



Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre Annual Report 2018-2019

Our VISION for the future

A healthy, self-determined and respected Tasmanian Aboriginal Community

Our central PURPOSE

To improve the circumstances and pursue the rights and interests of the Aboriginal community in Tasmania

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2017-2020

1. *Strong, safe, resilient community*

An icon depicting a diverse group of people, including a family with a baby, a person with a cane, and a person with a backpack, representing a strong and resilient community.

2. *Land, heritage and culture*

An icon showing a large rock formation, a person, and a family, representing land, heritage, and culture.

3. *Business and economic development*

An icon showing a person presenting a pie chart and a speech bubble with a dollar sign, representing business and economic development.

4. *Strong, well-functioning TAC*

An icon showing a person pointing to a bar chart, representing a strong, well-functioning TAC.

5. *External profile and influence*

An icon showing a group of buildings, including a hospital and a police station, representing external profile and influence.

Chairperson's message

Dave Warrener - Chairperson

It is with some sadness that I present my last Chairperson's message. I am proud to report this year, as I have for the ten years I have held the chair, the TAC has continued to make a difference to the lives of the Aboriginal community in Tasmania. This annual report details what we have delivered throughout the year and the achievements we have made.

My highlights this year have been the community events, no more so than the annual Putalina festival in January and the Preminghana community camp on the long weekend in March, in which hundreds of people come together on our land to celebrate culture and community. It also really pleases me that the TAC still continues to represent our community on the state and national stage for better rights for our people and for the return of land and heritage that has been stolen from us. However what I am most proud of this year, and in fact every year, is that the TAC continues to provide a comprehensive range of quality services that the community needs and in a way that is culturally appropriate. From the language program, land management, children's programs, family support and our ever expanding health services I congratulate everyone involved.

At the time of writing this report we have been notified Commonwealth Health Department funding will continue for a further four years. This is significant as this represents 42% of our grant funding per year and will offer financial stability which we can build on and support the important programs that are less than generous in this area.

I wish the incoming Chair and the Board of Directors all the best in these challenging times, however I know that they will be rewarded as I have in making a difference to their community.

CEO's message

Heather Sculthorpe – Chief Executive Officer

The 2018/2019 year was as challenging as it was rewarding.

This report is a record of our many activities and successes which reflect the endeavours of our 135 staff. I am pleased to report increased numbers of patients using our Aboriginal Health Service, our GP's are seeing more patients than ever, and the introduction of two new service outlets – tulinakali in Devonport and kutalayna Health in Bridgewater. Our four land management crews made good progress, and an increased number of families were able to obtain support from our families workers. The cultural connections we are able to strengthen through our on-country work and the art therapies we are able to provide continue to be shining examples of effective ways to work with our community.

I would like to acknowledge our community supporters such as Tom and Jane Tenniswood who returned part of their land holding to the Aboriginal community, the Drug and Alcohol Network who worked in partnership with our Registered Training Organisation to deliver Certificate IV in Alcohol and Other Drugs, as well as every individual that turned up this year to our biggest ever Change the Date Invasion Day march and rally on 26 January 2019.

We also faced a number of challenges caused by factors external to our organisation. We survived the difficulties caused by the changes to how child care is funded only to come up against similar problems with changes to our Aged Care program funding. The federal government is moving away from budget-based funding to the My Aged Care packages which should provide greater choice for individuals in the medium term but which are confusing for people at the start.

