



MINISTER HON. MALARNDIRRI MCCARTHY SALTBUSH VISIT



Senator the Hon Malarndirri McCarthy, Minister for Indigenous Australians announced support this month for the Saltbush Foundation to Future initiative with \$1.5million in Federal funding.

The funds will support the establishment of person-centered services in the Alice Springs area to help local people explore and prepare for opportunities across training, education and employment. Saltbush will apply its years of learning and practical experience to work with some of the community's most vulnerable people to regain agency in decisions about their lives through intensive mentoring and guidance.

Chair of Saltbush, Rayleen Brown shares, "Together, we can create lasting opportunities for Indigenous people of the Northern Territory."

Saltbush is seeking to secure Industry investment in Foundation to Future through sponsorship arrangements that will allow organisations to scale their investment to respond to internal goals while contributing to long-term impacts on the lives of those in Alice Springs.

We sincerely thank the Hon Malarndirri McCarthy for taking the time to visit our office in Alice Springs on 18 October and meeting with our team. It was a wonderful opportunity to listen to participants share their stories about their employment journeys, as well as to provide insights into the work of Saltbush and our plans for the program.

SHEVONNE NELSON FROM TENNANT CREEK TO ULURU



Meet Shevonne Nelson!

Shevonne recently joined Voyagers Indigenous Tourism Australia (Voyagers) as a Front Office Receptionist on 22 October 2024 at Ayers Rock Resort.

After navigating her own personal challenges, Shevonne took the courageous step to participate in one of our Saltbush employment and well-being programs. This experience not only provided her with the support she needed, but also allowed us to gain valuable insights into Shevonne's aspirations and her vision for the future. With renewed determination, she truly hit the ground running and embraced the opportunities ahead of her.

Shevonne has made her way down to Uluru and has begun working with a group of 25 other new employees from various regions across Australia. Shevonne is the only representative from the Northern Territory and despite feeling a little homesick initially, Shevonne has quickly adjusted well and appreciates the warm welcome from her colleagues. Overall, she feels positive about her experience so far.

Looking ahead, Shevonne aspires to earn a Certificate III in Hospitality during her 12-month traineeship. This certification will not only enhance her skills but also open up new avenues for her career.

We are excited to see where this journey takes Shevonne and we are proud to support her every step of the way. Her determination and hard work are truly inspiring and we look forward to celebrating her future achievements!



RAELEEN POOL ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM



Raeleen Pool began her journey with Saltbush as an Aboriginal Employment Program (AEP) participant in July 2024, with a focus on securing employment within the Northern Territory Government (NTG). She has shown remarkable dedication by consistently attending both work and training sessions at Charles Darwin University (CDU) and Raeleen is currently ahead in her delivery modules.

Despite facing some unexpected family illness, Raeleen's commitment to the program has remained unwavering. Her Manager, Bec has consistently provided exceptional feedback, expressing pride in Raeleen's contributions to the development and implementation of programs within the team.

Raeleen has shared that she truly enjoys her role within the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure, particularly as she learns new software programs alongside her colleagues and works on creating asset registers. With just two weeks of training remaining, she will soon transition to working five days a week until the program concludes in December 2024.

Raeleen is particularly excited about the opportunity to travel and engage with remote communities in the Northern Territory in November, collaborating with her teammates and deepening her understanding of the sector.

We are thrilled to support Raeleen throughout the remainder of the program and beyond. It is a privilege to work with such a dedicated and resilient individual who is committed to making a positive impact in both her personal and professional life. Well done Raeleen!

AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT GROUP ABORIGINAL WORKFORCE MENTORING COURSE (AWMC)

In partnership with Northern Territory Government, Airport Development Group has engaged Saltbush Training to deliver the Aboriginal Workforce Mentoring Course. This initiative aims to provide valuable skills and knowledge to participants and enhancing their professional development.

