

Care
Education
Advocacy

Impact Report 2024-2025

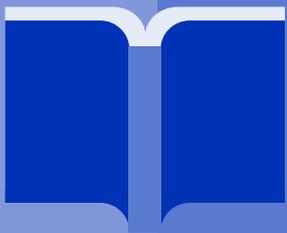




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About Sexual Health Victoria

Access to critical, evidence-based care, training, education and information improves quality of life. Educating and empowering individuals on sexual and reproductive health creates lasting generational impact.

For more than 55 years, our purpose at Sexual Health Victoria (SHV) is to advocate for and provide services and systems that generate impact. Our vision is that everyone and everybody can enjoy optimal sexual and reproductive health.

We are an independent, state-wide, for-purpose Centre for Sexual Health and Education.

We are a trusted government partner and are aligned with government strategies which support Victorians to make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health, relationships and wellbeing.

What we do

Education & training

As the leading provider of sexual and reproductive health, we upskill healthcare professionals and educators including teachers and community workers. We deliver informative relationships and sexual education in schools and communities to increase sexual health literacy.

Clinical services

We operate specialised healthcare clinics in Melbourne's CBD and Box Hill, delivering a wide range of services to support people across all life-stages and lifestyles. This includes contraception, STI testing, medical abortion, HIV prevention medication, menstrual care, pelvic pain and menopause care, penis health, cervical screening plus more related services.

Advocacy

We drive policy change and champion equality through strategic partnerships and by engaging media and governments to expand access to sexual and reproductive health.

Research

We lead research that shapes best practices in sexual and reproductive care. Through our research efforts, services and partnerships, we're on the front line of community care.





Chair of the Board Report



Carolyn Morris
Chair of the Board

On behalf of our wonderful team, I'm really proud to share that over the past year, SHV has continued to broaden the ways we show up and support our communities. Sexual and reproductive health is always evolving, and much of our work now extends well beyond the clinic.

We've been providing support across clinic, schools, community centres, organisations and public spaces. You can find us anywhere people live, learn and connect. A big focus this year has been meeting people where they already are, whether that's at a community-run festival or a busy industry conference.

One of our biggest achievements this year was increasing access to self-collected cervical screening tests by 154% compared to last year. We made this possible by expanding our telehealth services to better support people in remote areas and by offering a pop-up screening service at ChillOut Festival in Bendigo. This allowed us to reach groups who often face the most barriers to care.

Caring for Victoria's migrant and refugee population has been a key focal point, and we have installed critical resources into communities and education facilities.

Several staff led keynotes at various state and national conferences, sharing evidence-based findings on pertinent sexual and reproductive health topics. Important issues are finally getting airtime

such as menopause, endometriosis and pelvic pain – highlighting how this part of healthcare can be lifelong, not just in early age. Our presence, alongside our partners, ensures sexual and reproductive health remains at the forefront of care and conversations.

This year, our online self-paced learning offerings have remained popular, with a 146% increase in health professionals completing sexual and reproductive health training. Significantly, we saw a 35% increase in doctors and nurses who completed clinical placement at SHV.

We're seeing this reflected at the school level too, with more interest in, and demand for, sexual, reproductive and relationships education, and we have worked with 65% more schools compared to last year.

With major investments in women's health and government-driven targets announced, our efforts are clearly aligning with the broader push for more sexual and reproductive health support. It's an exciting chapter in our 55-year history, reflected in the notable results of our team's public awareness campaigns and community activations.

Across our pillars of clinical care, education, advocacy and research, SHV is making sexual and reproductive health a fundamental human right, just as we view every aspect of healthcare.



Chief Executive Officer Report



Caroline Mulcahy
Chief Executive Officer

We are so proud of what we have achieved over the last year. As the largest Centre for Sexual Health and Education in Victoria, we are leading sexual, reproductive and relationship care, training and education for Victorians. With our services under regular review, we have continued to set the bar high by demonstrating positive outcomes which advance sexual health literacy, reduce stigmas and breakdown barriers for priority populations.

With over 55 years of specialist practice experience serving the community, and with expert healthcare practitioners and educators, SHV continues to be the firmly trusted voice, at the forefront of our fast-evolving sector. This year, we have increased our focus on working alongside more communities, meeting people where they live, modernising how we talk about sexual, relationship and reproductive health topics and leveraging technology to reach more Victorians.

From clinic rooms to conference stages, another valuable year has been invested empowering more people to make fully informed decisions about what can be the most personal part of their health. There is an immediate and long-term aspect to everything we do, from delivering timely clinical care to correcting misinformation and misconceptions in society.

And, while we understand attitudes take time to shift, our commitment to changing this is steadfast. We work on this every day, through our advocacy efforts, involvement in policy and via our voice across all media channels.

Everything we do at SHV connects to, and complements, the Victorian government's sexual and reproductive health priorities and plans. We work on the frontline, behind the scenes and with countless others to support and implement our state's strategies.

Looking ahead, our purpose is fixed on strengthening the sexual and reproductive health of Victorians across all ages, life stages, life choices and lifestyles, keeping sexual health issues at the forefront of public discourse, in policy reforms and in practitioner care.

This is a growing part of health that should not be overlooked, underrepresented or understated. We are committed to providing greater, appropriate access to sexual and reproductive health access to even more Victorians, now and in the future.

With the support of our staff, stakeholders, partners and the Victorian Government, SHV will continue to drive progress and positive impact.

Our work today is building a healthier, more equitable and caring community for tomorrow.



Workforce capacity building

We upskill healthcare professionals and clinicians with clinical skills; and teachers and community workers in delivering relationships and sexual health education. Our programs build sexual health literacy across schools and communities, as well as strengthen practical medical expertise for health professionals.

Healthcare education training sessions

We upskill healthcare providers in sexual and reproductive health services through dedicated, topic-led courses delivered in person and online. The courses focus on practical learning outcomes and competency-based skills training, enabling GPs, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, and other clinicians to implement advanced skills in their clinics and improve access to sexual health services.

Self-paced online education for health professionals

We deliver customised training programs developed for the specific needs of health professionals. Our expert team of online learning professionals design programs to fill knowledge gaps and enable providers to extend their service of care. This year, we have increased the number of online education modules so that these learning sessions are more accessible and user-friendly.

