

NGAANYATJARRA PITJANTJATJARA YANKUNYTJATJARA WOMEN'S COUNCIL (ABORIGINAL CORPORATION)

# **ANNUAL REPORT** 2017–18



Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council (Aboriginal Corporation)

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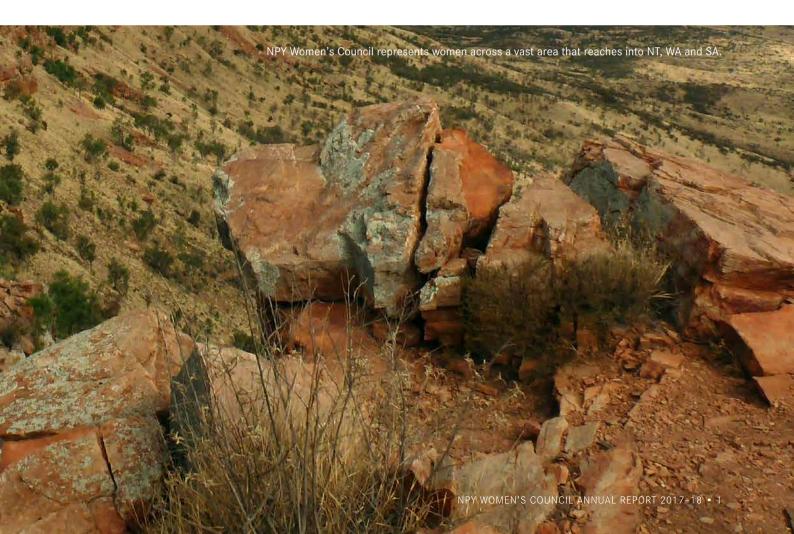
NGAANYATJARRA PITJANTJATJARA YANKUNYTJATJARA WOMEN'S COUNCIL (ABORIGINAL CORPORATION)

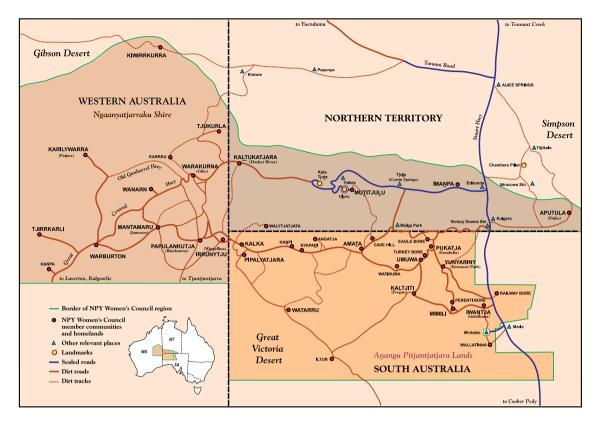
### HISTORY OF THE NPY WOMEN'S COUNCIL AND WHO WE ARE

The Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council (NPYWC) represents women in the NPY region (see map overleaf), which has an Aboriginal (Anangu or Yarnangu) population of around 6000. Its membership area covers a vast, remote, semi-arid expanse of some 350,000 square kilometres in the tri-state region of central Australia.

The idea for a women's organisation in the region arose during the South Australian Pitjantjatjara Land Rights movement of the late 1970s. The women felt their needs were not being addressed and so established their own organisation. The first meeting was held at Kanpi in South Australia's far north in December 1980. NPYWC was separately incorporated in 1994 under the old Commonwealth *Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act.* It now falls under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (Cwlth) – the CATSI Act.

Membership of NPYWC is open to any woman who is at least 16 years of age and who is an Aboriginal woman from the NPY region and/or whom the Directors consider has valid cultural or family connections to the region. She must be deemed by the Directors to be of good character and willing to follow the guiding principles of the organisation (see page 2).





#### GOVERNANCE

NPY Women's Council elects up to 12 Directors who are all women from the NPY region. Women's Council has a chairperson and vice-chairperson. The Directors meet at least quarterly to discuss programs and priorities and other issues of interest to members. All members are invited to attend an AGM to receive reports from Directors and staff, and to provide referrals, responses to service delivery and ongoing direction.

#### **OUR WORK**

While NPYWC began as an advocate for women in the central tri-state area, it is now also a major provider of human services to women and their families in the region. It remains a strong voice for its members on issues such as substance abuse, domestic and family violence, child protection, policing and other safety issues, and the needs and aspirations of young people.

#### **OUR VISION**

All Anangu living well in both worlds.

#### **OUR PURPOSE**

To support all Anangu, especially women and children, to have a good life, guided by culture and sound governance, through the collective agency of women.

#### OUR VALUES

We are an Anangu-led organisation. We believe in the strength of our people, our culture and the collective agency of women. We are continually guided by our values, to deliver on our purpose and ensure we deliver for and to our community, more and better choices; a good life for all Anangu.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES Ngapartji ngapartji / Respect each other Kulinma munu iwara wananma tjukarurungku / Follow the law straight Kalypangku / Conciliatory Piluntjungku / Peaceful and calm Kututu mukulyangku / Kind-hearted Tjungungku / United Ku<u>n</u>pungku / Strong

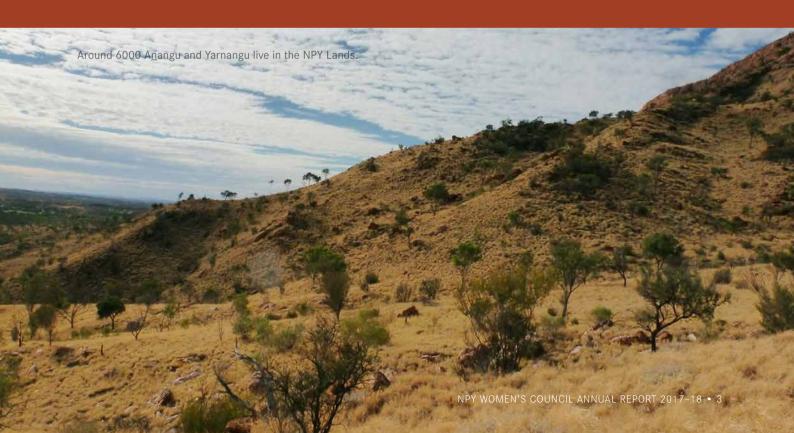
### NPY WOMEN'S COUNCIL ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

#### **ELECTED DIRECTORS 2017–19**

	CHAIRPERSON MAIMIE BUTLER – BLACKSTONE, WA		VICE CHAIRPERSON MARGARET SMITH – IMANPA, NT		
WANATJURA LEWIS AMATA, SA	DENISE BRADY DOCKER RIVER, NT	YANYI BANDICHA PUKATJA, SA	JANET FORBES BLACKSTONE, WA	RENE KULITJA MUTITJULU, NT	JULIE ANDERSON FINKE, NT
	INAWANTJI SCALES PIPALYATJARA, SA	NYUNMITI BURTON AMATA, SA	DAISY WARD WARAKURNA, WA	MANTUWA JAMES KIWIRRKURRA, WA	

