



QATSIF

Building Tomorrow's leaders

Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation Annual Report 2013-2014



QUEENSLAND ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FOUNDATION

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We acknowledge the Traditional owners of this land and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

We also honour the source of QATSIF funding knowing that this remains a source of deep pain for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We congratulate QATSIF Scholarship recipients and encourage you to continue to honour the legacy of your traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ancestors

A NOTE FROM OUR PATRON

Aunty Ruth Hegarty

After having accepted the position of Patron of QATSIF I was rather sceptical, at first, about taking the position, having been one of the forerunners in the fight for the Stolen Wages and a worker robbed of the benefits of our wages. There was a feeling of guilt; however the position of Patron has given me the opportunity to see how the distribution of the funds is being made.

I have carefully followed the dedicated work that gives great meaning to the lives (now hundreds) of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from all over Queensland. It is my honour to continue to support the Scholarships and the students who are helped to achieve results that would otherwise be beyond their expectations.

Our fight for justice has not failed us and I am optimistic that the future is in good hands. Our youth will not fail us!

Aunty Ruth Hegarty is an Aboriginal Elder, published author and advocate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in Queensland. In 2014 she was awarded an honorary doctorate from the Australian Catholic University for her tireless work in education.



Published Works by Aunty Ruth Hegarty:

Hegarty, Ruth, 1999. *Is That You Ruthie?* Brisbane: University of Queensland Press

Hegarty, Ruth, 2003. *Bittersweet Journey.* Brisbane: University of Queensland Press

Hegarty, Ruth, 2011. *Jack's Story: The Life and Times of a Cherbourg Dormitory Boy as told to Ruth Hegarty.* Taigum: Yubuna Munya

Hegarty, Ruth, 2014. *Suffer the Children.* Taigum: Yubuna Munya



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

"We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land in Queensland and pay respect to Elders, past present and in the future.

We acknowledge the source of QATSIF funds and pay respect to Elders and all those painfully affected by past policies. We reflect on the endurance that has brought us this far."

The Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation was formally set up at the end of 2008 after a very long journey of pain and anguish around the "Stolen Wages" for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

When I was asked to take on the role of Chair I kept remembering that I personally was supported by a scholarship in my senior education and this has given me a career and a life today which contributed greatly to where I am today..

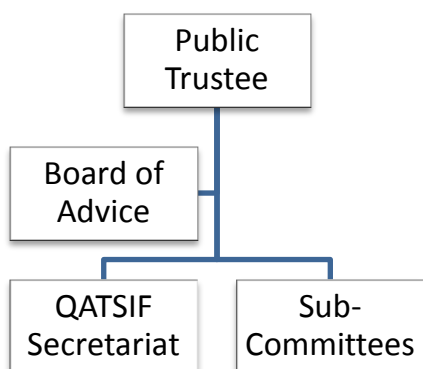
We are witnessing an extraordinary change in the way that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are supported in secondary schools. I see schools embracing culture and the students. I see a shift from the model of the student who is doomed to failure and isolated in the school environment and feeling culturally down, to a celebration of success. Whilst we can say that the QATSIF journey is a good one, the credit belongs to the students and the hardworking schools behind you. Parents are embracing QATSIF

I am enormously proud that six years later, QATSIF Students, teachers, the Public Trustee, Community Members all share the educational dream and vision and work closely for the benefit of the students many more of whom are now completing Year 12 – because of QATSIF. QATSIF won't ever lose sight of Stolen Wages but is totally committed to doing all within our power to "close the gap" on disadvantage. We can't change history but we can change the future and the future is education and our young people.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'CShannon'.

Professor Cindy Shannon, Chair QATSIF Board of Advice

OUR GOVERNANCE



The Public Trustee

The Public Trustee of Queensland is the Trustee of the Foundation. As independent trustee, he is responsible for ensuring the administration of the Foundation in accordance with the terms of the Trust Deed.

The Board of Advice

The Trustee is assisted by a Board of Advice, who provides strategic direction for the Foundation, and advises the Trustee on the application of Trust Funds.



