



Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal  
Corporation

## General Annual Report 2025

Tel: 07 4069 5412

92 Charlotte Street

Cooktown QLD

ICN: 148

ABN: 45 180 964 190

[admin@gungarde.com.au](mailto:admin@gungarde.com.au)



## Gungarde Board of Directors

Chairperson	James Tapau
Deputy Chairperson	Helen Hanush
Director	Nakia Harrigan
Director	Mike Ross
Director	Erica Deeral
Director	Esther Henderson
Director	Marcia Koolatah
Director	Helen Gordon

## Gungarde Staff

Chief Executive Officer	Greg Whittaker
Program Manager	Stevie Wilson
Senior Administration	Jaylene Elliott
Dept Human Services (Centrelink)	Kasey Gertz & John Hill
Community Housing	Karen Thomas & Ian Murray
Immediate Housing Response	Tracey Murray
Family Wellbeing	Eaumon Edwards, Theresa Goody, Melissa Gunton & Barbara Taylor
Family Participation Program	Monica Ross & Jarhlem Bowen
Radio AOD Program	Ngungjul Dewaal
Youth Empowerment	Joanne Reuben
Hippy	Melissa Griffiths, Melissa Gunton, Courtney Bryne, Siobhan McLaughlin & Katie Simmonds
Early Childhood	TBA - Recruitment in process
Cleaner	Lisa Bilson

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# Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation

## Chief Executive Officer Report

Hello Everyone,

Over the past year Gungarde has been doing extremely well, even with the tough economic times. All funded State and Federal Governments agencies services have been extended by 3 to 5 years; this is a recognition by these service agencies that our staff's knowledge and commitment in providing excellent community services for a very long time.

Gungarde has a very healthy financial position with no debt owing, no legal matters, and the Audits completed.

However, with this been said we must be careful on the amount we spend on housing repairs, removal of trees, fence repairs and electrical repairs. However, our rental payments have been increasing, and our rental debt has been reduced by nearly 10% over the past year as our tenants pay their rent and enter into payment agreements. Remember it's your corporation, and everybody must pay the rent charged for the property they live in. We can carry out more repairs on housing now as the rental income increases. We have spent over \$210,000 on repairs and maintenance in the past year, around \$70,000 more than the previous year.

Our JV partnership CDP profit funds allowed us to carry out more repairs to our properties, and I am happy and proud to advise that we were successful in our tender to win region 54 again. The new service term for another 3 years commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2025 and is Called RAES, Remote Australia Employment Service. Any profits from this service will be used to continue to carry our housing repairs and the running of the Corporation. Council Rates of \$188,894 building insurances of \$87,000, and vehicle insurance of \$33,000.

I just want to say to everyone, if you pay the rent charged by your corporation, do not damage the property, and don't disturb the neighbours, you will never be evicted. We are all here to help. With tenants doing the right thing, you will always have lower rent that if you had to rent privately. Our housing team have an important job to do, and are there to help you.

Our commercial rental properties, bring in \$132,834 per year. Our enterprise arm is doing very good and have taken delivery of a larger tow truck to cater for the larger RV'S that RACQ provides cover for.

We now have another property donated to Gungarde valued at \$160,000 at 75 Boundary Street. Gungarde is looking at building a large building with showers and toilets to allow community members a place to stay when coming in from other communities or have nowhere to stay on a temporary basis. Planning and designs will be given to the Board to decide in the new year.

We are still waiting on the department of Housing to let us start Building on the BLT land. The departmental lawyers are working on the native title issue and will advise when it all clear.

I take the opportunity now to thank the Gungarde Board Directors, Jaylene and Stevie and the rest of my staff who have devoted their time and efforts to create a better workplace and environment for all our community members.

I also want to thank all our stakeholders and government agencies for their continued support, as without this ongoing support Gungarde Corporation would not be able to provide all our services.

**Regards Greg Whittaker**

**Chief Executive Officer**



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# Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation

## Chairpersons' Report

“Firstly, I would like to respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land the Waymbuurr and Gamay clans of the Guugu Yimithirr tribal nation. And recognise their connection to Land, wind, sea and community. And pay my respect to them, their culture, and to their Elders both past, present and emerging.”

