



Autism
Awareness
Australia

Annual Report

2024-25



MEET THE FAMILY ON OUR COVER

Families are at the centre of everything we do



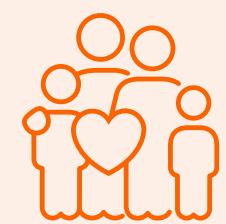
The photographs throughout this report were captured as part of a special project we undertook in 2024. At Autism Awareness Australia (AAA), it has always mattered deeply to us that the people at the heart of our work are also the faces of our organisation.

So we travelled across the country to spend time with AAA families in their own homes, schools and communities, capturing life as it is really lived. The photoshoots were warm, chaotic, funny, moving and never dull.

We wanted the imagery in this report to reflect real life, not a polished version of it. These families welcomed us into their worlds with generosity and trust, and we are deeply grateful for that.

Our cover family this year is the Peereboom family from Queensland: Kathrine and Stephen, and their three sons, Oliver, Joshy and Tyler.

Kathrine has been part of the AAA community for many years as an advisor, speaker and national advocate. Through her work with Spectrum Support, she helps first responders better understand and support autistic and disabled people. Through DanceAble, her inclusive dance school, she creates spaces where children and adults who are so often excluded can simply belong.



We are trusted with these stories and images.
That is a responsibility we carry with great care.

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Chair's Message

This year has been one of continued growth and increasing national influence for Autism Awareness Australia.



Across our programs, advocacy and partnerships, we have seen the organisation strengthen its role as a trusted source of information and a credible voice in national discussions on autism and disability. The expansion of the Navigating Autism platform into the school years, alongside new initiatives such as the national Parent and Carer Survey and the Autism Summit, reflects both the scale of need within the community and the organisation's ability to respond with clarity and purpose.

This period has also marked an important transition for the organisation. In July 2024, we welcomed back founder Nicole Rogerson as CEO. Nicole's return has brought renewed focus and momentum, underpinned by her deep understanding of the community and long-standing commitment to improving outcomes for autistic Australians and their families.

What continues to distinguish Autism Awareness Australia is its ability to combine lived experience with evidence, and translate that into practical, accessible support for families, while also contributing meaningfully to policy and reform discussions. This balance is not easily achieved, and it speaks to the strength of the organisation's leadership and team.

The year also highlighted the importance of national collaboration. The Autism Summit, held in April, brought together leading voices from across the sector and helped shape a more coordinated approach to addressing the needs of autistic

Australians, particularly those with higher support needs. It is encouraging to see this work continuing to evolve.

After almost ten years on the Board, this will be my final report as Chair. It has been a privilege to be part of the organisation's journey over this time, from its earlier stages through to the national organisation it is today.

“ I would like to acknowledge my fellow Board members, Nicole and the team whose dedication drives this work, and the families who continue to place their trust in the organisation. Your experiences are not the backdrop to this work. They are the point of it. ”

As I step down, I am confident the organisation is well placed for the future. I am pleased to hand over the role of Chair to John Maher, who brings strong governance experience and a deep understanding of the organisation. I look forward to seeing Autism Awareness Australia continue to grow its impact in the years ahead.

Sally Collins
Chair

CEO's Message

Stepping back into the CEO role at Autism Awareness Australia has felt both very natural and deeply personal.



Although I stepped away from the role for a period and remained on the Board, it turns out it is very difficult to stay away from a community you care so deeply about. This work has never just been professional for me. It is personal. Over the past two years, I found myself increasingly drawn back into the day-to-day work of supporting families and contributing to the national conversation around autism.

When I started Autism Awareness Australia almost two decades ago, I genuinely believed awareness was the goal. If Australians better understood autism, surely things would improve for autistic people and their families.

And awareness has mattered. It changed conversations. It brought autism into public view and helped families feel less alone. But awareness alone is not enough.

Over the past year, our Board spent considerable time asking difficult but important questions about the future of this organisation.

- What do the next five and ten years look like?
- What do we want to be known for?
- And, where can we make the greatest contribution?

The answer became clear very quickly:

“We cannot shy away from the difficult issues, the uncomfortable conversations or the areas where systems are clearly failing families. We need to be louder, sharper and much more deliberate about where we focus our efforts.”

In many ways, this new direction was so important to us that we even changed our name this year, becoming the Autism Association of Australia. Awareness opened the door. But the work now is much bigger than awareness alone.

That thinking shaped much of our work this year, but nowhere was it more evident than in the 2025 National Autism Parent and Carer Survey.

More than 1,200 families shared their experiences with us. What they told us was both validating and confronting.

Families waiting years for a diagnosis. Parents paying privately simply to access support. Children struggling in education systems that are not equipped to support them. Families trying to navigate complex systems while also holding together everyday life.

None of this was entirely new to us. We hear these stories every day. But seeing the scale of it reflected so clearly in national data was a real moment of clarity.

The report struck a nerve nationally. It generated significant media attention, sparked public discussion and opened the door to important conversations with governments and decision-makers across the country.

CEO'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

And for us internally, it was also a bit of a shot in the pants.

It reinforced something we already knew deep down: there is still so much work to do.

That does not discourage me. If anything, it sharpens our focus.

Over the coming years, the Autism Association of Australia will continue building practical national supports for families, while contributing more directly to the policy and reform conversations shaping the future of autism support in this country.

“ We will continue bringing lived experience, evidence and credible expertise into rooms where decisions are being made. And we will not be afraid to engage in the more difficult conversations that real reform requires. ”

I would also like to acknowledge Sally Collins, who steps down as Chair after almost ten years on the Board. Sally brought genuine passion, wisdom and steadiness to the organisation over many years, helping guide AAA through a significant period of growth and change. We are incredibly grateful for her contribution, and we will miss her terribly.

I am very pleased to welcome John Maher as incoming Chair. John first joined the AAA Board in 2008, serving through to 2015 before rejoining again in 2022. He brings deep governance experience, strong commercial leadership and a long-standing commitment to the autism community.



