peer educators around Australia to up-skill their services for migrant sex workers with our face to face meeting. The environment of peer education, connection, supporting and sharing knowledge and skills has successfully promoted learning and developing skills in ways to work more effectively with migrant sex workers.

Further, the project also works in providing peer to peer supervision to inform the advocacy component of a CALD peer educators support role which is important in assisting migrant sex workers to be aware of our rights and responsibilities and to have these rights upheld. This has led to CALD peer educators being able to empower migrant sex workers to be aware of and to act on our rights and, where necessary, advocate for them and help them access advocacy support. Moreover, our ongoing peer-based support is provided directly to the unique, individual, self-determined requirements of migrant sex workers with migration issues, health and safety in the workplace including referral, advice and information on laws, migration rights and responsibilities as well as services and access to justice.

During the year, our work on representation included a panel talk in the Kings Cross Library, a Thai language interview with SBS Thai radio, a presentation at the Institute for Social Justice and an opportunity to meet with the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) for the HIV and Mobility Forum. The project has organised activities including skill shares and presentations, to promote awareness of sex worker migration issues and to build resilience in our community in responding to the inevitable challenges. The project facilitated a workshop on Peer Education and Outreach

with Migrant Sex Workers at Scarlet Alliance National forum 2015, in Sydney. This workshop presented peer feedback on the factors that affect migrant sex workers' willingness to engage with peer educators from different cultural backgrounds.

The project works towards the prevention of trafficking and the development of evidence-based anti-human trafficking policy that



Scarlet Alliance CALD Peer Educators Forum

do not impact negatively on sex worker communities. The important contributions have been made to the evidence based policy on anti-trafficking issues via our regular consultations within our steering committee and peer sex worker organisations. CALD peer educators around Australia have been facilitated by the project to engage face to face in anti-trafficking policies updating. This year has seen the project continuing our participation on the National Roundtable on Trafficking and its communication and awareness raising working groups, as well as inputting into a consultation paper circulated to roundtable members on compensation for victims of trafficking from Anti-Slavery Australia in April, 2016. The project also had opportunities to address the actual migration issues among the migrant sex worker community in forums and meetings.

The project has regularly conducted steering committee meetings that are

grounded in the principle of inclusion and the development of a supportive environment. This is also based on acceptance and empathy that is culturally sensitive and promotes respect and dignity including privacy and confidentiality. Our steering committee has grown and accomplished a successful set of interactions and engagements. The steering committee members who are past or present sex workers of Thai, Chinese and Korean language backgrounds have persisted in their efforts towards their active contributions to the project.

Our members provide valuable feedback and an evidence-based approach in our important consultation on February, 2016 for the project work on the policy level. The steering committee has provided invaluable input to our submissions to the review of the Victorian 'Sex Work Regulations 2016' Draft Consultation and to the inquiry into human trafficking to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement.

Our steering committee members are also sources of information and guidance for the project. They ensure that our materials and output quality can be directly developed efficiently, with accurate, culturally appropriate information that meets the community needs. From our meetings in October 2015 and May 2016, the steering committee members have additionally been supported to realise and develop their capacity for self determination to the maximum possible extent, including gaining confidence and being provided opportunities for decision making, self expression and self advocacy.

With our strong membership, the project is being able to assist the ability of peer educators to provide effective and appropriate services to migrant sex workers. Many of these enhanced outcomes have resulted in the proficiency of the project to focus on moving forward towards a positive change for migrant sex workers in Australia.



Empower Just Ice Camp, Thailand

Partnership with Empower Thailand

Empower has crucial roles in facilitating educational opportunities to sex workers in Thailand to improve their understanding of their rights and responsibilities. In addition, to provide protection from undesirable situations when travelling abroad due to cultural differences, language barriers and even sex work that may be completed in a different way from country to country.

The high number of enquiries about travelling to Australia and the sex industry that Empower continues to receive indicate the significant need for reliable information and referrals for sex workers considering travelling to work in Australia. The project partnership between Scarlet Alliance and Empower continues to strengthen supporting our ability to support sex workers seeking legal and migration information when considering travelling internationally

for work.

CALD peer educators from the state and territory peer organisations were given an opportunity to apply for a scholarship to attend 'Just Ice Camp' the Empower Annual Camp Trip in Thailand in September, 2016. Vicki from Respect QLD and Suree from SIN SA were the successful applicants who attended the camp with Miya and Polly from the Migration Project and International Spokesperson, Tori. The camp was also attended by sex workers from the ASEAN region (SWASEAN) and sex workers from the English Collective of Prostitutes UK. This provided an invaluable opportunity to share knowledge and effective approaches, increase our understanding on migration process for travelling to Australia and migrant sex workers issues in other countries.

SANTAP PROJECT

The Scarlet Alliance National Training and Assessment Program (SANTAP) runs an online training program for new or existing sex worker peer educators, and an assessment program for sex worker peer educators with at least 12 months experience in order to obtain a Diploma of Community Development. Each of the components of the program are designed and delivered by sex workers.

This has been another big year for SANTAP with a new coordinator taking over in May, a new diploma having been released, a new partner RTO, and a soon to be released update for the Peer Educator Online Training.

The Diploma of Community Development recognition program uses the nationally recognised Community Services Training Package to meet the needs of sex worker peer educators using a tailored recognition of prior learning assessment. This assessment formally recognises the amazing skills of peer educators with at least 12 months experience. The program is supported by a dedicated group of volunteer peer assessors, the Scarlet Alliance



Assessors Network. This year saw the release of an updated diploma, requiring the project to evaluate the changes required. Due to the scale of the changes a new assessment tool is being developed with the guidance of the Assessor's Network which met in June.

So far this year we have had five successful diploma graduates for SANTAP! Five experienced peer educators from around Australia have had their work, experience, skills and knowledge assessed and have successfully obtained the nationally recognised Scarlet Alliance Diploma of Community Development. Congratulations to our successful students!

SANTAP also had a poster accepted for AIDS 2016 in Durban, showcasing our best practice approach to peer education.

The Scarlet Alliance Peer Educator Online Training is also undergoing a year of change. The online training comprises of eight in-depth learning modules with a range of materials and sources, as well as accompanying activities that are submitted for marking. Upon completion of the training students receive an official certificate of completion from Scarlet Alliance. The online training is available in English, Thai and Simplified Chinese, with Korean on the way.



Diploma recipients Megan (above) and Chantell (right) at SANTAP graduation ceremony, Nov, 2015.

We take enrolments for both the Scarlet Alliance Diploma of Community Development and the Peer Educator Training Online throughout the year, and both can be done at your own pace. Whether you are an experienced peer educator or a sex worker who has been thinking about getting into peer education, SANTAP has the course for you! Contact the SANTAP coordinator at santap@scarletalliance.org.au or visit www.scarletalliance.org.au/SANTAP.

As we know sex worker peer education has been central to the successful HIV and STI response in Australia and the value and effectiveness of peer education for sex workers is widely recognised as best practice, including by the UN and the Australian Government. SANTAP continues with our aim to increase the workforce development of, and number of, trained and qualified sex worker peer educators in Australia as well as to recognise and validate the complex skills, expertise and knowledge involved in sex worker peer education.



