



## Ngunya Jarjum Aboriginal Corporation

PO Box 580, LISMORE NSW 2480 70 Carrington Street, LISMORE NSW 2480

Ph: 02 6626 3700 After hours: 1800 822 863

ICN 2418 ABN 84 653 612 066

# NEWSLETTER

# September 2020

Dear members, traditional custodians and Other interested people.

### JINGI WALA

Ngunya Jarjum says hello and welcome! We pay our respects to Elders past and present and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands within the Bundjalung nation.

### OUR VALUES

#### BELONGING

Every child has a right to be immersed in their family and culture to grow up strong in their identity and know who and where they belong to.

#### COMPASSION

Compassion, kindness and empathy will underpin the approach of support and services to children and families to acknowledge the untreated trauma and grief suffered by Aboriginal people over generations.

#### INTEGRITY

We act professionally, with honesty and truth.

#### RESPECT

We value building meaningful relationships and work to build trust with families, communities and our partners.

#### MEMBERSHIP

It is important for people interested in the future of the corporation to be members and to attend the general meetings.

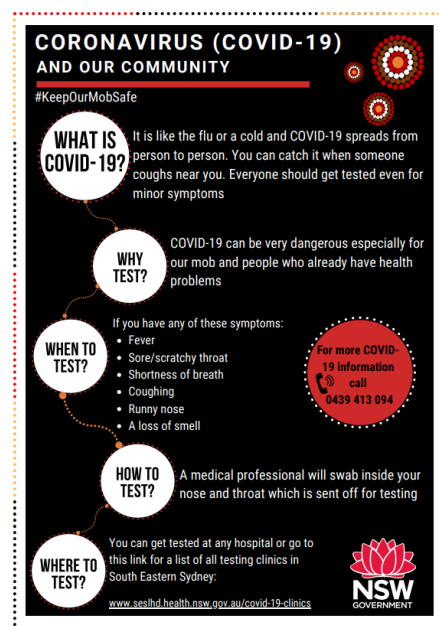
If you are interested in becoming a member of Ngunya Jarjum phone 02 6626 3700 or email [info@ngunyajarjum.com](mailto:info@ngunyajarjum.com) if you have had a change of postal address.

#### NOTICE

If you are an existing member, please notify the office on 02 6626 3700 or email: [info@ngunyajarjum.com](mailto:info@ngunyajarjum.com)

## Staying COVID Safe

If someone in your household is sick let your caseworker know before attending family time



We highly encourage everyone to minimise contact and practice social distancing. Sanitise whilst out and about and washing hands regularly. Indigenous people 50 and over are considered amongst the most vulnerable, so we need to do our part to ensure the safety of all our mob.

**\*New**

## Language groups for carers and Jarjums

We are offering Bundjalung Language groups to carers and Jarjums through Wandjarri Mali Language.

**Commencing during October 2020 for 5 weeks, join other carers and Jarjums to learn from Uncle Roy Gordon and Brother Kris Cook!**

**Saturday mornings, between 9.30-11.30am at**

**10 Country Lane**

**Lismore (off Carrington Street)**

**Carers must attend as well – language being used in home is an important part of reinforcement for the Jarjums to learn!**

Contact Relicca Kelly on 02 6626 3700 to book your seats!

## Health support and care for children and young people in care

Just a reminder to all Ngunya Jarjum carers of the important role you have in keeping our Jarjum's health and wellbeing in check.

Please ensure you work closely with the local AMS or GP and where necessary the Paediatrician and other allied health services.

As part of our support Ngunya Jarjum is committed to improve the short and long-term health, development and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people in OOHC, as well as support carers and placement stability.

Please keep your casework staff member up to date on all reports when you are requested.

**\*New**

## Young Dubais Yarnin

Ngunya Jarjum are offering a one-day workshop for Young Aboriginal Women aged between 14 and 18 years to reconnect with culture and belonging, yarnin through some of the real issues our young ones are challenged with in this day and age.

- Are you caring for a young Dubai?
- Do you have a young Dubai in mind that would enjoy a chance to connect with other young women, engaging in cultural activities and sit in circle with other young ones?