#### **KEY STAFF AND CORE ACTIVITES**

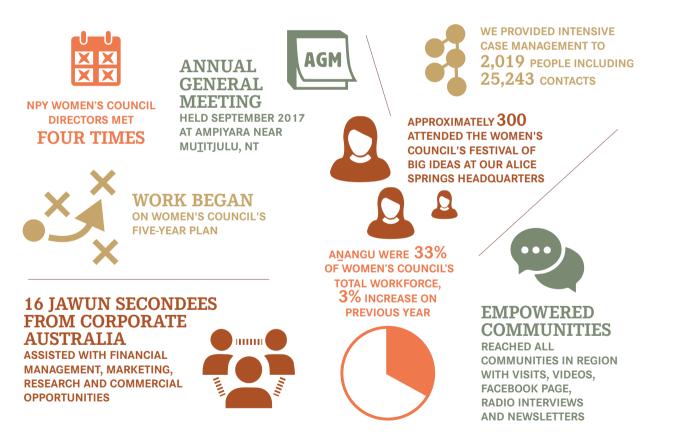
	CEO ANDREA MASON		DEPUTY CEO LIZA BALMER	
CORPORATE SERVICES	PEOPLE AND WORKPLACE SERVICES	GOVERNANCE AND EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATE	FINANCE	ADMINISTRATION
HUMAN SERVICES	DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE SERVICE	TJUNGU TEAM (AGED AND DISABILITY)	YOUTH PROGRAM	CHILD AND FAMILY WELLBEING SERVICE
		NGANGKA <u>R</u> I PROGRAM	TJANPI DESERT WEAVERS	



### MANAGEMENT REPORT

ANDREA MASON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### THE YEAR IN SNAPSHOT





#### A<u>N</u>ANGU CULTURE, GOVERNANCE AND AGENCY

The 2017 NPY Women's Council's annual general meeting was held in September at Ampiyara, near Mutitjulu in the Northern Territory. The members elected 12 Directors to serve a term of two years. Maimie Butler from Western Australia was elected chairperson and Margaret Smith from the Northern Territory was elected vice-chairperson.

During the 2017–18 financial year the Directors met in August and November 2017, and in February and May 2018. The Directors undertook governance training in November 2017; the training covered a range of topics including their responsibilities under the CASTI Act 2006 and to the NPY Women's Council as a whole.

Our effort to design pathways and opportunities to support our A<u>n</u>angu workforce is an important piece of our work. This year we invested time to gather ideas and seek advice from our Directors and A<u>n</u>angu workers on the best way to support their development and careers. The People and Workplace Services team are taking the lead to capture this information and include it in future strategies to strengthen our recruitment and retention practices.

In this work we are aware that NPY Women's Council supports and engages hundreds of Anangu through lifeempowering opportunities; for example, we engage 400 Tjanpi fibre artists annually (see pages 30–35); through initiatives such as Uti Kulintjaku (see pages 27–28) we employ men and women to provide cultural advice and insights on complex mental health issues; and we use interpreters and translators on a daily basis. Through these activities we strengthen the cultural governance and leadership of the region which, in turn, benefits our members and their families.

Planning for our next five-year strategic plan (*Kuranyu Kutu*) commenced in 2017–18. Directors, members and staff, along with important stakeholders, have provided input to help us build a structure for new and ongoing initiatives. Critical ideas that have emerged from these discussions include:

- Anangu culture, governance and agency
   kunpu nyinantjaku
- operational excellence *wirura warkarinytjaku*
- evidence-based practice warka malikitja utiringanyi
- strong relationships Women's Council-nya tjunguringu EC munu Jawun munu A<u>n</u>angu organisations tjuta. Warkarinytjikitja wati tjuta kulu, wati tjuta kunpuringkunytjaku.
- A<u>n</u>angu-led voice *nganymanytju nguru nganana* wangkangu tjitji malatja tjuta wirungku kunpu kanyintjaku rawa
- financial sustainability *business* pakaltjinganytjikitjangku. Nganana wangkakatingi.



#### **OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Throughout 2017–18 the management group collectively and with each of the service teams focused on staff wellbeing, training and development. We took time to properly examine our workplace conditions, our overall work and its impact in the region. This reflective thinking, through research and evaluation frameworks, ensures we identify those aspects of our service delivery models that work well. We also ask the difficult questions about areas that are not working as effectively and take time to listen to our Directors, our members and clients as we design new approaches. As part of this examination we created a research working group to assist NPYWC triage research requests, internally and externally, aligning them with our priority research areas.

We continue to build workplace systems that understand that service delivery in a trauma-informed workplace must be strengths-based and evidenced-based. Training to address vicarious trauma is offered to staff and, in coming years, other offerings will be developed to promote selfcare and mental wellness among staff.

We hold annual and other regular meetings that offer staff opportunities to listen, learn, reflect and share. Staff meetings are held every month and are structured to draw information together for staff who have the opportunity to raise questions, to seek as well as hear information on the broader work of NPYWC. The annual Staff and





Women's Council's annual Festival of Big Ideas brings together staff to reflect and challenge themselves in readiness for the year ahead.

Directors Symposium (Festival of Big Ideas) is held every February. Holding the meeting early in the year gives staff and Directors the opportunity to listen, reflect, participate and be challenged by a range of guest speakers and team exercises. In 2017–18 we heard from Associate Professor Sheree Carney from Interplay, Flinders University, whose work explores the interplay between health and wellbeing, and education and employment in remote communities. Our Uti Kulintjaku team presented on *Tjulpu and Walpa*, a book which introduces the idea of trauma and the personal and collective agency present in Aboriginal communities to reduce the impact of trauma. We also heard from some inspiring emerging leaders from communities outside of our region.

Our Corporate Services teams are Administration, People and Workplace Services, and Finance. They are critical to manage risk and compliance, both lawfully and in a timely manner. Training and development, new revenue streams, and building workplace systems, culture and infrastructure are identified as key areas for us to strengthen in coming years.

#### JAWUN

Jawun is a non-government organisation that links Aboriginal organisations with corporate and government partners, for example, Westpac, Commonwealth Bank, insurance companies and the Australian Government. Jawun works in nine regions across Australia. *Jawun* means *malpa* (friend) or *waltja* (family).

Since 2015 NPY Women's Council has been Jawun's lead Indigenous partner in Central Australia. Other local partners are Western Desert Dialysis, Regional A<u>n</u>angu Service Aboriginal Corporation, Nganampa Health Council, Ngaanyatjarra Council and Ngaanyatjarra Health Service.

In 2017–18 NPYWC hosted 16 of Jawun's total 45 secondees. The secondees came from Westpac, Commonwealth Bank, IAG Insurance, TAL Insurance, BlueScope Steel, Melbourne University, and the Australian and NSW governments.

NPY Women's Council's secondees worked on a range of projects, including:

- scoping the viability of a commercial arm
- Social Return on Investment modelling
- · cash investment strategy with our Finance team
- design of new offices and investment options
- preparation for NPY Women's Council Australian Service Excellent Standards accreditation
- review of Tjanpi Desert Weavers' website and content development for NPYWC's website
- development of a research strategy for NPYWC.