And finally, to the families who continue to trust us with your stories, your experiences, and your time - thank you. You remain at the centre of this work. Every conversation, every platform, every piece of advocacy is ultimately about trying to make life better for autistic Australians and the families who love them.

Awareness opened the door. What matters now is the work ahead.

Nicole Rogerson
Chief Executive Officer

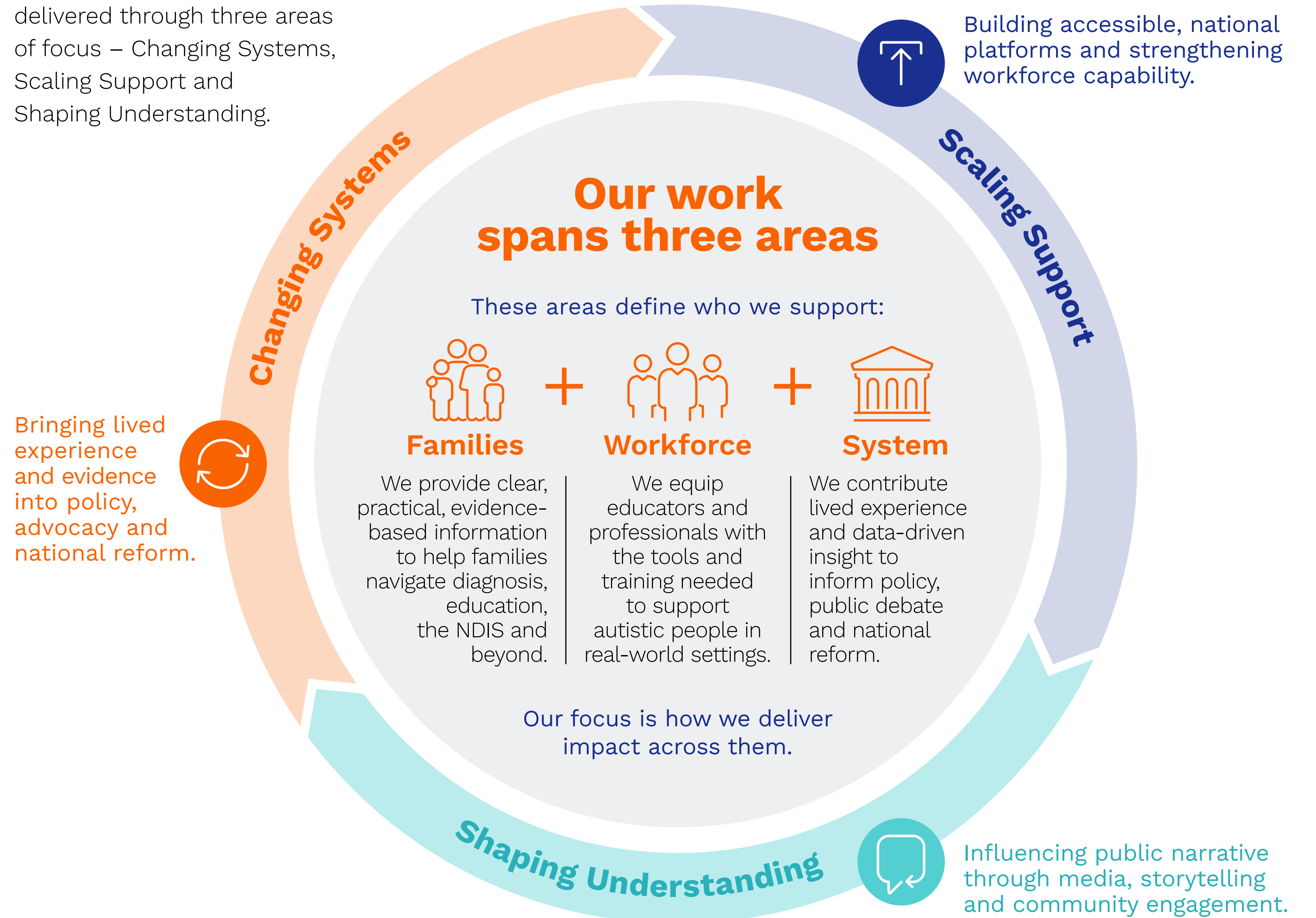
About Us

Autism Awareness Australia exists to improve the lives of autistic people and the families who support them.

Since 2007, we have grown from a grassroots awareness initiative into a national organisation with a trusted voice across the autism and disability landscape.

We are an independent, national not-for-profit with a digitally driven model built for reach, relevance and impact.

In 2024-25, our work was delivered through three areas of focus – Changing Systems, Scaling Support and Shaping Understanding.



This **Integrated Approach** allows us to respond to immediate needs while contributing to long-term change.

National Impact Snapshot

A connected system supporting families, professionals and communities across Australia.

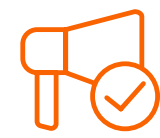


A System, not a Single Program

Families don't engage once. They return. They move between platforms, expertise and support as their needs evolve. Across FY2024-2025, this system operated at a national scale - connecting information, capability and lived experience to drive better outcomes.

2.2m
People Reached

Through National Media (76 placements)



1.2k+
Families Contributed

To the National Autism Parent and Carer Survey 2025



All Levels of Government Engaged

Federal, State and Territory Education and Disability Ministers



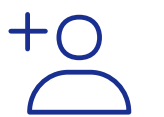
Lived experience, backed by data, shaping national reform

National platforms. Practical tools. Workforce capability.

1m+ Website Views



533k+ New Users
(First Time Accessing Support)



90k+ Users of Navigating Autism
(In The School Years)



9.7k+ Educators Enrolled
In Navigating Autism (Early Years)



2.3k+ Webinar Registrations



National voice. Community reach. Changing the narrative.

149k
Social Media Followers



~306k
Email Opens



Connecting Community to Support & Inform

890+
Direct Enquiries



From Families Seeking Guidance

Real experiences shaping public understanding

Support accessed, applied and revisited over time



Policy, advocacy, national influence

In FY2024-25, Autism Awareness Australia strengthened its role in shaping national conversations on autism, education and disability reform.

