



# 2018



## ANNUAL REPORT



**HH** **HELPING  
HOOPS**



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**THIS REPORT COVERS  
THE PERIOD FROM  
NOVEMBER 1 2017 TO  
NOVEMBER 1 2018**





# ABOUT HELPING HOOPS

Helping Hoops is an independent charity running free basketball programs for over 1,000 underprivileged children. Over 450 sessions per year benefit children and young people of all abilities aged 7 to 21. As a charity, Helping Hoops is not solely focused on improving skills, but also uses basketball to instill values that benefit children in their lives outside of sport.

Children attending Helping Hoops programs have an intellectual disability or special needs, are from a migrant or refugee background, are living on inner-city high-rise public housing estates, or are socioeconomically disadvantaged.

Helping Hoops aims to build self-esteem, provide a sense of belonging and community, aid social cohesion, instill discipline, develop goal setting and leadership skills, and promote a healthy and active lifestyle.







# BY THE NUMBERS

Program Participants:

**500+**

Active Volunteers:

**180+**

Social Media Followers:

**23,000+**

Sessions Per Year:

**450+**

Female Participation:

**26%**

Donations & Fundraising:

**\$123,000+**

24 Hour Charity Shootout Participants:

**230+**

Volunteer Contact Hours:

**2,600+**

Participant Yearly Contact Hours:

**1,050**

Apparel Sales:

**\$9,000+**







# REPORTS FROM OUR PEOPLE



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT DAVID KOOPMANS

Every year we are getting a little stronger and with that, a little more confident about the future. It's not too many years ago that we didn't always feel that way, and there's no doubt the loyalty and commitment of the coaches, staff, volunteers, sponsors and supporters have taken the organisation to where it is today.

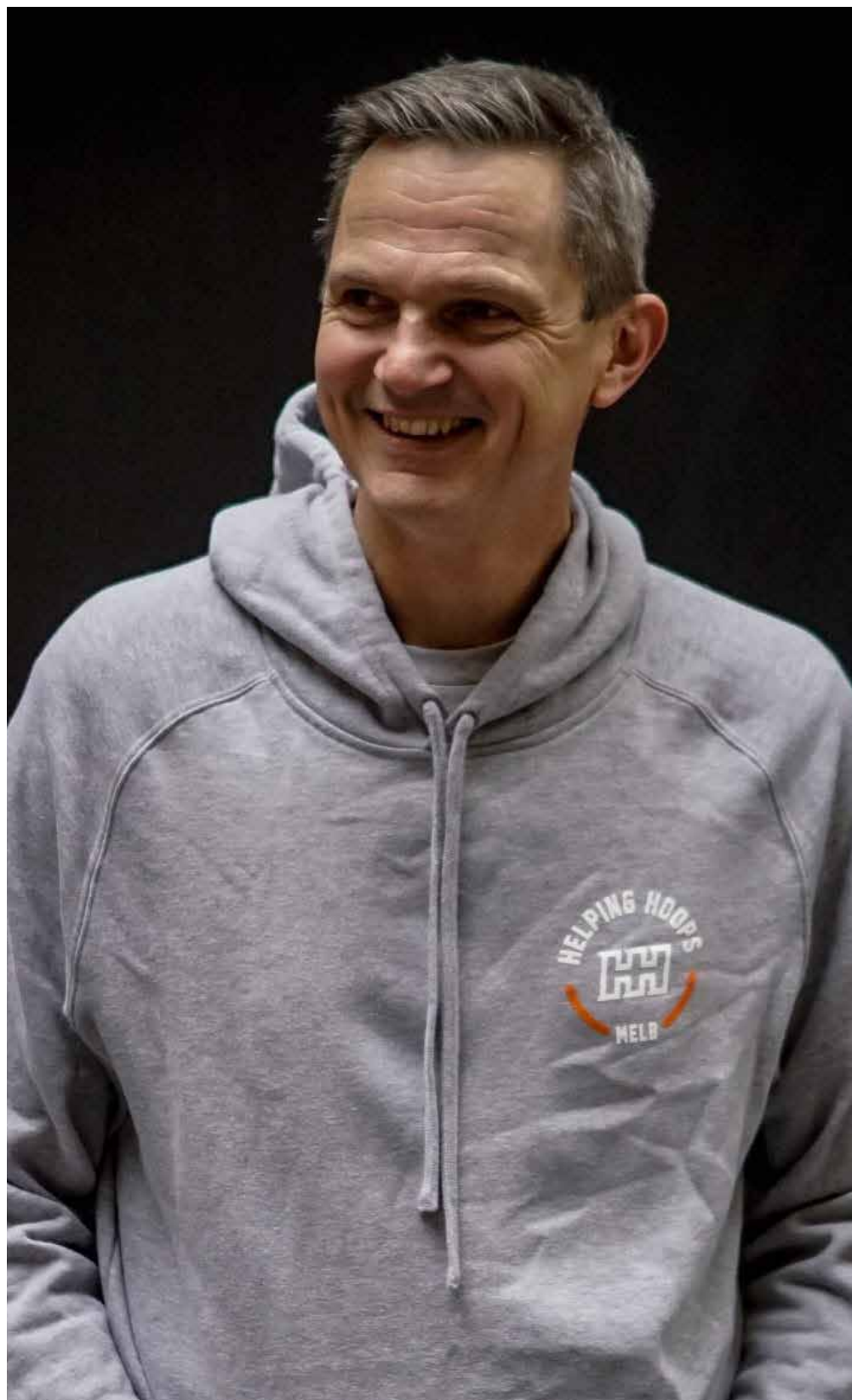
The result is that we get to keep our promise to the hundreds of underprivileged kids that come to our programs, and that we can continue to grow the organisation. It means that more disadvantaged kids get access to basketball programs that build confidence and fitness, strengthen relationships and, for some, even a step up to bigger hoop dreams.

We now see more people support us than ever before. But building the brand is a long and hard journey, and it's only achieved through the support of our wider Helping Hoops family who share our stories in person and on social media, as well as the strong relationships we've built with organisations such as Basketball Victoria, Melbourne United, Melbourne Boomers, and our ambassadors. So please keep up that invaluable support.

The Executive Director's report will have more detail about some of the key achievements, including a record-breaking 24 Hour Charity Shootout, off the back of some exciting new partnerships and the aforementioned growing family of supporters.

The committee has also seen a few changes this year. We've recently welcomed some new, but not so new, faces in Nima Sobhani, who has joined after two years as a volunteer and coach, and Sandra Tay, who was formerly our Operations Coordinator. We also farewelled Julian Hammond after several years of service on the committee. We thank him very much for his contributions.

We're grateful for the hard work, commitment and passion displayed by our staff, volunteers and supporters. We believe that the future is looking bright for the organisation. We're committed to showing up every week for the kids in as many places as we can get to to ensure those who are not as fortunate as others get to enjoy basketball and learn some great life-lessons in the process.



