

Stronger Communities for Children Update

August 2014

Sharing SCfC stories from the first 5 communities!

Some photos from the Santa Teresa BBQ



Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa)

Story from Vicky Long, Amunda Gorey and Jorge Basave

The Santa Teresa SCFC coordinators hosted a community BBQ to share with everyone what people have told them they want for families, youth, children, men and women. With the support of Ninti One, the BBQ kicked off with some tasty tucker, a bit of music in the background and plenty of painting activities available for kids. The conversation about community priorities kicked off, with having healthy minds highlighted as an important component of a strong community. Someone suggested the SCfC program may support young people to create their own videos to discuss drugs and alcohol as one way to get that message across.

Importantly a number of people expressed interest in being a part of the SCfC Local Advisory Committee. Santa Teresa had the first Local Advisory Committee the week following the BBQ, which meant the program and message was still present in people's minds. The first meeting went well, with interest from the local community and various community members in attendance.



NGUKURR

Story from Ian, SCfC Coordinator in Ngukurr:

"My name is Ian Mongunu Gumbula. I am employed as a SCfC Program Coordinator based at Ngukurr Community.

The story I am going to tell you is about how I've established the local community board for this community.

The way I've done this was through indigenous kinship system.

I have gone into the community talking and listening to family, clan, and moiety groups.

I 've spoken to 7 clan groups (Ngalakan, Alawa, Mara, Nunggubuyu, Wandarrang, Ngandi, Ritharrngu) in the community and got their views on who they reckon will be a suitable person to represent their group in the community board.

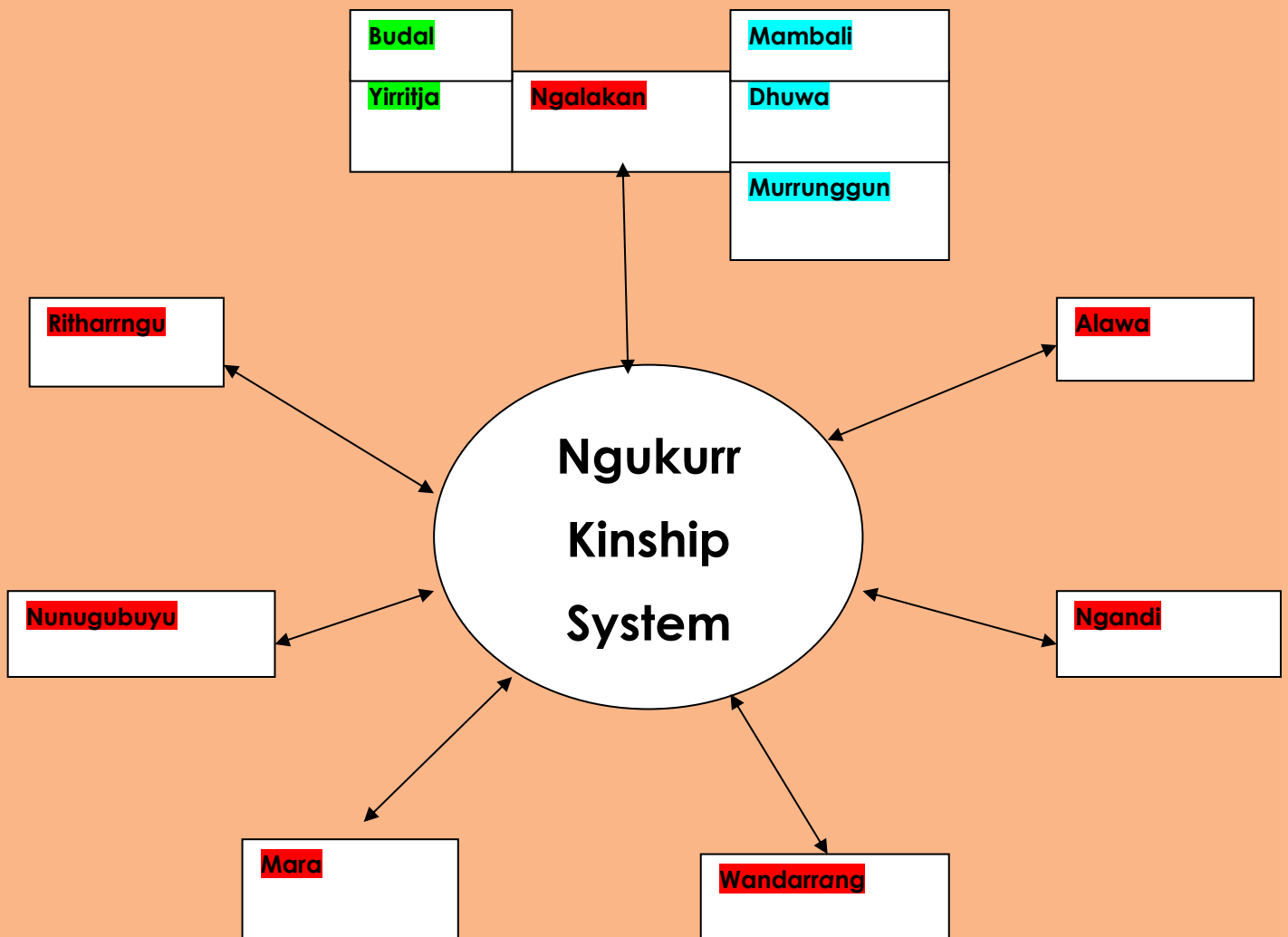
After when I've got the names from each of the groups, I then put them into 2 major moiety group (Yirritja and Dhuwa) Within these 2 moiety there are 4 sub-moiety (Yirritja - Budal & Guyal, Dhuwa - Mambali & Murrunggun)

The way I put these members were according by what their family group have said and have decision about them being responsible persons in both cultural and community standing.

