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ORGANISATION and ASSOCIATION SPONSORS
CYCANL, CYC Association of Manitoba, ACYCP, The Gateway Organisation (Ireland)

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It has been a year of change, reflection and renewal for the International Child and Youth Care Network. In February 2020, Graham Bell stepped down as Chairperson of the Board of Governors after years of dedicated service to CYC-Net. Graham has long been one of CYC-Net’s strongest supporters and his personal and financial support through Kibble in Scotland have been invaluable to our success. We thank Graham for his commitment to CYC-Net and wish him all the best in the next phase of his journey.

Although CYC-Net has primarily existed in cyberspace, there have been several initiatives over the years that have expanded the scope and reach of the Network. One of these initiatives is the Child and Youth Care World Conference. The CYC World Conference, which was founded and is permanently co-hosted by CYC-Net, is an attempt to make the international network “live.” The intent is that the conference will travel around the world, hosted by different associations and sponsored by a variety of organizations. Thus, the conference is not “owned” by any one country or region, but is international in its reach and inclusion. It is not intended to replace any of the existing structures, but to complement them. As we all know, the more opportunities we have to share knowledge and experience across the globe, the better we will be at providing care and support to the young people and families with whom we work.

The CYC-Net Press has continued to grow and to support CYC-Net with income from book sales and journal subscriptions for Relational Child and Youth Care Practice. There is a new editorial team for RCYCP made up of Aurrora De Monte, Dr. Jaspreet Bal, Dr. Rika Swanzen and Dr. Thom Garfat, and they have been doing exciting work re-aligning the Journal and getting it back to its relational roots.

The core of CYC-Net is our website. CYC-Net continues to provide the largest open-source library of child and youth care (and related) material in the world. The site is used daily by practitioners, managers, students, academics, and others, with an average of 1600-1700 visits per day. Our Facebook discussion groups average 3000 members and growing.

CYC-Online, our monthly journal, celebrated 21 years in February! There has been no struggle for content due to dedicated support from so many people. In 2020 Martin Stabrey took over, again, as the Managing Editor of CYC-Online (yes, he really does do everything!) from James Freeman, who filled this role for many years. James has shifted in an Associate Editor role along with Dr. Mark Smith and Janice Daley. Dr. Thom Garfat, the co-founder of CYC-Net (with the late Brian Gannon) remains an associate and founding editor/member. We appreciate the involvement of everyone who has been contributed to the success of CYC-Online, past and present, especially our editors and regular columnists.

The CYC-Net Board of Governors is comprised of individuals representing many facets of child and youth care practice, from many parts of the world. As a collective, the board is committed to furthering the mission of CYC-Net, “to promote and facilitate reading, learning, information sharing, discussion, networking, support and accountable practice amongst all who work with children, youth and families in difficulty.” The bulk of this work is carried out by CYC-Net’s Chief Operating Officer Martin Stabrey, with administrative assistance (and much more) from Carina Lewis.

To become more efficient, Martin has been working on shifting our entire website onto a content management system (CMS), WordPress, thereby future proofing all CYC-Net content for the next generations. This is a huge piece of work which will take some years to complete.

As a charitable organization overseen by volunteers, CYC-Net relies heavily on donations and sponsorship for survival. Much of our discussion over the past year has focused on the sustainability of CYC-Net, and potential new initiatives to generate additional income. We are very appreciative of the individuals and organizations that have supported CYC-Net over the years—we would not be here without you.

CYC-Net, by its very nature, does not exist within a vacuum. What happens in the world, particularly as it relates to children, youth and families, impacts what we do. So far, 2020 has been shaped by Covid-19 and, to a lesser extent, the increased public focus on systemic racism, oppression and inequity for marginalized populations. These events have shaped our internal discussions and created opportunities for reflection and innovation. I would like to thank all members of the Board of Governors for their contribution to these discussions, their willingness to engage in difficult conversation, their capacity for deep thinking, their creativity, and their ongoing commitment to CYC-Net.

Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much (Helen Keller)

Dr. Heather Modlin
QUICK HIGHLIGHTS

Discussion Groups Membership
(as at 31 March 2020)

Web Site Page Views
643,818

External web links to CYC-Net
2,612

CYC-Net App Users
744

Consecutive months CYC-Online journal published
8,882

Individual web users during the year
297,963
It’s the oldest cliche in business that says “a lot happened this year”. Well, that old cliche certainly applies to a year of events and happenings in CYC-Net!