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

**Venue: Lismore Gateway Motel**

**Time: 10am to 3pm**

**Enquiries: [Intake@ngunyajarjum.com](mailto:Intake@ngunyajarjum.com)**

**Phone us on 0266263770 and ask for Shanelle**

### Save the Date:

**Young Men Yarnin date has been confirmed! Watch in the next Newsletter for more info – but save the date:**

**7<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Contact: Shelton Johnson 02 6626 3700**



## Balaa services

Ngunya Jarjum have developed an innovative group of services to help support the out of home care sector to deliver culturally centred services to our Jarjums and their families.

Through referral to the Balaa services, you can access casework support services such as

- Mapping Mob (helping you find links through families and kinship networks),
- Youth Mentoring,
- Family Group Conferencing,
- Cultural case and/or Care planning,
- Transport services,
- Aboriginal consultation,
- Family time supervision,
- Adolescent / Caregiver mediation services,
- Individual / Specific services as requested

Simply call to ask for more detail about the services and/or request a referral form. (02) 6626 3700 or email [intake@ngunyajarjum.com](mailto:intake@ngunyajarjum.com)

## Carer Recruitment

Ngunya Jarjum is always looking for new carers to join the organisation and help ensure the wellbeing of all our Jarjums. We need quality carers with a commitment to community, family and culture. If you, or someone you know, is considering the important role of becoming a foster carer please contact the Ngunya Jarjum office and speak to our carer support team who can send you an information pack. We currently have more than eighty carer households who do an amazing job supporting the Jarjums.



The application is online at:

<https://ngunyajarjum.com/caring-for-jarjum/>

## Connecting with our Communities

Watch out for information sessions in your communities on child protection led by Mary Torrens-Bell.

Mary is working with community to establish a series of information sessions on child protection supporting our mob to understand the child protection system in NSW and definitions of key factors involving our families including:

- What to do when DoCS (Dept of Communities and Justice) Knocks?
- What is neglect?
- Childhood sexual assault?
- Family and domestic violence?
- Lore V's Law
- How do drugs and alcohol effect parenting and much more.....

Are you curious? Would you like more information for your mob? Contact Mary on 02 6626 3700 to discuss your communities need.

## Bundjalung Language Update

In partnership with Wandjarri Mali Language during the month of August 2020, we aim to set a foundation/platform for our staff to continue the learning and teaching of our beautiful Bundjalung Lingo onto our Ngunya Jarjum Carers, Children and Young People.

The Bundjalung Language program will be offered to Carers, Children and Young People. We are hoping to offer this program at the end of September to the start of October.

Our staff commenced the program during the month of August has been nothing short of amazing. The staff are loving reconnecting to language and sharing their knowledge amongst each other. Each session we feel refreshed and more informed about language. As well as the context in which it is used, and how meaning differs from one sound to the next.

**Our staff at Ngunya Jarjum are passionate about keeping culture alive and reviving language within our communities and our families. It starts with us and passing on what we know to our next generation.**

As our staff reach our last few classes of the short 5 sessions being delivered. We would like to thank Uncle Roy Gordon and Brother Kris Cook on the wonderful teaching and delivery of the program. Bugalbeh.



## Family Preservation in Action

An update from the Ngunya Gumaguy (family) team.

We are pleased to share with our members and community that the Gumaguy program is gaining its foundations well. The program was established in January 2020, we are now actively servicing up to 9 families in the Gumaguy program.

The families have been assessed by Dept of Communities and Justice (DCJ) as being at risk of having their children taken from their care and are referred to the Gumaguy program by DCJ in hope that through working with our Aboriginal service, our way, that the children will remain in home with their parents, where they can be kept safe and loved.

Our workers continue to deliver support to families throughout the COVID restrictions, dedicated and determined to ensure that our families get the best from our service no matter how difficult the climate has been.

Creative delivery of services has been a priority, including providing some families with access to

internet services and tablet devices to ensure they can access appointments and meetings through MS Teams / Zoom / Skype or other meeting platforms as well as attend training online that supports the continual improvement in parenting skills.