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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT ADAM MCKAY

We are eight years into Helping Hoops now, and as we embark on our ninth, it is important to reflect on where we have come from, where we are at presently, and where we are heading.

We have come a long way in eight years; from a passion-project with a small group of well-intentioned and like-minded people to a thriving organisation that has impacted thousands thanks to a team of hundreds. Helping Hoops now runs over 450 free basketball sessions across 10 locations every year, and also runs dozens of events including the 24 Hour Charity Shootout, which has grown to raise \$100,000. It has been a busy eight years.

Helping Hoops has grown up in many ways. We have added structure and systems around our on-court activities to make us more efficient and scalable. To have systems that makes a Helping Hoops program what it is means we can add even more locations going forward. We are able to grow and stay true to our mission whilst still delivering our programs to the high standard we hold ourselves to. We can reach even more communities and kids. We have been climbing the stairs, but now we are ready to jump in the elevator.

It has taken us eight years to get to 10 programs. The next 10 will not take us that long.

Helping Hoops has continued to enjoy fantastic support from our community. We have a dedicated team of program volunteers, who give their time and energy each and every week, coaches, our committee, and event volunteers. All of these people bring their skills and expertise to the table and allow us to continue to fulfill promises we have made to the community. They should be applauded for their efforts.

My thanks also goes to all our funders, sponsors and partners. Your trust and belief is something we truly appreciate. We love what we do, and your support enables us to continue forward on the Helping Hoops journey.

I have enjoyed compiling this Annual Report and hope you enjoy reading about our progress over the past 12 months.



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## COACH'S REPORT OMAR COLES

The game has changed on and off the court. This year, there has been an abundance of growth. The kids, their families and friends have joined us on the Helping Hoops journey towards building a brighter and better community.

Our programs are growing in a myriad of ways. Empowering our kids and our assistant coaches to lead in their own ways has been an added bonus. There have been great additions to our Helping Hoops family and I truly feel blessed to be giving back to the community in this way.

I have seen new assistant coaches lead the team in workouts. I have experienced kids that have never played basketball excel when they wanted to quit. I've seen the tears of joy and the bitterness of defeat all in one session.

A new girl came to a Dandenong session for the first time. She has come on a weekly basis, but she has never joined in because she is only five. This one particular session, she wanted to play with her sister. We did a dribbling relay and she did not perform well at all. She was upset and compared her performance to those of her peers. I then gave her a tennis ball and her own area to practice in. I told her that if she could learn how to catch this tennis ball with one hand, she would end up being able to catch a tennis ball and dribble a basketball. By the end of the session, she was dribbling the basketball with no help. She showed her newly discovered talent to her mother, and had her mom in tears.

I've learned so much being a coach. I have a great deal more to learn. My goal is to keep empowering the kids and the assistant coaches to bring forth their best. I want to discover the leaders and aid them into becoming the best that they can be. I want to help everyone to blossom in their own way, whether it is on the court or not. The game is changing on and off the court. I am blessed that I am able to be part of the change and witness these events on this journey.





## COACH'S REPORT RENEE CLARKE

Without a doubt the highlight for me over the past 12 months was the inception of the Power program. Starting out primarily as female-only program for girls 14 and up, we were able to adapt the program to fill the needs of the participants which led to it becoming unisex. This program focuses on a higher level of basketball and gives the participants an opportunity to experience a 'team' that not only builds on the court, but will have hopefully provided benefits for them in many parts of their lives.

Power has given the opportunity for participants to come to the basketball court and know they have a place that is theirs, with coaches and teammates that will allow them to be the best versions of themselves and to push themselves.... To be better hoopsters for sure, but more importantly, become better people. Not only for themselves, but for the younger kids that look up to them and the others in their community. Being a part of Power has been a dream come true, not without its challenges of course, as with anything that is worthwhile. But with trust and understanding of each other, we have been able to build a program I really am so proud of. Within a few short months, we have had two participants receive full scholarships in the collegiate system in USA, and a few more now involved in club basketball.

Another element that has been integral to the success of the program is having the opportunity to participate in off-court activities, for example Melbourne Boomers basketball games, social events, etc. This allows the participants to step away from the basketball court and get to know each other without the distractions of on-court dynamics. It's been a wonderful experience to be a part of the first-ever female only program and I can say without a doubt, these kids will change the world one day and I can't wait to see what they achieve.





