



Active Communities & Youth Services



Image: The ever-popular skateboarding program in Ramingining goes from strength to strength

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2026

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES & YOUTH SERVICES

APRIL WAS JAM PACKED WITH GREAT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE ACYS SERVICE. YOUNG PEOPLE IN GAPUWIYAK AND YIRRKALA ENJOYED VISITS FROM CORRUGATED IRON ARTS, WHILE MILINGIMBI AND RAMINGINING WERE GRATEFUL TO WORK WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE ART CENTRES TO DELIVER WEAVING AND PAINTING WORKSHOPS DURING YOUTH WEEK.

OUR TEAMS ALSO FACILITATED BUSH TRIPS, SPORTS COMPETITIONS, DROP IN CENTRE DAYS, DISCOS, HEALTH WORKSHOPS, AND ART ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE MONTH.

WE ARE EAGER TO CONTINUE BUILDING GOOD COLLABORATION ACROSS THE REGION, INCLUDING ONGOING WORK WITH MIWATJ HEALTH. THERE ARE LOTS OF WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES, AND WE WELCOME SUGGESTIONS OR FEEDBACK. PLEASE GET IN TOUCH.

SEE YOU ALL IN MAY.

PETE

Regional Manager - ACYS
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Image: Milingimbi Drop In Centre activities

Image: Wednesday night basketball Gunyangara





Active Communities & Youth Services



Image: Volleyball in Yirrkala



Image: Ultimate Frisbee practice in Milingimbi in preparation for the intercommunity gala day