Hats off to the Gumaguy team! Supporting our families most at risk of having their children taken is a rewarding and very challenging task!

## Staffing update

We welcome to Ngunya Jarjum this month three new staff to our NJ Teams.



**Montana Stocks – Receptionist**

My name is Montana, I'm from Dunghutti Mob, been on Bundjalung land for 21 years. I have just started here at NJ for the

Receptionist/Administration position, I previously worked on the highway upgrade from Ballina to Woolgoolga for 2 years also doing Administration, finance and contracts. I'm very appreciative to be able to work with NJ and can't wait to get to meet you all and be a part of the team.

**Bianca Anderson- Receptionist**



I was born in Lismore & raised on Cabbage Tree Island & Burnt Bridge. I am a single mother to two beautiful

Jarjum. I came to Ngunya Jarjum from DCJ Grafton to make a change for our people.

I plan on studying to becoming a caseworker to work closer with mob. I want to be a voice for struggling family & clients in care so they have the best start to life & a better brighter future. I love my people, I love my community & most importantly I love my family. I am forever ready to make a change. I thank each & every one of you for giving me this opportunity to expand & grow.

I am looking forward to my career at Ngunya Jarjum.

### **Anthony Bristow – IT System Manager**



I have been working in IT (Information Technology) for over 25 years and started when windows were just called Windows 3.1 and required about 10 floppy disks to install it. If I tried to do that now, windows would take about 5800 disks and 2 weeks to do it!

Being part of the IT sector has been an incredible journey, watching all the changes and amazing improvements. And it doesn't look like slowing down any time soon.

I also enjoy working with websites as they have become as important as a phone number or email address for business communication.

I live in Dunoon with my wife, currently in a one room studio we built, and we start building our real home in the next few weeks.

We moved to the Tweed from Sydney in 2003 and thankfully found our way to the Lismore region 3 years ago.

I have three adult children between 30 and 25 (with my youngest living in Canada), one cat and 6 chickens.

Always happy to chat and help.

## **Welcoming staff into new roles at Ngunya Jarjum**

### **Jean Ford – Business Operations Manager**



Reporting to the CEO, my role as the Business Operations Manager is being responsible for quality outcomes and the day-to-day operational management of Ngunya Jarjum Aboriginal Child and Family Network.

My goal is to promote the safety, welfare, health and well-being of our Jarjums and families.

I also aim to drive a culture of openness, reflection and productivity amongst the teams at NJ to ensure that our services are delivered to a high professional standard that is culturally appropriate.

I feel privileged to be working amongst a team of professionals and proud to know that my role will, in many ways, contribute to the success and have a positive impact on the lives of our People.

### **Daisy Gordon and Lani Cloos**

Daisy and Lani were both in our Administration & Finance team. With their knowledge and experience they have decided to step outside of their comfort zone and change their roles internally.

Daisy's new role is PSP Out of Home Care Assessment and Intake Administration. Lani's new role is Compliance. Congratulations to both on their promotion, we look forward to continuing to watch them shine in their careers.



## Positions Vacant

### Balaa (Casework Support) Worker

#### Lismore Office (service delivery area Tweed Heads to Grafton)

Casual opportunity - \$51.73/hour Saturday and \$66.51/hour Sunday.

Ngunya Jarjum's vision is that all Aboriginal and Torres Strait children and young people are raised strong in spirit and identity, with every opportunity for lifelong wellbeing. We ensure all Aboriginal and Torres Strait children and young people are provided with the best opportunity to grow up with a strong sense of belonging to their family, community and country.

Ngunya Jarjum is currently growing and looking to further expand our Balaa team to support our weekend contact visits. This is a casual role working daytime shifts on Saturday and Sunday. We have some flexibility around shifts and may be able to offer four or six hours shifts, depending on workload and preferences.

