



Disasters are our business.
Veterans are our passion.

Annual Report

2017/18



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CEO'S REPORT

The financial year of 2017/18 was a foundational year for TRA. It was our first full financial year and a hive of operational and development activity. At our March 2018 Leadership Conference, I set the goal of deploying 60 trained Greyshirts over 3 weeks with the capability to conduct an immediate follow-on operation as our goal for the 2018 calendar year. We achieved that aim less than 6 weeks later when 71 Greyshirts deployed to Tatha in NSW for over 4 weeks, following the devastating bushfire that swept through the small coastal town destroying more than 60 homes. Our operation in Tathra highlighted how far we have come as an organisation. Our pre-deployment was smooth, the execution swift and effective and our withdrawal well timed and effectively conducted.

Our work in Tathra saw a sudden influx of state and local governments around Australia wanting to secure our services

in the event of a disaster occurring in their respective jurisdictions. TRA now has arrangements in place in state and local governments across NSW, QLD, VIC and SA, and negotiations with others are underway.

Internationally we deployed 32 Greyshirts on two different missions this year with the support of Team Rubicon Global. Operation Hard Hustle saw 27 Greyshirts deployed to Houston Texas to assist their TRUSA counterparts in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. Shortly after this mission a team of 6 Greyshirts deployed into a remote area of the British Virgin Islands in the wake of Hurricane Irma. Both these missions saw TRA Greyshirts placed in charge of international teams for the first time. They also demonstrated the robust and quiet professionalism of the Australian Greyshirt.

As we progressed into 2018 our footprint expanded from Sydney and Brisbane to

include Disaster Response Teams (DRTs) in Melbourne and Townsville. These additional DRTs provide us with the membership capacity to respond over an extended period anywhere in the world. Working in conjunction with our DRT expansion project, our extensive training program is on track to deliver an organic train-the-trainer capability in all of the key competencies crucial to our work. This training program, made possible by a generous grant from the Department of Veterans' Affairs, has delivered hundreds of nationally recognised training qualifications to our Greyshirts right around Australia.

The grant also enabled us to build an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle capability this is currently deployed at the request of the Indonesian Government mapping remote communities devastated by an earthquake and subsequent Tsunami on the Island of Sulawesi.

I am indebted to professionalism and commitment of TRA's leadership team which expanded from 32 to 51 during this financial year. This dedicated team can accomplish miracles. They strive every day to make TRA the best disaster response organisation in Australia and across the Asia Pacific.

Our brand resonance, impact on devastated communities and our growth is due entirely to the work of these tenacious leaders and the amazing Greyshirts they lead. Be assured, wherever disaster strikes, our Greyshirts will be there to help.



DOMESTIC OPERATIONS

Our second disaster response operation occurred almost 12 months to the day after our first. TRA will enter a disaster zone only when invited. When our teams arrive on the ground they tread carefully, talk softly, and build our reputation through quite professionalism and hard work. That is exactly the mantra we followed when on the 21 March 2018, we launched our second domestic disaster recovery operation in response to bushfires that occurred in and around the NSW coastal town of Tathra. The fires destroyed over 70 homes and damaged hundreds of others.

The purpose of Operation Dawes, named after the SS William Dawes, a US Liberty Ship sunk by a Japanese submarine off the coast of Tathra in 1942, was to provide disaster relief and recovery assistance to vulnerable elements of the local population.

Working for over a three weeks, 83 Greyshirts worked to deliver a broad range of assistance when and where it was needed most. By the end of the operation we had logged over 5300 volunteer hours completing 123 requests for assistance, some of which took up to four days to complete.

These statistics do not, however, tell the story of the emotional impact of our work. Our members have a natural affinity for disaster affected and traumatised community members. Through our commitment, compassion and engagement, we lifted the community of Tathra.



Team Rubicon, thanks are not enough. Please do not underestimate the difference you made to our town. You were the glue, the constant, the security blanket that filled the gap left behind when all the flashing lights left town. You and your families are now part of the Tathra family and will be welcome in our town whenever you need some time out. It was great to meet so many of you, and I hope I get the chance to put on the Grey one day”.