Image: Collecting resources for spear making activity in Gapuwiyak



Image: Easter egg hunt in Galiwin'ku

PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT - APRIL 2026

175

TOTAL ACTIVITIES
DELIVERED

6031

TOTAL PARTICIPANT
ENGAGEMENTS

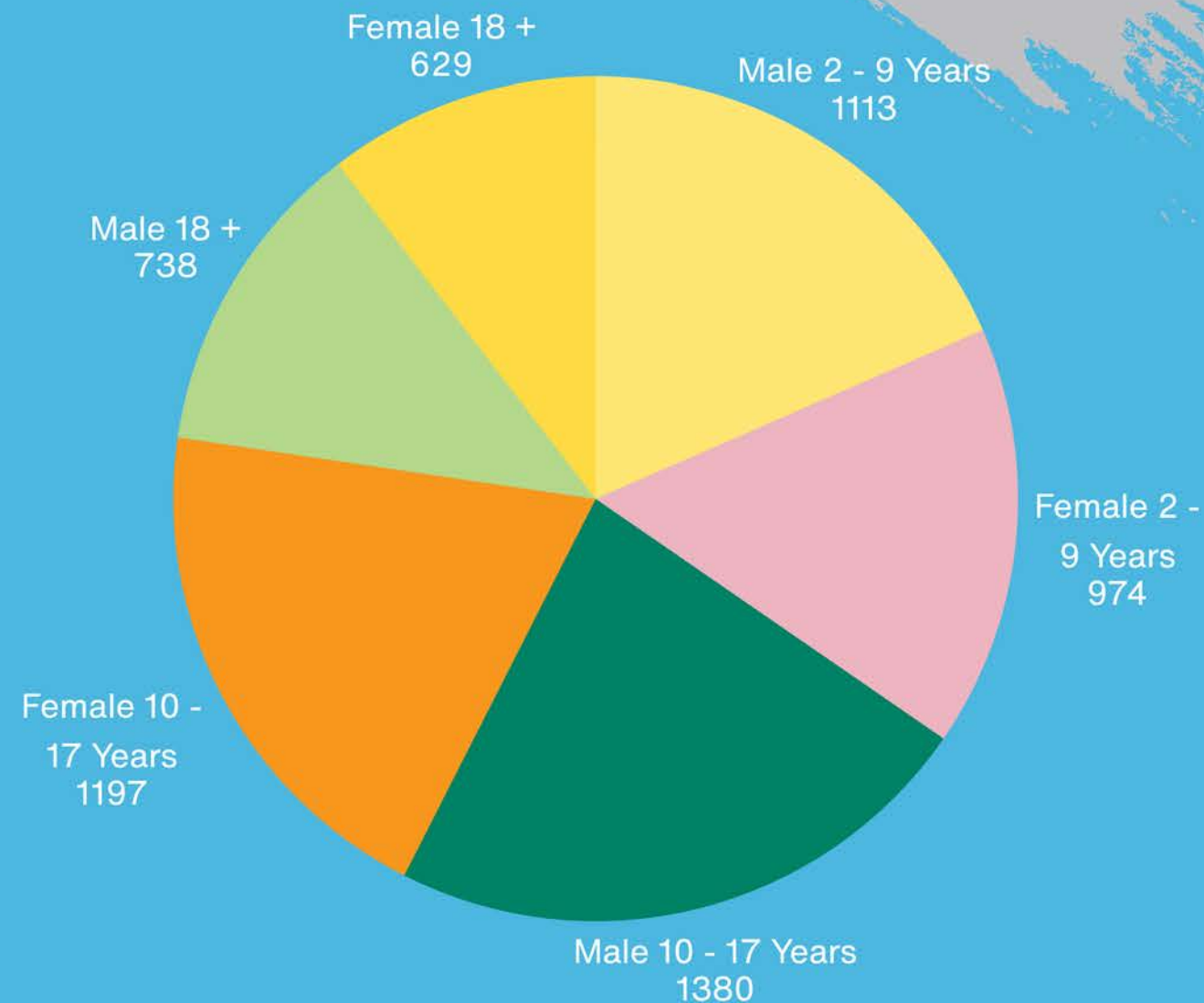


Image: collecting resources for spear making activity in Gapuwiyak



Image: Wednesday night basketball in Gunyangara

ACYS LIBRARIES

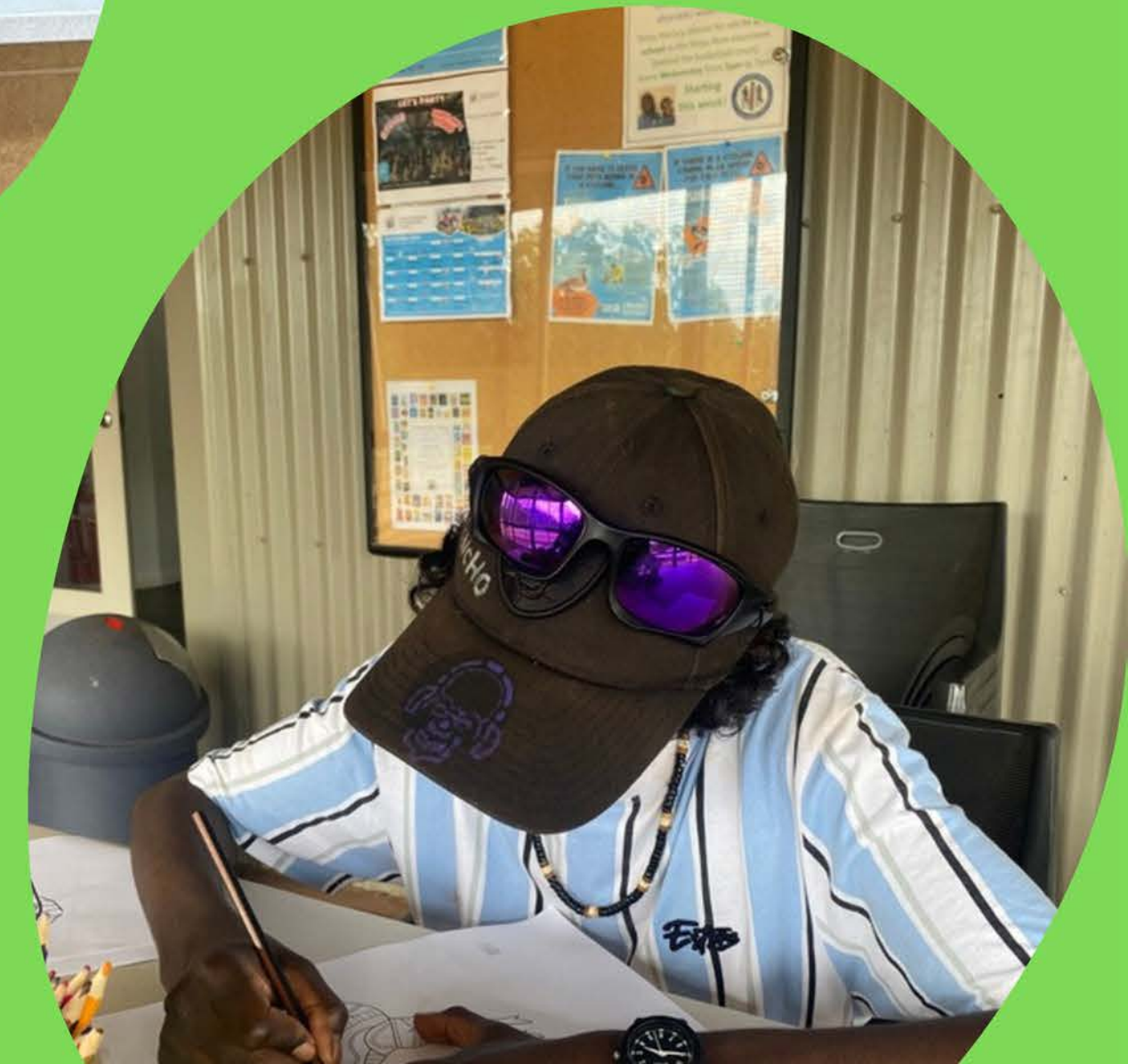
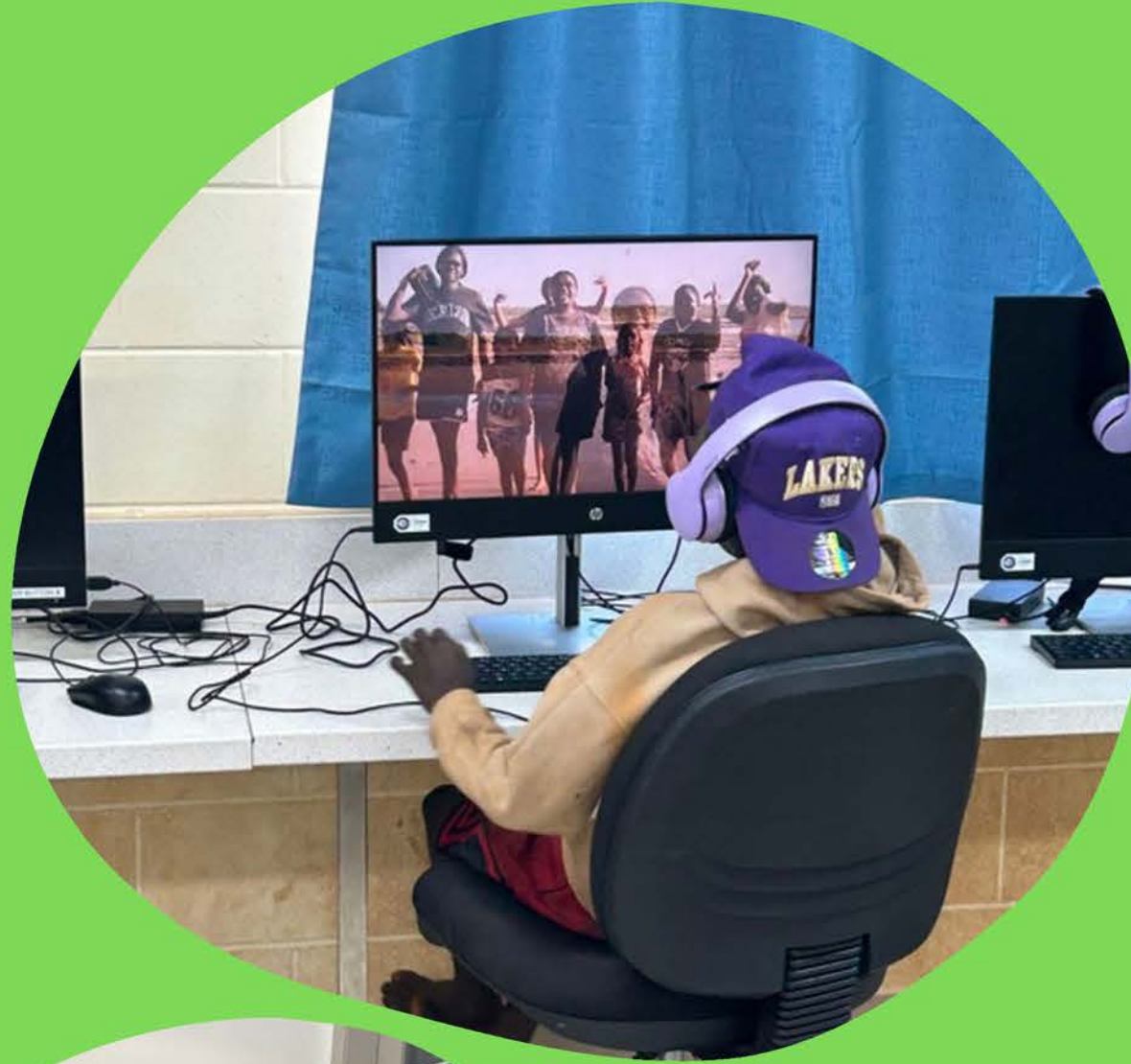




