

Photo: Uncle Anthony James on Palm Island with a deadly smile



Redress Support Service visits Palm Island

Redress Support Team have travelled far and wide since delivering services in July 2019.

Providing support to applicants of the National Redress Scheme has sent the staff from as south as Palm Island to as north as Thursday Island and west as Doomadgee.

In the new year we will reach the islands of the Torres Straits and continue supporting our mob to tell their stories and learning more about the scheme and to tell their stories.

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Management Committee Profile



Robert Holness
Management Committee
Member

We asked Robert a few questions to get to know our mob who are passionate about RAATSICC and volunteer their time to be on our Management committee.

1. Where did you grow up?
I grew up in Townsville and went to school there.

2. How did you get involved with RAATSICC?
The SAFE workers in Kowanyama approached me and asked if I was interested in doing a project with RAATSICC with children in care. I applied and came to Cairns to meet with Managers at RAATSICC for the Kowanyama OCOH project office. From there I continued to be involved with RAATSICC and was nominated to be part of the Management Committee.

3. Is there something about RAATSICC services that you wish the community knew?
More information about what each program does especially the Foster and Kinship care service. As well of what other outside project they can finding for your community.

4. What is something that mob might be surprised to know about you?
I have been the previous mayor of Kowanyama and current Chair of PBC.
I like to read and fish/hunt in my spare time and taking my kids out on Country.

CEO Yarn - Kristine Smith



My probation review has been completed and I thank all those that participated in my performance appraisal and know confirm my appointment as CEO for the next two (2) years.

There has been a lot accomplished over 2019 with new Management Committee

members being elected in October, to a Strategic Planning Workshop delivered in December 2019.

There is much to look forward to in 2020 as we as RAATSICC continue the journey to build on the strong organisational foundations and adapt to the new policy landscape relating to the delivery of services to children and their families within Cape York.

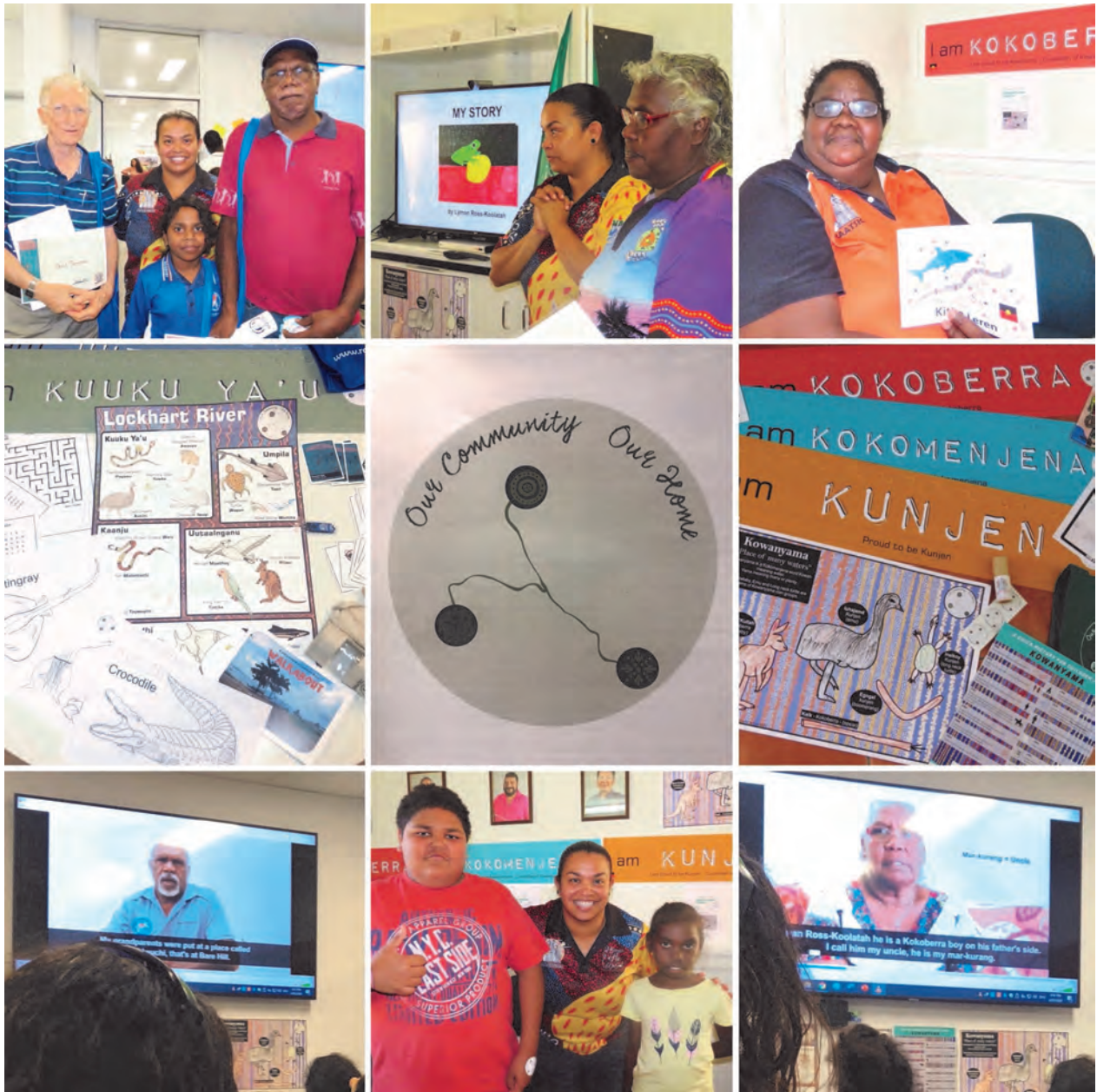
In May, RAATSICC will be assessed against the Human Service Quality Standards. There is much work to do until then as we are aiming for a three (3) year certification.

