



Active Communities & Youth Services



Image: Fishing activity in Ramingining

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES & YOUTH SERVICES

IT'S BEEN GREAT SEEING DISCOS BACK IN YIRRKALA, BIG CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS IN RAMINGINING AND GAPUWIYAK, AN AMAZING GALA DAY IN GALIWIN'KU, AND ALL THE OVAL AND DROP IN CENTRE ACTION IN MILINGIMBI. YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ALSO ENJOYING ONGOING BASKETBALL NIGHTS BETWEEN GUNYANGARA AND YIRRKALA.

THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS ARE UPON US, AND WE HAVE BEEN BUSY KICKING THINGS OFF ACROSS ALL ACYS COMMUNITIES. THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED TEAM, MANY OF WHO WORKED THROUGHOUT THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS PERIOD TO ENSURE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THEIR COMMUNITY HAD ENGAGING PROGRAMS TO ATTEND.

WE HAVE SO MUCH TO COME IN THE REMAINDER OF THE HOLIDAYS, INCLUDING LOTS OF EXTERNAL PROVIDER VISITS ACROSS THE REGION. WE ARE EXCITED TO BE WORKING WITH YOU ALL IN 2026.

MANY THANKS

PETE

EMAIL: PETER.DUNKLEY@EASTARNHEM.NT.GOV.AU



Image: Disco in Yirrkala



Image: Christmas party - Ramining

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES & YOUTH SERVICES

NEW NAME

THE YSR SERVICE IS NOW CALLED: ACTIVE COMMUNITIES AND YOUTH SERVICES (ACYS).

YOU WILL ALSO SEE IN EMAIL SIGNATURES THAT MOST OF OUR TEAM HAVE NEW JOB TITLES.

BY JULY 2025, WE WILL ROLL OUT NEW BRANDING REFLECTING THIS NAME CHANGE ON OUR MONTHLY PLANNERS AND OTHER PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL.



Active Communities & Youth Services

NEW STRUCTURE

THE ACYS PROGRAM IS NOW STRUCTURED AROUND TWO INTERCONNECTED AREAS OF FOCUS – ACTIVE COMMUNITIES AND YOUTH SERVICES.

THE ACYS PROGRAM IS MANAGED BY REGIONAL MANAGER ACYS PETER DUNKLEY.