SRHA National Certificate - new flexible format

The Sexual and Reproductive Health Australia National Certificate is now offered in a flexible format, combining evening workshops and self-paced online learning to support busy clinicians and expand access, including for regional and rural participants.

In addition to online and face-to-face training, SHV offers customised workshops, presentations, expert advisory, and mentorship for health professionals. By blending specialist guidance with tailored professional development, these services help streamline clinic workflows, enhance client outcomes, and build a confident, connected workforce, ensuring clinicians can deliver sexual and reproductive health care across their communities.

Increasing clinic placements & scholarships for healthcare providers

Addressing healthcare gaps is at the core of our work. With Australia's low uptake of Implanon and Intrauterine Devices (IUDs), we play a key role in the national AUSLARC project, delivering scholarships for Implanon and IUD training for healthcare providers; these scholarships remove financial and geographic barriers to Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) training.

We provided LARC scholarships with priority to rural and regional clinicians, particularly those supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

SHV partnered with the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO), delivering scholarships to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals to increase their capacity in sexual and reproductive health.

We delivered two nationally recognised training courses for healthcare workers at the North Eastern Public Health Unit (NEPHU). The NEPHU Scholarship Program: Improving Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services focused on enhancing service accessibility across the Hume, Whittlesea and Yarra Ranges regions. Nine scholarships were awarded to eligible health professionals, which included five GPs and four nurses/midwives.

Impact snapshot



Delivered **63** healthcare training sessions for doctors & nurses

Upskilled **397** healthcare professionals

17% increase on the previous year

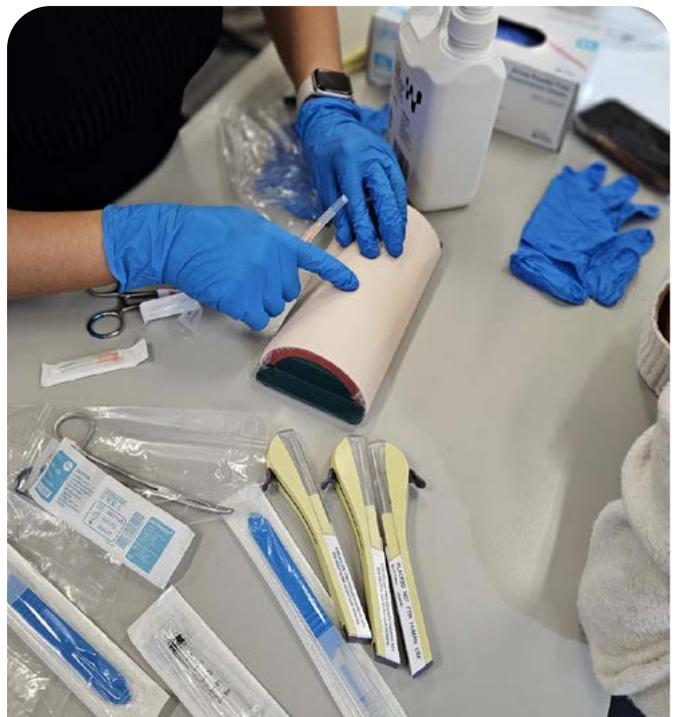
Provided clinical placements to **140** doctors & nurses

35% increase on the previous year

Upskilled **253** healthcare professionals in self-paced courses

146% increase on the previous year

Delivered **18** customised workshops





Delivering professional training to educators and community workers

Our Schools, Community and Disability team delivered tailored sessions to workplaces and community organisations across Victoria, supporting professionals to more confidently teach relationship and sexual health education.

Teach the 5 - 6 everyBODY Education program

We encourage a whole-of-school approach and believe that relationships and sexuality education are a shared responsibility between school, home and the community. The Teach the 5 - 6 everyBODY Education program is a tailored course for educators to build confidence in directly delivering this program.

We experienced a 76% increase in professional learning workshops delivered to educators.

"Such helpful information — I feel much more comfortable talking about sex education with my students in the classroom." Victorian Primary School Teacher.

Young People & Sexual Health Course

Youth and community sector workers play a vital role in supporting young people who might have missed out on critical sexual and reproductive health education. The Young People and Sexual Health courses provide training for practitioners working with young people aged between 12 and 25 years. This year, 250 participated, enhancing their skills and confidence to provide informed, supportive guidance.

Consent Matters initiative

SHV collaborated with Women's Health in the Southeast (WHISE) to deliver a pilot capacity-building workshop for practitioners working in the youth, community and disability support sector.

Funded by the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, the Consent Matters program covered the new affirmative consent legislation and sexual health services for young people with cognitive disabilities.

Impact snapshot



Delivered

67

professional learning workshops

Upskilled

1,078

educators & community workers

190

educators attended the Educators Symposium

Educators Symposium 2025

The Educators Symposium, brought together over 190 educators from around the world with the vision of transforming sexual health and relationship education for youth. The Honourable Mary-Anne Thomas, MP gave the opening address and, Professor Jennifer Power, a Principal Fellow at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society at La Trobe University, gave the keynote. The event sold out within two weeks and was upgraded to a larger venue due to the demand of our valuable learning insights.

90% of delegates indicated that they were very satisfied or extremely satisfied with the event, and 75% agreed or strongly agreed that their knowledge of relationship and sexuality education increased.



Educators Symposium 2025



The Honourable Mary-Anne Thomas, MP with host Nelly Thomas and SHV staff



Educators Symposium 2025



Age-appropriate sexual, relationships and consent education

Our Schools, Disability and Community team of experienced educators delivered classroom sessions to students across Victoria, aligned to the Victorian School Curriculum. Comprehensive and age-appropriate education helps young people build sexual and reproductive health knowledge, confidence and an understanding of their bodies.

everyBODY Education program

The everyBODY Education program is taught from kindergarten through to university and beyond. SHV supports schools with delivery sessions in classrooms, training teachers, educating parents and carers in practical sessions and supporting people with cognitive disability. All training is evidence-based and aligns with governmental curriculum, policy and child safety mandates.

