

Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services Annual Report 2024 - 2025

At Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Bunuba people. We also acknowledge the five language groups, Bunuba, Gooniyandi, Nyikina, Wangkatjunka, Walmajarri and all their elders past, present and future.



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Committee Members

Judith Brooking
James Brown
Avreanna Hobbs
Ethan Hoad
Ronnie Jimbidie
Claude Carter

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide culturally appropriate, holistic health promotion, disease prevention and community services to benefit the people of the Fitzroy Valley.

VISION STATEMENT

To be the best provider in Western Australia of health promotion, early intervention and community services to Aboriginal people.

INTRODUCTION TO NCHS

Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation. It began in 1995, following a wide reaching of community meetings aimed at establishing the type of health service the local community wanted. The clear message from this consultation was that the community wanted a Holistic, Culturally Appropriate Service that recognizes the impact of Aboriginal Law, Culture, Spirit and Land issues on the health of the community.

The community also specified that they wanted an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation that focused on Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Most importantly, they wanted a service that worked together with the existing mainstream hospital service to avoid service duplication and improve the quality of services for local people. It was from this consultation that the concept of a partnership between the Fitzroy Valley Health Service, Kimberley Population Health Unit and Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services emerged.

NCHS has 4 main divisions, which are:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Health Services: | Health Promotion Team
Environmental Health Team
Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services |
| Community Services: | Commonwealth Home Support Programme |

An aboriginal committee governs Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services. In line with the constitution, the committee is made up of a representative from each of the main language groups within the Fitzroy Valley (i.e. Bunuba, Gooniyandi, Walmajarri, and Wangkatjungka). The Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services Governing Committee meets several times per year.

INTRODUCTION TO THE FITZROY VALLEY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

The Fitzroy Valley Health Partnership began formally in the year 2000. It began as a partnership between the Fitzroy Valley Health Service (FVHS) and NCHS. At this time the Health Minister, Bob Kucera, was encouraging and endorsing partnerships between the Department of Health and Aboriginal Health Services. This was a new approach for both organisations and the hard work and good will of all of those individuals involved in these formative years of the Partnership is recognised and acknowledged.

The FVHS is part of the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) and includes services which come via Kimberley Population Health Unit. This comprises of a hospital, providing a wide range of inpatient and outpatient services, and a Population Health Service. The hospital outpatient services include appointment based General Practice, emergencies, specialist visits and allied health visits. The Population Health Service includes community clinics, child health, school health, community midwife, retinal photography, and diabetic educator. Clinical management of Population Health is provided by Kimberley Population Health Unit (KPHU), based in Broome.

In 2004, the first Partnership Agreement was signed by the FVHS and NCHS. This Agreement formalised the intention of both parties to work in partnership, so as to deliver, in a coordinated fashion, increasingly effective, efficient and culturally safe health care to the population of the Fitzroy Valley region. The Partnership was fully implemented in July 2006 and was further strengthened by the co-location of the 3 services in Fallon Road in December 2008.

The principal mechanism for auspicing and operationalising the Partnership Agreement is the Partnership Forum which meets approximately bi-monthly, and includes equal representation from each service. The Partnership Forum provides an environment that allows each organisation to meet and discuss their roles, problems, plans and ideas. It continues to be the shared vision of the Fitzroy Valley Health Partnership to completely eliminate duplication and provide a continuum of care that is culturally appropriate, holistic and sustainable.

Chief Executive Officer



Anthony Collard

**Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services –
Annual Update to Fitzroy Valley NCHS
Members**

Dear Fitzroy Valley, NCHS Members,

The past 12 months have flown by, and we at Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services (NCHS) have remained dedicated to our mission—delivering culturally appropriate health programs that meet the evolving needs of our communities.

Staff Changes and Acknowledgements

As with all periods of growth and change, we've also had to say farewell to some valued team members. We would particularly like to acknowledge Jarrod Minniecon, who served the NCHS and Fitzroy Valley community for over three years. Jarrod has made a significant contribution through his support in grievance processes, funeral planning, and broader community engagement. He will be greatly missed both in the office and within the community, and we wish him all the very best in his future endeavours.

Fitzroy Valley Health Partnership Review

A key milestone this year has been the commencement of a review of the Fitzroy Valley Health Partnership with WACHS (WA Country Health Service). This review has been a long time coming and represents a crucial step forward in ensuring more coordinated, collaborative, and culturally safe health services for the Fitzroy Valley. Our goal through this process is to strengthen our partnership with

WACHS and to lay the groundwork for NCHS to return to delivering clinical services—in alignment with our original founding purpose. We are optimistic about the opportunities this review presents and look forward to continuing to advocate for improved community health outcomes.

Gratitude and Thanks

I would like to express my deep gratitude and appreciation to the NCHS Governing Committee for their continued support, leadership, and dedication to both the organisation and the wider community.

A heartfelt thank you also goes to my Senior Management Team and all staff at Nindilingarri, whose ongoing commitment, hard work, and support have been invaluable—not only to myself, but also to the organisation and the communities we serve.



Administration



Sue Winter
Chief Financial Officer/Public
Officer



Michael Dennis
Corporate Service Manager



David Blackwell
Office Manager - Assets & IT



Nevada Croft
Receptionist

Over the past year, Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services (NCHS) has made substantial progress in strengthening infrastructure, improving service delivery, and enhancing staff and client wellbeing. These achievements reflect our commitment to cultural health, safety, and operational excellence.

1. Security & Technology Upgrades

- Installation of CCTV across the main NCHS building and all staff housing, ensuring improved security.
- Starlink internet installed at all staff housing to support CCTV and connectivity.
- Transition to a new security provider: DC DataComms.
- Numerous computers upgraded due to outdated systems no longer supporting Windows updates.

2. Facilities & Infrastructure Improvements

- The old dialysis room has been fully renovated into four new consult rooms, dedicated to visiting specialists.
- The function room has been upgraded with a larger TV and improved sound equipment, enhancing capacity for staff training, meetings, and leasing opportunities for other organisations.
- The mental health building now has a new duress system, directly linked to the NCHS security network.

3. Housing & Grounds

- Renovations and general maintenance have been completed across all staff housing, improving living conditions and long-term sustainability.
- Geoff Davis and his team have been engaged to maintain gardens and landscaping, with reticulation currently being upgraded.

4. Vehicles & Equipment

- Introduction of vehicle pre-start checks to ensure proactive maintenance.
- Two older CHSP buses have been retired and replaced with three newer buses.
- The Environmental Health team has acquired a Toyota Hilux and a skid steer, strengthening program delivery.
- A fibre optic cable has been installed at the Environmental Health shed to provide fast internet access.

5. Client & Community Facilities

- The CHSP building now has a new large-screen TV for clients.
- Renovations and improvements are underway in the CHSP kitchen to better support client services.

6. Work Health & Safety (WHS) Improvements

- Updates to WHS policies and procedures to strengthen compliance, accountability, and staff wellbeing.
- Improved reporting and incident management processes, making it easier to track and respond to safety issues.

This year has been a period of transformation and strengthening for NCHS. From security enhancements and digital upgrades to improved facilities and vehicles, these investments directly benefit our staff, clients, and the wider community. Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services remains committed to providing culturally safe, reliable, and sustainable health services while building capacity for the future.

Program and Services

Clint Bussey

Manager



Program and Services Report Summary – 2025 Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services (NCHS) Commitment, Connection, and Community Impact

The year 2025 has been an exceptionally productive and impactful period for the NCHS Programs Team. I am proud to report that all required program reports have been successfully submitted to our funding agencies.

Each report was prepared to the highest standard, meeting all compliance requirements, and submitted on time. Reports included a blend of quantitative data, qualitative narratives, and comprehensive evaluations, all of which clearly demonstrate positive health outcomes for our community members. The NCHS program teams are known for being friendly, professional, and deeply community-focused. Their approachable manner fosters trust and open communication, while their professionalism ensures high-quality service delivery. Above all, their strong commitment to the community guides everything they do, making a meaningful difference in the lives of those they serve.

Unfortunately, in 2025, we again sadly farewelled many of our community members. We honor and remember each one of them, and we extend our deepest condolences and heartfelt support to their families and close friends during this difficult time.

As we approach the wet season, all of our programs are working diligently to complete their activities and services for the community and individuals throughout the Fitzroy Valley.

Program Delivery and Staffing

For most of 2025, all programs have been running at full capacity, a testament to the commitment, resilience, and hard work of our program staff. Increased community outreach and regular visits to homes, schools, and stores have significantly boosted our weekly outputs, helping to strengthen community engagement and deliver services where they are needed most.

Community Engagement and Impact

The past year has seen a sharp rise in community participation, with many of our programs now in high demand. We have received record numbers of referrals, with community members, schools, and partner organisations recognising the value of our culturally safe, grassroots approach to health and wellbeing.

Feedback from across the region has been overwhelmingly positive. Schools, youth programs, Elders, and families have acknowledged the role our services play in building trust, improving access to care, and achieving meaningful health outcomes. Multiple funding bodies have formally acknowledged our team's innovative delivery methods, deep community connections, and ongoing commitment to Aboriginal-led health solutions.

Teamwork and Collaboration

One of the most outstanding aspects of 2025 has been the remarkable team spirit and cooperation shown across all levels of the Programs Team. Staff have worked closely together across different program areas, ensuring that services are delivered holistically, respectfully, and consistently. This collaborative approach continues to strengthen our cultural framework and our reputation as a trusted community health provider.

Food Insecurity

Food security remains a critical concern for the Fitzroy Crossing community in Western Australia's Kimberley region. Residents face significant challenges accessing affordable and nutritious food, exacerbated by logistical issues and infrastructure limitations.

Addressing food security in Fitzroy Crossing requires a multifaceted approach, including improved infrastructure, affordable food access, and community-led initiatives. Collaboration between government agencies, local organisations, and the community is essential to create sustainable solutions that ensure all residents have access to nutritious and affordable food.

Looking Ahead

The NCHS program team is committed to expanding its capacity and services to better meet the growing and evolving needs of the community. By increasing resources and staffing, we aim to enhance accessibility, responsiveness, and the overall impact of our programs, ensuring that every community member receives the support they deserve.

The NCHS health team is dedicated to education, prevention, and improving overall health outcomes for all community members. By empowering individuals with knowledge and proactive support, we strive to foster healthier lifestyles and reduce the incidence of preventable illnesses throughout our community.

NCHS recently bid farewell to Jessica, Kylie, and Jarrod. We sincerely thank them for their valuable contributions and dedication during their time with us. We wish them all the very best in their new pursuits and future endeavours. As we move into the next reporting period, NCHS remains committed to:

- Filling remaining vacancies to ensure continuity and growth.
- Continuing to deliver high-quality, culturally appropriate services.
- Expanding our reach through on-Country programs and community-led initiatives.
- Advocating for Aboriginal health in Aboriginal hands at both local and state levels.

We extend our deepest thanks to our staff, partners, Elders, and community members whose unwavering support continues to shape and strengthen our programs.