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Board of Directors, to present the annual report of Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> June 2025. This past year has been one of growth, challenge, change, and I am proud to reflect on our achievements and the progress we have made.

Over the past 12 months, the Corporation has in reference to major highlight achievements, projects, or milestones.

- **Director attendance** at RAP and Pathways to Cultural Understanding project meetings (CSC), Health summit in Cairns, a round table meeting in Cairns with the Advanced Diploma Community sector management at TAFE, Housing forum, and the Corporation also took part in this year's NAIDOC week celebrations. We also support local sporting clubs and athletes via sponsorship and in-kind donations.
- **The Board** held 11 Directors meetings during this year, with five confirmation of Aboriginality, and fifteen approved memberships.
- **We welcome our new members;** Kimberly Wells, Stephen George Kulka, Gundolbii Michael, Jennifer Creek, Tarlisha Gibson, Jakita Lakefield, Nakita Lakefield, Rene Johnson, Rosheta Roughsey, William Shaw, Stevie Wilson, Angela Michael, Justin Brad, Nastasha Wallace.
- **Despite the many challenges,** our team has delivered strong operational results and maintained focus on our long-term strategic objectives.

**The Board, working closely with management, has continued to advance our strategic priorities:**

1. Family Wellbeing Service funding extended to 2029
2. Family Participation Service funding extended to 2030
3. Youth Empowerment Program funding extended to 2027
4. JV Cook region partnership (REAL) tender successful

These initiatives ensure that Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation is well-positioned for sustainable growth in the years ahead.

**The Board remains committed to high standards of corporate governance. Over the past year, we have:**

- Reviewed and updated governance frameworks

- Strengthened Board diversity and skill set through trainings
- Ensured compliance with all relevant regulatory requirements
- Creation of the Directors Handbook to provide information and guidance for future directors.

**Looking ahead, the Corporation is focused on:**

- Planned projects or expansions for service and fundings
- Emerging opportunities in the market for growth
- Risk management strategies for potential challenges in the coming years

The Board believes the fundamentals of the business remain strong and we are confident in our ability to deliver long-term value to our members.

**On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank:**

- Greg, Jaylene, our management team and employees for their hard work and dedication
- Our shareholders for their continued trust and support
- Our customers and partners and most of all our members for their loyalty

James Tapau  
Chairman of the Board  
25/09/2025



## Program Manager

### Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation

Over the past year I've worked closely with each program to ensure effective service within the allocated sites. In support of this I liaised with stakeholders across Wujal Wujal, Hopevale, Laura and Cooktown. Attending Interagency, Community Meetings, Holiday Program Meetings and general community event meetings on behalf of Gungarde. I also focused on recruitment processes, Intake processes, Community events & Staff Professional Development. Supported the new "Sorry Business" policy that was introduced when joining the organisation in respect of Families and Community. Also supported implementing a new Employment Assistance Program (EAP) which is now available to all staff.

Earlier in 2025 I joined Family wellbeing & Family Participation staff in attending the Indigenous suicide prevention forum held in Sydney, Where the effects of first nations suicide were highlighted by guest speakers MP Linda Burney, Dante Rodreiguez from the One Percent Program. Whilst Forums can be long, I found this one very interactive and engaging. Following this I attended a conference in Toowoomba with QATSICPP who are the peak body that represents community-controlled child protection organisations. Family Wellbeing and Family Participation Staff were involved in this also, It provided opportunity for staff to network and express ideas to implement in our services.

One of the main focus was to intensively improve client engagement and stakeholder engagement within communities, whilst there are some barriers to overcome, we have been successful with this outcome from our programs across the organisation, this reflects in reports which are now meeting KPIs. We have recruited new staff in most programs, now having full teams which reflect great when servicing communities. Our teams increased community engagement, participating in NAIDOC across Laura, Wujal Wujal, Hopevale & Hosting Cooktown's event. Our school holiday programs continue to be a positive for our community, especially in Hopevale & Cooktown.