Professor Cindy Shannon (Chairperson)

Professor Shannon has made a significant and extensive contribution to health policy including working on maternal, foetal and infant health in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders communities including dealing with difficult issues such as drug and alcohol abuse and homelessness. Ms Shannon brings to the Board her experience in the community, her extensive network within the sector, and views of Indigenous people in rural, remote and urban settings.



Mr Rod Jensen (co-chair)

Rod Jensen is an Indigenous Australian whose heritage is in the Torres Strait. Rod has a B/Ed primary with a major in Health and Physical Education; he is currently studying a Masters in Research Methodology. Rod has worked as a teacher in the Catholic and Anglican dioceses as well as the state system. Rod has previously been a professional athlete having played in the National Rugby league, the British Super League, the New South Wales Premier League and Intrust Super Cup - representing both states at the resident level. Rod also represented in the Indigenous Dreamtime team at the 2008 World Cup.



Mr Joshua Creamer

Joshua Creamer is Wannyi and Kalkadoon. He is currently practising as a Barrister in Brisbane. His practise areas include Native Title and Mining. Joshua is the President of the Indigenous Lawyers Association of Queensland. He is the current Chairman of Titans 4 Tomorrow and is a part owner in Regional Economic Solutions.



Dr Grace Sarra

Grace Sarra is presently a Senior Lecturer at the Queensland University of Technology in the Education faculty and a researcher within the QUT YuMi Deadly Centre. Dr Sarra is of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage. Her mother is of Aboriginal (Birrigubba) and South Sea Islander descent and her father is of Torres Strait Islander heritage from the Central Islands (Mauar) in the Torres Strait. She has been teaching in schools and universities for over 20 years and completed her Doctor of Creative Industries at QUT. Her interests are in the area of Indigenous education with a particular focus on school change and leadership, social justice and inclusive education.



Mr Mark Brand

Mark has worked with privately owned and publicly listed companies in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria, as well as closely with Government for more than 20 years. He is a broadly experienced manager with strategic and operational experience in the technical, consulting, human resources and not-for-profit sectors. He has visited and engaged with a number of Aboriginal communities, particularly on Cape York since 2004 and seeks to contribute towards improved educational outcomes and the growth of the Foundation.

QATSIF scholarships are motivators for success at PBC as they have given our students the opportunity for leadership and Indigenous pride within our school community due to the significance of past generations. Our QATSIF Recipients as role models reinforce aspirations for our Murri Jarjum students to have high expectations for attendance, academic performance and retention to enable them to be a worthy QATSIF Recipient in the Senior School.

Wendy Wise, Head of Department Education Access Centre at Palm Beach Currumbin State High School

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Mission

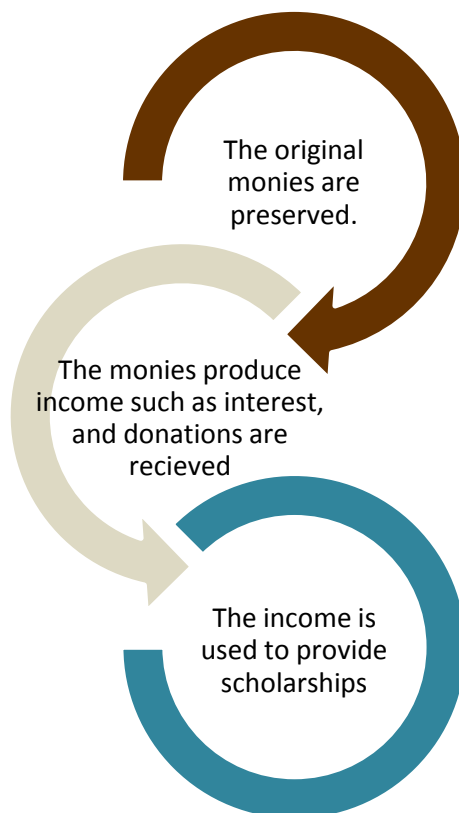
QATSIF has been established to support the education of Indigenous young people in Queensland.