New SANTAP Coordinator Mish Pony

Scarlet Alliance National Training and Assessment Program
Diploma in Community Development:
 providing a nationally consistent, best practice approach to peer education for sex workers

Jules Kim and Mish Pony
Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association

Background	Description
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sex worker peer-education has been central to Australia's successful HIV and STI response and its value and effectiveness is widely recognised as best practice, including by the UN and the Australian Government. The role is complex and highly skilled, yet the skills and knowledge of peer educators is not acknowledged or valued. It remains an area underfunded, poorly understood and undervalued. ➤ As such these tasks are often performed in isolation to other people in similar roles and frequently within environments that do not support peer education or holistic approaches to engaging with and working with sex workers. ➤ There is no formal training available for someone wanting gain employment at a sex worker organisation or a sex worker outreach program. It is often the case peer educators have acquired skills and knowledge informally in the workplace with little access to nationally structured systematic training and assessment. ➤ SANTAP provides an opportunity to hone existing skills and examine complexities involved in providing peer-education to their own community and assists in maximising the effectiveness of peer-education programs at sex worker organisations through provision of workforce development and formal accreditation of staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Scarlet Alliance National Training and Assessment Program (SANTAP) aims to increase the workforce development of, and number of, trained, qualified sex worker peer-educators. SANTAP sets a national benchmark for sex worker peer-education, providing a set of nationally-recognised qualifications as well as nationally-consistent, best-practice approach to sex worker peer-education. ➤ Sex worker peer-educators with at least one year experience are guided by qualified sex worker peer-assessor to identify their skills, prior experience and learning process as evidence to attain a national Qualification-the Diploma of Community Development. ➤ To maximise the effectiveness of peer education programs, it is necessary to have a highly skilled and knowledgeable workforce. Training and skills development has therefore been identified as a critical component of workforce development. ➤ Workplace assessments by sex worker peer assessors for sex worker peer educators was identified as the only way the multifaceted nature of peer education could be captured - the understanding of the knowledge and skills, the work context, attitudes, values, and ethics, as well as what the person actually does to perform the role.
Lessons Learnt	Conclusions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SANTAP recognises the skills of peer educators and formalises them into customised competency standards within the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF), Level 5 Diploma of Community Development. The AQF defines all qualifications recognised nationally for post compulsory education and training within Australia. ➤ The Diploma of Community Development was chosen as the qualification that best reflected the skills and knowledge required for best practice peer education. The national competency units were customised specially for peer educators working with sex workers in Australia. ➤ Broad national consultation with sex workers formed the crucial stages of the program development and sex workers drive and lead the program at all levels. The formal partnership with a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) means the Diplomas are official and nationally recognised. ➤ Accredited sex worker assessors guide peer educators through the workplace assessment process. This is then checked and signed off by the RTO who will issue the academic transcript and qualification two formats - one generic and one Scarlet Alliance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Successful prevention requires a holistic response. As a community subject to high levels of stigma, marginalisation and often criminalisation, sex workers face significant barriers to accessing appropriate, non-judgemental health services and information. Sex worker peer education remains crucial to a successful HIV prevention response. ➤ A competency-based system identifies the knowledge and skills required by peer educators and recognizes the complexities involved to perform effectively in the role. It encompasses a much broader notion of work required than merely the ability to perform tasks. ➤ SANTAP provides a nationally consistent benchmark for the assessment of sex worker peer educators and the opportunity for peer educators to attain a nationally recognised qualification. ➤ Importantly, the SANTAP enables peer educators to have their work validated and confirmed. The skills and knowledge that inform the complex work of sex worker peer-education have never been formally recognised. ➤ Recognition assessment makes it possible for sex worker peer-educators to experience respect for and validation of, their skills, knowledge and competence.

More Information

WEB: www.scarletalliance.org.au/santap EMAIL: santap@scarletalliance.org.au

PHONE: +61 2 9517 2577
FAX: +61 2 9517 2488

POLICY PROJECT

Shifts in the funding environment and its implications for Scarlet Alliance were also felt in the Policy Project. A drastic reduction in hours for the role saw the departure of Policy Officer of 1 year Gemma. Although the position was vacant for much of 2016 our commitment to the important work of the Policy Project was maintained.

Scarlet Alliance continued to produce submissions to parliamentary inquiries on a broad range of issues affecting sex workers in Australia such as the sex work legislation and regulations reviews and inquiries into porn, human trafficking and ice. We also produced submissions to support the campaign for decriminalisation of sex work internationally such as the Submission to the UK Home Affairs Select Committee Prostitution Inquiry and the Scotland Parliament Decriminalisation Bill. We provided evidence at hearings to provide testimony on the crucial need for the full decriminalisation of sex work, our workplaces, our clients and third parties for our rights, health and safety.

Scarlet Alliance continued to be represented as part of the AFAO National Policy Officers Network, and the LGBTI Health Alliance Policy Network.

Our consultation on anti-discrimination legislation conducted in late 2015 was collated, with the aim of using the findings to inform a briefing paper. We produced a number of media releases, often in collaboration with other peer organisations on key issues such as the criminalisation of sex work and HIV. Despite limited capacity our work in representation, lobbying, advocacy and research was not diminished.

Continued advocacy brought about the reinvigoration of the role through funding for the updating of online resources on BBV and STIs for sex workers by the Commonwealth Department of Health. This resulted in the recruitment of new Policy Officer Udesha to the role in October. She brings a new energy and enthusiasm in the work of the Policy Project to ensure sex work policy and laws are evidence based, peer reviewed and informed by the experiences of sex workers.

New Policy Officer Udesha (Second from the left) representing Scarlet Alliance at Reclaim the Night 2016 with Miya and Polly (Migration Project), Jules (CEO) and Ryan (President)



COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT

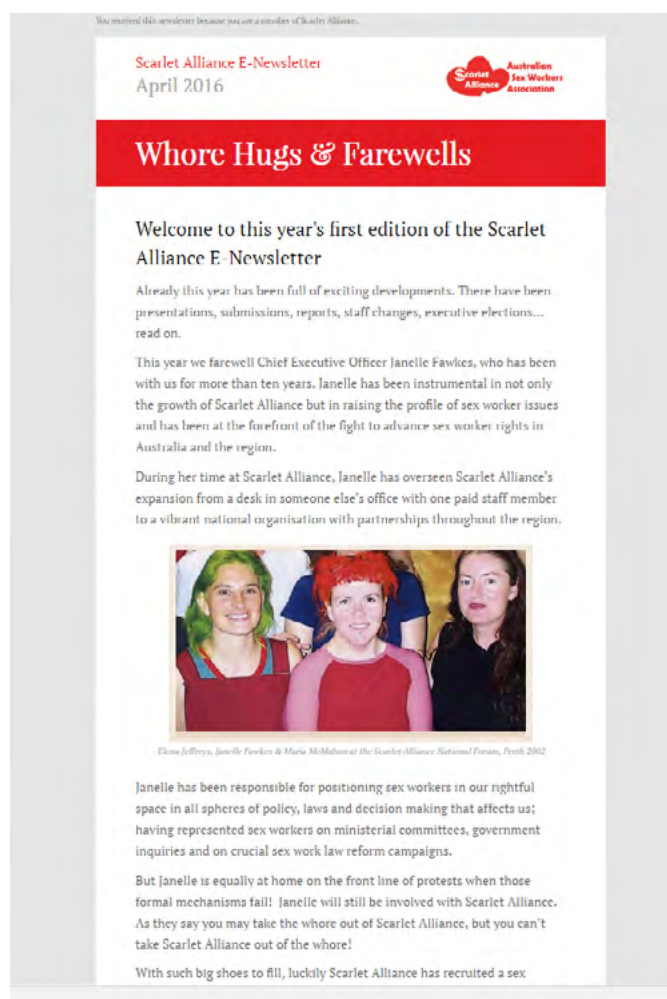
The last year has been a particularly transitional period for Scarlet Alliance, and changes to the Communications Project were made in response to broader shifts in technology and their implications for sex workers. With the employment of a new Communications Officer in early 2016, existing key resources such as the E-Newsletter underwent redevelopment to make them easier to access and read for a range of devices.