Our focus has been clear: ensuring the experiences of autistic people and their families are not only heard, but used to inform policy, public debate and system design.



Changing systems requires more than a seat at the table. It requires evidence, credible expertise, and the voices of the people the system is designed to serve.

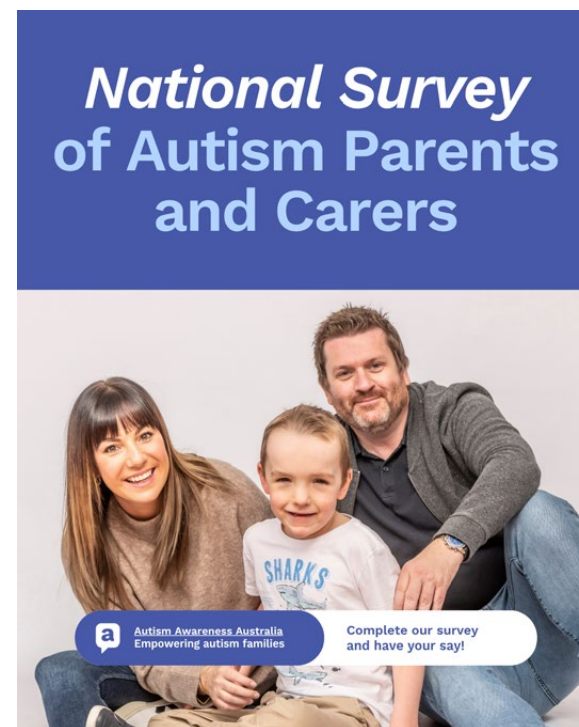
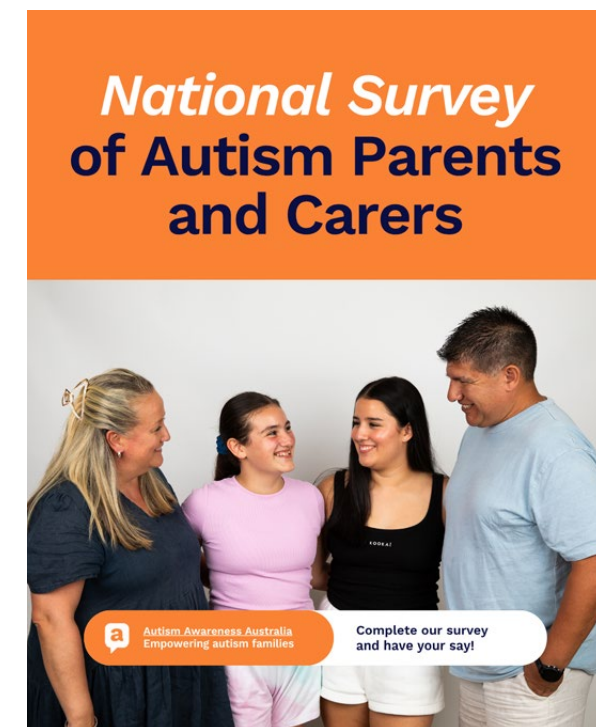
This year, we brought those elements together in a focused way. We put the largest national dataset on autism family experience directly in front of decision-makers. We convened a national Summit that led to the creation of a new independent reform body. And we brought lived experience into parliamentary hearings, policy submissions and national media, positioning it as evidence, not anecdote.

CHANGING SYSTEMS

The 2025 National Autism Parent and Carer Survey Report

In 2025, Autism Awareness Australia undertook its largest National Parent and Carer Survey to date, capturing the experiences of more than 1,200 families across the country.

The result is a broad national dataset spanning diagnosis, early intervention, education and long-term support. Families across all jurisdictions reported consistent challenges, pointing to systemic pressure rather than isolated issues.



What families told us was consistent and confronting

The system is not keeping pace with need. **32% of families are now waiting more than two years for a diagnosis**, with most forced to fund private assessments at significant cost.

Access to early intervention remains inconsistent, delaying critical support during key developmental years.

In the education system, **87.3% of parents and carers report concern about their child's mental health and wellbeing**. Families describe rising rates of bullying, social isolation and a lack of appropriate classroom support.

These pressures do not ease over time.

78.6% of autistic adults are living at home with their parents, reflecting the long-term impact of inadequate support pathways.

At the same time, **94% of families report challenges navigating the NDIS**, a system intended to provide support, but too often experienced as complex, inconsistent and difficult to access.

These structural failures are consistent across geography, demographics and life stages, and they require coordinated policy response.

The 2025 Survey Report has been downloaded more than 1,000 times by families, professionals and policymakers seeking to understand these experiences and system pressures in detail.

It has been disseminated directly to State and Federal Government ministers and used to inform ongoing engagement with decision-makers.

Survey findings were also taken into national media, generating more than 75 pieces of coverage and reaching an audience of over 2.2 million people.

This ensures that lived experience is not dismissed as anecdotal. It is structured, visible and embedded in the conversations that shape policy and reform.



1,203 Survey Participants

1,000+ Downloads of the Final Survey Report

76 Media Pieces

2.2m+ Australians Reached



National Autism Summit

The survey gave us the evidence. The next step was making sure it informed what happens next.

In 2025, Autism Awareness Australia convened a National Autism Summit, bringing together leading researchers, clinicians, advocates and sector representatives to examine the challenges facing autistic Australians.

Held on 2nd April 2025, World Autism Awareness Day, the Summit took place against a backdrop of genuine national urgency: the development of the National Autism Strategy, ongoing NDIS reform, and a growing gap between what families experience and what the system provides.

Discussions were frank. Participants examined the growing complexity of the system, the variability in support across education, health and disability services, and the need for clearer, evidence-based approaches to policy and service design. A consistent theme was the need for stronger coordination,

particularly to improve outcomes for autistic people with higher support needs and profound autism.

As a direct outcome of the Summit, participants agreed to establish the Independent Council for Autism Reform.

