

October 2020

www.pormpurpaanthu.com.au
22-23 Yalu St, Pormpuraaw Q 4892
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PPAC founders win Alison Woolla Memorial Award 2020

May Ballie and Myrtle Foote were jointly announced as the winners of the Alison Woolla Memorial Award 2020 at this year's Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) Annual Conference held at the Gold Coast Exhibition and Convention Centre.



PPAC Co-founders Myrtle Foote & May Ballie: winners of the Alison Woolla Memorial Award 2020

The award honours the legacy of the late Alison Woolla, a former Mayor of Aurukun and dynamic reform leader, who provided support for members of her community when they were experiencing abuse, opening her doors and inviting them to stay with her.

May Ballie and Myrtle Foote are the co-founders of Pormpur Paanthu (Women's house) in the Aboriginal community of Pormpuraaw. The centre provides a refuge and services to assist women and children experiencing domestic and family violence (DFV).

Through the creation of the centre, May Ballie and Myrtle Foote have been instrumental in saving the lives and improving the futures of many women and children in their community.

They have also been active in expanding the services to include a

safe place, specifically for children, through vacation and after school care, child care, as well as a DFV support service for men. Many lives have been saved and many families have been assisted to have a brighter future as a result of the centre's work, while an entire community has come to better understand and manage DFV.

"When we first started out, we had women getting bashed up, and no other stronger people used to stand up and take women in. We used to take them in," May said.

"The main thing was about children and the wives – looking after them.

"Back in those first days, we didn't have counselling – we had to talk to the women and the men ourselves."

Of her experience, Myrtle said there were some wonderful breakthroughs,

"When the council came back to me and said they have got a house available for the women, that was really for me, you know, I was so happy women can go to the place where they can be safe. It was a big relief for me," Myrtle said. "I'm so proud of working with my people in the community, with women and children especially."

LGAQ CEO Greg Hallam said it was a privilege to honour the work of May and Myrtle,

"The work of May and Myrtle has a positive rippling effect through the community that will be felt for years to come and we are grateful to be able to recognise their work through the award.

"We look forward to holding the award in years to come to recognise the work that goes on across the state to prevent domestic and family violence."

ALL WORK AND WALK TOGETHER ON ONE PATH OF HEALING, LEARNING, CARING AND SHARING, CREATING A SAFER ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY



As we are aware 2020 has been a challenging year, but our PPAC team has worked hard to deliver all our regular services, and all within the guidelines required to protect us all against COVID-19, CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy writes...

The Boost funding we received from the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women, along with the funding from the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), enabled us to provide the additional services needed for our clients during the COVID crisis.

The Boost funding also covered the purchase of additional cleaning supplies and PPE items for the Healing Centre and the new Women's Shelter.

Despite the additional demands of delivering services in a COVID safe environment, we have successfully maintained our offering of prevention and education workshops and events.

The Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month in May was especially well received, also the Mother's Day and Father's Day events.

We also successfully completed our HSQF maintenance audit.

In addition, we have made excellent progress on the various components required to obtain service approval and child care subsidies for our Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) service.

Furthermore PPAC has been nominated for – and won – various awards.

These included the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Honour Roll and our founding members, Myrtle Foote and May Ballie, receiving the Alison Woolla Award for their significant contributions to the awareness and prevention of domestic and family violence in Queensland.

In terms of securing ongoing funding, PPAC's programs for substance misuse and emotional wellbeing have been extended for another three years.

The following additional funding applications are under consideration:

1. To deliver language, literacy, numeracy and digital skills through the Remote Community Pilots initiative of the Department of Education, Skills and Employment. Lots of work has been invested in this application and so we are hoping for a positive outcome.
2. An application for funding from the Indigenous Language Grant to enable us to promote Pormpuraaw local languages. This will be a cornerstone focus of our NAIDOC week.
3. Working closely with RISE, PPAC has requested funding for two positions under NIAA's 1000 jobs package. The two roles will be a full time Transport Officer for our Healing Services and a Training Coordinator.

Our staff have been busy preparing for NAIDOC week (8-11 November) which was re-scheduled earlier in the year due to COVID restrictions.

I believe it will a great week for our Pormpuraaw community, with many locals looking forward to this event.