Two significant events punctuated a very busy year. The first was our successful co-hosting (along with the NACCW, South Africa and UNICEF) of the 4th CYC World Conference in Durban, South Africa. CYC conferences in South are always “big” events. The Durban conference was no different as we welcomed nearly 1 500 delegates from around the world to a three day gathering of learning, friendship and song. Regulars on the CYC conference circuit are always blown away by the scale and energy of conference in South Africa. The 4th World conference certainly lived up to expectations! The second event was the retirement of the chairperson of our Board of Governors and long time CYC-Net devotee, Graham Bell. Graham is the past CEO of Kibble in Scotland and his support and encouragement to CYC-Net over many years was unparalleled. We wish Graham all the best on his well earned retirement!

The past year has seen CYC-Net continue to grow its offering to users. The web site maintains a user base of many thousands of daily visitors while our CYC discussion groups on Facebook also host discussions for nearly three thousand members from around the world. And our CYC-Net Android and iOS apps offer an alternative connection for those using mobile devices continue to grow. Our online journal, CYC-Online, maintains its proud record of being published every month since February 1999 – that’s 248 issues until March 2020. The average number of monthly downloads of CYC-Online for this year stands at an impressive 2204.

The CYC-Net Press also continues to provide the CYC community with a wide variety of reading material. Many titles in our store are now prescribed material at academic institutions around the world. Relational Child and Youth Care Practice, our only subscription based publication now boasts 38 academic institutions from around the world as regular subscribers.

CYC-Net is an open source information repository for all who work in the field of Child and Youth Care. However, unlike other similar organisations, CYC-Net receives no public funding. We rely solely on the generous support of our loyal individual, organisational and academic funders who recognise and value the contribution CYC-Net makes to the Child and Youth Care profession. Without the support of these generous groups, CYC-Net would not exist. As I do year after year, I express my gratitude and respect to all of our financial supporters and those who give freely of their time and expertise to assist CYC-Net.

Martin Stabrey
Year after year CYC-Net continues to connect readers through the sharing of theories, ideas, and stories about acts of caring that happen around the world. This past year CYC-Net writers produced over 123 articles (including editorials and postcards) from issue 242 in April 2019 to issue 253 in March 2020. Over half the articles were from new or occasional writers which adds to the expanding richness of the voice of those who live or work with children and young people.

Readers of the monthly issues will be familiar with the writing of regular contributors such as Kiaras Gharabaghi, Hans Skott-Myhre, Jack Phelan, Doug Magnuson, Tara Collins, and Leon Fulcher. Their steadiness in thinking and producing a written column on a regular basis is appreciated. A monthly deadline means the thought of a column is always on one’s mind at some stage between the spark of an idea and the finishing touches of a final draft.

A special celebration occurred in June 2019 with issue 244 which marked 20 years of monthly postcards from Leon Fulcher. Readers are always excited to see where Leon has been (physically or virtually) and the particular cultural insights he’s able to apply to the ways in which we care for one another in daily life.

December 2020 also marked CYC-Online issue number 250! For over 20 years CYC-Net has been making the monthly CYC-Online journal freely available – and this means there are over 20 years of back issues available for those who work with and care for children and families available today.

It has been my pleasure to serve as editor for the past five years covering nearly 50 monthly issues. With issue 251 in January 2020 Martin Stabrey added Managing Editor of the journal to his role as Chief Operations Officer. One exciting feature with this change is that we will hear more from the CYC-Net Board of Governors and Associate Editors in the monthly editorial – as we heard from Tuhinul Islam and Mark Smith in the final two issues of the year.

CYC-Net continues to build on a rich library of resources to encourage and challenge our daily work. Thank you for reading each month and being part of the CYC-Net family.

*James Freeman*
INCOME STATEMENT
as at 31 March 2020

INCOME ZAR 1 374 781

Advertising 168 540
Organisational, Association and Academic subscribers 772 340
CYC-Net Press (RCYCP subscriptions and text book sales) 353 206
Individual sponsors 80 695

EXPENDITURE ZAR 1 360 957

Accommodation 21 322
Bank Charges 10 341
Cleaning and Consumables 8 200
CYC World Conference 28 677
Electricity 18 901
Webs/App/Social media maintenance and coding (CYC-Net, RCYCP, CYC-Net Press) 764 751
Postage, Packaging and Stationery 8 004
Promotional expenses 9 350
Rent Paid 132 000
Salaries 276 000
Subscriptions - online services 35 662
Travel 47 849

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS ZAR 129 764

Goodwill 100 000
Stock of books 15 840
Cash and cash equivalents 13 924

RESERVES AND LIABILITIES ZAR 129 764