History

QATSIF was formally launched on 25 November 2008 with a deed signing ceremony and announcement of the Board of Advice Members at Queensland Parliament House.

QATSIF was established with principal funding of \$25.8 million from the former Aborigines Welfare Fund and unspent monies from the Indigenous Wages and Savings Reparations Scheme

Donations and *interest* earned on the principle funding are used to provide scholarships for Years 11 and 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in Queensland.



“My grandmother and grandfather had their wages withdrawn and although this does not change what was wrong, at least something valuable is coming back to our family and our people through this scholarship for our son.”

OUR SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are provided to students through collaboration between the Foundation, the school, the student and his/her family, and members of the Community. This collaboration is fundamental to the success of the program, and ensures that each student understands the source of their scholarship, is committed to making the most of the scholarship opportunity, and has the support from family and Community members to help them achieve their Year 12 Queensland Certificate of Education.

In order to be awarded a scholarship, students must demonstrate consistently high school attendance, diligence in achieving positive academic outcomes, cultural pride, school participation and the prospect of achieving a Queensland Certificate of Education by the end of Year 12.

"My QATSIF scholarship has helped me and my family with the cost of moving from Hopevale to boarding school. At school I have been doing the ranger program, where I do a Certificate II in land management. Next year, I hope to return back to my community and get a job working as a ranger."

Gerrard Deemal is a 17year old student from Hopevale in the Cape York and has been a boarder at St Teresa's College, Abergowrie since 2010.

"I have been fortunate enough to be a recipient of a QATSIF scholarship for senior schooling. This funding has been beneficial for my schooling as I am able to use it to pay for new uniforms, school shoes, books/ pens and school excursions as well as other school expenses."



Ric Flemming – Centenary Heights State High School

OUR STUDENTS

Celebrating culture



QATSIF supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students to celebrate culture with pride and commitment. QATSIF uses every opportunity possible to remind QATSIF students of the often harsh working conditions of their ancestors who have made today's QATSIF scholarships possible. Students are reminded that past injustices continue to cause pain and that as today's Scholarship Recipients through their academic efforts and outcomes their families, past and present can be proud. The historical nature of QATSIF motivates Scholarship Recipients to honour their Ancestors whose legacy of toil and unpaid work has created significant educational opportunities within their own story of being part of Australia's rich Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander culture.

