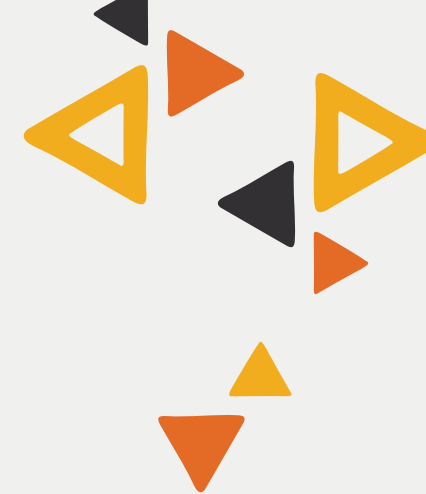




WILMAN DRYANDRA KOOLUNGA ENGAGEMENT PLAN STAGE 1
Part of Implementing Our Healthy Country Plan Step By Step

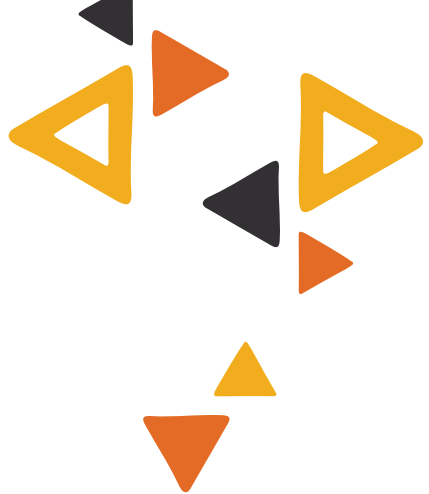
STRONG CONNECTIONS STRONG KOOLUNGA



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Introduction

Millennium Kids was contracted to begin the process of developing a youth Koolunga Engagement Plan Stage 1 in collaboration with the Wilman (Dryandra) People Corporation Ltd.

The experience took 64 Wilman Noongars out on Country to Barna Mia Nocturnal Wildlife Experience and Koompinkning and Dryandra Woodland National Park over three days in October, 2024.

Elders and community members led various Indigenous knowledge activities and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions volunteers.

Millennium Kids and Media on Mars led a range of youth engagement workshops including native animal experiences, two-way science, art, storytelling and multimedia skill building giving young people an opportunity to participate in a range of activities and voice their ideas for a Youth Strategic Plan.





Funding Objectives

The WA Science Week grant, Western Australian Multicultural Lions and the Millennium Kids Enviro Fund provided funding to kickstart this initiative during National Science Week 2024. The three day program aimed to:

1 Get the Wilman community on Country to engage in series of cultural and two-way science experiences.

2 Develop youth voice and engagement experiences to hear directly from young people about developing ongoing programs on Country.

This workshop series is seen as the beginning of this strategic planning process. Some families could not participate due to timing and it is imperative that we follow through on the activities started with young people during this trip.

Further consultation and engagement is needed to complete the consultation and planning process. Families came from Narrogin, Perth and the Wheatbelt for this series of activities.

Participants in the Planning Process

Wilman Directors	Wilman Members	Elders
1. Mervyn (Nick) Abraham	4. Travis Abraham	1. Murrel Bolton
2. Raylene Storey	5. Basil Kickett	2. Marina Abraham
3. Darryl Kickett	6. Natalie Hill	3. Marian Hill
	7. Francis Bolton	4. Marion Ugle
	8. Jessica Abraham	5. Barry Kickett
		6. Lyn Kickett
		7. Graham Kickett