2015 National Forum

Highlights included various panels and knowledge-sharing workshops on a variety of topics including anti-discrimination, peer education skill share, Aboriginal sex workers, laws, working more effectively with CALD and migrant sex workers, trans sex workers, BDSM, the diversity of sex work and sex workers!

Sessions and outcomes included;

- State and territory, national groups, spokesperson and representatives report backs on key issues & emerging trends
- Consultation on anti-discrimination legislation consolidation
- Panel: Where we are now? NSW decriminalisation campaign and discussion
- Cultural awareness training
- Proactive focus for social media as opposed to reactive
- Continuation of discussion on street-based sex work
- Methods to accessibility and engagement of street-based sex workers
- Peer education: increase language accessibility of resources in English
- Forum evaluation report produced for executive committee



Scarlet Alliance E-newsletter

The E-newsletter resource was redeveloped in 2016 with a new look and feel, and improved readability optimised for mobile and tablet devices with the help of CSS3. A new device-responsive template streamlining design and accessibility was produced to improve efficiency of the development and review process, by making it simpler to implement revisions and thus decreasing turnover time.

Newsletters already in inboxes are currently compatible with different devices, but the format is also platform-neutral, meaning it has the potential to be displayed in various formats in different places, should that be required in the future.

TASMANIAN PROJECT



The Tasmanian sex worker project has had a year of highs and lows. We have continued to provide a comprehensive range of services targeting sex workers and our statewide programs have provided outreach and peer education directly to sex workers. The highs this year have stemmed from greater than ever engagement with the sex worker community. Tasmanian based and FIFO sex workers have been involved with the Project through Statewide reference groups, sex worker only events and of particular importance as we experience our lows this year - notification that we will no longer be funded through the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services.

The cessation of funding by the Department of Health and Human Services resulted in

Project Staff accelerating to ensure as much contact as possible with sex workers, as we were all feeling a sense of foreboding and were acutely aware that the message being sent was one of social exclusion. Reference Group meetings were held in all three major Tasmanian population centres and targeted outreach was conducted to reach those sex workers that would be most affected by the funding decision. Sex workers wrote letters to the Health Minister and Premier expressing their concerns and fears and urged the Tasmanian Government to reverse the decision.

The Tasmanian sex worker project worked closely with our community to consider how the gaps in representation and advocacy would be addressed when the Project closed.



Many Tasmanian sex workers became increasingly burdened by the emotional impact the closure created for all of us, particularly for those who have no other options in terms of referrals to other services due to specific confidentiality needs.

With the closure of the Project imminent and concerns on availability of appropriate services, this period saw Project staff educating services on how they may meet the needs of sex workers in the absence of Scarlet Alliance rather than our usual work that focused on peer leadership and community education that harnessed and encouraged successful working relationships. Time was spent with all southern providers of care and support in the areas of BBV & STI prevention. Organisations that focus on vulnerable populations and gendered health were also targeted. At no point were adequate solutions found, with each service provider outlining the reasons why they were not the appropriate service to duplicate the work of

the Tasmanian Sex Worker Project. Whilst this was disheartening, it did highlight the valuable partnerships that have been developed over a number of years and whilst definite plans were not achievable, Project staff felt confident that the best interests of sex workers were at the forefront for many Tasmanian service providers.

Heading in to the last days of the financial year whilst considering the sad prospect of packing up our office we were able to source transitional funding through the Department of Premier and Cabinet, allowing for continuation of the successful sex worker project in Tasmania, with a view to securing sustained funding.

This would not have been possible without the amazing support we have received from sex workers all over Australia – our sincere and heartfelt thanks. We have felt so lucky to be part of a strong, determined and supportive community.



Tasmanian Project Coordinator, Jade Barker with Julia Gillard (former Prime Minister of Australia)



REPRESENTATIVES & SPOKESPERSONS REPORTS

MALE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT



Male Representative Joel Falcon with Cam Cox from SWOP NSW at HHARD Conference UNSW, 2016

Myself (Joel Falcon) and the Male Representative Double, Christian Vega, have been working toward goals of improving connection to community amongst male sex workers, increasing awareness of Scarlet Alliance amongst male sex workers, as well as participating in discussions pertaining to male sex work with researchers, individually and at a conference level.

Both Christian and I attended the HHARD (HIV, Hepatitis, and Related Diseases) Conference at UNSW (University of New South Wales) in March. One of the key-note speakers at the conference was a male sex work researcher. In light of this, Scarlet Alliance lobbied heavily and consistently for there to be a peer sex worker presence at the conference. The result was a male sex worker panel discussion. This addition to the conference was well received, and many of the male sex work researchers attending the conference were in the audience, and participated in discussion and debate.

In tandem with the above, both Christian and I have been consulting with individuals concerning research about male sex workers, specifically male sex workers' use of PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis), and new developments in academic engagement with the sex work community. Some of this was a direct result of the sex worker presence at the conference mentioned above.

We have also been pursuing goals of community building for male sex workers, as well as increased attendance of male sex workers at National Forum. Part of this work includes cold-contacting male sex workers through their advertisements, providing information about Scarlet Alliance and the National Forum. The aim in these activities is to increase awareness of Scarlet Alliance in the male sex work community. In combination with this, we are seeking to assist some of the male sex workers already involved in community organising and activism to attend Scarlet Alliance National Forum 2016.

INTERNATIONAL SPOKESPERSON REPORT

I am Tori, the 2016 International Spokesperson for Scarlet Alliance and together, with Roxana, the International Spokesperson Double, we have had such amazing experiences representing Australian sex workers. In addition to keeping the Scarlet Alliance membership up to date with sex worker news, events and opportunities via the Scarlet e-list and keeping up with the regional and global networks of sex workers through the Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers (APNSW) and Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP) email discussion lists, this year has brought many opportunities for us to learn, develop our capacity as advocates as well as build and strengthen connections with sex workers and sex worker groups around the globe.

In May, Tori visited Project X in Singapore. Not only was it awesome to reconnect with Vanessa and Sherry again after the previous year's SW ASEAN forum, it was a great opportunity to further strengthen Scarlet's relationship with Project X and Singaporean sex workers. Attending their weekly community open house, Tori got to meet and chat with local sex workers and learn about Singapore's work options and practices as well as the laws and enforcement practices affecting both local and migrant workers.

Together Tori and Roxana submitted two abstracts for the 21st International AIDS Conference held in Durban, South Africa, one of which, Presenting the Evidence: 20 Years of Decriminalization of Sex Work in Australia, got accepted for a poster presentation. We were both fortunate to attend the sex worker pre-conference and participate in many of the sex worker



activities over the week of the conference along with sex workers from Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Mozambique, Botswana, the UK, Sweden, France, China, Myanmar, Singapore, the Netherlands, Brazil, the U.S. and Ukraine. During the pre-conference we worked with other delegates from the Asia Pacific region to develop a few key advocacy points to use throughout the conference and to bring back home. Reconvening with the other regional groups we shared our main points and a few of the lessons we learned in the process and also learned what strategies and key messages the delegates from the African and the Americas/European regions developed.