Image: Young people enjoying the drop-in space in Milingimbi



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: SAMMY ATU

WHEN I WAS YOUNG, ABOUT 12 YEARS OLD, I WOULD COME TO THE PROGRAM. BEN WAS THE COORDINATOR THEN, HE WOULD TAKE US OUT HUNTING AND WE WOULD PLAY BASKETBALL, FOOTY AND VOLLEYBALL. IN MY LAST YEAR OF SCHOOL, I DID MY WORK EXPERIENCE HERE AND IT LED ME TO THIS JOB THAT I STARTED IN 2021.

I LIKE TO HELP THE KIDS. TEACHING THEM DIFFERENT SPORTS. HELPING THEM FEEL HAPPY.

I LIKE TO PLAY CHAIRBALL AND TAG GAME WITH THEM. THEY HAVE FUN DODGING AND WE LAUGH AND HAVE A GOOD TIME TOGETHER.

IN THIS ROLE I'VE GOT GOOD AT BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS. I TALK TO THE KIDS. I SEPARATE ANY FIGHTS THAT HAPPEN. I HELP THEM TO BE KIND TO EACH OTHER, NOT TEASING, TO BE LIKE FAMILY AND FRIENDS. I TELL THEM THAT WE ARE ALL CONNECTED HERE.

IN THE FUTURE, I WOULD LIKE TO IMPROVE MY BASKETBALL COACHING AND REFEREEING. I LOVED TAKING TRAINING LAST YEAR WITH LIZ FROM BASKETBALL NT - WE WERE SWAPPING AROUND POSITIONS AND DRIVING TO THE HOOP. I WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE BASKETBALL.

HERE IN GALIWIN'KU WE WORK AS A TEAM. MILIY PLANS AND TELLS US ALL THE SMALL DETAILS. SHE ASKS US WHAT JOBS WE WANT TO DO AND WE ALWAYS GET IT DONE.

WE HAVE FUN WITH THE KIDS. WE SET A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR THEM TO KEEP THEM ON THE RIGHT TRACK. WHEN THEY GROW UP THEY KNOW THEY NEED TO HELP THE NEXT GROUP OF KIDS COMING THROUGH AND HELP THEM AVOID THE BAD THINGS THAT SOMETIMES HAPPEN.



EMPLOYMENT & CAPACITY BUILDING

DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH, OUR DELIVERY NETWORK FEATURED 30 STAFF, INCLUDING **25 STAFF MEMBERS IDENTIFYING AS INDIGENOUS**. THIS INCLUDED:

3 X FULL-TIME ACTIVE COMMUNITIES COORDINATORS

2 X CASUAL/PART-TIME YOUTH MENTORS

16 X CASUAL/PART-TIME ACTIVE COMMUNITIES WORKERS

4 X LIBRARY & CULTURAL HERITAGE WORKERS

OUR INDIGENOUS IDENTIFIED TEAM MEMBERS ARE CRITICAL IN THE DELIVERY OF STRENGTHS-BASED AND CULTURALLY CENTRED ACTIVITIES.