Celebrating achievement

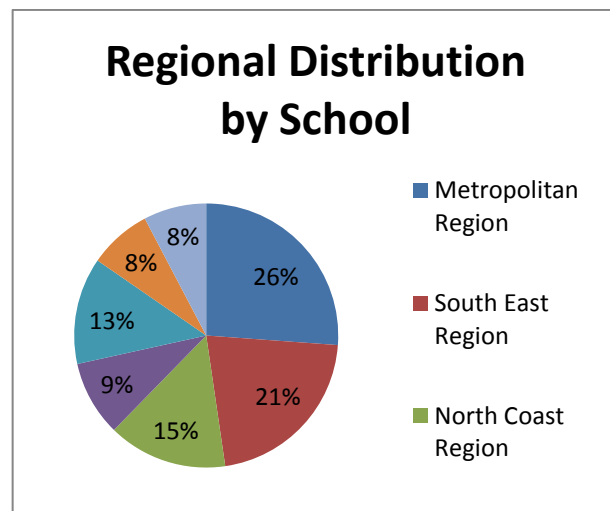
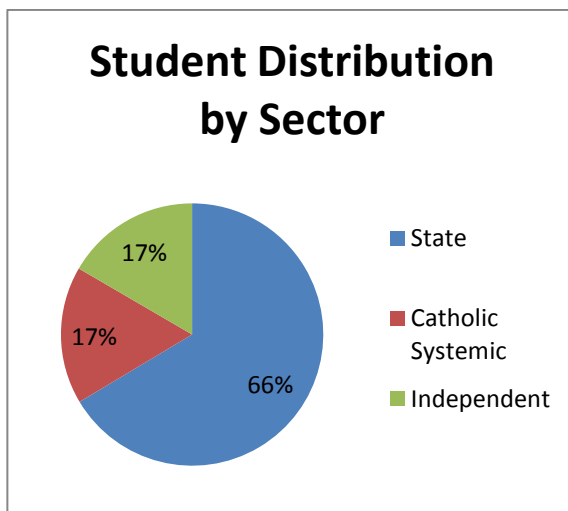
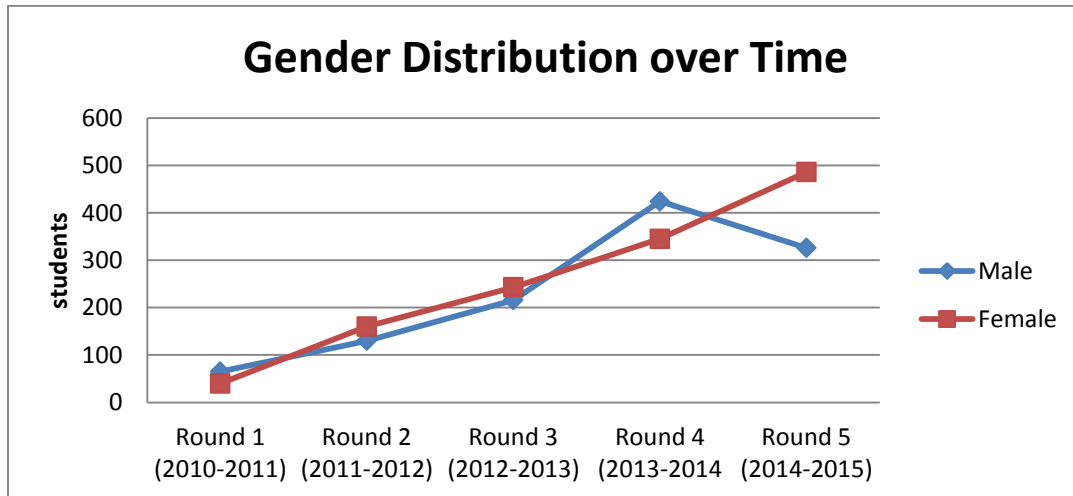
AS the QATSIF network of Queensland Schools, Scholarship Recipients and their families has grown and developed, so too has there been an increase in the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students completing Year 12 with their Queensland Certificate of Education and moving into tertiary studies

Amy Weatherall, a Kamilaroi descendant began as a QATSIF student in 2013 when she was in Year 11 at Marymount College. In 2013 Amy had the opportunity to work in Sydney with Bangarra Dance Theatre, a company which produces contemporary Indigenous dance theatre. Amy has been sharing her culture through contemporary Aboriginal Dance since. Amy is also very keen to support fellow Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students within her school community. She assisted in setting up a successful communication system at Marymount College which enables the "Marymount Mob" to have an enhanced sense of belonging within the school community. Amy also has been instrumental in fundraising initiatives to support remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary school students.





The QATSIF Scholarship program with unmatched reach that includes both male and female students from rural, regional and metropolitan areas around Queensland, studying in State, Catholic and Independent schools.



QATSIF has strong and credible relationships with 175 Queensland Secondary Schools in the Government, Catholic and Independent School Sectors from as far North as Thursday Island down the East Coast to Brisbane, West to Mt Isa and South to the Gold Coast – and in between.

2013-14 SCHOLARSHIPS



Albany Creek State High School
Alexandra Hills State High School
All Hallows School Brisbane
Aquinas College Ashmore
Aspley State High School
Balmoral State High School
Beaudesert State High School
Beenleigh State High School
Biloela State High School
Boonah State High School
Bray Park State High School
Bremer State High School
Brigidine College
Brisbane Bayside State College
Brisbane School of Distance Education
Brisbane State High School
Browns Plains State High School
Bundaberg North State High School
Bundamba State Secondary College
Burnett State College
Calamvale Community College
Caloundra State High School
Capalaba State College
Carinity Education – Southside Sunnybank
Carmel College Thornlands