Beyond the presenting of our poster we participated in an action during a session with South African Minister of Justice's, advocating alongside local sex workers for decriminalisation. We also marched with 7000+ other advocates for increased funding for AIDS and held our red umbrellas proudly as we countered an anti sex work protest paid for by Doctors for Life. Tori helped arrange speakers for a panel on sex work and feminism in the women's networking zone and took photos documenting much of sex worker action throughout the conference. Roxana spoke about criminalisation in South Australia as a guest on SWEAT's afternoon talk show, Sex Talk.

Roxana at the sex worker protest at
AIDS 2016 International Conference
in Durban, South Africa

The conference presented us with a valuable space to network and share about the successes and challenges of Scarlet Alliance as an organisation as well as what sex working is like in the various jurisdictions in Australia and to learn about working practices, policies and policing in other parts of the world. Tori had an in depth chat with a sex worker from PROUD, the sex worker organisation in the Netherlands. Being a new organisation, they were especially interested in Scarlet's governance structure as a successful role model of a sex worker only organisation.

A few weeks before the conference, Tori connected with SWEAT in Cape Town and was invited to participate in the facilitation of a discussion about sex work and feminism with SWEAT's feminist group. Prior to the meeting, Tori toured the SWEAT offices, met with members of SWEAT's advocacy team and learned about the phenomenal work they have been doing to advance sex workers rights and fight for decriminalisation in South Africa.



Roxana also hooked up with SWEAT while in South Africa, visiting the Cape Town office and attending a book launch at the SWEAT office in Johannesburg. The launch celebrated a participatory arts based project called IZWI LETHU, which is Zulu for our voices. A few different groups attended, including Sisonke the only South African peer based sex worker group. Connecting with SWEAT prior to the conference helped to strengthen Scarlet's relationship with the organisation and South African sex workers and helped lay the groundwork for future work together across our regions.

Carrying on from the 2015 International Spokespersons, we've updated the international conference list to keep the membership informed about key dates for conferences relevant to sex workers.

It has been an absolute pleasure representing Scarlet Alliance. Thank you. If you have any questions regarding international issues, please don't hesitate to contact us via email at international@scarletalliance.org.au

Roxana and Tori with their presentations at the
International AIDS Conference





**MEMBER
ORGANISATION
REPORTS**



VIXEN COLLECTIVE

Victoria

In the past year, Vixen Collective has concentrated on community building activities, and creating new relationships with supporters and supporting organisations, as well as continued advocacy for decriminalisation of sex work in Victoria.

Vixen Collective held the third Festival of Sex Work, from August 7th-9th 2015, with sex worker only events, and events open to the general public that are designed to engage with supporters and the wider community to breakdown stigma towards sex workers. Vixen Collective has worked on making new contacts and building new relationships, specifically with organisations that either have not worked with sex workers or may have previously had ties to anti sex work organisations.

Vixen Collective made a number of submissions to government in the last year, due in part to the new Labour Government initiating a number of inquiries. These included submissions to the Inquiry into the Regulation of Brothels NSW, Victorian Law Reform

Consultation – Organised Crime, CAV Sex Work Regulations 2016 Consultation, Commonwealth Law Enforcement Responses to Human Trafficking, Victorian Law Reform Consultation – Victims of Crime, Access to Justice Review, and the Victorian Gender Equality Strategy Consultation. Vixen Collective conducted a short consultation with Victorian sex workers that tour to Queensland and later met with the Prostitution Licensing Authority from QLD to discuss issues raised by workers.

Importantly, in August last year Vixen Collective produced a media release in which all Australian sex worker organisations (and supporting organisations, twenty-one organisations in total) called for the full decriminalisation of sex work, as the world's best practice model for sex industry regulation.

Vixen Collective continues to work on community and capacity building, aided by now having access to a free community meeting space, where we hold Skill Shares and Meetings every six weeks.



SIN

South Australia

SIN has a new home! As of the 26th of July SIN began trading from our new premises at 220 South Rd, Mile End. The move was undertaken swiftly - with a turnaround of only 3 weeks between being given the stamp of approval, and setting up in our new location. Service delivery continued as usual; with outreach services and our Clean Needle Project (CNP) uninterrupted due to the impeccable coordination of the move.

This financial year SIN conducted a scoping exercise around street outreach times and community needs. Early morning shifts were trialled, as were shifts on different days than the current roster. Statistics were gathered and feedback sought from street based sex workers, with the outcome that an early morning weekend shift would be rotated monthly or bi-monthly.

The CALD project expanded its reach late in the last financial year, with SIN having the capacity to employ a Mandarin

speaking peer on a 10 week contract. Working closely with our Thai speaking project worker, the new CALD team member was able to increase outreach services and gather information through active research for the future production of a CALD needs analysis.

SIN continues to work collaboratively with service providers in South Australia. Quarterly sensitivity training to new clinicians at Adelaide's predominant STI clinic, C275 has been occurring. Further training was offered to service providers and clinicians during regional outreach, which was undertaken by the SIN manager and the male project worker in Ceduna, Whyalla and Port Augusta.

SIN continues to work towards increasing the capacity of our valued community members through grassroots engagement, peer education, and shared lived experiences. Further updates on the status of South Australia's decriminalisation Bill will be forthcoming.



RESPECT INC

Queensland

Respect Inc is an out and proud, peer Sex Worker organisation in Queensland. We are staffed by, managed by and our membership is entirely made up of a diverse Sex Worker and service provider community.

We continue to evolve and strive to be realistic representatives of Sex Workers in Queensland with the messages of decriminalisation being the best practice and legal framework for supporting Sex Workers, nothing about use us without us and sex work is real work.

During this financial year we have continued to provide funded peer services from our four offices in Brisbane, Gold Coast, Townsville and Cairns. These include general Peer Education and specialised programs including CALD Peer Education, Youth focused Peer Education and our Career Development Program.

Other grants we received through Jupiter's Casino and the Prostitution Licensing Authority have lead to the production of two needs assessments for Asian Sex Workers and Licensed Brothel workers throughout Queensland. We are using these now as evidence to support our recommendations for social policy reform and funding applications.

We have an amazing team at Respect Inc representing the diverse Sex Worker we stand strong and we look forward to another year of continuing to give a voice to our Sex Worker community. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our members, Scarlet Alliance, NSWSP and other peer Sex Worker organisations for their ongoing support.

For more information on Respect Inc, email our team at info@respectqld.org.au or for more contact details, visit our website www.respectqld.org.au



SWOP NT

Northern Territory

SWOP NT is a member of Scarlet Alliance Sex Workers Association, is located within (NTAHC) Northern Territory AIDS & Hepatitis Council, Darwin, Northern Territory as a NTAHC program and is funded for 30.4 hrs week to deliver peer services across the Territory.

SWOPs' peer led health promotion via outreach and broader programming aims to improve sex workers lives by holistic health addressing issues that includes human rights.

SWOP NT with sex workers and other key stakeholders enables workers to work as safely as possible under current legislation. NT sex workers are challenged by mandatory lifelong police registration if working at a registered escort agency. Private sex workers must work alone out of hotels. Sex workers who are not registered with an agency who work with another privately in a hotel room or other accommodation and or as street workers are criminalized.

SWOP NT in line with recommendations from AIDS 14, advocates for the decriminalisation of sex work. The criminalisation of sex work is harmful to sex workers inhibiting access to health promotion services.