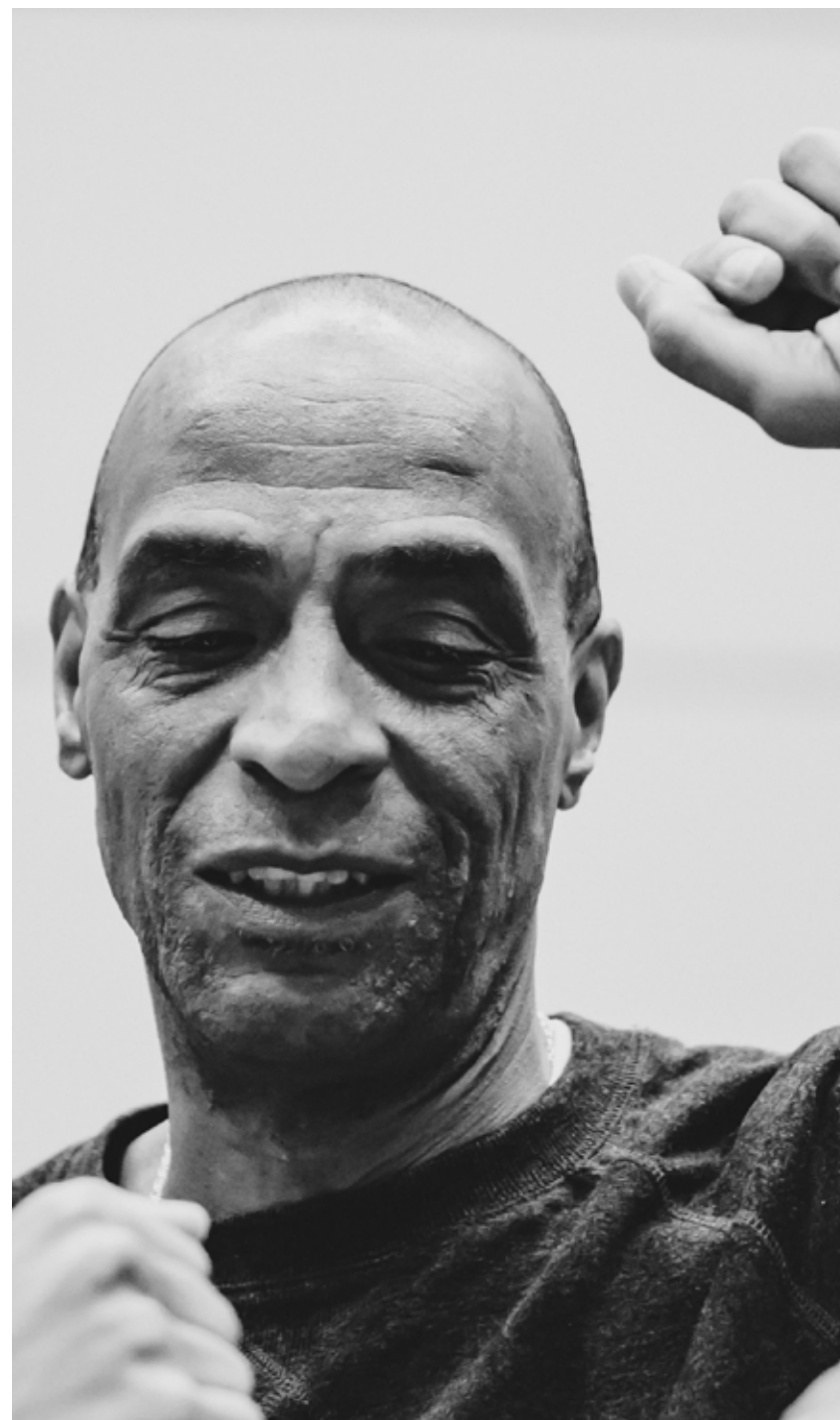
## COACH'S REPORT KELVIN BOWERS

This being my first year heading up Helping Hoops Future has been an incredible experience. I have coached for many years, but every Wednesday presents a new challenge and teaching experience. We consistently get 15-20 participants each week that are committed and dedicated to becoming better basketball players and people.

We try to emphasize goal setting, but more importantly, setting and achieving that goal. During a recent session, we did a drill called the tip drill. What happens is participants are lined up in a straight line at the free throw line and the drill begins with the first person in line tossing the ball off the backboard. The remaining participants keep jumping and tossing the ball off the board and not allowing the ball to hit the floor. They must make 100 touches on each side of the rim. If the ball hits the floor, then there's a running penalty. On this day we struggled on the first side and ran several times. When we finally switched to the other side, we not only made 100 in a row, but we continued on to make 180!

In the coming months, I would like to have a career day for Future. I have friends who are Lawyers, Doctors, Financial Advisors, etc. I want to expose Future to different professions and delivering a consistent message that hard work and commitment can achieve great things in life for you.

I am proud to be part of this family and will continue to give my all to ensure we uphold the values that have been set to help these kids achieve great things.





## FROM A VOLUNTEER'S PERSPECTIVE – DAVE ZWOLENSKI

I found out about Helping Hoops through one of the coaches, and immediately knew I wanted to be involved. The idea of helping young people develop their interpersonal and life skills through sport was captivating, and I knew it was the place I wanted to be.

My first day at the program, I was apprehensive. I'd worked with children before, but mostly from affluent families with no real objective to develop their life skills. I think I undervalued the idea of positive role-models in children's lives, which could come from being from a privileged background myself or just from naivety. Whatever it was, Helping Hoops changed my entire perspective on all that. My first day down at the court was awe-inspiring. The way the kids focused intently to every word the coach said as he relayed life lessons and taught the fundamentals of basketball was astonishing. I had never seen kids pay that much attention to a leadership figure before in my life. It was as if Michael Jordan himself was leading the program.

I've been at Helping Hoops for over a year now, and the progress that the kids have made has left an indelible impression on me. One girl who stands out is Fiona. She's probably the littlest person on the court, and when I first started, she could barely throw the ball up to the hoop and was so shy she'd hide behind other kids. But now, almost a year later, she is one of the fiercest players on the court and her confidence has grown astronomically. She now demonstrates leadership skills, encourages her teammates to work hard and pay attention, and will often even help out with the coaching side of things when she can't play. Watching her grow as a young woman surrounded by positive male and female role models has been a wonderful privilege.

The thing that strikes me the most about the program is the determination it instills in the kids. They come back week after week to run drills, learn skills and play ball, and, despite the struggles and setbacks along the way, they return every Monday with smiles on their faces and the desire to grow as people. I think that's the power of the program, it shows the kids that no matter what life throws at you, you get back up and keep moving. Joining the team at Helping Hoops has allowed me to connect to a community that I had no link with before. I see it as an essential bridge between two worlds and it serves as a reminder that no matter who we are or what we believe, we are all the same on the court.







# OUR PROGRAMS



# HELPING HOOPS BROADMEADOWS

**Coach Omar and the dedicated team of volunteers have found the right mix of challenging drills and discipline and nurturing and encouragement.**

Helping Hoops Broadmeadows is a free basketball program for children with an intellectual disability living in Melbourne's north-west. The program runs every Tuesday from 3 to 4pm and 5 to 6pm and is overseen by coach Omar Coles.

The program is in its eighth year and has welcomed even more new participants over the past 12 months. Coach Omar and the dedicated team of volunteers have found the right mix of challenging drills and discipline and nurturing and encouragement. The diverse range of ages and abilities make for a dynamic that could offer a challenge to many coaches, however Coach Omar has kept the group united and all working together, and the success of the program is a testament to his efforts along with those of the volunteers.

**THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY THE FLORA & FRANK LEITH CHARITABLE TRUST**





# HELPING HOOPS CROXTON

**Croxton, while still welcoming new children into the group, has many participants who have been with the program since its inception, and have taken on leadership roles to guide and assist those younger than them.**

Helping Hoops Croxton is a free basketball program for children with an intellectual disability living in Melbourne's north. The program runs every Wednesday from 3 to 4pm and 5 to 6pm and was overseen by coach Steve Bacash.

The program, now in its eighth year, continues to provide children with a strong sense of belonging and community, where they feel their abilities are the focus and they are supported to show themselves and others exactly what they can achieve. Croxton, while still welcoming new children into the group, has many participants who have been with the program since its inception, and have taken on leadership roles to guide and assist those younger than them.

In October 2018, we made the decision to move forward without Coach Steve as head of the program. Helping Hoops Croxton will enter a new phase with Coach Renee as head coach, and we are excited to see what we can achieve together in 2018-19.

THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY THE  
MARIAN & EH FLACK TRUST





# HELPING HOOPS DANDENONG

**Dandenong is unique insofar as its format of having two weekly sessions that service younger and older participants.**

Helping Hoops Dandenong is a free, multicultural basketball program for children living in Melbourne's south-east. The program runs every Wednesday from 4:30 to 7pm and is overseen by coach Omar Coles.

The program is in its seventh year, and has seen an explosion in numbers over the past 12 months. This increase in attendance tells us there is a clear demand in the area, and that the program is satisfying this demand in an engaging and effective way. Dandenong is unique insofar as its format of having two weekly sessions that service younger and older participants. This ability to have a targeted experience for older participants has only been achieved in other locations through a stand-alone program, such as Helping Hoops Future or Power, and we are extremely pleased that Dandenong has found a way to service both groups whilst still keeping the community together. Sessions begin with a nurturing style for the younger children, who are still new to the game, then shifts into a challenging but supportive tone when older participants take to the court. Along with the success of this dynamic, we are also extremely pleased to see many different cultural and ethnic groups represented at Helping Hoops Dandenong.