Cavendish Road State High School Coorparoo
Centenary Heights State High School
Chanel College Gladstone
Charters Towers State High School
Chisholm Catholic College
Clayfield College
Cleveland District State High School
Clifton State High School
Coolum State High School
Corinda State High School
Cunnamulla State School
Dakabin State High School
Djarragun College Gordonvale
Downlands College Toowoomba
Emmaus College Jimboomba
Fairholme College Toowoomba
Faith Lutheran College – Plainland
Flagstone State Community College Calamvale
Forest Lake State High School
Gilroy Santa Maria College Ingham
Glenala State High School Inala
Good Counsel College Innisfail

Good Shepherd Catholic College Mt Isa
Heights College Rockhampton
Iona College Lindum
Ipswich Girls' Grammar School
Ipswich State High School
Isis District State High School
Kingston College
Kirwan State High School
Laidley State High School
Lourdes Hill College Hawthorne
Mabel Park State High School
MacGregor State High School
Maroochydore State High School
Marsden State High School
Mary Mackillop College Nundah
Maryborough State High School
Marymount College Burleigh Heads
Meridan State College Caloundra
Miles State High School
Mitchelton State High School
Morayfield State High School
Mount Alvernia College Kedron
Mt Maria College Petrie
Mt St Bernard College Herberton
Mt St Michael's College



Murgon State High School
Nanango State High School
Narangba Valley State High School
North Lakes State College
North Rockhampton State High School
Pacific Pines State High School Gold Coast
Palm Beach-Currumbin State High School
Park Ridge State High School
Peace Lutheran College
Pine Rivers State High School
Proserpine State High School
Redbank Plains State High School
Rockhampton Girls' Grammar School
Rockhampton State High School
Saint Mary's Catholic College Kingaroy
San Sisto College Carina
Shalom College Bundaberg
Spinifex State College – Mount Isa Education and Training Precinct
Springfield Central State High School

St Andrew's Catholic College Redlynch
St Anthony's Catholic College Mareeba
St Brendan's College Yeppoon
St Edmunds College Ipswich
St Eugene's College Burpengary
St Francis College Marsden
St Hilda's School Southport
St James College Brisbane
St Margaret Mary's College Hyde Park
St Mary's Catholic College Woree
St Mary's College Ipswich
St Monica's College Cairns
St Patrick's College Gympie
St Patrick's College Mackay
St Patrick's College Shorncliffe
St Patrick's College Townsville
St Peter Claver College Riverview
St Saviour's College Toowoomba
St Stephen's Catholic College Mareeba
St Teresa's Catholic College Noosaville
St Teresa's Catholic College Abergowrie

St Thomas More College Sunnybank
St Ursula's College Toowoomba
Stanthorpe State High School
Sunnybank State High School
Sunshine Coast Grammar School
Tagai State College Thursday Island
Tannum Sands State High School
The Cathedral College Rockhampton
Toolooa State High School
Toowoomba Grammar School
Toowoomba State High School (Lofty Campus)
Toowoomba State High School (Wilsonton Campus)
Townsville State High School
Tullawong State High School
Unity College Caloundra
Victoria Point State High School
Wavell State High School
Woodcrest State College Springfield
Woodridge State High School
Woree State High School
Xavier Catholic College Hervey Bay
Yeronga State High School

“As a Principal of St Peter Claver I wanted to also say how appreciative I am of the support QATSIF has been for our students. In 2013 one of our Torres Strait Islander Students was the first student to receive a scholarship to attend Australian Catholic University to study teaching. This just would not have happened without the QATSIF Support.”

Diarmuid O’Riordan – Principal, St Peter Claver College

2014 Review

With the commencement of Round 5 of the QCE QATSIF Scholarship program, the total of approved QATSIF Scholarships was 2041 in 172 Queensland Secondary Schools. Given that the first year of QATSIF operations in 2010 commenced with 117 students in 17 secondary schools throughout Queensland, the growth of QATSIF as a credible, effective scholarship program is significant.

Round 6 opened for applications from schools in July and closed in September.

In July 2014, with sincere gratitude to the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health for their hospitality in enabling QATSIF to co-locate for the past three and half years, the QATSIF Secretariat moved to our own office location at 2/301 Water Street Fortitude Valley.

