



It was only 15 short years ago that Break Thru was birthed as an independent organisation. Like any teenager, our organisation has experienced growth spurts, periods of rebellion, questions about who we really are and what we will become.

As we reach our 15th birthday, consume the obligatory cake, wear silly hats and reflect on where we have come from, it is important to look at our *raison d'être*. Our mission is to create futures for some of our society's most disadvantaged citizens. If we fail to achieve this objective, it is irrelevant how long we have been in existence or how large we have grown. It is with great satisfaction that I reflect on the thousands of people we have assisted over 15 years. People like Scott, who has an intellectual disability. We placed Scott in a job in the Sydney CBD 12 years ago. He is still there and is a valued employee. Each month Scott emails me of his career progress and how proud his workmates, family and friends are of his achievements.

We are in the business of helping real people like Scott to achieve futures that were not possible just a couple of decades ago. In our own way we are showing that all people, regardless of their barrier, are valuable Australians and worthy of inclusion in our broader society. Over the next 15 years, governments and funded programs will come and go but I am confident that Break Thru will continue to be true to its core purpose. We will have made a significant impact on society and because of Break Thru, Australia will be a much fairer place.

Ross Lewis

Chief Executive Officer