First Aid & Bush Medicine



Ben Storer

Over the past 12 months, the First Aid and Bush Medicine Program (FABMP) has continued to grow and make a real difference across the Fitzroy Valley. The team has stayed focused on supporting community health through education, hands-on activities, and culturally grounded resources.

As part of the Reducing Our Chronic Illness (ROCI) initiative, the FABMP has delivered health sessions covering Rheumatic Heart Disease, Kidney Health, Wound Management, and Hygiene. These sessions have been delivered in both school and community settings, helping to share important health messages in ways that are easy to understand and act on.

One of the key programs this year has been "Breath, Blow, Cough, Wash, Chew", which focuses on ear, nose, and throat health. This program is a combined effort between the First Aid and Bush Medicine Program and the Healthy Lifestyles Program, and has been delivered at Bayulu School, Fitzroy Valley District High School, and Wangkatjunga School. It teaches children simple routines that help prevent infections and support better hearing, communication, and learning.





Healthy Skin Program

The Healthy Skin Program, a partnership between Kimberley Population Health Unit (Broome and Fitzroy Crossing) and Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services, continues to grow. This year, the program has been active in Wangkatjunga, Kulkarriya, Bayulu, Muludja, and Manjali Studio School, supporting children and families in managing skin conditions such as scabies, impetigo, tinea capitis, and head lice.

A key innovation has been the development of the Louse Douse Bush Medicine head lice treatment. Created by the FABMP, this natural remedy has been successfully piloted in schools and is now integrated into the Healthy Skin Program, promoting hygiene and skin health among children.



A big thank you to the five schools and their communities for being part of this important work, and to our partners at KPHU and the Healthy Lifestyles program for helping make the program a success.



Bush Medicine Program

The Bush Medicine Program has produced and shared 3,627 bush medicine products this year, including the widely used Lumpi Lumpi balm. This balm is included in every dressing pack and is used to aid healing of minor cuts and scrapes, chapped lips, and rashes.

The program also works closely with local bush medicine knowledge holders to refine, create, and trial new products. This collaboration ensures that traditional remedies continue to evolve and remain relevant in supporting community health.

Dressing Pack Program

The Dressing Pack Program remains a key part of the FABMP, providing essential wound care supplies to help prevent infections and reduce hospital visits. These packs are simple, accessible, and designed to support self-care in remote communities.

This year, 3,080 dressing packs were distributed across the Fitzroy Valley. They are available at stores in Yiyili, Wangkatjunga, Yakanarra, Bayulu, and Noonkanbah, as well as at offices in Nindilingarri and Noonkanbah. The program continues to receive strong community support and plays a vital role in keeping people healthy and safe.

The FABMP continues to work alongside other Nindilingarri program areas, as well as community-minded organisations and groups, supporting workshops, health promotion activities, and community events. These partnerships help strengthen the reach and impact of the program across the valley.

Through practical support, strong partnerships, and a deep respect for cultural knowledge, the FABMP continues to support better health and wellbeing across the Fitzroy Valley. The program is proud to work with communities to share tools, education, and resources that make a lasting difference in everyday life.

Thank you to the FABMP team, our partners at KPHU and Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services, and to the communities who continue to support and shape this work.



ALCOHOL & DRUG

Ismahl Croft

AOD Senior
Support Officer



Louis Marcell - Jones

AOD Social
Worker



Section 152/175

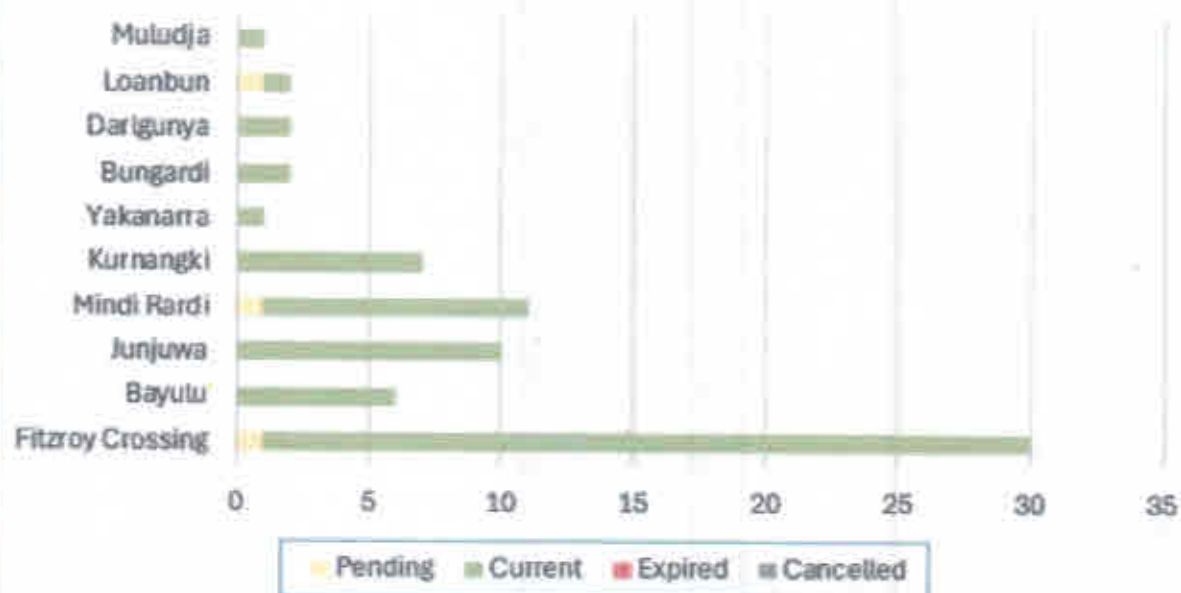
During the last 12 months, we have supported 8 new households to apply for and enforce a Section 152 household Liquor restriction. In total, we service 72 households with Section 152 restrictions. This includes doing 3-monthly follow up checks and providing ongoing support and education around alcohol and other drug use. In the last 6 months our team has conducted 95 check-ups on Section 152 households, which involves replacing signage, checking how the restriction is working for them, and providing education around alcohol and other drug (AOD) use.

The AOD team also support 8 communities who have a Section 175 community liquor restriction. We are currently in the process of supporting Karpnaarmi Community with acquiring a 175 liquor restriction, which involves community education, meetings and contacting the minister of Racing Gaming and Liquor. We have assisted communities with updating and ordering new signage to help spread knowledge and understanding of the restriction. In the last 6 months, we have held several community meetings to discuss AOD issues in the community and how Nindilingarri can help reduce AOD use. Using the information gathered from these meetings, we can better plan how to provide our services in a way that is tailored to the needs of the community.

Additionally, to the 72 s152 houses we support, the AOD team have been working with 12 ongoing clients with over 50 direct occasions of service this year. Of those 12 clients, there has been a reported 90% increased rating of skills and knowledge on reducing or stopping AOD use.



Section 152 Property Status



Mental Health and Wellbeing Camps

As part of this work, we focused on supporting men's mental health and wellbeing. Through collaboration between community organisations (such as KALACC), service providers, and community leaders, more than 35 men and boys have been engaged in camps and day trips designed to strengthen mental health and wellbeing in a safe space for open and non-judgemental conversations.

Having successfully received a grant to improve and support the Mental Health and Wellbeing of people in the Fitzroy Valley, we have been using these funds to provide on-country camps where attendees engage in cultural. The aim of these camps is to provide a space where people in the Fitzroy Valley can attend and improve their wellbeing by engaging in positive, fulfilling activities. These camps target individuals of a variety of ages, with both youth and elders coming together. It also provides an opportunity for Nindilingarri staff to build meaningful relationships with community members and provide quality education in a relaxed, comfortable environment. These camps and day trips have returned extremely positive feedback, with community members enjoying the time on country and finding the health promotion and education delivered to be engaging and valuable.

These trips combined cultural and practical activities such as fishing, cooking, hunting, storytelling, and artefact making with informal and structured discussions about wellbeing. The setting on country encouraged open sharing, with participants reflecting on their own experiences and strategies for maintaining health. Topics explored included alcohol and other drug use, physical and spiritual wellbeing, grief, first aid and supporting both oneself and others.

The collaborative approach ensured that each initiative drew on a wide range of knowledge, skills, and resources, while also building trust and providing diverse perspectives. Personal experiences being shared by attendees were powerful, with men and boys learning from one another in ways that reduced stigma and strengthened resilience. Community feedback highlighted the value of these trips, with participants expressing strong interest in attending again in the future.

To date, we have delivered two on country day trips and two camps. One camp on Gooniyandi country (Junta) and one on Walmajarri country (Old Cherraburi Station). The team will be looking at delivering more on country trips this year.



Mental Health First Aid Training

The AOD team has been working hard at becoming Mental Health First Aid instructors, meaning that we will be able to deliver Mental Health First Aid Training to community members, schools and service providers. This training aims to provide participants with the skills to recognise and respond to someone experiencing a mental health problem or mental health crisis, and to direct them to appropriate professional help. Providing this training in the Fitzroy Valley will equip community members with the skills to support one another and assist those with a mental illness. The training is a 2-day course which is extremely engaging for attendees, encouraging conversations around mental health and providing a greater understanding of the signs and symptoms of those experiencing mental health issues. By increasing understanding and education, we can help reduce stigma around mental health, leading to more people seeking help when they need to.

We conducted Mental Health First Aid training with staff at Yiramalay and Manjali studio schools, to provide education to staff and equip them with the skills to support the young people they work with. Feedback from this course was extremely positive and we are providing further sessions with organisations in Fitzroy Crossing.





Ismahl and Louis conducted the Aboriginal Mental Health First Aid course in early October, with participants from KALACC, Nindilingarri, and Wanki Radio joining the two-day program. We are planning to offer additional mental health first aid courses in our communities moving forward.



Men's Programs

The Nindilingarri AOD team has been prioritizing working with our men through several initiatives and programs. One of these is the Fitzroy Valley Men's Service Network Working Group. This group aims to bring Fitzroy Valley service providers and community men together to share resources, promote upcoming events, encourage collaboration, and increase awareness of programs for our communities. The group meets every month, and we are always encouraging more local community men to come along and be involved in these meetings. Our AOD team has led to the establishment of this group and has facilitated three network meetings this year, all at Garama Yani U (Men's Shed). Garama Yani U will now lead this initiative with Nindilingarri and other services supporting its progress. The Fitzroy Valley services involved and continually attending are Marra Worra Worra, Nindilingarri, Garnduwa, KALACC, Kimberley Mental Health Drug Services, and Marninwarntikurra (Bigiswun program). This program has a huge emphasis on collaboration and ensuring that all services are working together to benefit community members.