SWOP ensures sex workers who work legally/illegally are equipped with knowledge to access:

- The Territory's legislative framework specific to sex work with peer strategies and resources for WH&S
- Safer sex supplies-SWOP packs & SWOP Shop, information in the prevention of and referral for treatment of blood borne viruses sexually transmissible infections our (SWRG) Sex Worker Reference Group – meetings, legal working party and developed resources
- Pathways to Scarlet Alliance, co-presentation work with SWOP worker to other key stakeholders



SWOP ACT

Australian Capital Territory

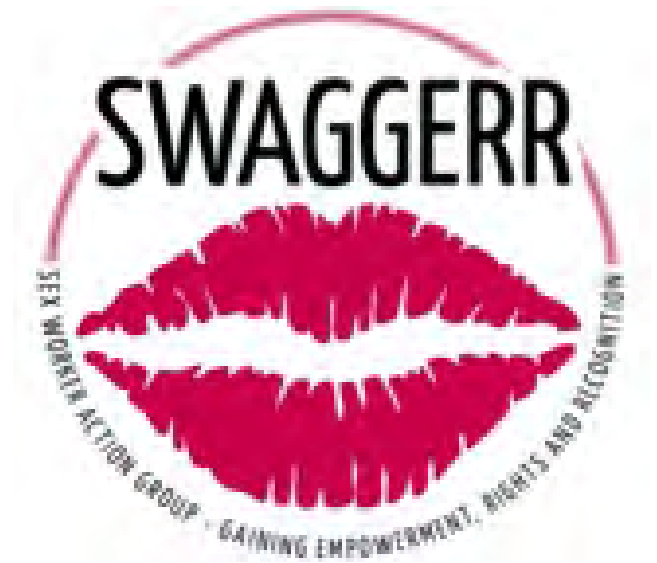
SWOP ACT has been able to expand their program. Our SWOP ACT team has increased to 3 people! We now have Lexxie in the office 4 days a week and Shelle and Venus doing outreach.

Outreach has also increased. SWOP was doing 10 hours a month and we have now increased the outreach to 18 hours per month. We were going out once a month we are now going twice a month. One fortnight we outreach from 6:30pm to midnight and the other fortnight we outreach from 4pm to 8pm. The 4pm to 8pm outreach was a trial as there was concern that it might have been a little too early BUT to our surprise the early outreach has been a huge success.

The earlier outreach allows us to be able to catch up with high needs workers or get to any studios that we may have missed during the late outreach.

Last year we started **Question of the Month**, the question is designed to get workers to share knowledge or to have a laugh. This has worked extremely well. Not only are workers excited to answer the question they are looking forward to what other workers have said. We have found that the question of the month has increased the engagement between SWOP and sex workers while on outreach.

We continue to have 16 studios (8 CALD and 8 Western) in the ACT and 3 of those have new owners.



SWAGGERR

South Australia

With the assistance of the Red Umbrella Fund SWAGGERR has held a number of events in the past 12 months.

Drop In, held at the SIN building, is a casual monthly event for sex workers to meet and get assistance with work matters, to socialise and check out Whoredrobe.

Whores Day Out, held at various locations around Adelaide, is a purely social event held monthly where sex workers can meet and make new friends.

The Activism Workshop was a one off event in the lead up to International Whores Day where we ran a presentation on the basics of Activism and made posters for the rally.

SWAGGERR desperately needs more members in order to continue with our work. Please contact swaggerr@live.com.au to get involved.



DEBBY DOESN'T DO IT FOR FREE

National

Debby Doesn't Do It For Free (DDDIFF) is a 'self-funded' Sex-worker Arts & Performance collective, with members all over Australia, creating art and performance since 2002. Our 2015 exhibition at TAP Gallery in Sydney, involved approx. 23 members of the Debby's, exhibiting art & performing in the 'HJ Hooker' window installation.

The Debby's primarily use art and performance as our vehicle for our messages, personal insights and political activism, but we are also active all over the country, in local sex worker and peer organisations. We participated in exhibiting our artworks at the 2015 Melbourne Festival of Sex Work, as well as holding stalls at the Anarchist Fair in Sydney, selling merchandise and distributing information.

Members of the Tasmanian Debby's hosted a joint event with Scarlet Alliance, on Dec 17th, the 'International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers', which was a success, and included a film night and art exhibition as well as speakers. This was our first Debby's event in Tasmania and included artworks by the Debby's exhibited on the walls of the space.

Members of the Melbourne Debby's were involved in producing posters for an action, in early 2016, at the Oldest Oppression conference, at RMIT, in Melbourne - in response to posters by 'Angry Sheila's' & publicity put up by abolitionists.

We are always attracting new members from all over Australia. We have an Exhibition in Adelaide in November, at the same time as the 2016 Scarlet conference - and individual members of the Debby's are working towards that exhibition presently.



The image features three handcrafted paper mache figures of women, likely representing traditional or cultural attire. The figure in the foreground is a woman with a pale, textured face, dark hair, and a yellow garment with a red collar and black buttons. Behind her are two other figures: one with a reddish-brown face and dark hair, and another with a brown face, large white eyes, and a red garment. The figures are set against a background of a white wall and a dark display case.

**ASSOCIATE
MEMBER
ORGANISATIONS
REPORTS**

RHED

Victoria



RhED is the state wide service for sex workers, their clients, family and community in the Victorian sex industry. RhED works with all aspects of the sex industry both regulated and unregulated. The services are outreach based with a drop-in component at 10 Inkerman St, St Kilda. This overview outlines the work that has occurred at RhED in 2015-16. Outreach to both unregulated and regulated sex industry workers continues by all RhED workers and volunteers.

In 2015-16 the RhED team has provided:

902	Client education
783	Client advocacy
370	Referral
42	Counselling/support
109	Case management clients
2097	Total contacts

RhED Achievements

- December 2015: launch of RhED decriminalization campaign at Victorian Trades Hall Council (VTHC). Further advocacy planning and development: sex worker health and wellbeing is ongoing with focus on decriminalization
- 2015: amendments to the Sex Work Regulations 2006. Sex work service providers may advertise full body shot photographs in advertising on the internet (restrictions apply), and may contain reference to sexual orientation and ethnicity
- Redevelopment of Ugly Mug reporting online
- May 2016: RhED professional development workshops
- RED#29 – introduced RhED’s decriminalization campaign and RED#30– celebrating 15 years of RhED.
- Continued success with the community interpreter program (paid bilingual peers from the sex industry)
- Pathways Program re-funded
- Continued growth of volunteer peer program
- Peer led Hustling to Health (H2H) program continues to operate on Friday nights
- The Arrest Referral program continues to support sex workers charged with non-violent crime at monthly Loiter Court sessions held at Melbourne Magistrates Court.
- Young Women’s Support Worker continues to provide case management support to identifying young women 15-25 years
- RhED marked International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers with an event
- RhED marched in Pride March 2016
- RhED marked International Day for Sex Workers Rights, and acknowledged Transgender Day of Remembrance.
- Launch of pilot arts program on International Whores Day
- Legal clinic at RhED Fridays for sex workers



MAGENTA

Western Australia

Magenta continues to provide support for sex workers in Perth and throughout WA. Over the past year we have grown our team and expanded our reach and reputation within the WA sex industry, notably we have increased our regional outreach program to 4 trips per annum, travelling to the Pilbara region, Kalgoorlie, Albany, Bunbury and Geraldton within WA. With the new additions to our team over the last year we now have over 80% employment of current or past peers, including Trans/Male/Korean/Thai/Chinese educators, and Magenta remains committed to maintaining a team that can respectfully support sex workers in WA.

