



▶ HEALTHY HAPPY RELATIONSHIPS 3

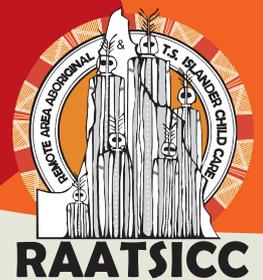


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○ ISSUE 23 | ○ JAN—MAR | ○ 2019



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

RAATSICC focus

Message to our Members:

Welcome to the 23rd edition of the RAATSICC Focus and the first for 2019.

As many of you may be aware we are currently in the process of recruiting a new Chief Executive Officer to lead the strategic direction of the organisation. It is an exciting time to be involved and progress our organizational goals to more effectively and efficiency deliver services to children, young people and communities in Far North Queensland. We look forward to welcoming the new CEO and will inform our members and supporters in the next RAATSICC Focus.

The RAATSICC AGM was held on the 6th February 2019 with a number of new General Organisation and Ordinary (Organisation and Individual) members joining the RAATSICC membership and attending the AGM. Thank you for all who attended and participated, and encourage you to be involved in current programs and future initiatives.

The current RAATSICC Management Committee consists of:

- President: Stuart Marquardt
- Vice President: Jessica Vidafar
- Treasurer: Paula Neal
- Member: Raymond Sambo
- Member: Noreen Walmbeng

RAATSICC has also endorsed Marcella Ketchell as an Ex-officio member who will contribute expert advice and knowledge to the management committee in moving the organisation forward.

RAATSICC undertook a Human Services Quality Framework maintenance review in January 2019 which involved an audit of our existing management systems to ensure they are in line with the set of quality standards developed by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services. We are currently waiting on the final report of this audit and will notify our members once received.

Operationally, RAATSICC has a variety of exciting programs and projects currently delivered and planned for 2019, including:

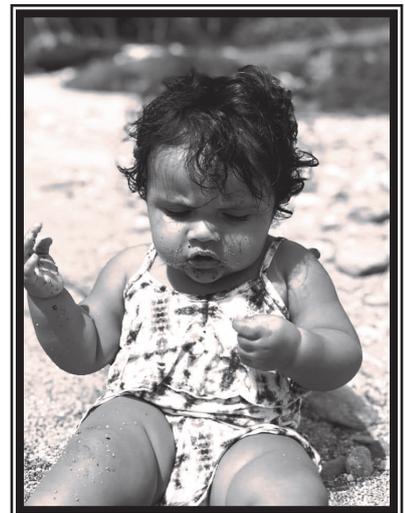
- Child Witnesses of Domestic Violence Counselling;
- Strong Active Family Engagement (S.A.F.E);
- Family Participation Program (in partnership with WuChopperen Health Service);
- Cape York and Gulf Foster and Kinship Care Service (in partnership with Churches of Christ Care);
- Ma'aathan Womens Shelter;
- Redress Support Service;
- Mossman Youth Project;
- Healthy Relationships Program;
- White Ribbon Community Education Project;
- Our Community, Our Home Project; and
- Be Connected initiative.

If you would like more information about any of these services and projects, please contact the Secretariat office (Cairns), or visit any of our community locations and speak with the friendly RAATSICC staff.

We are recruiting staff for a number of the programs listed above. If you are interested go to www.raatsicc.org.au for all the information on how to apply.

We look forward to working alongside our members, supporters and other stakeholders in 2019 to build *on our successes, grow our influence and support our families and communities.*

*Yours in partnership,
RAATSICC Leadership Team*



May 2019 Domestic & family violence prevention month

"OUR CHILDREN, OUR YOUTH, OUR FAMILIES AND OUR COMMUNITIES ARE SAFE, RESILIENT AND EMPOWERED"

Aurukun Meet and Greet



On Thursday 24th January 2019 staff hosted a RAATSICC Meet and Greet in Aurukun. Qld Health, Apunipima, Qld police, Department of Housing and Opportunity hub staff joined us in sharing information about the various programs that they offer to community members. This event created an opportunity for more productive networking with stakeholders in the community to ultimately improve services for children, women and families of Aurukun. - *Lela Idagi*

Griffith University's Neighbourhoods Project, Aurukun

Brenda, Lila and Francine (Aurukun staff) attended the Griffith Neighbourhoods Project Professionals Protect Workshop.

This is a program for local workers and professionals working in Aurukun and focuses on keeping children in community safe.

Facilitators Erin Williams and Virginia Reilly presented conscious raising statistics on sexual abuse in Aurukun.

