# We're serious about Con-We're really serious.

2021 Impact Report





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Flying Fox provides experiences that connect hundreds of young people with and without disability.

## 1. The Need

Flying Fox is more important than ever. We talk a big game about the fun we provide, but really we exist to tackle social isolation. To create a sense of belonging for people with disability. To build community.



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Well, the world has certainly gone a bit nuts! Covid has thrown us in and out of lockdowns, bringing instability to our lives and uncertainty to our future. We've all spent too much on flour, toilet paper and two-minute noodles. And at one point or another, we've all panicked a little (or a lot). But in the midst of the Covid chaos, Flying Fox was a stable staple in the lives of our Campers and Buddies. For so many, the weekly Hangouts on Zoom offered connection in the face of loneliness, and enjoyment in a world where not much joy was being had.

We were extremely fortunate to have been able to run camps all year round – a spontaneous Feb Camp, two Camp Wings in the winter holidays, and two Camp Sababas all playing out in the precious days between lockdowns.

We made the most of Tova House, running weekend Shortz whenever possible. We pivoted to offer Covid-safe adapted Shortz getaways, featuring masks, cleaning products and of course, lots of laughter.

Thanks to 888 fans who donated in our December fundraising campaign, our incredible community united to help us buy our second house to meet demand. Yes! We'll soon have two houses meaning double the Shortz weekends away. And double the fun. Whoop!

We've achieved so much even as the world told us to hunker down. We've provided meaningful connections and non-stop enjoyment for our community all year round.

This past year has shown the strength of our Flying Fox community, and we're incredibly excited about where this passion will take us in 2022. We invite you to join our journey!

Dean Cohen

CEO, Flying Fox



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# 2. Our Why

We exist to provide social opportunities for young people with disability.

We exist to empower young people and equip them with the skills to build an inclusive world.

We do it with love, creativity, energy and passion.







### Navigating our way through COVID & lockdowns.



Our programs are awesome. COVID made them awesomer (that's a word, right?).



We jumped on board the virtual train and got together with over 300 Campers and Buddies on Zoom for countless hours of fun together.

500 young adults with and without disability came together for our camps this year. And the opportunity to be in-person made the fun even sweeter than usual!

# WAY OUT

We managed to run every single one of our planned camps. WOOHOO!!!!

YING FOX

In between lockdowns, we got together for in-person catchups and made the most of the opportunity to be in each other's real-life presence!

# 3. Programs Programs that enhance lives.

Flying Fox programs offer Campers and Buddies a range of fun-filled experiences and connection in a warm, safe and supportive environment.





CAMP WINGS AND CAMP SABABA

Sleep-away camps for young people with disability. Participants are supported by Flying Fox trained volunteer Buddies as well as professional support staff.



SOCS supports siblings of young people with disability. SOCS provides an opportunity to connect with others who share a similar life experience in a supportive, friendly fun-filled environment.

Fun + Youth Led + Social Connection + Inspiring Inclusion = Flying Fox



### SHORTZ

Weekend getaways for small groups of young people with disability. Usually hosted at our very own home Tova House, these weekend getaways are spent at the local cafe, playing games, singing karaoke, and just hanging out as a bunch of mates.



# GIANT FOX

This year we joined forces with our fabulous friends at Giant Steps to host a camp for the whole school! Our collaboration provided an amazing camp experience for the students and we can't wait to evolve this partnership further in the future.





#### CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

We strive to adapt to meet the needs and interests of our Campers and Buddies. This year we received requests for a holiday program, so we delivered! Campers and Buddies were able to sign up for the activities that interested them most, creating their own personalised package of holiday fun.



### HANGOUTS

Hangouts is a weekly get together to do what we do best... make friends and have fun! It's an opportunity to spend time out in the community, reinforcing the friendships built on camp, and developing our social skills.

### 4. Impact

These numbers reflect the awesome individuals who benefit from our programs, shape our community, contribute to our growth and, of course, have a whole lot of fun!





#### **CAMPER PLACES FILLED**

2018	2019	2020-2021 <b>630</b>						
BUDDY PLACE								
485	<sup>2019</sup>	2020-2021 <b>762</b>						
HANGOUTS (2020-2021)								
NO. OF HANGOUTS	BUDDY SPOTS 2,500	CAMPER SPOTS						
TRAINING & EDUCATION PROGRAMS								
2018	2019	2020-2021 <b>29</b>						











Dean Cohen Founder and CEO



**Tayla Cohen** General Manager, Fundraising and Community Engagement



Jordan Wise Strategic Communications Intern

# We are *passionate*, energetic and relentless in our pursuit of inclusion.









Olivia Sandler General Manager, Participants



Julia Kretzmer Participant Coordinator



Casey Rosengarten Participant Coordinator





**Zac Blum** General Manager, Volunteers



Bunny Rose Volunteer Coordinator



**BUDDY TEAM** 

Brody Velleman Volunteer Coordinator



Bianca Sher Volunteer Coordinator

# PROGRAM TEAM



**Ricki Sher** General Manager, Programs



Dan Abraham Nursing Consultant



Carly Glasser Camp Logistics Coordinator



**Noah Kay** Camp Logistics Coordinator

Our team is committed to making the world a better place and to doing it with massive smiles on our faces.