Our dedicated trainer, John Leeder, has begun in-person sessions to four Indigenous Training Academy graduates, spanning across 6-months. These sessions are designed to foster engagement and facilitate hands-on learning.

Airport Development Group, Indigenous Training Manager, Samantha Watkins shares:

"This is a very exciting day for the Airport Development Group and our outstanding graduates who are taking another step in their career journey by building up their leadership skills."



Saltbush are thrilled to share our insights and help develop these individuals, who will be equipped to share their experiences from the course with others in their networks.

In addition to the in-person sessions, John also provides online training and academic support for students enrolled with Saltbush. If this opportunity interests you or someone you know, please don't hesitate to reach out to John on, 0417 884 464 or email john.leeder@saltbushnt.org.au.

We're excited to support more individuals on their learning journeys!

MAKING TRACKS GRADUATION



We're thrilled to congratulate the nine participants who successfully completed the Wilson Security Making Tracks Program this month!

Funded by Workforce Australia under the Local Recovery Fund, this initiative supports First Nations participants as they enter the Security workforce, fostering employment and training opportunities.

We're excited to award the successful candidates their Certificate II in Security Operations after completing the four-week course and attending their graduation in Darwin.

Thank you to our Training Services team and Mentors for their invaluable support during the delivery of the pre-employment program. We also appreciate our collaborators with APM for their essential contributions. Together, we're committed to making a meaningful impact.

We hope this initiative empowers the graduates and serves as a positive example for promoting diversity, inclusion and similar program opportunities across various industries.



GOOD NEWS STORY JACOB HARVEY

This month, we had the pleasure of welcoming an incredible young man to the Mparntwe office. His visit was truly inspiring and brought a sense of pride to our Business Development and Employment Services Mentor, Karina.

It was a special moment for Karina, who shared Jacob Harvey's remarkable journey.

"This young man was my participant in the Transition to Work (Workforce Income) program I mentored for Karen Sheldon AM program at Diarama Village and Institute for Aboriginal Development (Aboriginal Corporation) back in 2018.

He came to me as every other young Indigenous job seeker, never had a job, early school leaver and no vision or dreams for his future at that time.

He missed appointments, had payments cut, our team still pursued engagement with hopes he turns his life around and finds some direction in life.

After our intensive mentoring and not giving up attitude, Jacob re-engaged with Karen Sheldon and finally said he wanted a job and needed our help.

I placed Jacob at Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia at Uluru and he participated in the National Indigenous Training Academy and obtained a Certificate III in Hospitality and continued in direct employment for a small period.

This was the stepping stone that showed this young man what career and employment looks like. To see him again six years later and listen to the growth he has endeavoured blew me away.

He currently works in Melbourne as an Employment Consultant delivering the very same program that assisted him."

Hearing about Jacob's experiences and accomplishments reminded Saltbush of the positive impact we can make in our community. We are excited to continue supporting individuals like Jacob as they pursue their goals and contribute to our shared mission.

TENNANT CREEK CULTURAL SMOKING CEREMONY



Tennant Creek High School recently hosted a meaningful Cultural Smoking Ceremony. This significant event provided a wonderful opportunity for the community to come together and rejuvenate the positive energy within the school environment.

As of late, the School has faced multiple break-ins and acts of senseless vandalism, which have taken a toll on the school's morale. In light of these challenges, Principal, Gavin Fraser viewed the Ceremony as a crucial opportunity to restore positivity and reinforce the spirit of the school community.

The Saltbush Program Manager and Mentor were in attendance, along with young people from the Saltbush Pathways to Success program, highlighting the strong connections being cultivated between students and the wider community.

We hope that this ceremony not only celebrated cultural traditions but also served to renew a sense of hope and resilience within the school. It reaffirmed the community's commitment to supporting and uplifting one another during these challenging times. By coming together in this way, we can create a brighter future for our students and the entire community.