I have then went to model this membership from what the family have told me..."

A model of the different clan groups in Ngukurr, which has been reflected in the SCfC Board structure.

Diagram made by Ian Mongunu Gumbala





There were young people came to the Ngukurr Expo - Career information Day. Talking to them about what will do when they finish school.



A stall for SCfC at the Ngukurr Expo
Some of examples of work activities through SCfC programs.



Photos from Stronger Communities for Children Ngukurr

Ian talking with family about awareness of the SCfC program for Ngukurr and establishing local community board

Galiwin'ku

Story from SCfC Coordinators Anda Fellows & Djandi Ganambarr

SCfC in Galiwinku has been a big project for all involved this year! Yalu and Australian Red Cross have been working strongly as Facilitating Partners, employing two coordinators to get the program up and running. Djandi Ganambarr and Anda Fellows have moved into a new building that was launched in April as the SCfC building, which has been really important for community to recognise the program and become involved. The building is also where Yolngu Wanganhamirr Mitj' (YWM - our local board) hold their monthly meetings. Yalu have their board meetings and other training there and community meetings can be held there. It is a place that represents a strong future for Galiwinku people.

We have spent the last two months doing a community consultation with a team of Aboriginal Community Facilitator's (ACF's) employed by Ninti One. The ACF's have done household visits across community and Anda and Djandi visited service providers and their clients and staff. All the completed surveys are being collated to identify what community priorities are, where the gaps in child, family and youth services are and what people really want to see in the future. This information will be given to YWM to ensure that they make the best decisions when they look at the applications for SCfC funding.



Our first application round is open now and will be closed this week, followed by two afternoon long meetings where YWM will decide on successful applicants for this round. There will be another opportunity to apply for funding in December. A lot of work has been done in the last six months to prepare for this moment, with the creation of templates for application forms, information sheets, service agreements, a rule book for YWM to follow, a decision making checklist for YWM to follow, surveys and posters for the community consultation process as well as the collation of data. The team has worked hard to design and finalise the templates and process cross-culturally with the approval of YWM and Yalu at every step. SCfC is a challenging program and we are continuing to learn, reflect and develop as we go.



Photos from Stronger Communities for Children Galiwin'ku



The Western Aranda Community Board (which we call the Leaders Group) has been really busy these past couple of months. Since the beginning of the year Group members have met five times to draft up our Community Plan, decide on three project ideas to be designed and possibly funded, and agreed on many of our meeting rules.



Under the Community Plan the Leaders Group has set a vision for Western Aranda kids and families. They have also decided on seven outcomes the program will work towards. These are:

- 1) Children are with their families and are safe, supervised and properly disciplined at all times.
- 2) Young women and men are making informed choices about being parents.
- 3) Ntaria and the outstations are peaceful and conflict between families is handled properly.
- 4) Youth have opportunities for training and jobs in the local area once they leave school.
- 5) All children are going to school and parents support their education.
- 6) Teenagers and out of school youth over 15 are involved in structured, healthy, fun activities.
- 7) Children and youth have the chance to be well in spirit, culture, mind and body.

The Leaders Group has also agreed to design up three ideas:

Ntaria Cont...

- i. Core of Life: This program helps young women and men prepare to be parents.
- ii. Safe4Kids: This program helps keep children safe by teaching kids and parents protective behaviours.
- iii. Youth Engagement: We are hoping to work with the Regional Council Youth Team on a plan for activities that reach out to youth aged 15–25.
- iv.

During this design phase we will use Stronger Communities for Children funds to bring people in to talk to families and service providers. This important first step enables us to make sure every project fits with Western Aranda culture and that it supports our vision and priorities for kids. We also want to make sure that new projects work together with the school, the clinic, WAHAC, Tjuwanpa and other services we have here.

Once the project is designed up, it will go back to the Leaders Group for them to check before it is fully funded. If they are happy with the idea they will say OK to it. We are excited because in the next couple of weeks we will be designing up the first big project – the Core of Life project. We'll keep you posted on how this goes!

Wadeye

Coordinator: Sorrell Ashby



Wadeye SCfC has got a few exciting initiatives under the program up and running, even though it's early days.

Through the SCfC program, Wadeye has provided the community with an outdoor cinema, screening films for the community under the stars. It has been a great way to get people together, to relax outdoors in the evening for some movie night entertainment.

Wadeye has also had a food program running two nights a week, during holiday time. This has been great in enabling people to be supported in providing food and nutrition to their families, adults and little ones alike. All people are welcome to come along and get some tucker!

Given the food issues in our community at the moment, this program has been a great help to people on the ground not go hungry and have access to some basic nutritional needs.