The everyBODY Education program complements the Resilience Rights and Respectful Relationships (RRRR) initiative and is inclusive of all sexualities, genders, sexual orientations and cultural backgrounds.

Impact snapshot



Participation in the everyBODY Education

11,057
primary students

9,932
secondary students



An educator at the Educators Symposium

Disability education and support

Our disability and community educators provided sessions and consultations for organisations, care teams and individuals with cognitive disability. Sessions included topics such as consent, diversity, relationships, puberty, and sexual and reproductive health.

"The sessions are professional, respectful, and inclusive... empowering and inspiring."
Behaviour Support Practitioner.



SHV Educators at the Educators Symposium

Impact snapshot



Disability education provided

17 public group disability education sessions

21 privately booked group disability education sessions

10 private 1 on 1 disability consultations



SHV Educators at WAS Conference



SHV is a Trusted eSafety Provider

SHV is an endorsed eSafety Provider, meaning our sexuality education programs meet the eSafety Commission's standards, and support the protection of young people online. eSafety's Best Practice Framework for Online Safety Education provides a consistent national approach.



Impact snapshot

Almost **21,000** school children educated across Victoria

Delivered **1,308** classroom sessions

Worked with **224** individual schools

Student sessions increased by **32%** for primary and **29%** for secondary students

Doing 'IT' podcast

At SHV, we produce, edit and host the Doing 'IT' podcast. We ask the difficult questions to help parents, carers and educators navigate and explore topics like our bodies, puberty, sex, consent, relationships and emotions.

We tackle real life anecdotes and scenarios from young people, so adults can stay informed, understand the language they use, and feel confident teaching or parenting.

Past episodes include, The Manosphere, AI Deepfakes and Guiding Principles for Delivering Relations and Sexual Health Education.

The Doing 'IT' podcast received over 1,500 downloads.

[Click here to listen to Doing 'IT'](#)



[Click here to view](#)

Seggs Uncensored Zine

SHV produces Seggs Uncensored to debunk sexual health myths and to encourage young people to fact check their social media feeds.

We printed 8,000 copies and attracted over 12,000 digital views; the zine has become a trusted source of sexual health information on topics often restricted on social media platforms.

Sex and relationships can be fun, awkward, confusing, and everything in between and Seggs Uncensored reflects this. Vibrant, inclusive, and informative, it helps young people make sense of sexual health and wellness in a real and relatable way.





High-quality, best practice clinical care

We provide comprehensive, inclusive and confidential sexual and reproductive health care in our clinics in Melbourne’s CBD and Box Hill.

Our services include STI testing and treatment, PrEP and PEP access, and comprehensive contraception advice including implants, IUDs and emergency contraception. Plus, cervical screening, medication abortion support, genital health, menopause care, and more.

We provide specialised care for diverse populations, including young people and LGBTIQ+ clients, all delivered in a client-centred, inclusive and welcoming environment.

Our medical professionals provided more than 16,500 appointments, with 14,356 in-person and 2,171 telephone consultations, a 65% increase in telehealth from the previous year. This growth reflects the rising demand for flexible and accessible medical care.

Following the launch of self-collect; cervical screening appointments increased by 154% (to 259). We also saw a 90% increase in patients seeking gender affirmation hormone therapy (160 appointments), reflecting SHV’s commitment to providing accessible and inclusive services that meet community needs.

Melbourne Pathology opened at Box Hill

Melbourne Pathology opened at our Box Hill clinic, giving clients convenient and immediate access to pathology services. This means samples can be collected quickly, results are available sooner, and clients can begin treatment faster. The service reduces travel and wait times, making healthcare more efficient and accessible for our clients.



SHV Box Hill Waiting Room

Impact snapshot

Provided

16,527 to **8,663**
clinic appointments clients

3,198 long-acting reversible
contraception
appointments



1,312 intrauterine
device
insertions

3,819 sexually
transmissible
infection
screenings



259 self-collect
cervical
screenings



SHV medical staff

Google reviews

Box Hill Clinic 4.5 Stars ★★★★★
Melbourne Clinic 4.1 Stars ★★★★★

★★★★★ “I highly recommend this clinic”- Natasha

★★★★★ “Couldn’t be happier with my experience this morning” - Megan



Strengthening sector partnerships and affiliations

Partners and affiliations

We are a proud member of Sexual and Reproductive Health Australia (SRHA), formerly Family Planning Australia Alliance (FPAA), and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). We work collaboratively across the sector in Australia and throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

We work alongside a range of organisations, networks and public health units, including the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (VACCHO,) Women’s Health in the South-East (WHISE) and Women’s Health Victoria.

We partner with professional bodies such as the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine (ASHM), and engage with a range of leading universities including University of Melbourne, La Trobe University and Monash University.

We are an active voice in sector coalitions such as the SRHA’s Clinical Reference Group, Victorian Clinical Network for Abortion and Contraception Care, the SPHERE Centre of Research Excellence (AusCAPPS), the National Sexuality Educators Collective, and the Victorian External Sector Advisory Group (providing advice to the Victorian Department of Health on the Victorian Health & Wellbeing Plan).

Parents in the Prevention of Sexual Violence Project with La Trobe

This collaborative initiative between SHV, La Trobe University, Women’s Health in the South-East, Talking the Talk, and South-East Community Links is evidence-based and trauma-informed. The program is delivered by SHV educators to parents of Year 7 and 8 students and includes topics such as the drivers of sexual violence, gender inequality and affirmative consent.



Publications

Goller JL, Bittleston H, Munari S, McNamee K, Bateson D, Sancu L, Temple-Smith M, Hocking JS, Coombe J. **Streamlining documentation in patient electronic medical records: An example of chlamydia consultation shortcuts. *Australian Journal of General Practice.*** 2024 Oct;53(10):777-81.

Balgovind P, Aung E, Shilling H, Murray GL, Molano M, Garland SM, Fairley CK, Chen MY, Hocking JS, Ooi C, McNulty A, McCloskey J, McNamee K, Bateson D, Owen L, Tabrizi SN, Machalek DA. **Human Papillomavirus Prevalence Among Australian Men Aged 18–35 Years in 2015–2018 According to Vaccination Status and Sexual Orientation. *The Journal of Infectious Diseases.*** 2025 Feb 15;231(2):451-61.