ACTIVITY PROVIDER REPORT

7-9 APRIL 2026

BULA'BULA ART CENTRE - RAMINGINING - WEAVING WORKSHOPS

IN THE APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS, BULA'BULA ARTS HOSTED A SERIES OF WEAVING WORKSHOPS FOR THE EARC ACTIVE COMMUNITIES & YOUTH SERVICES SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM. OVER THREE AFTERNOONS, LOCAL WEAVERS SAT WITH UP TO 20 KIDS, GUIDING THEM IN THE PREPARATION OF PANDANUS AND DIFFERENT WEAVING TECHNIQUES. TURNOUT WAS HIGH AS KIDS RETURNED EACH DAY TO WORK ON THEIR PIECES, HANG OUT WITH THEIR FRIENDS, AND LEARN FROM THEIR ELDERS.

ONE PARTICULAR HIGHLIGHT CAME FROM A YOUNG GIRL CALLED LETISHA WHO GOT VERY INTO HER WEAVING, HUNCHED OVER IN CONCENTRATION. IT REMINDED THE LADIES OF AN OLD WEAVER CALLED EVONNE MUNUYNGU, SO LETISHA STARTED TO BE CALLED 'MUNUYNGU 2', AND ALL THE OLD LADIES WERE TAKING PHOTOS AND SMILING. ANOTHER HIGHLIGHT CAME FROM A SENIOR WEAVER, DAPHNE BANYAWARRA, WHO TEARED UP WATCHING THOSE YOUNG GIRLS WEAVE TOGETHER. IT WAS AN INCREDIBLE FEW DAYS OF INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING AND TOGETHERNESS.

THE SPACE WAS CLEAN AND WELL PREPARED FOR THE WORKSHOPS, AND DARRAN DID A FANTASTIC JOB PROVIDING THE KIDS AND WEAVERS HEALTHY AND DELICIOUS FOOD FOR LUNCH.

WE LOVE HOSTING THESE WORKSHOPS WITH DARRAN AND THE ACYS TEAM!!
LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT ONE!



BULA'BULA ART CENTRE - RAMINGINING



ACTIVITY PROVIDER REPORT

8-10 APRIL 2026

MILINGIMBI ART AND CULTURE - MILINGIMBI - BARK PAINTING WORKSHOPS

LEAD FACILITATORS: LEON MILMURRU, DAVID ROY, JACINTA BURUKUMALAWUY, DARRYL YATJANY

OVERVIEW: THE BARK PAINTING WORKSHOP – SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM WAS DELIVERED OVER THREE CONSECUTIVE DAYS. PARTICIPANTS WERE GUIDED BY SENIOR ARTISTS AND ARTS WORKERS TO LEARN THE FOUNDATIONS OF BARK PAINTING, INCLUDING PREPARING BARK, MIXING NATURAL OCHRES, AND APPLYING TRADITIONAL DESIGNS. THE WORKSHOP CREATED A LIVELY AND ENGAGING ENVIRONMENT, WITH HIGH LEVELS OF PARTICIPATION AND ENTHUSIASM THROUGHOUT. IT PROVIDED AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR INTERGENERATIONAL KNOWLEDGE SHARING, WITH CULTURAL STORIES, TECHNIQUES AND PRACTICES BEING PASSED ON IN A HANDS-ON, PRACTICAL SETTING.