THIS PROGRAM IS PART-FUNDED BY THE  
SHULU FOUNDATION





# HELPING HOOPS FITZROY

**The future of the Fitzroy program is secure, with younger children stepping up and taking the opportunity to participate.**

Helping Hoops Fitzroy is a free, multicultural basketball program for children living on the Atherton Gardens public housing estate. The program runs every Monday from 5 to 7pm and is overseen by coach Omar Coles.

The program, now in its seventh year, is situated in a vibrant, fun, but sometimes challenging environment. The future of the Fitzroy program is secure, with younger children stepping up and taking the opportunity to participate. Coach Omar and the volunteers have a clear focus on discipline and ensuring participants do not approach their inclusion in the program with a sense of entitlement. Best effort is expectation at Fitzroy, and the children continue to bring this effort on a weekly basis.

THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY GANDEL  
PHILANTHROPY





# HELPING HOOPS FUTURE

**Helping Hoops Future, under the direction of Coach KB, continues to find the delicate balance between athletic performance, inclusion and community.**

Helping Hoops Future is a free, multicultural basketball program for older participants, having come from our community programs and now desiring more challenging and targeted experiences. The program runs every Wednesday from 6 to 8pm and is overseen by coach Kelvin Bowers.

The program, in its third year, welcomed Coach Kelvin, or KB as he is affectionately known, from the beginning of 2018. Future has also see changes on the participant side, with many older participants moving on due to study commitments. Pleasingly, we have also seen a number of young men take up opportunities to play basketball and study in the United States, where their abilities and effort have been rewarded with athletic scholarships. This shift in dynamic has provided an opportunity for some of the younger participants to step up and take on leadership roles, and we are extremely pleased to see those who were once in need of leadership now be in a position to lead others. Helping Hoops Future, under the direction of Coach KB, continues to find the delicate balance between athletic performance, inclusion and community. We are excited to see the program achieve even more in 2018-19.

**THIS PROGRAM IS CURRENTLY SEEKING  
FUNDING**





# HELPING HOOPS NORTH MELBOURNE

**North Melbourne is a program that requires effort in a number of areas to see it return to achieving its full potential, and we are committed to working towards this goal.**

Helping Hoops North Melbourne is a free, multicultural basketball program for children living on the North Melbourne public housing estate. The program runs every Friday from 4 to 6pm and was overseen by coach Steve Bacash.

The program is in its sixth year and has seen a strong core group of younger children, who make up the identity of the program, continue to attend despite the drop off of interest from older participants. North Melbourne is a program that requires effort in a number of areas to see it return to achieving its full potential, and we are committed to working towards this goal. In particular, we are looking to engage more girls to give them opportunities to participate and make North Melbourne a place that is welcoming to all.

In October 2018, we made the decision to move forward without Coach Steve as head of the program. Helping Hoops North Melbourne will welcome Coach Kelvin Bowers as its new head coach, and we see tremendous potential for the program heading into 2018-19.

**THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY THE  
BENNELONG FOUNDATION**





# HELPING HOOPS PRAHRAN

**Many children are embracing the opportunity to step into leadership roles and help teach the younger participants, who are not as advanced as their older counterparts.**

Helping Hoops Prahran is a free, multicultural basketball program for children living on the Prahran public housing estate. The program runs every Saturday from 1 to 3pm and was overseen by Coach Steve Bacash.

The program is in its second year and has seen a strong core group come together to help give Prahran its identity. We have seen many younger participants, including a healthy contingent of girls, take part, which has been aided by the commitment of the volunteers each week. Many children are embracing the opportunity to step into leadership roles and help teach the younger participants, who are not as advanced as their older counterparts.

In October 2018, we made the decision to move forward without Coach Steve as head of the program. Helping Hoops Prahran will be run by both Coach Omar and Coach Renee until the beginning of 2019, at which time Coach Renee will take over as head coach. We are appreciative and proud of the efforts of Coach Steve as the program's foundation coach, and we are looking forward to adding to these achievements in 2019 and beyond.

**THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY  
STONNINGTON YOUTH SERVICES**





# HELPING HOOPS POWER

**Despite only entering its second year, the program already has many success stories, including young women blazing a trail and heading overseas to access education and basketball opportunities in the United States.**

Helping Hoops Power is a free, multicultural basketball program for older participants, having come from our community programs and now desiring more challenging and targeted experiences. The program runs every Friday from 6 to 8pm and is overseen by coach Renee Clarke.

Despite only entering its second year, the program already has many success stories, including young women blazing a trail and heading overseas to access education and basketball opportunities in the United States. Helping Hoops Power was designed based on the needs of a specific community group. As many members of this group have transitioned out of the program, which is understandable given the primary age of 18-21, the next challenge for Power is to evolve to cater for the next wave of young people who will benefit from being involved. This evolution will see Helping Hoops Power retain its primarily female focus, however will also see young men also given an opportunity to participate. We see enormous potential for Helping Hoops Power, and look forward to growing the program going forward.

**THIS PROGRAM IS CURRENTLY SEEKING  
FUNDING**





# HELPING HOOPS RICHMOND

**This diverse dynamic means the team must find the balance of inclusion and nurturing for the younger children, and competition and challenging activities for the older ones.**

Helping Hoops Richmond is a free, multicultural basketball program for children living on the Richmond public housing estate. The program runs every Thursday from 4 to 6pm and was overseen by Coach Steve Bacash.

The program is in its sixth year and continues to see many younger children participate while still retaining a healthy contingent of older participants. This diverse dynamic means the team must find the balance of inclusion and nurturing for the younger children, and competition and challenging activities for the older ones.

In October 2018, we made the decision to move forward without Coach Steve as head of the program. Helping Hoops Richmond will be handed over to Coach Omar, who has over six years of experience working in our public housing programs, and we are excited to see what he and the volunteers can achieve at Richmond going forward..

**THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY THE JOHN & BETTY LAIDLAW LEGACY**





# HELPING HOOPS WERRIBEE

**Discipline and accountability permeate every aspect of the program, and compliment the basketball focused skills that are taught each week.**

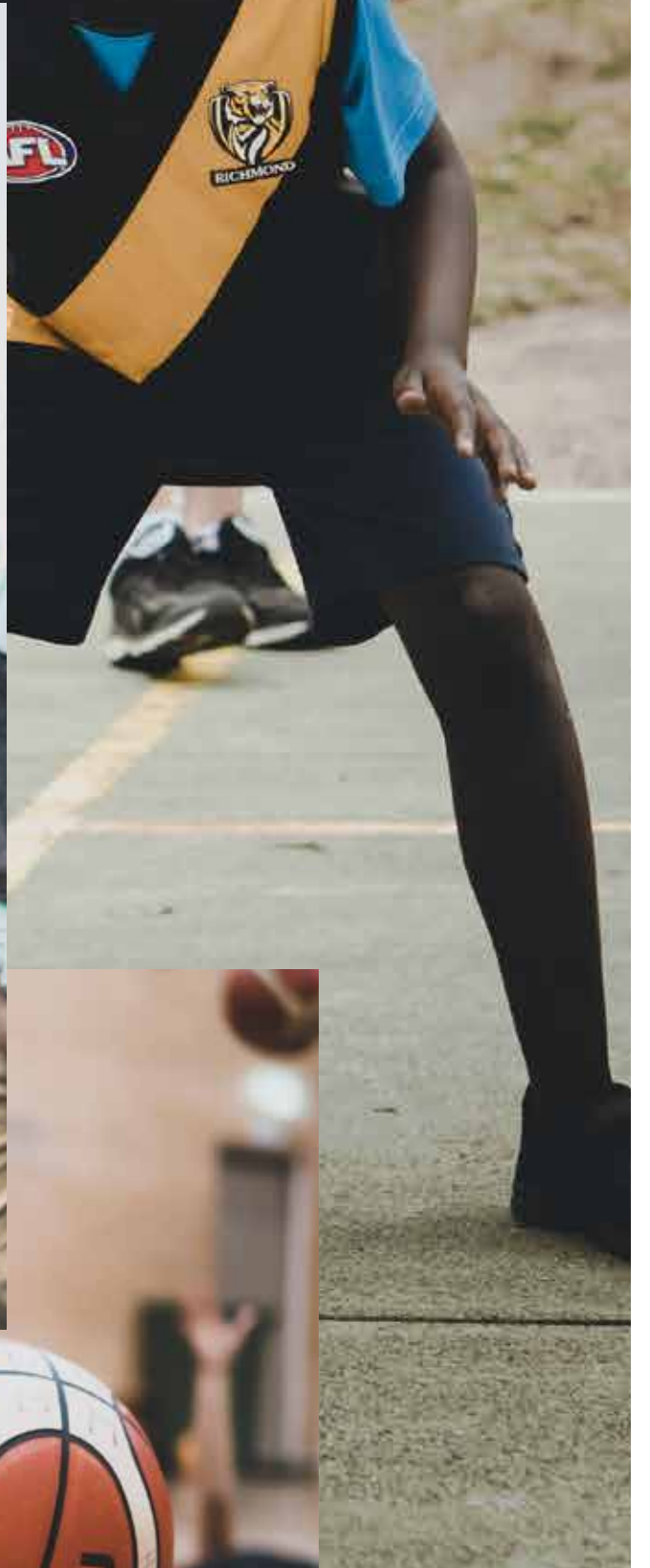
Helping Hoops Werribee is a free, multicultural basketball program for children living in Melbourne's outer-west. The program runs every Friday from 5 to 7pm and is overseen by Coach Omar Coles.

The program is in its second year in Werribee, where it relocated to after being run successfully in Sunshine for over six years. Helping Hoops Werribee is truly a multicultural program, with many cultural and ethnic groups coming together every Friday to take part in the program. We have seen many younger children begin to attend, and the focus of the team at Werribee has been to instill strong values and work ethic at an early age with this group. Discipline and accountability permeate every aspect of the program, and compliment the basketball focused skills that are taught each week. Werribee is a place where participants feel both challenged and supported, and we are extremely proud of the efforts of all involved.

**THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY THE AUDSLEY  
FAMILY TRUST**











# YEAR IN REVIEW



# 24 HOUR CHARITY SHOOTOUT



How many free throws could you shoot in 15 minutes? That was the question we asked our supporters again in 2018 at the 24 Hour Charity Shootout, which took place on July 14-15 at Albert Park College in Melbourne.

Over 230 people took part and chose their preferred 15-minute time slot, then set out to fundraise in the lead up to the Shootout. Those unable to make it to Albert Park College shot their free throws at their neighbourhood hoop, stadium or backyard. A festival awaited those able to come to the designated event venue at Albert Park College, and participants flowed through the venue across the two 12-hour days. Over 100 volunteers were on hand to rebound, count shots, and encourage those taking on the challenge. For many, it was a serious undertaking to see how many shots they could make, but for others it was merely an opportunity to have fun, support Helping Hoops, enjoy the festivities, and bring their friends and family down to be part of the event.

Of all the attractions on offer, a clear favourite was the Celebrity All-Star Game held on the Saturday which featured Chris Goulding and Mitch McCarron from

Melbourne United, former NBA and NBL star Chris Anstey, current AFLW player and former WNBL champion Tegan Cunningham, Melbourne City goalkeeper and former Matildas player Melissa Barbieri, and Patty Miller from the hit TV show Married at First Sight. The celebrities teamed up with children from across our 10 Helping Hoops programs and played a number of games in front of hundreds of spectators who packed Albert Park College to watch the action. The games were a chance to showcase our kids and their skills, and show the public just how much fun it is to be part of the Helping Hoops family. The celebrities kept games close, with a number of buzzer beaters needed to decide games, and created some life-long memories for participants.

Our fundraisers combined to help us reach our fundraising goal of \$100,000. A total of 25,391 free throws were also made by all who took part, which, along with the \$100,000 fundraising tally, sets a new record for the 24 Hour Charity Shootout. The winning free throw score for the 2018 Shootout belonged to Tony, who made 296 free throws in 15 minutes. That works out to be one free throw made every three seconds.







## 24 HOUR CHARITY SHOOTOUT CONT.

We would like to thank all those who took part in the biggest and best 24 Hour Charity Shootout in the event's seven year history. A special thanks goes to Basketball Victoria, which generously donated \$20,000 to the event in support of Helping Hoops to ensure basketball is a game accessible to all children, no matter their background or circumstances. We would also like to thank American Apparel and Gildan Australia for donating T-shirts to all participants and volunteers, along with the uniforms worn by all our kids and celebrities in the All Star Game. New Era also helped enormously with their contribution of NBA caps for all participants. Chase Basketball have donated use of the gymnasium at Albert Park College for six years now, and we really appreciate the ongoing support we enjoy from Nigel Purchase and his team. Thanks also goes to Melbourne United for not only supporting by providing players, but for also bringing along the championship trophy for all to enjoy and providing key event support and prizes. Our friends at Goalrilla, Crown Resorts, Max Events, Neverfaded, Beyond Rest, Prince Alfred Hotel, Vinomofo and Molten also deserve congratulations for donating prizes and making the 24 Hour Charity Shootout the event it is.

A special thanks goes to Aron Clarke for his support with design and branding for this year's 24 Hour Charity Shootout. Principle Design also contributed their design expertise, ensuring the event looked and felt great.

Finally, our sincere thanks to the volunteers and event staff who put in countless hours to make the 24 Hour Charity Shootout a huge success. In particular, Teuila Reid and Matt Condo for their work in the lead-up and throughout the event, and the 100-plus volunteers who did everything from rebounding basketballs and counting shots to administration, set-up/pack-down, and more. A true team effort that is appreciated by all at Helping Hoops.