Our final events for the year will be our AGM in mid-November, and our Christmas celebrations.

Ganthi



Signs of the times: a Zoom meeting between PPAC and local MP Cynthia Lui in June this year





ABOVE: Proud Mum Gloria Williams was happy to receive her Mother's Day gift at PPAC's Mother's Day luncheon from PPAC Program Coordinator Josie Szilagyi.



The Human Services Quality Standards Audit ensures PPAC has a system and practices to deliver safe and quality services to our community, CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy says.

“Our initial audit was conducted in 2018, and this year we participated in the Maintenance Audit, about 18 months after initial certification,” she said.

“This year it was conducted remotely because of Coronavirus, and it was a bit of a challenge, but all went well eventually.

“I’d like to thank all our staff who participated in the audit process – well done to all!”

She said the certificate above was received in May this year.

“Services subject to the audit were funded by the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women,” she said.



LEFT: One of the many COVID-19 resources published in the PPAC News Week in 2020 (see next page).

Posters and social media memes were sourced from Apunipima Cape York Land Council, NACCHO, Qld Health, Federal Health and the World Health Organisation over the year.



Communication has been a critical part of keeping our community safe over the year, CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy says.

"A decision between myself and the Board to put out a two-page weekly newsletter has been a success for everyone concerned," she said.

"PPAC News Week comes out every Monday and plays several important roles.

"The first is keeping the community informed about the COVID-19 Pandemic - almost every issue has featured some safety information or news and updates about what our region's status is in regards to the virus.

"The second is an opportunity for us to share our news on a regular basis, as you can see from this recent issue (right).

"Thirdly, we have been able to effectively advertise an update our service information as new staff have come to work for us and we have grown.

"This includes being able to spotlight some of the very important and valued work our staff do.

"And there is a fourth benefit in that we have also been able to share our Pormpuraaw community partner's news as well.

"Things like the school winning an a statewide award for Excellence in Rural and Remote Education for effectively



PPAC
23: 28 September 2020
NEWS WEEK

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PPAC recognised in Queensland's first DFV Prevention Honour Roll

PPAC is excited and very proud to have made the State Government's first Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Honours Roll, CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy says.

"All our staff work so hard at what they do, this is great news and well-deserved recognition for all of us," she said.

The Honour Roll is about celebrating community organisations who raise awareness and work to change attitudes in their community.



Myrtle Foote & May Ballie signing off on some final paperwork around the Maantchangle Women's Shelter in August last year

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence Di Farmer said it was important to recognise people and organisations who were taking steps to end domestic and family violence.

"The Honour Roll is about shining a light on good deeds, and thanking those taking real steps to ending domestic and family violence," she said.

For more information see: <https://www.csyw.qld.gov.au/campaign/not-now-not-ever-together/dfv-prevention-honour-roll>

She said recipients would receive a signed certificate and be featured online.

Ms Kuppusamy said PPAC's entry on the Roll included recognition of PPAC founders Myrtle Foote and May Ballie.

"PPAC was founded in the early 1990s by Myrtle and May, who are both still active members of our organisation today," she said.

"It's wonderful to see their story, which is our story, online and recognised in this way, we are all grateful for their vision and hard work over the past nearly 30 years."

The Honour Roll dedication reads, in part:

Pormpur Paanthu had a vision back in 1991 that has grown in scope and programs, but the purpose has remained the same — to prevent and assist women and children who are subject to domestic and family violence in the Pormpuraaw community — and in doing so, Pormpur Paanthu has assisted more than 1000 women and children since 1991.

OSHC passes Audit



PPAC's Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) has been given their post-audit nod in record time, with the arrival of several letters and official documentation earlier this week.

The end result is the OSHC has been officially approved to provide regulated care to help meet Pormpuraaw children's education and developmental needs.

CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy said it meant their ongoing work was operating to the highest possible standards.

"This ticks all the boxes," she said.

"It means our building and our staff have formal approval to care for our children over pre-school age after school and during school holidays.

"We have the right educator to child ratios and a safe environment for our children.

"It also means our staff have passed the required tests to make us qualify for the Child Care Subsidy, which is good news for families."

transitioning primary students into high school last month; Apunipima looking for actors for a video series they were producing and information for stolen wages claimants all made the front page at different times over the year."