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Blue Tree Project and Men's Mental Health Month

The Nindilingarri team held an event in Fitzroy Crossing where we gathered community men together to paint a tree blue and have conversations around mental health and AOD use during Men's Health Month. The tree is part of the Blue Tree Project which aims to increase awareness of mental health and to spark conversations. The event went extremely well and provided a great opportunity to have meaningful and informative conversations with community members around AOD use and how it is linked with mental health. The plan is to paint trees in several communities where we bring people together to paint a tree blue and to have valuable conversations which lead to better education around mental health and AOD use.



AOD Education Sessions

The AOD team has delivered many education sessions to community members and schools, with a focus on increasing knowledge around AOD use and impacts. Some examples of these sessions include those that occurred in June, when Ismahl attended a Biridu Men's camp organized through KALACC's Men's Empowerment Program. The camp took place on country and brought together 15 men, providing a space for cultural connection, learning, and reflection. As part of the camp, Ismahl delivered education sessions on alcohol and other drugs as well as discussing mental health. These sessions encouraged open conversations and gave participants an opportunity to share their own experiences and to ask questions in a supportive setting.

Another example is a session Ismahl participated in August, where he accompanied the Yanunijarra Rangers on a back-to-country journey to Lumpu Lumpu. The primary focus of the camp was to clean the waterhole and clear away overgrown weeds, a task carried out in partnership with Environs Kimberley. During this experience, Ismahl provided Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) education to the rangers, offering practical guidance on available support resources and fostering an open environment for group discussions.

Over the past year, we have conducted a variety of educational sessions with young people in schools throughout the Fitzroy Valley. These sessions centered around topics such as alcohol and other drugs, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), and mental health. They provided students with the chance to enhance their understanding, pose questions, and explore issues that are pertinent to their lives.

The education provided on alcohol and other drugs emphasized both the short- and long-term effects. It also encouraged students to consider strategies for minimizing harm and making well-informed decisions. In preparation for FASD Day, sessions on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) were conducted, focusing on prevention and raising awareness about FASD and its consequences.

Fitzroy Valley Alcohol and Drug Action Group

Following a big community drug meeting held on the lawn opposite of Karrayili back in October 2024, from this there was a recommendation that a local AOD action group to be created to tackle alcohol and drug use, specifically meth, in the community. There have been five meetings to date, with the group working on a Community Action Plan to help reduce the drug and alcohol abuse in our communities. The group has also focussed on creating locally relevant resources to help increase awareness of available supports in the community. We are always encouraging more community members and countrymen to get involved and come along to these meetings, as tackling alcohol and drug abuse will be most successful when the community comes together.

We are looking at having another meeting in November to finalise a draft action plan to reduce the harm of alcohol and drugs in the community.



Mum's & Bub's

Lorin Lawford



My name is Lorin Lawford, and I serve as the Mums, Bubs, and Strong Families Promotion Officer. I have deep local roots connected to the Wangkatjungka and Gooniyandi language groups within the Fitzroy Valley. Having spent most of my life working in the Public Sector, I have gained a robust background in Human Services and the Legal Courts System.

Personal Journey

Since becoming a mother in 2023, I have discovered that nothing compares to witnessing your child grow and develop their unique personality traits. This personal journey has enriched my understanding and strengthened my commitment to my current role.

When the position of Mums, Bubs, and Strong Families Promotion Officer became available, I was thrilled to apply and elated when selected to join the team. Over the past seven months, this journey has been fulfilling. As a first-time mum, stepping into this role felt like a natural fit, although I encountered some challenges, primarily due to the remote nature of our beloved Valley.

Community Engagement

Working closely with families in our communities to build capacity and knowledge about what it means to be Strong Healthy Families and Strong Bubs has been immensely rewarding. My position allows me to connect with local families, providing support and resources that promote healthy development and well-being.

I am dedicated to enhancing our advocacy efforts and contributing to the overall improvement of our community. By collaborating with local organizations, we are striving to create a supportive environment for all families in the Fitzroy Valley.

I have actively participated in various roundtable discussions as a member of the Maternal Child, Youth, and Family Health subcommittee, which includes local health professionals from across the Kimberley region. In these discussions, we analyze tren

-ds in maternal, child, and youth health. A significant finding from our conversations was the notable decline in immunization rates in the Central Kimberley region since Covid. With this knowledge, I aimed to focus on this issue and educate the community.

After discussing my plans with my manager, I received approval to develop a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation about immunization - covering what it entails and what mothers can expect from these vaccinations.

Mothers at all stages of motherhood eagerly engaged in discussions about immunization after attending our impactful in-house PowerPoint presentation, which proved to be a tremendous success!

Our presentation reached nine communities, engaging a total of 164 community members across 30 sessions. Notably, some larger communities hosted multiple sessions:

- Wangkatjunga: 38 attendees over 2 sessions
- Yiyili: 28 attendees over 2 sessions
- Moongardi: 15 attendees over 2 sessions
- Ngumpan: 6 attendees over 2 sessions
- Kupartiya: 17 attendees over 1 session
- Nookanbah: 42 attendees over 3 sessions
- Jimbalakudunj: 8 attendees over 1 session
- Kadjina: 6 attendees over 1 session
- Koorabye: 4 attendees over 1 session

We received fantastic engagement from the community, with many mothers expressing heightened awareness about immunizations. They felt more confident proceeding with vaccinating their children, now understanding the significance of these vaccinations.

In addition to discussing immunizations, we collaborated with Child Health Nurse Christine, lovingly known as 'Aggie,' to highlight the importance of Child Development.

To assess the community's understanding of child development, I gathered feedback from community members, which led me to conduct educational group sessions featuring a PowerPoint presentation on Early Childhood Development, as well as one-on-one referral information sessions alongside Nurse Christine. These interactions proved to be incredibly fulfilling, allowing us to engage with families in their home environments and delve deeper into discussions about:

- Child Development
- Age-by-age Milestones
- Growth Percentile Charts

I was able to establish rapport with families across the community, communicating in a way that was easily understood. Nurse Christine, or 'Aggie', also weighed and measured babies during these one-on-one referrals, addressing specific needs along the way.

We received fantastic engagement from the community, with many mothers expressing heightened awareness about immunizations. They felt more confident proceeding with vaccinating their children, now understanding the significance of these vaccinations.

Our Approach to Community Engagement

At Nindilingarri, we recognize that community engagement extends beyond mere presence; it involves being an active and supportive participant in the lives of those around us. Our commitment to the Fitzroy Valley community is reflected in several key initiatives and collaborative efforts.

Collaborative Initiatives

- **Partnerships with Local Organizations**

- We collaborate closely with local groups to identify community needs and formulate programs that effectively address them. This synergy amplifies our impact and ensures alignment with the community's priorities.

- **Cultural Respect and Inclusion**

- By honouring the diverse cultures within the Fitzroy Valley, we cultivate an environment of mutual respect, building trust and creating a welcoming space for all community members.

- **Empowerment through Education**

- Educational workshops and seminars are central to our engagement strategy, empowering individuals with knowledge and skills that can lead to personal and professional growth.

- **Health and Wellness Programs**

- We prioritize health by offering programs that foster physical and mental well-being, including health screenings, fitness activities, and mental health awareness campaigns.

- **Environmental Stewardship**

- Protecting our natural surroundings is vital for the community's sustainability. We engage in environmental conservation projects that emphasize the importance of caring for our land.

Looking Forward

We remain committed to deepening our involvement and adapting to the evolving needs of the Fitzroy Valley community. By fostering open dialogue and encouraging active participation, we aim to create a vibrant, thriving community where everyone feels valued and supported.

We take pride in sharing some of the community collaborations we've been fortunate to engage in at Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services.

'Us Without Abuse' Campaign

On Monday, March 5, 2025, the 'Us Without Abuse' campaign took place in Fitzroy Valley. Co-created by Kimberley Community Legal Services and Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre, this initiative aims to confront harmful behaviours, foster accountability, and empower individuals to stand against abuse. The day kicked off with a community march, led by Gurama Yani U (Men's Shed) and Ismahl, our dedicated AOD Support Worker from Nindilingarri. Participants marched to Fitzroy Oval, where the community enjoyed a delightful lunch, live performances by local artists such as Olive Knight, Ethan Hoad, and Andrew Shandley, along with fun activities including face painting and a slip-and-slide for the children.



Community Health on Country at Jiljardi

The collaborative event hosted by WACHS Community Health and Nindilingarri at the stunning Jiljardi Billabong was a resounding success. The atmosphere at the event was nothing short of amazing. The breathtaking surroundings of the Jiljardi Billabong provided a perfect backdrop for community members to come together, fostering a sense of unity and shared purpose.

The event saw an impressive turnout, with people from all walks of life gathering to participate. This strong community presence underscored the importance of such gatherings in strengthening ties and building a healthier, more connected community.

Medical professionals set up tents to deliver health checks on country, offering vital services in a culturally sensitive and accessible manner. This initiative was crucial in reaching community members who might otherwise have limited access to health services.

Nindilingarri set up stalls dedicated to program delivery and the general upkeep of the event. These stalls provided valuable information and resources, encouraging community engagement and participation.



With such a successful event, we are already looking forward to organizing another one next year. Each event provides an opportunity to enhance community advocacy and well-being, and we are committed to continuing this important work. Together, we can ensure the ongoing betterment of Fitzroy Valley.

Mindi Rardi Cultural Festival

A Memorable Mindi Rardi Celebration

This year's Mindi Rardi was one of the largest yet, with over 300 individuals gathering at Mindi Rardi Community in Fitzroy Crossing to honour culture, language, and community.

KALACC organises this annual event alongside the Language Groups from Fitzroy Valley, playing a vital role in preserving cultural heritage on Country. We were fortunate to be invited to assist with catering for the attendees at this wonderful gathering. The Nindilingarri staff worked diligently behind the scenes to prepare the dancers, while our Nindilingarri staff and the Shire of West Kimberley Staff helped distribute food throughout the evening. The turnout was fantastic, and we eagerly anticipate participating again next year.

Wangkatjungka Safe Space Event:

We were fortunate to receive an invitation from the Police to participate in this fantastic community event. Ismahl and I set up a stall featuring health promotion materials along with some pre-loved donations to share with community members. Additionally, we had the opportunity to give back by offering a prize that included a box of five vegetables and five fruits as a raffle prize for those who completed a Feedback Form.



Training:

This year, I was fortunate enough to expand my knowledge through various training opportunities. Over the course of three weeks at TAFE, I completed the Domestic Violence skill set. Furthermore, I participated in the Level 1 Triple P training and the Nuts n Bolts program provided by Community Health WACHS. I am genuinely excited and enthusiastic about applying these new skills in real-world settings.

Child Health

Malia Te Pairi



Walking Together in Health

Hello, I'm Malia. For the past seven months, I've been honored to work closely with communities in my role as the Child Health Promotion Officer with NCHS. This journey has been about listening attentively, learning with humility, and acting with compassion.

From dusty basketball courts to classrooms, festival tents, and remote clinic's, each step has been fueled by a commitment to empower families, enhance cultural connections, and build upon the strong legacy of health promotion already established in the valley. Here's a glimpse of what we've accomplished...

