

A ZINE ON
COLLECTIVE CARE
AND
ANTI-POVERTY WORK





this zine on COLLECTIVE CARE was

created as part of the Anti-Poverty Network SA's

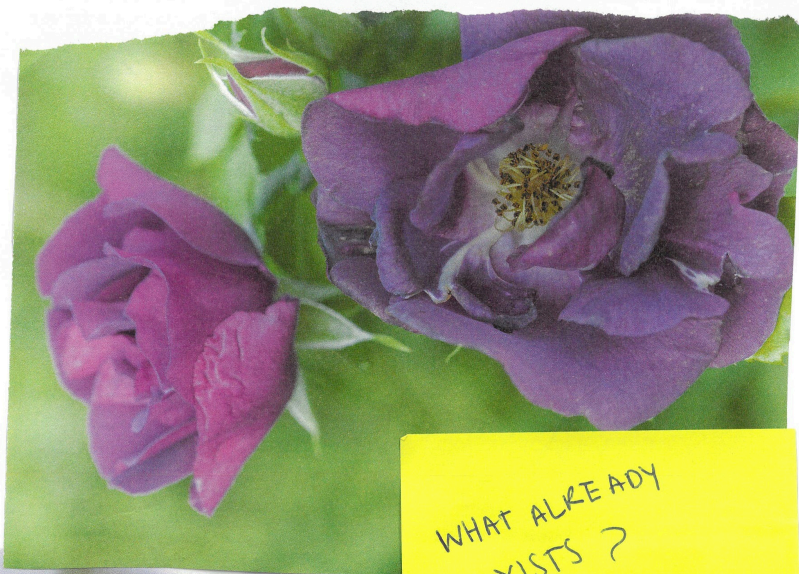
2026 GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGNING SCHOOL. The school is an 8-month program (generously supported by the WYATT TRUST) equipping people (w/ experiences of precarity and poverty) with the skills, confidence and resources to advocate for themselves and their communities.

In this zine we share some of our thinking and experiences around collective care, and some of the ways we look or could look after ourselves and each other within our network (and other communities) as we fight for a fairer, kinder and (more) just world.

this zine was collectively made by Melissa, F., Malcolm, Mel, Nicole, Pas, Fritz, Aisha, Sam, Narelle, Molly Grue, Wren, Moss, Sam and Maddi.



this zine was written/made on KURNIA LAND.
We pay our respect to Elders past, and present, and recognise that sovereignty of this land was never ceded.
ALWAYS WAS. ALWAYS WILL BE ABORIGINAL LAND.



WHAT ALREADY
EXISTS ?



What already exists?

- People
- Networks
- Skills

Calling people out in groups without being alienated (both ways).



COME AS YOU ARE
There is no need to
explain, justify



The work we do
+ supporting other
activists is in its
own way ~~unique~~
collective care -
spending time with
caring people.

