

2013
HIGHLIGHTS

*** MARCH:**

Margaret Gidgup commenced as Community Engagement Officer

*** Tjina Maala** group established

* Project renamed **Pika Wiya Kuthupa**

*** JUNE:**

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), Disability-Care Conference in Melbourne

*** AUGUST:**

WA signs up to NDIS, to commence in 2014. DSC continue with state version 'My Way'

*** NOVEMBER:**

The Centre for Cerebral Palsy's Country Resource Program visit Kalgoorlie.

Project is exploring providing more visits by disability therapists in 2014

*** DECEMBER 3:**

International Day of People with Disability

Pika Wiya Kuthupa

'NOT SICK, DIFFERENT ONE'

UPDATE 2013

Letter from the project team...

It has been a year with many small successes along with some hurdles.

Earlier this year Margaret was appointed Community Engagement Officer for the Project. She has been co-ordinating storytelling circles, giving a voice to Aboriginal families and people with disabilities.

A community reference group, named Tjina Maala (Wongi for 'going on a journey') are a group of local Aboriginal people caring for family members with a disability. The group advises Margaret and the project team on many decisions.

Deanne, Dena, Denise, Penny, Tania and Wendy are the key members of this group, with Penny designing the project logo. The project is now titled Pika Wiya Kuthupa in Wongi, meaning 'not sick, different one'.

Linda MacDonnell at O'Connor PS ESC has been a great support hosting many of the storytelling circles. In the new year Margaret is looking to move office from DSC to the Goldfields Education Region Office. A big thank you to DSC for their hospitality.

Storytelling circles will continue until early in the

year at schools such as East Kalgoorlie PS. After this phase the Community Engagement Officer role will evolve to help up-skill local families who care for people with disabilities.

To help prepare for next year we would like you and your staff members to give some feedback <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VWJMTMKP>

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable break over the holiday period. See you in the new year!

Margaret,

Jillian & Caris

First Peoples Disability Network in WA



L-R: Damian Griffis (CEO & founder of FPDN), Aquinas Crowe (invited to be WA representative for FPDN), and Alex Murphy (from Edge Employment).

First Peoples Disability Network

In November, Damian Griffis came to Perth to explore establishing a FPDN branch in WA. FPDN is a national organisation representing Aboriginal people with disability and their families. Attending the event was Sandra Collard, current chair person of Aboriginal Disability Network WA (ADN WA). This network is undergoing incorporation and is considering membership to FPDN to be the official state body under the National FPDN.

Damian will be coming to Perth again early next year around February, and will be visiting Kalgoorlie supported by the project.

www.fpdn.org.au

PWK project update....

Margaret is continuing to run storytelling circles until June. In the new year, the next project phase may include the following:

- Develop a **Kalgoorlie disability service directory** for Aboriginal families
- Run a **cultural safety and security** workshop helping services understand Aboriginality and the Aboriginal perspective

of disability

- Explore supporting Aboriginal families through the process of **diagnosis**.

Having a diagnosis can help families receive funding and be eligible for disability support services

- Provide subsidised training for 5 Aboriginal parents or carers to complete a Certificate III in Disability.

Respite services can help,

both emotionally and financially, when families need to have some time out or take a break from caring

- Explore developing an **Aboriginal resource** to complement KidsMatter (a school based mental health program)
- Hold more **youth and family** dinners and information get-togethers....

STAY TUNED!!



In November, the Country Resource Program held a family get together. It was an opportunity for families to have dinner together and get involved in some art and craft.

Above: The kids showing off the art with Country Team Social Worker, Kerry Ramsey.

In other news...

In November, Margaret and Caris were both nominated for the 2013 'Therapy & Health Services' Staff Awards at The Centre for Cerebral Palsy.

Below: Caris & Margaret.



Project Team



Jillian and Margaret outside Disability Services Commission, Kalgoorlie

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the centre for
cerebral palsy
celebrating potential, creating possibilities

PIKA WIYA KUTHUPA PROJECT- 'NOT SICK, DIFFERENT ONE'