Your focus will be delivery of program services to children and families, in particular supporting family supervised contact visits on weekends. The key objectives of the role include:

- Delivery of Ngunya Jarjums Balaa services including (but not restricted to) family supervised contact, youth mentoring, locating family, facilitate family conferencing, transport services to support families;
- Learn from and support our Caseworkers to ensure case practice is delivered to a high professional standard and in a manner that promotes the safety, welfare and wellbeing, family and community connections of children placed in Ngunya Jarjum's care;
- Become familiar with and ensure services are delivered in line with established Ngunya Jarjum policies and procedures, Office of Children's Guardian (OCG) standards and in compliance with relevant legislation;
- Work in a manner that ensures sound family and community networks that fosters and maintains positive interagency relationships.

You will need a Minimum 2 Years' Experience in child protection, early childhood development, Youth and/or Family Work or related sectors. Also, a Certificate III or IV in Community Services or related

field or be willing to obtain this within 12 months of commencement.

If you also have:

- Aboriginality
- Experience or strong interest in working in a permanency support program environment
- Demonstrated ability to engage & work effectively with Aboriginal people and communities.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Effective time management and personal organisational skills
- Ability to work independently or as a team member
- Intermediate level of computer literacy; sound working knowledge of Microsoft Office software
- First Aid Certificate, or willingness to obtain within 3 months of commencement

Current NSW driver's licence (open licence only, not provisional)

To find out more please contact Michelle Rogers on (02) 6626 3700 or Michelle Hicks on (02) 6626 3700. All applications will be received via seek online or email [recruitment@ngunyarjarjum.com](mailto:recruitment@ngunyarjarjum.com).

**The closing date for this role is 5pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020.**

### CASEWORKER

#### Lismore Office (service delivery area Tweed Heads to Grafton)

Ngunya Jarjum's vision is that all Aboriginal and Torres Strait children and young people are looked after in safe Aboriginal and Torres Strait families and communities and are raised strong in spirit and identity, with every opportunity for lifelong wellbeing. We ensure all Aboriginal and Torres Strait children and young people in our care are provided with the best opportunity to grow up with a strong sense of belonging to their family, community and country. The Office of the Children's Guardian has recently awarded Ngunya Jarjum five years accreditation giving great stability and further growth opportunities.

To support this growth Ngunya Jarjum is looking to further expand our team.

Reporting to Manager Casework, your focus will be providing support and supervision to children in Ngunya Jarjum's permanency support program (PSP) and to achieve quality outcomes for the children placed

with the service. The key objectives of the role include to:

- ensure case practice is delivered to a high professional standard and in a manner that promotes the safety, welfare and wellbeing, family and community connections of children placed in Ngunya Jarjum's care;
- ensure services are delivered in line with established Ngunya Jarjum policies and procedures, Office of Children's Guardian (OCG) standards and in compliance with relevant legislation;
- work in a manner that ensures sound community networks and fosters and maintains positive interagency relationships.

You will need a Minimum 3 Years' Experience in child protection, early childhood development, Youth and/or Family Work or related sectors. Also, IV in Community Services or related field or be willing to obtain this within 12 months of commencement.

If you also have:

- Aboriginality
- Experience working in a permanency support program environment and strong casework skills
- Demonstrated ability to engage & work effectively with Aboriginal people and communities.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Effective time management and personal organisational skills
- Ability to work independently and as a team member
- High Level of computer literacy; sound working knowledge of Microsoft Office software
- First Aid Certificate, or Willingness to obtain within 3 months of commencement
- Current NSW driver's licence (open licence only, not provisional)

We would love to hear from you.

Appointment to this position will be subject to a National Criminal History Record Check and Working with Children Check clearance. Two reference checks will be required including one recent supervisor.

A generous remuneration package will be negotiated plus superannuation, leave loading and salary sacrifice.

We offer an excellent range of benefits including:

- Full non-profit status with salary sacrifice available to reduce tax and increase your take home pay
- An opportunity to really make a difference to kids and young people in our community
- A beautiful country location on the flourishing NSW North coast.

To find out more please contact Michelle Hicks on (02) 6626 3700 or Kelli Dragos from Abundance Human Resources on 0419 419 554. All applications will be received via seek online ad or email [recruitment@ngunyajarjum.com](mailto:recruitment@ngunyajarjum.com).