The family Wellbeing & Family Participation Programs re-commenced regular services in Coen strengthening relationships with stakeholders and community members this will be ongoing. Stakeholder engagement across the teams has also improved which leads to better interaction within communities and being able to service clients effectively.

Overall, a successful year, with much more to progress to come. I aim to continue supporting Gungarde programs and ensure they run smoothly and effectively to enable great services of clients within all communities.

**Stevie Wilson | Program Manager**

**Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation**

## Housing Report

### Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation

2025 has been a challenging yet productive year for Gungarde Housing, marked by a stronger focus on rent arrears management, increased accountability, and continued efforts to maintain and improve housing standards for our tenants.

This year, we implemented stricter adherence to rent arrears policies. Tenants who fall behind in payments are now more actively managed through follow-ups, support to enter payment plans, and where necessary, attendance at QCAT (Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal). While this step is never taken lightly, it has become an important tool in ensuring fairness and sustainability for all tenants.

Most tenants have responded well to this approach, with many making extra payments and committing to realistic payment plans. As of 27th August 2025, the total amount outstanding from current and former tenants—including rent, unpaid water, and property damages and cleaning—stood at \$265,126.44. This is a high figure, but importantly, despite the challenges, we are seeing a turnaround in rent showing that progress is being made.

To those tenants who consistently pay on time and have worked hard to reduce their arrears—you deserve a gold star. Your commitment is sincerely appreciated, and we commend your efforts.

We are welcoming new tenancies this year. All incoming tenants are given clear information about their responsibilities, including rent payments, property care, and reporting maintenance issues promptly. Our goal is to ensure all new tenants are set up for success and are supported as part of the Gungarde housing community.

Routine property inspections continue across all homes. We're pleased to report that most houses are presenting well, with many tenants taking great pride in their homes. These inspections are critical, not only for identifying immediate repairs but also for allowing us to plan future maintenance budgets and improvements.

This year, we have addressed a wide range of house maintenance issues—from essential repairs like water leaks and broken door locks to more visible upgrades such as refurbishments and fencing. We acknowledge that not all minor issues can be attended to immediately due to budget constraints, but we remain committed to prioritising the most urgent and impactful works.

We have made progress in refurbishing selected properties, improving both functionality and appearance. Additionally, fencing projects have been carried out

where needed—enhancing tenant privacy and safety, particularly for families with young children. Fence repairs are done when finances allow and are ongoing.

Our water payment in advance system continues to be effective. The majority of tenants are now in credit with their water usage, with the remaining tenants receiving more manageable, reduced invoices. This proactive system reduces the likelihood of unexpected bills and supports budgeting for many households.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to:

- CEO Greg Whittaker
- The Gungarde Board of Directors
- The Department of Housing

for their ongoing support and collaboration throughout the past year. Their guidance has helped us strengthen the housing service and continue delivering value to the community.

Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are located. We pay our deep respects to the Ancestors and Elders of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples—past, present, and future.

*Karen Thomas*

*Ian Murray*

Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation





# **GUNGARDE**

## **Family Wellbeing Service**

The Family Wellbeing Service (FWS) is now operating with a full team. Eamon Edwards joined FWS as Team Leader in August. FWS team members also includes Theresa Goody (P/T), Melissa Gunton (P/T), and Barbara Taylor. FWS team members have been actively welcoming new clients and ensuring that they receive the support required as they join our programs. FWS team members continue to work closely with families, and participate in various events, engaging with the community and building strong, positive relationships. These activities have been a great opportunity for both our staff and clients to connect, share experiences, and foster a sense of belonging.

FWS supports families living in various communities (Cooktown, Hope Vale Wujal Wujal, Laura, and Coen) across a range of contexts which includes:

- Providing early intervention services to keep children and young people safely at home with their families and in their communities.
- Supporting families with children who are subject to ongoing intervention by Child Safety Orders.
- Providing advocacy, support, and early intervention services for at-risk, and vulnerable, families with children under the age of 18 years old at risk of entering the statutory child protection system.