We have introduced a new Client Registration Process to streamline the service offerings to clients based of need. To the staff that was part of the continuous improvement project I thank you for your commitment to this initiative.

We are endeavouring to release a new Strategic Plan in October 2020 at the AGM once a feedback process is completed.

If you want to have a say on what services you reckon that RAATSICC could deliver in the future just contact the office on: P: (07) 40300900 or email: info@raatsicc.org.au

Our Community Our Home



Our Community Our Home Project, started in 2018 with the employment of two Project workers.

One worker for the communities of Kowanyama and Lockhart River. These workers sort local elders and knowledgeable people to form Community Reference groups. They led and shared cultural knowledge in the development of culturally-informed resources for use by children and young people in out of home care to stay connected

and continue to learn about their identity, culture and community.

Our hope is that these resources will be helpful in learning, sharing and building knowledge about the Kowanyama and Lockhart River communities and the strong cultures that these children and young people belong to.

We thank the local community and all people involved in making this project such a success.

Special mention to Johnson Chippendale, Aunty Priscilla Major, David Thompson, Robert Holness and Stanley Short for your commitment to ensure that the information is as accurate as possible

For more information contact RAATSICC on 4030 0900.

Our families



Fiona McLeod
FPP Team Leader

Family Participation Program (FPP)

It's been a busy start to 2020. teams.

In February 2020, all FPP Convenors travelled to Cairns for training and included was a Meet and Greet.

The Meet & Greet was with Child Safety's Cultural Practice Advisors (CPA's), Family Wellbeing Services from Mulungu (Mareeba) and Mamu (Innisfail) and FPP Teams from RAATSICC and Wuchopperen.

This opportunity was for the FPP Convenors be a part of this workshop and to meet and form connections with CPA's and Service Providers as far south to Innisfail, west to Atherton and Mareeba, in the Cape as well as the Cairns district

We all came together to workshop on ideas how practices between the CPA's and Service Providers could improve in order to keep our children connected to their families, community and country.

We spoke of the challenges we all face but also came up with ideas and solutions to ensure we get the best outcomes for our children and families.

We all agreed that we will have these sessions each quarter.

I am looking forward to what 2020 brings for our Team.

Family fun

Yarn starters that you can yarn to your family and celebrate last year as well as look towards the future.

2019 Journey

What are 2 favorite memories?

What are 3 things you are grateful for?

What is a lesson you have learnt?

What is one thing you did that you are proud of?

Looking towards 2020

Where are 3 places you want to go?

What are 2 way you can help others?

What is one thing you want to get better at?

What are 2 things you are looking forward to?

Name 3 new things you want to try.

Hope you enjoy!

Wanted Foster and Kinship Carers

Kowanyama, Pormpuraaw, Lockhart River, Aurukun, Weipa, Napranum and Mapoon

Would you like to know more? We can help open that door

Call us now on 1300 663 411

Journey to healing

The **National Redress Scheme into institutional Child Sexual Abuse** came about through recommendations put forward from the Royal Commission. Information regarding the National Redress Scheme can be found on their website www.nationalredress.gov.au

RAATSICC is a **Redress Support Service**. Our staff are made up of:

- Redress Sexual Assault Counsellors
- Redress Support Workers

Supporting Redress applicants with emotional counselling and practical support with their application through the assessment process, also referring to the appropriate services when need be.