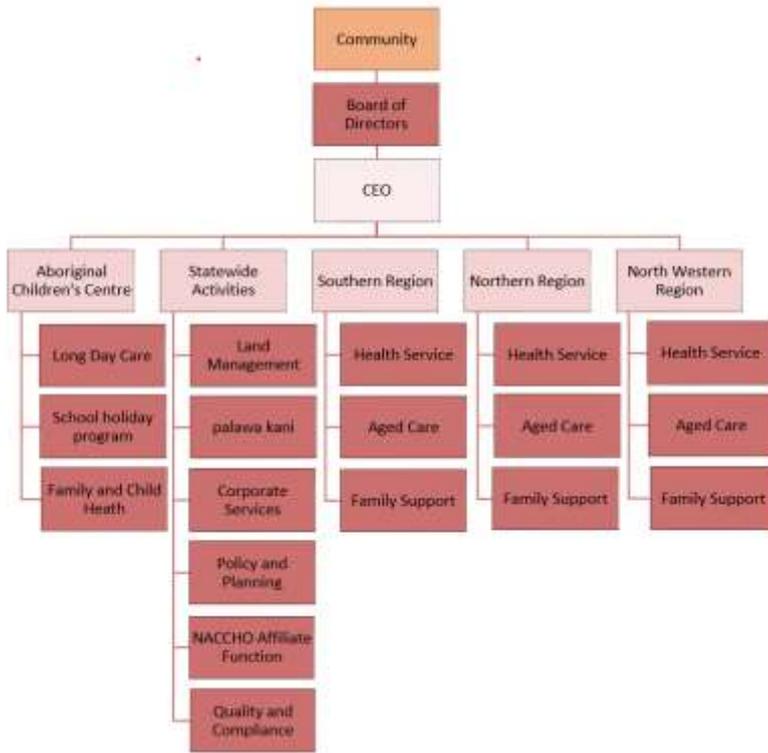
Some of our greatest challenges continue to be with trying to ensure the protection of our cultural heritage. The State Government continued its meddling with the Aboriginal naming of places and showed its determination to put the interests of developers and off-road vehicle voters ahead of the protection of Aboriginal heritage in areas such as Takayna and Lake Malbena.

The meeting of the challenges and developing the opportunities have been made possible by the focus of our management team and the Board of Directors on maintaining the financial sustainability of our organisation. Our positive financial situation is testament to years of sound financial decisions and will be our insurance against the challenges such as we have faced this year and into the future.

Finally, we apologise for the lateness in publishing this Annual Report and promise to do better for 2019/2020.

June 2020.

Our Organisation chart



Board of Directors

Chairperson

Dave Warrener

Directors

Annette Peardon

Michael (Smokey) Beeton

Keith James (Jimmy) Everett

Thomas Riley

Bianca Templar

Teanji Brown

Carla Jennings - Hobart Branch

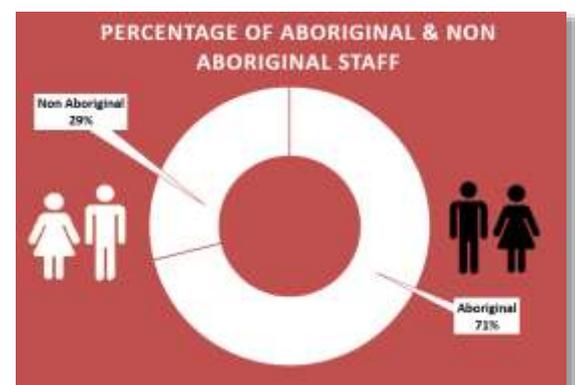
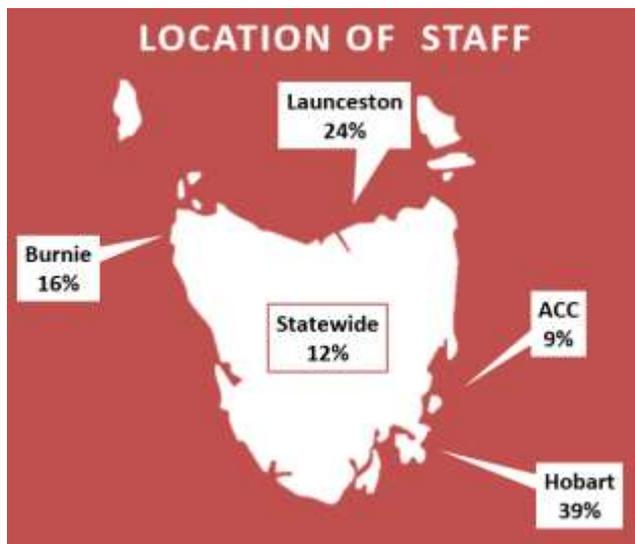
Jessie Digney - Launceston Branch