#### **EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES**

Empowered Communities (EC) is a national program based in nine Australian regions and was created by Aboriginal leaders from across Australia. NPYWC auspices the EC initiative in the NPY region.

EC is creating new and better ways for Anangu to work with government by giving greater control and decisionmaking power to Anangu. It aims to ensure that programs and projects delivered in communities are based on the ideas and priorities of that community, and are delivered in the most effective and efficient way. In the NPY region EC is a collaboration of local Aboriginal organisations. Since 2013 we have worked with seven Anangu organisations.

A key focus of 2017–18 was strengthening relationships with all levels of government, and strengthening community engagement and consultation. The EC team visited all communities in the Northern Territory and APY Lands, updating community councils and holding community stalls to tell people the EC story, answer questions and provide feedback. EC produced some innovative and effective communication strategies to engage communities:

- two animations that tell the EC story
- video stories and interviews with key Anangu leaders in language (Pitjantjatjara and Ngaanyatjarra) and English
- an Empowered Communities NPY Region facebook page
- brochures and regular newsletters
- radio interviews and news articles.

From community meetings with Anangu and collected data about our region we've identified three top priorities for communities:

- work, meaningful engagement and financial security
- education, culture and youth support
- Anangu-led decision-making and community empowerment.

Another important priority is governance, strong community councils and local leadership.



The next step for EC is to focus on those things that give immediate help to people:

- support young people from school into jobs, so that they find the best opportunities
- help Anangu reach job-readiness, to be successful in their jobs and to stay working for as long as possible
- continue to develop and support our Emerging Leaders program to support the next generation of NPY regional leaders.

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

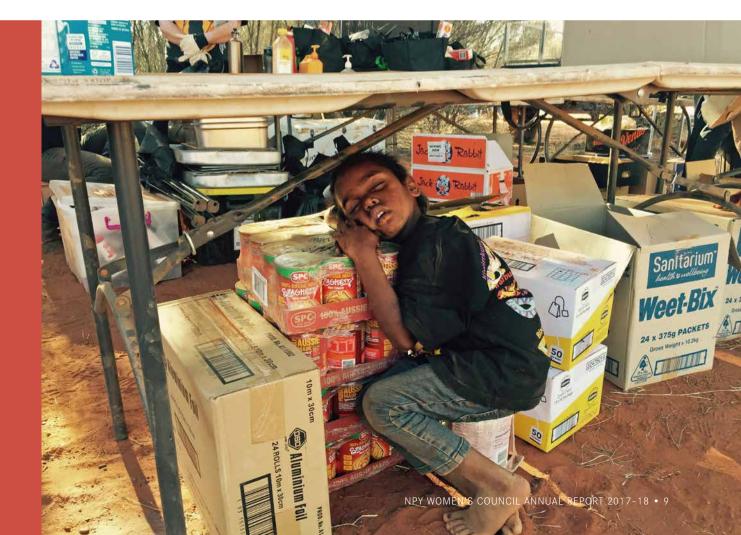
NPY Women's Council, through the agency of EC, has advocated for changes to the Community Development Program (CDP). Empowered Communities – NPY Region made a submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration on the appropriateness and effectiveness of the objectives, design, implementation and evaluation of the CDP. NPY Women's Council, along with other EC organisations, gave evidence at a public hearing on 28 August 2017.

#### NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME

NPY Women's Council speaks up strongly for our clients and families with a disability. We support the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). We want it to work, but it must work in a way that is supportive of Anangu ways of service delivery. Critically, we argue that the NDIS should not become the hardship that the CDP has become to our region.

#### REVIEW OF THE MINTABIE LEASE AND MINTABIE TOWNSHIP LEASE AGREEMENT

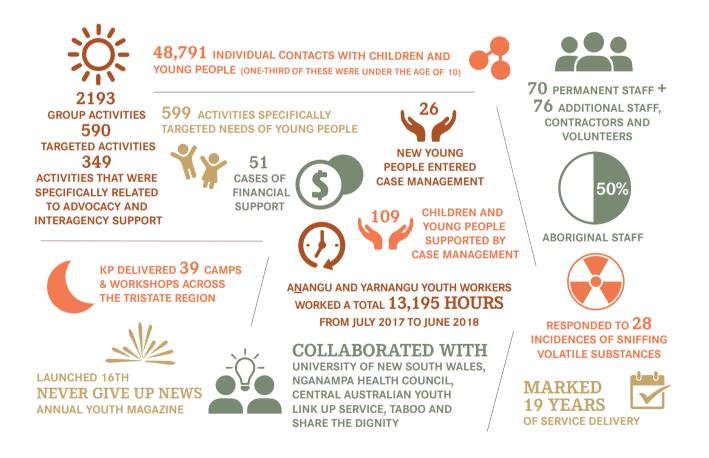
NPY Women's Council has been advised that the SA Government is proceeding with closure of Mintabie in 2019. The small mining community of Mintabie is situated on a land lease in the APY Lands in far north South Australia. The action by the SA Government comes after many years of lobbying by NPY Women's Council and other organisations in the region to close down Mintabie as it no longer serves its original purpose.



### YOUTH SERVICE REPORT

CHRISTINE WILLIAMSON, MANAGER, YOUTH SERVICE

### THE YEAR IN SNAPSHOT





#### **OVERVIEW**

NPY Women's Council Youth Service offers a range of programs led by Anangu and Yarnangu to support young people in the NPY region to lead safe and healthy lives. The service offers fun, safe, culturally relevant activities that support the development of young people and their communities. Eleven full-time, remote-based community youth programs and five specialist programs are delivered across the tri-state region. Our programs include: Kulintja Palyaringkunytjaku (education and early intervention work), Nintintjaku Kungkawara Tjuta Culture Kunpu Kanyintjaku (young women's law and culture) teaching program, boarding school, Aboriginal employment support and school holiday programs.

A total of 117 people delivered the Youth Service including:

- 70 regular staff (50% of the workforce are Aboriginal)
- 29 Anangu support workers
- 19 contractors
- 20 casuals
- 8 volunteers through APY Medical Exchange student program.

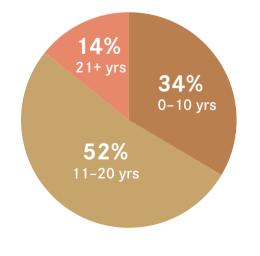
#### RECREATION AND DIVERSION PROGRAMS

Every week youth workers across the tri-state region deliver comprehensive recreation programs that combine community activities, education activities (such as camps, bush trips and workshops), special *kungka* (young women) and *wati* (young men) nights, as well as school holiday program activities.

This year the service delivered 2193 activities, which involved 48,791 contacts with children and young people through the service's recreation and diversions programs. Thirty-four per cent of contacts were with children aged 10 years and under. In addition, youth workers, parents, community members and other service providers attended 6608 recreation and diversion programs to assist with supervision and delivery. Five hundred and ninety activities were targeted to meet the specific needs of young people.