Collective Care
in APN - Exists

- Engage at your individual
Capacity

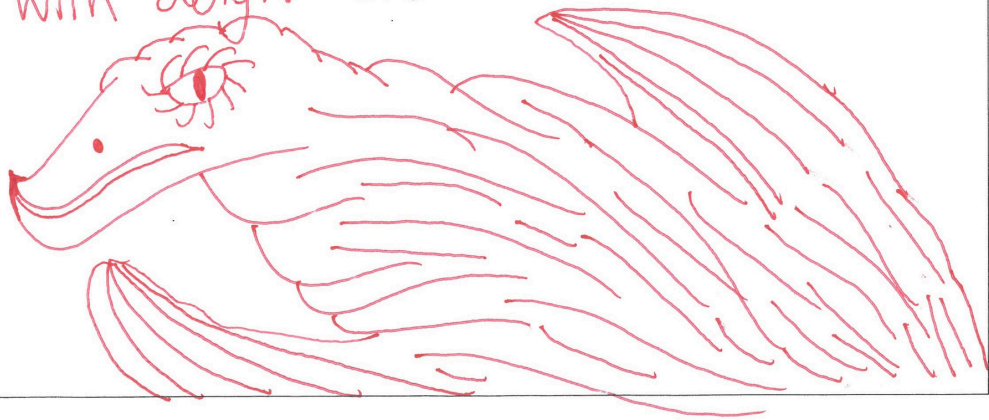


EMPATHY

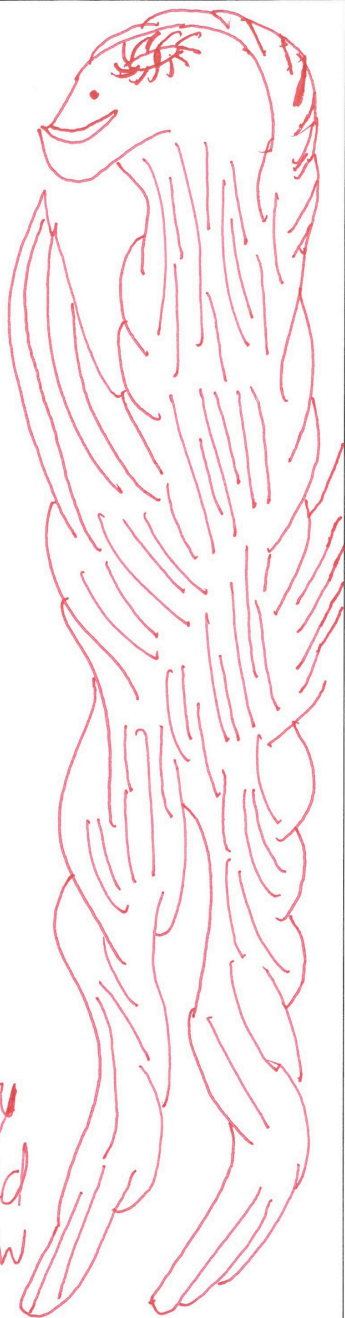




When I started doing activism, I was fuelled by burning rage and disgust, and I often feel those things still. But now, what keeps me going is deep admiration, respect for the fine people I ^{work} with - extraordinarily tough, big-hearted, wise, and strange - and wonder and joy for the work we do as organisers. Yes, it's often very exasperating and difficult, and rocky times are frequent, but there is also great beauty, joy, warmth, and so much that fills me with delight and wonder.



The big wins seem far off. No JobSeeker raise. No rent-freeze. No new funding for public housing. But every week I see small wins that keep me going. Someone speaks in public for the first time, speaks to the media for the first time. Finds their voice, does things they never thought they could. Every splash we make, every community lunch or public forum, pulled off, against the odds. How we, as a group, as a community, survive against the odds. That's what keeps me going.





WHAT IS
MISSING ?

WHAT DO WE
NEED MORE
OFF ?



What is missing?



• More purposeful /
aware / shared action



NEED CLEAR
RULES/EXPECTATION
ABOUT WHAT TO
DO IF YOU CAN'T
DO A ROLE/TASK



WE NEED TO
LEARN TO
LISTEN TO
OURSELVES

I wish there was
food available for
free at uni &
someone to help
fill out Centrelink
forms / applications



Accessibility for
everyone



Conflict

Conflict resolution
practices made
clear

practices
made
clear



I.D.K. within APN
A Southern
branch
- More general
APN
- social
activities



What is missing.

I would like to be
able to convey
the intentions of
the APN to
other groups of
people with more
confidence.



RADICAL EMPATHY



EXPANSIVE
SOLIDARITY



COLLECTIVE CARE





WHAT
GETS IN
THE
WAY ?



What gets in the way?

People's capacity

Communication

PEOPLE COMMIT
WITH GENUINE
INTENT, BUT
END UP NOT
FOLLOWING
THRU

CONFLICTING
DEMANDS
W/OTHER
ACTIVISM/
SUPPORT WORK

PEOPLE NEED
TO BE REALISTIC
ABOUT CAPACITY
+ ABILITY!

The work of ~~the~~
campaigning for
APNSA + all of
the other things
we support, get
in the way.