Magenta has commenced and maintained an Advisory Committee, made up of current peers from diverse sectors of the industry; and has encouraged the active participation of different representatives to give us feedback on our services and insight into their current experiences as sex workers. Three of Magenta's staff members have started or completed the Diploma of Community Development / SANTAP program over this period.



SWOP NSW

New South Wales

SWOP's primary achievement in 2016, along with consolidating and increasing our peer education activities, was moving SWOP to a new level, by establishing ourselves within the public and policy arenas as the expert organisation on sex work in NSW. We did this primarily across being featured in 27 media articles, writing 14 press releases/letters to media outlets and regulatory bodies, and making submissions to the reviews of the NSW Public Health Act, the NSW Regulation of Drugs Act and the NSW HIV and STI Strategies, and 5 other inquiries. Our most successful submission and lobbying were in response to the NSW Legislative Assembly Inquiry into the Regulation of Brothels, who ultimately ruled in favour of sex workers, finding that decriminalisation should remain in NSW.

SWOP visited 579 sex services premises and had significant interactions with over 5,300 NSW sex workers, including on 56 outreach visits to 27 rural/regional areas. We distributed over 305,000 safe sex items; produced 11 new resources and distributed approximately 20,000 printed resources. Our website attracted just under 80,000 unique visitors, while our social media sky-rocketed, reaching 2.7 million. SWOP also provided training on the NSW sex industry to 181 service providers from 49 different organisations.





TOUCHING BASE

National

Touching Base is a not-for-profit organisation established in Sydney, NSW in 2000. We developed out of the need to assist people with disability and sex workers connect with each other. Touching Base receives no core funding and is administered entirely by volunteers.

Our patrons include two of Australia's most well-known human rights campaigners, The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG and Eva Cox AO, esteemed academic researchers Professor Basil Donovan and Associate Professor Helen Meekosha, and Peter Woods OAM, an elder statesman in the area of Local Government within NSW, Australia and internationally.

Our activities over the last twelve months have included: expanding our national referral list connecting people with disability and sex workers; consultation

and advocacy with NSW Government and key stakeholders on law reform; and presenting at conferences and universities. This year we have delivered four workshops to disability sector workers and four sex worker only workshops.

A key outcome this year was the publication of [three new Touching Base booklets](#) for people with disability. These unique resources were launched in late May by The Hon John Ajaka, the NSW Minister for Disability Services, at an afternoon event hosted by The Hon. Dr Peter Phelps at NSW Parliament House. [Podcasts of the speeches](#) are available on our website. A couple of weeks later The Hon. Mehreen Faruqi, NSW Greens MLC, kindly moved a motion passed in the NSW Upper House that acknowledged and congratulated Touching Base for our work in the community.

Getting in touch with Touching Base

Post: PO Box 523, Newtown, NSW 2042, Australia
 Email: info@touchingbase.org (our preferred method of contact)
 Web: www.touchingbase.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/TouchingBaseInc
 Twitter: www.twitter.com/TouchingBaseInc
 Mobile: 0424 591 409

**SCARLET
ALLIANCE
EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE**

*Australian
Sex Workers
Association*





RYAN
President

Ryan first started doing sex work in a strip club/peep show in Melbourne as a 20 year old. She moved to Sydney a few years ago, for better weather and laws! She now mostly works from home and touring other cities around Australia.

Ryan has been involved on the Scarlet Alliance Executive Committee for four years now- first as a general member double, then as Secretary and for the last 2 years as President. Ryan has a Diploma of Community Development that she received through the Scarlet Alliance National Training

and Assessment Program (SANTAP). She is also a peer assessor in the SANTAP Assessors network.

As a sex worker who uses drugs, Ryan is passionate about working to dismantle whorephobia in our society, as well as other power structures that work to stigmatise and hold sex workers back from justice. Ryan feels honoured to be surrounded by so many amazing and inspiring sex workers at Scarlet Alliance as we work together to counter the stigma, silencing, discrimination, unjust laws and policing our communities still too frequently face.



TARKS
Vice President

Tarks is Trans/GenderQueer, poly drug user, who was attracted to sex work after reading *The Happy Hooker* at age 14. After leaving school & commencing a Hairdressing apprenticeship in Adelaide in 1978, soon after they were working opportunistically on the Gay Scene.

Since then Tarks has worked in most Cities in Australia & spending 1989-1990 in Tokyo Sex Working & Hairdressing. Returning to Queensland on the eve of gay law reform, which allowed them to be one of the first non female sex workers to advertise & work openly in that state. Tarks has worked, streets, escort, Brothel & private in criminalised, licensed & decriminalised settings.

In 2008 they became involved in the Sin Project, after completing a needs analysis was employed as Trans/Gender Diverse Project Worker, In 2009 along with other sex workers passionate for law reform in SA founded SWAGGERR. In 2009 they attended their first National Forum & was elected Trans Rep (Double) since that time they have remained involved with Scarlet Alliance holding roles, Trans Rep 3 years, Exec General 3 years Member, Vice President 1 year. Working & fighting for sex workers rights & addressing the preludes we face has become the most significant, enduring and rewarding passion in life. Motivated and stimulated by peers, local, National & international.



JILL
Secretary

Jill started sex work at 18, because what else would you do? She loved the industry and community this provided. When she found herself taking a break at home with kids, she automatically applied to be a volunteer at RhED so to stay in touch with other amazing workers. Being a delegate for RhED at last year's Forum led to her motivation to apply for an Executive Double position in order to capacity build for activism in the future.

This year, Jill has strengthened her ties

with Vixen, and made sure she joined them when protesting the Anti-Prostitution Conference held at RMIT earlier this year. While happy to speak up in the media, Jill acknowledges she cannot ever represent all sex workers, but does hope that the key messages regarding human rights will be listened too. The opportunity to network at the Desiree Alliance Conference in New Orleans, was taken up to reinforce the global ties created within sex worker activism.



MARIA
Treasurer

Maria has had a long interest in seeing Scarlet Alliance continue their great track record in gaining funding for programs, having been an Executive Committee member and sometimes Treasurer in the establishment years of Scarlet Alliance, seeking funding and reporting to the various government departments to show we could deliver. She has seen our organisation take it's place amongst the organisations working in health, human rights, international development, law and justice, and research.

Maria finds being part of the sex worker community and part of our organisation a rewarding experience in so many ways. This year, decriminalisation was saved in NSW, and that alone has been a long fight for more than half her lifetime! As a mature worker, with experience in escort, street, private and brothel work, in many states and other countries, it is great to know she can work without police involvement - and that's worth getting right across Australia.



QUEENIE

General Member

Queenie Bon Bon did her first sex work as a teen, in London. Since then she has worked both in the UK and in Australia as a stripper, in massage parlours and brothels across criminalised, legalised and decriminalised settings.

Queenie is also a performance artist, writing shows about her experiences as a sex worker, unpacking whore phobia, stigma and mental health in the workplace. Her two shows have toured extensively allowing her to connect with a wider hooker network.

This is the first year Queenie has been a general member, stepping up to be the secretary for the last quarter. In May she co-presented a talk with Ryan Cole at VAC LBQ health conference on sex workers rights, health and safety. Queenie is constantly in awe of all the amazing and inspiring people at scarlet and loves being part of a movement that's working to make our community safer and stronger for the Ho's present and future.