#### BREAKDOWN BY AGE OF YOUTH PROGRAM ACTIVITIES 2017–18

Total contact during recreation activities = 48,791



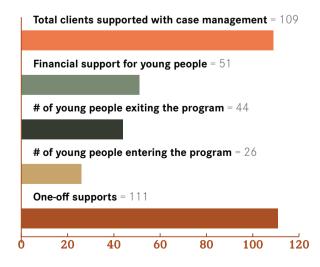


#### **CASE MANAGEMENT**

This year the service reviewed its case management practices. Our practices are now aligned with international case management standards and comply with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. They are also congruent with the NPY Women's Council Proper Help model which was designed by Anangu women.

Through case management support, our Youth Service provides proper help for young people which allows them to achieve their goals and overcome challenges. The chart below shows the specific support provided by our staff in 2017–18.

Level of case management support provided to young people and their families



#### **EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP**

NPY Women's Council's Youth Service nurtures future leaders through education and leadership opportunities delivered through structured programs, special projects and individual support. We are strongly committed to A<u>n</u>angu-led and Yarnangu-led programs. We prioritise training and support to these staff to ensure succession planning, and to ensure that personal and professional development happens all year.

Our priorities are:

- moving casual staff into permanent positions
- · creating Aboriginal-identified positions within the team
- specific training and induction for Anangu and Yarnangu staff
- forging links with Cape York Leadership Director James Fa'Aoso and Kimberley Empowered Communities emerging leader Davina D'Anna, who both inspire our staff
- support external study through Batchelor Institute staff have completed family and wellbeing studies, as well as TAFE SA study in the APY Lands
- support attendance at the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council youth round table
- participation in the Empowered Communities Emerging Leaders program
- resourcing an employment project officer who provides specialised support to Aboriginal staff.





The Service launched a new program in 2017–18 that assists young people to attend boarding schools across Australia. It covers the communities of Pukatja, Amata and Kaltukatjara and is funded by Ulu<u>r</u>u Rent Scheme monies which are managed by traditional owners in partnership with the Central Land Council. Young people and their families view boarding school as another option to further develop education and life opportunities.

The Kulintja Palyaringkunytjaku (KP) program supports communities and young people to learn from each other about mental health, sexual health, alcohol, drugs and healthy relationships. This year the team held 39 camps and workshops across the tri-state region. Most importantly, the program engaged senior men and women to work with young people to strengthen relationships and, in turn, strengthen connection with culture and country. It creates a safe space for young people to be themselves and discuss sensitive topics.

The Nintintjaku Kungkawara Tju<u>t</u>a Culture Kunpu Kanyintjaku (young women's law and culture) program worked alongside senior women who teach young women women's law and culture. For the first time the service partnered with the A<u>r</u>a Irititja archive to allow a group of senior women to view sensitive footage of women's law and culture and discuss how best to use the film to educate young women. The program now has a committee of senior women who lead the program and ensure it is culturally appropriate and respectful.

#### **ADVOCACY & COLLABORATION**

The Youth Service speaks up strongly to government, communities and other services to support positive change for young people and their communities. We are pleased to report that we have undertaken the following advocacy:

- lobbied for consistent responses to youth suicides across the NPY region
- Yarnangu youth worker Azaria Foster attended the Prime Minister's Indigneous Advisory Council's youth round table and spoke on the importance of bi-lingual education and the need for better mental health services
- ongoing involvement in the Northern Territory Royal Commission into Youth Justice and Care and Protection of Young People.

The team also worked closely with new and existing partners to improve service delivery and to evaluate our work. The service participated in the Youth at Risk Research Network: a three-year research and evaluation project with the University of New South Wales (UNSW). The project aims to integrate research into youth services in remote communities to improve social, economic and health outcomes for at-risk young people both in Australia and Canada. UNSW will evaluate whether our service is having an impact, whether that impact is significant and, if so, the effects of this impact on outcomes such as interactions with child protection, youth detention, health systems and/or other relevant institutions.

For the first time, NPY Women's Council was invited to partner with Nganampa Health Council to create the UPK 6 Album. Nganampa Health and the Youth Service assisted young male and female musicians from Kaltjiti, Iwantja, Pukatja, Amata and Pipalyatjara to record songs. We held discussions and music workshops on mental health messages, healthy relationships, alcohol and other drugs, and sexual health. It was enormously beneficial and we developed relationships and pathways with strong members of the community. The service also worked closely with Central Australian Youth Link Up Service, TABOO and Share the Dignity to develop a menstrual health management program which designs and delivers educational workshops to young women. Program staff liaised with schools, clinics and TAFEs that act as distribution points where donated hygiene products are freely and privately available to young women.

#### For more great stories check out the NPY Women's Council Youth Service facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/NPYWCYouthProgram/

### DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE SERVICE REPORT

MELISSA LINDEMAN, MANAGER, DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE SERVICE

### THE YEAR IN SNAPSHOT





#### **SERVICE OVERVIEW**

The financial year 2017–18 was a stable period for the service. We received funding from:

- Western Australian Department for Child Protection and Community Support
- South Australian Department of Communities and Social Inclusion
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (Indigenous Family Support Service Program)
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (Family Violence Prevention Legal Service Program)
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (Family Violence Prevention Legal Service Program Third Action Plan)
- South Australian Department for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation

This year the service employed 17 staff, including nine caseworkers and four specialist staff who support caseworkers in the areas of adult education, law, community development and narrative therapy.

#### STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY CAPACITY TO END VIOLENCE

This year the service worked hard to implement our Strengthening Community Capacity to End Violence Practice Framework (the Strengthening Communities Framework). This resulted in group work with women from Blackstone, Pipalyatjara, Amata, Indulkana, Imanpa and Docker River gathering to share stories not only about how violence impacts them but also how they stay strong and care for their families. We have a tailored approach to each community we work in. We know no two communities are the same, just as no two women's stories are the same. The Strengthening Communities Framework outlines 11 actions and strategies to guide how to give space to healing and therapeutic conversations within which women can locate their existing skills, knowledge and a sense of collective agency.

The group work activities create meaningful dialogues in which women come together in culturally safe, repetitive and predictable environments. These are valuable exchanges in which women can share stories of strength and resilience. They can identify acts of resistance to violence – by themselves, family members or others. Our role is to collect these stories and, if the women agree, share them across communities. As more



women contribute stories, share and re-tell stories, we sow the seeds of strengthened communities. By practising in a culturally safe way, we also nurture ongoing mental health and wellbeing, and build empathy and common understanding which, in turn, strengthens communities.

Our members and Directors are very clear that they want safe, happy families in which children can grow up and thrive. Our service is very clear that this is our role in violence prevention. Rather than educating communities, we focus on transforming our practice to enhance and amplify strong connections and relationships: this is the core of our ongoing work. It influences how we conduct casework: individual client work is deliberately combined with holistic and community-level work.

The team participated in regular reflective practice with the Australian Childhood Foundation (ACF) to integrate understandings and practice of the Strengthening Communities Framework. These meetings included staff members from other Women's Council teams. In November 2017, ACF provided trauma training to the whole organisation to explain what happens to someone's brain when violence is experienced. Understanding the neurobiology of trauma helps staff better help someone who has experienced violence.