Caleb Nichols-Mansell –Burnie Branch

Our staff

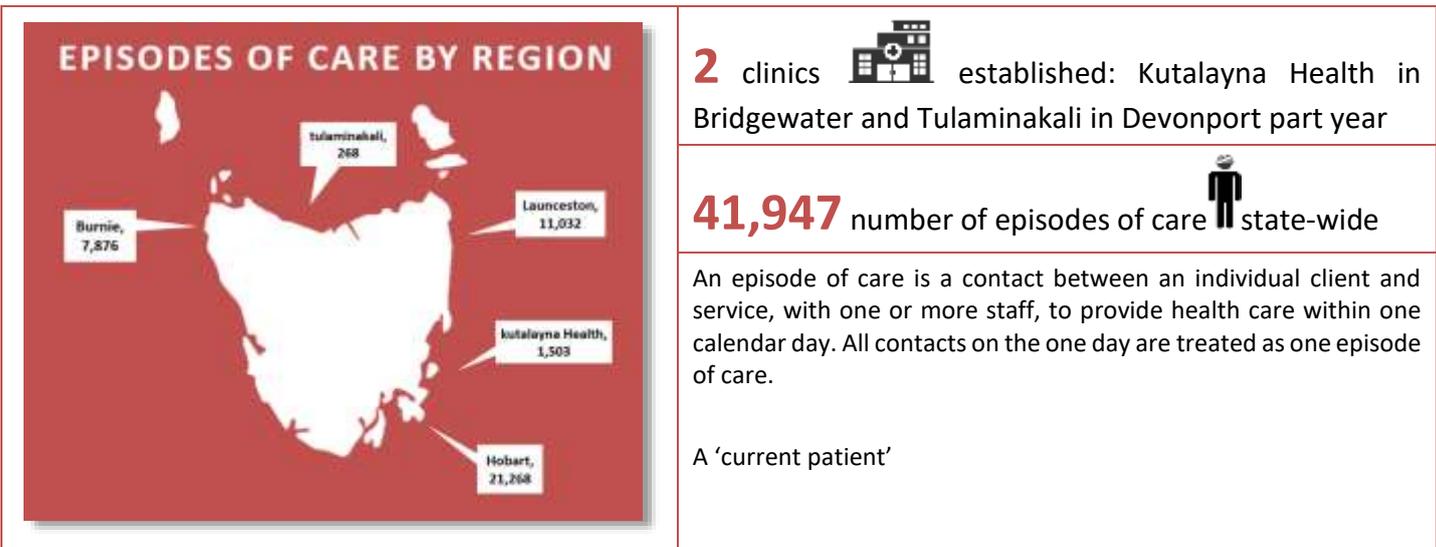
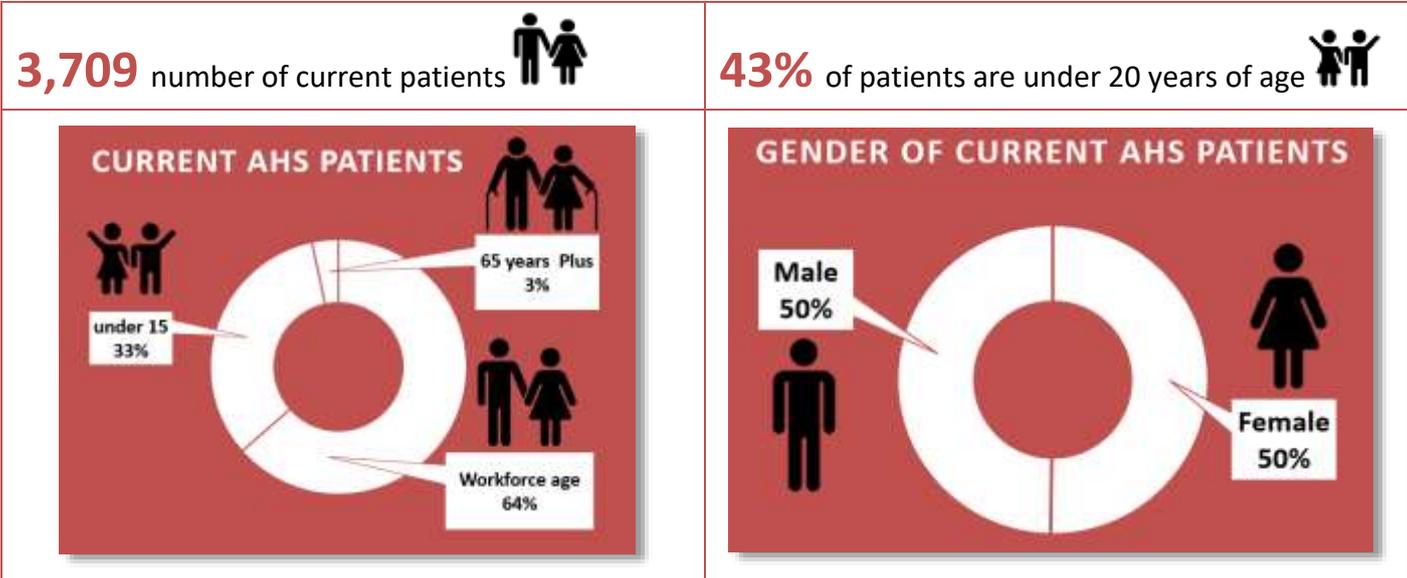
We employ **135** staff  across the state