FASD: Stories That Stick

When I stepped into this role, I recognized that I was joining an effort that had already made a significant impact. NCHS had established a solid foundation in FASD education, and I felt genuinely honored to help carry that legacy forward. FASD was more than just a subject; it became a conversation. Throughout schools and communities in the Fitzroy Valley, we exchanged stories, expressed creativity through art, and engaged in meaningful discussions with children, families, and staff. The sessions were influenced by local voices, ensuring that the learning was both authentic and relevant. We even collaborated with the kids to design FASD banners — they didn't just participate; they took the lead. That sense of pride was truly inspiring. Organizing FASD Day united various groups — MWW, Nirumbuk, and the Health Promotion team. We arranged tents, food, and music, but more importantly, we fostered a space for healing and connection. Schools such as Bayulu, Koorabye, Yungngora, and Muludja embraced the initiative wholeheartedly. This experience was not merely about raising awareness; it was about community ownership.



For Our Mums: Holding Space for Strength

We've been accompanying our mothers throughout their pregnancy journey and beyond—not to dictate their choices, but to establish safe spaces where they can share their stories, ask questions, and feel supported. An increasing number of women have been reaching out, often self-referring at their own pace. We've engaged in open and honest conversations about smoking, drinking, stress, and all the challenges that come with motherhood.

One of the standout moments was the Karayili Ladies Self-Care Night. We welcomed forty-three women and twenty children; the atmosphere was vibrant and filled with laughter, yet it radiated quiet strength. A dedicated kids' area allowed the mothers to be present, unwind, and fully participate. The event was a success—we distributed all fifteen of our pre-packed health bags, which contained valuable resources and support information.

Additionally, I've had the honor of working one-on-one with mothers, checking in on them, assisting them in connecting with child health services, or simply being there when they needed someone to support them.



In the Schools: Where It All Begins

Some of the most impactful work took place in schools — often outside of scheduled sessions. I had the privilege of collaborating with Edward on the Healthy Hearts program at Bayulu, and with Ben, as we explored the bush medicine process with the children — engaging, hands-on activities that truly resonated with them. I supported Mick by sharing stories about smoking — sometimes in the classroom, but more often along the track after assisting the community, or by the river where genuine conversations flowed. There was no pressure, just relaxed discussions. All of this connected seamlessly with the Health Promotion team, who assisted us in implementing FASD sessions throughout schools and the valley. It wasn't solely about conveying information; it was about being present, listening, and creating an environment for learning to unfold naturally. The most valuable lessons don't always begin with a whiteboard — sometimes they emerge from a conversation and a foundation of trust. Every child deserves that kind of space.

Community Events: Where Culture Meets Care

Community Events: Present and Involved

NAIDOC Week saw a full schedule of events, and I was glad to be part of it across different spaces. I attended Marnin's dinner at the Lodge, helped at the NAIDOC event at the basketball courts/oval where we ran arts and crafts for kids and families, and joined Guwardi's celebration. Each event brought different parts of the community together and offered chances to connect and support.

At the Mindi Rardi Festival, I helped with food preparation and serving. For the Ngumpan Festival, we set up a FASD stall — a few people stopped by to have a yarn, and others got involved in our carnot competition.

We also joined FVDHS for their Mother's Day event, supporting a smoking awareness shirt-painting activity with Mick, which offered a more relaxed way to talk about health. I also took part in the Reconciliation March — it was good to walk alongside the community.

Alongside events, I've been working to connect with Moongardie, Loanbun, Yiyili, NKB, Koorabye, Kadjina, Yakanarra, and Joy Springs. These are early steps toward supporting the use of their community hub spaces, being pushed by locals and supported by MWWAC and partner services.

This kind of involvement has helped strengthen relationships and opened doors for future sessions and support.

With Others, For Others

None of this success was achieved alone. I have collaborated with MWW and MWWAC across various areas—ranging from session support and FASD Day preparation to community development initiatives. Additionally, I've partnered with the Nindi team, Community Health, Marninwartikura, KPHU, and the Baya Gawi Day Care Centre, along with their community groups division.

Whether it was helping set up events, sorting out venues, dropping off meals, or just hanging out with some of the oldies, the support made a big difference.

The Nindi team especially gave me opportunities to jump in and help wherever needed — whether joining their sessions or lending a hand with whatever was going on. We also shared simple health resources around the valley — posters and messages that families could use. It's that kind of teamwork that's helped keep things moving.

Behind Every Number, a Story.

Yes, there were:

Ladies Self-Care Evening — Smoking & Drinking Health Promotion

- Total Attended: 45 people (43 women + 20 kids)

Smoking Cessation Sessions with Mick

- Number of sessions: 7
- Attendance: 101 kids + 23 adults

Healthy Mums Sessions

- 4 adults + 4 kids (1 session)
- 7 adults + 3 kids (1 session)

Smoking Cessation Support — Teachers & Kids

- 9 teachers, 4 sessions
- Attendance: 39 kids

Healthy Hearts Sessions @ Bayulu School with Edward

- 4 sessions
- Attendance: 46 kids (ages 0-15) + 3 teachers

Healthy Breakfast via Smoothies Session

- 1 session
- Attendance: 2 teachers, 3 adults, 3 kids

Referrals & Notes

- Multiple referrals from community health services.
- Pregnant clients connected with child health promotion and support programs.

What It All Means

- 45+ clients supported
- 30+ community sessions and visits
- Countless schools and service providers engaged

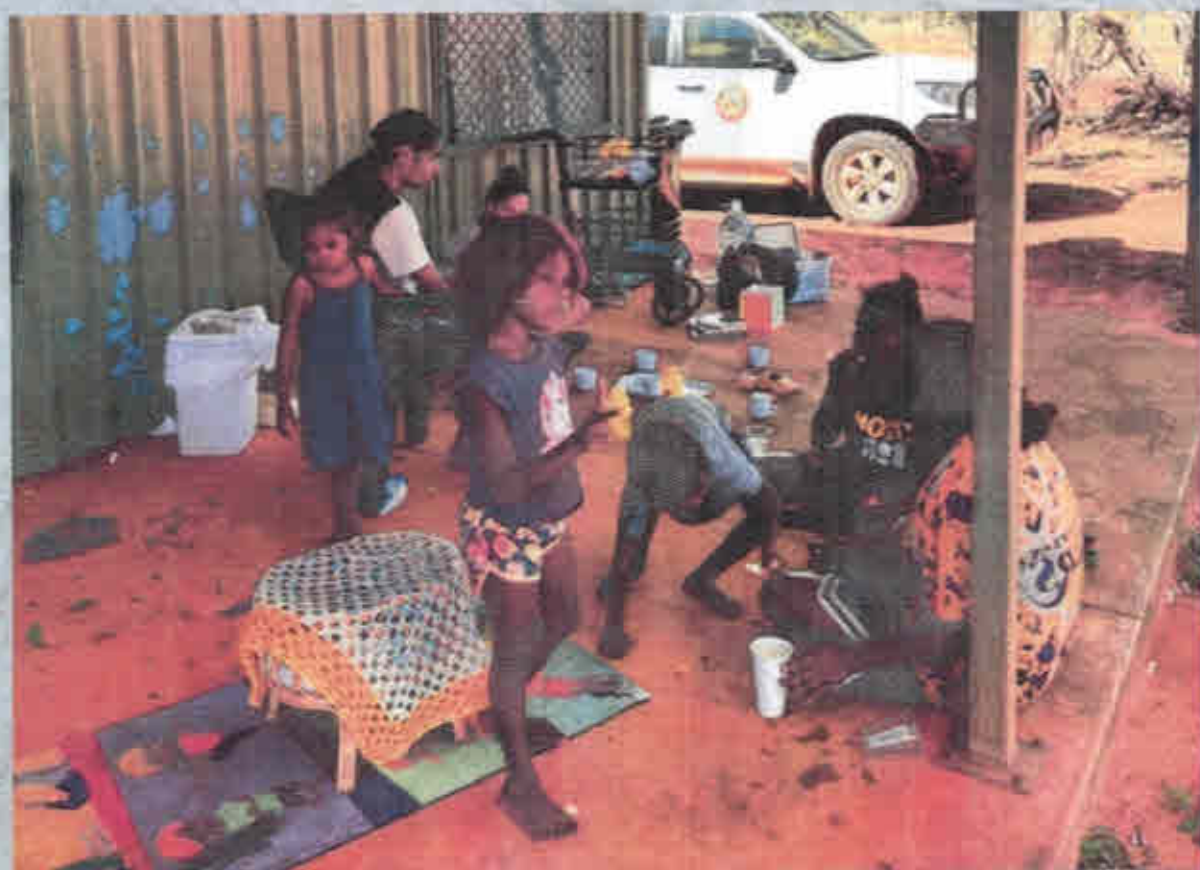
But what I remember most are the stories:

- A young mum who gave up drinking — not just for her baby, but for herself
- A grandparent who came to a session “just to listen,” and stayed
- A child who painted a picture of what a “strong brain” looks like

“The need for help is often quiet — hidden by fear or confusion.”

My role has been to hold space for that help to speak.





What's Growing

In just seven months, I've seen things take root:

- FASD awareness continues to grow through art, yarns, and community voice
- Young mums are stepping forward earlier, trusting themselves.
- Community events are blending culture and health in powerful ways.
- Partnerships are stronger — and new opportunities are sprouting.

Closing Yarns

This hasn't just been about running health sessions. It's been about really listening — to what's said, and what's not. It's about turning up again and again so trust can grow. I'm constantly amazed by the strength and quiet resilience of this community. Thanks to everyone who opened their doors, shared their story, or helped set up a table or a tent. This is your story too.

- "Health promotion isn't about fixing people — it's about standing with them."



Healthy Lifestyles

Mick Mancell



It has been an eventful year for Mick since our last Annual General Meeting (AGM), marked by numerous community sessions. The Healthy Lifestyles program is dedicated to educating the public and promoting preventive strategies aimed at reducing harm and health issues associated with smoking and vaping in Fitzroy Valley. Mick

remains steadfast in providing clients with high-quality care while consistently evaluating and assessing the impact of smoking within the local community.

Karrayili Adult Education Centre Partners with Marra Worra Worra

What an incredible turnout for our Ladies' Self-Care Evening! This event marked our very first presentation with these wonderful women, attracting over 45 attendees, including children. Together with Malia, the Child Health Promotion Officer, we conducted a session on the risks of smoking during pregnancy. The response was overwhelmingly positive, resulting in three new referrals from ladies eager to quit. Additionally, we distributed gift bags to everyone who participated.

