

MINI NEVER GIVE UP NEWS



MANAGER'S UPDATE

CHRISTINE WILLIAMSON



AUGUST - OCTOBER 2019

The last few months have included many big events for NPY Women's Council and the Youth Service. Back in August we had the NT Softball Championships in Alice Springs as well as NPY Women's Council Annual General Meeting, followed by a leadership trip down to Adelaide, attendance at the Close the Climb event at Uluru and our annual Youth Service retreat to Ross River. In between all that our youth workers ran October school holiday programs as well as their usual programs during term time. It is not surprising that that the last few months have flown by!

We have just received great news that the Youth Service has received another 3 years of funding for the NT youth programs. This means we can continue to provide services to our NT communities. We are also very excited to see so many new faces joining the Youth Service, with twelve new staff members commencing since August 1st, that must be a record!



PUKULPA ANUNA ULURULAKUTU

Close the Climb Law & Culture Camp

In October, Youth Services worked closely with Maruku Arts, CAMHS, and a number of other organisations, to support a group of 10 minyma and 12 kungkawaras from Amata to travel to Mutitjulu and participate in an inma training camp to prepare for the celebrations to close the climb at Uluru.

Docker River, Kalka, Fregon and Pukatja communities also joined the camp. At the camp the kungkas practiced inma for the performance, prepared costumes for dancing, and painting. They also participated in a lot of other fun activities like disco, band nights, and swimming at the Mutitjulu pool.

The kungkas danced on Saturday night at the celebration in Mutitjulu, and then again on Sunday night, at the celebration at Talinguru Nyakuntjaku, in front of over two thousand people. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed celebrating the special event. Thanks to Alpana Rajgopal, Georgia Farquer (NPYWC Youth) Wanatjura Lewis, Veronica Lewis and Jodie Watson (CAMHS) for making the camp possible, as well as all the Maruku Arts staff that provided support.



ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY TRIP

In November 2019, NPYWC Youth Service undertook a University Exposure visit for 11 young people from the NPY region. The purpose of the visit was to provide an opportunity for students from remote communities to see what a university is, what it is like to study there, and what are the options if that is what you choose. The visit was coordinated with the University of Adelaide who run an annual university experience for Indigenous students called Marni Wingku.

Students travelled from the remote communities of Irrunytju, Amata and Pukatja into Alice Springs before flying altogether to Adelaide. For some young people this was their first time in a aeroplane and in a capital city. There were three Anangu Youth Workers that travelled with the students from the three different communities. It was a great opportunity for them to support the young people and also learn about university for themselves.

The trip began with a warm welcome at the Adelaide airport by Adelaide University staff who took us to the accommodation near the beach. Here we met other students who had travelled from other regional areas. There were some familiar faces from the softball comp the week earlier. After some time exploring the pool, go karts, jumping castle and beach, we had a presentation from university staff about what to expect at university and all the support that is available. All the food was provided and was absolutely delicious!

The next day was spent at the University of Adelaide. Wirltu Yarlur, the Aboriginal Education Unit at the university, had a jam packed day of sessions across the different faculties that showcased those areas of study. There were sessions on science, physics, engineering and arts, among many others. They were all done in a way to encourage the students to get involved and participate. The final day was a tour of Adelaide oval where the students got to feel what it was like to be a football player running out onto the oval. It was a fitting end to a big week.

The trip was not only beneficial to the young people who attended but also to the Anangu staff who were able to learn about university. This was a great trip and something NPYWC Youth Service wants to continue to develop and run in the coming years.



NT SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

In September this year, NPYWC Youth Service brought two State/Territory representative teams from the NPY region to the first NT Softball Championships to be held in the red centre since 2001. The "NT All-Stars" "APY Thunder" brought young women from across 8 of 13 NPY Youth Service communities to Alice Springs in conjunction with SANFL and NT Department of Health. The young women playing represented their communities with pride over the weekend, with APY Thunder taking third place.

Alongside the Championships, NPYWC Youth Service also engaged the young women in some Kulintja Palyaringkuntjaku or "Positive Thinking" workshops based on topics such as menstrual health management and emotional/social well-being.

Everyone had a great time, with the competition being fierce but friendly. Over the many years there had been ongoing requests to participate in a region-wide competition. Softball is very much loved in all of our communities. This was the perfect opportunity to do it. As always at NPY Women's Council:

'OUR PLACE, OUR PEOPLE AND
OUR CULTURE ARE AT THE HEART
OF WHAT WE DO'.





October School Holidays!



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Each year, NPY Women's Council holds an Annual General Meeting on the lands. These meetings form an essential part of our strategic objective of kunpu nyinantjaku, Anangu women's leadership, authority, culture and well being. NPY Women's Council staff assist with travel and the logistics of getting over 150 members to the meeting. This year the Youth Service focused on promoting the voices of young people by encouraging more young women to attend.

NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION HEARING

Recently Director M Smith, NPYWC CEO Liza Balmer, Empowered Communities Project Manager Sasha Kiessling and NPYWC Youth Services Manager Christine Williamson attended the NYC hearing about young people, education and employment. It was a great opportunity for NPYWC to talk about the challenges for young people to get a good education and employment, but also the opportunities such as those that boarding school give to young people.

We have invited the NYC to join with NPYWC in advocating for better mental health support for young people, as well as to work together on boarding school access and boarding standards, as well as fairer access to education on the lands across the whole region.



YOUTH RETREAT AT ROSS RIVER

At the end of October the whole Youth Service headed to Ross River for some team building. We had Softball NT and AFL NT come out to run some sessions, and some of our staff ran sessions as well on sports and self-care. Whilst we were there we worked with Sam Togni to work out the service program logic which helps us to be clear about what we do, why we do it and what it takes to make it happen so we check that our work is helpful to young people. It was a perfect opportunity to do some great work, hang out with other staff and have some relaxing time by the pool.



PUKATJA YOUTH SHED DONATION

A large group of Jawun Executives and representative visited Pukatja to have a look at the work their secondees assist with in the community. Following a presentation from the NPYWC Youth Service, a number of amazing women led by Bluescope Chief Legal Officer and Company Secretary, Debra Counsell, did a fundraiser for much needed equipment at the Pukatja Youth Shed. Debra promised and she delivered! Thank you. These women raised over \$2000.

This money was used to purchase a pool table and inflatable movie screen for the youth shed. Despite challenging logistics, 3 months later the young people now have a new pool table and movie screen. It has been very popular and has made a huge difference. We would like to say thank you for the kindheartedness and generosity of a small group of people who have long left the community but left us with something valuable – the resources and friendships made.



KP MEN'S CAMP - BLACKSTONE

On the 7th of Oct 2019 we went to Blackstone to do a young men's camp at Warūtjarra along with UK (Uti Kulintjaku) men's group and at the same time a KP (Kulintja Palyarĩngkunyťjaku) Workshop for 2 nights on the 9th & 10th of October. We had 8 young men's and 8 senior men's on the camp.

On the first night we talked about trauma and how trauma can affect men, later that night tjilpi's started talking to them about tjukurrpa (dreamtime story) and how tjukurrpa can keep them and their family strong. The next day we went out to visit some sites and to get kulata (spears).



FAREWELL TO OUR MALPA WIRU KUNMUNARA PEARCE

NPYWC expresses sadness at the recent loss of Kunmunara Pearce in Imanpa. Kunmunara worked with our Youth Service for the past 3 years. She was the mother of Clarrie and Anne-Marie, two beautiful children. Kunmunara was kind, caring and funny. She was a quiet achiever, getting on with the business of looking after the youth program in Imanpa. She was a great role model for the children, young people and adults in her community. We will miss her beautiful smile and her kind heart. Her funeral is being held in Imanpa on the 13th December 2019.



LUKA OLESEN

Luka is a social work student who has just completed her three month placement with NPY Women's Council Youth Service. We are very excited to welcome Luka back as a Youth Development Officer in Imanpa starting December 3rd!



JEZABEL STEWART

Jezabel has taken a 12 month leave of absence from her Anangu Employment Officer role. JB is available to contact in her absence. We look forward to welcoming Jezabel back next year after a well-deserved break.

CAISLEY SINCLAIR

After over four years working as a Youth Development Officer in Imanpa and Mutitjulu, time has come to say goodbye to Caisley (pictured right). Thank you for your hard work and dedication over the years, you will be missed!



CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN

NPY Women's Council Youth Service will be closed for the Christmas period between 24th December and the 2nd January 2020. No services will be provided during this time. On behalf of NPY Women's Council Youth Service we would like to wish you all a happy and safe festive season!





ISAAC ONGK
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER FREGON



LUKA OLESEN
SOCIAL WORK STUDENT/
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
IMANPA



YANIMA BRYANT
ANANGU SUPPORT WORKER
IRRUNYTJU



ABBIE O'BRIEN
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER PIPALYATJARA



NANCY TURNER
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER DOCKER RIVER



PAULINE NANDY
ANANGU SUPPORT WORKER
MIMILI



GEORGIA FARQUER
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER AMATA



DELISHA UMALA
ANANGU SUPPORT WORKER
JAMESON



NYANU BURTON
ANANGU SUPPORT WORKER
AMATA



NATALIE O'TOOLE
ANANGU SUPPORT WORKER
IRRUNYTJU



SAM KEN
ANANGU SUPPORT WORKER
FREGON



SHARON DOOLAN
ANANGU SUPPORT WORKER
BLACKSTONE

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF!

NPY Women's Council acknowledges the support of the National Indigenous Australians Agency and the South Australian Department of human services for their support of the Youth Program.

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



THANKS TO OUR



Department of Human Services



Australian Government
National Indigenous
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NIAA

PARTNERS!