

VETERINARY AND  
COMMUNITY CARE



# ANNUAL REPORT 2025



MARCH 2026



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# OUR BOARD AND LEADERSHIP

## BOARD MEMBERS



**Dr. Robyn Whitaker**  
BSc BVMS  
Founding Director



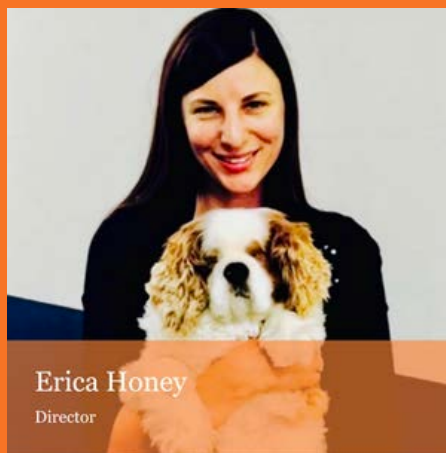
**Dr. Paul Davey**  
OAM BSc BVMS  
Founding Director



**Dr. Amit Setia**  
BSc BVMS  
Founding Director



**Mr. Brian Leveson**  
BA LLB  
Founding Director



**Erica Honey**  
Director

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS



**Ms. Wendy Till**  
BSW  
Founding Director



**Ms. Geraldine (Gerri) Scott**  
Founder & Partnership Mgr.  
Demeter Legacy Fund

# OUR VALUES

## Supportive

Enhancing the human-animal bond by supporting the financial, physical and emotional needs of animal custodians and veterinary teams

## Collaborative

Forming a strong, efficient, compassionate network through honest, open and inclusive communication

## Inclusive

Treating all with equity, fairness and respect

## Trusted

Operating under the highest levels of professionalism, compassion and integrity



# Veterinary and Community Care (VaCC) Chair's Report

2025 has been a defining year for Veterinary and Community Care (VaCC). It has been a year in which vision translated into action, pilots progressed, partnerships deepened, and our shared belief in One Welfare continued to gain momentum across Western Australia's veterinary and community sectors.

At its core, VaCC works to strengthen the interconnected well-being of people and the animals under their guardianship, support the professionals who care for them, and foster a sustainable environment shared by all. Throughout 2025, we made meaningful progress toward this mission — through collaboration, innovation, and the extraordinary commitment of our community.

A major milestone reached in March 2025 was the commencement of the Veterinary Social Work (One Welfare Social Work — OWSW) Training and Services Pilot Project. This initiative represents an important evolution in how veterinary care is understood and delivered, recognising that many clinical presentations are also social presentations. The pilot has laid the groundwork for embedding psychosocial support alongside veterinary services, supporting both clients and veterinary teams while strengthening sustainable nonhuman animal wellbeing outcomes.

Our Directed Care (DC) Program continued to provide essential care and support to people and their cherished companions. These cases demonstrated the value of coordinated, contextualised care pathways that enable veterinary teams to respond compassionately and practically to complex circumstances.

Alongside this program, VaCC's Community Clinic, Perth Street Vets (PSV), continued to deliver essential services, improving access to veterinary care for community members experiencing homelessness while supporting positive animal welfare outcomes.

In 2025:

- 675 veterinary care services were delivered through PSV, with an additional 593 foodbank services provided
- 48 Directed Care Program services were provided through VaCC Partner Practices
- \$45,000 in direct program expenditure generated an estimated \$171,400 in community value, including approximately \$88,000 of volunteer in-kind contribution

These figures reflect the power of collective effort.



USyd RARE Project Presentation on OWSW



Throughout the year, VaCC continued to contribute to conversations shaping the future of veterinary care.

The highlights included:

- Participation of VaCC Champions at WAVESCON25
- Presentation at ANZCVS Science Week, exploring the theme “*Veterinary Science is a Social Science*”
- Engagement at the Animal Medicines Australia National Conference, including participation on a panel to explore community-centred veterinary initiatives
- Participants in the Sydney University RARE Project

In November, VaCC proudly co-hosted the inaugural One Welfare Symposium at Murdoch University alongside Animal Alliance Australia and The Future of Food. The symposium brought together diverse disciplines to explore collaborative approaches to complex human–nonhuman animal community challenges and reinforced the growing recognition of One Welfare as an essential framework for the future.

One of the most encouraging developments of 2025 has been the growth of the VaCC Partner Practice community. The welcoming of Pilbara Vet Care, Warnbro Vet, PAUS, WAVES, Cherry Court Vet Clinic, Dr Pete Mobile Vet, Animal Sense, and Animal Dermatology Clinic reflects a powerful shift within the Western Australian veterinary profession. We were also extremely pleased to confirm continued connection with VaCC’s four foundational Partner Practices – SAI Vet Hospital, Doubleview Vet Centre, Animal Happiness Vet and The Animal Hospital Murdoch University (TAHMU).