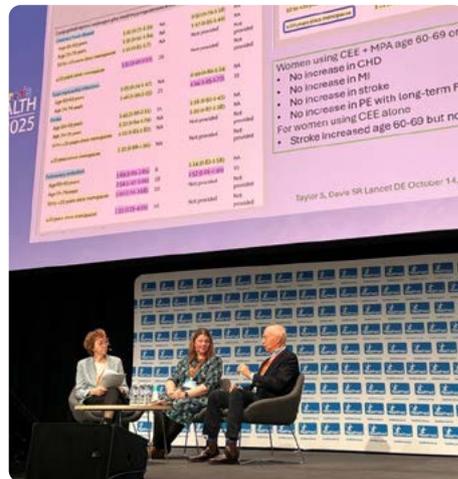
Conference presentations

SHV team members shared their expertise at a wide range of local and national conferences.

Our Medical Director, Dr Sara Whitburn, spoke on the menopause panel at the HealthEd Women’s & Children’s Health Update 2025. Dr Whitburn shared insights on rethinking age limits for Menopausal Hormone Therapy (MHT) and how hot flashes may be due to heart and metabolic health, rather than hormonal changes.



SHV Clinical Education Staff at HealthEd



Our Medical Director presenting at HealthEd

SHV Head of Research, Dr Cat Kirby, co-facilitated a workshop with University of Melbourne researcher Carrie Van Rensburg at the Children by Choice 2024 Conference on building strategies to advocate for abortion access.

We also presented at the World Association for Sexual Health 2025 conference, contributing to sessions on capacity building for youth and community workers, upskilling teachers in migrant and refugee communities, educating young people about safe socialisation online, and advocacy strategies to improve access to medication abortion.

Our advocacy

Advocacy at federal and state levels

Advocacy delivers real change. SHV champions universal access to sexual and reproductive health and works tirelessly with sector partners to present a united front to the Federal Government. SHV provided expert advice to the Australian Senate Inquiries into Universal Access to Reproductive Health Care, Victorian Government Inquiry into Women's Pain and development of the Fifth National Sexually Transmissible Infections Strategy 2024-30.

Our collective lobbying is reflected in the Australian Government's \$573 million investment in women's health, providing better care, more choices, and lower costs.



Our CEO Caroline Mulcahy speaking at a press conference announcement.

Key initiatives include:

- Listing more contraceptive pills on the PBS, to remove financial barriers and improve accessibility
- Increasing Medicare rebates for Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) insertion and removal
- Expanding access to endometriosis and pelvic pain management through new Medicare rebates.
- Enhancing menopause support with a Medicare rebate for health assessments and PBS listings for Prometrium, Estrojel, and Estrojel Pro.

Media and public engagements

This year, SHV provided over 30 interviews and was featured in over 30 media articles and broadcasts, reaching an estimated 4 million+ Australians.

Our spokespeople provided expert commentary on abortion access, contraception, STIs, pelvic and menstrual health, sexual consent, and home cervical screen testing. Coverage appeared in all major outlets including The Guardian, Herald Sun, The Age, The Australian, ABC News, SBS, Nine News, raising awareness and shaping public and professional conversations.

Highlights included commentary on the government's \$573 million investment in women's health, guidance on self-testing for STIs, and initiatives aimed at reducing stigma around periods, pelvic pain, online safety, access to pornography, and sexual consent education.

[See all media coverage here](#)

The impact of our social media

SHV's social presence continued to grow and spark conversation across Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, LinkedIn and YouTube reaching over 2.1 million people worldwide. Our video content lit up our audience's screens, with YouTube and TikTok alone generating an impressive 1.9 million global views.

Across 427 posts, our audience responded with more than 20,000 comments, likes and shares, showing that our community is not just watching – they are also engaging, debating, learning and sharing. Our combined social following now sits at 60,000 and climbing.

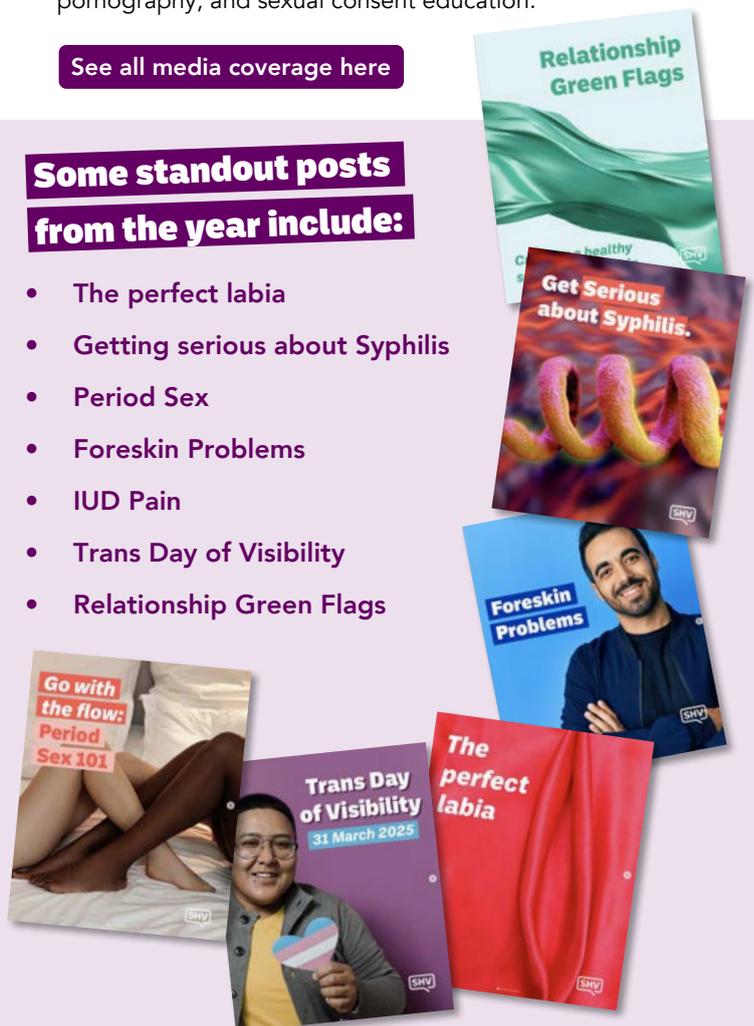
Through bold creative, targeted content and platform-specific strategies, we continue to reach the communities that need us most: young people, culturally diverse audiences and regional Victorians.