The Council brings together leading experts contributing in an individual capacity, with representation across 12 organisations spanning research, clinical practice and advocacy, including the Autism CRC, the University of Sydney, UNSW, Monash University, Griffith University, Flinders University and the Telethon Kids Institute (CliniKids).

The Council provides a mechanism for coordinated, evidence-informed input into policy and reform discussions, with a particular focus on improving outcomes for those with the highest levels of need. This work has commenced and will continue to develop over the coming year as the Council's role and contribution evolves.

15 National Autism Summit Attendees 

12 Organisations Represented 

13 Representatives Appointed to the Independent Council for Autism Reform 

CHANGING SYSTEMS

Advisory and Policy Engagement

Autism Awareness Australia continues to contribute directly to national and state policy through advisory roles, formal submissions and engagement with government.

This work ensures that lived experience and evidence are represented in the decisions shaping autism, education and disability policy.

Advisory Roles (FY2024–2025)

- NSW Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Department of Health – Young Minds, Our Future National Stakeholder Advisory Group
- Chill National Advisory Committee
- NSW Heritage Disability Roundtable

In addition to ongoing advisory roles, we contributed to formal policy processes through targeted submissions and direct engagement with government.

Key Submissions

- Inquiry into foundational and disability supports available for children and young people in NSW (March 2025)
- Inquiry into improving access to early childhood health and development checks

Autism Awareness Australia’s CEO, Nicole Rogerson, was invited to present evidence at NSW Parliament House in November 2024, ensuring that the lived experience of autistic children and their families directly informed parliamentary deliberations.



Scaling Support

Platforms, reach, digital infrastructure

In FY2024-25, Autism Awareness Australia scaled its national digital platforms, delivering practical, evidence-based support to families, educators and professionals across Australia.

Our focus has been on making support easier to access, more consistent, and more useful in real-world settings.

Our work focuses on three areas:

- 1 Building national, accessible digital platforms that provide clear, evidence-based guidance.
- 2 Strengthening workforce capability so educators and professionals are better equipped in real-world settings.
- 3 Expanding access to expertise across the country.

1 | Building National Digital Platforms

Navigating Autism – In The School Years

Families are not short of information about autism. What they need is information they can trust, apply, and use within the Australian system.

Navigating Autism – In The School Years was developed to meet that need. This national digital platform provides clear, evidence-based guidance for families of children aged 5 to 18 as they move through the education system and adolescence. It supports decision-making across school entry, classroom support, NDIS navigation, behavioural challenges, student rights, and transition to adulthood.


Developed with funding from the Department of Social Services, the platform brings together more than 125 topics delivered through articles, videos, tools and practical guides. Content has been co-designed with autistic people, parents, clinicians and educators to reflect both current evidence and lived experience. As a digital-first resource, it is accessible to families across Australia, including those in regional and remote communities.

The platform was launched in November 2024 by the Hon Amanda Rishworth MP, Minister for Social Services. The launch event was hosted by the Speaker of the House, the Hon Milton Dick MP, in his private garden at Parliament House in Canberra.



Reach and Engagement

Since launch, Navigating Autism – In The School Years has achieved strong national reach and sustained engagement.

 **90,434** Unique users accessed the platform between November 2024 and 30 June 2025

Families are not using the platform as a one-off resource. They are returning as their child's needs change, using it as a consistent point of reference across different stages of the school journey.

Content related to school refusal, bullying, behavioural regulation, student rights and adolescent wellbeing attracted strong traffic and sustained engagement, indicating demand for guidance in complex and high-pressure situations.

SCALING SUPPORT

2 | Building Workforce Capability for Educators

Access to information is only part of the picture. What matters is what happens in practice.

Educators and early childhood professionals are supporting increasingly complex needs, often without consistent training or practical guidance.

In FY2024-25, Autism Awareness Australia focused on strengthening workforce capability in early childhood settings, providing practical tools and training that can be applied in real-world environments.

Navigating Autism – The Early Years

Launched in 2024, Navigating Autism – The Early Years is a national digital platform developed to address a gap in consistent, accessible training for early childhood educators.

It has scaled rapidly as a national training platform. By the end of FY25, enrolments had reached **21,973**, an increase of **9,787 educators** over the year, reflecting strong demand across all states and territories with a consistent satisfaction rating of **4.5 out of 5**.

This level of uptake demonstrates both the demand for practical training and the platform’s ability to reach educators at scale with evidence-based content grounded in lived experience.

What began as a targeted early years initiative is now a nationally recognised resource supporting the capability of the early childhood workforce.



“ Navigating Autism – The Early Years has also provided me not only a comprehensive understanding of autism, but also an insight into children’s behaviours across the board. ”

Navigating Autism – In The School Years



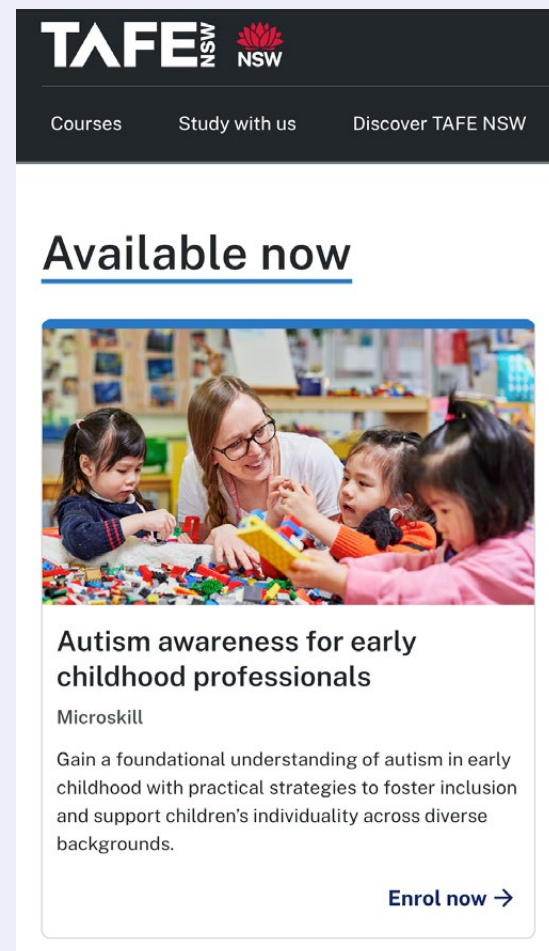
Educator Support

The Navigating Autism – In The School Years platform also includes dedicated content for educators, designed to support teachers in responding to the increasing complexity of needs in classroom settings. These sections provide practical guidance on areas such as classroom adjustments, behaviour, student wellbeing and working with families, grounded in both evidence and lived experience. This ensures that support is available not only to families but also to the professionals responsible for delivering it in practice.