### **Programs and Activities**

The Family Wellbeing Service has a strategic vision focused on growth and continuous improvement. Our future includes several key initiatives to strengthen our service delivery and community engagement.

1. Staff in the FWS team are in the process of completing various studies including a Certificate 4 in Community Services, and a Diploma in Counselling. Staff who have completed training in the “Circle of Security Program”, are now able to work closely with our families. Our new staff are scheduled to begin their “Circle of Security” training in December. Staff engagement in further training, and tertiary studies are part of our ongoing commitment to professional development, equipping our Family Wellbeing team with the skills needed to provide comprehensive support when working with our families, and the community.
2. To maintain current community support programs and activities and identify the need for additional programs/services through ongoing collaboration with key service providers from government/non-government organisations, families, and clients from Wujal Wujal, Hope Vale, Laura, and Coen, further extending our reach and engagement across the region.
3. Recognizing the importance of community connections, we will actively participate in local events and initiatives to build stronger relationships with key stakeholders. This engagement will help raise awareness of our services and foster trust within the community.

Service Enhancement and Innovation:

4. Our service delivery model will be continuously reviewed and refined to better align with the evolving needs of our clients and the community. We plan to introduce innovative approaches and strengthen existing programs to maximize our impact and support outcomes. Through these initiatives, the Family Wellbeing Service aims to build a more responsive, effective, and inclusive, support network for families and individuals in our community.

### **Acknowledgements**

Thank you to the staff at Family Wellbeing Service and all the wonderful staff of Gungarde Community Centre.

Eaumon Edwards  
Family Wellbeing Service (FWS)  
Team Leader

**Mobile** | 0439 695 402

**Email** | eedwards@gungarde.com.au Website | [www.gungarde.com.au](http://www.gungarde.com.au)

**Address** | 92 Charlotte Street (PO Box 6), Cooktown, Qld, 4895

**RADIO**

**REMOTE  
ALCOHOL & DRUG  
INTERVENTIONS  
AND OUTCOMES**



### **Remote Alcohol and Drug Interventions and Outcome Program**

The Remote Alcohol and Drug Interventions and Outcome (RADIO) Program provides holistic, youth-focused support to individuals aged 12–25 across Cooktown, Hopevale, and Wujal Wujal. As a voluntary initiative, the program prioritizes the needs and goals of each young person, focusing on alcohol and other drug use through harm minimisation and diversion strategies.

Support is tailored to meet the unique needs of each young person and may include:

- Harm minimisation and diversion strategies
- Assisting with learner's license applications
- Supporting engagement in education and training
- Providing court-related support, including probation and parole
- Rebuilding family connections
- Educating on healthy relationships
- Facilitating access to medical care and identification documents
- Connecting youth with appropriate services

Promoting the RADIO program and Gungarde Services in the community has been an enjoyable opportunity for skill development and network building throughout Cooktown and surrounding areas. Events this year included:

- NAIDOC Celebrations at Holy Spirit College
- Career Expo 2025
- International Women's Day in Wujal Wujal
- Youth Deadly Art Movement workshops (January & April school holidays)

I am looking forward to a busy 2025/2026, continuing to provide support to youth in Cooktown and surrounding areas.

Please feel free to contact myself and have chat about the program.

Phone: 04 6737 5747

Email: [ndewaal@gungarde.com.au](mailto:ndewaal@gungarde.com.au)

Referrals to: [intake@gungarde.com.au](mailto:intake@gungarde.com.au)