The 24 Hour Charity Shootout will be heading into its eighth year in 2019. Every year, the event grows, and we look forward to working towards setting the bar even higher with the eighth installment of the Shootout.





# BEN SIMMONS BASKETBALL CAMP



2018 NBA Rookie of the Year, and Melbourne-born Philadelphia 76er, Ben Simmons held his second annual basketball camp in August 2018, and generously offered 20 spots to Helping Hoops participants from across our programs. The children relished the opportunity to learn from Ben and some of the best coaches in Melbourne, including David Simmons, Butch Hayes, CJ Bruton, Warrick Giddey and Lester Strong. The event was held at the State Basketball Centre in Wantirna South, and saw over 200 children in total attend. As well as contributing to the 12 coaching stations, Simmons held a question and answer session and posed for photos with participants.

When asked by local media about the inclusion of Helping Hoops in the camp, Simmons said,

“It’s been great to give back. Not every kid’s able to come to a camp like this. So as long as I’m able to reach out and help kids and give them the opportunity, one day they can say ‘I went to his camp’ which has been great. I love doing it.”

A highlight of the day was seeing our children

interviewed by Channel 9 for the nightly news. Arek from Helping Hoops Richmond joined Executive Director Adam McKay on camera to speak about the opportunity and what it meant to be part of the camp.

We look forward to working with Ben Simmons and his family more in the future, and want to thank everyone who made the 2018 camp such a great experience.



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY TOURNAMENTS

April and September school holidays were another busy period for Helping Hoops, with 16 tournaments held for eight of our program locations. The tournaments provide hundreds of children with a reward for their efforts across the school term and something to look forward to during the holidays. In keeping with the Helping Hoops theme of inclusion and participation, the focus of our school holiday tournaments is less about competition and more about engagement, supporting each other, and ensuring all who participate get a turn and feel part of something.

It was pleasing to see our kids step up and exemplify the values they have learnt throughout their time with Helping Hoops. For some, it was a chance to show others, and themselves, what they are capable of. For others, it was an opportunity to embrace competition and work with their team mates to achieve a common goal. Helping Hoops means different things to different people, however the outcomes and principles that underpin our activities are common to all.

A clear standout in 2018 was the Croxton x Broadmeadows tournament, which combines both our programs for children with an intellectual disability. The September edition saw the Broadmeadows program host for the first time, after years based at Croxton, and the turnout showed there was a clear demand from local participants. Seeing the children showcase their abilities in front of a gym full of supportive families made us incredibly proud and want to provide more opportunities like we have in the future.

Thanks to all the participants, families, coaches and volunteers who made 2018 school holiday tournaments such rewarding experiences.





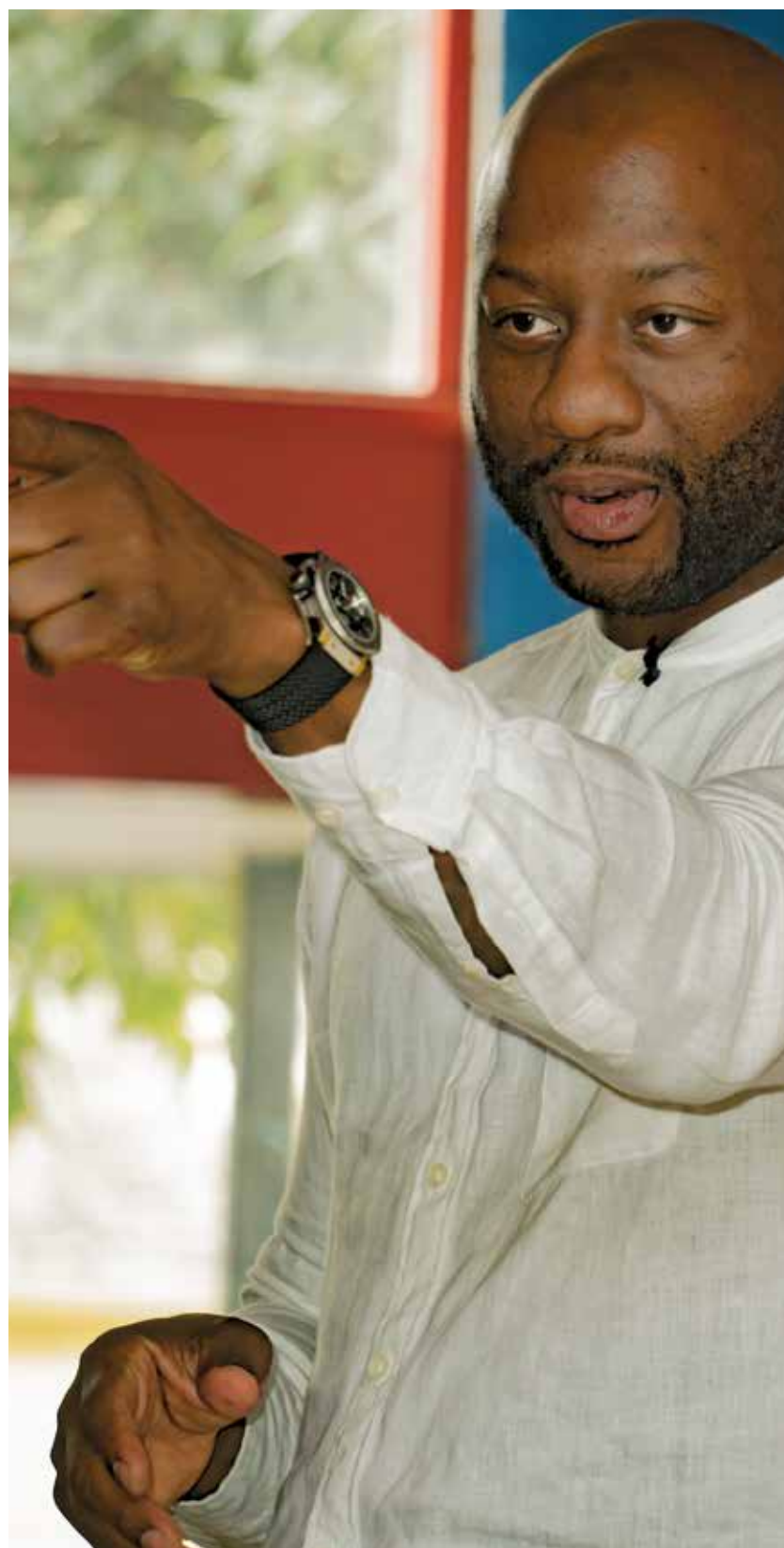
## THE UNWRITTEN RULES OF THE GAME

Corey “Homicide” Williams is a New York streetball legend, NBL MVP, and current broadcaster for the NBL. In April 2018, Williams collaborated with Helping Hoops for the first time since 2010 to run an intimate speaking event called The Unwritten Rules of the Game. The event, which took place at Yarra Youth Services in Fitzroy, saw approximately 50 children and young people hear from Williams about what it takes to succeed in the basketball world and in life in general. Williams’s passion and engaging delivery meant all attending were enthralled, and walked away with new motivation to pursue their goals.

