



# RED FROGS AUSTRALIA BACKGROUND 2020

It all started in 1997 when Red Frogs Australia founder Andy Gourley (then youth pastor at Citipointe Church) hit Schoolies Week on the Gold Coast with his skateboarding mates and realised the need for a designated sober person at the massive drinking parties. Watch the full story [here](#).

## HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

From distributing 80kgs of Allen's Red Frogs lollies in 1997 to today distributing over 24 tonne across Australia, the movement started with just 17 volunteers. Today, Red Frogs is facilitated by over 3,649 volunteers throughout the year and has a primary mission of supporting young people from ages 13-30 in various party environments.

Red Frogs Australia can be found in 11 schoolies locations across Australia and Fiji and is now also found across the globe in New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, Zimbabwe and the UK through the Red Frogs Global Chaplaincy Support Network (related entity).

## RED FROGS PROGRAMS

### SCHOOLIES | EDUCATION | UNIVERSITIES | SPORTS | FESTIVALS | BOARDRIDERS

Our programs are a direct response to our mission: to combat a culture in Australia that is largely dominated by alcohol and other substances, often leading to dangerous and life-altering behaviours for young people.

The aim of these programs is to provide a positive peer presence in alcohol-fuelled environments where young people gather, educate young people on safe partying behaviours, and promote and provide alcohol-free and/or diversionary activities that engage young people in these environments.

## SCHOOLIES/LEAVERS

During Schoolies, over 1200 Red Frogs volunteers gather in 11 locations across Australia & Fiji to:

- Provide positive peer role-modelling by being a sober friend to schoolies in hotels and on the streets
- Cook more than 50,000 pancakes to ensure schoolies are well fed each day
- Walk over 3000 young people back to their accommodation
- Answer over 9,600 calls on the Red Frogs 24/7 Hotline
- Provide live entertainment on 5 stages around Aus
- Distribute 8 tonnes of Allen's red frogs lollies (donated by Allens Lollies).

## UNIVERSITIES

- Red Frogs University Program is found in all major Universities Australia-wide and approx. 143 residential colleges/halls.
- Our Uni crews support students through the transition from high school and into their new season of University life.
- Contributing over 15,569 volunteer hours and looking after approx 389,927 students
- Distributing around 10,000 donuts, 5503 icy poles and 74,132 cups of water
- Offering alternative alcohol-free events to students and party support to Universities.
- Providing 132 student leader and fresher training programs.

## FESTIVALS

Red Frogs Festival Program offers direct relief and support to over 746,900 festival patrons annually through our harm prevention strategies:

- Hydration tents
- Stage pits hydration teams
- Roaming teams
- Chill Out tents

In 2019 we supported over 42 of Australia's biggest music festivals.

## HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

530 Red Frogs Education Presentations were booked across Australia in 2018, reaching approximately 69,293 students and educating youth on:

- Decision-making/party culture
- Mental health awareness
- Leadership/life principles including: time management, relationships, work/life balance and identity.

## SPORTS

RF Sports Crew provide direct relief to sports fans, and chaplaincy support to sporting personalities/team members and their families by:

- Player/team support: home visits, positive role modelling and family support during illness or change.
- Education: providing practical steps toward drug and alcohol harm prevention.
- 'Game Day' support: distributing over 1784kgs of red frogs, providing over 35,523 cups of water and 147 litres of sunscreen to approximately 262,332 sports fans.

## BOARDRIDERS

Our Boardriders crew support and positively influence those involved in skateboarding culture as well as the general youth population within cities and smaller communities around Australia. They outwork this through organising drug- and alcohol-free skate events with local councils which include:

- Skateboard coaching/workshops
- Games
- Demonstrations
- Connecting with local youth and providing positive role modelling
- Weekly skate sessions at the Godbowl facility.