She said the PPAC News Week would likely continue into next year.

"As the pandemic shows no sign of slowing down in other parts of the world, it will stay on the agenda in

Australia for some time to come," she said.

"If and when it comes back into our region, these types of communications will be an important part of letting people know what's going on and what they can do.

"Over the next few pages we will publish some of our highlights of the year along with our usual reports from each of our teams."





PPAC NEWS WEEK

02: 4 May 2020

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"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Nelson Mandela (1918-2013) Boston, 23 June 1990



They need our support!

PPAC's Youth team has stepped up and into a formal partnership with Pormpuraaw State School to support students who have not been able to go back to their boarding schools during the Covid-19 crisis.



PPAC NEWS WEEK

16: 10 August 2020

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Funding boost for services

PPAC's Social & Emotional Wellbeing and Substance Misuse programs have received an additional funding boost from the Federal Government's National Indigenous Australian Agency (NIAA).

CEO Ganthi Koppasamy said the extra funds would be a great help to the community during the Covid-19 crisis.

"This funding will allow us a great level of service so we can respond directly to the needs of our clients and the community," she said.

"It will also help us to reduce the frequency and level of danger posed by shy gong and greatly improve wellbeing."

She also thanked NIAA for their support.



Kylie Arkwookum and her family



PPAC NEWS WEEK

06: 01 June 2020

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Pormpuraaw Police Officers Dore & Mitch had a great awareness session with our Long Day Care kids last week. LDC Coordinator Joyce Fourmile said the kids had a ball and were looking forward to their next visit!



PPAC NEWS WEEK

19: 31 August 2020

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Good support for Children's Day

A well-organised and fun National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day was enjoyed by PPAC staff across the board, several other agencies, parents and, of course, the children themselves last week.

Long Day Care coordinator Joyce Fourmile said she was particularly proud of PPAC LDC staff.

"We were so busy, somewhere



PPAC NEWS WEEK

09: 22 June 2020

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Community gambling fund support for PPAC Youth Summit

One of PPAC's many successful grant applications has come through in support of our Youth Summit in January.



PPAC's Women's Group have held their first fortnightly Bingo morning since Covid-19 restrictions came into place, and with appropriate social distancing between households. Their next Bingo event will be on this WEDNESDAY morning from 10am - 12pm. There are LOTS of prizes to be won and light snacks will be provided.



PPAC NEWS WEEK

20: 7 September 2020

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Happy Father's Day!



PPAC NEWS WEEK

14: 27 July 2020

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ong-korr Wak-urr

(Do not fight)

ngamp thachan Wak-urr

(We stop [enough] fighting)



PPAC NEWS WEEK

25: 12 October 2020

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Helping out is what it's all about



NDIS participant Keon Yantumba was at the scene of the recent beached whale on the Pormpuraaw front beach.

While the whale had a sad ending, it was a great opportunity for Keon to see a whale up close and help out a bit - along with most of the community - on the day.

Keon, as with many other people in Pormpuraaw, had never seen a beached whale here before, so it was a unique and an exciting experience for everyone.

If you have a family member you think might be eligible for NDIS please come in to PPAC and we can help you with getting connected.

If you have a blue card and driver licence and would like to work with NDIS come and see Ganthi for more information.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	4 simple things we can do to protect ourselves, and our families, from CORONA VIRUS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash your hands with the soap and water • Cover your cough • Keep your distance (1.5M) • If you got cold sick, please call the clinic before coming in. 			1 DV Banner Painting @ Art Centre 11am - 1pm *Night Patrol	2 *Night Patrol	3 *Night Patrol
4 Public Holiday LABOUR DAY *Night Patrol	5 DV Banner Painting Men's Support Staff 10am - 12pm *Night Patrol	6 CANDLE LIGHT VIGIL Women's Shelter 6pm - 8pm *Night Patrol	7 DV Banner Painting OSHC 10am - 12pm *Night Patrol	8 DV Banner Painting LDC Kids 10am - 12pm *Night Patrol	9 *Night Patrol	10 Mothers Day - Pampering Packs/Gift Packs Women's Group 12pm - 2pm *Night Patrol
11 DV Banner Painting Youth 10am - 12pm *Night Patrol	12 *Night Patrol	13 *Night Patrol	14 *Night Patrol	15 *Night Patrol	16 *Night Patrol	17 *Night Patrol
18 Info Sessions/promotional bags @ Healing Centre 10am to 12pm *Night Patrol	19 *Night Patrol	20 *Night Patrol	21 DV Promotion POLICE *Night Patrol	22 *Night Patrol	23 *Night Patrol	24 *Night Patrol
25 *Night Patrol	26 NATIONAL SORRY DAY Holiday *Night Patrol	27 NATIONAL SORRY DAY Promotion *Night Patrol	28 DV Promotion POLICE *Night Patrol	29 *Night Patrol	30 *Night Patrol	31 *Night Patrol