Every post works towards one clear goal: to make sexual and reproductive health information accessible, inclusive and trustworthy.

Social media remains one of SHV's most powerful engagement tools for advancing sexual health literacy. By delivering accurate, factual and evidence-based information in formats people engage with, we help combat misinformation, reduce stigma and start the 'real' conversations.

Some standout posts from the year include:

- The perfect labia
- Getting serious about Syphilis
- Period Sex
- Foreskin Problems
- IUD Pain
- Trans Day of Visibility
- Relationship Green Flags





Reducing stigma and promoting inclusion

We are committed to reducing stigma, challenging stereotypes and promoting diversity and inclusion. Our programs, services and health promotion initiatives break down barriers and aim to address discrimination, including but not limited to biases based on sexual orientation or gender.

Rainbow Tick Accreditation

SHV proudly obtained Rainbow Tick accreditation; a world-first framework recognising organisations that are safe, inclusive, and affirming for the LGBTIQ+ community. Accreditation is granted following a rigorous and independent assessment by Quality Innovation Performance and the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards.

Assessors highlighted the depth of our commitment to diversity, belonging, and inclusion at SHV, and commended our staff's expertise and dedication to fostering cultural safety and intersectional inclusivity.



SHV Rainbow Tick Working Group

Gender-Affirming Care

Over the past two years, SHV has seen more than 200% increase in adult transgender clients accessing our clinic. Our gender-affirming services, including hormone therapy, support individuals in aligning their bodies with their gender identity. We provide a safe, supportive space with expert GPs, advocating for increased access to this care as a fundamental right.



Midsumma Carnival

Midsumma Festival

SHV participated in Midsumma, one of Australia's longest running queer arts and cultural festival. During the three-week celebration, we hosted a carnival information booth, distributing over 3,000 condoms and awarding more than 30 prizes, connecting directly with the LGBTIQ+ community.



SHV Team members at Midsumma



SHV Midsumma Stand



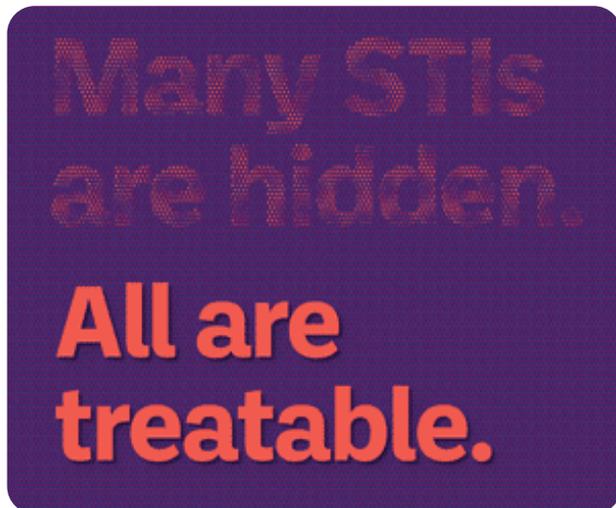
Committed to reducing the risk of STI transmissions

Rates of syphilis and gonorrhoea have more than doubled over the past decade, while chlamydia remains the most diagnosed STI, particularly among young adults. To support awareness and informed decision-making, SHV has delivered health promotion campaigns focused on prevention, testing and treatment.

All STIs Have Treatments campaign

All STIs Have Treatments was a health promotion campaign to reduce the fear of a positive STI result, reassuring people that treatment was available and reducing their reluctance to get tested. The campaign's simple call to action was: Just get tested.

It achieved over 250,000 impressions with a 4% click-through rate, prompting many people to book appointments at SHV. Following its success, the Federal Department of Health adopted SHV's materials for a national campaign.



STIs Happen campaign

Our STIs Happen campaign delivered a simple but powerful message: The most common STI symptom is no symptom at all. Working alongside other sexual and reproductive health organisations, SHV launched a national campaign across multiple digital channels, including Spotify, Google Display Networks, search engine marketing, and both organic and paid social media.

The campaign reached over a million people, generated 87,000 website engagements, and directly contributed to more than 335 STI tests.

The campaign was part-funded by a grant from the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

Find Your Perfect Fit campaign

The Find Your Perfect Fit condom campaign encouraged people to recognise that condoms are not a one-size-fits-all and that condoms come in different sizes. Find Your Perfect Fit was a digital and outdoor campaign across Victoria.

We placed 200 street posters across 28 inner-city Melbourne suburbs, targeting people aged 18–30 years of age.

The campaign reached over 1.5 million views across online and offline channels, with nearly 8,000 visits to the campaign page where people could discover their perfect fit.





Supporting young people to confidently manage their menstrual health

Just as no two bodies are the same, no two periods are alike. We are committed to supporting young people by promoting menstrual health and addressing pain that can impact learning and participation at school. By normalising conversations and improving access to information, we help ensure menstruation does not stand in the way of young people’s education or wellbeing.

Menstrual Health and Pelvic Pain grant

We were successfully awarded a Department of Education grant, to provide sessions to 400 Victorian government schools, to educate on menstruation and pelvic pain. Delivered as a lecture to the whole year level, from Years 5 to 10, these sessions cover curriculum-aligned, gender-inclusive, and age-appropriate information, approved by the Department of Education.

Topics include:

- Menstruation and menstrual management
- Hygiene and period products at school
- Conditions related to menstruation
- Accessing health services and seeking help
- Sexual and reproductive anatomy video.

[Watch video](#)

The SHV program enables students to feel more informed and comfortable discussing all matters of menstrual health, while giving teaching staff the tools they need to support students.

In the first six months of the 2025 program, we delivered 132 sessions across 96 schools (57 metropolitan, 39 regional), reaching a total 7,550 students.