Where possible, QATSIF Secretariat Staff have been eager to assist QATSIF schools with school visits, input to Guidance Officer and school staff meetings as well as gatherings of Elders.

In addition to the Brisbane New Recipients' and Graduation Breakfasts, Laidley State High School also hosted a QATSIF/NAIDOC Celebration for the third successive year and for the first time a similar celebration was held for Toowoomba QATSIF Schools at St Saviour's College Toowoomba. 2014 also saw expansion in the celebratory aspect of QATSIF with a second Year 12 Graduation celebration held at St Augustine's College Cairns for Cairns and neighbouring QATSIF schools.

The work of QATSIF Schools in the local administration of the QATSIF Program remains a significant strength. There are many "hands on" Principals with equally "hands on" Personal Assistants, passionate teachers, Business Managers and inspiring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Support Officers, Teacher Aides and Community Education Counsellors who have become our valued colleagues in the delivery of the QCE QATSIF Scholarship Program.

"QATSIF has assisted me with my school activities. During my years at Abergowrie I have become involved in the College Dance Troupe. I have been able to travel to many events locally, regionally and state-wide. QATSIF has supported me to be proud of my culture. Esso QATSIF."

Zachariah from Yam Island in the Torres Strait is a year 12 student from St Teresa's College, Abergowrie and will this year graduate with the class of 2014.





GET INVOLVED IN 2015

QATSIF is striving to play its part in 'closing the gap' in Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander education. Data in Queensland has shown that Indigenous students are significantly less likely to achieve the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) compared to their non-Indigenous peers. To help turn these results around, QATSIF has created the *QCE Scholarship Program* which provides two-years of funding to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students starting in year 11.

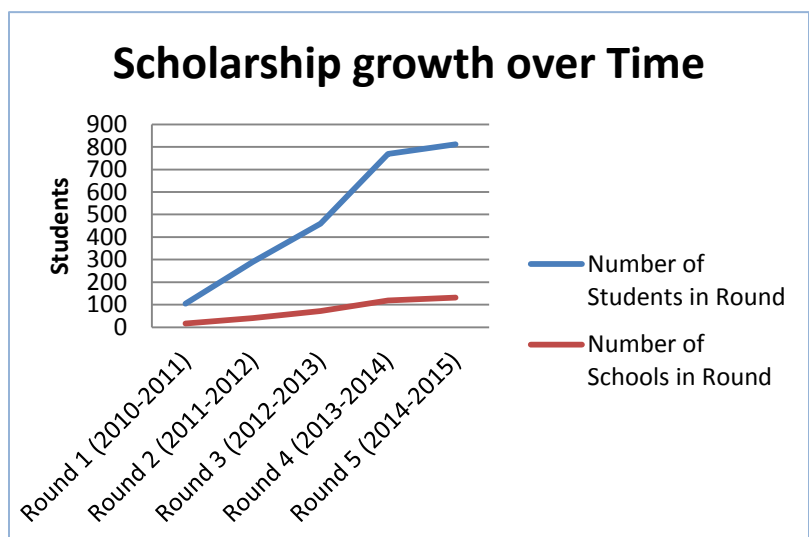
In five rounds, the Trustee has approved more than \$7Million in scholarships for more than 2500 students. The results of the program have been outstanding, with a recent evaluation showing that 80% of schools have reported an increase in their retention and graduation rates for Indigenous students.

This extraordinary success creates a new challenge for the Foundation: How will we satisfy the growing need? You can help by making your tax deductible donation today to the Foundation or making provision for the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation in your Will.

In 2015 the Board of Advice will be seeking major funding partners who can assist the Foundation in continuing its proven successful program, and providing for its ongoing future success.