SCALING SUPPORT

TAFE NSW Partnership

Early childhood educators are often the first to recognise developmental differences and the first to respond.



Following the success of Navigating Autism – Early Years, Autism Awareness Australia was approached by TAFE NSW to collaborate on new professional learning for the early childhood workforce.

This led to the creation of Autism Awareness for Early Childhood Professionals, a bespoke, fee-free microskill course delivered as part of

the NSW Government’s Early Childhood Education and Care Professional Learning Program.

Developed in partnership with TAFE NSW and the NSW Department of Education, and launched in June 2025, the course is designed to strengthen workforce capability at a point where early identification and support can have a significant long-term impact.

3 | Scalable Access to Expertise

Access to autism expertise across Australia remains uneven, shaped by geography, availability and cost. Families and professionals need flexible ways to connect with timely, trusted expertise.

AUT to Know Webinar Series

In January 2025, Autism Awareness Australia expanded its webinar program into a consistent, year-round national series, delivered monthly with the support of Leap in! and Chill.

The AUT to Know series connects families and professionals with experienced clinicians and subject matter experts across key stages of the autism journey, from early childhood and diagnosis through to school years, adolescence and adulthood. Each session focuses on the issues people are actively navigating, including communication, behaviour, education and support pathways, with content designed to be practical and immediately usable.

In FY24-25, six webinars attracted more than 2,300 registrations, with more than half of participants identifying as parents and carers, alongside clinicians, educators and other professionals.

The impact extends beyond live delivery. Recordings generated more than 2,000 additional views, enabling on-demand access and repeat engagement. Participation has spanned every state and territory, providing access to expertise regardless of location.

Content is accessed, revisited and shared over time, extending the reach of specialist knowledge beyond geographic and time constraints and strengthening Autism Awareness Australia’s broader digital program.

A promotional graphic for the 'Home truths' webinar. It features a dark blue background with white and light blue text. The title 'Home truths' is in a large, bold font. Below it, the text reads: 'Free webinar exploring SDA, SIL and the realities of housing for autistic adults'. The date and time are '19 June | 11:00am AEST'. It says 'Proudly supported by:' followed by the logos for 'Autism Awareness Australia' and 'chill. for autism'. There are two small portrait photos of speakers: Brent Woolgar and Nicole Rogerson. The 'AUT to Know Webinar Series' logo is in the top right corner.

Between launch in January 2025 and 30 June 2025

6 Live Webinars January - June 2025 

2,326 Registrations to Attend 

2,037 Webinar Recording Views 

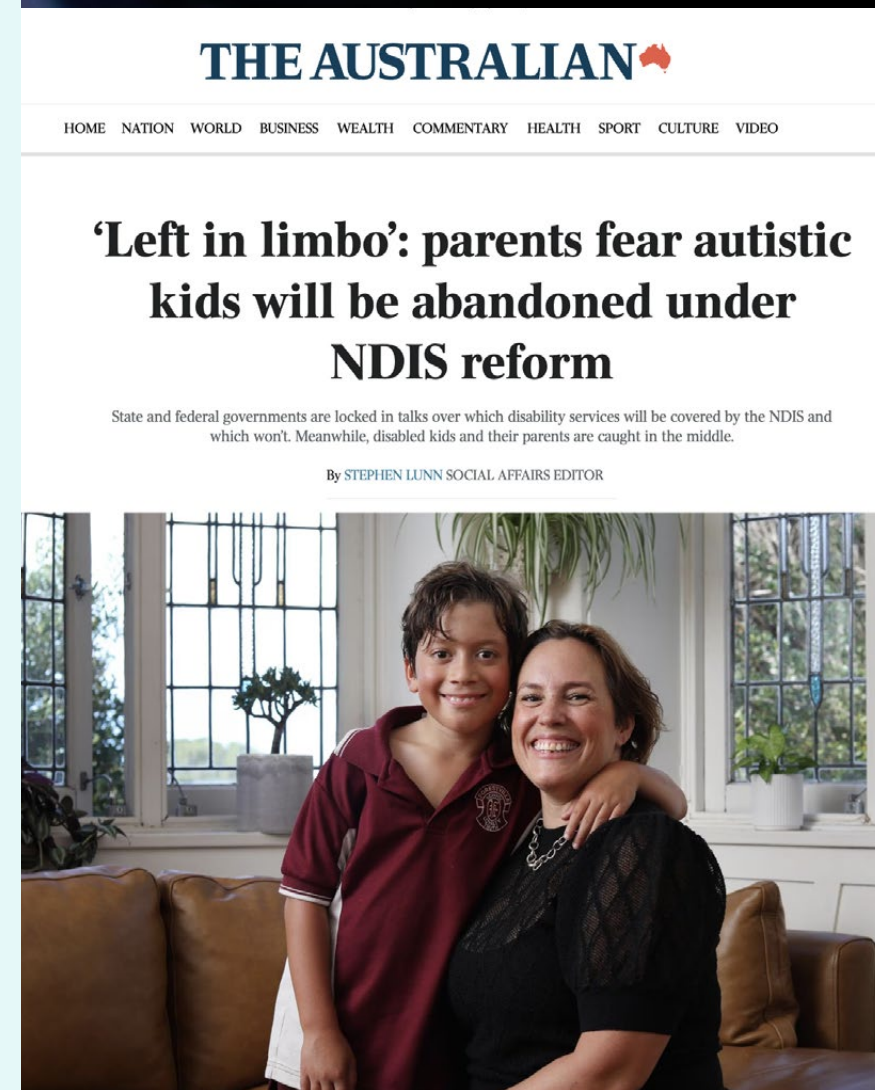
Shaping Understanding

Media, storytelling and public voice

In FY2024-25, Autism Awareness Australia continued to play a leading role in shaping how autism is understood across the Australian community.

