strategic plan
2019–2024
Why we’re here
To help people and communities thrive.

What we do
We support people to create positive connections.

Where we’re headed
Connected people – Empowered communities.
What guides us

We are guided by these values in everything we do – in the ways we act and the decisions we make. The respect and care they embody applies equally to the people who use our services and to our own people. We take great pride in the work we do and what we are part of, and this is reflected in how we apply our values everyday.
Willing to serve

Be open-minded and open-hearted
Make a great first impression, every time
Meet people where they're at

In it together

Appreciate difference
Embrace both individuality and connectedness
Be part of the solution and celebrate success
People matter

Respect lived experience
Make a difference – move mountains
Show kindness and compassion

Looking forward

Be savvy
Be open to change
Remember where we’re headed
Measuring success

Over the next five years we will evaluate these measures of success.

1. Positive impacts and outcomes of our services for the people who need, use and help to design them.
2. A well-functioning organisation.

Priority areas

1. Enriching people’s lives
2. Walking the talk
3. Setting the bar high
4. Putting the pieces together
1.
1. Enriching people’s lives

Goal

By 2024 we will be delivering services and supports that have been co-designed with the people who need or use them, and which better meet their needs.

Why we are focusing on this

The world is changing quickly and we have to change too. New technologies and changes in the way we live and work are having a direct impact on all of us and our relationships. People’s wellbeing and the health of their relationships are under pressure. Many of us can navigate our way through this, but many of us can also benefit from guidance and support.

At an extreme end, many people may feel isolated, lonely and disconnected from society. It doesn’t have to be like this. With the right tools and support, people can create healthy supportive relationships that allow them to flourish and live rich and fulfilling lives.

Between now and 2024 we will:

1. Raise public awareness about the link between individual wellbeing and positive connections.
2. Assess what services will be needed in the future.
3. Implement the consumer engagement strategy and related co-design framework.
4. Review the services we offer in light of the needs of different communities, then decide on what we continue to deliver and what new areas we go into.
5. Trial new service models and therapeutic approaches while continuing to draw on evidence-based and evidence-informed practices.
6. Work collaboratively with funders and other organisations to meet the current and emerging needs of communities we serve.
2.
2. Walking the talk

Goal

By 2024 everyone at RA Tas will understand our values and be deeply engaged in bringing them to life.

Why we are focusing on this

RA Tas has a strong reputation for being responsive to different communities and providing excellent services. This is built on 70 years’ experience and the efforts of our people over the years to make sure we stay connected to communities and in touch with what people need from us. As an organisation, the values that guide how we connect with people have been an essential part of everyone’s work. In the face of a rapidly changing world, those values may be put under pressure. By stating them more clearly and precisely, we can more deeply embed them in everything we do – from the way we greet people who come to our services, to the big decisions that shape who we are and what we do. By being transparent about our values, we are also signalling to people what they can expect from us – whether they be the people who use our services, work with us, partner with us or fund us.

Between now and 2024 we will:

1. Define the values and expectations that will create the desired culture for RA Tas for the next 20 years.
2. Work with our people on how to embed the values into how we live and work at RA Tas, and how we maintain a positive values-based culture.
3. Develop a strategic marketing and communications strategy that aligns everything we say and do with our values, so that people are clear about what they can expect from us.
4. Develop and run campaigns to advocate on issues or trends that align with our values, to help connect people and empower communities.
3.
3. Setting the bar high

Goal
By 2024 our people will continue to be highly skilled and professional, and our services will be of the highest quality, positioning RA Tas as a sector leader.

Why we are focusing on this
Everyone in RA Tas is critical to our success – our people are the heart of what we do and the high quality of our services is due to the contribution they make every day.

The majority of our work involves our people connecting with individuals, couples, families and groups. To keep the overall quality of what we do high, it is critical that our people remain highly skilled and their contributions acknowledged and appreciated.

Many of our services currently meet industry-recognised standards or best practice approaches. These need to be maintained and new programs will need to be accredited. This takes considerable effort across the organisation and needs to be managed as core business, not just an add-on.

Between now and 2024 we will:
1. Develop and implement a workforce strategy.
2. Continue to implement work health and safety initiatives.
3. Continue to attract and develop high quality people to work here, and recognise their value through a range of initiatives.
4. Schedule relevant accreditation processes over five years and identify resources.
5. Develop and implement quality management systems.
6. Use integrated data from multiple feedback systems to inform decision-making and create action plans.
7. Review and revise documentation to be easy for people to understand.
4.
Goal
By 2024 we will have all the resources we need to provide high quality services.

Why we are focusing on this
For RA Tas to run well, we need good governance and management systems. We also need adequate funds to finance our services and operations – to recruit and pay our people, maintain buildings and infrastructure, and make good use of technology.

We need to continue to have a healthy surplus so we can reinvest in the organisation and keep the quality of our services high. To protect the work of the whole organisation, we also need to carefully match service development with financial capacity.

New technologies offer us opportunities to expand our reach and increase our efficiency in specific areas. The impact of climate change also needs to be considered. The pace of change can be fast and we have to make sure we manage it on our own terms.

Between now and 2024 we will:
1. Evaluate our resource needs and our capacity to meet them, using appropriate frameworks.
2. Understand our cost structures and determine the best ways to deliver high quality, client-focused services in a competitive and sustainable way.
3. Develop and implement a strategic asset management plan.
4. Review how technology can be used to improve outcomes for the people who use our services, and for those who provide the services.
5. Investigate and develop an environmental sustainability strategy.
6. Continue to develop the way we measure the impact of our work.