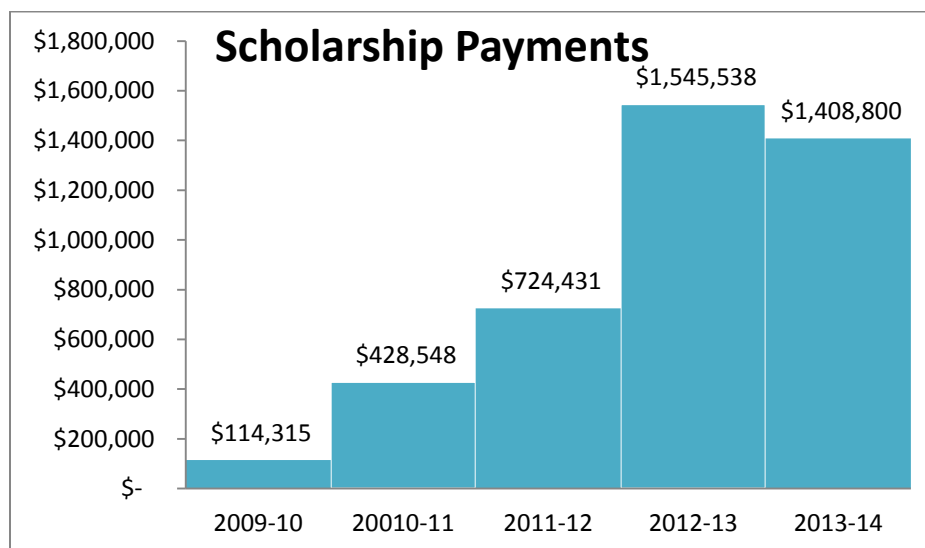
**Want more information
about how you can get
involved?**

Contact the Office today!

