# The Infants' Home **At a Glance**



### Mission Each child every opportunity

## Vision

A society in which each child is given the opportunity in early childhood to develop their abilities to meet life's challenges and opportunities to fulfil their unique potential, regardless of background or circumstance.

### Purpose

To lead the recognition and improvement of early childhood education and early intervention, for the benefit of all children. For 144 years, The Infants' Home has been a dynamic and innovative organisation that has championed the rights of children, women and families. We have protected children at risk, and helped support and guide families as they build their strength, skills and confidence to create a more positive future for themselves.

### ..... We are:

- The largest provider of integrated early childhood education and care (ECEC) services in NSW
- » Nationally recognised for excellence
- The primary provider of integrated Early Childhood Education and Care services for children at risk in the Inner West
- Accessed by children and families in over 130 suburbs across Sydney
- » Providing services for over 2,500 children and families per year
- Reaching over 800 families each year through our early intervention programs.



## Our Year in Numbers 2017

## General 2,532 children

accessed our

services

500 commu and cor

community and corporate volunteers

# Early Education and Care 632 1,219

children attended our Early Childhood Education and Care Centres children attended our Family Day Care Sydney Wide services

# Clinical Services

families supported by the Sydney Hope Family Cottage Postnatal Clinic

# Early Intervention 728 156

children and parents/carers attended playgroups parents and carers attended parenting and wellbeing workshops

# Staff

155 staff members

34%

have been employed for over 5 years

46% of educators hold a diploma or degree

qualification

26 new staff members

8 staff were undertaking tertiary studies

**1,318** hours of hours of formal professional development were completed by staff members

## Achieving Social Change

We affect positive social change by focusing our activities in four areas:

# 1. Shifting the base line

Research has shown that the rate of brain development is fastest between birth and three years of age. It is therefore critical for all children to have equal access to high quality early childhood education and care in these formative years. This gives each child the best chance of success once they transition to school.

#### 2. Focusing on children and families experiencing disadvantage

Providing non-stigmatising physical and emotional environments that are socially just and equitable, and that value the rights of all children and families as active members of the community, is a powerful force for generational change. This provides children experiencina disadvantage with the tools and strength to alter cycles of poverty and abuse, and to reach their potential as active citizens of the future.

### 3. Addressing social injustice and inequality

We ensure families only tell their story once. By integrating early education and care, early intervention and health services, we address complex issues in a coordinated manner to improve educational and social outcomes for children and families. We support and guide each family to build their confidence, skills and abilities to create a positive future for themselves.

### 4. Building partnerships for societal change

We collaborate with universities and research programs to strengthen the sector and ensure our work is evidence-based. We also work in partnership with a range of corporate and philanthropic stakeholders to improve our business model and share our intellectual property to become more sustainable as we broaden our social impact.

## Facts

#### What we know about disadvantage:

- » A child's brain development peaks between birth and 5 years of age
- > Working with families is critical to achieving sustainable change
- The earliest possible intervention is the most successful and cost effective
- > Early intervention in early childhood
- > Is a powerful means towards long-term, sustainable solutions
- > Helps to break generational cycles of hardship and despair
- > Makes life-changing, long-term positive impacts
- Makes a positive change to a child's life trajectory

## **Our Patron**

Our Patron is Mrs Linda Hurley, wife of His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Rt'd), Governor of New South Wales.

## **Our Board**

The Infants' Home is governed by a voluntary, independent Board of directors. With more than 100 years combined experience in commercial and not-for-profit management, our Board is committed to integrity, diversity, collaboration and innovation. The Infants' Home leadership team includes professionals with extensive experience, strong learning backgrounds and in-depth knowledge of our sector.



#### View our full Annual Report 2017 at: theinfantshome.org.au





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