A BBQ followed in which attendees were able to talk with Williams over a sausage and take photos. The informal setting made for a relaxed and casual afternoon which was about fun as much as it was about education.

We would like to thank Williams for donating his time, Yarra Youth Services for providing the venue, and Nima Sobhani for organising the event and making the connection possible.

We look forward to working with Williams again in the future, and promise it will not take another eight years to connect.





## ERIC GORDON BASKETBALL CAMP

Houston Rockets sixth man Eric Gordon visited Melbourne to run two basketball camps in August 2018. The Melbourne edition of Gordon's camp welcomed 30 children from across Helping Hoops programs and the larger community, who were all given the opportunity to attend by Sports Royalty – a company with the aim of bringing NBA talent to Australia. Gordon was joined by eight coaches who each ran stations focusing on a different aspect of the game. Participants enjoyed the opportunity to interact with Gordon, with a fortunate few even given the chance to play a game of one-on-one. Gordon spoke to the group about his career highlights, what it takes to become an NBA professional, and answered questions on the Houston Rockets.

We would like to thank Sports Royalty for their generosity and look forward to working with them again soon as they look to expand their events in Melbourne.





## MELBOURNE BOOMERS PARTNERSHIP

The Melbourne Boomers and Helping Hoops have continued to enjoy a strong relationship throughout 2017-18, with many of our participants attending games during the WNBL season. The Boomers have also given our children an opportunity to take part in their Girls' Academy, with the latest being run in December 2017. This provided a unique experience in which Boomers players took on the role of coaches to run drills and share their experience, which was also supplemented by information sessions on nutrition and strength and conditioning.

The Melbourne Boomers enjoyed a successful season on the court, reaching the WNBL finals before eventually losing to the Townsville Fire in a deciding game three. It is an exciting time for the Boomers and the WNBL in general, and we are appreciative of the focus they have placed on community and providing young women with opportunities that they would not be able to access if it was not for the partnership.





## FITNESS CHALLENGE

January 20 saw over 30 participants from the Fitness First Brighton community take part in the Helping Hoops Fitness Challenge. The event was designed in collaboration with volunteer Nick Garcia, who assists at Helping Hoops Future as well as working at Fitness First Brighton. The concept was to give participants a choice of three fitness activities and have them fundraise in the lead up. The most popular event was the two-hour spin challenge, where riders combined for 1,200 kilometres as a group while watching a selection of Helping Hoops videos. This provided an excellent connection to our programs and participants, and many who took part took time afterwards to talk with us about the charity and the activities of Helping Hoops.

The event resulted in a \$1,850 donation to Helping Hoops. We intend to take what we have learnt in 2018 and grow the event to make the Helping Hoops Fitness Challenge an annual fundraiser.

Thanks goes to Nick Garcia for his involvement in the event, Fitness First Brighton for being gracious hosts, and the community who supported the fundraiser and made it such a success.





## KUANY KUANY GIVE BACK CAMP

Cairns Taipans player, and Melbourne local, Kuany Kuany returned home in April 2018 during the NBL off-season to spend time with family and friends, and also give back to his community. Kuany, who graduated from Chaminade University in Hawaii before starting out on his professional career in the NBL, visited Helping Hoops Richmond to take part in the program and speak to the children about his experience and what it takes to become a professional. Kuany, being of a South Sudanese background, has direct experience of the challenges faced by many participants in the program, and his words of advice hit home for the group.

Kuany also held his first ever “Give Back” camp the following Saturday at Eagle Stadium in Werribee for approximately 60 participants aged 12-18. Joining Kuany were many young people from the South Sudanese Australian community who embraced the chance to share their skills and knowledge with the next generation of players. Helping Hoops proudly supported the camp by donating court hire costs, prizes, and the services of two of our coaches.

We are excited to see Kuany use his position as a role model to inspire his community – a community that Helping Hoops has worked closely with for many years and continues to engage through our programs and initiatives. For these children, seeing heroes come from within their community is extremely powerful, and we applaud Kuany for his efforts.





# THIRD MAN UP CHARITY TOURNAMENT



Third Man Up again supported Helping Hoops in 2018 through their annual basketball tournament held in Vermont South. In total, over \$3,000 was raised thanks to the dozens of teams across the Open Men and Mixed divisions. To show our appreciation, and to represent on the day, Helping Hoops entered three teams – two consisting of participants from our Future and Power programs, and the other made up of volunteers from across the organisation. Team Helping Hoops Future took out the Open Men's championship, which was particularly pleasing considering the narrow loss the team suffered in the grand final in 2017.

We appreciate the efforts and support of Third Man Up, and congratulate them on another successful tournament in 2018. Helping Hoops is proud to have such talented and humble supporters in our corner.



# TURNING EIGHT

May 5 2018 marked 8 years since we opened our first free basketball program for disadvantaged children in Footscray with the help of a handful of friends and volunteers.

From that one program, we have grown to a community of over 100 volunteers and coaches, and thousand of friends and supporters who help us deliver over 450 sessions across 10 flourishing programs. It has been a busy eight years.

We are looking forward to growing up and turning 10 soon! Like any young organisation, or person, we are learning and growing at a fast pace, and are loving every minute of it.

Thank you for your support thus far, and going forward.





# ART WITH MUNTY HOOPS

2018 saw us team up with Tom Muntisov, otherwise known as Munty Hoops, on a special art project run across four of our program locations. Tom created graphic elements which kids used to make collages that showed their NBA finals predictions. In total, over 40 pieces were compiled and exhibited at the 24 Hour Charity Shootout in July.

Initially, the project was viewed as a fun way to decorate the event space at the 24 Hour Charity Shootout with art from our participants, however we quickly discovered that it was so much more. We learnt that our kids are eager to engage with us in different ways, and not everything we do needs to be based around the basketball court.

We look forward to working with Munty Hoops and other artists in the future to provide our kids with more chances to express themselves.





## PREMIERSHIP CUP

It was with great excitement that our Richmond program welcomed a special guest in late 2017. The AFL Premiership Cup, which was won by the Richmond Tigers, was on display at the Richmond public housing estate for our kids, volunteers, and a handful of partners who all relished the opportunity to help celebrate the club's success.

The visit followed a trip by our children and volunteers to watch a Tigers game earlier in the season where they formed a special guard of honour as the players took to the ground.

Our thanks and congratulations goes to the Richmond Football Club. We appreciate you sharing your success with our community, and look forward to more opportunities in the future.