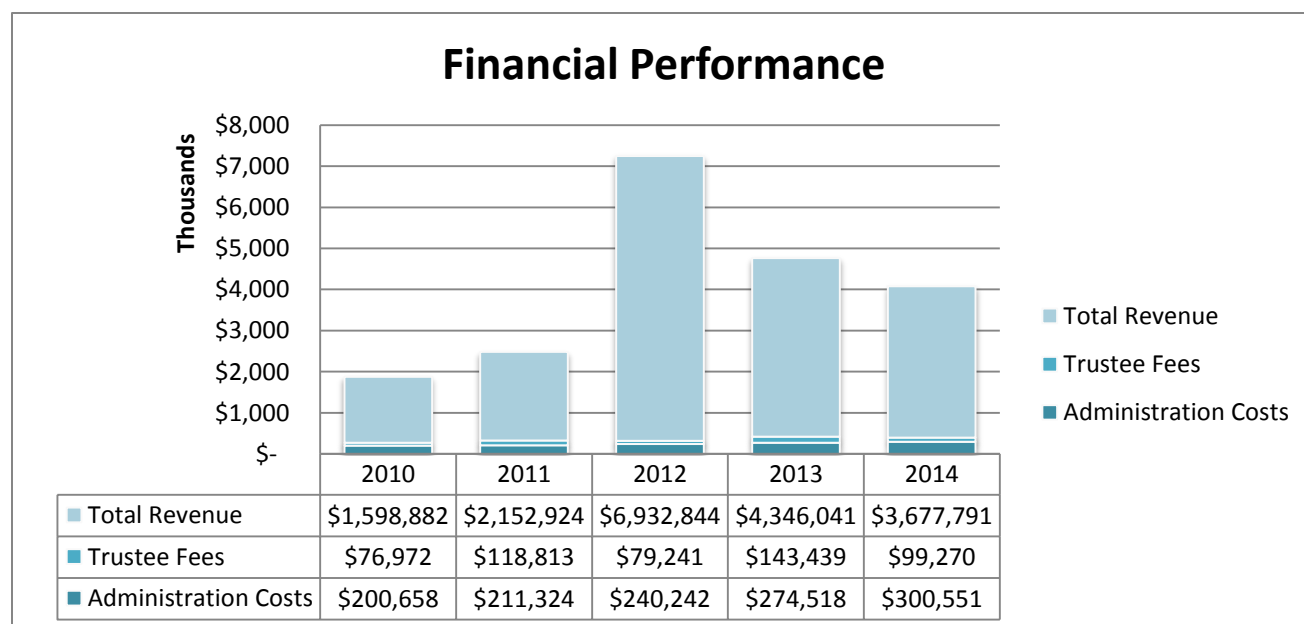


2013-14 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

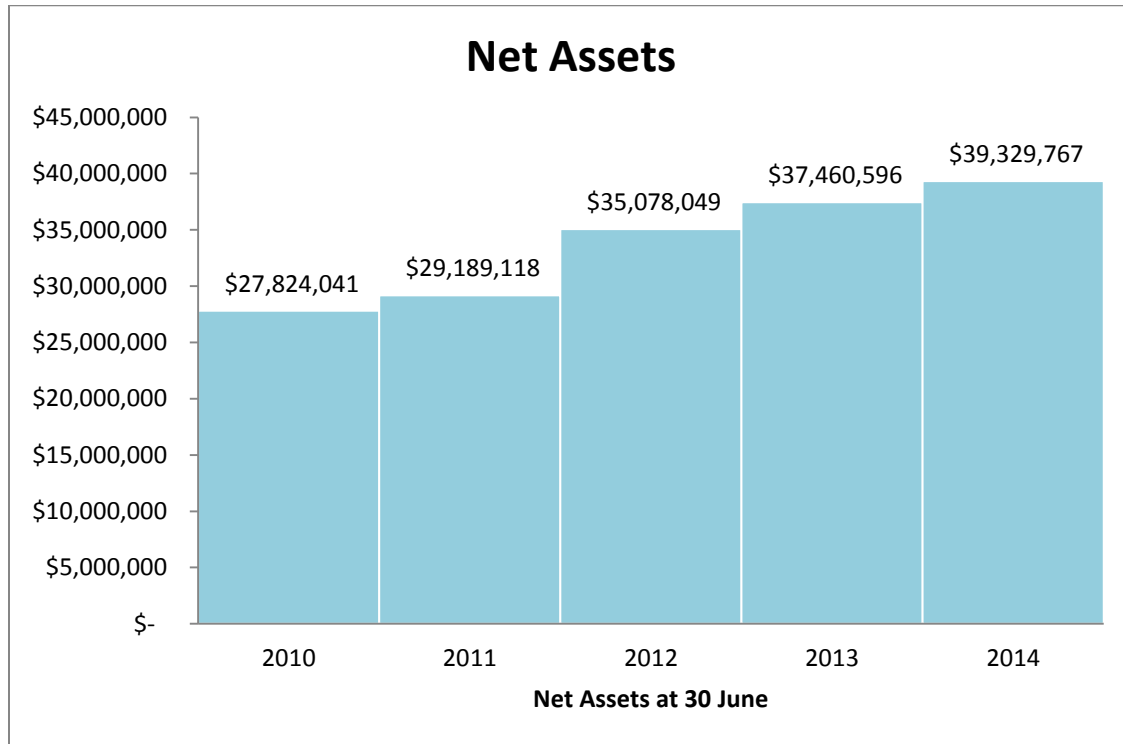
In addition to more than \$1.4 Million paid during the year, at 30 June 2014 the Trustee had approved a further \$2,162,412 in scholarship grants approved and due to be paid in the 2015 and 2016 financial years.



The Foundation has continued to perform strongly, with administration costs for the 2013-14 year representing only 0.8% of funds under management.



Position



Net Assets of the foundation at 30 June 2014 was \$39,329,767

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



QATSIF is grateful for the support of:

- *Queensland QATSIF Schools*
- *Arrow Energy*
- *The Institute for Urban Indigenous Health*
- *The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs*
- *Ozdoc*

for the support that has enabled the QATSIF Board of Advice and Secretariat to work with the Public Trustee of Queensland in providing scholarships to young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Years 11 and 12 students in secondary schools throughout Queensland.

Established to securely fund and assist young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders in their senior years of education, QATISF has personally relieved my family financially which has been greatly beneficial. By being provided with the assistance that QATSIF has offered me, I have been able to receive in my senior years at Brigidine, a quality education and obtain help whenever I require it.

Shelby Ware Year 11 Brigidine College Student