46 staff  are full time **71** are part time **18** casual



Health

Our Aboriginal Health Service provides comprehensive and integrated health services to the Aboriginal community in all three regions of the state. Our health programs are designed to meet the needs of people of all ages and in all stages of health in our community.



Number of client contacts

14,496 GP  client contacts which is a **8%** Increase

1,468 Dietician  client contacts which is a **23%** increase

100% of children 12-72 months of age  are immunised

74% of pregnant women  receiving their first antenatal check in the first trimester

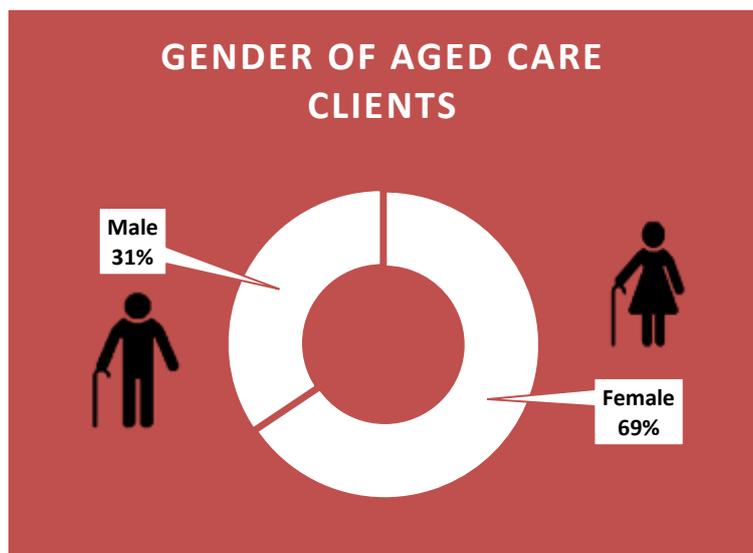
73% of adults over 55 years of age  received a Health Check (Item 715) in last two years

We transported  patients  **6,483** times to appointments at the AHS and to see specialists

Aged Care Program

The Aged Care Program is funded under the Commonwealth Government's National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program. We are able to provide a flexible service to people who are ageing in our community. This includes both support to individuals in their own home as well as social and group activities.

The Aged Care Program supported **78** people  to live independently in the community



67 years & **5** months – the average age of our Aged Care clients

16,174 the total number of hours delivered to all Aged Care clients

311 hours – average number of hours delivered to all Aged Care clients per week

207 hours - average hours of service received by each client per year or **4** each week

3 number of people transitioned to the new Home Care Packages

Registered Training Organisation (RTO)

170 TAC staff  training places were delivered across **57** training programs

26 participants  graduated with the Cert IV Alcohol and Other Drugs

Cultural Awareness

424 cultural awareness training sessions to staff  from **12** agencies 

Aboriginal Children’s Centre – piyura kitina (Risdon Cove)

The Aboriginal Children’s Centre is a licensed Childcare Centre in Southern Tasmania. This year our funding moved from a budget based model to the ‘Jobs for family child care package’. The Aboriginal Children’s Centre remains focused on connecting children with country and ensuring the children are immersed in culture daily.

	<p>Runs daily in three rooms for 30 children </p> <p>Most rooms are consistently filled, with the 3 to 5 year old room averaging 14 participants. </p> <p>Cultural school holidays program caters for 25 children  daily</p>
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Family Support

Our community support team offers a range of services to Aboriginal families throughout Tasmania.