RADIO AOD Youth Case Manager  
Ngungjul Dewaal



# Immediate Housing Response / Specialist Housing Services – Annual Report 2024/2025

## Singles, Couples and Families

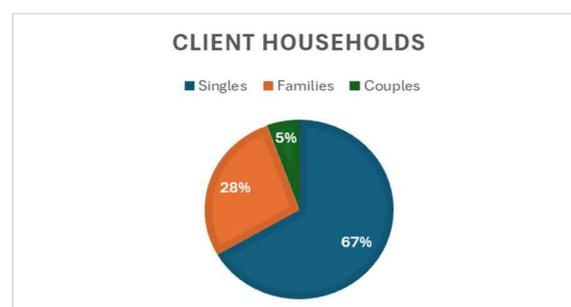
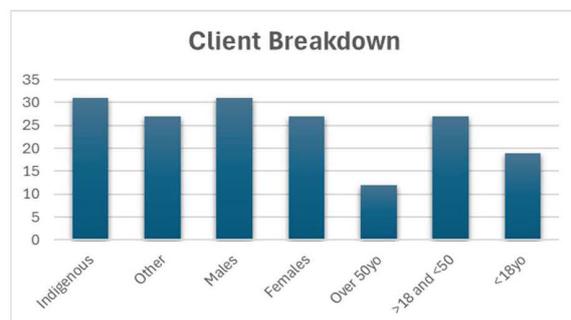
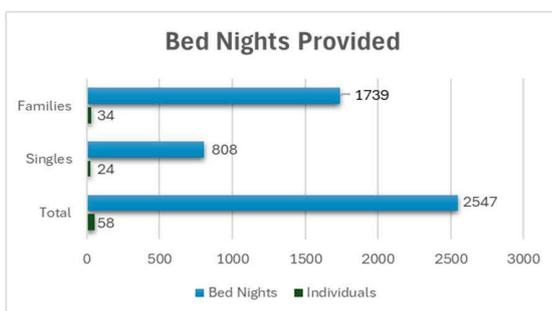
The Gungarde Homelessness Services are provided through funding from the Immediate Housing Response (IHR)/Specialist Housing Services (SHS) programs by the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works and are funded for people experiencing homelessness, rough sleeping etc, and those at risk of homelessness are among our most socially and economically disadvantaged.

Although the new policy around providing the support has been updated by the State Government in March 2025, we are still in a place where we can offer assistance to those who fit the criteria and are in line with the new guidelines.

We still have a dire shortage of temporary accommodation in Cooktown, and this is the biggest hurdle when trying to assist our clients and their families, and to achieve favourable outcomes for them. In some cases, we are offering to transport people and families out of the area to another source of support from family and/or friends, elsewhere as we have nowhere that we can accommodate them. We also connect clients to other services is also how we provide support and assist with other matters e.g. completing applications for social housing, aged care, mental health as well as Domestic Violence support or referrals etc.

Homelessness is rife Australia-wide, and Cooktown is not immune, nor is the shortage of accommodation and suitable housing for the members of our community. Private rentals are at 0% availability, and social housing waitlists are now extensive with many years wait. We are doing our part to assist those within our community who find themselves for various reasons, in this predicament, and we are hopeful that we can make a difference.

With the program now having run for 12 months, we have had some success stories. A number of clients have found private rental accommodation, some have relocated to family where they could receive family support and/or better work opportunities, and others have moved out of area to find long term accommodation.



Tracey Murray | Coordinator  
**Immediate Housing Response**  
**Specialist Housing Services**  
 12 August 2025

Tel: 07 4069 5412

92 Charlotte Street

Cooktown QLD

ICN: 148

ABN: 45 180 964 190

admin@gungarde.com.au

## Family Participation Program

Family Participation program consists of a convenor and a Support worker.

Convenor: Monica Ross

Support Worker: Jarhlem Bowen

The primary focus of the *Family Participation Program* is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families with children and young people under the age of 18 years who are the subject of a child protection notification or who are already involved in the statutory child protection system. FPP works alongside the child/ren and family with the core purpose of supporting their active participation in the decisions that affect these families.

The Family Participation program workers support families during Intake & Assessment child safety investigation meetings.

Our Service areas include Hopevale, Wujal, Laura, Coen and other surrounding areas.

FPP have been involved in various activities in the Community

- Laura Christmas party
- Gungarde fishing competition
- Under 5's day Hopevale 19 families attended
- Woman's group
- Mother's Day Pampering session
- Laura Christmas party
- Under 8's day at the school
- DV Day in Wujal
- International Woman's Day (Gungarde Hall) woman from Wujal, Hopevale and Cooktown
- School Holiday Program Movie night/Disco were 60 children attended over 2 weeks
- NAIDOC

FPP have attended interagency meetings with Cook shire Council and other services.