STRONGER AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM TENNANT CREEK

Saltbush is hosting another Stronger and Resilient Communities (SARC) program in Tennant Creek and we have an exciting opportunity for you if you're looking to enhance your employability skills and explore your wellbeing!

We're seeking male participants who are eager to kick-start their development journey. This program is designed to support your personal wellbeing and provide valuable insights and tools that will help you navigate your career path effectively.

The program will run from Monday 11 to Thursday 14 November 2024 and participants will engage in a range of activities aimed at building skills and fostering personal growth.

Don't miss out on this chance to invest in yourself and take your first steps toward a brighter future!

If you're interested or would like more information, please feel free to reach out to UV Basnet on 0460 298 650 or email yuva@saltbushnt.org.au.

A NEW ERA
Wellbeing and
Employment Pathway

TENNANT CREEK
9AM TO 2PM
11th to 14th November 2024

MEN'S PROGRAM

- Family, Community and Culture
- Inner Strength and Self Awareness
- Real Talk about your Challenges
- Skills, Strengths and You
- Setting Goals for a better Future
- Preparing for a Job

BOOK NOW

Karguru Centre, Tennant Creek NT
0460 298 650
yuva@saltbushnt.org.au



BIDDING FAREWELL

The Saltbush team bids farewell to Kirsty Kopp, Dr Rajesh (Raj) Koppula and Mitchell Pringle.

Kirsty, who joined our team in the role of Employment Services Mentor, made a remarkable impact on the participants in Alice Springs. Her dedication and support have greatly enhanced their experiences and her contributions will be missed.

Mitchell came on board as a Residential Youth Support Worker, where he excelled in working with the young people at Supported Bail Accommodation in Alice Springs. His hard work and commitment played a key role in fostering positive relationships within the team.

Raj joined us earlier this year as an RTO Manager and made significant contributions during his time with us. He was instrumental in achieving a major milestone with the establishment of the Saltbush RTO.

It has been a pleasure working with these exceptional individuals and witnessing their growth and development in their roles during their time with Saltbush. We are grateful for their contributions and the positive energy they brought to our team.

We wish them all the best in their future career aspirations and look forward to seeing where their journeys take them next!

CONGRATULATIONS CYFI PARTICIPANTS



This month marked a significant achievement as two additional individuals successfully completed their Certificate IV in Child, Youth and Family Intervention through Saltbush Training.

Congratulations to Obiawuchi (Obi) Theophilus and Alfred Mathiang!

Completing a Certificate IV is no small feat; it reflects their perseverance and determination to excel in their careers. With this qualification, they are now better positioned to take on new challenges and seize opportunities within the industry.

Obi shares a little bit about his experience in the course:

"When I was presented with the opportunity to study the Certificate, I thought why not since it's an excellent stepping stone, it can prepare me for the challenges of the field since I was dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of children and families."

The learning style was relaxed and direct as the trainer used and gave real work scenarios, which helped the process of learning materials much easier. The trainer was always available to assist with the assessment and provided examples on how to get them done.

I am glad to have that I have finished it and appreciate Saltbush for the consideration."

Thank you to our Trainer, Rowena Stubbs, from facilitating engaging sessions to providing personalised feedback, Rowena has played a crucial role in helping participants develop the skills and confidence necessary to thrive in their respective fields.

WELCOME TO THE SALTBUSH TEAM!



AMANDA CLARKE
FOUNDATION TO FUTURE
SENIOR MENTOR, ALICE SPRINGS

Amanda has joined the Foundation to Future team in Alice Springs as the Senior Mentor.

She has recently been working with youth at the Centralian Senior College within the Stars Foundation, where she supports young women in completing their senior schooling and assist as they transition from schooling into the workforce.

Amanda shares that she "really enjoys working with the people and making changes to support our community. Working with Saltbush I hope we can work together to make changes and help improve our community for a better future."

We are excited to support Amanda in her new role and look forward to the positive contributions she will bring.