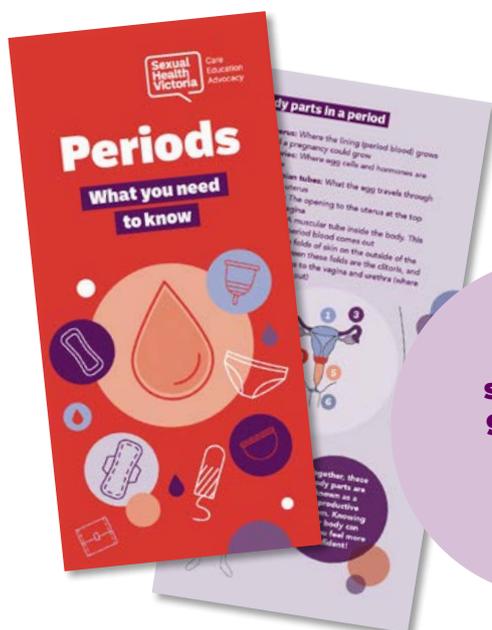
Don't Take It Lying Down. Period. campaign

Menstrual symptoms that negatively impact everyday living are often dismissed as 'just a period' and many do not seek help, and 'suffer in silence'. This bold, modern campaign highlighted the realities of having your period and the taboo and curious questions people who menstruate want to know more about.

The campaign goal was to shed the stigma about menstruation and educate on what symptoms are normal and what may need medical attention. For example, the normal size of blood clots, what is considered excessive bleeding and the usually expected level and/or spectrum of pain.

The campaign resulted in 14 million impressions and attracted 30,000 website visitors.

[View campaign page](#)



14 million impressions and 30,000 website visitors

Delivered 132 sessions at 96 schools reaching 7,550 students





Cervical cancer prevention through accessible screening and early detection

Cervical screening, formerly known as a Pap smear, has changed for anyone aged 25 years or over, with a cervix. Since the main cause of cervical cancer is long-term HPV infection, we have prioritised accessible screening programs to help prevent cervical cancer.

SHV telehealth service for cervical screening tests

We launched our telehealth cervical screening test, making early detection accessible and convenient, especially for under-screened or rural communities.

Self-collection cervical screening tests can reduce barriers to screening such as geographical distance, privacy concerns and discomfort associated with speculum examinations.

In partnership with VCS Pathology, eligible patients complete a telehealth consultation and receive a self-collect kit by post, with a pre-paid return envelope. The quick, private swab provides the same accuracy as traditional clinician-collected tests, allowing cervical screening to be done safely at home, and we have seen a 154% increase in cervical screening tests.

Telehealth cervical screening review

SHV is working with The University of Melbourne on a research project to undertake a formal evaluation of our telehealth cervical screening services. The evaluation will determine whether it is an acceptable and effective way of undertaking cervical screening. Healthcare professionals and policy experts will also be consulted to inform how additional services could benefit from telehealth to improve access to cervical screening. The findings will be made public in 2026.

Expanding access to cervical screening across regional Victoria

ChillOut Festival

In partnership with the AIDS Council of NSW (ACON), SHV ran a cervical screening clinic during the ChillOut Festival, the biggest and longest-running Country Queer Pride event in regional Australia. Our clinical team offered free, self-collection cervical screening tests.

We provided 35 consultations and 29 festival-goers self-screened.

SexRurality Conference

SHV presented at the 2025 SexRurality Conference to an engaged audience, eager to also offer flexible screening delivery models. Learnings from the pop-up cervical screening clinic at ChillOut festival were shared with the hope to encourage others to consider how they too could offer cervical screenings outside of the confines of the consult room.

The Murray Ovens Public Health Unit

With clinical and advisory support from SHV's telehealth service, the Murray Ovens Public Health Unit promoted greater access to cervical screening. As part of Albury Wodonga Health, the unit focuses on regional communities, aiming to increase screening rates and early detection of cervical cancer.



SHV and ACON team members at ChillOut Festival



Advancing sexual & reproductive health through research

SHV conducts research to generate evidence that informs and improves sexual and reproductive health practice, policy and education.

By evaluating programs, and exploring innovative approaches, research ensures our services are safe, effective, and inclusive. Research also allows us to identify gaps in care, measure impact and provide evidence-based guidance for future health initiatives. Our research is conducted ethically, with participants' rights, integrity and confidentiality protected. SHV undertakes studies independently and in collaboration with universities, clinical institutes and community organisations.

SHV-led research includes

- Client experiences of IUD insertion at SHV teaching clinics, in partnership with the University of Melbourne.
- Evaluation of SHV's telehealth cervical screening self-collection service - University of Melbourne PhD student research.
- Perspectives of young international students accessing sexual health information in Melbourne, in partnership with the University of Melbourne.

SHV as a research partner

- Development and evaluation of a digital tool to optimise STI/HIV care in general practice: NHMRC-funded research led by The University of Melbourne.
- Creating an online STI clinic for young people in outer metro and rural Victoria: NHMRC-funded research led by The University of Melbourne.
- Australian Contraception and Abortion Practitioner Support Network: Program led by the SPHERE Centre of Research Excellence and Monash University.
- Victorian International Students Sexual Health Hub: Study Melbourne grant-funded project led by the Melbourne Sexual Health Centre.
- Building an integrated approach to supporting sexual health promotion and education among young people, led by La Trobe University's Australian Research Centre for Sex, Health and Society.

Working with multicultural communities

We are committed to empowering multicultural communities through accessible, inclusive, and culturally sensitive sexual and reproductive health education programs.

Multicultural Centre for Women's Health: enhancing the In My Language workforce

These sessions strengthened the national In My Language health workforce and included topics such as consent, healthy relationships, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and blood-borne viruses (BBVs).

Blackburn English Language School program

This project delivered sexual, relationship, and reproductive health education across multiple campuses, supported by multi-lingual interpreters. Topics included puberty and reproduction, bodies, gender, sexuality, men's and women's business, and healthy relationships and consent. SHV educators delivered 12 tailored sessions to students.