Job Expo

The Expo serves as an excellent platform for exhibitors to showcase local employment opportunities and highlight the educational and training pathways leading to these roles. It also provides an ideal setting for service providers to engage directly with stakeholders in a friendly atmosphere. Additionally, exhibitors appreciate the chance to network with other organizations. Previous expos have drawn between 100 and 300 visitors each day, including:

- School children of all ages from across the Valley, seeking career inspiration
- Local workers contemplating their next career move
- Job seekers currently looking for employment
- Individuals interested in starting or expanding their own businesses

- People considering further studies
- Those seeking services from exhibitors, such as legal or financial advice

Over the two days of the Expo, we welcomed 125 visitors to our stall. We distributed information on skin health, smoking and vaping, nutrition advice, and Jarrod provided the music throughout the event. I believe this was our strongest Job Expo yet!

The Cowboy Cup

This event is organized by the Clontarf Foundation, with six different schools joining us for a health session focused on the impact of smoking on sports performance. Both the boys' and girls' teams took part in the activities. We shared many laughs as we watched the kids pull the 35 kg sled across the grass after our session. This experience highlighted the challenges of being a heavy smoker while engaging in sports. Additionally, we presented trophies for the Fairest and Best players to both the boys and girls. The feedback from everyone who attended was overwhelmingly positive. We are grateful to the Clontarf Foundation for providing such a valuable opportunity for these young athletes to learn in a fun and engaging environment. The event not only fostered a deeper understanding of health and wellness but also encouraged camaraderie and sportsmanship among the participants. We look forward to hosting similar events in the future, as they play a crucial role in promoting healthy lifestyles and inspiring the next generation of athletes.

Community Health on Country Day at Jilljardi Billabong

Community Health organized a fantastic event in collaboration with the FVDH and Nindilingarri team, held at the beautiful Jilljardi Billabong. The turnout was impressive, with many attendees participating in various activities.

Health Checks - We conducted health assessments and provided valuable information regarding smoking and its effects on health.

Smokerlyzer Readings - Tested 12 individuals, with carbon monoxide readings ranging from 1 ppm to a notable 25 ppm.

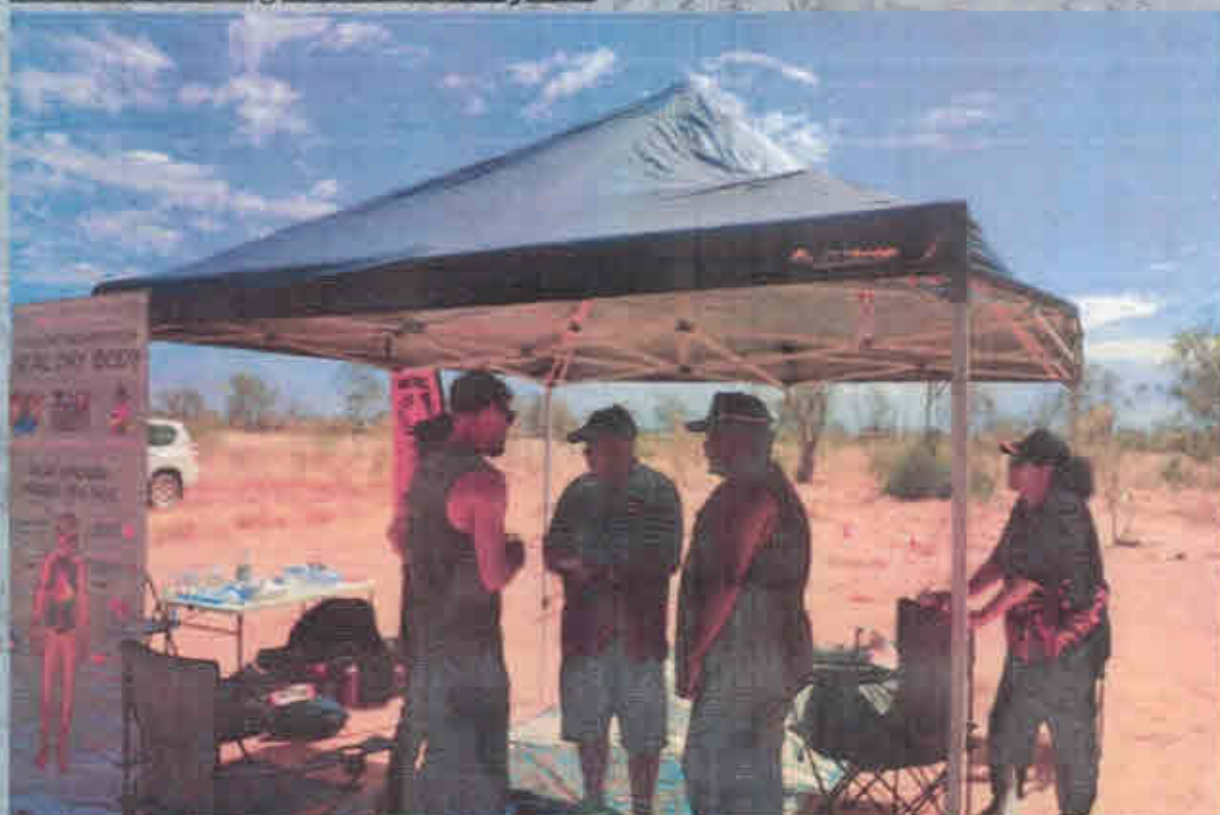
Kids' Activities - A dedicated tent for children's activities was available, featuring a fishing game where participants could win prizes.

Delicious Lunch - Attendees enjoyed a wonderful lunch before the exciting casting competition, where our very own Shannon Shaw emerged as the winner. Overall, it was a successful and engaging day for everyone involved!

Showing a client her Smokerlyzer reading.



Demonstrating the Smokerlyzer.



Our work was conducted in close partnership with Nindilingarri's Men's Health Team, the Drug and Alcohol Team, and the Kimberley Aboriginal Land and Culture Centre. Together, we created a safe and supportive space for the men to discuss a range of health topics, share experiences, and learn new strategies for improving their overall health and well-being.

An important aspect of the camp was delivering Sexual Health Education in an opportunistic manner. Recognising the sensitivity of the subject, the team approached this topic with respect for local customs and the participants' comfort levels. This approach allowed for meaningful conversations about sexual health, while respecting the men's cultural values.

In addition to health education, the break periods provided an informal setting for the Drug and Alcohol team, as well as the Men's Health Promotion team, to engage one-on-one with the participants. They offered confidential consultations to address any personal health concerns, fostering trust and ensuring that everyone felt supported throughout the experience.

The camp not only offered valuable health education but also gave participants the chance to connect with each other, their culture, and the land - elements that are central to their spiritual health and well-being.



Spiritual Health Funeral Assistance: Supporting Cultural and Emotional Needs

In many Aboriginal cultures, funerals are deeply significant cultural events, often accompanied by strong emotions and intense responsibilities for the family members involved.

Recognizing the vital significance of these occasions, Nindilingarri provides Spiritual Health Funeral Assistance to aid community members during these difficult times.

Funerals can be quite overwhelming, especially when family members are navigating their grief, cultural responsibilities, and the complexities of a large gathering. To ease some of this burden and ensure these significant events proceed seamlessly, the Spiritual Health team offers audio equipment along with a sound technician for the day. This service has been instrumental in alleviating stress for families by ensuring that funeral services are free from technical difficulties, allowing mourners to concentrate on the emotional and spiritual elements of the occasion.

In the past year, we have had the privilege of assisting with more than 20 funerals, each welcoming around 150 attendees. This support has not only alleviated logistical challenges but has also enabled families to mourn and pay tribute to their loved ones in a culturally meaningful way, while maintaining the spiritual integrity of the ceremonies.

We recognize that Spiritual Health encompasses various meanings for different individuals, and funeral assistance is merely one way we strive to address the diverse needs of the community. Whether it's offering practical support during major life events or fostering mental health through daily activities, our primary aim is to enhance the social and emotional well-being of the community.



Kidney Health

Over the past twelve months, the Healthy Lifestyle Officer has partnered with Sally from the Renal Clinic to organize events focused on promoting kidney health at IGA. These initiatives have experienced a marked increase in attendance. Notably, at one event, twenty-five participants utilized the Smokerlyzer, while Sally provided valuable insights on kidney health. Additionally, each attendee had the opportunity to enter a raffle for a \$100 IGA gift card.

Skin Health

Each month, I have collaborated with Ben from the Skin Health Bush Medicine program during Skin Health Week, alongside Jules and Steph from KPHU Broome. Together, we visited four schools across the valley—Noonkanbah, Muludja, Bayulu, and Wangkatjunga—to conduct skin checks in partnership with the nursing staff. I am pleased to report that the skin health program will be expanding to an additional school next month, and we are observing improvements in the results each month.

School Visits

Mick has conducted Healthy Lifestyle sessions at all but one school this year. Our presentations have covered topics such as the contents of cigarettes, the composition of vaping products, and the amount of tar present in each cigarette, utilizing our large smoke demonstration. We have visited both Yiramalay and Minjali schools, where we held sessions addressing both smoking and vaping. These presentations were well received by both staff and students.



Feedback from Billy Clontart Foundation.

What do you see as the most effective part of the session? The awareness of what chemicals are in a cigarette and vape. The boys and girls sat up and listened. The demonstration of the weighted sled was a great way to show the kids how smoking can affect your life. Mick and the team run a great session, and everyone was fully engaged.

Feedback from Yiramaley Studio School

**Nindilingarri Cultural Health Service
Satisfaction Survey**

Name: Jackie Lee Date: 20/01/25
Organization: Yiramaley Studio School
Session Held: Session 1 (Personal)

How satisfied are you with the health promotion session/s Nindilingarri delivered?

☐ Not at all ☐ Not very satisfied ☐ Somewhat ☐ Satisfied ☒ Very satisfied

How would you describe the sessions Nindilingarri delivered?

☐ Very bad ☐ Bad ☐ Acceptable ☐ Good ☒ Very good

If you could change something about the session/s, what would it be?

A GIFT WOULD BE APPRECIATED THAT ASKS THAT THE SLEDS CAN BE PUSHED AWAY FROM THE WALL FOR

**Nindilingarri Cultural Health Service
Satisfaction Survey**

How well did the session/s meet the needs of your group?

☐ Not at all ☐ Not very much ☐ Somewhat ☐ Well ☒ Very well

How likely would you be to recommend Nindilingarri to others?

☐ Not at all ☐ Not very likely ☐ Somewhat ☐ Likely ☒ Very likely

What do you see as the most effective part of the session/s?

MIKE AND EDDY WERE SO INTERESTING IN WHAT THE KIDS ENJOYED ~~THE~~ HAD BEEN AND ENJOYED THE LUNCH LUNCHES PROMOTING HEALTHY EATING DUE TO THE INTERACTIVE APPROACH



The commitment demonstrated by our team to enhance community health and wellness is truly inspiring. Each initiative, from educational presentations to engaging community events, reflects our mission to create a healthier Fitzroy Valley. These efforts not only raise awareness about the risks associated with smoking and vaping but also empower individuals to make informed health choices.

Our collaborations, such as those with the Clontarf Foundation and local schools, have been instrumental in reaching diverse audiences. By integrating health education into community gatherings and school curriculums, we are fostering environments where healthy lifestyles are supported and encouraged.

