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RAATSICC

RAATSICC is a non for profit community organization delivering child, youth and family programs in Far North Queensland..

RAATSICC *focus*

Message to our Members:



Hello everyone, welcome to our 16th edition of our RAATSICC Focus.

This quarter has been a very difficult quarter for the organisation. Firstly I would like to acknowledge the huge efforts made by RAATSICC staff and the ongoing dedication

shown during this time. We were not successful in our submission for the Cairns and surrounds Family Wellbeing Service, however we will fully commit, support and work along side those organisation that were to ensure that meaningful outcomes are achieved for our families in this region.

The expiration of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Family Support Service that RAATSICC delivered in Cairns has resulted in a significant down scale in staffing numbers. Again I wish to thank all of the RAATSICC staff for their understanding and efforts. A huge THANKYOU to all staff that have left the organisation during this time and wish them the very best wherever they go. Every effort was made to ensure that exiting staff found employment elsewhere and pleased to say that majority of the staff were “snapped up” quickly. I am proud to say that we did have the “best of the best” family support workers in the region.

We now continue to transfer our energy into submitting for the Cape York Family Wellbeing Service and dutifully fulfilling our requirements in obtaining HSQF accreditation (our first site audit was carried out in at the end of May .

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Family Support Service, Recognised Entity Service and the RAATSICC Family Care Service will be expiring on the 30th September and once again will be planning for that transitioning phase aswell.

On top of all that we continue as usual participating in community events, committing to maintain our strong partnerships and delivering programs to our people in the Far North Queensland region. You will see highlights of the *Weipa* “Stronger Families Support project”, Laura festival and various community engagement within this edition.

As always, I encourage you to become a member of this wonderful grassroots organisation so that you can be involved and play a vital part in enhancing the lives of our families, youth and children in the region.

Emma Schuh
CEO



Photograph by Kathi Gibson-Steffensen for RAATSICC use only.

WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY—15 JUNE



“ OUR CHILDREN, OUR YOUTH, OUR FAMILIES AND OUR COMMUNITIES ARE SAFE, RESILIENT AND EMPOWERED ”

DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH

Aurukun remembering loved ones...



STANDING UP AGAINST VIOLENCE IN LOCKHART RIVER



Allira Wasiu (NPA Family Support Worker) at the Domestic Violence forum on Thursday Island.



National Reconciliation Week and Mabo Day in the Weipa Cluster

National Reconciliation Week is celebrated annually and is a time for all Australians to reflect on and consider our shared histories, and on the contributions and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. In 2017, National Reconciliation Week is framed by two major events in Australia's history.

The 1967 Referendum: 2017 marks 50 years since the 1967 referendum, and 25 years since The Mabo decision.

The theme for 2017 is 'Let's Take the Next Steps', reminding us that all significant change takes persistence and courage.

May 27th sees the anniversary of Australia's most successful referendum and a defining event in our nation's history. The 1967 Referendum saw over 90 per cent of Australians vote to give the Commonwealth the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and recognise them in the national census. As part of these celebrations *RAATSICC supported a Reconciliation Youth Ball* held in Weipa at the Western Cape College Residential Campus on Friday 2nd June 2017. Youth from Napranum, Mapoon and Weipa attended the event in their finery, were served a three course meal and spent time listening to the evening's guest speaker and viewing the accompanying slideshow.

Guest speaker, Mikey Carter, spoke to the youth about mateship, working hard, determination (even when the going gets tough), perseverance and 'taking the next step'. Mikey Carter is a Psychologist from the Sunshine Coast who lived in Weipa for a number of years. In 2007 Mikey started boxing at the Napranum PCYC and from there his love for this self disciplined sport was born. As this love grew, Mikey took 'the next step' in his boxing career which saw him claim the 2013 National Australian Championship, 2014 Novice Champion, 2015 Golden Gloves and Celtic Championship and 2016 South East Queensland Championship. In 'taking the next step' Mikey Carter will be trying out for the Commonwealth Games in 2018 on the Gold Coast. The young audience attending the Reconciliation Youth Ball were enthralled and captivated by Mikey's story, experiences and above all – his message.

The 3rd June is Mabo Day: On this day in 1992, the High Court of Australia delivered its landmark Mabo decision which overturned the notion of 'terra nullius' and legally recognised Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' connection to their country, a connection that existed prior to colonisation and continues today. This recognition paved the way for the Native Title system. In Weipa, this event was acknowledged and celebrated by '**The Walk**' across the Mission River Bridge. Around 50 people crossed the river to commemorate these two significant events in Australia's history. During the evening crowds gathered at the Rocky Point park to enjoy a family evening over looking the water and watching movies relating to Eddie Mabo's story.





WORKER PROFILE

MOSES KADDY

FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER
PORMPURA AW AND KOWANYAMA

My name is Moses N G Kaddy. I was born by the river (Mackay base hospital is situated beside pioneer river). I'm from Murray Island, Mugarum tribe my totems are Whale, Dolphin and snake. My favourite hobby is Fishing and diving. I like working at RAATSICC as I get to travel to communities and supporting families that are in need. I've been working at RAATSICC for 1 year and 5 months. I also believe we have a great team its always a good thing when you work around positive people.

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

Cairns Family Support Workers—Carol Bligh, Michael Cameron, Narelle Forrester, Leanne James, Eileen Kris, Kellie Morris, Barbara Thomas



April

12th Colleen L
15th Daiana
24th Clara
29th Gertrude

May

9th Shauna
24th May



June

7th Lisa
10th Larissa
12th Asta
14th Irene
25th Rita

Welcome to new staff

Daiana Volavola

*Ma'aathan Womens
Shelter, Aurukun*



NEXT STRONGER FAMILIES SUPPORT COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

An joint initiative of RAATSICC and Department of Justice and Attorney-General

**NAPRANUM
COMMUNITY
WORKSHOP**

Thursday 17 August 2017
@ RAATSICC Napranum
office

**THURSDAY ISLAND
COMMUNITY
WORKSHOP**

10 and 11 August
2017 @ The Grand
Hotel

UPCOMING EVENTS

July

- 30 June—2 July: Laura Dance Festival
- 2-9: National NAIDOC Week
- 3: Coming of the Light
- 14: Pormpuraaw Fishing Competition
- 19-21: Cairns Show
- 25: St James Day Holiday (Lockhart River)

August

- 4: National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day
- 7: Kowanyama Annual Rodeo
- 9: International Day of the World's Indigenous People
- 19: Senior Week
- 21: Kowanyama DOGIT Day

September

- 3: Fathers Day
- 3-9: Child Protection Week
- 7: Indigenous Literacy Day
- 8: White Balloon Day
- 10: World Suicide Prevention Day
- 15: Pormpuraaw Show Day, Torres Strait Multi-Cultural Show Day

Cape York / Gulf Remote Area Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Child Care Advisory
Association Inc.

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"Our Children, Our Youth, Our Families and Our Communities are safe, resilient and empowered"

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