Elevation College Project

Through the Department of Education's Strategic Partnerships Program (SPP), SHV supported teachers and wellbeing staff at Elevation College to strengthen their confidence and capability in delivering relationships and sexuality education. The College provides a multicultural learning environment, with 82% of students coming from language backgrounds other than English.

SHV worked with students, staff, parents and carers to build a whole-school approach to relationships and sexuality education, reaching 940 participants across the community.

"The language I will use in each session has been adjusted. And I'll be more aware of my considerations to create a greater inclusive space in the classroom."
An Elevation College teacher.



SHV Research Team



Our Board of Directors



Carolyn Morris (Chair)

Appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2015.



Dr Anna Wilkinson

Appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2017.



Ann Maree Keenan

Appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2020.



John Kuot

Appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2021. Resigned December 2024.



Dr Angela Lu

Appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2022.



Ricki Vinci

Appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2023.



Anne Howells

Re-appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2023. Resigned February 2025.



Patrick Ow

Appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2024. Resigned December 2024.



Benedict Chiu

Appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2024.



Karen Percy

Appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2024.



Ryan Hsu

Appointed to the Board as a non-executive director in 2024.



Finance Summary

Throughout the 2024/25 financial year, SHV's continued focus on cost-effective service delivery resulted in a surplus of \$35,850.

The surplus is mostly due to a 22% increase in self-generated income, diversified and consolidated funding sources, and strong returns on term deposits.

Continued growth in everyBODY Education servicing more schools and delivering relationships and sexuality education to more young people resulted in a 13% increase in income compared with the previous year.

At the end of June 2025, SHV has \$3,567,735 in Retained Earnings.

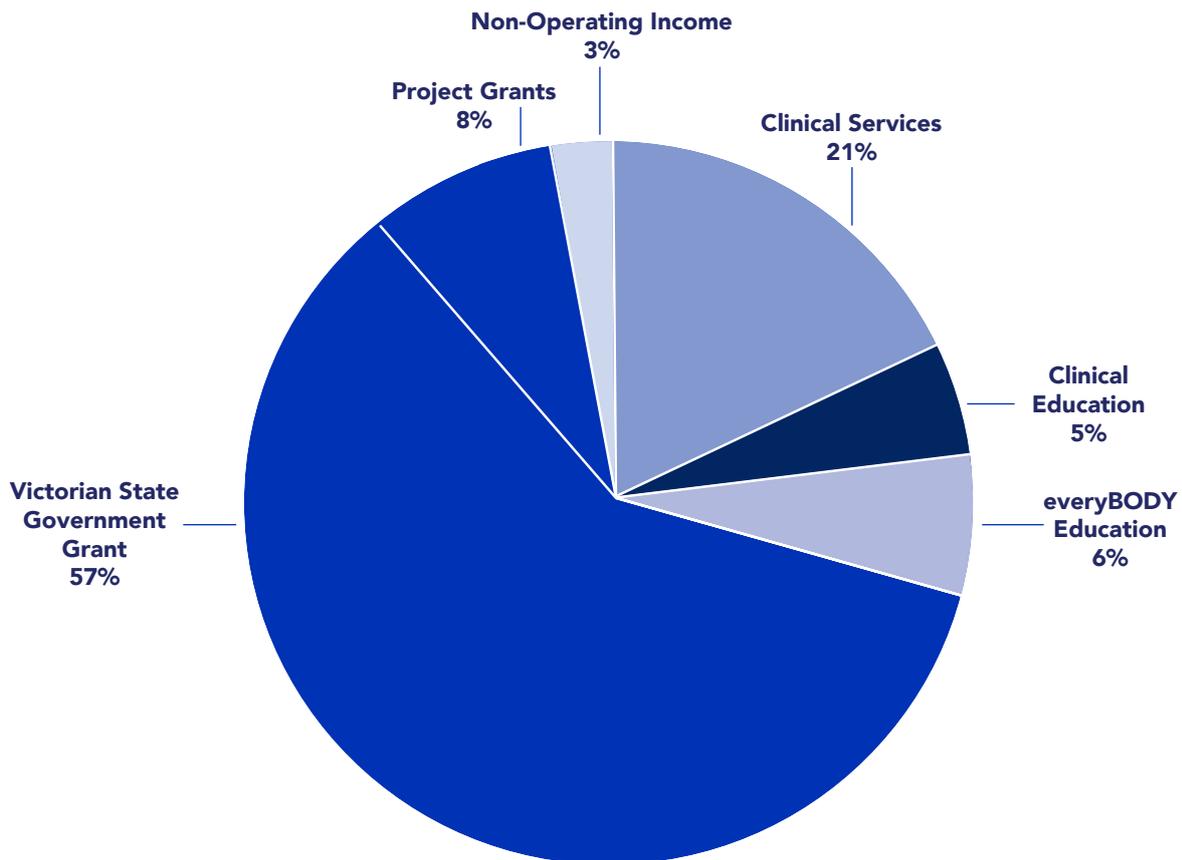
Strong cash and working capital balances provided sufficient liquidity to meet debts as and when they fall due.

SHV prepares financial statements in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards as outlined in the Independent Auditor's report. A full set of audited financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2025 will be available on our website.

Revenue by source

Total revenue for the 2024/25 financial year was \$8,801,531.