We supported more team members to undertake Narrative Therapy training in Adelaide. Specialist caseworker Louise O'Connor assists staff to put their new knowledge into practice.

#### **EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS**

In August 2017 the team was invited to present our service model and the Strengthening Communities Framework to Commonwealth and State Government representatives working on violence prevention activities. Melissa Lindeman and Leni Shilton spoke at the forum. In December they also spoke at the Stop Domestic Violence Conference in Melbourne. In both presentations NPYWC's approach to violence prevention was well received.

#### **ANANGU EMPLOYMENT**

Women in communities have asked to work with the Domestic and Family Violence Service on a more formal basis. In June 2018, we brought five women to Alice Springs from the APY Lands in South Australia for a three-day workshop which explored what working with the





Service would look like. Consequently, the five women will be employed as casual workers to implement our practice framework in individual communities.

#### **STRONG STORIES WALL**

Many of our clients who have shared their stories about how they stay strong have given permission for these stories to be shared with others on the Strong Stories Wall in our Alice Springs office. Individual stories are often taken to communities to be shared in our group work activities.

#### **RESEARCH AND EVALUATION**

Independent evaluator and researcher Sam Togni worked with us on a second review of our service (the first was completed early in 2016). The review will help us determine whether the changes to our service model and service structure are working as intended. Sam Togni, in partnership with the Uti Kulintjaku team, is also working with us on an action research project designed to increase our understanding of the sexual violence experienced by our clients. The work is necessarily slow, but we anticipate that it will increase our understanding of how best to meet women's needs and strengthen our practice in general.

#### **LEGAL SERVICES**

We continue to subcontract legal advice to the Women's Legal Service of Western Australia. In the other jurisdictions, we have close relationships with the South Australian Women's Legal Service, and the Central Australian Women's Legal Service. Clients continue to receive timely legal advice through referrals to these and other agencies as appropriate. Laura Scrimgeour, legal support and education officer, provides support to caseworkers attending court, and develops legal education resources for staff and clients. Our approach has worked well this year and has built capacity and legal knowledge in caseworkers.

#### CONCLUSION

We welcome feedback from members and clients about our service. Feedback and member participation will become more important as our work in violence prevention develops. We rely on member participation to drive our work in helping communities to address issues that concern them.

We continue to be strong advocates for the safety of women and children in our region and will work to ensure that community members feel included in conversations to inform how to strengthen communities to end violence.

### CHILD AND FAMILY WELLBEING SERVICE REPORT

SHELAGH WOODS, MANAGER, CHILD AND FAMILY WELLBEING SERVICE

### THE YEAR IN SNAPSHOT

#### **CHILD NUTRITION AND** WALYTIAPITI PROGRAM WELLBEING PROGRAM **36** FAMILIES RECEIVED **13** FAMILIES INTENSIVE SUPPORT 82 CHILDREN AND **EXITED THE** THROUGH THE PROGRAM THEIR FAMILIES PROGRAM ENROLLED AND ENGAGED WITH THE PROGRAM PRESENTATION 161 AT THE INTERNATIONAL **DEVELOPMENT OF A** NUTRITION TRAUMA CONFERENCE PROGRAM WORKSHOPS CONTINUED - THE THERAPEUTIC BENEFITS 38 HELD WITH LOGIC AND PARTNERSHIP OF BUSH PICNICS 514 **EVALUATION** WITH AUSTRALIAN PARTICIPANTS CHILDHOOD FRAMEWORK NFW **APUTULA** FOUNDATION AFTER EXTERNAL REVIEW REFERRALS COMMUNITY NOW INCLUDED IN OUR **58 REFERRALS** CHILDREN STORY CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICE **RECEIVED FROM RANGE OF SOURCES** TIME PROJECT INCLUDING HEALTH SERVICES, CHILD PROTECTION AGENCIES, ASH AND - FIBRE ART WORKSHOPS HELD WITH FAMILIES **COMMUNITY MEMBERS** TO TELL STORIES ABOUT SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND GROWING STRONG FAMILIES **COLLABORATIVE** 161 **RESEARCH STUDY** WORKSHOPS CHILD ADVOCACY OFFICER COMMENCED TO IMPROVE HELD WITH FOOD SECURITY AND 514 NUTRITION IN THE APY REGION ADVOCATED FOR PARTICIPANTS THE FAMILIES OF 25 CHILDREN IN THE CHILD MARKET BASKET SURVEYS PROTECTION SYSTEMS AND STORE DATA ANALYSIS ACROSS THE NPY REGION WORKED WITH AUTHORITIES IN **FIVE JURISDICTIONS** MARKET BASKET AS 14 OF THE 25 CHILDREN ARE LIVING OFF THE SURVEYS COMPLETED LANDS IN REGIONAL TOWNS OR CITIES ACROSS IN 13 STORES ACROSS THE NPY REGION NORTHERN TERRITORY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AND IN ALICE SPRINGS WESTERN AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND AND VICTORIA STORE COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS **ALMOST ALL** MOTHERS OF CHILD CLIENTS HELD IN KALTJITI AND PUKATJA IN PARTNERSHIP OF CAO HAVE BEEN CLIENTS OF WOMEN'S COUNCIL'S WITH PROFESSOR MANDY LEE FROM THE SAX DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND FAMILY SERVICE INSTITUTE AND NGANAMPA HEALTH COUNCIL



#### **ABOUT THE SERVICE**

NPY Women's Council's Child and Family Wellbeing Service (CFWS) includes the Child Nutrition and Wellbeing Program, Walytjapiti Program (Intensive Family Support Service) and the Child Advocacy Officer (CAO). All three programs work with children and their families in the NPY region to address factors that impact on child, family and community wellbeing.

### CHILD NUTRITION AND WELLBEING PROGRAM

The Child Nutrition and Wellbeing Program (CNWP) has run for more than 21 years. It delivers nutrition services and case management to families with children under five who are at risk of, or actively, growth faltering. Our team of five child nutrition development officers work across the NPY region to improve the health and nutrition of children from birth to five years of age, and assist communities and families become healthier by providing good nutrition and promoting holistic wellbeing. The program also provides a critical service for families from the NPY region when they visit Alice Springs, including follow ups with health services, support with Centrelink and accommodation, and providing individual cooking workshops and nutrition advice.

In early 2018 we commissioned an external consultant to review our current service delivery model to see if it was the most appropriate and effective way to achieve the desired outcomes of the program. The review found that the program's services and approaches address the complex issue of growth faltering in children in the NPY region and promote health and wellbeing. However, a major challenge for the service is measuring its impact. Consequently, we will develop a solid program logic and evaluation framework by the end of 2018.

Our nutrition team continued to provide one-on-one targeted and intensive nutrition and child development interventions; education and training; advocacy and assistance; and supported social and emotional wellbeing. A range of workshops were also held in a range of venues, including at bush picnics, in family centres, at school holiday programs, during community development and special events, and at the NPYWC nutrition office in Alice Springs. We continue to collaborate with community stores to make healthy food available, as well as working on strategies to ensure that the healthy choice is the first and easiest choice.

