



Ngunya Jarjum Aboriginal Corporation

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Monthly Newsletter

November 2020

Jingi Wala!

Ngunya Jarjum would like to pay respects to our Elders both past and present, also to our children, who will be the Elders future coming.

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land of which we live and work in, the people of the Bundjalung Nation, as well as to all other Indigenous people who join us today.

We would also like to acknowledge the survival of our ancient culture. May we continue to thrive, learn, and develop within so we may pass our knowledge down through generations to come.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Lismore Workers Club

10th November 2020

5pm

As a member, your participation in the AGM is important and a valuable opportunity for the Board to hear feedback and consider the performance of the Agency. Your ideas and feedback are valued by us.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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Ngunya Jarjum is a Safe Child Organization

To be a safe child focussed organisation is to publicly commit to child safety and are recognised as leaders in a child safe culture.

Child safety is a shared responsibility at all levels of the organisation and community.

This means management strategies focus on preventing, identifying, and mitigating risks to children where our staff, carers and volunteers comply with a code of conduct that sets clear behavioural standards towards Jarjum being safe as our highest priority.

It is a great pleasure to announce Ngunya Jarjum has this month been confirmed by the NSW Children's Guardian as an accredited Out of Home Care provider.

This includes the NSW Guardian recognising our agency with no concerns of meeting the NSW Out of Home Care Standards. This is something our staff and board take very seriously. We engage in open, two-way communication with families and our community. We are proud of the fact that families and communities are informed about the organisation's work and governance.

Thanks to everyone including carers, staff, community and families who every day assisted Ngunya Jarjum in our work toward being recognised & accredited as a child safe agency.

Bundjalung Language groups for carers and Jarjums

Can you commit 2 hours once a week to attend group to learn a Cultural life skill for you and the Jarjums that you care for?

We have commenced Bundjalung Language group classes to all carers and Jarjums through Wandjarri Mali Language, a unique

opportunity for you and the Jarjums to learn some of the local language led by Local Aboriginal Elder and keeper of Language, Uncle Roy Gordon.

The first session began October 10th, 2020. The carers attending have provided very positive feedback about the opportunity to learn a little and embed local language into their home with the Jarjums.

Carers must attend with the Jarjums – language being used in home is an important part of reinforcement for both you and the Jarjums to learn!

A small fee may apply per carer and Jarjum to cover costs – talk to your caseworker about funding support to attend if you are interested, do not let the fee hold you back.

To book your seats, please call Ngunya Jarjum office on **02 6626 3700** and ask for Shelton Johnson, or go to the Ngunya Jarjum website and register at:

<https://ngunyajarjum.com/language-group/>

Our NAIDOC Plan for the Jarjums

Ngunya Jarjum applied and were successful in obtaining a small grant from National Indigenous Australians Agency to use toward NAIDOC activity this year for our Jarjums.

With COVID-19 pandemic impacting everything this year, it was difficult to identify a strategy that met their strict requirements around managing COVID-19 requirements.

We are pleased to let you know that we are arranging a NAIDOC bag for our Jarjums living in out of home care and the Jarjums in the family preservation program.

Watch your email messages for further updates as we prepare the NAIDOC gift packs for 2020 !

Always was, Always will be...

Family Group Conferencing

Successful Tender

We are pleased to let you know that we have been successful in our tender to be on the Family Group Conference Panel for Dept of Communities and Justice!

Family group conferencing is a way to bring family members together in a positive way with an impartial facilitator to make a plan for their child or young person.

Our families have provided feedback to say they have found family group conferencing to be a really helpful way to work out a plan that everyone has participated in and agrees to.

We look forward to taking up this opportunity and supporting our families to resolve conflict around decision making for their Jarjums offer families to lead decision making for their children. We have experienced, trained facilitators ready to go! For more information on family conferencing have a look at:

<https://www.supportingcarers.snaicc.org.au/rights-of-the-child/family-group-conferencing/>

Young Men Yarnin

Ngunya Jarjum have organised a one day workshop for our Young Men, aged between 14 and 18 years, to come along and get to know culture and connection through Men's gathering. The workshop will provide info and activities to help young Indigenous men navigate around day to day challenges they face daily, exposure to alcohol and other drugs, the role of violence in the home, addiction, health choices and the like.