This growing network demonstrates that VaCC’s initiatives resonate deeply with veterinary teams seeking sustainable, compassionate, and context-aware models of care. Partner Practices are not simply supporters — they are collaborators helping to reshape how veterinary services engage with community need.

The year also saw important organisational milestones, including two Information & Networking events, which strengthened transparency, engagement, and shared ownership of VaCC’s direction. We plan to host an Information & Networking session annually in the second half of the year.

We were grateful to receive funding through the WA Government Animal Welfare Grants program, donations from private individuals and other aligned organisations, as well as the provision of goods and services through many generous companies. These contributions enabled VaCC to provide services through careful stewardship of limited resources to deliver Community Clinic sessions and the Directed Care Program.

VaCC’s achievements are only made possible by people - many of whom contribute quietly, generously, and often behind the scenes. I extend my deepest thanks to our remarkable team of volunteers, whose expertise, compassion, and commitment form the backbone of every VaCC program and project. The scale of in-kind contribution this year reflects not only hours given, but belief in what VaCC represents.



Our deepest gratitude is also extended to our Partner Practices, both those existing and those yet to join our community, for their commitment to the well-being of animals and all who care for them.

We are equally grateful to our supporters and collaborators across:

- the veterinary profession,
- government partners and funding bodies,
- animal welfare organisations,
- social and community service agencies,
- academic and research partners, and the many aligned individuals and organisations who continue to walk alongside us.

Your trust and collaboration allow VaCC to act as a connector - bringing sectors together to achieve outcomes none could accomplish alone. As we reflect on 2025, it is clear that VaCC is moving from establishment toward sustainability and influence. Our pilots are informing future models for systemic change, partnerships are expanding, and the One Welfare approach is gaining recognition.

The upcoming Western Australian Government Parliamentary Inquiry into access to veterinary services will provide an important opportunity to examine the challenges facing both communities and the veterinary profession. Given VaCC's work at the intersection of animal welfare, community wellbeing, and veterinary service delivery, we expect to be an active stakeholder in the consultation process, including providing a comprehensive submission. We look forward to contributing insights from our programs and partnerships to support improved access to care and sustainable outcomes for communities, animals, and the animal care sector.

The growing community around VaCC signals a sector ready for change and eager to participate in solutions that support multi-species families and communities alongside veterinary and animal care teams - together with our shared environment.

On behalf of the VaCC Board, thank you to everyone who has contributed to this journey. We look forward to building on this momentum in 2026 as VaCC continues to facilitate connection, collaboration, and community care across the One Welfare landscape.

**Dr Robyn Whitaker**  
**Chair**  
**Veterinary and Community Care**



**One Welfare Symposium: Dr Robyn Whitaker with Duncan the assistance puppy from Guide Dogs WA**



# Veterinary and Community Care Financial Statements



# Balance Sheet

## Veterinary and Community Care As at 30 June 2025

### Assets

#### Bank

ANZ 0096 VaCC Operational	1,953.41
ANZ 1093 VaCC Main	82,666.10
ANZ 1384 Perth Street Vets	393.98
ANZ 6559 Term Deposit	95,247.87

**Total Bank** **180,261.36**

#### Fixed Assets

Office Equipment Accumulated Depreciation	(368.00)
Office Equipment Cost	368.00

**Total Fixed Assets** **-**

#### Total Assets

**180,261.36**

### Liabilities

#### Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	1,539.63
Director Loan - Amit Setia	250.00
Director Loan - Brian Leveson	255.00
Director Loan - Paul Davey	250.00
Director Loan - Robyn Whitaker	324.81
Grant - Demeter Legacy {1031}	4,323.97
Grant DPIRD - AWGP-R3-23 - Vet Equipment {1002}	376.55
Grant DPIRD - AWGP-R4-24 {1011}	15,592.85
Grant DPIRD VSW Project-{1021}-Funds Unused	143,247.87
GST	(3,951.64)
Loan - Warick Vale (former Director)	250.00
Loan - Wendy Till (former Director)	250.00

**Total Current Liabilities** **162,709.04**

#### Total Liabilities

**162,709.04**

### Net Assets

**17,552.32**

### Equity

Current Year Earnings	13,011.11
Retained Earnings	4,541.21

**Total Equity** **17,552.32**



# Profit and Loss

## Veterinary and Community Care For the year ended 30 June 2025

### Trading Income

Containers for Change	158.90
Donations Received	19,972.83
Grant DPIRD VSW Project -{210} Funds Drawn Down	30,000.00
Grant DPIRD VSW Project -Term DepositInterest Received	1,247.87
Grant Drawdown - Vet Equipment {202}	1,159.08
Grant Drawdown - Vets in Community {201}	39,668.00
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>92,206.68</b>