Our collaboration with academic institutions also continued. The team participated in Market Basket Surveys led by Professor Amanda Lee, senior advisor to The Australian Prevention Partnership Centre, Sax Institute. The surveys compared prices and looked at the accessibility and promotion of affordable healthy foods in community stores across the NPY region. The data is shared with individual store managers. A new collaboration is the recently funded research project 'Improving Aboriginal food security and dietary intake: Approaches to remote and urban communities'. This action research project is a partnership between Nganampa Health Council, Mai Wiru Regional Stores Council and the Sax Institute, and is a concerted effort to improve food security and nutrition in communities throughout the APY Lands. NPYWC has employed a project officer and engaged with local community members to help increase demand for healthy food and drink choices in two South Australian communities on the APY Lands.

#### WALYTJAPITI PROGRAM

NPY Women's Council's Walytjapiti Program is an intensive family-support program that began in early 2012. It works intensively and holistically with children, from birth to 12 years of age, and their families, where neglect is substantiated or at risk of occurring. The team works in a way that integrates an Anangu worldview and child-rearing practices, and works to keep children out of the child protection system. The program is contracted until 2020 to work in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands and in the Northern Territory. Services are provided in Aputula, Imanpa, Mutitjulu and Docker River, and in the APY communities of Mimili, Indulkana, Pukatja and Amata.

Walytjapiti were busy with many activities this year:

- a presentation on the therapeutic benefits of bush picnics to families on the APY Lands to the Australian Childhood Foundation International Trauma Conference
- provision of the first intensive case management service to families in Aputula community and region
- continued a partnership with the Australian Childhood Foundation to imbed trauma-informed practice within our program
- attended meetings regarding child protection reform, school attendance, and increased support for families and children on the APY Lands.

We also ran our popular workshops and bush picnics across the Lands. This year's workshop themes included child protection, school attendance, keeping families strong, caring for babies, women's health and money.



As part of the Children's Story Time project, fibre art workshops were held with families to tell stories about school attendance and growing strong families.

#### CHILD ADVOCACY OFFICER

The Child Advocacy Officer (CAO) began in early 2014 and is now well known. The CAO assists children in out-of-home care to: stay connected with family and community; helps families identify kinship carers; supports families to negotiate the child protection system, including attending meetings and understanding the nature of documents and orders; and assists with reunification plans and placement of children with community and family.

The CAO systematically collects data to build evidence that can influence processes, policy and laws. The data highlights the interrelationship between child protection and domestic and family violence. NPY Women's Council is committed to the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care-driven Family Matters campaign, which aims to reduce the over representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care. The CAO lobbies on the child protection legislation that covers the tri-state area.



The Nutrition team organised regular bush picnics in 2017-18

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# TJUNGU TEAM (AGED AND DISABILITY) ORT

KIM MCRAE, MANAGER, TJUNGU TEAM

### THE YEAR IN SNAPSHOT

THE WALYKUMUNI NYINARATIAKU PROIECT WITH SYDNEY UNIVERSITY, POCHE NT AND THE CENTRE FOR REMOTE HEALTH

WORKED WITH 97 **PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY** 

PERFORMED 80 HOME SUPPORT ASSESSMENTS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HOME SUPPORT PROGRAMME



RECEIVED FUNDING FROM THE NATIONAL DISABILITY **INSURANCE AGENCY TO PROVIDE** EARLY CHILDHOOD EARLY INTERVENTION

**RESIDENTS ON THE LANDS** ABOUT DISABILITY WORK. CONSEQUENTLY, 6 NEW ANANGU CASUAL STAFF EMPLOYED

WORKED WITH 114PEOPLE TO ASSIST WITH MATTERS AROUND THE NDIS

TALKED WITH 135



**FUNDED TO** EMPLOY LOCAL CONNECTORS TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF NDIS





The Tjungu Team had only a few changes to staff during this financial year. A stable staff ensures relationships are developed with our clients and families. Relationships of trust take time to develop and are invaluable to ensure that clients and families feel safe to raise issues and ask for support. Importantly, good relationships offer opportunities for people to raise concerns and make complaints where necessary.

#### NATIONAL DISABILITY SERVICES NT

The manager of Tjungu Team continues as a committee member of the National Disability Services (NDS) NT as well as representing NDS NT on the National Committee on Workforce and participating in the NDS Zero Tolerance (Prevention of Abuse and Neglect) NT Working Group. In these roles the manager speaks up on behalf of A<u>n</u>angu and Yarnangu and ensures that the unique issues and concerns of the NPY region are considered by these forums.

#### **TRI-STATE DISABILITY PROJECT**

Workers in the Tri-State Disability project supported 97 clients across South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory during the year. It worked collaboratively with people with a disability and their families to ensure they are supported in the way they want. Some clients moved across to the NDIS during the year.

#### COMMONWEALTH HOME SUPPORT PROGRAMME

#### Respite

One hundred and ninety-nine people received respite during the year. This was provided either as a break in town away from community and their caring responsibilities, or through the provision of equipment and basic requirements, such as shower chairs, walkers and bedding.

#### Aged Care SA

The team is funded under the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) to provide social support to older people on the APY Lands in South Australia. One hundred and ten clients were supported over the year.

#### My Aged Care Home Support assessments

To receive services under the CHSP, people must be assessed through the Government's My Aged Care Portal. Several Tjungu Team members are trained to do this and this year completed 80 Home Support assessments.

#### **DISABILITY ADVOCACY, NDIS APPEALS**

Disability advocates work with people with a disability and their families from across the NPY region. The advocates stand beside them and support them as they speak up about things that worry them, or that they believe are unfair. A specifically funded area of The Tjungu Team helps out in the orchard at Kenmore Park.



advocacy for the team is the NDIS Appeals project. This involves talking to people with a disability about their rights under the NDIS and being ready to support them around their concerns.

#### A GOOD LIFE FOR A<u>N</u>ANGU WITH DISABILITY (RESEARCH PROJECT)

During the year, the team continued working on this joint project with Sydney University, Poche NT and the Centre for Remote Health. Interviews were conducted in all three states of the NPY region with Anangu and Yarnangu who have a disability and their families about what people feel is important to live the life they want. The findings are summarised in a report, *Walykumunu Nyinaratjaku*, which will be released in late 2018.

The families of children with a disability were interviewed during 2017–18, and the findings will be reported early next year.

#### **INNOVATIVE WORKFORCE PROJECT**

This project looked at how to encourage Anangu and Yarnangu to take up employment in the disability sector on the Lands. Consultant Maggie Kavanagh travelled across the region and talked with 135 people about the rights of people with disabilities and about disability work. Thirty-seven people expressed interest in becoming disability workers. Tjungu Team has subsequently employed six new Anangu casual staff and is following up with the other interested people.

#### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ON COUNTRY

The NT Government funded the team to provide intensive support to people wanting to become disability workers in NPYWC's Northern Territory communities and Alice Springs. The project's employee provides intensive support to help people with pre-employment checks and other requirements.

#### NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME

The NDIS became available to all residents on the APY Lands on 1 July 2017. NPYWC is a registered provider for the NDIS in South Australia and is able to help people to make the most of their NDIS plan through NPYWC's Coordinator of Supports employee. Tjungu Team also coordinates and manages 20 NDIS Community Connectors across the APY Lands who assist the NDIS to register people with the scheme. The roll out of the NDIS for NPYWC communities in the Northern Territory and the Ngaanyatjarra Lands (Western Australia) will commence soon.



### NGANGKA<u>R</u>I PROGRAM REPORT

ANGELA LYNCH, PROGRAM MANAGER, NGANGKARI PROGRAM

### THE YEAR IN SNAPSHOT

COLLABORATED WITH SMILING MIND TO DEVELOP A MINDFULNESS APP IN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE, FUNDED BY THE NIB FOUNDATION





BEGAN DEVELOPMENT OF FIRST-EVER INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE MEDITATION PROGRAM PRESENTED AT SNAIIC CONFERENCE IN CANBERRA

BEGAN WORK ON A FILM SERIES ON ALPIRI, A TRADITIONAL EARLY MORNING MOTIVATIONAL TALK

WON THE INAUGURAL IDX

AWARD FOR THE

**APP KULILA!** 

(INDIGENOUS DIGITAL MEDIA)

**PUBLISHED** A DIGITAL AND ANIMATED EDITION OF *TJULPU AND WALPA*, AN ILLUSTRATED BOOK ABOUT HOW TRAUMA AFFECTS CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOUR





CONDUCTED A WORKSHOP WITH THE YOUTH TEAM ON THE NPYWC BOOK TJULPU AND WALPA



#### **OUR SUPPORTERS**

In A<u>n</u>angu culture, *ngangka<u>r</u>i* (traditional healers) have responsibility for taking care of the health and wellbeing of people. NPY Women's Council's Ngangka<u>r</u>i Program supports and promotes *ngangka<u>r</u>i* practice in communities, working to increase awareness and respect for traditional healing within mainstream health and human services.

*Ngangkari* are Anangu who have received special tools and training from their grandparents. Anangu have a culturally based view of causation and recovery from physical and mental illness, and attribute many illness and emotional states to harmful elements in the Anangu spiritual world. *Ngangkari* are highly valued for their unique ability to protect and heal individuals and communities from this harm.

The *ngangkari* believe that collaboration and mutual respect between western health and human services and *ngangkari* lead to the best outcomes for Anangu. They say western and Anangu practitioners have different but equally valuable skills and knowledge and both are needed to address the significant problems

An angu face. The *ngangkari* of the NPYWC have worked hard in the past 10 years to have the importance and value of their work recognised by mainstream health systems, and have established strong relationships with local health and mental health services.

The Ngangka<u>r</u>i Program also manages the Uti Kulintjaku (UK) project. This project is an innovative response to cultural and language difference and the obstacles these can create between mental health services and those who need help.

*Uti kulintjaku* means 'thinking clearly'. The aim of the project is to increase mental health literacy among Anangu, which leads to increased help-seeking, better communication between Anangu and mental health workers, and better health outcomes, including suicide prevention. At the centre of the project is a series of workshops with *ngangkari*, senior Anangu, interpreters and mental health workers, who discuss mental health words, terms, concepts, and various approaches to addressing mental health problems. The project combines the skills and knowledge of *ngangkari*, the Central Australia Mental Health Team, NPY Women's Council, and senior Anangu with special interests in language and interpreting.



In May 2017 the UK project launched *Tjulpu and Walpa*, a book that deals with how trauma affects children's behaviour. This year, building on the success of the book, we produced a set of conversation cards to accompany the book for caseworkers, and a digital, animated edition narrated in Pitjantjatjara and Ngaanyatjarra for broadcast on Indigenous Community Television.

In an Australian first, in 2017–18, the Ngangka<u>r</u>i Program collaborated with Smiling Mind to develop a mindfulness meditation program that caters for the language and culture of Indigenous Australians. Funded by the NIB Foundation, the app-based program aims to reduce the burden of mental ill health in Aboriginal people by providing accessible and engaging mental health tools in local Indigenous languages.

#### **UK RESOURCES**

#### Available on our website www.npywc.org.au/shop

App - Kulila! A language learning app
Video - Ngangkari, Mural Story
Book - Traditional Healers of Central Australia: Ngangkari
Video - Ngangkari by Ronin Films
Video animations - Uti Kulintjaku
Book - Tjulpu and Walpa: Two Children Two Roads, a book and conversation cards about how trauma affects children
Poster, cards and fridge magnets - Words for Feelings
Mindfulness colouring book - Colouring Towards Clear Thinking

The NPYWC Ngangka<u>r</u>i Program is funded by Country Health SA.

Follow us on facebook and Instagram



Ngangkari Pantjiti McKenzie

## **TJANPI DESERT** WEAVERS

MICHELLE YOUNG, MANAGER



### THE YEAR IN SNAPSHOT

4490 ARTWORKS SOLD, A 23% INCREASE ON THE PREVIOUS YEAR



**ILAWANTI UNGKUTIURU KEN** WON THE BLUE **THUMB ART PRIZE** FOR HER NEST BASKET



TRAVELLED TO EXHIBITION EVENTS TO SEE THEIR WORK AND TALK ABOUT THEIR ARTS PRACTICE AT THE FREMANTLE ARTS CENTRE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA MUSEUM, **ARALUEN ARTS CENTRE, NATIONAL** PORTRAIT GALLERY AND NATIONAL **MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA** 





TJANPI RECEIVED \$28,000 IN DONATIONS, THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

**RECEIVED TWO** COMMISSIONS FROM NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA



47 YOUNG WOMEN UNDER 30 YEARS OF AGE ATTENDED WORKSHOPS

**12 ARTISTS** WERE ACCEPTED **INTO ART AWARDS** 

341 ARTISTS RECEIVED AN INCOME FROM THEIR **ARTWORKS ACROSS** THE NPY LANDS

320 ARTISTS ATTENDED SKILLS DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS ACROSS **13 COMMUNITIES.** THAN 30 YEARS OF AGE.

PUNU KUTJARA, A WORK CREATED BY 38 ARTISTS ACROSS 6 COMMUNITIES, WAS ACQUIRED BY THE FOUNDATION PIERRE ARNAUD IN SWITZERLAND



TJANPI CORNER EMPLOYED **16 ARTISTS** IN ALICE SPRINGS AND **30 ARTISTS** IN WARAKURNA ON A CASUAL BASIS

47 ARTISTS WERE LESS



In its pursuit of a sustainable long-term workforce, Tjanpi Desert Weavers this year strategically prioritised Anangu and Yarnangu employment and increased the number of its arts and culture assistants. These assistants will take an increasing role in service delivery across our communities. Our vision is to create satellite offices in key communities and provide our workforce with the tools and training to ensure we meet the increasing demand from fibre artists to have more up-front purchasing of their artworks. The Ministry for the Arts has invested in this vision and funding has supported the employment of three arts and culture assistants.