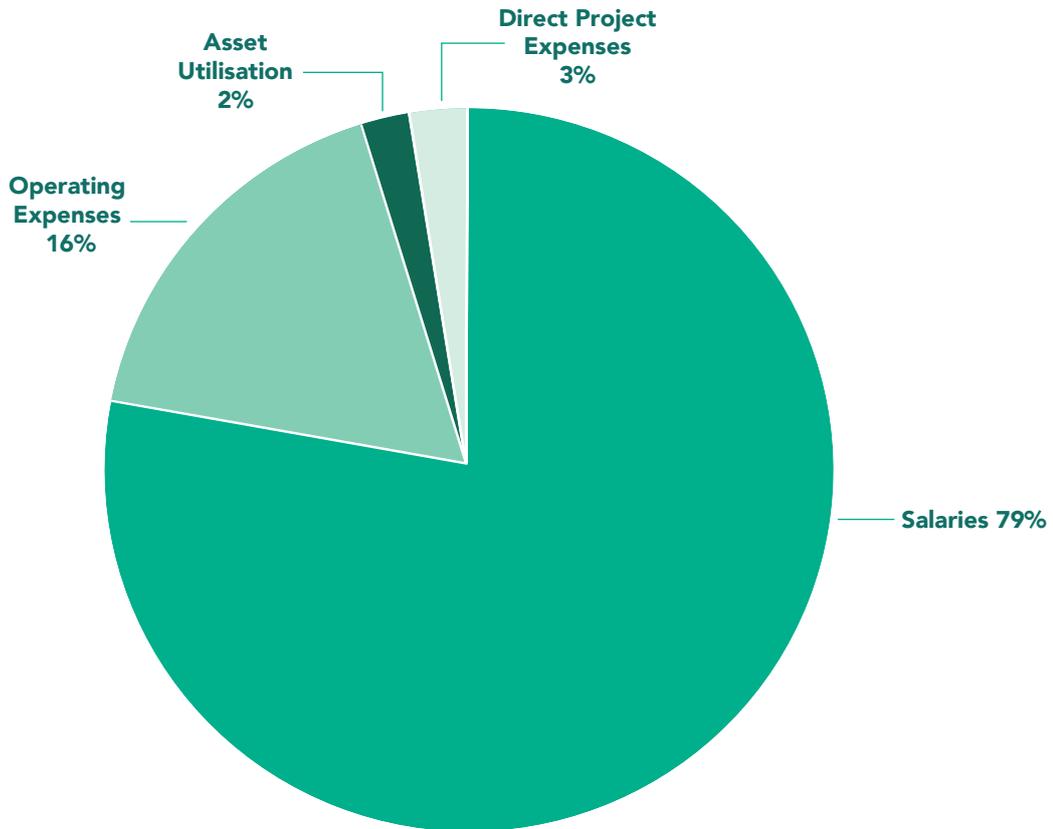
The Victorian State Government Grant funding represents 57% of revenue, with a further 26% of revenue generated from the delivery of clinical and education services.





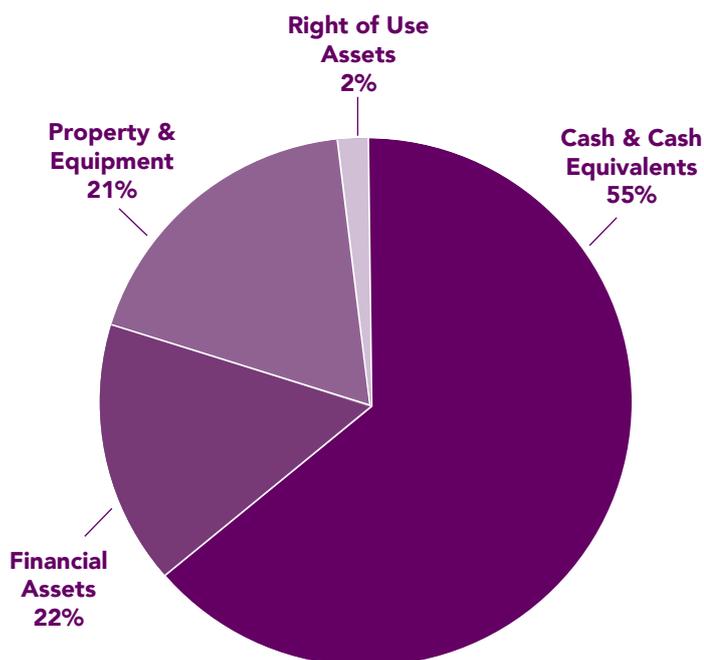
Expenditure

Total expenditure for the 2024/25 financial year is \$8,765,681. Salary costs at 79% of total expenditure reflect the professional service nature of SHV.



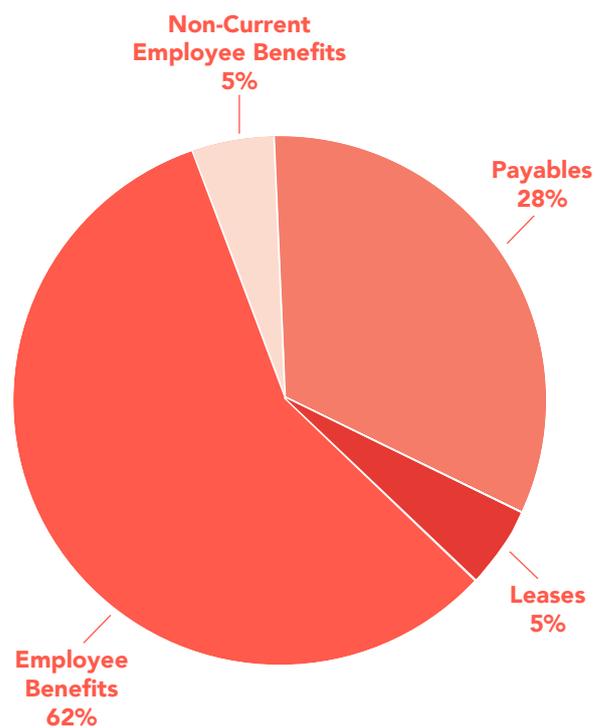
Assets

Assets totalled \$5,328,115 with \$4,140,213 reported as current assets.



Liabilities

SHV had \$1,754,553 in liabilities at the end of the 2024/25 financial year, 91% of which are current liabilities. Employee benefit provisions represent 66% of all liabilities.





Annual Report 2024 – 2025

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For more information contact Sexual Health Victoria on:
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Sexual Health Victoria acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government.



Sexual Health Victoria acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our offices stand and in the regions in which we provide our services. We pay our respects to Elders past and present. Sexual Health Victoria is committed to providing respectful and inclusive services and work environments where all individuals feel accepted, safe, affirmed and celebrated. With our commitment to embracing diversity and eliminating all forms of discrimination in the provision of reproductive and sexual health services, we welcome all people irrespective of cultural or linguistic background, sexual orientation, gender identity, intersex status, religion or spiritual beliefs, socio economic status, age or abilities.



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