



Annual Report 2023

Values in Action is an unfunded incorporated association in Brisbane, Queensland. We host SRV and SRV-related events as well as working to develop SRV application and the emergence of next generation leaders.

We work closely with other state SRV groups and the Australian SRV Association (ASRVA)

The objects for which the Association is established are:

1. To promote greater awareness and understanding of Social Role Valorization Theory and related concepts.
2. To conduct relevant training events.
3. To provide support and assistance of a personal, advisory and information nature to Association members involved in human service change efforts.
4. To engage in cooperative activities with other organisations with similar aims and objectives.

www.viaa.org.au

viaainc@gmail.com

President's Report

VIAA's GOALS

Values in Action's current goals include:

1. Do our core business well, which includes running theory events
2. Strengthen existing, and build new connections with people and organisations
3. Ensure our offerings are suited to what people are looking for

1. VIAA CORE WORK

Events

Towards a Better Life (TABL; 2-day Introduction to SRV Workshop)

1. August 2022. By request from Speaking Up For You (SUFY) and Community Resource Unit (CRU). 11 attendees
2. September 2022 Open event. 24 registered

PASSING

In May 2023, we hosted a three-team PASSING event. This was the first time we could offer PASSING since 2019 as Covid interrupted our plans multiple years in a row. After this significant gap, and with a largely new committee less familiar with running PASSING, we were pleased to run a successful national event. The event attracted 20 participants, with people travelling from New Zealand, South Australia, Canberra and Sydney, as well as local attendees.

We are appreciative of the people with a devalued status who welcomed our students into their homes, workplaces, and recreation programs. We also extend our thanks to the service managers and other staff who agree to host our students and share information about their programs.

Two participants shared their reflections on the event:

“Evaluating services using PASSING took me on a deep dive into SRV criteria, immersing me into what ‘socially accepted’ services do that impact on valued social image and competencies. PASSING expanded my understanding of SRV criteria – most of which I had not considered. Service visits and assessment were highly confronting, and this challenged me to reflect on what I have done to enable a devalued status within my family and community, and to approach my future contribution with a broader SRV lens”

Lisette Schultz, Qld

“PASSING consolidates SRV knowledge and prompts deeper thinking by applying SRV principles in a very practical and guided manner. It encourages participants to consider what people’s fundamental needs are and highlights the impact services have on devalued people in an impartial manner. These learnings have allowed me to better consider the needs of the people I support, helped me identify practices that diminish a person’s image or competence, and has provided ideas on how to improve these practices.”

Michael Cowley, SA

2. RELATIONSHIPS

Leadership Development

ViAA sees leadership development as a key aspect of our association. We were pleased to support the development of SRV educators, PASSING Leaders, and PASSING team leaders at our events.

Co-teachers at Towards a Better Life

- August 2022: Amie Storer, Lindie Brengman, Danielle Mason
- September 2022: Lindie Brengman, Amie Storer, Kylie Duncis

PASSING Leaders

Kane Morgan and Sharon Lowe

The PASSING Leader role is one that was introduced by ASRVA this year. In her role as Senior Trainer, Jane Sherwin oversaw our PASSING event, as well as providing mentorship to the PASSING Leaders as they developed their skills in ‘holding’ a PASSING event and providing guidance and feedback to the team leaders, teams and host.

PASSING Team Leaders

All three team leaders were first time team leaders: Kylie Duncis, Ricky Esterquest, Danielle Mason

I would like to acknowledge the employers who provide financial and other support to the student educators which enables them to teach or be part of the PASSING leadership team, and progress their development towards becoming accredited teachers.

Australian SRV Association (ASRVA)

As many of you will know, ViAA has held ASRVA's money in our bank accounts for a number of years which is one way we support the work of Australia's national SRV body. ASRVA has also assisted ViAA through sharing information about our events and importantly, contributing towards leadership development costs associated with PASSING.

I represent ViAA by attending meetings convened by ASRVA. These meetings often bring together the local groups and other hosts and allies to facilitate national collaborative efforts.

We are grateful to the Australian SRV Association (ASRVA) for their national leadership in developing a community of practice, developing future educators and PASSING Leaders, sharing information about ViAA events and stimulating interesting discussions through events and gatherings.

Interstate local groups

In late 2022, the South Australian SRV group, Training and Evaluation for Change (TEC) made the tough decision to dissolve. ViAA joined the whole Australian SRV community in congratulating TEC and its committee members on all they had achieved in over 40 years of operation. The dissolution of TEC means that ViAA is one of only two remaining SRV local groups. Although there is a heightened sense of our association's vulnerability, there is also a renewed commitment to our continuation and eye on leadership development and succession planning.

ViAA and Foundations Forum, the NSW local group, have a collaborative relationship which largely plays out through sharing information, resources and templates with one another. We look forward to strengthening these collaborative efforts in the future.

Increased Engagement with People with a Devalued Status and Family Members

Guest Speakers

One way to include people with a devalued status (or family members) is to invite people to be a guest speaker at Towards a Better Life. Guest speakers describe their vision for their lives (or the life of a loved one), and share photos and stories about the 'good things' they have in their life.