- Derek
Tathra, NSW Resident



OPERATION **DAWES**

BUSHFIRES

TATHRA, NSW

MARCH 21 - APRIL 14, 2018

83

Greyshirt
Volunteers

5355

Volunteer Hours

123

Families Served

\$291,169

Value of
Volunteer Labour

 **TEAM
RUBICON**
AUSTRALIA

TeamRubiconAUS.org

GROWING RELATIONSHIPS

TRA actively encourages the participation of our family and partners in our organisation and invests heavily in their training to ensure they meet the bar to deploy.

Why? The military and emergency services train their people highly and then deploy them to do amazing things in tightly bonded groups. Many report that they are unable to relate their experience to anyone who has not been through a similar experience. At TRA we believe that if we train and deploy our Greyshirts with their partners, they can have the experience together, which means when they go home they can relate it to each other. That's how relationships grow.

I joined TRA to help overcome some survivor's guilt from my time in the military. This operation allowed me to deploy with my 18 year old daughter, and I wanted to show her how this sort of work helps heal. She put up with a lot whilst I served in the military, and this has been a great opportunity to even the score and spend some quality time with her. To watch her grow this week as a young person, and to talk together about the day each night, has been amazing and therapeutic.

Dean West

*Army Veteran
with daughter Taleah*



ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP
GROWTH

	MEMBERSHIP	GROWTH
Brisbane	435	50.6%
Sydney	561	58.2%
Melbourne	209	215%
Townsville	38	N/A
Nationally	1,243	79.8%

TRAINING

In February 2018 TRA received \$330,000 from the Department of Veterans' Affairs under their Supporting Younger Veterans' Grants Scheme. We immediately set to work rolling out a broad range of training and nationally recognised qualifications across Australia. Under the scheme we not only provide basic skills and qualifications but have also run an extensive train-the-trainer program. By the end of 2018 TRA will have the capability to run our own nationally accredited training in Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Townsville.

COURSE NAME	MEMBERS TRAINED
Core Operations	128
Senior First Aid	47
Chainsaw L1/L2	46
Drone RPAS/TRA UAV	8
Working at Heights	9
Cert 2 Medical First Response HLT21015	23
TRA Field Leadership	19
Public Info Officer (PIO)	0
SponVol Leadership	2
Cert 2 Public Safety	4