The Family Participation Program attended a Suicide Prevention Forum in Sydney and attended the QATSICPP awards night in Toowoomba where we met other Family Wellbeing Service workers as well as family Participation Workers from all over QLD. We learned how other workers in our roles run their services in their communities.

Monica Ross

Family Participation Program

Convenor

Contact phone: 04 7476 5265

Contact email: [fpp@gungarde.com.au](mailto:fpp@gungarde.com.au)



**GUNGARDE**  
Family Participation  
Program



**The Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters is a free, home-based early learning Program funded by the Australian Government**



HIPPY (Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters) is an early year's program which supports families in building and nurturing their child's developmental milestones. Families receive fortnightly, fun and engaging activities packs to do with their child at home. Families receive many resources (paints, scissors, glue and age-appropriate reading books) to support the HIPPY activities. Families are also invited to regular HIPPY Gathering to meet up with other families for adventures, learning and Play opportunities.



We currently have 28, Age 3 Families enrolled from Cooktown, Hopevale, Lakeland and Rossville. We have 21 Age 4 families who are in their 2<sup>nd</sup> yr of HIPPY and will be Graduating in November 2025. Families are engaging in the Program and learn a lot about their child by doing the activities at home. HIPPY staff receive lots of positive feedback from their families and carefully adjust activities to best meet the family's needs. Children are always excited to receive their next HIPPY pack, which has age-appropriate activities for them to enjoy with their family. Our Fortnightly Age 3 HIPPY Gathering give families the opportunity to meet up, play, learn and explore our community together. Our Age 4 Gathering have given parents the opportunities to learn more about their Childs Developmental Milestones and Parents Wellbeing and Mental Health.

We currently have 5 HIPPY staff which includes the HIPPY Coordinator and 4 HIPPY tutors. HIPPY Tutors are Trained in the HIPPY packs. Tutors have their assigned families that they meet with fortnightly or weekly. Tutors review previous pack and unpack and explain the new HIPPY pack so that families have the confidence and understanding of how the activities work. Tutors participate in additional training and enrichment to support them in their role as HIPPY tutors which is part of their P2P (Pathways to Possibilities). Tutors are given the opportunity to upskill and work towards gaining qualifications in a field that is of interest to them. This year staff have participated in a Self-Care and Wellbeing workshop, Positive Future Facilitator Training, Mental Health First Aid training and Love Bites Facilitator Training. Both Age 4 HIPPY tutors have also commenced studying. One tutor is completing a Cert 4 in Community Services and the other has commenced a Diploma in Counselling. The Coordinator and Tutors are very grateful for the opportunity to upskill and develop their career pathways.



# HIPPY COMMUNITY EVENTS SNAPSHOT

**Under 8s Day at the PCYC**

**NAIDOC Celebrations at Cooktown and Rossville**

**Under 3s Day at the Botanical Garden and Hopevale**

**ATSI Children's Day at Lions Park**

**Holy Spirit Open Day**





# HIPPY 2024 GRADUATION

In November 2024 we had our HIPPY Graduation to celebrate and acknowledge our families 2-year commitment to the HIPPY Program.

We headed up the Endeavour River with Nick from Cooktown Riverbend Sunset Cruise. Children played River Spotto which was lots of fun and where lucky to spot a crocodile which was on their Spotto chart. We also put a crab pot in and checked it on the way back to the boat ramp. Both Children and parents received a gift of appreciation for their commitment to HIPPY.

We have heard that all of our 2024 graduates have settled well into their first year of School.





# HIPPY GATHERINGS SNAPSHOT

Botanical Gardens Exploring Insects and Colors

Skatepark balancing and rolling

Cooktown Bus adventure Treasure hunt

Musical Ship playing musical Instruments

Quarantine Bay Everywhere Learning in Nature

Archers Point adventure and kite flying

Self- Care and Wellbeing workshop for parents

Healthy eating workshop with Local Dietician



## Youth Empowerment Program (YEP)

My name is Jo Reuben, and I have recently stepped into the role of Youth Empowerment Coordinator, for Gungarde Aboriginal Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation.