Applications can be made any time before 30 June 2027

Supporting you

Total applicants	19
Applications in progress	12
New enquiries	6
Applications completed	7

The RAATSICC Redress Support Service has completed its first calendar year and the team has done some excellent work [see above table](#).

With 2020 in sight RAATSICC will work to increase access to the National Redress Scheme throughout the Torres Straits and continue providing support to the mainland communities and townships of Cape York.

By seeking support from the RAATSICC Redress Support Service we can help with your application and have an understanding of what is required so that your application does not have any hold ups.

The National Redress Scheme noted the following:

- 591 applications were on hold because one or more institution named had not yet joined, and 218 applications required additional information from the applicant.

Self healing



Kirsty Chapman
Redress Counsellor

Spinning Yarn about herself

I grew up as an only child with my mother and her family. My mother and 4 siblings grew up in Yarrabah. I have Aboriginal family who I adore with links to Mapoon through marriage. I have 1 son and my partner of 12 years.

I have had many roles in my youth then I attended JCU Cairns where I completed my Bachelor of Social Sciences double majoring in criminology and human services I then worked with Probation and parole and Lives Lived Well.

Why do you think counselling or yarning to someone is important?

For change and healing to happen often people need to process the trauma that has happened to them. Speaking their truth is important, as they are experts in their own lives. Yarning can help put all the thoughts into perspective and help with planning for a brighter future.

What do you like about being a part of the redress support team?

Helping people tell their story and be heard, sometimes for the first time.... Thanks for trusting me and thanks to the entire team at RAATSICC have been so welcoming.

What is one thing you do when you feel emotionally drained to help heal yourself?

I enjoy Alone time connecting with nature, sleeping on the beach waking up to the sounds of the ocean and feeling early morning sun on my skin.... I also enjoy a massage as a quick fix

Keep your eye out for Kirsty visits to your community!

Time out

Take some time out and see if you can find these communities in Cape York.

H C Z E B B L L B N V U B M I U S H S P
M O R N I N G T O N I S L A N D E D T A
E O P Q E M E T G C X A N N M Y N Q E L
E K O E I O N K Y G K G M O X A S M S M
G T O G V A C A U W X H N A L B G R E I
D O P L M A R H U W N E A S Y V C A I S
A W T R R R L J S E D A I R P N Q V S L
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L B R P T C I C M A G T B E N V K T H F
F O N S Y K J G W A T H O D N J Q G G E
T H F X U Z N W M C D K K F W F J T J T
S V A P G C I U P T H V G L L D K A V R

AURUKUN
COOKTOWN
INJINOO
LOCKHART RIVER
MOSSMAN
NEW MAPOON
PORMPURA
UMAGICO

BAMAGA
DOOMADGEE
KOWANYAMA
MAPOON
MT ISA
NORMANTON
SEISIA
WUJAL WUJAL

COEN
HOPEVALE
LAURA
MORNINGTON ISLAND
NAPRANUM
PALM ISLAND
TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS
YARRABAH

AURUKUN



2019 ended in with a few good stories from the Ma'aathan Women's Shelter.

On the 5th of December 2019 the Aurukun Community Christmas Party was held at the Wo'uw Ko'alam Community Centre.

A large crowd of 350 thoroughly enjoyed themselves; especially the children who received presents. Santa Claus performed very well but was looking tired at

the end of the night. THANK YOU to all the volunteers who assisted with the event.

Donations came from Woolworths Weipa donating five (5) packets of sausages 24 in 1 packet and 1 carton of Bread; Weipa Bakery kindly donated one carton of bread as well Weipa Gourmet Meats kindly donated 50 sausages.

QLD Boating & fisheries Patrol, Weipa Minister Mark Furner, Department of

Agriculture & Fisheries kindly donated a dingy.

The dingy brings another big year for DV and FV Prevention Month in May 2020.

To all services that supported RAATSICC through the Ma'aathan Women's Shelter we thank you and look forward to working with you in 2020.

Planning day



The management Committee along with staff gathered in Cairns for planning sessions.

Some good yarns were had, and it was a great change for all to be involved in starting 2020 with a strong plan.

The activities following suite with continuous improvement highlighting three (3) areas for consideration to balance our efforts across the organisation.

- Client & Community
- Internal process and practice
- Organisational Learning & Growth in particular strategic direction.



L-R Front: Crystal, Marcella, Paula **Back:** Stuart, Ray, Robert.

We will keep you posted on our new and improved systems and they are implemented.



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

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