



Mullumbimby, NSW

www.pathwaysfoundation.com.au



'The SVA partnership has been the 'enabler' for Pathways to deliver its innovative, unique and proven to work programs to reach an increasing number of young Australians each year and not only change their lives, but also have a huge effect on families and society in the future.'

Eamon Daly

Chief Executive Officer
Pathways Foundation

How we came together

The Pathways Foundation is dedicated to helping young people make the fundamental emotional shift from being a child to becoming a young adult. The building blocks for the Pathways Foundation were laid in 1995 by a group of dedicated men who were interested and concerned about the health and wellbeing of boys and young men in Australia. They believed the fundamental process of acknowledging and assisting this healthy transition is missing in modern Australian society and this was contributing significantly to at risk behaviour amongst young people.

Pathways Foundation (Pathways) was one of the first ventures that SVA supported through the Big Boost! Fund in 2002. SVA backed Pathways because the Pathways model was based on evidence that the relationship between a young man and his father, or other male role model, is a strong indicator of a young man's healthy development. By 2003 the Pathways camps had been running for many years and had the potential to scale and so influence the lives of many more young men and their fathers.

Mission

To have an appropriate rite of passage available for every boy and girl in Australia.

Purpose

Pathways Foundation (Pathways) runs a series of contemporary, community based programs based on camps and educational seminars, which are designed to bolster self esteem and improve the quality of relationships and life outcomes for Australian boys and girls. The programs aim to bring out the potential in young men and women, prevent harmful behaviour and have a positive long term impact on the extended communities of these boys and girls. Pathways assist young people to make the fundamental emotional shift from being a child to becoming a young adult.

Growth

- Pathways has grown significantly since 2003, delivering a total of 34 camps for young people in financial year 2009, in eight Australian regions, with over 972 attendees. This compares to five camps held in 2003 with 161 participants.
- Pathways flagship program *Pathways to Manhood* grew to 19 camps with 524 participants (boys and their fathers or significant male mentor) in financial year 2009 compared to four camps with 144 participants in 2003. The *YoungSTARS* program for boys aged six to 10 had 140 participants in seven camps in financial year 2009 compared to 38 participants in one camp when it started in 2004. *Men's Leadership Training* has steadily increased with four camps in financial year 2009 with 80 participants compared to one camp in 2003 with 27 participants.
- In 2008 Pathways launched the first *Pathways into Womanhood* camps for girls aged 12 to 15 and in financial year 2009, it had 72 participants in three camps compared to the inaugural camp held in 2006 with 24 women participating.
- Pathways increased the reach of its educational seminars to 2,220 participants in financial year 2009 through 60 educational seminars, compared to 987 participants through 21 educational seminars in 2005.

Initial SVA distribution	2002		
Total distributions from SVA	\$1,367,000		
SVA in-kind support	\$310,000		
– In-kind, SVA <i>Future Builders Program</i> evaluation framework and resource funding (2007-08)	\$40,000		
SVA brokered support	\$880,721		
– leveraged funding	\$60,000		
– Mallesons Stephen Jacques (via close, on-going relationship)	\$10,000		
– Matrix on Board financial systems assessment (2006)	\$5,000		
– Skoll Conference – UK (Arne Rubenstein)	\$15,000		
– Harvard Scholarship – USA (Arne Rubenstein)	\$15,000		

	2003	2008	CAGR
Revenue*	\$50,991	\$2,712,883	121.4%
Participants**	161	3,192	81.7%

* Pathways works on a calendar year and was incorporated in 2003.

** Includes 972 for camp participants and 2,220 participants in educational seminars. There were no educational seminars in 2003.

Social impact

● Pathways commissioned an independent study in 2007 to assess the impact of its *Pathways to Manhood* program on boys and their fathers. The findings of the study showed that boys and their fathers overwhelmingly endorsed the program. Participation in the program impacts on the boys' perceptions leading to stronger father/son relationships, more confident communication and social skills, greater respect for women, greater motivation to set goals, an improved attitude towards finishing school and improved motivation to participate and give back to society.

Why Pathways is graduating

Pathways and SVA have had a long partnership over seven years. SVA supported Pathways during its phenomenal growth phase and more recently have assisted in reviewing how Pathways operates. In 2008 it was determined that Pathways would transition out of the venture portfolio the following year to ensure independence and future sustainability.

Looking ahead

After seven years of rapid growth, Pathways is now implementing the key recommendations of the *Future Paths Project* which was established to review and define Pathways and its operations in the future. The result of this will ensure that Pathways has sustainable regions that are continuing to grow local communities; delivers more camps each year; and touches the lives of many more young Australians.