**The closing date for this role is 5pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020.**

## Community Information:

### National Child Protection Week

6 - 12 September 2020

Celebrating 30 years with the theme

"Putting Children First"

KEEPING CHILDREN  
SAFE AND WELL  
IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

Together we can  
help every child thrive

We can all...

...speak up if we see something that is not safe for children

...talk respectfully with children and value and act on their ideas

...help children thrive by supporting families

...create places where children feel safe to live, play and learn

For more information about how to play your part, visit: [www.napcan.org.au](http://www.napcan.org.au)

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK  
6th - 12th September 2020

NAPCAN  
[www.napcan.org.au](http://www.napcan.org.au)

MEMBER OF GOVERNMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## Calling all deadly artists

Entries for the NSW AECG NAIDOC 2020 Art Competition are now open. Students are invited to submit artwork reflecting the 2020 NAIDOC theme: Always Was, Always Will Be

Open to all students in years 3 to 10 🧐

To download an entry form and for terms and conditions, head to the link below 🖱

<https://www.aecg.nsw.edu.au/.../nsw-aecg-inc-naidoc-art-comp.../>

## Bundjalung Fitness



Through the amazing collaboration between, Rekindling the spirit, Gospel Gloves and Bundjalung Fitness.

A Community Boxing/Kids Group fitness program. Information Contact listed number for further enquiries.

We strive for Unity, Closing the Gap, promoting healthy communities, building healthy relationships and getting involved in the good fight.

## HealthInfoNet

A new website that focuses on culturally relevant online resources to support social and emotional wellbeing is now available. The Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet in partnership with eMHPac (e-Mental Health in Practice) developed [WellMob](#) to provide a range of readily accessible digital resources to support mental health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The new website is especially targeted at community workers in mental health, family support, education and youth services who want to share wellbeing resources with their clients.

<https://healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/about/news/6024/>

**Free accredited course** running through the YWCA in Goonellabah.

Transport available.

**FREE CAFE SKILLS COURSE**

**Thursdays & Fridays  
9am - 3pm (new times)  
27 August - 30 October  
101a Rous Rd,  
Goonellabah**

For any young person  
aged 16-24  
wanting to develop cafe skills  
to gain employment  
opportunities.

**SKILLS FOCUS**

1. Hygienic practices for food safety (SITXFSA001)
2. Transport & store food (SITXFSA003)
3. Package prepared foodstuffs (SITHCC004)
4. Prepare & serve non-alcoholic beverages (SITHFAB004)
5. Interact with customers (SITXCCS003)
6. Prepare & present sandwiches (SITHCC003)

\*Transport is available  
\*Course is:  
- free  
- Centrelink approved  
- taught by TAFE at YWCA Goonellabah  
\*No experience is needed  
\*Support workers are welcome  
\*Participants receive certificates for CV

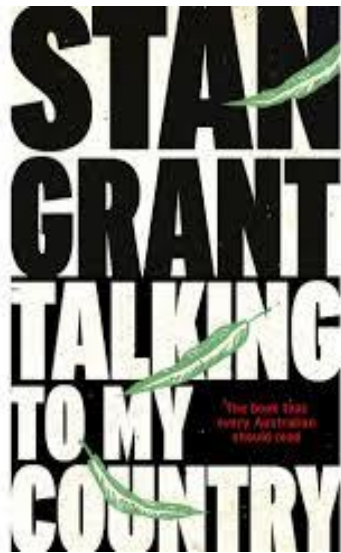
Contact Alexia at:  
northernrivers@ywca.org.au  
0491 053 949

YWCA



## Readers Corner:

Another good read for those who need to kick back with a book for a few hours. This month we are recommending one of the books we recently purchased for our staff library:



### Talking to my Country: Stan Grant

Talking to My Country is that rare and special book that talks to every Australian about their country what it is, and what it could be. It is not just about race, or about indigenous people but all of us, our shared identity. Direct, honest and forthright, Stan is talking to us all. He might not have all the answers, but he wants us to keep on asking the question: how can we be better?