The workshop will be hosted by all Aboriginal Men, sharing their wisdom and experience through Cultural learning practices. The day will also include Cultural activities and games

that are age and gender appropriate – a rare opportunity for some of our young men to connect with male Leaders in our Community.

A small fee may apply per carer and Jarjum to cover costs – talk to your caseworker about funding support to attend if you are interested, do not let the fee hold you back.

So, if you're a young brother who's interested or you know any young men who you think will be interested and want to come for a Yarn, please don't hesitate to give Ngunya Jarjum a call and book your seat!

Date: 7th November 2020

Venue: Lismore City Hall

Time: 10am to 4pm

Enquiries: Intake@ngunyajarjum.com

Phone us on 0266263700 and ask for Shelton

<https://ngunyajarjum.com/language-group/>

Young Dubai's 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 about some of the real issues our young women are challenged with today. A women only event offering a rare chance for young Dubais to express themselves, their way.

The day will include discussions about health choices, identity and belonging, harm prevention, mental health and Cultural activities that support healing from the local area.

- 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?

A small fee may apply per carer and Jarjum to cover costs – talk to your caseworker about funding support to attend if you are interested, do not let the fee hold you back.

Date: 21st November 2020

Venue: Lismore Gateway Motel

Time: 10am to 3pm

Enquiries: Intake@ngunyajarjum.com

Phone us on 0266263700 and ask for Shanelle

<https://ngunyajarjum.com/language-group/>

Keeping Jarjums Safe Community Forums

Watch out for information sessions on 'Keeping Jarjums Safe' led by Mary Torrens-Bell.

Mary continues to work with community to establish a series of information sessions updating you on Ngunya Jarjums programs changes and on child protection issues for our mob. Her presentation will include information on definitions of key factors involving our family vulnerabilities including:

- What to do when FACS (Family and Communities Services) Knocks?
- What is neglect?
- Childhood sexual assault?
- Family and domestic violence?
- Lore vs Law
- How do drugs and alcohol effect parenting and much more...

Are you curious? Would you like more information for your mob? Casino forum proceeded as planned on Monday 26th October 2020, feedback from the community members attending was positive and several of the young mums shared in the safety of the group their experience adding to the learning for all.

Thank you to all who attended for making the day memorable and thanks to Mary for her solid work bringing the day together. **November: Community forums have been put on hold – watch for the December dates and locations in the next newsletter.**

Please contact Mary on 02 6626 3700 to discuss your community's needs.

Has your child received their semester 1 school report?

As part of OCG requirements school reports must be kept on the child or young person's file. When you receive these reports, as well as any significant education achievements or awards, please forward them to your caseworker. Ngunya Jarjum must provide education information to parents, which may include a copy of school reports depending on the level of disclosure that has been decided. *Section 163 of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* sets out the rights of parents to receive information about their children.

Ngunya Jarjum carers must ensure that each child or young person who is in their home and who is attending school or undertaking studies is provided with facilities for quiet study that are adequate, having regard to the age of the child or young person. A range of materials and equipment should be available in the home to promote intellectual stimulation for children or young persons.

If you need any more information, please talk to your caseworker.

Staffing update / Positions vacant

Balaa (Casework Support) Worker

Lismore Office (service delivery area Tweed Heads to Grafton)
Casual opportunity –

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

A generous remuneration package will be negotiated plus superannuation. Hourly rates of \$36.95 weekdays, \$51.73 Saturday, \$66.51 Sunday including casual loading.

Ngunya Jarjum are currently looking to expand our Balaa team to support our suite of service delivery to Aboriginal families. This is a casual role working shifts requiring flexible working hours between 7am and 7pm weekdays and weekends. Flexible hours by design to meet your existing family, community and other employment obligations.

- Casual employees provide supervision to family time and transport services for children and their families, and the delivery of other Balaa services such as youth mentoring and mapping mob.
- You may be required to support Caseworkers to ensure case practice is delivered to a high professional standard and help promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of the families we deliver services for.
- Become familiar with work practice in line with Ngunya Jarjum policies and procedures as well as Office of Children's Guardian standards in compliance with relevant legislation.
- Work in a manner that promotes sound family and community networks as well as positive interagency relationships.