<u>5. Team</u>

# OUR BOARD



Amanda Coombs

(Chair)

Chair & Executive Director, Financial Markets & Private Banking Leader, Founding School Director, Angel Investor, Disability Champion Our advisors and mentors do an amazing job. They make sure that we manage the big-ticket items like risk and finance. They are also visionaries - shaping the long-term growth of the organisation and dreaming of a more inclusive world.



Nicky Carp

Co-Founder, UHG; Director, Prac Advisory; Director, Inspire Impact Disability Housing Fund



Sam Herszberg

Owner, H5 Group



Rochelle Serry

Founder, ThinkHatch; VCCC Steering Group



Simon Faivel

Consulting Director, SVA; Chair, SIMNA; Co-Chair, SVI



Jessica Stimson

Communications Advisor, Parent to Flying Fox Camper



Ruby Steinberg

(Board Observer) Clinical Psychology Masters Student



Steph Aitken

**(Board Observer)** Law Graduate, Arnold Bloch Leibler



Justin Joffe

**(Secretary)** Co-Founder, Flux

# PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT STAFF

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Our amazing team of legends play an incredibly important role in our organisation.





# Sunshine in human form



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Like many others, Flying Fox is my comfortable happy place. The meaningful connections and exciting activities that take place magically wedge a balance between empowerment and enjoyment; generating an environment of confidence, love and happiness for both Buddies and Campers.

- Flying Fox Buddy



# 7. Stories

# Our stories tell of joyful experiences, growth and accomplishment.



Hearing first-hand from the families, Buddies and Campers we support is the best way to learn how our work, and your contribution, is making a difference.

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"I can't thank Flying Fox enough for the programs being run throughout Covid. Although my son has struggled online he is so happy when he sees everyone's faces on Zoom and can't wait to be able to come on in-person programs again soon!"



"From the moment my son joined Flying Fox he never felt judged and could be completely himself."

7. Stories

"Thanks again for having my son at camp and for supporting him in amazing activities that he wouldn't normally have a chance to experience. We appreciate everyone's kindness, support, and can do attitude. You all create a much better world to live in, especially for the Campers."

"Firstly can I say a huge thank you to the Flying Fox team for all you are doing to keep the kids social and happy during Covid. You guys are amazing, you really are the best ! I know my son doesn't always participate but I see what you are doing with the other kids and it really makes me smile."



# 99

"Thanks so much. My son loved camp! He can't communicate or tell us much but I know that he was excited about going, had no fears and was so happy when he returned.

l loved getting the photos, texts and facebook updates - because he can't talk much it was the best way for me to understand the camp experience.

And to see the amazing smile on his face all the activities – I could just tell he was having a wonderful time."

# 8. Highlights

# VANCE JOY

As you know, we love making friends. And in 2021, we made friends with an awesome and very generous musician, Vance Joy. We will be eternally thankful to him for giving us so much of his time and support, from fundraising through his virtual concerts to visiting us on camp. This new friendship has been so uplifting!

Thank you to the one and only Vance Joy for being our best friend!



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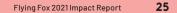
**TOVA HOUSE** 

A person's home is their castle...and Tova House is ours. We certainly feel like royalty having our very own magical space to visit every weekend!



We obviously needed some wheels to transport us on all of our fun adventures. As always, our community helped out and provided us with an amazing resource - Bus Lightyear at your service.

Thanks to the amazing Variety Children's Charity and WM Waste Management we got our very own bus!



voriety Sunshine Coach

FLYING FOX

# 9. The Future The future is bright!

#### We adapted to our new reality

Our key purpose is to build community and break down barriers – a priority that's even more important with the isolating impact of Covid. We worked swiftly to ensure that we tick every Covid-safe checkbox to continue to make the Flying Fox magic happen for our Campers, Buddies and families.

#### We need to grow!

We have an extensive waiting list of amazing individuals who are excited to join our Flying Fox family. But how do we grow and still maintain the individualised care we give to everyone involved?

Well, we need to upskill our staff, bring on additional team members, and continue to improve our processes. We have done all of that this year and we're getting ready for a big leap forward.



Thank you to the 888 members of the Flying Fox family for turning our dreams into a reality. House 2.0 is on the way!



## 10. Financials

#### Profit and Loss 2021\*

#### Income

Programs		550,028
General Donations	\$	460,417
Tova House & House 2.0 Donations **	\$	375,316
Grants	\$	74,305
Other Revenue	\$	8,211
Total Income	\$	1,468,277

#### Expenses

Staff Costs	\$ 558,438
Programs Costs	\$ 211,408
Administration Costs	\$ 165,045
Finance, Insurance & Depreciation Costs	\$ 14,867
Occupancy Costs	107,298
Total Expenses	\$ 1,057,056
Surplus	\$ 411,221
Surplus after deducting capital donations ***	\$ 35,905

#### **Annotations:**

\* These accounts are unaudited.

\*\*Some funds from the House 2.0 Campaign will be received over multiple financial years.