My background is in social welfare, offering strong support for Mother's taking care of their families and so it has been a natural kind of transition to be working more directly with the children. It became apparent very quickly that a more comprehensive 'wrap-around support' was necessary for the growing number of disengaged students in our community.

A huge problem for the most dis-engaged children in our communities is a total lack of services around schooling and education – I do not mean schools, rather any alternatives and other pathways to learning. For students who have been dis-engaged from school for more than 6 months, school is no longer a real path to education.

So what are the alternatives? And What can we do?

In only a few cases, is boarding school away from home an option. The main reason is because most students cannot meet the academic and past-attendance records that the boarding schools require.

YEP has identified the only school left for some of the most disengaged students and has been working hard to establish a solid working relationship with Cooktown's *Holy Spirit Campus* to better support these kids. Currently I attend the weekly Mentor (teacher) meetings, as well as attend the school as student-support every Tuesday and Wednesday as needed. Currently we are focusing on closing the gap on the devastatingly low numeracy and literacy levels of all students.

In addition, YEP is currently re-writing a more culturally-sensitive and appropriate sexual health education program for all participating, Indigenous students in the Cook shire – N.B. this is in direct response to an elevated number of sexually-related social issues within community (Cooktown, Hopevale and Laura) and after talks with key-regional Health workers crying out for support and community-led change. The new cultural and trauma informed version, designed for our local bama kids is being created by YEP with support from the Facilitators (NAPCAN), Holy Spirit Stakeholders and of course Family and Elders.

Working closely with Qld Health to address the health needs of our young people – In direct response to ongoing sexual health problems and poor mental health conditions in our Indigenous communities, YEP is currently creating a new sexual health program with a focus on healthy bodies & healthy minds. The new program will be more culturally sensitive and culturally appropriate than what is currently being rolled out across the state, in line with the wishes and expectations of our elders and other Community stakeholders and families. This Program will first be introduced to all high school students at the Holy Spirit Campus.

Due to consistent requests from bama families, YEP is considering case-loading to offer stronger support to students and their families – in the hope that together, we can better support these kids.

Currently I have 19 young people who I have been asked directly from families and schools to help. I'm expecting this number to increase next term.

- 5x from Wujal Wujal
- 4x from Hopevale
- 10x from Cooktown & 4x new referrals

#### Some of the Community Events this year:

- Junior Disco's held at our Gungarde Hall
- Gungarde's NAIDOC Cook shire, Community Event
- NAIDOC in Laura
- NAIDOC at the Cape York Family Centre
- Junior & Senior Movie Night's held at our Gungarde Hall
- Cooktown Career's Expo for high school students
- Under 8's Day, Science-themed Event
- Wujal Wujal Community-led, Interagency meeting. YEP catered on the day
- Mental Health Week Event in Hopevale run by Apunapima
- School Holiday Programs



YEP remains committed to engaging with other services and organisations here in the Cook Shire at every possible opportunity. Community involvement is paramount for the success of the Program. Gungarde continues to attend and support all Community events in our Shire.

#### YEP – IN A SNAPSHOT

Responding to the needs of our Youth from Prep to Year 12

Providing Support particularly to disengaged youth & their families.

YEP facilitates Youth Engagement through strengthening our ties with Family and Community.

YEP can help students to Plan and realise their goals

YEP has a focus on keeping kids in school to Year 12

YEP can help you find an alternative pathway to Learning

YEP can offer assistance/and support to all kids who find themselves in any trouble. Don't be shame to ask!

YEP can offer assistance with school supplies

YEP can offer Information, referral and advice

YEP offers Student's Support and care in a culturally appropriate manner

Working closely with the Country University Centre, Cape York as they develop their "Yr 13", with a strong focus on 'catching' students that fall through the cracks

Strengthening Gungardes relationships with our TO's and Aboriginal Corporation, with focus on maintaining culturally appropriate and holistic ethos.

