

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE SINCE 1999

# MINI NEVER GIVE UP NEWS



#### MANAGER'S UPDATE

FEBRUARY - APRIL 2020

CHRISTINE WILLIAMSON

What a beautiful time of year! Our Youth Service has been busy redesigning our programs to continue helping young people throughout the coronavirus pandemic. We were not able to deliver our usual program, but the team came up with some amazing alternatives many of which exceeded our expectations providing deep engagement with Youth, Families and Communities. My heart has also been uplifted by hearing some of the great things that Anangu are doing in their communities. It is wonderful to hear about communities coming together to support each other through this difficult time.

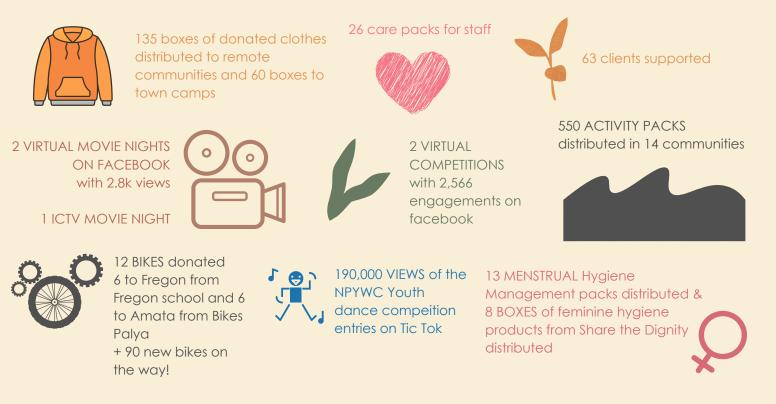
A special thank you to the service providers that helped us to distribute resource packs to young people and their families. We have been grateful for your support. A special mention should go to the Ngaanyatjarra lands service providers. As we have not been able to get all our staff across the border as planned, through collaborating with service providers has meant we have been able to send out activity packs. Another special thank you to the Kiwirrkurra Community for support our staff to get back home and deliver the youth program.

#### I hope you enjoy reading our latest mini NGU news edition.

#### Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council Youth Service

### -CHANGES TO SERVICE DELIVERY -

The Youth Service has had to make many changes to our service delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic. Whilst we were not able to run our usual activities, our staff came up with creative ways to engage young people.



The Youth Service developed posters to put up around community explaining the COVID-19 restrictions.



Pictured above is Nazarus & Jamie from Kiwirkurra with one of the posters.

The Youth Service held an online dance competition in May - look out for this story in the next newsletter or check it out online <u>here</u>.



### THE YOUTH TEAM ADVOCACY

"Women's Council established our Youth Team a long time ago. Now see how large it has grown. See how many young women are working for the Youth Team. I think that is marvellous. When we first started the Women's Council we had no idea that it would get so big. Sadly all ladies the old who were the original founders of the Women's Council have passed away, never knowing that one day many of their granddaughters would be working for the Youth Team, as they are today. These young women make me proud. Fortunately for me, I am still alive and am able to see my own great grand daughter working for the Youth Team. I am so proud of her."



NELLIE PATTERSON - TRANSLATED BY LINDA RIVE

#### "These young women make me proud."



Youth Development Officer Ludo with Andrew Ken

Ludo our Youth Development Officer in Mutijulu has performed a feat!! He has successfully advocated for the local ANZ Yulara branch to accept Mutijulu Residents cards as a form of ID! It is a huge deal for the residents of Mutitjulu, especially young people who can now more easily access the services they need.

Whilst it might not seem like a lot to those that haven't done Bank Card and ID work – this is a huge advocacy win from Ludo. The time and energy required to gather all the necessary documentation posed a large barrier to accessing ANZ bank's services. Ludo, after many visits and appeals to the local ANZ branch in Yulara has finally received confirmation that they will now accept this ID. Thanks to Ludo's hard work an persistence banking for those living in Mutitjulu just got a whole lot easier!

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

#### Here are some of the different ways our youth workers have been keeping young people busy during COVID-19!

COVID 19 restrictions hasn't mean't the Youth Service has stopped working with young people. Our youth workers have had to become very creative to find activities to engage youth whilst still complying with the Federal Government restrictions.









Donated clothes for the cooler weather have been much appreciated as





cooking packs in Amata









Lydia, the Anangu Support Worker in Kiwirrkurra has been enjoying the change of pace.

"Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we have to stay at home to stay safe. In Kiwirrkurra, youth activity boxes are being delivered to community houses. I have done a lot of youth activities with my family at home. I did kungka night, cooking and sometimes painting. I took a lot of pictures. It makes me feel happy, but I have to do a lot of cleaning afterwards. Together with YDOs Maysa and Pietro, I also set up movie nights outside my house. It is so easy. I enjoy the movie with my family and neighbors. We laugh a lot during the movie. We sit around the fire. It makes me feel warm." - Lydia Ward

Left: Kalisha, Ronia & Lydia Right: Lydia & Derica







Tanisha and Shakalia from Imanpa are all dressed up and ready to record a dance video for the NPYWC Youth dance competition. Check it out <u>here</u>!



## YOUTH TEAM GET TOGETHER

In February we had our annual symposium and youth team get together where all our staff from across the NPY region come into Alice Springs for two days of talking and celebrating the great work that has been done. We heard from many different speakers including June Oscar who spoke about our theme for the event:

"Supporting the dreams of young women the hopes of mother's and the visions of grandmothers"

Indie & Jaz Pukatja Jezabel & Mary Finke

# - SYMPOSIUM 2020



### OUR PARTNERS

#### BIKES PALYA

Bikes Palya generously donated 6 bikes to Amata community. This is what Georgia, the Youth Development Officer in Amata has to say about the bikes:

"Thanks so much for the Bikes donated to Amata community. They have been an enormous help, especially given the changes in programing in response to COVID19. The bikes have been hired out over 150 times over the past two weeks and what's even more amazing – the strict no helmet no bike rule has set a standard for wearing helmets across Amata.

Thanks again for your help - we miss Cairns and Char and can't wait for you to be back on the lands!"









#### Soccer Competition with Mac Youth

Just before COVID-19 hit, NPYWC Youth Service assisted twelve young fellows from Finke and Imanpa to attend a Mac Youth Soccer competition held on the 14th March. The event brought together a southern cluster of the Macdonell Regional Council communities of Finke, Imanpa, Titjikala, Hermannsburg, Santa Teresa and, winners, Amoonguna. Players camped together with NPYWC and MRC staff in Amoonguna and had a big Saturday of round robin competition with the other communities.

A big thank you is deserved by MacDonnell Regional Council and particularly Ted Lawrence for organising and conducting the event. Further sports series are planned by MRC, and NPYWC Youth Service looks forward to helping young people from Finke, Imanpa, Mutijulu and Docker River attend these events in collaboration with MacDonnell Regional Council.

### EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP

### YAAG

The YAAG (Youth Anangu Advisory Group) is a team made up of some of our senior Anangu Youth Workers. The YAAG meets annually to discuss current Anangu employment strategies as well as program design and delivery.

Our February YAAG meeting was held at Yulara. During the meeting we finalised the terms of reference for the group as well as reviewed some of the current Youth Service Project areas.

The YAAG agreed that the next meeting will involve the group travelling to a range of communities so they themselves can learn about what's happening in other communities in the region & to encourage new Anangu workers.

The YAAG is an important way that the Youth Service puts Anangu voice at the centre or program design.



Adrielle, Regina, Wanatjura, Shardina, Neisha, Azaria & Brett



For Further information you can contact Sarah on 08 89582345 or youth.educationadvocacy@npy wc.org.au

#### **EDUCATION ADVOCACY**

Our Youth Service is working hard to make sure everyone stays safe and connected with each other. This includes young people staying connected with schools in your community and boarding schools.

Last year we were given the opportunity to employ a Education Advocacy Project Officer to start listening to young people and their families about their education worries and hopes. We are keen to hear young people's stories, what they think about school and what we can do to help them go to school. These stories will help NPYWC to speak up with government about what young people want and need.

Sarah Bourke is our Project Officer. She looks forward to visiting your community soon and meeting with young people, families, community members and education providers.



### WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF!



ADRIENNE RINGIN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER BLCAKSTONE



JACQUELINE DOOLAN Anangu Support Worker



NPY Women's Council acknowledges the support of the Central Land Council and CAYLUS for their support of the Youth Program.

Our focus is always on delivering a good quality service and for Anangu to play a big role in helping us to decide on what those services look like. So, if you would like to talk with us about any part of our youth service, make sure you contact the local Youth Worker in your community and come along to our planning meetings. Or you can contact us using the details below.

For more information, help or support for young people, please contact us. F: www.facebook.com/NPYWC/ Ph: (08) 8958 2345 W: www.npywc.org.au/youth