ACTIVITIES: THE BARK PAINTING WS FEATURED A FULL SCHEDULE OF HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES THAT KEPT PARTICIPANTS ACTIVELY ENGAGED THROUGHOUT. EACH DAY BEGAN WITH THE PREPARATION OF MATERIALS, FIRING AND CUTTING BARK, SANDING SURFACES, AND APPLYING BASE COATS TO CREATE A SMOOTH PAINTING GROUND. PARTICIPANTS WERE INTRODUCED TO NATURAL OCHRES, LEARNING HOW TO GRIND, MIX AND PREPARE PIGMENTS USING TRADITIONAL METHODS. PRACTICED BRUSH-MAKING TECHNIQUES AND EXPERIMENTED WITH LINEWORK, PATTERNING AND CLAN DESIGNS. DEMONSTRATIONS ALLOWED PARTICIPANTS TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN PIECES WHILE RECEIVING ONE-ON-ONE GUIDANCE. CULTURAL DISCUSSIONS WERE WOVEN THROUGHOUT THE SESSIONS, WITH ARTISTS SHARING THE MEANINGS BEHIND DESIGNS, CONNECTIONS TO COUNTRY, AND APPROPRIATE WAYS OF REPRESENTING STORY. THE COMBINATION OF PRACTICAL MAKING, CULTURAL TEACHING AND GROUP INTERACTION CREATED A DYNAMIC AND IMMERSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT ACROSS ALL THREE DAYS.

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ACTIVITY PROVIDER REPORT

18-10 APRIL 2026

MILINGIMBI ART AND CULTURE - MILINGIMBI - BARK PAINTING WORKSHOPS (CONTINUED)

PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT: PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT WAS CONSISTENTLY HIGH ACROSS ALL THREE DAYS, WITH STRONG ATTENDANCE AND ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN EACH SESSION. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE REMAINED FOCUSED AND ENTHUSIASTIC, PARTICIPATING IN BOTH INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP ACTIVITIES WHILE RESPONDING POSITIVELY TO GUIDANCE FROM SENIOR ARTISTS. THE HANDS-ON NATURE OF THE WORKSHOP, COMBINED WITH CULTURAL STORYTELLING AND PRACTICAL SKILL-BUILDING, SUPPORTED SUSTAINED INTEREST AND ENCOURAGED CONFIDENCE IN LEARNING AND CREATIVE EXPRESSION.

OUTCOMES

- ENCOURAGED THE NEXT GENERATION OF EMERGING ARTISTS AND SHARE FUTURE JOB PATHWAYS
- PROVIDED MEANINGFUL FUTURE EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS AND SUSTAINABLE INCOME OPPORTUNITIES • PRESERVED TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PRACTICES
- BUILT POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND PROVIDED A CREATIVE SPACE FOR THE YOUNGER GENERATION TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES

IMPACT: THE BARK PAINTING WORKSHOPS STRENGTHENED INTERGENERATIONAL CONNECTIONS AND RENEWED ENTHUSIASM AMONG YOUNG PARTICIPANTS TO CONTINUE LEARNING AT THE ART CENTRE. THE PROGRAM SUPPORTED THE CONTINUITY OF CULTURAL PRACTICE, PROVIDING SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE THAT CONTRIBUTE TO BOTH CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY FOR MILINGIMBI'S FUTURE ARTISTS.



MILINGIMBI ART AND CULTURE - MILINGIMBI



ACTIVITY PROVIDER REPORT

7-10 APRIL 2026

CORRUGATED IRON YOUTH ARTS - YIRRKALA

WE WELCOMED NIKKI AND NAT FROM CORRUGATED IRON YOUTH ARTS TO YIRRKALA TO ASSIST WITH FACILITATION OF OUR YOUTH WEEK SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM. NIKKI AND NAT FACILITATED A VARIETY OF CIRCUS, DANCE AND MOVEMENT SKILLS AS PART OF THEIR FLIPS AND TRICKS PROGRAM.

THE TEAM FACILITATED SESSIONS EACH DAY WITH APPROXIMATELY 30 PARTICIPANTS AT EACH SESSION AND APPROXIMATELY 60 UNIQUE PARTICIPANTS ENGAGING ACROSS THE WEEK.

THERE WAS EXCEPTIONAL PROGRESSION WITH FLIPS ON THE MINI TRAMP WITH MANY PARTICIPANTS GETTING OUT OF THEIR COMFORT ZONE TO TRY NEW SKILLS.