Our focus has been on ensuring that public conversations are informed by lived experience, grounded in evidence, and reflective of the realities faced by autistic people and their families.

This work is delivered through national media engagement, original content and platforms that amplify authentic voices and experiences.



SHAPING UNDERSTANDING

In the Media

Autism Awareness Australia is a regular contributor to national media coverage of autism, providing credible, experience-led perspectives.

Through television, radio, print and digital platforms, its voice reached millions of Australians, bringing lived experience into public discussion and policy debate.



A National Voice in the Media

20+ Media Appearances
Across Australia's leading outlets

76 Total Placements
Including syndication across regional & rural outlets

From front-page coverage to prime-time television and national radio, Autism Awareness Australia contributed to national conversations on autism throughout the year.

ABC

9

SBS

THE AUSTRALIAN

AFR

Media coverage focused on:

- The National Autism Strategy and the future of autism policy
- NDIS reform and the impact on families
- Delays in diagnosis and early intervention
- Public debates around autism, ADHD and understanding

At the centre of this coverage was a consistent message:

“Evidence matters, lived experience matters, and both must inform national decision-making.”

SHAPING UNDERSTANDING

Storytelling - AUStism 2025

In May 2025, Autism Awareness Australia hosted AUStism 2025, our flagship national storytelling event, bringing together voices from across the autism community.

Held at the Telstra Customer Insight Centre in Sydney and live-streamed nationally, the event reached audiences across Australia, made possible through the support of the Department of Social Services.

“ The AUStism format remains deliberately simple: a stage, a microphone, and real people telling their stories. ”

The 2025 program featured a diverse group of speakers, including international guest James Hunt (Stories About Autism, UK), author Porscia Lam, Paralympian and autistic advocate Tamsin Colley, advocate Ronan Soussa, and author Teo Tissue. The event was hosted by Sarah Macdonald and Tom Gleisner.

Speakers shared perspectives spanning childhood, adulthood, identity, family life and support needs, reflecting the diversity and complexity of autistic experience.

The event brought together **425 attendees** from across Australia, both in person and via livestream, creating a national audience for these voices.

Content from AUStism is distributed across digital platforms, extending the reach of the event and allowing these perspectives to be accessed over time.

425  

People came together online and in person, to hear autistic voices challenge perceptions and spark conversation

85% Overall satisfaction

9/10 Event speaker & quality rating

1 in 5     

Attendees chose livestream, suggesting increasing demand for flexibility



“ AUStism creates space for stories that are often unheard in public debate. ”

SHAPING UNDERSTANDING

Public Voice

Autism Awareness Australia continues to contribute to national conversations through participation in major public forums and policy-focused events.

We are regularly invited into these discussions because of the combination of lived experience, practical insight and evidence we provide. This allows us to bring the perspectives of autistic people and their families into conversations that often shape public understanding and policy direction.

These opportunities extend our reach beyond the disability sector, placing autism within broader discussions on health, education and social policy. They continue to strengthen our national profile and ensure our work contributes to informed public and policy discussions.

Women's Agenda Summit

In September 2024, Autism Awareness Australia CEO Nicole Rogerson was invited to speak at the Women's Health and Wellbeing Summit, hosted by Women's Agenda.

Nicole joined a panel alongside Grace Tame and Khadija Gbla to discuss neurodiversity, contributing to a national conversation on inclusion, identity and lived experience.

The discussion brought autism into a mainstream forum, placing it alongside broader conversations about health, identity and social inclusion.



DSC Annual NDIS Conference



In 2025, Nicole Rogerson was invited to speak at the DSC Conference, a national forum focused on policy, practice and reform in the disability sector.

The conference was opened by the NDIS Minister, reflecting its significance within the national policy landscape.

Nicole participated in a panel discussion examining the future of the NDIS, hosted by journalist Patricia Karvelas and featuring journalist Rick Morton, academic Darren Donovan, researcher Dr Mark Brown and advocate Samantha Connor.

The discussion explored the intersection of policy, public narrative and lived experience at a critical point of reform.

Nicole's contribution ensured that the perspectives of families and the broader autism community were represented in a national conversation shaping the future direction of the scheme.

Strengthening the Organisation

Funding, partnerships and capability

In FY2024-25, Autism Awareness Australia continued to strengthen the partnerships, governance and capability required to support sustained national impact.

As our reach expands, so too does the need to ensure the organisation is structured to deliver at scale. This has included strengthening governance, deepening strategic partnerships, and investing in the systems and capabilities that support our work.

This approach ensures we remain responsive, credible and able to meet increasing demand across the autism and disability landscape.



Governance and Leadership

STRENGTHENING
THE ORGANISATION

Autism Awareness Australia is governed by an experienced Board of Directors, bringing together lived experience, clinical expertise, and senior leadership across business, finance and the autism sector. This breadth of perspective supports strong oversight and a clear focus on impact for autistic individuals and their families.



Sally Collins
Chair

Sally Collins is a C-suite financial services executive with more than 25 years' senior leadership experience. She is Chief Operating Officer of Aware Super and brings expertise in governance, strategy and organisational transformation.



John Maher
Director

John Maher is an experienced CEO, Chair and non-executive director with more than 25 years' leadership experience across listed and private companies. He brings strong governance and commercial expertise, alongside a long-standing commitment to autism awareness, particularly in regional and remote communities.



