

This report was prepared for a remote community in the Northern Territory, following a 2.5 day NAPCAN workshop, attended by representatives from nine (9) organisations.

The names of the organisations and community have been de-identified for this submission to the Productivity Commission.

COMMUNITY CHILD AND FAMILY ACTION PLAN

The following is a summary of what participants identified as Community strengths and services that are needed to create a safer place for children, families and the elderly.

COMMUNITY SERVICES for Children and Families

[Aboriginal organisation]	Youth Safety
Child Care	FaFT
Aged Care	IFSS (Intensive Family Support Services)
Safe House	Remote Family Support Worker
School	Clinic (Health Services)
Land Council	NDIS (coming soon)
[Community based [NGO]]	Learning Centre
Progress Association	CDP
Police	Church
Store	Law and Justice cultural group
GEC / IEO (Prime Minister and Cabinet)	Night Patrol
Renal Unit	Royalty funding for other services for young people
Homeland starting again	

VISITING SERVICES

Allied Health (OT, Dietician etc)	Community Legal Services
[NGO] (Financial Counselling)	Mobile playgroup
Communities for Children program/s	

WHAT DO YOU YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT THE COMMUNITY (Strength)

It's pretty	Lot's of services
Inclusive	My home town – family everywhere
People are respectful	Love working with the kids
Saturday bush trips with Elders every week-end which can include up to 30 children or more	Strong culture
Feel proud	The school looks great
Discipline in the school	Shop is growing
Language is strong	The people
Community comes together	Positive role models

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO CHANGE ABOUT THE COMMUNITY (Gaps)

More things for children (as listed on the Tree of Wellbeing)	Better internet
More spaces for children's activities (safe places to play)	More houses and better constructed
Swimming pool or water park	Bitumen road to next community

More things for kids to do - movie nights	Playground equipment
More sport activities	Balance teaching in English and community language
More positive role models including young people	Opportunities for children and young people to get involved with elders
Elders take kids out to country to talk to them	More job opportunities for people including young people
Services more connected	Opportunities for services to come together to focus on children
More making artifacts – Elders teach children	Long term health workers and police so they can have a relationship with the community and understand community needs

COMMUNITY NEEDS / GAPS / ISSUES

- Regular counselling for everyone
- (A service to replace) MOS +
- Men’s support services (to address alcohol issues, men’s well-being and men’s shed – a way for men to come together). This was seen as a very important support need in the Community
- Aged Care. Planning for overnight respite.
- Family healing, mediation and dispute resolution between family groups to bring families together and make it safer for children
- Support community members to come together to do things with children and young people, especially during the holidays
- More holiday programs.
- Family to go back to outstation to keep the Homelands alive
- Housing – more housing / improved housing makes it safer for children, less stress on family, less conflict, kids can concentrate better.
- Services to address addiction and gambling
- More job opportunities for young people
- Secondary school opportunity
- Grade the road to local popular fishing / swimming place
- Night patrol is not able to take action to stop noisy parties that go on late at night where there is drinking and where children are present

CARE OF THE ELDERLY

- The Community needs a permanent health worker who can understand and follow through with patient needs. This arose from lengthy discussion around the scenario about the old man who was unwell for days before someone noticed. It was a concern that nursing staff are only in the community for 6-week blocks and often unaware of the needs of the elderly in the community. This issue was reinforced by visiting Allied Health professionals - nursing staff are unable to develop relationships with the community and provide holistic care and ongoing needs of patients.

POSITIVE WAYS TO TALK TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO HELP THEM GROW STRONG AND HAPPY.

Talk about feelings	"It's OK to feel sad"
	"How are you?"
	"I'm sorry"
Encourage and praise them	"That's good what you're doing."
	"That was great. Well done"
Let them know they are valued. Ask their opinion	"What do you think?"
	"I missed you"
Let them know you can help	"We can sort this out"
	"What are your problems?"
Do what you say you are going to do. Make it happen	"Is there any way I can help?"
Make them feel welcome	"How are you?"

CHILDREN'S VOICES ACTIVITY

As homework, community members got feedback from children about what they liked and wanted to change about the community.

In words or pictures tell us what you like best about your Community

- Hanging around with friends and family
- Going discos
- Seeing my people work at the local store. Makes me feel proud
- Auskick
- Seeing my Community grow
- Bush
- Family
- Hunting
- Because it's a small community
- It's alright. More fun.

