

# STRONGER COMMUNITIES WESTERN CAPE NEWS

JANUARY – MARCH 2018



## EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

**167**  **JOBS  
SECURED**

Statistics relate to My Pathway Western Cape participants during the period June 2017 to January 2018.



**my pathway**  
BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

# COMMUNITY PROJECTS

## BUILDING FAMILY CONNECTIONS

My Pathway is currently consulting with community family members to construct new tombstones and place headstones on existing grave sites at the Napranum Cemetery. The project is focused on significant upgrades that respect the wishes of family members regarding how the grave sites are to be presented. Already, 13 tombstones and headstones have been installed, with finishes being applied as per the family's requests. The project is ongoing with upgrades to many more grave sites to be completed.

Participants on this project are reporting they are feeling more engaged due to the connection with family and community, and importance of this initiative. Family members have reacted very positively and greatly appreciate the work being undertaken.



## DIGITISING FIRST LANGUAGE

My Pathway has engaged the Australian Literacy & Numeracy Foundation (ALNF) to work with Elders of the Napranum Community to revive traditional language. The ALNF will create a digital Living First Language Dictionary application including sentences, words, letters and sounds. The application will be used as a literacy tool to teach fundamental reading skills in traditional language.

The focus is on community engagement, strengthening generational links, capacity building and empowerment to develop digital and physical resources in First Languages. These resources aim to close the school readiness gap, improve literacy and strengthen community engagement. It is hoped to have a positive effect on school attendance.

# INDIGENOUS MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

Twenty-six My Pathway staff members recently completed their Indigenous Mental Health First Aid Training. The course teaches skills for providing initial help to people experiencing depression, anxiety, psychosis, substance disorders and associated crises.

Most Australians experience situations at home or work that require an understanding of mental health and how to support those who may be experiencing problems. Staff who participated in the training have already reported putting their new skills into practice at work.

The Mental Health First Aid Training is delivered by the National Employment Services Association (NESA) and funded by the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet.



## WORK READY GRADUATES GET INTO WORK

Percy (pictured left) completed the Work Readiness Program in November 2017, which led to employment with YARR CMB working in regeneration. His dedication and work ethic has led to a very positive reputation across the Western Cape. Percy has now successfully moved into full-time work with another local employer.

12 new graduates completed the Work Ready Program in March, and many have since secured work with local employers.

The Work Ready Program is delivered by Civil Safety in partnership with My Pathway to boost local skills and assist more people into work.





## THREE TONNES OF WASTE DIVERTED BY RECYCLING PROGRAM

The Reduce, Reuse, Recycle pilot program has diverted more than three tonnes of recyclable waste from landfill to support disadvantaged and budget-conscious community members. My Pathway has partnered with environmental management firm Remondis and mining giant Rio Tinto to trial the six-month program that will benefit the local community and environment. It involves recovering items from the Evans Landing Landfill to be sorted, cleaned and recycled into goods sold from the Mapoon and Napranum Op Shops.

Rio Tinto currently contracts Remondis to operate the Evans Landing Landfill. Both organisations are supportive of the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle program, granting access to the unwanted items that make their way to landfill, and making sure health and safety standards are adhered.

### BENEFITS

- ✓ 3 tonnes of waste diverted
- ✓ Budget-friendly goods available
- ✓ Participants gaining skills and knowledge in recycling

## NEW LIFE FOR IRONWOOD SEEDLINGS

My Pathway participants have raised 3,000 Cooktown Ironwood seedlings, with another 5,000 to be propagated. The project aims to develop skills in regeneration processes and create more opportunities for employment in the horticulture sector.

Participants in this project will have the chance to undertake further training in conservation and land management.



# MAPOON OP SHOP

My Pathway's Mapoon Opportunity Shop continues to receive regular donations from Weipa Community Care, generous community members and organisations. The shop is operated by the Mapoon Women's Engagement program offering affordable clothing, furnishings, toys and electrical goods.

The Op Shop is open for business Monday to Wednesday from 9 am to 12 pm.



## QUICK BITS

### **Choolathah Women's Centre**

Choolathah is a new Women's Centre in Napranum providing a safe and welcoming space for women to meet and network.

The Centre enables access to peer support and services that promote leadership and empowerment for women of all ages.

## THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT

School kids in Napranum are joined at the bus stop each morning by My Pathway participants who monitor their safety and wellbeing. The monitors assist with making sure the children are behaving safely and that all children are made welcome to wait for the bus.

## COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Each week, My Pathway participants ensure that the community is clean and safe by removing rubbish and delivering it to the Weipa Landfill Facility. The participants also assist in maintaining a tidy community by caring for, and mowing agreed public areas.

# YOUTH INITIATIVES

## Leisa strengthens youth engagement

As part of the Youth Engagement Strategy Initiative, we welcome Leisa Lindsey to the My Pathway Western Cape team as our Youth Engagement Officer. Leisa is currently working with youth-related service providers to establish the region's Youth Engagement Strategy. Youth Ambassador Bakoi Mosby has been working alongside Leisa.

My Pathway has been working closely with Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council, PCYC and other community organisations to support many youth projects and activities, including the Mayors Youth Council Initiative.

On 8 March, ten Youth Council Representatives were appointed through an informal election and self-nomination process.

The Representatives, aged between 13 and 17 years old, will be provided with relevant training, coaching and mentoring to assist them successfully implement the Mayor's Youth Council Initiative. They will meet regularly to discuss community youth-related issues and solutions to be put forward at Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council meetings.



## FUN IN THE SUN

On 10 March, more than 90 young people from across the Western Cape attended the My Pathway funded, 'Fun in the Sun' pool event. It was a great opportunity for young people from across the region to connect, forge new friendships and enjoy some relief from the heat.





## MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER TOURS REGION

Motivational speaker, Trevor Tims from Success with Attitude visited Napranum youth, Western Cape College students and My Pathway participants to share tips and experiences. Trevor spoke about topics such as bullying and self-empowerment encouraging attendees to make positive life decisions.



# MY PATHWAY – RECRUITMENT & IN-WORK SUPPORT SERVICE

Let us help you and your new employee reach your goals

Our services are free to all employers, businesses, or organisations in our regions.

When you recruit with My Pathway, we:

- Offer a local and professional service to employers
- Screen all candidates, so you only see people suited to your requirements
- Assist with interviewing and candidate selection
- Provide Employer Incentive Funding to eligible candidates and placements
- Support you and your new employee for the first six months of employment

My Pathway takes the hassle out of employing new staff, including personalised in-work support for all new placements. In-work support is designed to ensure your new employee transitions smoothly into your business.



*In-work support and recruitment specialists: Stacey Liebelt and Casey Price*

### We can assist with:

- Employee checks and licences
- Other training relevant to your business
- Mentoring on or off-the-job by request
- Help with transportation if there is no public transport
- Work clothing such as safety boots and uniforms



## DRIVING POSITIVE CHANGE

‘Denzel Asera (pictured above) originally registered with My Pathway under the Community Development Program (CDP). Due to his reliability and keen desire to work in the construction industry, My Pathway employed Denzel as an Activities Supervisor in December 2016. Denzel currently supervises and supports CDP participants through our construction workshop projects team. Over the past 12 months, Denzel has gained a lot of confidence, work skills and on 28 March 2018 successfully gained his provisional driver’s licence. Denzel is ready for his next career challenge and is hoping to move into an apprenticeship within the construction industry.’

## MEET KARLEE



Karlee Roseblade joined the My Pathway Napranum team in February. With an extensive background in administration and customer service, Karlee is providing huge support to the team and our participants.

## RAISING FUNDS TO STAND AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

My Pathway staff hosted a Cheese-for-Change fundraising event on 23 March, taking a stand against domestic violence. A total of \$174.19 was raised and will be donated to White Ribbon Australia, an organisation which aims to create an Australian society where all women can live in safety, free from violence and abuse.

My Pathway is the Community Development Programme (CDP) and Youth Engagement Strategy (YES) provider in the Western Cape region. CDP and YES are initiatives of, and funded by, the Australian Government.



**Weipa** | suite 3, building 2, 55 Kerr Point Rd  
| 07 4082 3800

**Napranum** | 123 Moi Ngum Street  
| 07 4030 9800

**Mapoon** | 1 Redbeach Road  
| 07 4090 9095

@MyPathway

My Pathway

www.mpath.com.au