Experience in child protection is preferred and you must be willing to obtain a cert III in Community services within 18 months of commencement of this position.

If you also have –

- Aboriginality
- Current NSW driver's license (Open license only not provisional)
- Demonstrated ability to engage and work effectively with Aboriginal families and communities
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Effective time management and organisational skills
- Ability to work independently or within a team
- Sound computer skills and working knowledge of Microsoft word and excel
- Willingness to undergo training

Then we would love to hear from you.

Appointment to this position will be subject to a National criminal history record check and a clearance for a working with children check. Two reference checks as well as one from a recent supervisor is required.

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 make a difference to Aboriginal Jarjum's and families across our community
- A beautiful location on the flourishing NSW far north coast

To find out more please contact Michelle Rogers (Programs Manager) or Michelle Hicks (HR Manager) on 02 6626 3700.

All applications should be received via seek online or email recruitment@ngunyajarjum.com

This position is identified for Aboriginal people and exemption is claimed under 14d of the Anti-discrimination act 1977.

2021 Human Services Apprenticeship Program

Know anyone looking to step into working with a Government Agency?

Applications are open for apprenticeships through various government services offering full-time work with a 12-month apprenticeship, great benefits, and on-the-job training!

For the duration of the apprenticeship employees will complete a nationally recognised certificate or diploma whilst being supported by an indigenous mentor.

No degree or experience is necessary!

For more information or to apply, please visit: servicesaustralia.gov.au/IAP

2020 Titans NAIDOC Event

For the newly revised NAIDOC week of 2020, the Titan's, along with the support of Kalwun and Deadly Choices, will be hosting their annual NAIDOC event at CBUS Super Stadium on Thursday 12th November!

Given the COVID-Restrictions, the event coordinators have taken necessary steps to ensuring the delivery of the event whilst upholding the safety of our community.

There will be an exciting array of stage music, performances and activities planned with limited food and drink options.

DCJ Scholarships Program 2021

The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) are offering scholarships to young persons living in social housing or in out-of-home-care to finish their education and reach their full potential.

DCJ have asked that we help spread the word. Anyone who has received the scholarship previously is welcome to apply for it again.

Students can use their scholarship for educational, support related or living expenses whether they are still or school or in post-school education.

For more information, please visit: www.facs.nsw.gov.au/dcj-scholarships

Who are they?

A new section to our monthly newsletters – we hope you find it helpful. We will add information about local services here and a brief outline of who they are. This month:

Rekindling the Spirit

Vision: "a world where Aboriginal Communities are free from social injustice, substance misuse, family violence and child abuse."

Aim: "to assist Aboriginal People in the Bundjalung Nation/Northern Rivers region in achieving a quality of life equal to that enjoyed by the broader community."

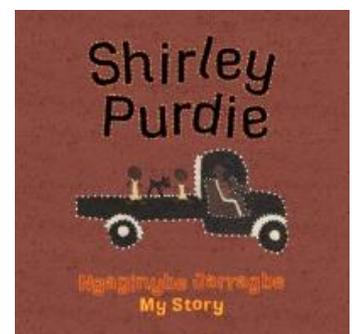
Primary objective: "we will offer services directly to Aboriginal men, women and families that relieve poverty, distress, sickness, destitution, trans-generation trauma and other misfortunes. Our counselling, assistance, education and supplementary services will focus on reducing the occurrence of domestic and family violence and child abuse and on promoting healing and wellbeing within families and the community."

Contact: (02) 6622 5534

Readers Corner - Book of the Month

Shirley Purdie: My Story, Ngaginybe Jarragbe

*My mother shows me how to get bushtucker and she shows me how to paint.
Now I'm a famous artist.
My paintings are all over the world hanging in important places. Happy times.*



Told in both English and the language of the Gija people from the Eastern Kimberly region, this is the life story of the famous Gija artist Shirley Purdie as told through her paintings.

This is the first book in the *Kimberley Art Centre Series*. The series focuses on developing the skills of Kimberley Aboriginal artists in children's picture book storytelling and illustration.