# HELPING HOOPS IS:

**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

**President**  
David Koopmans

**Vice President**  
Daniel Heath

**Treasurer**  
Daniel Heath

**Secretary**  
Kate Sleeman

**Committee Members**  
Gregor Brownlee  
Kristen Penny  
Nima Sobhani  
Sandra Tay  
Adam McKay

**STAFF**

**Coaches**  
Omar Coles  
Renee Clarke  
Kelvin Bowers

**Executive Director**  
Adam McKay

**Operations Coordinator**  
Teuila Reid

**VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT COACHES BY PROGRAM**

**BROADMEADOWS**  
Glen Hall  
Jenny Owens  
Eunice Perez  
Andreas Skiotis  
Duncan James

**CROXTON**  
Dawn Ah Gee  
Desi Papadopoulou  
Lori Long  
Tom Morris  
Billy Gibney

**DANDENONG**  
Adam Swilinski  
Ryan Gunesekara  
Roy Groncki  
Alex Andre

**FITZROY**  
Clarissa Harris  
Dave Zwolenski  
Justin Crow  
Kanani Abubeker  
Kristen Penny  
Lachlan Cloak  
Luke Smith

**FUTURE**  
Clinton Meehan  
Nick Garcia  
Denver Fernandez

**NORTH MELBOURNE**  
Michelle Sim  
Devie Wiharno  
Richard Sydenham

**PRAHRAN**  
Titama Nia  
Liz Charles

**RICHMOND**  
Owen Bolt  
Eric Tee  
Erin Wallace  
Meredith Oldham  
Tom Martin

**WERRIBEE**  
Bec Blackney  
Bodaniel McClure  
Steven Klady

**BEHIND THE SCENES VOLUNTEERS**

**Assistant Grants Manager**  
Michelle Sim

**Photographers**  
Samuel Kwong  
Dave Carswell  
Laurie Walker  
Rachel Gill  
Georgia Haynes  
Nicole Reed  
Alan Barber

**Creative Director**  
Aron Clarke

**Additional Creative**  
Principle Design Staff  
Tom Muntisov

**Web & IT Manager**  
Josh Meney

**Legal**  
Josh Flett

**Ambassadors**  
Ben Shewry  
Chris Anstey  
Chris Goulding  
Tegan Cunningham

**STUDENT INTERNS**  
Matt Condo – Melbourne University  
Meredith Mung – Deakin University

**EVENT VOLUNTEERS**  
Helping Hoops is grateful for the 150+ volunteers that supported the 24 Hour Charity Shootout and other events and initiatives throughout the year, approximately 50 of which came to us via community service programs as employees of NAB and Crown Resorts.







# OUR AMBASSADORS

## CHRIS GOULDING

Championship winning player with Melbourne United. Olympic representative with the Australian Boomers.



## BEN SHEWRY

Multi-award winning chef and owner of Attica Restaurant.



## CHRIS ANSTEY

NBL MVP and championship winning player. Olympic representative with the Australian Boomers. Former NBA player.



## TEGAN CUNNINGHAM

WNBL championship winning player. Current AFLW player.









# OUR HELPERS

## Basketball Partner

Molten

## 24 Hour Charity Shootout Event Partner

Basketball Victoria

## Sporting Partners

Melbourne United

Melbourne Boomers

## Equipment Partner

Goalrilla

## Funders

Audsley Family Trust

Bennelong Foundation

City Of Stonnington

Flora & Frank Leith Charitable Trust

Gandel Philanthropy

John & Betty Laidlaw Legacy

Marian & EH Flack Charitable Trust

Newsboys Foundation

Sentinel Foundation

The Shulu Foundation

Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust

## Apparel Partners

New Era

Gildan Brands

AS Colour











# FINANCIAL REPORT

The following financial report is based on the audited financials for 2017-18. The official audit is available in its entirety at [helpinghoops.com.au/annualreports](https://helpinghoops.com.au/annualreports).



# ASSETS & LIABILITIES STATEMENT

	30 JUNE 2018	30 JUNE 2017
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>		
Cash at Bank	120,002	117,784
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents	120,002	117,784
GST Receivable	1,655	2,216
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>121,657</b>	<b>120,000</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
<b>Trade and Other Payables</b>		
PAYG Withholding	3,243	4,280
Superannuation Payable	3,844	3,950
Total Trade and Other Payables	7,087	8,230
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>7,087</b>	<b>8,230</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>114,570</b>	<b>111,770</b>
<b>Member's Funds</b>		
<b>Capital Reserve</b>		
Current Year Earnings	2,800	41,532
Retained Earnings	111,770	70,238
Total Capital Reserve	114,570	111,770
<b>Total Member's Funds</b>	<b>114,570</b>	<b>111,770</b>



# INCOME STATEMENT

	30 JUNE 2018	30 JUNE 2017
INCOME		
Merchandise		
Sales	9,597	-
Total Merchandise	9,597	-
Total Income	9,597	-
Cost of Sales	6,256	-
Purchases	6,256	-
Total Cost of Sales	6,256	-
Gross Surplus	3,341	-
Other Income		
24 Hour Charity Shootout	66,750	12,876
Cook for Kids	-	87,366
Donations Received	52,318	36,445
Fees	664	2,309
Fundraising	5,166	29,466
Grants	112,200	108,209
Interest Received	143	125
Sponsorship	9,145	-
Total Other Income	246,386	276,796



# EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

	30 JUNE 2018	30 JUNE 2017
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Accountancy Fees	859	557
Advertising	2,575	1,693
Bank Charges	3,537	2,472
Coaching	-	54,495
Contact Work	2,784	4,579
Electricity	972	658
Freight & Cartage	-	409
Fundraising Expenses	1,151	13,881
Hire of Courts	21,496	14,170
Insurance	5,587	4,386
Internet	764	773
Office Expenses	296	-
Postage	1,593	-
Printing & Stationary	2,536	1,907
Rates & Taxes	757	1,195
Rent	10,800	11,700
Repairs & Maintenance	386	-
Salary Sacrifice	-	15,716
Sundry Expenses	4,242	1,468
Superannuation Contributions	15,221	14,172
Telephone	553	308
Tool Replacement	2,162	2,663
Traveling Expenses	847	441
Uniforms	218	1,847
Wages	162,554	82,133
Water	211	198
Worker's Compensation	4,827	3,444
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>246,926</b>	<b>235,265</b>
<b>Net Current Year Surplus After Income Tax</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>41,532</b>



# HOW YOU CAN HELP

## BECOME A MEMBER

Become a member of Helping Hoops by making a monthly donation and enjoy great benefits, including a Member T-shirt, having your say with a vote at our AGM, and more.

## HOST AN EVENT

Whether it be a Charity Challenge at your work, or a Helping Hoops Coach running a session at your school or basketball club, we are always looking to get out into the community to spread the word.

LEARN MORE AT

[helpinghoops.com.au/help](https://helpinghoops.com.au/help)

## DONATE

All Helping Hoops programs are run free of charge for kids and their communities. We rely on your support to sustain and grow Helping Hoops so we can reach even more children in need.

## VOLUNTEER

Whether your skills are on the basketball court or behind the scenes, we rely heavily on volunteers to keep Helping Hoops thriving.



# STAY IN TOUCH



/helpinghoops

helpinghoops.com.au

Helping Hoops Inc.

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