Prof. Andrew Whitehouse
Director

Professor Andrew Whitehouse is the Angela Wright Bennett Professor of Autism Research at The Kids Research Institute and The University of Western Australia, and Director of CliniKids. A leading autism researcher, he advises governments on policy and brings deep clinical, research and sector expertise to the Board.



Nicole Rogerson
Founding CEO & Director

Nicole Rogerson is the Founding CEO and Director of Autism Awareness Australia and one of Australia's leading autism advocates. She has more than 18 years' experience in public policy, early intervention and inclusion for autistic people and their families.



Charlie Viola
Director

Charlie Viola is Managing Director of Pitcher Partners Sydney Wealth Management and an experienced investment and financial services professional. He brings financial, commercial and governance expertise to the Board, alongside lived experience as a parent of an autistic child.



Tabitha Pearson
Director

Tabitha Pearson is Chief People Officer at Michael Hill Jeweller and an experienced executive across banking, legal, retail and hospitality. She brings expertise in people, culture and organisational transformation, alongside lived experience as a parent of an autistic child.

STRENGTHENING THE ORGANISATION

Strategic Partnerships

Partnerships remain central to Autism Awareness Australia's ability to deliver work at a national scale.

Across the year, we strengthened relationships with government, corporate and sector partners aligned with our focus on improving outcomes for autistic Australians.

Government partnerships support large-scale initiatives, including national digital platforms and workforce training programs. Corporate and community partnerships enable campaigns, events and targeted initiatives that engage new audiences.

We are deliberate in the partnerships we pursue, prioritising alignment with our values, independence of voice, and a shared commitment to long-term impact.



STRENGTHENING THE ORGANISATION

Organisational Capability

A key focus this year has been strengthening the organisational capability required to support continued growth and national delivery.

Autism Awareness Australia operates with a focused model, combining subject matter expertise with strong digital capability. This enables us to reach large audiences while maintaining the quality and accessibility of our work.

Investment in digital infrastructure and content development continues to underpin our ability to deliver evidence-informed resources at scale.

We have also refined our approach to content production, stakeholder engagement and program delivery, ensuring our work remains aligned with community needs.

This positions Autism Awareness Australia to continue expanding its reach while maintaining the trust and credibility that underpin our work.



Financial Overview

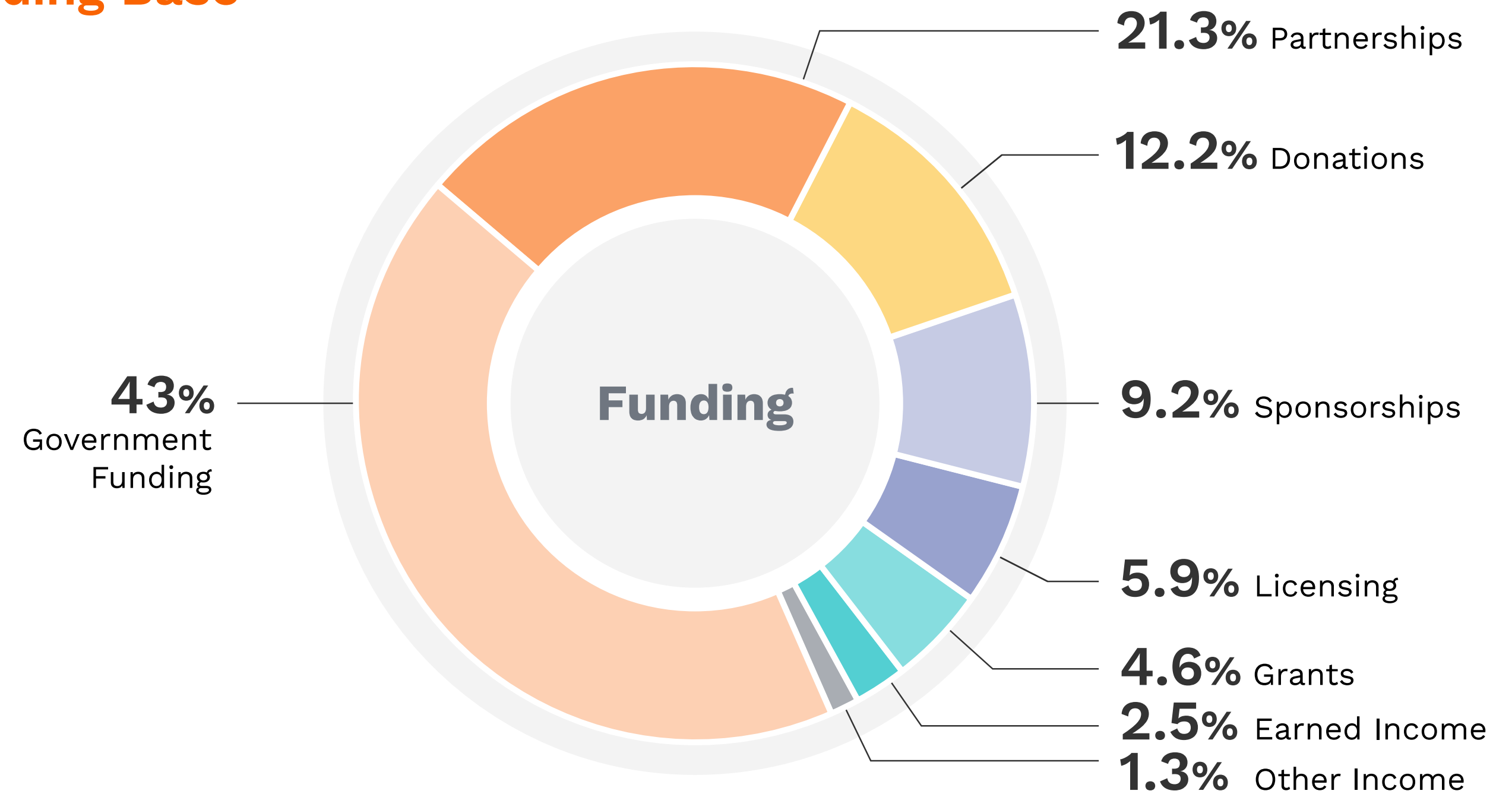
A Disciplined Model, Built for Scale

Autism Awareness Australia operates with a disciplined financial model that supports national impact while maintaining independence.