The success of these programs is evident in the community's positive response and active participation. As we look to the future, we are eager to expand our reach and continue building partnerships that support the well-being of our community members. With each event, we strengthen the foundation for a healthier tomorrow.



Spiritual Health

Building Stronger Connections to Culture, Family, and Community in the Fitzroy Valley.

Jarrold Minniecon



The Nindilingarri Spiritual Health Promotion Program aims to improve the social and emotional well-being (SEWB) of individuals and families residing in the Fitzroy Valley. Grounded in principles that advocate for mental health self-care, the program blends traditional Aboriginal values with modern Western health practices. Our main objective is to empower community members to take charge of their mental health while nurturing a sense of belonging and connection to their culture, community, and family.

The team's approach is holistic and inclusive, addressing the unique needs of the Fitzroy Crossing community and surrounding areas. By combining traditional knowledge with modern health initiatives and technology, we strive to create health promotion activities that resonate with people of all ages, backgrounds, and life experiences.

The program is centred on three core pillars: Connection to Culture, Community, and Family. These elements have been identified by the community as vital for maintaining strong mental health and resilience, particularly in remote communities where people may experience isolation and lack of access to healthcare services. Our initiatives are tailored to meet the needs of the community, whether they are Elders, young adults, or families.

Yiyili Men's Camp: Strengthening Community Connections

One of the standout events for the Spiritual Health team this year was our involvement in the Yiyili Men's Camp. The Spiritual Health team was honoured to be invited by the Yiyili Community to spend a night "on country," deepening our connections with the land and people. This experience allowed us to deliver culturally appropriate health promotion sessions, specifically designed for the men of the community.

TURA x Nindilingarri x Baya Gawi Children and Family Centre

This year has marked a powerful deepening of the collaboration between the Spiritual Health team at Nindilingarri Cultural Health Service, Tura New Music, and the Baya Gawi Children and Family Centre. Rooted in the shared belief that children thrive when their cultural, spiritual, emotional and physical wellbeing is supported together, this partnership continues to model how culturally strong, trauma-aware and community-led care can transform lives.

Throughout the year, the Spiritual Health team worked closely with Tura and Baya Gawi educators on the ongoing development of songs, language resources and story-based learning materials. Their cultural insight and lived knowledge of Country have been essential to ensuring that the creative work produced through the Sound FX project is not only musically enriching, but also spiritually respectful and culturally authentic. These contributions sometimes quiet and behind the scenes are what bring depth, truth, and connection to the songs that now echo in the classrooms and play spaces of Baya Gawi.

This collaboration stands as a testament to the value of two-way learning and the central importance of cultural and spiritual wellbeing in early childhood. The wisdom and presence of the Spiritual Health team have not only enriched the music and language work—they have helped anchor it in the soul of the community. As a result, children are not just learning words and melodies—they are learning who they are, where they come from, and how to carry that knowledge forward with strength and pride.



Moving Forward:

Continuing Our Commitment to Health and Well-being.

As we approach the end of 2025, the Nindilingarri Spiritual Health Promotion program remains dedicated to enhancing the well-being of individuals throughout the Fitzroy Valley. By strengthening our connections with local communities, stakeholders, and health partners, we aim to deliver more culturally relevant health services and promote greater community resilience.

Our team is eager to provide additional opportunities for education, engagement, and support—always prioritizing the holistic and culturally grounded needs of those we serve.

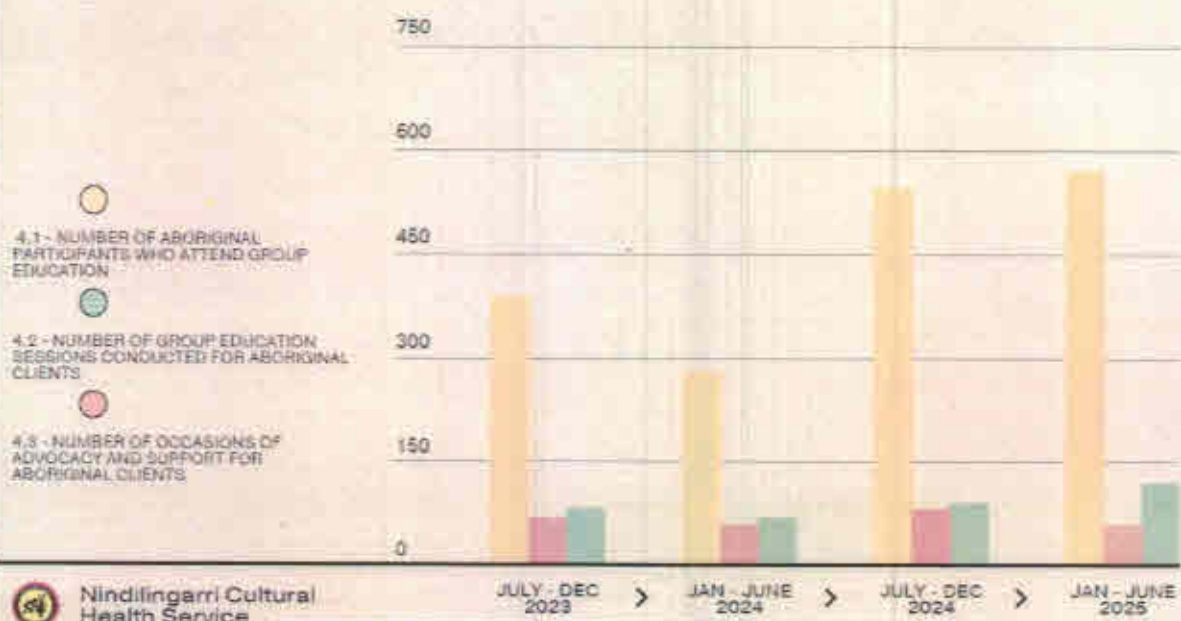
We extend our gratitude to everyone who has collaborated with us this year and encourage the broader community to continue engaging with the Spiritual Health Promotion program. Together, we can build a stronger, healthier future for all in the Fitzroy Valley. Looking ahead, we are excited to announce several new initiatives planned for the coming year. These include expanded outreach programs and workshops that focus on mental health, nutrition, and traditional healing practices. We believe that by weaving together modern health strategies with traditional knowledge, we can create a more inclusive environment that respects and honors the rich cultural heritage of the communities we serve.

We also plan to host a series of community gatherings and cultural events designed to bring people together, celebrate diversity, and foster a spirit of unity and collaboration. These efforts will not only enhance community ties but also empower individuals to take proactive steps towards their own health and well-being.

As we continue this journey, we invite everyone to share their ideas and participate in shaping a vibrant and healthy future. With your support and active involvement, the Nindilingarri Spiritual Health Promotion program will continue to thrive and make meaningful impacts in the lives of those in the Fitzroy Valley. Together, let us embrace the coming year with optimism, purpose, and a shared vision for well-being.

SPIRITUAL HEALTH OUTPUT INDICATORS 2024 - 2025

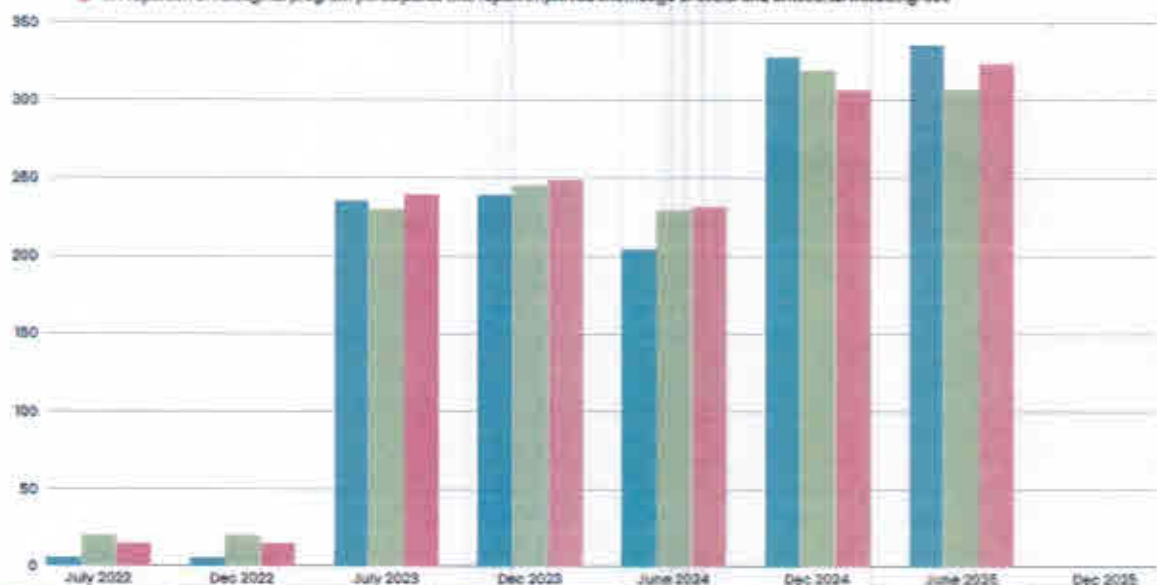
Provide a **Cultural and Spiritual** health program to enhance the **Social and Emotional Wellbeing** of the people of the Fitzroy Valley.



OUTCOME INDICATORS FOR 2024 - 2025



- 4.2 Proportion of Aboriginal program participants who report positive behaviours related to connection to Country, family and/or community: 328
- 4.3 Proportion of program participants who report positive healthy lifestyle behaviours: 319
- 4.1 Proportion of Aboriginal program participants who report improved knowledge of social and emotional wellbeing: 306



Women's Health

NCHS would like to thank Kiley Temoni, who was with us for a short time and helped organise the some of the Breast Screening.

The breast screening van arrived in Fitzroy Crossing on July 19 and remained until August 6. Ann Lenard from Community Health sent out 400 letters to women throughout the Fitzroy Valley. A total of 345 women participated in the breast screenings, and each woman was gifted a beautifully designed Aboriginal shawl upon completion.

Buses transported ladies from the Yiyili and Moongardie communities, as well as Noonkanbah, Wangkatjungka, and Djugerari. Community Health's ALOs ensured that all town-based communities were served. We provided morning tea and lunch every day that the bus was present, along with health promotion activities, painting, and complimentary nail polishes. Of the 345 women screened, four received callbacks, leading to three of them traveling to Perth for further testing. This outcome is significant, as early detection can save lives. A heartfelt thank you goes out to Ann Lenard and our dedicated team at Nindilingarri. Special thanks to Mick Mancell for helping almost everyday.