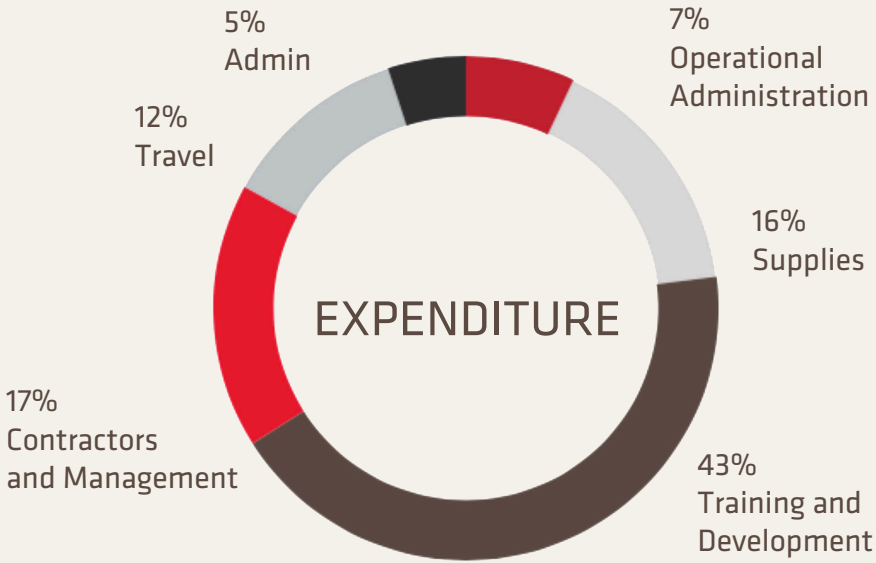
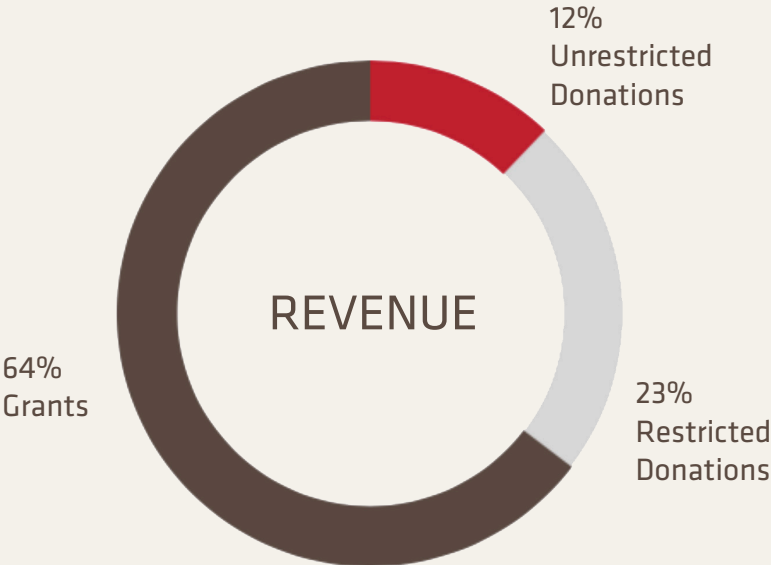
SPONSORSHIP

Our sponsors are:



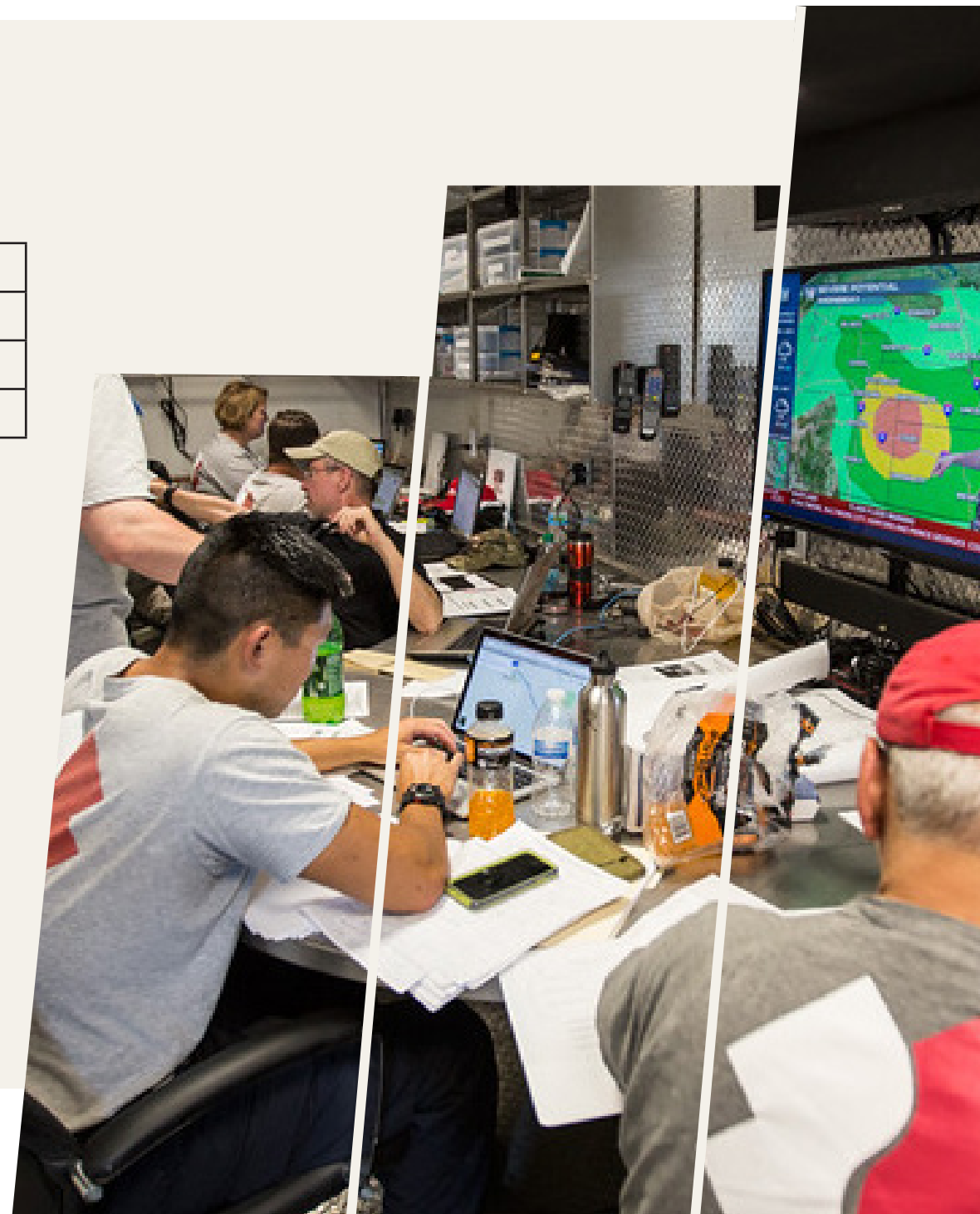
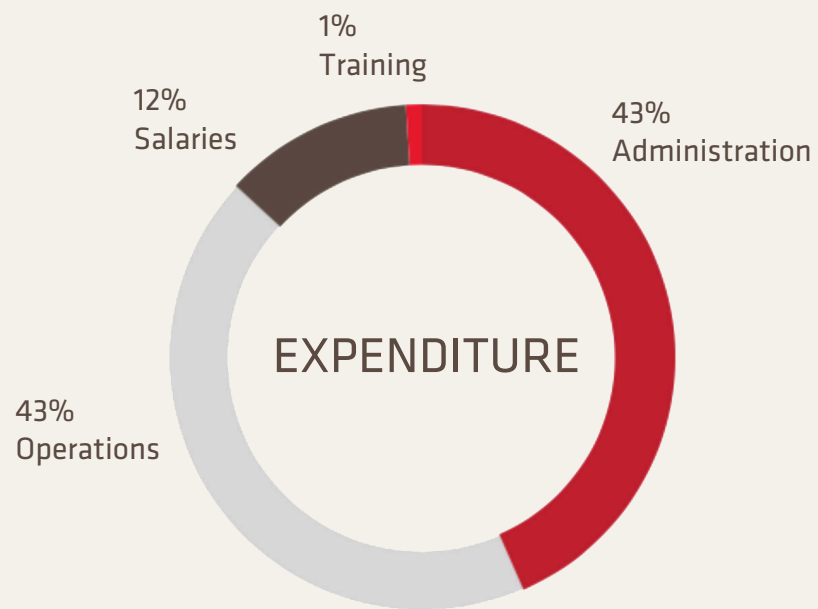
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

WHAT WE RECEIVED	
Unrestricted Donations	\$62,506
Restricted Donations	\$122,937
Grants	\$330,562
Total Revenue	\$516,006
WHAT WE SPENT	
Operational Administration	\$10,839
Supplies and Equipment	\$24,342
Training and Development	\$67,527
Contractors and Management	\$26,727
Travel	\$17,956
General Administration	\$8,648
Total Expenditure	\$156,040
Net Operation Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$359,966



TR GLOBAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Administration	\$66,264.41
Operations	\$66,492.97
Salaries	\$18,000
Training	\$2,139.86





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