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION
is everyone's business.
Please come along and support us.



DFV Prevention Month slowed by COVID-19



This year's DFV Prevention and Awareness Month was considerably curtailed by the many COVID-19 restrictions still in play back in May, CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy says.

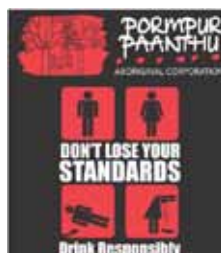
"Our staff had to think of ways we could still hold some events while still keeping everybody safe," she said.

"One of the best things, as with every year, was being able to run our Night Patrol every night of the month.

"We were also able to go ahead with banner painting, Candlelight Vigil and our Mother's Day celebrations.

"Most importantly we were able to hold some information sessions around Domestic and Family Violence Prevention, one of which was hosted by our local Queensland Police Service.

"We did well in the conditions."



Paul Norman with one of the info packs





DFV Prevention Month banner painting was hosted by our PPAC Healing Services. Pics thanks to Paul Jakubowski at the Pormpuraaw Art Centre.

Our Candlelight Vigil this year was held at the New Women's Shelter to remember people who have lost their lives as a result of domestic and family violence.



As part of DV Month Pormpuraaw police liaised with PPAC to come up with some initiatives to raise awareness of DV within Community, including car magnets.

The partnership was a success.

The community was also grateful for our Night Patrol Staff who worked continuously during our DV Prevention Month to keep our homes and families safe.



HEALING CENTRE SERVICES

Several new staff, including Clinical Councillor Yvette Carter and Psychologist Nigel Sullivan, have joined our Healing Services team this year.

Nigel has joined our Family Wellbeing Service (FWS) as our new short term specialist Domestic Family Violence (DFV) worker as part of \$150 million allocated by Prime Minister Scott Morrison for domestic and family violence support back in March.

The funding was part of a bigger \$1.1 billion package to boost mental health services, domestic violence support, Medicare and emergency food relief in response to COVID-19.

Nigel can provide specialist advice and assistance to FWS on DFV matters such as safety planning and support strategies, undertaking risk assessments and

developing referral pathways.

He will also support our Men's Group in case management sessions and be based in the PPAC Healing Centre around the FWS area.

Yvette has been a Counsellor for around 40 years, working between Australia and in Africa.

She and her family have lived in Weipa for 15 years and enjoy fishing, camping and being together as a family.

Yvette would like to give her thanks to everyone who has been helpful and welcoming and says she looks forward to getting to know everyone.



After someone experiences traumatic situations, lots of people find many of their relationships are affected, PPAC Clinical Counsellor Yvette Carter writes...

It is common for the overwhelming feelings and circumstances of traumatic events to impact interactions with family, friends, and other people in our lives.

These reactions are unique to each individual and are related to the experience of trauma.

Many people share similar reactions to what has happened to them.

These traumatic events challenge people's sense of security and safety in the world on a profound level.

In many cases, their confidence in the future is upset, the way they

understand life may be changed, and the way they think and feel about themselves is often very different to how it was before the traumatic event.

Relationships are impacted and can reflect these feelings in many ways.

Living through and learning to manage traumatic events can sometimes harm new or old relationships.

Youth and young adults may feel confused and helpless about what is safe making it hard to trust others.

They may feel too frightened to get close to people for fear

of being hurt again.

They may feel angry at their own feelings of helplessness.

Some youth and young people may become aggressive or try to control others.

Anger and aggression may also arise because, after traumatic experiences, many youth and young people may feel threatened easily.