REBECCA

General Member

Rebecca is a cisgender queer identifying full service sex worker and a full-time mother. Rebecca started opportunistic sex work as a young person and started to work full time as a sex worker later in her teens. She has worked under criminalisation, legalisation and Decriminalisation. Most of her sex work has been in Western Australia where she has worked in the city, regionally and rurally. Rebecca has worked in parlours, small workers collectives, as a private worker, as an escort (agencies and independently) and has done some work stripping and in fetish.

After working in the industry for over six years Rebecca

was employed by Magenta and provided peer education and support to other sex workers across WA for two years before leaving to start People for Sex Worker Rights in WA, WA's only peer run and led sex worker advocacy group with some other dedicated local sex workers. Around this time she joined the Scarlet Alliance Executive as treasurer double.

Rebecca has been a sex worker for over 14 years and loves the sex worker community. She has a passion for speaking up about sex workers human rights and issues affecting sex workers. This lead her to re nominate for the Scarlet Executive Committee again as a general member for two

FINANCE REPORTS



TREASURER REPORT

For the year ended 30 June 2016

Firstly, I'd like to acknowledge the work of the staff, particularly the Finance Officer and Chief Executive Officer in continuing the level, accuracy and quality of work that goes into managing Scarlet Alliance's finances and providing the end of financial year reports. Once again, the organisation has received an Auditor's report which declares the organisation has met Australian standards, and no problems were identified. Our assets (things we own plus money in the bank) and our equity (the total position after debts or commitments are met) has stayed strong, and, as in previous years, the Auditor has declared the organisation a going concern.

Scarlet Alliance saw a decrease in income this year as the international capacity development work funded by the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade ceased (at 30 June 2015). This was a cut across a whole program for HIV partnerships in the Asia Pacific region and affected eight other Australian HIV sector organisations, not just Scarlet Alliance. The end of the program reduced income by \$400,000 compared with the previous year, and meant the loss of an experienced International team, including staff employed in Timor Leste and Papua New Guinea.

However, on the domestic front Scarlet Alliance also went through a period of uncertainty, as the Department of Health moved to a new process for funding activities using an open competitive tendering method, purchasing specific services, to design activities that would meet the National HIV and STI Strategies' objectives related to sex workers.

Scarlet Alliance Executive and staff worked toward identifying services for which we could tender, bringing in grants totalling \$300,000. The organisation trimmed back costs and staffing under these conditions, but if you look at Domestic Programs Expenditure you will see where expenditure was reduced by as much as 50% on the previous year. The new funding model does not fund important aspects of the work of a national peak organisation and has required a restructure of activities, expenditure and staffing as well as argued for inclusion of core costs in each funding grant, because these are not otherwise funded.

In the months since the dust settled on the new tendering process, Scarlet Alliance has worked in successful partnerships to build up the range of activities that will be funded into 2016-2017. In addition, we continued to auspice SIN in South Australia, which makes our financial activities seem greater than they really are, as the income and expenditure for SIN project activities simply cycles through our financial management system- rather like holding a co-worker's cash - you might look like you have a lot of money, but it's all handed back by the end of the shift!

The organisation is in a stronger position to maintain independence and self-direction due to the good decisions made by the previous Executives to move to a smaller office, and to ensure staff accumulated benefits are protected. Scarlet Alliance has sufficient reserves to pay all our creditors and provide staff with appropriate payments which in the current funding environment is reassuring.

Maria McMahon
Treasurer

Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc
ABN: 86 612 112 065

**SCARLET ALLIANCE,
AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC
ABN: 86 612 112 065**

**FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
Under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the financial year ended 30 June 2016 there have been:

1. no contraventions of the auditor's independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
2. no contravention of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



John Chahoud

Reg. Company Auditor No. 4287
469 Burwood Road, Belmore NSW 2192
Phone: (02) 9759 4676 Fax (02) 9759 4676

Signed this 01 day of SEPTEMBER 2016, in Sydney.

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Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc
ABN: 86 612 112 065

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
REVENUE			
Grants			
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - PNG Health and HIV Partnership		-	88,121
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - Regional HIV Capacity Building Program		-	306,834
Other Australian			
Department of Health		330,270	478,882
SA Health		363,738	421,728
SA ERO		14,894	-
DASSA		55,426	-
Attorney General's Department		123,029	116,971
Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services		66,245	63,271
Other domestic		97,661	96,630
Total grants		<u>1,051,263</u>	<u>1,572,437</u>
Investment income - Interest		2,662	9,506
Other income			
Professional services income		1,499	3,891
Membership fees		18,018	19,668
Other		109,293	104,795
Total other income		<u>128,810</u>	<u>128,354</u>
TOTAL REVENUE		<u>1,182,735</u>	<u>1,710,297</u>
EXPENDITURE			
International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure			
International programs			
Funds to international programs		-	127,682
Program support costs		-	73,700
Fundraising costs			
Government, multilateral and private		-	3,199
Accountability and Administration		-	103,434
Surplus funds rolled over		-	-
Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>308,015</u>
International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Expenditure			
Domestic Programs Expenditure			
Salaries & Oncosts		761,566	694,065
Direct Program Expenses		107,020	146,726
Administration	2	128,197	260,435
Travel & Accommodation		49,680	89,671
Fundraising costs - Government, multilateral and private	4	23,554	21,466
Surplus funds rolled over		110,673	97,661
		<u>1,180,688</u>	<u>1,310,024</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>1,180,688</u>	<u>1,618,039</u>
EXCESS / (SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE		<u>2,047</u>	<u>92,258</u>

During the financial year, Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc had no revenue in the following categories: Donations and gifts - Monetary; Donations and gifts - Non-Monetary; Bequests and Legacies; Grants - Other Overseas; and Revenue for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs.

During the financial year, Scarlet Alliance had no expenditure in the following categories: Community Education; Fundraising costs - Public; Non-Monetary Expenditure; and International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs.

Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc
ABN: 86 612 112 065

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		355,196	327,383
Trade and other receivables		23,746	4,547
Prepayments		9,206	576,477
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>388,148</u>	<u>908,407</u>
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant & equipment		522,800	3,000
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS		<u>522,800</u>	<u>3,000</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>910,948</u>	<u>911,407</u>
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables		223	960
Current tax liabilities		26,166	21,154
Provisions		29,964	33,841
Grants in Advance	3	110,673	100,690
Other - Accrued expenses		47,857	72,273
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>214,883</u>	<u>228,918</u>
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions		93,108	81,579
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>93,108</u>	<u>81,579</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>307,991</u>	<u>310,497</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>602,957</u>	<u>600,910</u>
EQUITY			
Reserves		-	-
Retained Earnings		600,910	508,651
Current Earnings		2,047	92,259
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>602,957</u>	<u>600,910</u>

At the end of the year Scarlet Alliance had no balances in the following categories: For *Current Assets*: Inventories; Assets held for sale; and Other financial assets. For *Non-Current Assets*: Trade and other receivables; Other financial assets; Investment property; Intangibles; and Other non-current assets. For *Current Liabilities*: Borrowings; Other financial liabilities; and Other. For *Non-Current Liabilities*: Borrowings; Other financial liabilities; and Other. For *Equity*: Reserves and Other equity have been omitted as no such equity items exist at balance sheet date (see Statement of Changes in Equity).

Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc
ABN: 86 612 112 065

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Receipts from funders, donors and customers	1,310,457	1,759,591
Payments to suppliers and employees	(1,285,306)	(2,378,030)
Interest received (net)	2,662	9,506
Net cash from operating activities	<u>27,813</u>	<u>(608,933)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Payments for furniture & fittings and plant & equipment acquired	-	-
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents held	27,813	(608,933)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	327,383	936,316
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u>355,196</u>	<u>327,383</u>

Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc
ABN: 86 612 112 065

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Retained Earnings	Reserves	Other	Total
Balance at 1 July 2015	600,910	-	-	600,910
Adjustments or changes in equity due to, for example, adoptions of new accounting standards	-	-	-	-
Items of other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Excess of revenue over expenses	2,047	-	-	2,047
Other amounts transferred (to) or from reserves	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2016 (year end balance)	602,957	-	-	602,957

Reserves and Other Equity have been omitted as no such equity items exist at balance sheet date. As such, no transfers to / from reserves have occurred. No adjustments arising from changes in accounting standards or changes in assets' fair values have occurred.

Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc
ABN: 86 612 112 065

TABLE OF CASH MOVEMENTS FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Cash available at beginning of financial year	Cash raised during financial year	Cash disbursed during financial year	Cash available at end of financial year
DFAT - PNG Health and HIV Partnership	-	-	-	-
DFAT - Regional HIV Capacity Building Program	-	-	-	-
Domestic Projects	100,690	1,061,246	1,051,263	110,673
Total for other non-designated purposes	226,693	251,873	234,043	244,523
TOTAL	327,383	1,313,119	1,285,306	355,196

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc. is an incorporated association, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its principal place of business is at Suite 203, 1 Erskineville Road, Newtown, NSW 2042.

The financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act ACT. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

a. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash on hand and in bank is stated at its nominal value. For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in bank, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

b. Trade and Other Receivables

Trade receivables are recognised and carried at original invoice amount less any allowance for impairment. An allowance for impairment of receivables is recognised when collection of the full amount is no longer probable. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter into bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default or delinquency in payments (more than 90 days overdue) are considered indicators that the trade receivable is impaired.

The amount of the provision is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income. When a trade receivable for which an impairment allowance had been recognised becomes uncollectible in a subsequent period, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in the statement of comprehensive income. Bad debts are written off as incurred.

c. Property, Plant & Equipment

Cost and Evaluation

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation or impairment losses.

Depreciation

The carrying amount of property, plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the committee members to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is calculated on a straight-line basis over their effective life to the entity, commencing from the time the asset is held ready or available for use. The rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Assets	Depreciation Rate
Phone System	5%

d. Trade and Other Payables

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are carried at cost, which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the association.

e. Employee Benefits

A liability is recognised for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Long service leave payable later than one year has been accrued in respect of all employees with more than five years service with the association; it has been measured based on remuneration rates current at the reporting date. In the opinion of the committee members this estimate of long service leave is not materially different from the estimate determined by using the present value basis of measurement.

f. Income Tax

The association is exempt from income tax under the current provisions of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1977.

Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc
ABN: 86 612 112 065

g. Economic Dependency

A significant volume of the association's revenue is from Government grants.

h. Comparative Figures

Where required by accounting standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

i. Revenue Recognition

Revenue from the sale of goods and disposal of assets is recognised when the entity has passed control of the goods or other assets to the buyer.

Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the service has been provided.

Revenue from investments is recognised when received.

j. Going Concern

The association has generated a surplus for the financial year ended 30 June 2016 and has accumulated equity as of that date of \$602,957. The ability of the association to continue as a going concern is dependent on the ongoing support of the government and private grants and its members. Should the grants be withdrawn, there is significant uncertainty as to the association's ability to continue as a going concern and, therefore, its ability to realise its assets and extinguish its liabilities as and when they become due and payable and at the amounts stated in the financial report. The committee members believe that the association will be successful and accordingly have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis.

2 Domestic Programs Administration Expense

	2016	2015
		\$
Accounting, Audit & Legal Fees	4,269	9,355
Fees & Charges	1,578	2,328
Communications	13,093	15,368
Equipment Hire, Purchase and Depreciation	11,245	49,948
Stationery & Supplies	1,588	7,923
Gifts	1,013	1,502
Insurance	9,200	11,168
Photocopying	1,142	1,686
Postage/Courier	1,047	2,287
Subscriptions	4,868	10,956
Occupancy Expense	79,154	147,914
	128,197	260,435

3 Grants in Advance

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
DFAT	-	-
DFAT - HIV Partnership Consortium	-	-
Other Australian		
Department of Health	-	-
Attorney General's Department	-	3,029
Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services	-	-
SA Health	-	-
Other Domestic	-	-
	110,673	97,661
	110,673	100,690

4 Fundraising Costs

The association has incurred fundraising costs of \$23,554 during the financial year ended 30 June 2016. Fundraising costs consist of salary and wages paid for employee's time spent on the preparation of funding submissions, acquittals and maintenance of government grants, as per the definition outlined in the ACFID Code.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the *ACFID Code of Conduct*. For further information on the Code please refer to the *ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance* available at www.acfid.asn.au.

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 10:

- 1 Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc as at 30 June 2016 and its results and cash flows of the Association for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.
- 2 At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Ryan Cole
President

Maria McMahon
Treasurer





Dated this 14th day of September, 2016

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
SCARLET ALLIANCE – AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
ABN 86 612 112 065**

We have audited the accompanying special purpose financial report of Scarlet Alliance – Australian Sex Workers Association Incorporated, which comprises the Balance sheet as at 30 June 2016, the income statement and cash flow statement for the year ended 30 June 2016, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement of Management Committee members.

Responsibility for the financial report

The management committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial report and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the Association Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT) and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Management committee's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining such internal control as they determine what is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a fair presentation, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by those charged with governance as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Electronic publication of the audited financial report

It is our understanding that the Scarlet Alliance – Australian Sex Workers Association Incorporated intends to electronically present the audited financial report and auditor's report on its internet website. Responsibility for the electronic presentation of the financial report on the Scarlet Alliance – Australian Sex Workers Association Incorporated website is that of those charged with governance of the Scarlet Alliance – Australian Sex Workers Association Incorporated. The security and controls over information on the website should be addressed by the Scarlet Alliance – Australian Sex Workers Association Incorporated to maintain the integrity of the data presented. The examination of the controls over the electronic presentation of audited financial report(s) on the Scarlet Alliance – Australian Sex Workers Association Incorporated website is beyond the scope of the audit of the financial report.

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
SCARLET ALLIANCE – AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
ABN 86 612 112 065**

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report

- i) presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Scarlet Alliance – Australian Sex Workers Association Incorporated as at 30 June 2016 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended on the date, and
- ii) complies with Australian accounting standards to the extent described in Note 1 and the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT).

Basis of accounting and restriction on distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the management committee's reporting responsibilities under the constitution. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.



John Chahoud

Reg. Company Auditor No. 4287

469 Burwood Road, Belmore NSW 2192

Phone: (02) 9759 4676 Fax (02) 9759 4676

Dated this *1ST SEPTEMBER*, 2016

Scarlet Alliance
203/1 Erskineville Road, Newtown NSW 2042
PO Box 854, Newtown NSW 2042
Phone: 02 9517 2577
Fax: 02 9517 2488
info@scarletalliance.org.au
www.scarletalliance.org.au

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and sex workers everywhere...