



WYDAC

Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation

About WYDAC

Background

Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation (WYDAC) has dedicated itself to developing the strength, health, confidence and leadership of Warlpiri youth since 1993. The program aims to promote positive and meaningful future pathways for all young Warlpiri people.

The notable, and sustainable, success of the program has been firmly based on the strength of Warlpiri youth, families and their communities, as well as the ongoing commitment of staff. The program was created by, and for, Warlpiri people, and is governed by a Warlpiri Committee.

The WYDAC head office is in Yuendumu Community, however WYDAC is comprised of a variety of programs operating at five different Warlpiri sites – Yuendumu, Willowra, Nyirripi, Lajamanu and Mt Theo Outstation. WYDAC also have an office located in Alice Springs. There are over 70 staff across the entire organisation with more than half of these being Warlpiri people.

WYDAC services include:

Youth and Family Services

- Mt Theo Outstation
- Jaru Pirrjirdi Youth Development Program
- Warra Warra Kanyi Counselling and intensive case management
- Intensive Family Support Service
- Adult Learning Centres (Yuendumu & Lajamanu)
- Restorative Justice and Court Diversion for Young People
- Yuendumu Swimming Pool

Corporate Services

- Contracts Management
- Financial and Risk Management
- Human Resource Management (HR)
- Infrastructure Support
- Mechanical Training Workshop
- Work Health and Safety

Management and Administration

- WYDAC Board and Management

- Finance and Administration
- Quality Management

WYDAC, and Warlpiri communities, began by challenging a generation destroying itself through substance misuse. Strong and skilled community action created an environment for healthy change and sustained success. This work has broadened greatly over the last 25 years beyond the initial crisis of petrol sniffing to any risk, opportunity or pathway arising for young Warlpiri people. WYDAC continues to facilitate the profound strength and capacity of Warlpiri youth, and their families, to meet these challenges and establish positive and meaningful futures.

WYDAC aims to be the primary social services provider for youth and family services within each of the four remote Warlpiri communities: Lajamanu, Willowra, Nyirripi and Yuendumu.

Our mission

We seek to be an effective Warlpiri-led organisation that provides education, early intervention, crisis support and care services to improve the social, cultural, spiritual and emotional wellbeing within the four Warlpiri communities of Lajamanu, Nyirripi, Willowra and Yuendumu;

- Healthy, resilient and socially engaged children and young people
- Strong nurturing families
- Safe, vibrant communities
- Strong advocacy for Warlpiri people

Our values

We believe that health does not just mean the physical wellbeing of the individual but refers to the social, emotional, cultural and spiritual wellbeing of the community. We strive to support children, families and young people, from across Warlpiri country, to achieve their full potential and to help them build strong futures. We value honesty and integrity in all we do.

Guiding principles

Warlpiri patu kurlangu	Warlpiri leadership and ownership
Kurdu-kurdu jungarni yaninjaku	Positive and meaningful pathways for young people and families
Mardarni-njaku kurdu-kurdu jintangka	Support for Warlpiri youth and families to deal with hard times

Nguru-ngka taarnga-juku warrki-jarrinjaku manu nyiya-kanti-kanti mampu-ngku mardarni-njaku	Sustainable resources and infrastructure on country
Jinta-ngka karlipa warrki-jarrimi manu kalipa nyanu purda-nyanyi Yapa manu kardiya jinta-marri-marri-warrki jarrimi	Unique and responsible working relationships Yapa and kardiya working together

Program objectives

- The primary purpose of WYDAC is to develop strong Warlpiri children, youth and families
- Provide youth diversion and early-intervention activities
- Provide youth leadership and development opportunities
- Provide education, counselling and care for young people and families
- Provide rehabilitation for at-risk youth who may be suffering from a range of issues including suicidal ideation, mental health challenges and substance misuse
- Provide young people with positive alternatives to juvenile detention
- Provide education, training and jobs so people can stay in the community
- Provide intensive support for young families and their children who may be going through hard times or where there is neglect
- Provide positive life pathways into jobs and leadership through training and development activities
- Share knowledge and skills with other Aboriginal corporations
- Operate and maintain a Gift Fund to be known as “The Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation Gift Fund” in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Taxation Office”.