This defensive aggression is a natural reaction for a teenagers and young adults who feel threatened.

Their sense of who he/she can rely on is also affected and sometimes confusing.



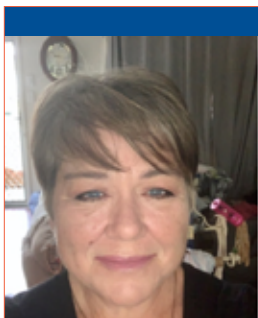


PPAC is working with 10 clients through the NDIS program and has been able to assist in a wide range of life skills, social and cultural activities. With the COVID-19 restrictions we have to be very careful to adhere to the home visit and social distancing rules, however, as disability services are an 'essential service' we have been able to continue to work through this period.

Once clients have a plan in place with NDIA, we are able to assist with:

- Cooking, cleaning, laundry
- Fishing
- Time out of the house for exercise and fresh air
- Shopping and post office
- Transport
- Social time and yarning (COVID-19 restrictions apply)
- Activities that suit your interests
- Advocating on your behalf

If this is a program that you would be interested in finding out more about (Disability) please come in and see us.



Pormpur Paanthu had short term educator 'Coach Kerry' available to work with us during July. Kerry worked with our Women's, Men's and Youth groups and was also available for one on one sessions. Her workshops and classes included stress and anger management and protective behaviours. She also worked with Sid Bruce Shortjoe to deliver a very successful Cyberbullying workshop, as part of our school holiday program.



Sometimes, youth and young adults experiencing trauma may also feel intense shame, they may feel unlovable or bad in some way.

They may even feel guilty about what happened to them.

Young people can also feel that no one really understands them or what has happened.

Many teenagers and young adults feel distant, disconnected, anxious and frightened and feel they have no sense of power or control in their lives.

If trauma has occurred within teenager's/young adult's life, a relationship with an intimate

partner can be particularly difficult.

In these situations, trust may be difficult to build.

A fear that others are not trustworthy and an inability to find safety may result.

Developing closeness may be confusing, frightening or avoided completely.

Support and help are available assisting youth and young people to respond to these difficult experiences, reduce feelings of isolation, and restore a sense of hope.

It can be helpful to discuss

traumatic experiences, feelings of grief, and relationship difficulties with a Counsellor/health professional who is familiar with the complex effects of trauma.

A Counsellor can offer a safe place and healthy relationship for building a sense of security and trust.

The opportunity within that relationship to establish meaning, purpose, and hope can be a first step in developing and/or re-establishing relationships with others and with 'oneself', building a social network of support, and engaging more fully with life.

HOW TO GET HELP: A doctor, priest/minister, health clinic worker, local mental health worker, nurse, and/or counsellor may be helpful in providing support to youth and young adults affected by trauma.



In May our SEWB team, Women's and Men's Groups worked hard to prepare and cook our Kupp Murri for our Sorry Day Celebrations on 27 May. The event was subject to strict COVID-19 rules, including social distancing. Information packs were given out on the night, which was enjoyed by everyone.



In September this year PPAC hosted a small but very successful Father's Day gathering at PUBSC under a COVID-19 safety plan. The celebration of Father's Day reminds us of the importance and challenges of fatherhood.





COVID-19 has proved to be challenging for our Men's and Women's Groups with strict rules around hand hygiene and social distancing affecting meetings and events across the board.

Women's Group and Shelter Coordinator Deborah Hobson said things were different.

"We've been having a good turn up with Women's Group lately, but then due to more sorry business we had to move some events we had planned for to later in the year," she said.

"We have been able to run some indoor programs such as bingo and movie nights, and we did the Candlelight Vigil during May too."



Over the year Healing Services counsellor Trischa Jackson wrote a series of 'word finds' with a number of 'secret' hidden messages in their solutions for PPAC weekly newsletter.

Themes included DV month, recreation ideas around Pormpuraaw and, most recently, NAIDOC Week.

The popular puzzles were an opportunity to strengthen the Healing Services' team message to the community in a fun and interactive way.

There will be more to come, Trischa said.