<p>Family Support Workers  worked with 93 families </p>	
<p>Preparing for success at school staff supported 30 school children </p>	
<p>Playgroup, Early Learning Home Visitor and Engaging with Schools programs supported 45 parents / carers  of 38 children </p>	
<p>Playgroup, on average, had 15 parents and children  attending each week</p>	

rana, payngana, paliti rrala

Our rana, payngana, paliti rrala (Strong in body, mind and spirit) program is designed to meet the social, emotional, spiritual wellbeing needs of our community. Part of our team is made up of qualified Counsellors who provide culturally appropriate counselling services and mental health support. We also have community based social and emotional wellbeing workers who ensure that the community is connected and engaged in therapeutic and related activities.

445 clients 	2173 counselling sessions 	8 community commemorative, celebratory & educational events
25 groups and community events with 288 participants 		

takamuna pakana

takamuna pakana (recreational and sporting assistance) is a program to enable the Aboriginal community to have equitable access to sports participation in club and representative sport through the financial assistance of memberships and equipment.

281 Aboriginal participants 	50% of participants were female 
12 elite athlete  (AFL, basketball, swimming, BMX, athletics & karate)	

Integrated Team Care ITC

The Integrated Team Care ITC team provides care coordination to help community members who have chronic health conditions. We support patients in better access to health specialists as well as providing access to resources that normally would be inaccessible due to cost or wait-list times.

159 patients 64 males  and 95 females 	
1,184 transports 	47 new patients 

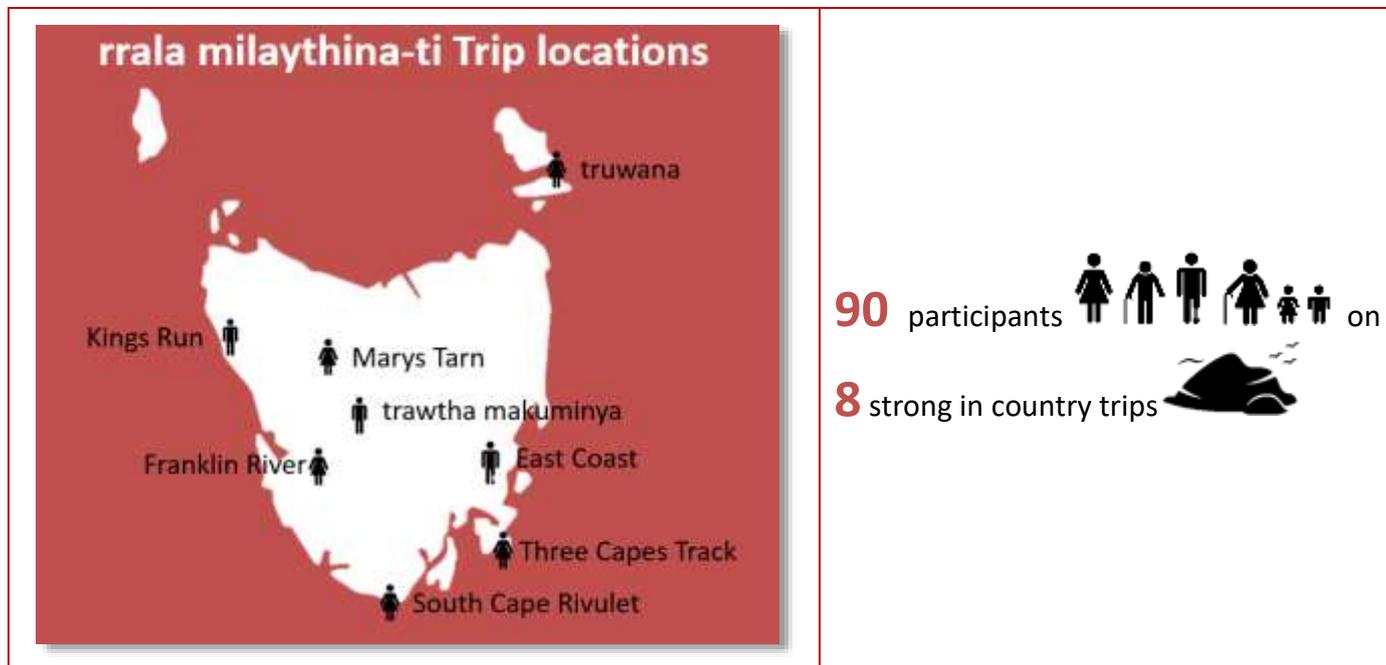
QUMAX

Quality Use of Medicine (QUMAX) program is designed to help offset the costs to clients in their medication by the purchase of devices such as dosette containers, asthma spacers or glucometer kits