\*\*\*Surplus from 2021 to be used for House 2.0 Purchase in 2022.



In the Covid world, we have learnt the word 'prudent'. We have quickly adapted our budgets and expenditure based on the ever-changing circumstances around us.

Our effective management in 2021 means we are in a strong financial position to impact even more members of the Flying Fox community in 2022 and beyond.

In 2021, we were grateful to receive ongoing support from extremely generous members of the Flying Fox family. The support of our community has helped us continue to provide amazing programs for our existing community but also assisted us towards purchase of House 2.0 so that we can run even more programs and create more impact.

Please note: during this period, Flying Fox shifted from Financial Year reporting to Calendar Year reporting.



# 11. Supporters

Friendship is offering the last TimTam in the pack, getting picked up from the airport, and being quietly told you have spinach in your teeth.

#### We love our friends

We are grateful for every dollar you provide, every minute you spend with us and every helpful piece of advice. We are grateful to every single one of you and all that you bring to our Flying Fox community.

HERO The **Shine On** Foundation



- Dorman Family Foundation
- Fouress Foundation
- Gary & Kristin Neiman & Family
- Jack & Robert Smorgon Families Foundation
- Krongold Family

- Paul S. Nadler Family Trust
- **River Capital Foundation**
- Sony Foundation
- The Cher Family Foundation
- Victor Smorgon Foundation

### ~~~~ SUPERSTARS ~~~~~

- Adrian & Hilary Cohen & Family
- Catch.com.au
- CCIG Capital
- Christopoulos Family
- Dodge Family Foundation
- Epstein Charitable Foundation
- Finkel Foundation
- Gandur Family Foundation Pty Ltd
- Glasser Family
- Moran & Gill Dvir
- Ocean Made Seafood
- Ruth Hoffman & Peter Halstead & Family
- Samantha Gabriel & Family
- Selwyn & Linda Cohen & Family
- Simone & Jonathan Wenig & Family
- Zagame Automotive Group

# (j) Thank you

### ~~~~ CHEER SQUAD ~~~~~

- Abe Zelwer
- · Acresgrove Pty Ltd
- Adam & Elana Rosenberg
- · Aimee & Paul Southwick
- Amanda Coombs
- Amy Lipshutz
- Andrew and Natalie Bassat
- Anna Serry
- Anthony Fell
- Ashlee Glasser & Noah Epstein
- Ashley Krongold
- Avi Gilboa
- Barry Bloom & Family
- Beaconsfield Family
- Ben Mand
- Berlinski Family
- Bernie & Melma Hamersfeld
- Bianca Stern
- BlueH20
- Brett Sacks & Ashleigh de Winter
- BSP Lawyers
- Bursztyn Family
- Buttons Support Services
- Connie Kimberly
- Consiglio Family
- Coote Family Lawyers

- Daniel Bierenkrant
- David & Lilly Harris
- David Moffatt
- David Smorgon
- Dean & Jenna Cohen
- Dean Joel
- Dentists of East Melbourne
- Dina Goldschlager
- Ede Horton
- · Elissa Feldman & Family
- Ella & Ben Kohn
- Emma Rzesniowiecki
- Executive Edge Travel
- Gary Peer & Associates
- GBH Lower Kinder Gimmel
- Goldschlager Family Charitable Foundation
- Grant Roberts
- Hamersfeld Family
- Helen & Bernard Carp
- Jacob & Debbie Weinmann
- James Vivian Dermal Therapies
- Jeanne Pratt
- Jessica & Karson Stimson
- Jesse Kochen
- Josh, Loren, Ricki & Daniel Sher

- Justin Liberman & Lisa Farber
- Kate, Tal, Amy & Ethan Weiss
- · Keanu Ross & Family
- Keren Rochwerger
- Kevin Slomoi
- Kovi & Jennifer Paneth
- Laini Liberman
- · Lana & Dean Sheezel & Family
- Lionel & Brenda Steinberg
- Lisa & Simon de Winter
- Macquarie Capital
- Marcus Rose
- Michael Carp
- MinterEllison
- Myer & Evi Herszberg
- Myron Rogers
- Owen Buttimore
- Pearl & Bernard Kagan
- Peter Urban
- Quanta Services Australia
- Rachele Saraceno
- Rebecca Adler
- Reuben & Keren Zelwer
- Richard Charlupski
- Richard Boreham
- Robert & Nina Bassat
- Robert Epstein
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Rodney & Idit Teperman

Ron Goldschlager

Roy & Sylvia Tashi

Rosie Lew

Family

 Rodney & Vanessa Brott & Family

• Russell & Louise Casper &

Ruth & Jeff Kestenberg

Sara Lederman Charitable

Shaun & Michelle Factor

Trollbeads Australia New

Wayne & Tammy Shub

Plus, numerous anonymous

Flying Fox 2021 Impact Report

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Suzanne & Graeme Southwick

Sally & Larry Benge

Foundation

Sharen Fink

Tayla Cohen

The Panel

Zealand

donors

Vicki Herzog

Vivienne Fried

Sharon Singer

SPS Corporation

Sarah Fonda



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