Find the words highlighted below and use the leftover letters to form a hidden message:

Everyone can **CHANGE** and **PREVENT** domestic and **FAMILY** violence in the Pormpuraaw **COMMUNITY**.
HELP each other to communicate in a good way without **AGGRESSION**.
 Show **RESPECT** for others and **ROLE MODEL** healthy relationships.
 When a **CHILD** sees adults **GROWL** they feel **FEAR** and **HELPLESS** and this can **MEAN** long term **PAIN** and **TRAUMA**.
HOME needs to be a safe place for kids and **PARTNERS** where the people they love do not put them in **DANGER**.
 Everyone is **ACCOUNTABLE** for their own behaviour and placing **BLAME** and **GUILT** onto others will not help anyone **ESCAPE** the domestic violence **CYCLE**.
 Love is not **BRUISES** and being **SAD**.
 Choose to **STOP**.
 Help others who are trying to **SURVIVE ABUSE** to seek **SHELTER**.
 Everyone has the **POWER** to change.

With thanks to Trischa Jackson

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

Hidden message:



CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Long daycare takes COVID-19 issues into daily routine

During COVID-19 our Long Day Care (LDC) Educators implemented strict measures to prevent any infectious illness and diseases, Coordinator Joyce Fourmile says.

“It’s a good thing we have committed staff with a passion for all our children and their wellbeing,” she said.

“Our team are doing very well and have took big steps to make sure we didn’t have to close down during the Pandemic.

“It was lucky I ordered plenty of cleaning and hygiene products for the wet season late last year so we’ve kept up really well.”

- Our Educators have been at work from 7.30am to 5pm every day so they have time to complete ongoing and online training for COVID-19 and Control of Infections/Diseases, etc;
- We have a COVID-19 information board with daily updates;
- Only one parent or carer is allowed in the LDC foyer at a time so they and their children can have their body temperatures checked by one of our Educators (*pictured next page is MARELLA GOTHAKCHALKENIN in her safety gear ready to take temps*);
- We make daily declarations of no illness, which are documented;
- Everyone washes their hands as often as possible; and,
- We disinfect all surfaces and heavily trafficked areas every two hours to keep the centre extra clean, healthy and safe for all children, families and Educators.

“We have also improved our overall quality performances with a ‘Working Towards’ National Quality Standard achievement,” she said.

“We have only three areas we are well on the way to putting in place to their specifications.

“In terms of activities, we have enjoyed Allannah’s Garden, drama, pyjama and movie days, our diversity wall and the introduction of a new bus service we are sharing with OSHC and young people.

“Children’s Day was also a highlight, as were several awareness visits from our local police.”



We are the Elders of tomorrow,
HEAR OUR VOICE
 #EldersOfTomorrow
 #StrongInCulture

Aboriginal Face Painting
Frame Yourself Photo
Displays
Dancing
Arts & Craft

Open Day - Free Event Lunch

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN'S DAY

Thursday - 25th August, 2023
 10am - 12.30pm
 Pormpur Paanthu Long Day-Care

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
 JESSICA THOMAS (PORMPUR)
 P: 08 740 904 133 / 0407 670 368
 E: jessica.thomas@pormpur.com.au / www.pormpur.com.au

PORMPUR PAANTHU

SNAICC



In May our local police visited the Long Day Care Centre for the first of what we hope will be regular visits to raise our children's awareness of their role in our community Coordinator Joyce Fourmile says.

"Mitch & Shae talked about to the children about how they can help them and gave them all Junior Police Badge stickers, which made them feel very big," she said.

"They also experienced being in the back of the police vehicle, handcuffs, police vests and shirts, and they got to switch on the lights, siren and horns.

"We hope they will continue to visit when they can.

"In the meantime we are always working with the children to help them remember their personal details - first and last name, date of birth, address, emergency contact phone numbers - which will be put into a personal card for each of them."



**Pyjama
& Movie
Day**



Splash Park fun!



Our visit to the Splash Park last month was focussed on general water safety and to respect rules such as no climbing onto fountains, walking feet, no drinking the water, etc...



Our Diversity Wall reminds us:

- we are all people
- we all have different cultures
- we all eat different types of food, have different stories, songs, dances, practices, clothing and ways of life
- we all respect each other and be positive.

Our COVID-19 wall keeps us safe.