QUMAX  covered the cost of 2,911 Dose Administration Aids (DAA)	
84 clients  accessed the funded pharmacies	41 pharmacies  participated

rrala milaythina-ti (Strong in Country) project

rrala milaythina-ti project assisted Aboriginal community members to spend time on milaythina (country) around the state. Community were provided with opportunities to connect with milaythina to improve their social, emotional, cultural and spiritual wellbeing.



Land management

TAC have land management crews across lutruwita (Tasmania), on the west coast, 2 on the Furneaux Islands and in the south. Much of the work is weed eradication, with infrastructure maintenance and heritage protection the other important tasks.

10,650 hectares of land managed 	4 land management crews 	12 Indigenous rangers 
 Big Dog Island	 lungtalanana	 Chappell Island/ Hummocky
17.4 km tracks slashed and cleared 	1.9 hectares of gorse removed 	23 hectares of boxthorn burnt 
21 hectares burnt in partnership with shed bosses 	3.2 hectares of slashing for runway	23 hectares marram grass burnt 
 Badger Island	 putalina	 Preminghana
105.8 hectares burnt, in patches, across the island.	new kitchen  installed in Morgan Mansell hut	100% of all gorse on property has undergone primary control work

 Kings Run	 Babel Island	 trawtha makuminya
Fire  management plan implemented	Mutton bird  monitoring survey completed	Used 30 times by individuals and families 
 piyura kitina		
Ongoing weed management and rehabilitation of farmed land	Maintenance of visitor  amenities	

palawa kani

Our language team continued their efforts in retrieving our language and sharing their knowledge with community members.

New updated palawa kani dictionary  increased from 82 to 114 pages	41 TAC staff  trained in palawa kani
60 words  linguistically and historically analysed from the records	14 words finalised. People's names, places and stars 
Over 600 people  from preschool age to Elders participated in palawa kani language activities across the state, including truwana/ Cape Barren Island	

Partnerships

We work closely  with many other organisations to achieve our goals. Some went above and beyond and we thank them especially. Our main partners who made a special effort included:

Drug Education Network (DEN)	General Practice Training Tasmania
Tobacco Coalition	Breastfeeding Coalition
Salvation Army Bridge Program	Relationships Australia
Second Bite	Children's Commissioner
Bob Brown Foundation	Tasmanian Wilderness Society
University of Tasmania Medical School	Tasmanian Land Conservancy

Financial Report 2018/2019

Income and Expenditure Statement

Income	
Grants	12,164,461
Gain on the Disposal of Assets	14,577
Fees & Other Income	3,270,812
Interest	295,633
Total Income	\$15,745,483

Expenditure	
Salaries and Employment Costs	9,220,197
Travel	365,717
Vehicle Costs	480,783
Resources, Materials, Supplies	716,557
Professional & Consultancy Costs	1,120,199
Miscellaneous Program Expenses	83,157
Utilities	528,522
Repairs & Maintenance	230,996
Insurances	123,077
Depreciation for the Year	319,828
Loss on Revaluation of Assets	0
Total Expenditure	\$13,189,033

Asset Revaluation Reserve Movement	
Revaluation Increments	0
Revaluation Decrements	0
Total Asset Revaluation Reserve Movement	0

Total Comprehensive Income	\$2,556,450
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Balance Sheet

Assets	
Current Assets	13,866,067
Non-current Assets	13,513,911
Total Assets	\$27,379,978
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	3,033,886
Non-current Liabilities	616,420
Total Liabilities	\$3,650,306

TOTAL INCOME
\$15,745,483

TOTAL EXPENDITURE
\$13,189,033

NET INCOME
\$2,556,450



- Department of Health **49%**
- Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet **28%**
- Primary Health Tasmania **10%**
- Other Government Department and Agency Grants **4%**
- Department of Communities Tasmania **4%**
- Department of Education **3%**
- Department of Communications and the Arts **3%**