In FY2024-25, total income reached **\$783,108**, reflecting a diversified funding base across government investment, strategic partnerships, philanthropy and earned revenue.

This balance allows us to invest in long-term platforms and national programs while remaining responsive to emerging needs.

Building a Balanced Funding Base



Our revenue profile continues to evolve in line with our strategic direction.

Government funding provides a foundation for national program delivery, particularly in large-scale initiatives. Partnerships and sponsorships extend our reach and enable new work.

Philanthropic support and community donations remain essential to maintaining independence. Alongside this, earned income is contributing more meaningfully to long-term sustainability.

This balanced approach reduces reliance on any single income source and strengthens our capacity to operate with both stability and flexibility.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Financial Position and Accountability

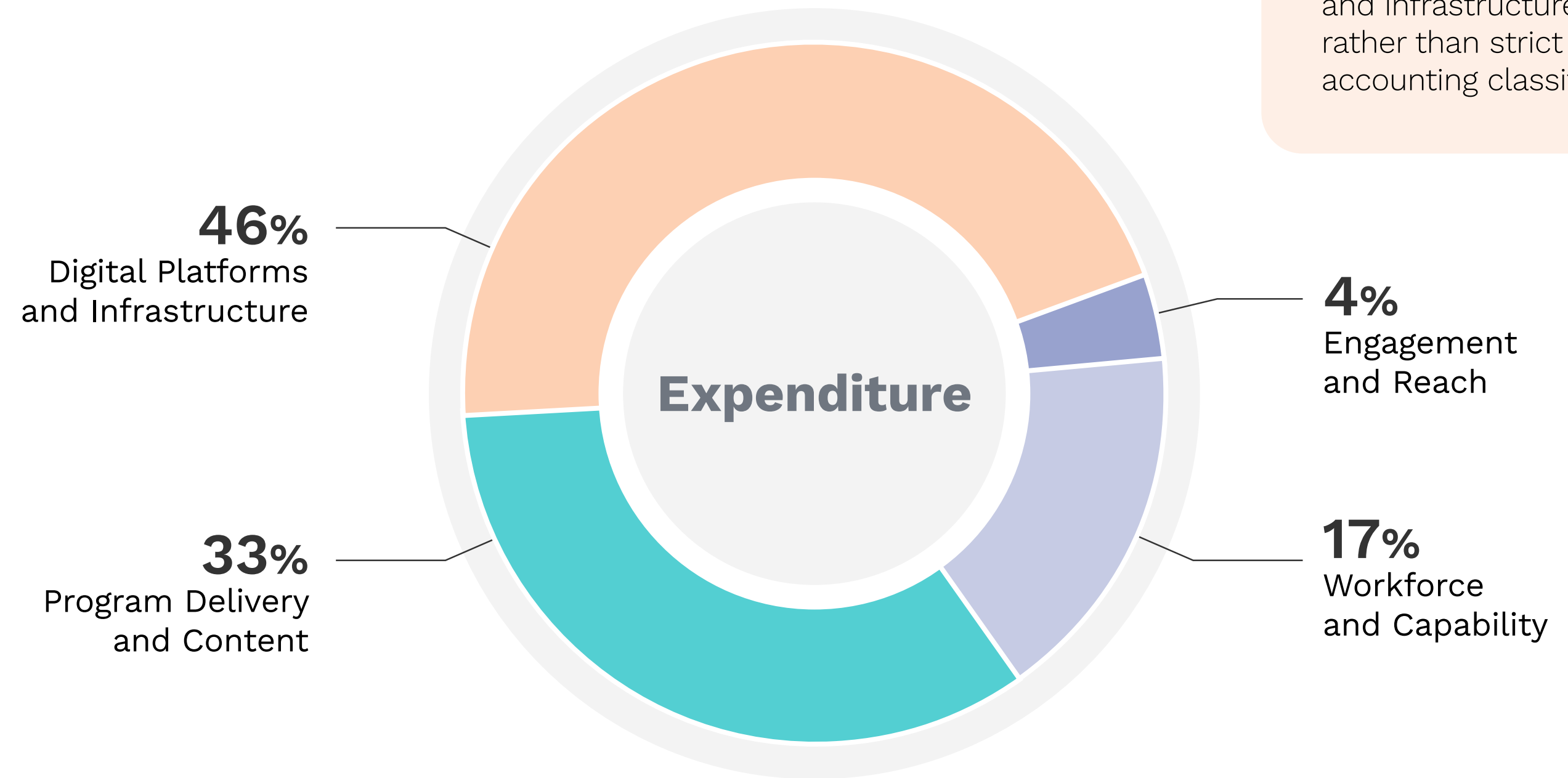
Autism Awareness Australia remains financially stable, underpinned by disciplined cost management and a clear focus on sustainable growth.

We continue to balance immediate program delivery with longer-term investment in infrastructure and capability, recognising that meaningful impact requires both.

Transparency remains central to how we operate. All funds are managed responsibly and directed towards activities that deliver meaningful impact for autistic people and their families.

Our financial statements are independently audited each year and lodged with the ACNC. Audited statements are available on request.

Investing in Impact and Capability



Categories reflect how the organisation invests in delivery, capability and infrastructure, rather than strict accounting classifications.

Our expenditure reflects a deliberate shift towards investment in capability, infrastructure and national delivery.

As a knowledge-driven organisation, our primary investment is in people. This includes the expertise required to design evidence-informed content, lead national engagement, and deliver high-quality programs at scale.

We continue to invest in digital platforms that enable us to reach large audiences across Australia.

Administrative and operational costs remain tightly managed and are essential to maintaining strong governance, compliance and organisational resilience.

As we grow, our focus remains on ensuring that increased investment translates into greater reach and impact.



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