PPAC PLAYGROUP

Monday:

10am-Midday: Corner Shed

Wednesday:

10am-Midday: School [join us afterwards for light snacks @ Corner Shed]

Friday:

10am-Midday: Maantchangk Women's Shelter and/or down at the beach

Playgroups can be attended by mothers, fathers, grandparents, nannies or other carers and the babies, toddlers and preschool aged children in their care - it is important for parents and carers to engage with their child's learning and development.

If you need transport contact Sandra on 4060401.



Playgroups are informal and relaxed get-togethers of mums, dads, grandparents, carers, children and babies hosted by PPAC, Apunipima Cape York Health Council, the Health Centre and the School.

Playgroups are held every Monday at the Corner Shed from 10am to 12pm, every Wednesday at the school from 10am to 12pm (then snacks back at the Corner Shed) and every Friday at the Maantchangk Women's Shelter and/or at the beach from 10am to 12pm.

At every session learn we new things, we play games and we make things for the children to take home.



OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC) & VACATION CARE

PPAC has been funded by the Federal Department of Education, Skills & Employment's (DESE's) Minor Capital Works Fund to meet licensing requirements for our Outside School Hours Care service (OSHC).

OSHC is an education and care service that helps children to engage in play and leisure activities; learn new skills for further their development and build relationship with educators in the community who are connected to, but separate, from the school community.

CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy said they were grateful for the DESE's assistance.

"PPAC would like to thank DESE for supporting PPAC with funding for these OSHC improvements," she said. "They will enable us to achieve service approval to deliver quality and safe services for the children."

Works done included: new security gates and fences; shade sail replacement; adequate storage space; air conditioning replaced/maintained; building inspection and certification; appropriate lease agreement; minor repairs; fridge and freezer; playground upgrade and a new vehicle.



Breakfast is often called 'the most important meal of the day' and for good reason: kids need to kick-start their day with energy and nutrients, it can make all the difference to their behaviour and ability to learn.

This year the PPAC has worked with Pormpuraaw State School and PUBSC to offer special hot breakfasts every Friday.

Big thanks to Sandra Wason and Christine Coleman for their hard work, support and dedication.



Elder Sid Bruce Shortjoe and 'Coach' Kerry Ellevsen held a very popular Cyber Bullying workshop over two days during our school holiday program.

After the Cyber Bully workshop the youth went to the Art Centre to work with Paul and Sid on a painting that reflects Cyber Bullying.

The fishing competition, organised by PPAC's Trischa Jackson, was also a big success with Frank Morton (pictured p 18) bringing in the biggest fish!



A vehicle shared between the Outside School Hours Care, Vacation Care and Long Day Care Centre programs has made a big difference to the delivery of PPAC's services to the Pomrpuraaw community CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy says.

Funded funded by the Federal Department of Education, Skills & Employment's (DESE's) Minor Capital Works Fund, the new bus helps to make sure our parents and children are brought safely into and out of PPAC's care and has been a great help.



A friendly reminder smoking is not allowed in or near any PPAC building or in any of our vehicles.

World
NO MAY 31
Tobacco Day



YOUTH SERVICES

PPAC's Youth team stepped up into a formal partnership with Pormpuraaw State School to support students who were not able to go back to their boarding schools during the COVID-19 crisis.

But, they said, support from parents and the community was critical to the plan's success.

"We need everyone's help to make sure our Pormpuraaw students don't fall behind their peers," PPAC CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy said.

Pormpuraaw State School Principal Anne Walsh said the plan of support for students, their families and the boarding schools/high schools would ensure continuity of learning.

"We have redeployed one of our primary teachers, Rachel Price, to develop timetables, contact all boarding schools and act as a link between all stakeholders," she said.

"PPAC is assisting by providing student access to the Youth Hub

and supervision to students while they are in attendance, distributing workbooks if students don't have one with them, and monitoring and supporting student welfare on an ongoing basis."

"While we are committed to providing continuous learning opportunities to all students, especially those who cannot access the required resources at home, we value community support to ensure students access what is available to them."

Learning packs from several boarding schools were packed and posted or ready to be collected, teacher Rachel Price said.

She said boarding school students and their parents had a choice

between studying at home, the school or the PPAC Youth Centre (in the Corner Shed).