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES COORDINATOR, ROB KESTLE, NOTED "NIKKI AND NAT WERE GREAT WITH THE KIDS - THEY TAUGHT THEM SOME REALLY INTERESTING SKILLS INCLUDING FLIPS, JUMPS, TUMBLES, BODY CONTROL AND MOVEMENT SKILLS. I COULD SEE THE KIDS REALLY ENJOYED IT. THEY HAD LOTS OF FUN. THERE WERE KIDS WAITING READY TO GO FOR THE PROGRAM THE NEXT DAY. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH CORRUGATED IRON AGAIN IN THE FUTURE."

THANKS TO NIKKI, NAT AND CORRUGATED IRON YOUTH ARTS FOR ANOTHER EXCITING PROGRAM!



CORRUGATED IRON - YIRRKALA & GUNYANGARA



ACTIVITY PROVIDER REPORT

7-10 APRIL 2026

CORRUGATED IRON YOUTH ARTS - GAPUWIYAK

WE WELCOMED LEO AND TRIKI FROM CORRUGATED IRON TO SUPPORT OUR GAPUWIYAK YOUTH WEEK ACTIVITIES.

ATTENDANCE WAS EXCELLENT WITH 350 PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM FOCUSED ON CIRCUS SKILLS AND BREAK DANCING.

THE PROGRAM MOVED AROUND THE COMMUNITY WITH ACTIVITIES BEING DELIVERED IN THE REC HALL AS WELL AS AT THE LAKE.

TRIKI AND LEO WERE EXCELLENT IN THEIR ENGAGEMENT WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE: INSPIRING THEM WITH THEIR SKILLS AND LEADING THEM SAFELY THROUGH SKILL PROGRESSIONS. PLEASE ENJOY THE LOOKING THROUGH THE PHOTOS OF THIS ACTIVITY!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK WITH CORRUGATED IRON IN THE FUTURE!



CORRUGATED IRON YOUTH ARTS - GAPUWIYAK



LOOKING AHEAD...

UPCOMING EVENTS

23-24 MAY

- GALA DAY - UNDER-17 MIXED ULTIMATE FRISBEE - MILINGIMBI (PARTICIPATING TEAMS INCLUDE RAMINGINING, MILINGIMBI AND GALIWIN'KU)

24-25 JUNE

- EASTERN CUP REGIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS - GALIWIN'KU

20 JUNE - 13 JULY

- SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS - ALL COMMUNITIES
- NAIDOC WEEK ACTIVITIES 6 - 11 JULY



JOIN OUR TEAM!

ROLES WITH THE ACYS TEAM ARE
CURRENTLY AVAILABLE IN:

GAPUWIYAK, GUNYANGARA & MILINGIMBI

GET IN TOUCH TO DISCUSS THESE ROLES:

DANIEL.RULE@EASTARNHEM.NT.GOV.AU

[EASTARNHEM.NT.GOV.AU/EMPLOYMENT/
POSITIONS-VACANT](http://EASTARNHEM.NT.GOV.AU/EMPLOYMENT/POSITIONS-VACANT)



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**Active Communities
& Youth Services**

**ACTIVE COMMUNITIES &
YOUTH SERVICES PLAYLIST**

A screenshot of a YouTube playlist. The playlist title is "ACTIVE COMMUNITIES & YOUTH SERVICES PLAYLIST". It contains six video thumbnails with their respective titles, view counts, and upload times:

- Yirrkala - One Big Family**: SoundED • 3.5k views • 13 days ago. Duration: 3:43.
- Rál-manapanmirr Dja'ma**: SoundED • 14k views • 3 months ago. Duration: 3:46.
- Build Up Skateboarding Workshops Ramingining September 2025**: East Arnhem Regional Council • 311 views • 3 months ago. Duration: 4:11.
- Napurra Dja Dhuwal - Milingimbi**: SoundED • 17k views • 5 months ago. Duration: 3:48.
- BREAK'N BARRIERZ GALIWIN'KU DHAPIRRK LIFESTYLE**: Break'n Barrierz • 48k views • 7 months ago. Duration: 3:47.
- Galiwin'ku is our home**: SoundED • 49k views • 9 months ago. Duration: 4:10.