In words or pictures tell us what you like to change about your Community

Roads sealed both ways (into and out of community)

- Grand stand all around the oval
- Games shop (to play games)
- Renovate the rec hall. Make it big
- BMX track out in the bush (not in community, away from roads)
- See people get busy hunting not drinking alcohol
- See soccer field

- Big playground
- Good park
- Footpath
- Vet Shop (ways to care for the animals – dogs with scabies)
- Swimming pool
- Flip Out (trampolines)
- Time Zone
- Rugby
- Another school
- Skatepark / Waterpark / Dreamworld / MCG /
- More housing
- New playground
- More sport opportunities
- BMX Track
- Youth services provider (more activities)

WAYS TO CALM DOWN WHEN ANGRY (Reduce the risk of violence happening)

- Walk away
- Talk to a friend
- Whistle
- Space (Find a quiet space with no noise, no people and put head phones on)
- Smiling Mind App (good to use with children)
- Have a cup of tea

ISSUES THAT LEAD TO ANGER

- Jealousy is a big problem in this community. If you have a brighter future, others get jealous and cut you down.
- Jealousy and envy are the opposite of being proud of someone. These negative feelings go away when people are on homelands.

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

- [Aboriginal organization – youth] to do the Tree of Wellbeing Activity with young people
- [Aboriginal organization - youth] to do the Children's Voices project as an activity with the young people over 3 days of the workshops.
- [Aboriginal organization - youth] to discuss the Kids Helpline Service and distribute Kids Helpline materials with all the children and the school.
- Rated for a Reason movie to be added on a loop to be played at Aged Care
- [Aboriginal organisation] to play a range of NAPCAN film clips inc Rated for a Reason (and other resources from the NAPCAN Resource Kit), on Thursday Movie Nights as a preview to the main feature film.
- Team Leader from Territory Families is starting a child safety plan - need to share this Action Plan with her.
- [NGO] to contact [Aboriginal community legal service] to talk to families about their rights in relation to child protection and having children removed from families and community

- NAPCAN to provide information about the NT Office of the Children's Commission. (NAPCAN to send brochures to be included in all Community Kits)
- NAPCAN to provide information and resources to [Aboriginal organisation] and participants about
 - Children's Week (19 – 28 October) and
 - National Child Protection Week (2 – 8 September)
- Solar power and generators needed in Homelands
- More regular opportunities for the elderly to do cultural activities in the school
- More bush trips: bringing together children, young people and the elderly together.
- More access to homelands
- Put the elderly in positions where they can "Shine" – to be the teachers (acknowledging they have lots to offer)
- We need to recognise, value and support carers of the Elderly
- Inviting [Aboriginal community legal service] to have a meeting which includes Police, Housing Reference Group (formed this year), Night Patrol and community people to discuss roles and responsibilities and the law around late night noisy parties where there is drinking and children are present. Need to identify who is responsible for keeping the peace and stopping the party.
- Organisation to add an Aged Care book and DVD (in language) to the Resource Kit
- Organisation to make sure the Aged Care Advocacy brochures are on display at Aged Care
- Community members need to know that they can go to Aged Care or ring the Advocacy Service if they are worried about an elderly persons care or want an elderly person who is living away from Community to return for a visit.
- NAPCAN to send a Bear Card Pack to Youth Services.

MENTORING – using the kits and discussing future opportunities to make the Community even safer for children and families:

The NAPCAN Resource Kit to stay with the [NGO]. Coordinator will promote the kit through the newsletter to let community know they can access the resources in the kit.

- [NGO] to take a pack of Parentline
- [Aboriginal organization - youth] to consider for kids to paint some helpline numbers on the wall
 - Kids to put the Kids Helpline number in their phone
- Show the DAISY app at the night for young women
- [Aboriginal organisation] will also have opportunity to share the Parentline.
- Health worker to take Parentline brochures and cards to Child Care and Clinic
- TF worker to take Parentline brochures and cards to Safe House
- All participants to display Kids Helpline/Parentline/1800 Respect posters and brochures in organisations

- Education centre to display the Raising Children Website where parents can access the internet
- [Aboriginal organization - youth] to help kids put smiling minds app on their phone.
- Upload the Daisy App and Smiling Minds to all Community Safety Patrol iPads
- The following videos to be included in the kit:
 - “Swimming the River” which talks about encouraging families to break the cycle of dependency on welfare – will be used with other videos
 - “Which Way Right Way” recently launched by Women’s Shelter
 - Children See Children Do

All participants to share the Positive Messages that everyone can say to young people with the Community.

Organisations to get together to do some planning around Children’s Week, National Child Protection Week, Mother’s Day and Father’s Day.

NAPCAN to provide [Aboriginal organisation] with information about activities and resources to be shared with the rest of the group.