### Cost of Sales

Grant DPIRD VSW Project -{310} Expenditure	30,000.00
Grant DPIRD VSW Project -Term DepositInterest Tfr to Unused Grant	1,247.87
Grant Expenditure - Veterinary Equipment {303}	1,159.08
Grant Expenditure - Vets in Community {301}	38,541.41
Patient Procedures (Before Discount)	9,307.26
Patient ProceduresDiscount Received	(9,307.26)
Patient Supplies & Care	1,353.88
Patient Taxi, Freight & Courier	109.66
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>72,411.90</b>

### Gross Profit

19,794.78

### Operating Expenses

Bank Fees	3.97
Computer, IT & WebsiteExpenses	1,970.20
Depreciation	368.00
Insurance	3,305.54
Legal Fees, Licenses and Permits	109.00
Office Expenses, Amenities etc	331.29
Printing, Postage & Stationery	536.14
Repairs and Maintenance	54.53
Telephone & Internet	105.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>6,783.67</b>

### Net Profit

13,011.11



## Directed Care Program

The Directed Care Program (DC Program) is a core component of VaCC's work, connecting eligible clients whose animals require essential veterinary treatment with participating partner veterinary practices. This is delivered using a contextualised care approach, with financial assistance from VaCC and additional support through VaCC's One Welfare Social Work services.

The program ensures that interspecies families can access timely, appropriate veterinary care while receiving the broader support often needed during times of hardship or crisis.

2025 at a glance:

- \$18,000 contributed by VaCC
- \$33,000+ total value of veterinary services delivered
- 48 veterinary services provided
- 22 interspecies families supported

Care was delivered in collaboration with VaCC's network of partner practices, including Animal Happiness Vet, Doubleview Vet Centre, and SAI Vet Hospital, along with other supporting clinics.

The services funded through the program included consultations, diagnostics, desexing procedures, dental treatments, medical care for acute and chronic illness, soft tissue surgery, hospitalisation and aftercare. In some cases, the program also supported end-of-life care to ensure animals and their guardians were treated with compassion to farewell a treasured companion.

Importantly, these figures do not capture the many volunteer hours contributed by the VaCC, PSV, DC Program and OWSW teams.

Beyond the clinical care delivered, the DC Program plays a vital role in supporting the wellbeing of both people and the animals under their guardianship. By reducing financial barriers to veterinary care, the program helps ensure animals receive treatment when they need it and allows families to remain together during challenging times.



## Kiera's story

Kiera, a 10-year-old long-haired Chihuahua, was referred to the DC Program by VaCC community partner Spey It Forward. She had been unwell for around two weeks and was vomiting, lethargic and not eating. Kiera was assessed at Animal Happiness Vet, where she was diagnosed with pyometra, a serious uterine infection that can be life-threatening if not treated quickly. After initial stabilisation, she returned a few days later for surgery to remove the infected uterus.

The procedure went well, although Kiera needed further hospital care the following day to treat dehydration and nausea. With additional support and monitoring, she continued to improve and made a full recovery. For Kiera's guardian, Cat, the outcome was deeply meaningful. The bond between them was unmistakable, and without this intervention, Kiera would almost certainly not have survived.

Stories like Kiera's remind us why the Directed Care Program matters - providing the help when people need it the most, to keep them and the animals in their care together and well.



Dr Richard Whitehead  
with Cat and Kiera

**Dr Richard Whitehead**  
**Directed Care Program Manager**  
**Veterinary and Community Care**





# One Welfare Social Work Training & Services Pilot Project Report

Building integrated care for people, animals and veterinary teams, Veterinary and Community Care (VaCC) is pioneering One Welfare Social Work (OWSW) in Western Australia - an emerging interdisciplinary practice that recognises the interconnected wellbeing of people, animals, and the communities they share. By integrating social work expertise into veterinary and animal-related care settings, the program supports interspecies families, strengthens professional team wellbeing, and helps address the social factors that can affect access to animal care.

Supported by WA Government funding through the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), VaCC is delivering a pilot program to develop specialised training and embed social workers within veterinary partner practices across Western Australia.