LIAM REID
FOUNDATION TO FUTURE
MENTOR, ALICE SPRINGS

Liam joins the Foundation to Future team in the role of Mentor, providing daily support to local Aboriginal jobseekers needing specialised engagement, employment and career development assistance.

Liam brings a wealth of industry experience, which has given him a deep understanding of the importance of focusing on participants' strengths. This approach helps turn their aspirations into reality, fostering strong self-esteem, confidence, and capacity.

Having been with us for several weeks, Liam has already made a positive impact, building strong connections with participants and local businesses to achieve great employment outcomes and providing support on an ongoing capacity.



AMANDA ASHBURNER
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
MENTOR, DARWIN

We're excited to introduce Amanda (Mandy) to the team as an Employment Services Mentor.

With extensive experience in administration, Indigenous liaison, and employment services, she will be instrumental in helping participants overcome barriers to secure sustainable employment. Mandy's background in project management and mentoring, combined with her work in Indigenous communities, makes her a strong advocate for our participants.

We look forward to the positive impact Mandy will continue to bring to the team!



JONATHAN AH KIT
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
MENTOR, DARWIN

We welcome Jonathan as our new Mentor in Darwin. A proud Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander with strong ties to various communities across Northern Australia, Jonathan brings valuable experience in community engagement, cultural leadership, and program management.

Having worked extensively with Indigenous communities, healthcare services, and educational institutions, as well as achieving success in local sports, he has a wealth of experience from both government and non-government organizations.

Welcome, Jonathan! Your dedication to your culture, leadership skills, and commitment to community and sports development will greatly impact on the work we do at Saltbush.



FURTHER ADDITIONS TO THE TEAM!



CASSANDRA SING
ADMINISTRATION OFFICER,
DARWIN

Cassandra joins our Darwin office in the role of Administration Officer, where she will provide daily support to the Employment Services and Indigenous Skills and Employment Program team.

A proud Wadyiginy Kiuk woman from the small community on the Cox Peninsula, called Belyuen, Cassandra brings over eight years of experience in administration and health services. She holds a Certificate IV in Business Administration and has recently started her Certificate IV in Leadership and Management, with aspirations of starting her own business one day.

We're thrilled to have her on board and look forward to supporting her growth and development.



KYRAH TUPAEA
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
TRAINEE MENTOR, DARWIN

Kyrah Tye Tupaea joins us in the role of Trainee Mentor.

Kyrah has already built an impressive resume in media, radio, and community engagement. Her experience with ABC Darwin and First Nations Broadcasting has equipped her with valuable communication, scheduling, and presenting skills that will be essential in her mentoring journey.

We're excited to support Kyrah's growth in this role and are confident she will bring fresh energy and passion to the team!



ANYA WATROBA
YOUTH COUNSELLOR , ALICE SPRINGS

We welcome Anya to the role of Youth Counsellor.

Anya has begun working with youth at Supported Bail Accommodation, providing early intervention and prevention counselling for young people and adults.

With four years of experience in counselling, Anya has led care and wellbeing programs for Indigenous scholarship students and contributed to the girls' outreach program at Yipirinya School.

Anya's focus on fostering meaningful relationships will create lasting wellbeing outcomes for the youth we work with, their families, and the community.

RESIDENTIAL YOUTH SUPPORT WORKER ALICE SPRINGS

We are thrilled to welcome Mark Gepp to the Supported Bail Accommodation team in Alice Springs as he stepped into the role of Residential Youth Support Worker. Mark's addition to our team brings fresh perspectives and enthusiasm and we are excited to see how he will contribute to our mission.

OPPORTUNITIES TO BE A PART OF THE SALT BUSH TEAM

Employment Services Mentor

People and Culture Manager
Darwin

Foundation to Future Mentor

Training & Activity Manager

Activity Coordinator
Alice Springs

Learn more:

www.saltbushnt.org.au/careers