- August 2022 – Marlina Katene
- September 2022 – Claire Mitchell

Both Marlina and Claire generously donated their time – thank you for sharing so graciously with our participants and contributing to the work of ViAA.

Concession Tickets

To encourage participation at our events we offer concession tickets to people with disability and family members. Across our formal events in 2022-23, we sold 5 concession tickets which totaled approximately \$1650 in subsidised event fees.

3. ACCESSIBILITY OF VIAA OFFERINGS

This goal is about making sure the events we run and resources we produce are as accessible to as many people as possible. It also relates to our efforts to host informal discussion events on topics that people want to hear about or talk about. At our AGM in 2022, we hosted a discussion evening on The 'Role' of SRV in 2022. Thanks to our guest speakers: Narissa Niesler, Lindie Brengman and Lynda Shevallar who each shared about how they use SRV, and the challenges they face in applying SRV. These short talks provoked interesting discussion and reflection amongst those who attended.

We also wanted to encourage more people to stay connected with ViAA. In 2022 we reduced our membership fees to \$20 for standard membership to entice more people to join as a member by making it more affordable. Although there is the concession membership available, we thought that the original \$44 might give people pause. We currently have 41 financial members, which is the highest number of members we have ever had.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Community Resource Unit continues to provide practical support to ViAA which is much appreciated. From borrowing meeting rooms, equipment, the use of their printer, and sharing information about our events with their large mailing list, every bit of assistance is gratefully received.

Staffing Options has also frequently lent the use of their meeting room for committee meetings – thank you for this help.

Our bookkeeper, Sally Halliday provides her services at no cost which is a big help to a small, unfunded organisation. Thank you to Sally.

Big 'thank yous' to Jane Sherwin who has been the Senior SRV Trainer at all of our events this past year. Jane's high standards for running SRV events are a big part of why our events are a success. We have also appreciated the opportunities to work with the SRV educator group members. Each member of this group is dedicated, focused and puts a great deal of effort into preparing and delivering the training alongside Jane. Cheers to you all.

Finally, a big thank you to my committee colleagues – Neil Barringham, Kellie Derham, Ricky Esterquest, Natalie Kurth, Anita Speed and Sophie Wiggans. It has been a pleasure working with you.

Danielle Mason

President

Treasurer Report

Dear members,

I have the pleasure of presenting the financial statements for 2022-23

To meet our obligations under the legislation we have financial statements prepared each year by Jason O'Connor Chartered accountant, who is extremely responsive and doesn't charge hugely. Thank you Jason.

We are also fortunate to have a very competent bookkeeper Sally Halliday who voluntary does this work. Thank you Sally!

As treasure I prepare several reports for each committee meeting throughout the year, providing the committee with information about our finances; money in and money out for events, memberships, BAS returns and other sundry items. This preparation ensures that we meet our obligations to you as our members at annual review. We are confident that our financial management and processes are transparent and in line with operating as an association incorporated.

This financial year, you will see on the statement of expenditure and income, a total income of \$45,004.21 and total expenditure of \$40,626.99, leaving a net surplus of \$4,377.22.

It is relevant to note that the net surplus is not a true reflection of our financial position in 2022/2023. In determining ViAA's financial position, we must consider the transfer made by TEC to ASRVA of \$15,454.07. Therefore, if we consider the surplus \$4,377.22. minus the TEC transfer of 15,454.07 to ASRVA, Values in Action have ended the financial year with a deficit - \$11,076.85.

This financial year we have successfully run two general events and one training event for organisational staff of CRU and SUFY.

- 1) Towards a Better Life which was successfully presented in person in the first quarter of the financial year.
- 2) Towards a Better Life for SUFY and CRU staff.
- 3) PASSING, which was an incredibly successful event allowing for lots of learning and connections.

In reviewing the events and undertaking a cost analysis of PASSING you can see that the deficit position of the final year is heavily influenced by the PASSING event. Income from the PASSING event is \$ 15950.00. Expenditure of PASSING= \$ 27868.41. Deficit for the PASSING event - \$11,918.41

To note: ASRVA contributed towards PASSING costs of 50% of accommodation and Flights for two PASSING leaders.

Overall, the year of events has been very positive. Especially given we successfully ran PASSING for the first-time post Covid. We will need to be mindful of PASSING costs as a committee going forward and allow for PASSING deficits in for future event budget planning.

Financial changes things to note:

As mentioned, with The Training and Evaluation Center (TEC); South Australia folding, there was a transfer of funds provided to ASRVA to the value of \$15,454.07. This is in ASRVA Suncorp Working Account.

We have managed ASRVA's funds since Feb 2013. Our financial statements now clearly show the separation of ViAA funds and ASRVA. ASRVA has recently become a Company Limited by Guarantee which means we will soon hand back ASRVA's money to them.

Looking at the balance sheet you will see that ViAA's net cash position is \$44,681.07. This considers the ASRVA money that we hold both in trust and in a separate working account.

Thank you,

Natalie Kurth

Treasurer