## Program Highlights:

- Recruitment of the first One Welfare Social Work trainee cohort
- Development of eight specialised training modules
- Partnerships established with 14 veterinary practices across WA
- Presentations and sector engagement across veterinary and animal welfare networks
- Early provision of client and veterinary team support through VaCC programs and partner practices

The first cohort of social workers participating in the One Welfare Social Work pilot program brings extensive experience across social work, community services, and animal-inclusive practice. Participants will undertake specialised training and supervised placements within veterinary partner practices across Western Australia.

## Looking Ahead

The pilot will establish a sustainable model of animal-inclusive social work practice, strengthening collaboration between veterinary and community sectors and improving outcomes for both people and the animals they care for.

*“One Welfare Social Work recognises that the wellbeing of people, animals and the professionals who care for them is interconnected. Supporting these relationships strengthens the wellbeing of the whole community.”*

The OWSW  
program  
participants with  
Wendy



**Wendy Till**  
**One Welfare Social Worker**  
**Veterinary and Community Care**



Dr Katy Davis (Partner Practice - Pilbara  
Vet Care) giving the USyd RARE  
Project Students a tour in the Pilbara

## Perth Street Vets

Perth Street Vets (PSV), VaCC's community veterinary clinic program, continues to play a vital role in supporting people experiencing homelessness and the animals in their care. Delivered through a monthly pop-up style clinic held on the first Sunday of each month, the program provides accessible, compassionate veterinary care in a supportive and inclusive environment.

The last four clinic sessions in 2025 were trialled at Grantham Street Veterinary Clinic in Wembley, with the team adapting quickly to the changes in location while maintaining continuity of care for clients and their animals. VaCC is currently in discussions about returning the clinic to Tranby in the Perth CBD in 2026, which would bring the service closer to many of the communities it supports.

Through 2025, the clinic was delivered by 18 dedicated volunteers, including 10 veterinarians, 6 veterinary nurses, a one welfare social worker, and a Directed Care Program Manager, representing more than 300 years of combined professional experience. Their commitment ensures that quality veterinary care is provided to inter-species families, helping to keep them together and well.

Through the clinic, volunteers provide a wide range of essential veterinary services, including:

- General veterinary consultations
- Vaccinations and microchipping
- Parasite prevention and treatment
- Prescription medications
- Grooming and bathing
- Nail clipping and anal gland expression
- Minor procedures and diagnostics such as ear cleaning, bandaging and cytology
- Distribution of pet food
- Referrals to VaCC's Directed Care Program and partner veterinary practices for more complex procedures, including imaging, dental care, desexing and lump removals
- And lots of treats !!!!!



The program currently supports 55 active clients, with referrals received through a range of community organisations including St Patrick's Community Support Centre, St Bartholomew's House, The Salvation Army, RUAH Community Services, Centre Care, UnitingCare West, and other local service providers.





In 2025, Perth Street Vets delivered:

- 129 veterinary consultations
- 49 vaccinations
- 10 microchips implanted
- 163 doses of parasite control administered
- 157 prescription medications dispensed
- 63 animals groomed or bathed
- 68 minor in-house procedures or diagnostics
- 593 animal Foodbank services

These figures represent a significant financial value of veterinary services delivered to the community, made possible through the generosity of volunteers, donors, government grants and industry partners.

Perth Street Vets has now been operating under its current name since February 2023, building on the foundations of the earlier Pets in the Park program established in February 2019. Over this time the clinic has continued to grow in both reach and impact.

**Key developments during 2025 included:**

- Continued growth in the financial value of services delivered
- Acquisition of new clinical equipment to support service delivery
- New volunteers joining the team, strengthening the program's capacity
- Ongoing support from veterinary industry partners
- Successful adaptation to a different clinic location
- An increasing public profile for the program and its work

These developments demonstrate the strength of the Perth Street Vets model and its importance within VaCC's broader commitment to improving the interconnected wellbeing of people, nonhuman animals and communities through a One Welfare approach.



The PSV team



**Perth Street Vet Committee**

**Dr Deanne Strommen**

**Dr Jay Downie**

**Dr Kate Buffin**

**Dr Sue Kelly**

**Foodbank Champion**



*“Community supporting Community,  
for the wellbeing of animals and all  
who care for them”*



## Partner Practices

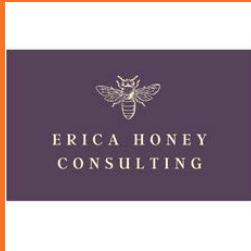


## VaCC Community Partners



Thank you  
for your support

# OUR SUPPORTERS



# CONTACT US



OWSW Wendy Till and the students from the USyd RARE Project; One Welfare Social Work students on the Pilbara trip.

## VETERINARY AND COMMUNITY CARE

### Email

[contact@vacc.charity](mailto:contact@vacc.charity)

### Website

[www.vacc.charity](http://www.vacc.charity)