Senior Secondary Support : Yr 's 10-13

- With a strong focus on supporting kids to remain in school and finish to Yr 12

Supporting Youth who have disengaged from school to find alternative pathways to education and learning

- Referral to YEP Cooking Program
- Linking Kids to other services & programs when necessary and/or available
- Linking students with all the working equipment that they need

- Working with Cape York CUC to develop a Yr 13 for our community, in response to the high rate of school dropouts in our region. Yr 13 aims to 'catch' school dropouts and link students to alternative career pathways quickly before students fall into the welfare system.
- Supporting our Youth. Working closely with their Families, the schools, Other Program Co-ordinators and all relevant stakeholders to deliver a holistic and inclusive Program that is culturally and socially appropriate for our Mob.
- Supporting Bama Families to help their kids.

#### Junior Secondary Support:

- Supporting Students to 'maintain and remain' in school to Yr 12
- Supporting disengaged students – working closely with their families, the school and other parties.
- Referral to YEPs Cooking Program
- Referral to other support services where possible
- Supporting our Youth, whilst working closely with their Families, the schools, Other Program Co-ordinators and all relevant stakeholders to deliver a holistic and inclusive Program that is culturally and socially appropriate for our Mob.
- Supporting Bama Families to help their kids

#### Support for Primary Aged school students:

- Help for Families with uniforms and back-to-school packs
- Link to other supports where necessary
- Supporting disengaged youth, by working closely with family
- Supporting bama families to help their kids

#### Contact Coordinator: Jo Reuben

M: 0499 500 886 Email: [jo@gungarde.com.au](mailto:jo@gungarde.com.au)

# Meet Our Staff



Greg Whittaker  
Chief Executive Officer



Stevie Wilson  
Program Manager



Jaylene Elliott  
Senior Administrator



Karen Thomas  
Senior Housing Officer



Ian Murray  
Housing Officer



Melissa Griffiths  
Coordinator HIPPY



Siobhan McLaughlin  
Coordinator HIPPY



Courtney Byrne  
HIPPY Tutor



Melissa Gunton  
HIPPY Tutor & FWS Support



Eaumon Edwards  
Team Leader FWS



Theresa Goody  
Support Worker FWS



Barbara Taylor  
Support Worker FWS



Monica Ross  
Convenor Family Participation Program



Jarhlem Bowen  
Support Worker Family Participation Program



Ngungjul Dewaal  
Case Manager RADIO



Joanne Reuben  
Coordinator YEP



Tracey Murray  
Specialised homelessness services



Senior customer Service Officer Kasey Gertz  
Customer Service Officer John Hill

Tel: 07 4069 5412

92 Charlotte Street

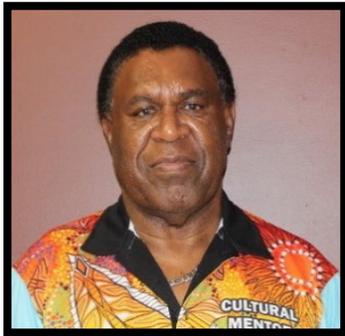
Cooktown QLD

ICN: 148

ABN: 45 180 964 190

[admin@gungarde.com.au](mailto:admin@gungarde.com.au)

# Meet our Board



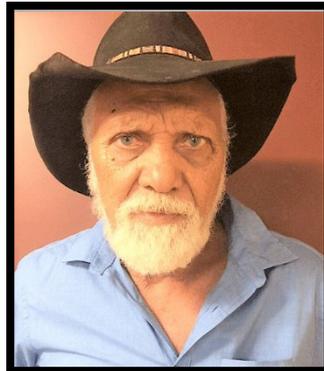
James Tapau  
Chairperson



Helen Hanash  
Deputy Chairperson



Helen Gordon  
Director



Michael Ross  
Director



Esther Henderson  
Director



Marica Koolatah  
Director



Nakia Harrigan  
Director



Erica Deeral  
Director

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Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation appreciates the ongoing support from the State and Federal Government. The continued contributions and ongoing funding and support of Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation enables the organisation to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the wider community.

Lastly, we would like to thank all services and volunteers who have helped Gungarde throughout the year especially the Board of Directors and Members of Gungarde.



Australian Government



Queensland  
Government

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