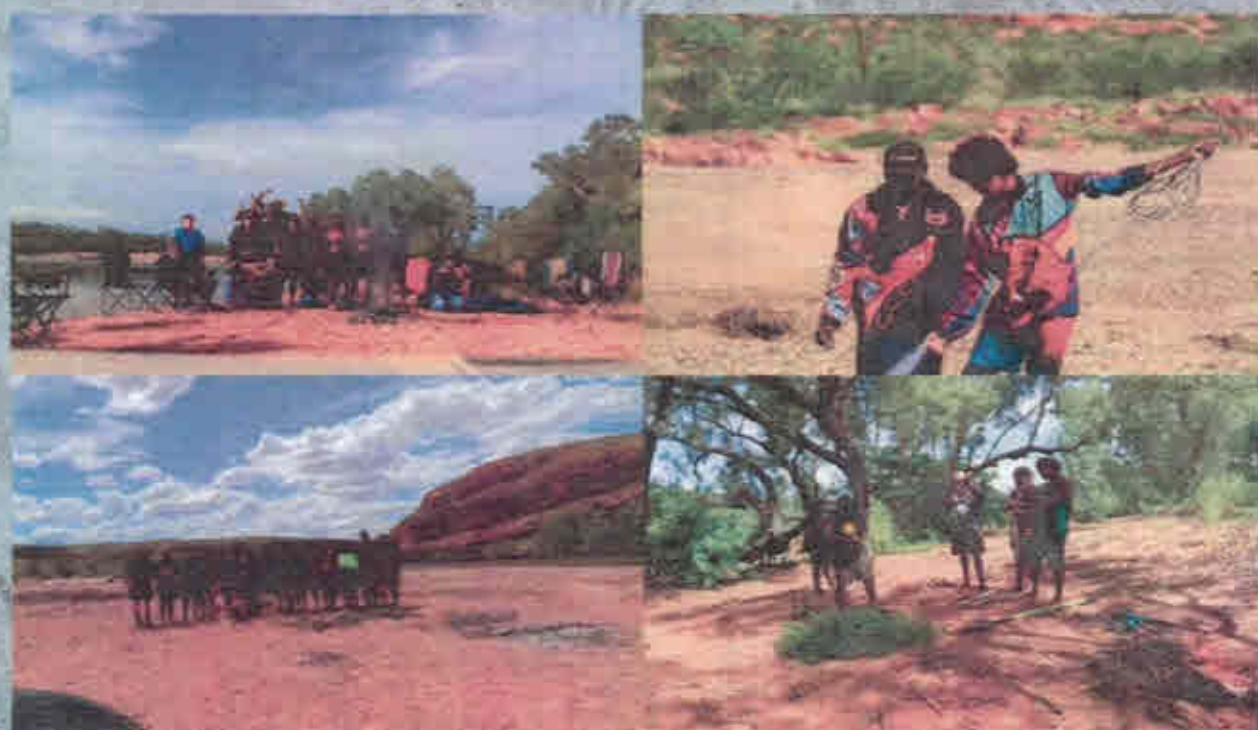


Men's Health

Over the past year, the Men's Sexual Health Program has been active across the Fitzroy Valley, engaging young men through school-based education programs. Using the Mooditj framework, these sessions focus on resilience, relationships, and sexual health, providing a safe environment for students to ask questions, learn, and develop practical skills for life. They then expand into topics like Puberty and Consent.

By delivering sessions in schools and partnering with community groups, the program ensures that participants have opportunities for meaningful discussions about their health and well-being.

One of the standout moments this year has been our On-Country camps, where men are taken out onto the land to participate in activities such as music, fishing, hunting, cooking, and artifact creation. These excursions offer a relaxed and familiar environment, allowing men to feel at ease while discussing health, wellbeing, and life in general.





The program partnered with other NCHS initiatives and community organizations to organize several Men's Health Days. These events centered around practical health topics, such as health checks and mental well-being, presented through casual yarning sessions and community activities like BBQs. A notable achievement from these events was the establishment of the blue tree at GYU.

The program delivers vital resources aimed at enhancing men's daily health. The Condom Tree project provides free and discreet access to condoms in Fitzroy Crossing and nearby communities, fostering the promotion of safe sexual practices.

Hygiene packs are also distributed, containing soap, deodorant, and educational materials on sexual health and consent. By providing these packs directly to individuals, the program ensures everyone has the tools to maintain cleanliness, personal health, and wellbeing.



Continued Men's Health BBQ Events

This year, we have carried on our Men's Health BBQ events, emphasizing men's wellbeing through community gatherings. These enjoyable events feature a BBQ lunch, music, and games, fostering a relaxed and friendly atmosphere for all participants.

Health Promotion Workshops

In addition to the social activities, we offer health promotion workshops that address vital topics, including:

- STI symptoms
- STI testing
- 715 annual health checks
- Protective Behaviours
- Mental Health
- General Health

When possible, a male nurse is present, providing men with discreet access to healthcare services in a familiar and comfortable environment.

So far, events have taken place at the Fitzroy Crossing Men's Shed, Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services, and Yiyili Community.



Edward Bridgen

Environmental Health



Harry Yungabun
EH Coordinator



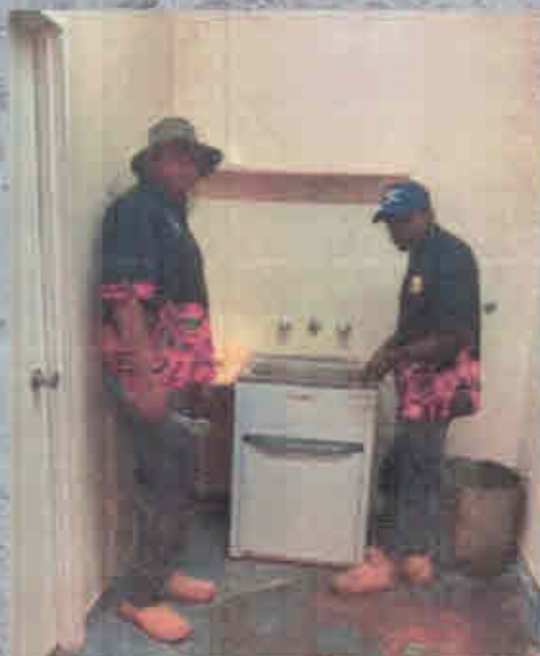
Edward Bridgen
EH Coordinator

Health Homes Inspections

You may have seen our Environmental Health Team out in the community, carrying out Healthy Home inspections. These visits focus on checking the overall health hardware in homes – including taps, toilets, showers, drains, and other essential fittings that help keep households safe, functional, and healthy.

Where possible, our team can carry out minor repairs or replacements on the spot, ensuring families have reliable, working facilities without delay. For larger or more complex issues, the team will refer the matter to the appropriate services, making sure problems are addressed properly and efficiently.

These inspections are more than just checking fittings—they are an important part of promoting healthy living environments, preventing potential health risks, and improving the overall wellbeing of households and communities. By addressing problems early and providing guidance, the Environmental Health Team helps create stronger, safer, and healthier homes for everyone in the community.



If your home needs assistance, we encourage you to contact NCHS to arrange an inspection or discuss any concerns.



Before and after photos of a yard clean up to help reduce mosquitoes for the upcoming wet season.

Community Dog Health Program

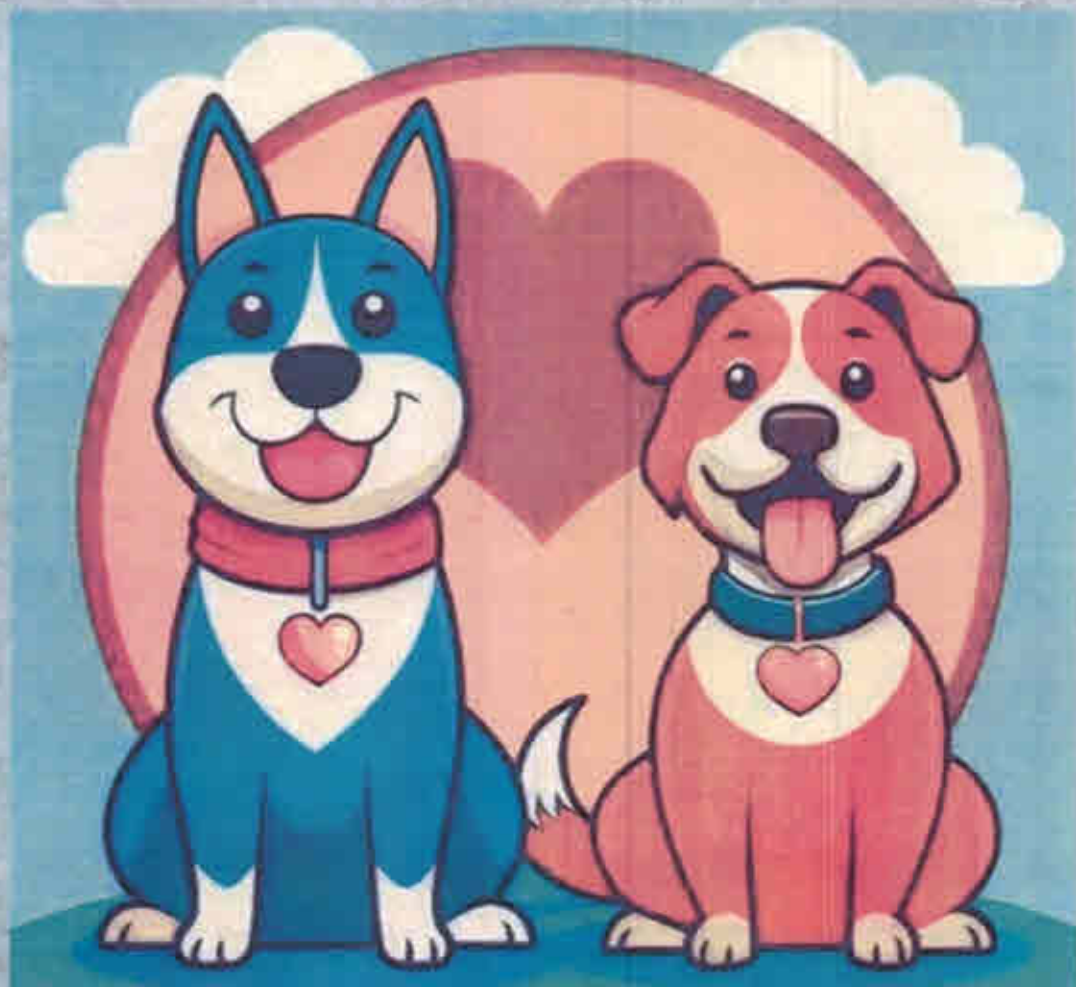
The Community Dog Health Program has been working hard this year, making sure as many dogs as possible receive the care they need. A key part of this work has been administering Cydectin treatments during community visits.

Cydectin is a long-lasting, broad-spectrum treatment designed to protect dogs from both internal parasites (such as worms) and external parasites (including ticks, lice, and mites). By reducing the number of parasites in dogs, these treatments not only help keep animals healthier and stronger but also support the overall health and wellbeing of the community.