"We want them to keep up with their learning," she said.

"Whatever decision they make about where they want to do that, they should be following a timetable and learning every day, especially if they're at home."

In June their numbers rose as families kept students within the Cape York biosecurity area during the COVID-19 pandemic, prompting parents and carers to write a joint letter to the community encouraging them to keep studying.

"All students are now back in school except those in the Cape," they wrote.

One of PPAC's many successful grant applications has come through in support of our Youth Summit in January.

CEO Ganthi Kuppusamy said it was the first time PPAC had applied to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund.

"The Youth Summit was held in January this year and was a great and beneficial event for our youth and community members," she said.

"Motivational activities, fitness events and an attempt to capture underlying issues faced by our young people through Apunipima's Social & Emotional Wellbeing workshops were all highlights of this year's Youth Summit.

"We hope to make this an annual event and we are all looking forward to the next one."





“Due to location, and the biosecurity laws, our boarding students are now falling behind their classmates.

“They will continue to do so if they are not completing and submitting their schoolwork, either at home or in a community venue.

“In addition, now that all the students in Queensland are back in classrooms with compulsory attendance, there may be consequences for students who do not attend one of the spaces.”

Despite not having any provision in staff or resources, the State School has committed to providing support and options for high school students, the letter said.

“Ms Rachel is in daily communication with all High Schools,” the letter said.

“Records of completed work and attendance are returned back to schools.

“If students are not engaging with their respective schoolwork, schools

may take action and remove access to schooling altogether.”

PPAC has offered staff and the Youth Centre (Corner Shed) to support the School program.

“Staff are providing supervision, lunch, transport when required and snacks,” they said.

“They have Wi-Fi and learning resources available to students.

“As well as this, they are doing home visits, calls and family support to engage our young people.”



A 30-minute drive out of Pormpuraaw took some of this year's school holiday program participants deep into their own country to learn new skills and enjoy activities hosted by PPAC's youth team.

"The name of the Country is 'Catfish Hole,'" coordinator Devon Tarpencha said.

"We want to acknowledge our Traditional Owners and pay our respects to our Elders, some of whom came with us, for allowing the Youth team to have their activities on their country."

He said connecting to country was important for young people's social and emotional wellbeing.

"It was a great trip, they had a fantastic time which included fishing and barbecue lunch," he said.

"Thanks to Kiara, Sid Bruce Shortjoe, Bernard Foote, Trevor Charlie and Raymond Shortjoe for helping us to organise and deliver this on country activity.

"Our Family Wellbeing team – Trischa Jackson, Esmay Deakin and Leontae Paul – also participated."



Pormpur Paanthu Aboriginal Corporation is a non-government, community-controlled organisation established in 1991 out of a community need. Its focus is to provide quality, evidence-based services for families in Pormpuraaw.

PPAC offers:

- Domestic violence and drug and alcohol preventative education, counselling, advocacy and support for families;
- Social and emotional wellbeing services;
- Family wellbeing services;
- Other Social Services such as the NDIS Remote Community Connector Program;
- Men's Group activities (including lawn mowing and yard maintenance service);
- Women's Group activities;
- Youth activities including Student Re-Engagement services;
- Outside School Hours Care services;
- Vacation Care activities;
- Child Care services (Long Day Care) including Child & Family Services (CAFS) & Parenting skills;
- Playgroup; and,
- Women's Shelter services (Maantchangk Women's Shelter

PPAC Contacts [Feedback forms are available from PPAC, completed forms can be handed into the CEO or emailed to admin@ppac.org.au]

CEO's Office 4060 4211

Healing Services 4060 4260

Long Day Care 4060 4165

Outside School Hours Care 4060 4001

Women's Shelter Admin Office 4060 4082

Who to call and when...

If the situation is serious and urgent call our local Police on **4060 4004** or **000**.

Community members can remain anonymous when reporting illicit activity by calling the 'sly grog' hotline on **1800 500 815**.

To report other crime anonymously call Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000**.

For non-urgent incidents, crimes or police inquiries call Police Link on **131 444**.



Notice of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

of Pormpur Paanthu Aboriginal Corporation

10.30am-Midday

Monday 16 November 2020

[lunch provided]

PPAC After School Care

[Corner Shed]

