

NPY Empowered Communities News

October 2019

Empowered Communities partners supporting better outcomes for school leavers

Empowered Communities has been working with schools, employers and community leaders to improve the outcomes and opportunities for young people finishing school. The NPY Transition Support initiative has been designed to ensure young people are supported, skilled and confident as they transition from school to work.



The recent co-design workshop on 'Work Experience' brought together all stakeholders to find solutions and make a plan

In September 2019, we held a 'Work Experience' co-design workshop – with everyone contributing to a plan for delivering a great work experience program on the Lands. We look forward to seeing this plan in action soon. We are also thrilled to have the commitment of EC partners RASAC and NPYWC – who have agreed to provide job pathways for young people finishing school. This means – if Anangu complete school, these organisations will provide opportunities for a number of young people to successfully begin the next important chapter in life.

Empowered Communities – reforming Indigenous Affairs from the ground up

Empowered Communities is a national reform initiative created in 2013 by Aboriginal people, for Aboriginal people. The EC approach is happening in 8 regions around Australia – including the NPY Region. EC is about shifting Indigenous Affairs from a top-down, government driven, service delivery approach, to a more sustainable, locally-led approach to long-term community development. We **facilitate** collaboration between communities, service providers and government. We **advocate** to ensure Aboriginal people are leading the decisions and programs delivered in Aboriginal communities. We **co-design** locally led solutions through coordinated action and transformational systems change. In the NPY Region, EC is about 'Ngura Kunpu Ngaranytjaku' (Being strong on Country). Together with Aboriginal communities across Australia, our objectives are:

Development

Closing the gap for improved outcomes for all Aboriginal families today & in the future.

Empowerment

Increased opportunity for Aboriginal people to make decisions, have choices & take responsibility for their families & communities.

Productivity

Improved systems & programs, designed & delivered for more efficient & effective outcomes in Aboriginal communities.

Emerging Leaders Pilot Program complete

In July 2019, the fourth and final NPY Emerging Leaders workshop was held with a trip to Sydney!



In Sydney we had a walking tour of local history and had meetings with Aboriginal leaders from inner Sydney to learn about their work with Empowered Communities in the region. We also met with the head of Voyages – who runs the Ayers Rock Resort. This was the final stage in an advocacy project where the emerging leaders have spoken up strongly about their ideas for improved Anangu engagement at the resort.



Special thanks to our friend James Fa'Aoso from Cape York Leadership Institute who returned as workshop facilitator. We are very fortunate to be able to draw on James' extensive skills and experience.

Anangu decision-making in Action

Anangu-led school attendance strategy in APY:

Last year Anangu leaders from the 'Kulintja Kutju' group provided feedback to the Federal Government on their desire to see the Remote School Attendance Strategy (RSAS) led by Anangu on the APY Lands.

Congratulations to the Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Education Committee (PYEC) who are now taking on the RSAS contract in the APY Lands! It's an exciting time for PYEC who are recruiting a team of ninti new Anangu workers and designing with communities a locally-led approach to improving school attendance.



PYEC team members: Makinti, Ingrid, Teresa and Rueben—delivering local leadership in education on the APY Lands

Fregon School re-development:

Empowered Communities is proud to be working in partnership with the Fregon (Kaltjiti) Community Council on the upcoming redevelopment of a new community school in 2020/21. We are helping ensure the community is fully involved in the design and decision making for the project – with benefits back to community through training and jobs in construction. Fregon community is seeking a new way of working in partnership with Government – through broader community participation in the process. We look forward to working with Fregon community in this process.

Through EC's commitment to **joint-decision making** - Anangu are having a say, affecting real results and influencing the way programs are designed and delivered in the region.

We are excited to announce that the NPY Emerging Leaders Program will run again in 2020!
If you are between 25 – 40 years and wish to develop skills, confidence and ideas as a leader in your community - we'd love to hear from you!

Participants must be able to commit to 4 workshops over 12 months. Travel, meals & accommodation are provided.