Our team has travelled widely to deliver these treatments and has so far visited the following communities:

Ngumpun, Djugerari, Mindi Rardi, Kurnangki, Jimbalakudunj, Bungardi, Ngurtwarta, Ngalingkadji, Kupartiya, Darlungaya.

We will persist in expanding our efforts to reach a greater number of dogs and households, ultimately contributing to the well-being of both dogs and communities throughout the region.



Hard Soap Distribution and Healthy Home Packs

During every community visit, our Environmental Health Team delivers hard soap packs directly to households. In addition to soap, the team also provides packs to help protect against mosquitoes, ticks, and common skin conditions, giving families the tools they need to maintain healthy skin and reduce the risk of infections.

Having access to these essential products helps households stay clean, prevent the spread of germs, and protect against bites or irritations from insects.

If your household needs a pack or has run out, we encourage you to call or visit NCHS. We're here to make sure everyone in the community has access to these important hygiene and health resources.



We will persist in expanding our efforts to reach a greater number of dogs and households, ultimately contributing to the well-being of both dogs and communities throughout the region.

Solid Waste Collection

The Environmental Health Team has been working hard to support households with solid waste collections through our referral system. Managing household waste is an important part of keeping homes and communities safe and healthy. To make this easier, our team provides a caged trailer that households can fill with rubbish, old items, and other unwanted materials. This service helps families reduce clutter, remove potential hazards, and maintain a clean and hygienic living space.

In certain circumstances, we can also provide a truck and bobcat to assist with larger clean-ups. These resources are particularly useful when households have bigger amounts of waste, heavier items, or items that cannot easily fit in a trailer. By providing the right equipment for the task, our team ensures that waste is removed efficiently and safely, minimizing risks to people, pets, and the environment.

Proper waste management plays a key role in preventing pest infestations, reducing the spread of disease, and protecting local wildlife and the environment. By supporting households with these services, the Environmental Health Team helps maintain strong, safe, and healthy communities.

If your household needs assistance with waste collection, we encourage you to call or visit the Environmental Health Team. We are here to provide the right support, whether it's a trailer for everyday rubbish or a truck and bobcat for larger clean-ups, to ensure everyone can live in a clean, safe, and well-maintained environment.



Health Promotion at Community Events

Our Environmental Health Team has also been busy attending community events across the Fitzroy Valley. These events give us the chance to sit down with families and yarn about the different services we can provide, such as Healthy Home Inspections, soap and hygiene packs, and waste collection support.

At these events, we help community members to fill out a Request for Service form, making it easier for people to get the support they need. The team also provides practical demonstrations – for example, how to use hygiene packs effectively, or safe ways to manage waste at home – so that families can take away useful skills and knowledge to support their health and wellbeing.

By being present at local events, we can make sure people know what services are available, answer any questions, and connect with community in a friendly and approachable way.





NCHS

AGED CARE



Ryan Dennis
Coordinator

This year the NCHS Aged Care team has successfully delivered services and expanded its client base to 50 clients this year, with plans for further growth. The team focuses on helping clients maintain independent lifestyles and access essential services. Offerings include meal delivery, domestic assistance (laundry and shopping), and social gatherings with enjoyable activities, ensuring clients receive support for a healthy lifestyle while preserving their independence.

The consultants from Culturally Directed Care Solutions (CDCS) have completed their final visit to Fitzroy Crossing. During this time, all staff received ongoing training, and our governing committee along with senior managers also underwent training focused on governance in the aged care sector. Additionally, all policies, procedures, assessment forms, and guides have been updated to reflect the latest information regarding the upcoming reforms from the department. We would like to thank CDCS for all their help over the last year and half.



Over the past twelve months, NCHS Aged Care has proudly expanded our fleet by adding three new buses, one of which was financed through a Lottery West Grant. This investment guarantees that all our buses are mechanically sound, safe, and fitted with the latest safety features, prioritizing the comfort and well-being of our residents as they journey to appointments and travel between their homes and the center.

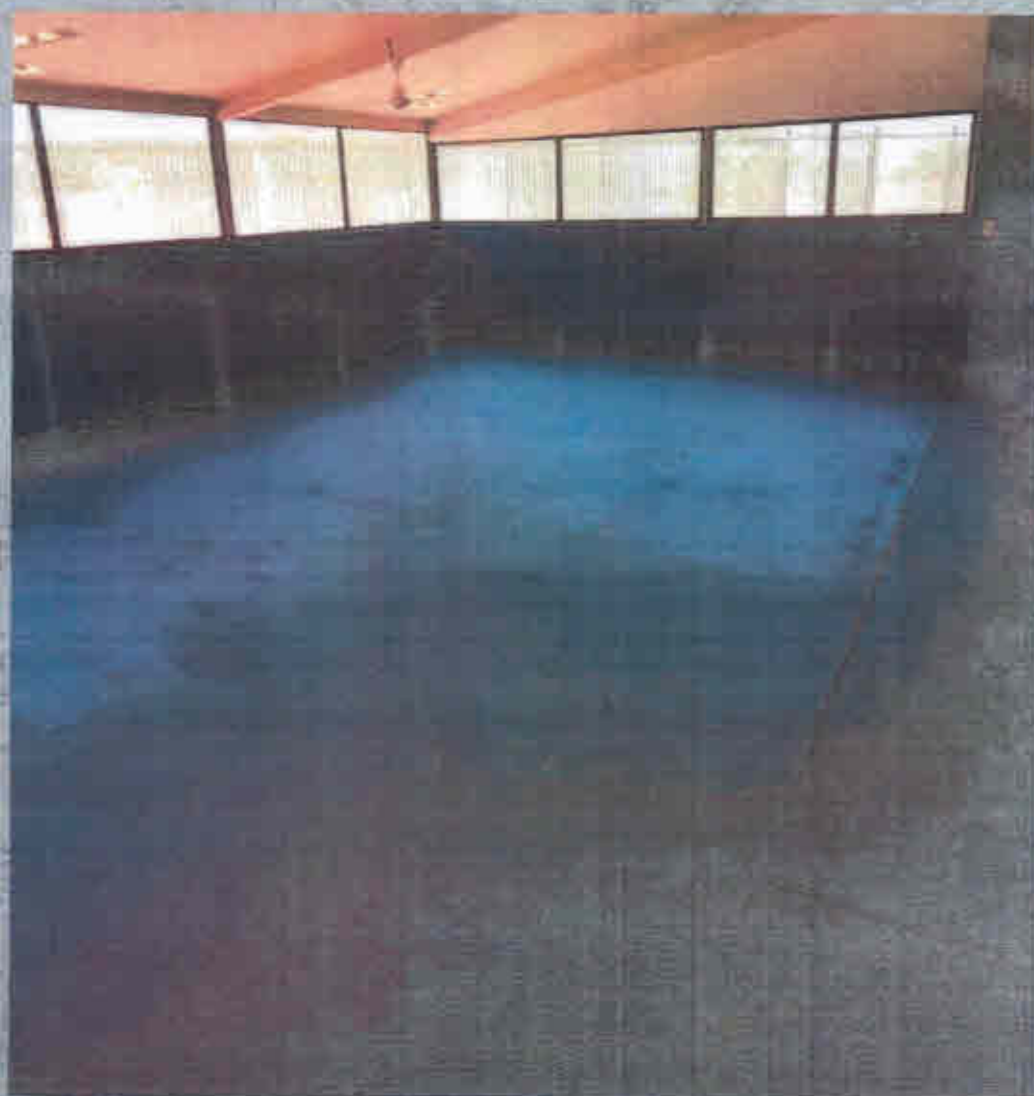
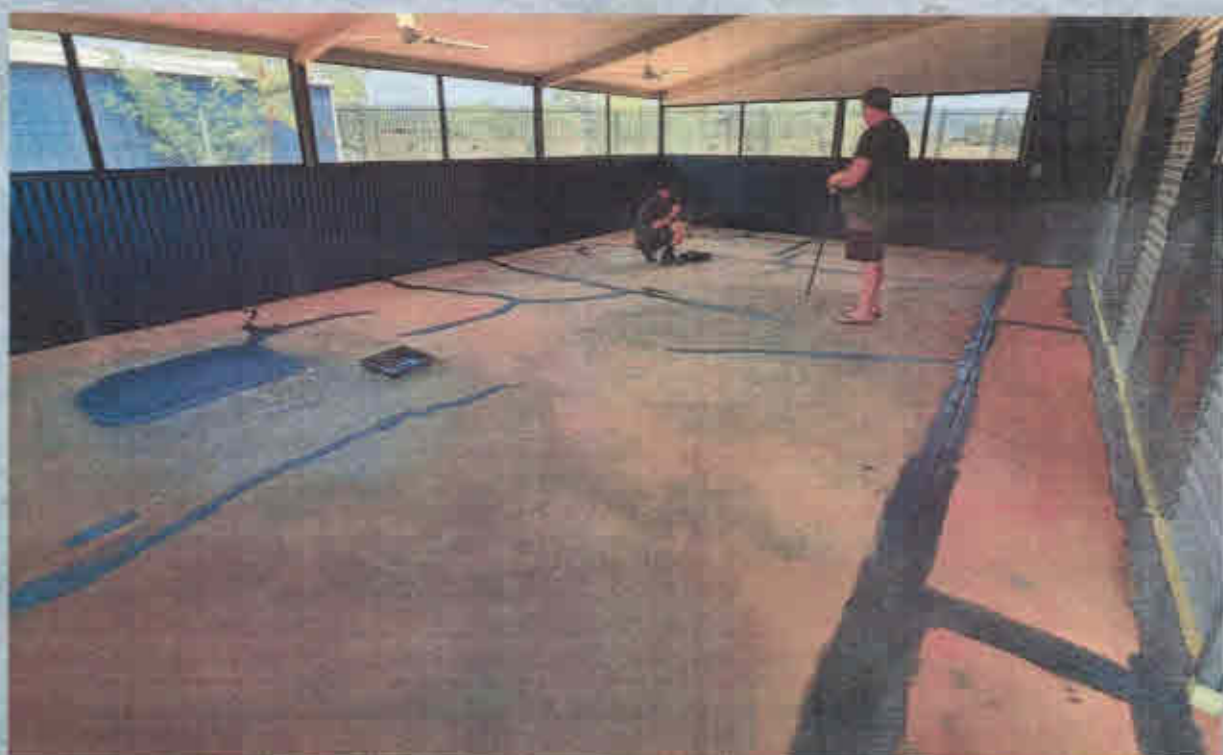




The CHSP building has undergone several improvements this year. A new television has been positioned in a more accessible area, allowing all clients to enjoy it. The activity room is close to completion, thanks to the teamwork of the NCHS staff, who united to paint the floor. This effort was celebrated with a staff BBQ that strengthened team camaraderie.

Looking ahead, new furniture will be assembled and installed, creating an inviting environment for our clients to paint and socialize. Furthermore, kitchen upgrades are planned to take place within the next six months.







Clients Art