EVERYONE
HAS SO MANY
THINGS ON
THEIR PLATE

Time gets in the
way.

- capacity
- transport -



What gets in the way
CAPITALISM!



What is your core language

The most dangerous type of care
is carried out by those unaffected
by the issues.

THERE IS
ALWAYS MORE
TO BE DONE!



paywall



FUNDING OUR WAY 2 REVOLUTION



ARE YOU A
COMMUNIST?

DO YOU LOVE
FUNDING?

A GRANT
WRITING
GURU?

TAKE ACTION
WITH US

NATIONWIDE



FUCK

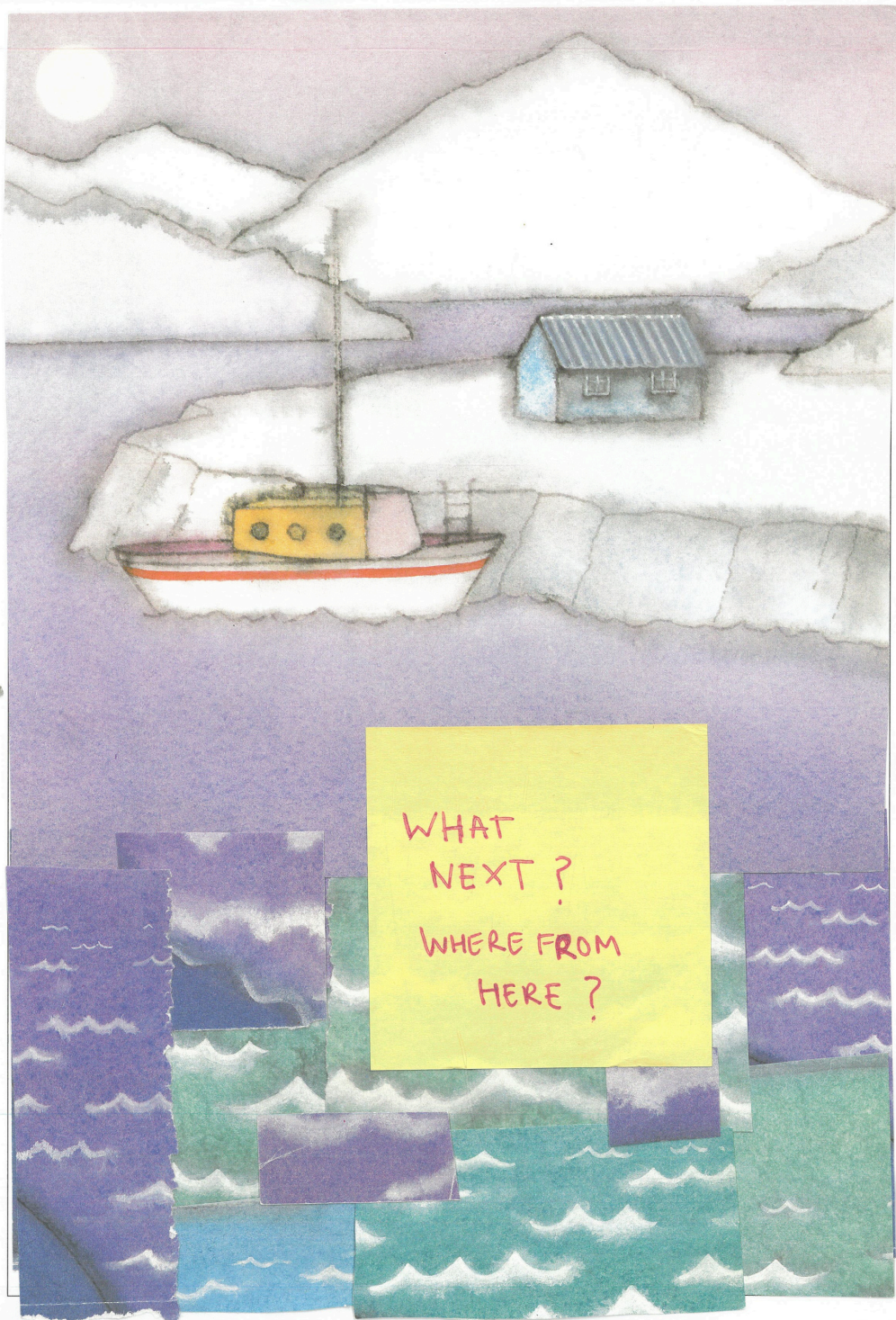


RICH GOLFER
PIGS



→ POSSUM
PARK





WHAT
NEXT ?
WHERE FROM
HERE ?