Background of the project:

Griffith University's Neighbourhoods Project brought together a team of academics, local Indigenous leaders and practitioners to design implement and evaluate an innovative place-based approach to sexual violence prevention in a remote Indigenous community and a regional centre in Far North Queensland. Whilst this is an ongoing project, realist evaluation to date has revealed promising program outcomes, along with significant learnings relevant to the implementation of prevention activities in these contexts.

(Griffith University Website)

<https://www.griffith.edu.au/neighbourhoods-project/about-us>

-Brenda Cohen

We Think Smart in Yarrabah

Thursday 7th & Friday 8th March 2019

A community initiative between **Yarrabah Aboriginal Corporation for Women & RAATSICC** and supported by **Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council**.

26 women attended over the two days to participate in the workshop discussing topics such as budgeting, superannuation, gambling, and practical savings strategies. Presenters included

Credit Union Australia Bank, Uniting Care Community, Department of Human Services as well as Elverina Johnson who spoke about individual goal setting in a community context.

It has been a while since RAATSICC delivered programs in Yarrabah, however the turn out and the feedback was very positive leading on to more involvement and collaboration into the future.



RAATSICC would like to thank

Legal Aid Women's Network for their donation to the Ma'aathan Womens' Shelter, Aurukun. The stationary packs include a journal and self care items for women accessing the shelter.



Mossman Justice Group Sessions

On the 30th of November and 14th of December 2018 the CARS Unit coordinated with the Elders Justice Group in Mossman through the Be Connected Project to promote safety online and self care. A variety of community members both young and old joined us for both day's receiving information and support around identified or requested mobile phone and electronic devices. RAATSICC provided a booklet which featured tips on how to use your device safely, therapeutic support to encourage self care, as well as information on Elderly abuse, cyclone preparation and Christmas crafts.

RAATSICC, Elders Justice and QIFVLS staff were assisted by barber (Kalani) and hairdresser (Sarah) to make this event informative, fun and interactive for the Elders of the community.

The visits to Mossman proved to be a huge success as the Elders and stakeholders requested that we come back in 2019 with more information and self care days.



Domestic & Family Violence Prevention Month 2019

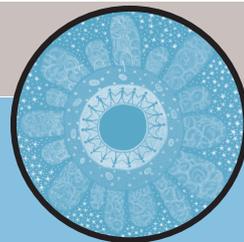
"Unity in Our Community"

<p>Best Damper in Aurukun</p> <p>Tuesday 14th May 10am - 12pm @ front of Supermarket</p>	<p>Family Fishing Fun</p> <p>Tuesday 28th May Wednesday 29th May Thursday 30th May 10am - 2pm @ the landing</p>
<p>Candle Lighting Ceremony</p> <p>Wednesday 15th May 6pm - 8pm @ the PCYC Hall</p>	
<p>Colouring in competition</p> <p>Child Care Centre Children & Aurukun State School grade 1 - 3</p>	<p>Design a Poster</p> <p>IKC (Indigenous Knowledge Centre) & Aurukun State School Grade 4 - 6</p>
<p>Respect + You Talks</p> <p>Wednesday 22nd May at the Child Care Centre. School aged from 3-5yrs welcome to attend.</p>	

For more information contact Ani at the RAATSICC Office on (07) 4030 0900

Supported by:

Healthy Respectful Relationship Workshops



RAATSICC were successful in receiving funding from ATSIDF and The Courier Mail Children's Fund to deliver Healthy Respectful Relationships workshops to children, 4-7 years of age. Two schools participated, Mossman State Primary School (Prep Classes) on 27th March 2019 and Gordonvale State School (Year 1 classes) on 4th April 2019.

The workshops focus on promoting and role modelling respectful, positive attitudes and behaviours.

Students participated very enthusiastically. It was inspiring to see the year one students getting involved and having a go to share their stories when they have felt sad, angry, scared and happy. Teachers also gave supportive feedback and asked RAATSICC to return to revisit the messages to the children.

All children received a Healthy Respectful Relationship pack with resources for the students and their families, along with a certificate of participation.

Overall we had a productive and enjoyable workshop, both students, teachers and RAATSICC Staff look forward to continuing the delivery of the Healthy Respectful Relationship Workshops.

All schools interested in the delivery of these workshops in the Cairns region contact Karen Rodger at RAATSICC on 4030 0900.

Staff Training and Development

This quarter has brought a variety of training and professional development opportunities for RAATSICC staff, including:

NAPCAN

1. Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention / Mandatory Reporting Workshops.

2. Child Safe Organisations Workshop.

Head to NAPCANs website for more information

D&FV Network Workshop

RAATSICC hosted this in Cairns for remote shelters and was a great day of information sharing for 2019.