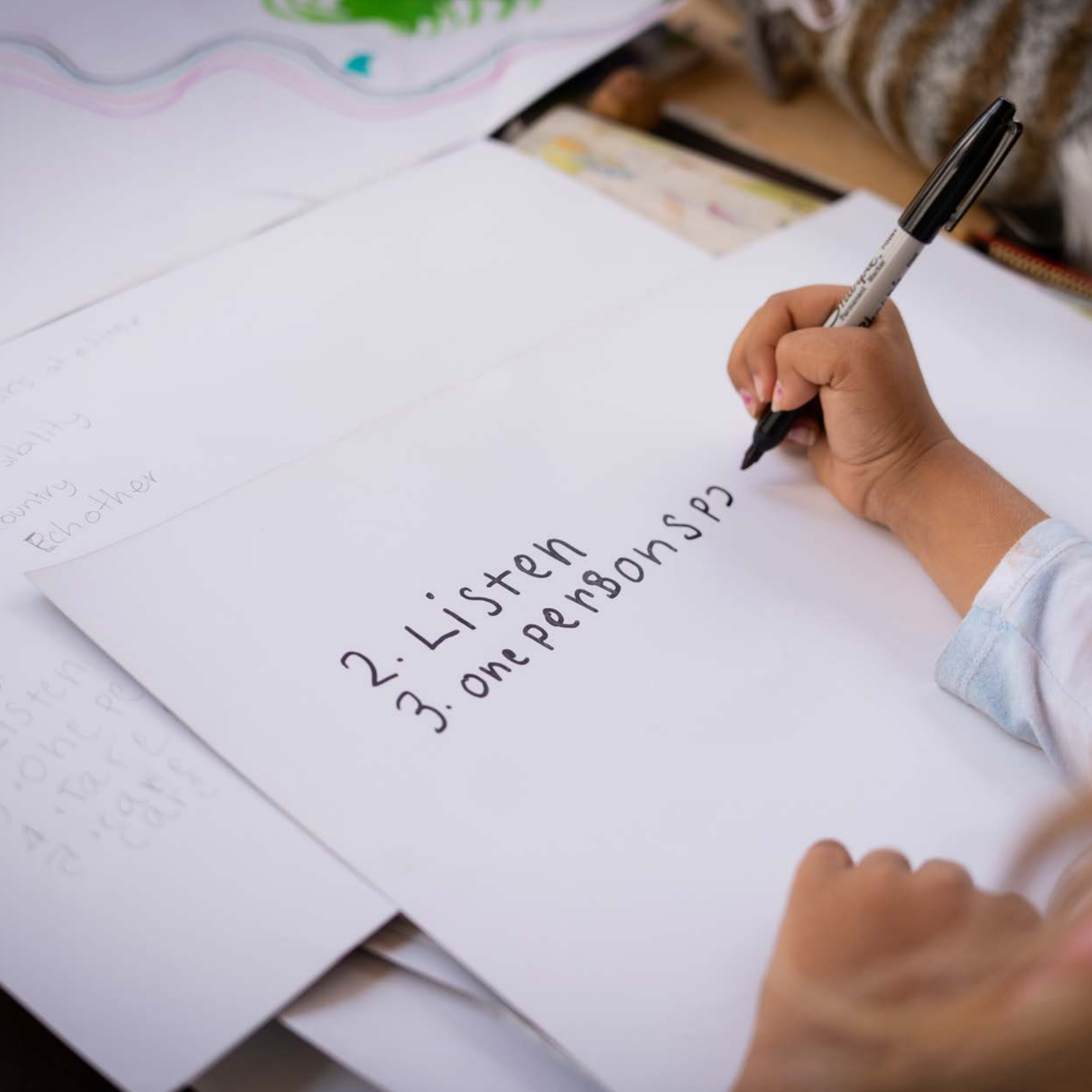


Wilman Community	Koolungas Young People	
1. Anthony Abraham	1. Edmund Kickett	17. Ashanti Penny
2. Ross Storey	2. Malik Abraham	18. Tiarahtha Penny
3. Chad Kickett	3. Michael Abraham	19. Takiesha Penny
4. Ashanti Abraham	4. Sonny-Maree Abraham	20. Kristin Penny
5. Aurora Abraham	5. Kyrell Alossi	21. Kelanee Rose
6. Raylene Ball	6. Lasean Alossi	22. Lataya Riley
7. Jacquelyn Hill	7. Tyreece Anderson	23. Summer Turvey
8. Freda Ugle	8. Madi Annear	24. Zinalia Ryder
9. Mable Ugle	9. Iziah Ball	25. Candice Ugle
10. Ralph Kickett	10. Lincoln Bolton	26. Julana Ugle
11. Marquette Hill	11. Jasmine Bolton	27. Trisha Ugle
	12. Chrishae Coyne	28. Samantha Smith
	13. Michelle Hill	29. Kayle-Rose Whitby
	14. Violet Lawrence	30. Allan Kickett
	15. Jacob Nelson	31. Kalannie Rose Whitby
	16. Rueben Nelson	

Community Members

Curtin University
Professor Anna Haebich

Narrogin Senior High
Deputy Principal School



Our Values

The values, or rules of engagement, designed with young people

Respect

- ▶ Respect the Elders
- ▶ Respect each other
- ▶ Respect yourself

Responsibility

- ▶ Take responsibility for yourself and your actions

Listen

- ▶ Listen first
- ▶ One person speaks at a time

Care

- ▶ Care for Country
- ▶ Care for each other





FUNDING OBJECTIVE: Get the Wilman community on Country to engage in series of cultural and two-way science experiences.