What next
informal? regular social
meeting with a small
goal. learning / Banner
Sewing



APNSA needs more
social events going
forward -
maybe a social
working group to
plan next 6 mths
social events.

NEED TO GET
MORE APN
MEMBERS
FROM PASSIVE
→ ACTIVE
PARTICIPATION

Ask for
Ask for funding for
care activities
as part of
campaigns
as part of
campaigns

The importance
of celebrating
small wins - let's
do this more!!



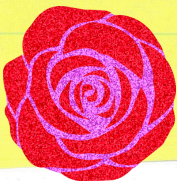
What next /
where from here?

- more
organized
action.
- thinking about
what's needed / how
to address

Building community free
of state/corporate
interference

Create groups to
Make sure things can
get done even if capacity
is low

Mutual aid checkpoints
on social media



WE SHOULD
SET GOOD
EXAMPLES OF
CARING FOR
OURSELVES
MAINTAIN:
- EATING
- SLEEPING
- HYDRATION!
*CAN'T DO SHIT
W/OUT THOSE



WHAT 'CARE'
ACTIVITIES
ARE YOU GOOD
AT/LIKE TO
DO? DO THOSE!

CARE



- Rest in its various forms (including sleep and taking time off work, study, responsibilities)
- Food and nourishment
- Movement
- Pleasure and creativity
- Boundaries
- Time alone or with others
- Noticing glimmers
- Other practices and activities that make life more bearable

Care is the ongoing and interdependent work of meeting needs and sustaining life.



Collective care is about building the capacity to sustain each other and our work over the long term.



Collective care often happens behind the scenes, as part of day-to-day everyday life.

Collective care is about sharing food, childcare, transport, skills, medication, housing, resources, and knowledge. It is making sure people are fed, rested and safe.

Collective care is a conscious choice and practice to share the responsibilities of care outside the individual and the nuclear family.



COLLECTIVE CARE

We take care of each other so we can take care of our communities.

The work we do at APNSA keeps me sane



Hanging out with like-minded people gives me hope



We need to hang out more without expectation of work or discussions about the poverty and housing crisis

Let's start a social event working group and plan some stuff!

Check in on a friend or family member, or someone else in your community



Self care is activism in itself



We're stronger together. Let's build the world we all deserve.

Liberation

is

a blank space

empty

Waiting to be filled
with things

That bring you
joy

THE GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGNING
SCHOOL WAS
JUST THE BEGINNING...



Whether you came to
every session or just
a few, you've helped
create something
special.

Over the past eight months
we have ...

learnt new skills
shared stories
challenged ideas
built relationships
with people who care
deeply about justice.

You don't have
to do everything.
You just have to
keep doing something.

Campaigns don't change
the world because a few
people work themselves
into the ground.

They change because
ordinary people keep
showing up, learning,
supporting one another,
and taking the next step.

ONE LAST THING...

If there's one thing we hope
you take away from this school,
it's this:

You do not need to be
the loudest voice,
the smartest organiser,
or the busiest activist
to make a difference.

Social change is made by
ordinary people who keep
showing up for one another.

Start where you are.

Do what you can.

Let others do the same.



Together, that's how
we change the world.



ANTI-POVERTY NETWORK



SOUTH AUSTRALIA

RAISE
CENTRELINK
ABOVE THE
POVERTY LINE

OUR
COMMUNITIES
DESERVE
BETTER



FROM ALL
THE GRASSROOTS
CAMPAIGNING
SCHOOL
CREW