For more information email carsmanager@raatsicc.org.au

DeVange & TAFE Qld

Congratulations Nancy, Natasha, Asta and Lisa for attaining a Certificate IV in Community Services.

www.@davange.com.au

Strangulation

Aurukun Women's Shelter workers joined the strangulation webinar, which was full of information organised and facilitated by the Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research.

The content was relevant and updated information about the effects of strangulation and how to respond when informed of strangulation. All AWS team members that joined were informed that within 48 hours you must still seek medical assistance for service user as the swelling might be slow but can still cause death. The AWS workers will be using the information provided, to raise awareness for strangulation and its effects to the community members of Aurukun through our centre based support program.

Suicide Awareness and Skills training for Shelter workers

All Ma'aathan Shelter Staff attended the INSIST program for Suicide awareness. The INSIST workshop gave workers tools to be able to challenge the ideas of suicide in our communities and encourage them to be a spokes person to stop suicide in our communities.

Our AWS staff have voiced that suicide is not our way and not many people want to talk about suicide before or after someone it happens.

24hrs services | Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467
Lifeline 13 11 14 | beyondblue 1300 22 46 36
MensLine Australia 1300 78 99 78 | Kids Helpline 1800 55



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2019 27 MAY - 3 JUNE

GROUNDING in TRUTH
WALK TOGETHER WITH COURAGE

#NRW2019
#GroundedInTruth
reconciliation.org.au

Partnering for Families

Rita, Joe and Fiona attended the Partnering for Families— Legislation Amendment Information session. This was a brief update of the new **Family Participation Program** and new amendments to information sharing.

Department of CSYW presented a short summary of the Child Protection Reform Amendment Act Implementation. The final stage of changes from the Child Protection Reform Amendment Act is underway, with a focus on ensuring the child protection sector is ready for these changes.

Funded NGOs will be working to incorporate in their practices, the five elements of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle –

Partnership, Placement, Participation, Prevention and Connection.

Progressions to date include:

- The Family Wellbeing Services (FWS) established across the state
- Removal of reference to Recognised Entities in legislation
- Inclusion of the new

concept of an Independent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Entity (called an Independent Person)

- The operation of Family Participation Programs (FPP's) to provide families with opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family-led decision making (AFLDM) across the child protection continuum.

Changes to information sharing – the importance of working collaboratively to meet the needs of children and families was acknowledged by the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry in its report, Taking Responsibility: A road map for Queensland Child Protection and by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Information Sharing guidelines have been amended and they aim to support and guide organisations and agencies within Queensland Child protection and family support systems, including government and non-government organisations.

-Rita Suavai

WORKER PROFILE



June Kellermeier

I commenced work with RAATSICC on the 25th March 2019 within the Redress Scheme program, as a part-time Redress Counsellor.

I have also been supporting the CWDV (Child Witnesses of Domestic Violence) program in conducting a CWDV service review. I am enjoying my duties in this position as these are areas I am very passionate about. RAATSICC's staff are all very friendly, they have made me feel welcomed, the environment is comfortable and relaxing, thank you everyone.

RAATSICC & White Ribbon Australia

Following the success of 2018 community education workshops RAATSICC in partnership with White Ribbon Australia have organized another six workshops throughout Cape York. The workshops will be a refresher on previous information with a focus on 'Standing up against violence' and 'Active Bystander behaviour'. We encouraged all community members (especially men) to take part in the workshops and receive some valuable information and resources. Community workshops will be:

Wujal Wujal, 8th May 2019
Lockhart River, 22nd May 2019
Aurukun, 4th June 2019
Napranum, 5th June 2019
Mapoon, 6th June 2019
Kowanyama, 12th June 2019

The aim is to engage with community members to encourage behaviour change to stop men's violence against women and empower them to take leadership role to stop this violence.



GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK

Colleen Munro

Welcome to RAATISICC...

Lisa Cooper, Matthew King,
Fiona McLeod, June Kellermeier,
Ani Seruvatu, Irene Tuinasau,
Evelyn Birchley, Allira Waisu,
Francis Carter, Francine Ngallametta,
Megan Keridun, Norah Bagiri,
Roy Chevathan & Dianne Ludwick

#raatpack

Apply for RAATSICC membership TODAY!

Contact the office to get involved in this grassroots organisation.



UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2019

21st-28th Foster and Kinship Carers Week

May 2019

Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month

12th Mothers day

15th-21st National Families week

15th International Day of Families

17th-24th Under 8s week

26th National Sorry Day

27th-3rd June National reconciliation week

June 2019

3rd Mabo Day

15th World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

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

124 Spence Street, PO Box 6242, Cairns Qld 4870

Phone: (07) 4030 0900 Fax: (07) 4041 5082 Free Call: 1300 663 411

Email: info@raatsicc.org.au Website: www.raatsicc.org.au