Tjanpi received funding from the NT Government to improve the entry way to the Tjanpi Gallery in Alice Springs. New shade sails and signage in the gallery that shares our story have now been installed. As well, the new Tjanpi Corner facility supports artists visiting Alice Springs with casual employment and provides a welcoming space to host cross-cultural weaving workshops for visitors to Alice Springs.

Tjanpi is working with the National Ageing Research Institute (NARI) in an innovative project that is the first to explore the ways in which art centres support older people and those living with dementia in remote Aboriginal communities. There are around 90 Aboriginal art centres across Australia, most located in remote communities. Art centres are where people come together to produce art, and learn new skills. Research indicates that they are also important community hubs that provide employment, income, social interaction and support for artists and communities, but the ways in which they support older artists has been largely unexamined until now. NARI is working on this project in partnership with three remote art centres: Mangkaja Arts Resource Agency in Fitzroy Crossing, Western Australia; Ikuntji Artists in Haasts Bluff, Northern Territory; and Tjanpi Desert Weavers on the NPY Lands. The research team also includes representatives from the University of Western Australia and the Centre for Remote Health, and aged care providers from NPYWC Tjungu Aged and Disability Care, and Kimberley Aged Care Services. Fifty-two interviews have been completed with Tjanpi artists and staff, health care professionals and other art centre managers across our region.

An exciting partnership between Tjanpi and Polyglot Children's Theatre and FORM that began in 2016 continued this year. Polyglot is Australia's leading creator of interactive and participatory theatre for children and families. Inspired by the artwork, play and ideas of children, Polyglot creates imagined worlds where audiences actively participate in performance through touch, play and encounter. FORM is a nonprofit cultural institution based in Western Australia that sees creativity as a catalyst for positive change. Its activities span high-level artist development and exhibitions, place-making and strategy, social and multicultural engagement, cultural infrastructure development, Aboriginal cultural maintenance, research and advocacy.

Cynthia Burke from Warakurna in Western Australia collects grass near Irrunytju accompanied by her dog, Tiny. In 2016, the partners commenced work on a crossartform collaboration involving fibre artists from the remote Aboriginal community of Warakurna, and children from Warakurna, Victoria and Western Australia. In 2017 the final workshop was completed and the work resulting *Manguri Wiltja* is scheduled to premiere during Revealed 2019 at Fremantle Arts Centre.

Tjanpi Desert Weavers generated \$491,201.89 in sales: a 52% increase on the previous year. \$243,943 was paid to women on the NPY Lands for their fibre artwork: a 53% increase on the amount paid to artists on the previous year.

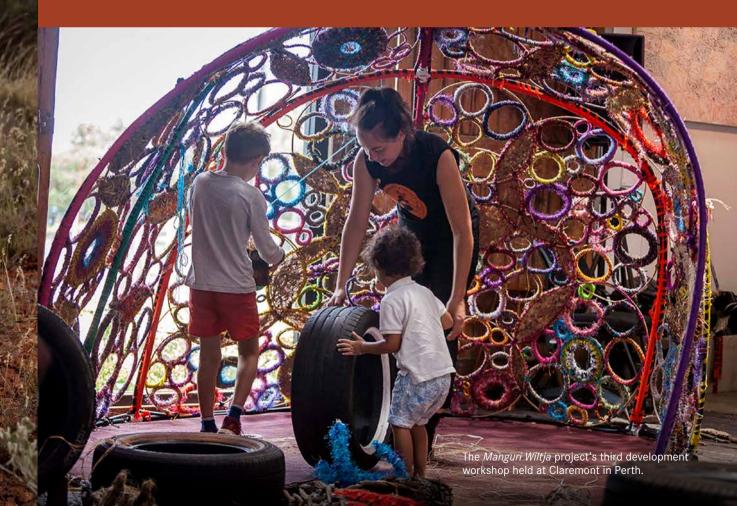
Tjanpi received two commissions from the National

Museum of Australia to create two new works. The first of two workshops was completed in Warakurna to create Seven Seated Sisters. Commissions provide an additional revenue stream for Tjanpi.

In consultation with Arts Law, Tjanpi updated its Artist Agreement to ensure best practice and compliance with the Indigenous Art Code. Arts Law also helped write a plain-English version of the Agreement, which has been translated into Ngaanyatjarra and Pitjantjatjara. Audio files have also been created. Artists can now listen to the agreement in language which ensures they understand what they are signing. Tjanpi strives for a thoughtful model of best practice.

'TJANPI WORKER WIRU, TJANPI IS GOOD WORK. PUKULPAI IT MAKES US HAPPY. I LIKE TRAVELLING TO BIG CITIES TO DO WORKSHOPS AND ATTEND EXHIBITIONS WITH TJANPI.'

Ijunkaya Tapaya, Tjanpi fibre artist (Ernabella, WA)



A still from the film *Ngayuku Papa*. Tjanpi Desert Weavers collaborated with animator Jonathan Daw to create two stop-motion animated films that tell amusing tales of remote desert community life and papa (dogs).

















Australian Government Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support

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## **FINANCE REPORT**

### THE YEAR IN SNAPSHOT





**INCREASE OF 9.3% COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEAR** 

**ON THE PREVIOUS YEAR** 



#### FUNDING AND SUSTAINABILITY

Our members continue to advocate for parity of service delivery across the region. This is a significant challenge because our funding comes from a range of sources including Federal (67%), Western Australia (9%), South Australia (16%) and the Northern Territory (7%) governments, in addition to funding from philanthropic and private donors.

Our members also seek greater investment from states and territories in the provision of human services, an area in which NPY Women's Council has extensive experience and a strong track record.

Similar to other Indigenous incorporated organisations with a grass-roots membership in the not-for-profit sector, NPY Women's Council's operational funding model relies on adequate grant income to fund its operational expenses.

#### REVENUE

During the 2017-18 financial year, NPY Women's Council annual revenue was \$19.8 million, an increase of 11% on 2016-17 total revenue. The operational performance of NPY Women's Council at the end of 2017-18 also showed a slight increase of \$0.2 million or 5%.

#### **FUNDRAISING**

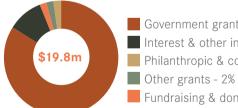
NPY Women's Council continues to receive generous support from our friends who take part in the Larapinta Extreme Walk, a fundraising activity which raised

\$89,000. Over the last four years, the total raised through the Larapinta Extreme Walk is more than \$0.3 million. This money ensures that the vital women's law and culture meetings can continue for our members.

#### PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

In the coming years we hope to increase donations and fundraising activities and develop partnerships that will advance our mission. We will also focus on seeking and assessing opportunities for new and innovative revenue streams and business propositions where they can be identified.

#### **TOTAL REVENUE**



Government grants - 84% Interest & other income - 10% Philanthropic & corporate - 2% Fundraising & donation - 2%

#### HOW WE SPENT OUR REVENUE





The complete NPY Women's Council General Purpose Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2018 is available on Women's Council's website: https://www.npvwc.org.au/publications/



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