TRIP OBJECTIVES

Document cultural and two-way science on Country experiences

Two-way experiences

- ▶ River care
- ▶ Bush medicine
- ▶ Plant knowledge
- ▶ Fire management
- ▶ Flora and fauna workshops
- ▶ Programs with Elders

Examples

- Water contamination experiment
- Learning how to make bush medicine
- Learning how to use bush tucker
- Learning how to identify plants
- Learning about revegetation
- Learning about smoking ceremonies and fire management
- Flora and Fauna Workshops
- Totems
- Monitoring
- Learning from Elders



2

FUNDING OBJECTIVE: Develop youth voice and engagement experiences to hear directly from young people about developing ongoing programs on Country.

TRIP OBJECTIVES

Develop an on Country engagement plan for young people

What young people want

- ▶ Get out on Country more often to learn about important places and how to care for Country
- ▶ Programs with Elders
- ▶ Document and share stories on Country

Examples

- Uncle Walter's old Camp
- Aunty Joan's Walk
- Learn about animals and plants that live at Dryandra and Koompinkning/Pumphrey's Bridge
- Mallee hen nest
- Native bees vs feral
- Learn how to use bush tucker
- Learn how to make bush medicine
- Learn how to make tools and instruments
- Revegetate Koompinkning
- Clean up the river
- Learn about our totems
- Become custodians for totems





Skills for Life

Training and Pathways

Learning about Wilman protocols and how to:

- ▶ Document and share stories
- ▶ Gather consent and permissions
- ▶ Document processes
- ▶ Research and measure impacts
- ▶ Collect and manage data
- ▶ Ranger program for kids
- ▶ Revegetation program with kids
- ▶ Creative Social Enterprise
- ▶ Development of artistic pathways



Creative Social Enterprise

Aboriginal creative social enterprises are creative businesses owned and operated by Aboriginal people.

They focus on cultural preservation and benefit communities through:

► **Cultural Preservation**

By focusing on preserving and promoting culture.

► **Sustainable Development**

By adopting sustainable practices, both environmentally and economically.

► **Innovation & Entrepreneurship**

By creating opportunities for Aboriginal entrepreneurs that blend traditional knowledge with modern practices, fostering economic growth and self-sufficiency.

► **Social Impact**

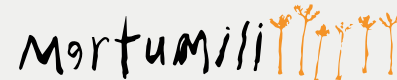
By finding solutions for social issues such as unemployment, poverty, and inequality by providing employment and training opportunities.

► **Global Recognition**

Aboriginal social enterprises are gaining recognition on the global stage for their unique contributions to sustainable development, cultural preservation, and social innovation.

Kids on Country provides exposure to Aboriginal social enterprises, business and artists so young people can see the opportunities available to them and helps them to develop the skills to produce products to sell through local galleries and shops.

Examples of Aboriginal Social Enterprises



www.martumili.com.au



www.tjanpi.com.au



www.yarn.com.au

Benefits of Creativity

► **Skill Development**

Creativity allows young people to develop skills in design, photography, videography, drawing, painting craft etc.

► **Pathway Opportunities**

Aboriginal art and design are highly sought after commodities making it imperative to expose young people to creative pathways opportunities in these areas.

► **Motivation**

Creativity can boost motivation. Kids on Country uses creativity as a vehicle to engage young people and help build self esteem.

► **Social Connection**

Art can help develop social skills, reduce anxiety and depression, and build self-esteem.

► **Emotional Regulation**

Creativity has a calming effect, helping people manage anxiety and stress. The process of making art boosts dopamine levels, improving concentration, attention, and emotional regulation.

► **Improved Coping**

Through creative activities, people learn healthy ways to manage emotions and conflicts.

► **Story Telling**

Creativity is a great way to articulate and share cultural stories, using tools such as video, photography, illustration painting etc.



There has been an explosion in high quality Aboriginal social enterprises in Australia in part due to the demand for Aboriginal art and design but also due to the entrepreneurial support for aboriginal business.







Next Steps

Secure funding to implement an on Country Skills for Life program that supports young people:

- ▶ To develop skills in research and impact measurement
- ▶ Develop a ranger program for kids
- ▶ Co-design and activate a revegetation program with kids
- ▶ Develop a Creative Social Enterprise that allows young people to sell products through the local galleries and cultural centres
- ▶ Develop pathways for young people
- ▶ Document and share their stories
- ▶ Learn about bush tucker and bush medicine
- ▶ Activate clean up programs in the river and local waterways
- ▶ Become the custodians for totems of their land



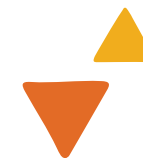
Thank you

We are grateful for the support of our sponsors and supporters. Without them, this project would not have happened.

With this funding we have begun the process of working with young people to strengthen connections with family, and our future leaders.

We see this as an important step in implementing our Healthy Country Plan because it is critical that we empower our young people to step up as the future leaders in our community.

We look forward to continuing this important work and expanding our network of supporters in the future.



Funders and Partners



Millennium
Kids