Image: Fishing trip Ramingining

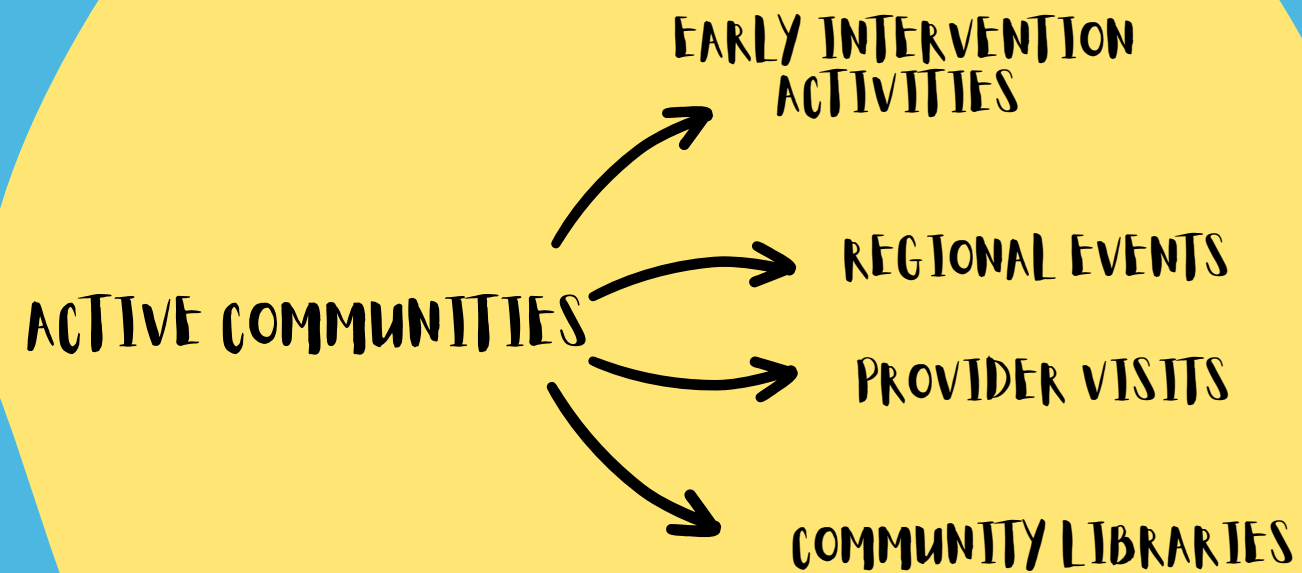


Image: Mask painting in Yirrkala



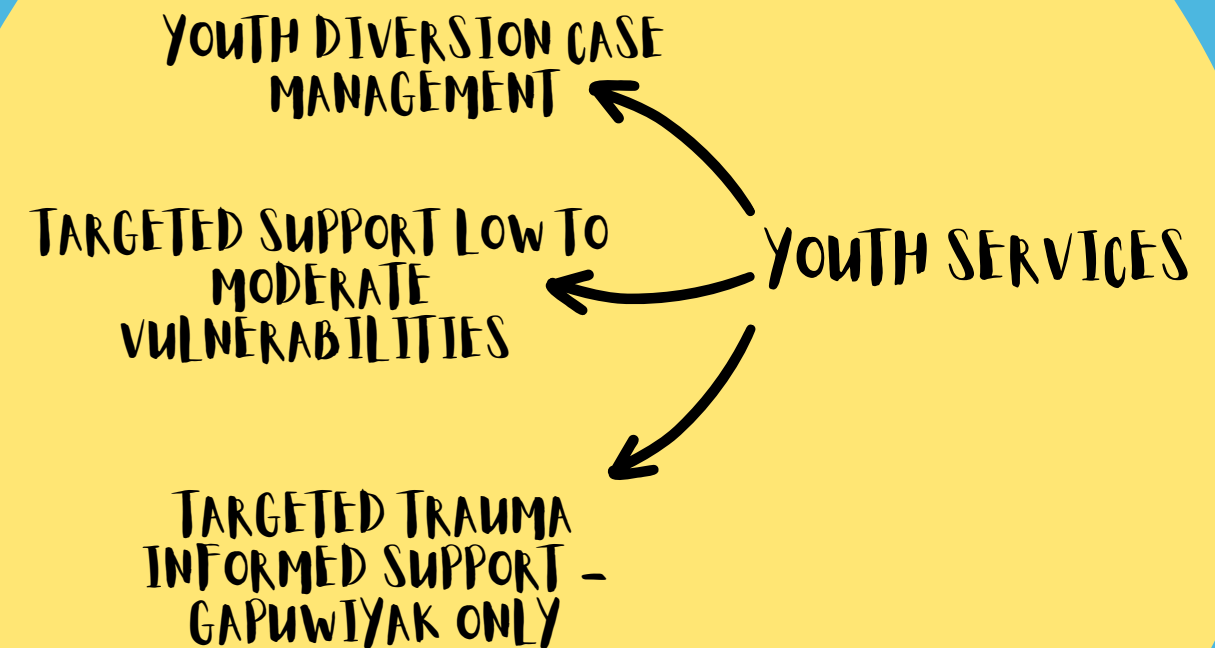
Image: Skateboarding in Milingimbi

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES & YOUTH SERVICES



ACTIVE COMMUNITIES FOCUSES ON PROACTIVE, CONSISTENT YEAR-ROUND EARLY INTERVENTION ACTIVITIES FACILITATED AFTER SCHOOL HOURS AND DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS. ADDITIONALLY, WE FACILITATE MULTIPLE ANNUAL REGIONAL EVENTS, ENGAGE DIVERSE EXTERNAL PROVIDERS WHO ARE DOMAIN EXPERTS IN A RANGE OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT DISCIPLINES, AND WE NOW RUN COMMUNITY LIBRARIES IN SEVERAL COMMUNITIES.

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES IS MANAGED BY ACTIVE COMMUNITIES MANAGER, DANIEL RULE.



YOUTH SERVICES FOCUSES ON MORE TARGETED SUPPORT FOR AT RISK YOUNG PEOPLE EXPERIENCING LOW TO MODERATE VULNERABILITIES. EARC ACCEPT REFERRALS, PROVIDE ASSESSMENT, AND TRIAGE YOUNG PEOPLE UNDER 3 SEPARATELY FUNDED BUT COMPLIMENTARY PROGRAM AREAS.

YOUTH SERVICES IS MANAGED BY YOUTH SERVICES MANAGER, CHRISTIAN AREVALO.

PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT - DECEMBER 2025

78

TOTAL ACTIVITIES
DELIVERED

3529

TOTAL PARTICIPANT
ENGAGEMENTS

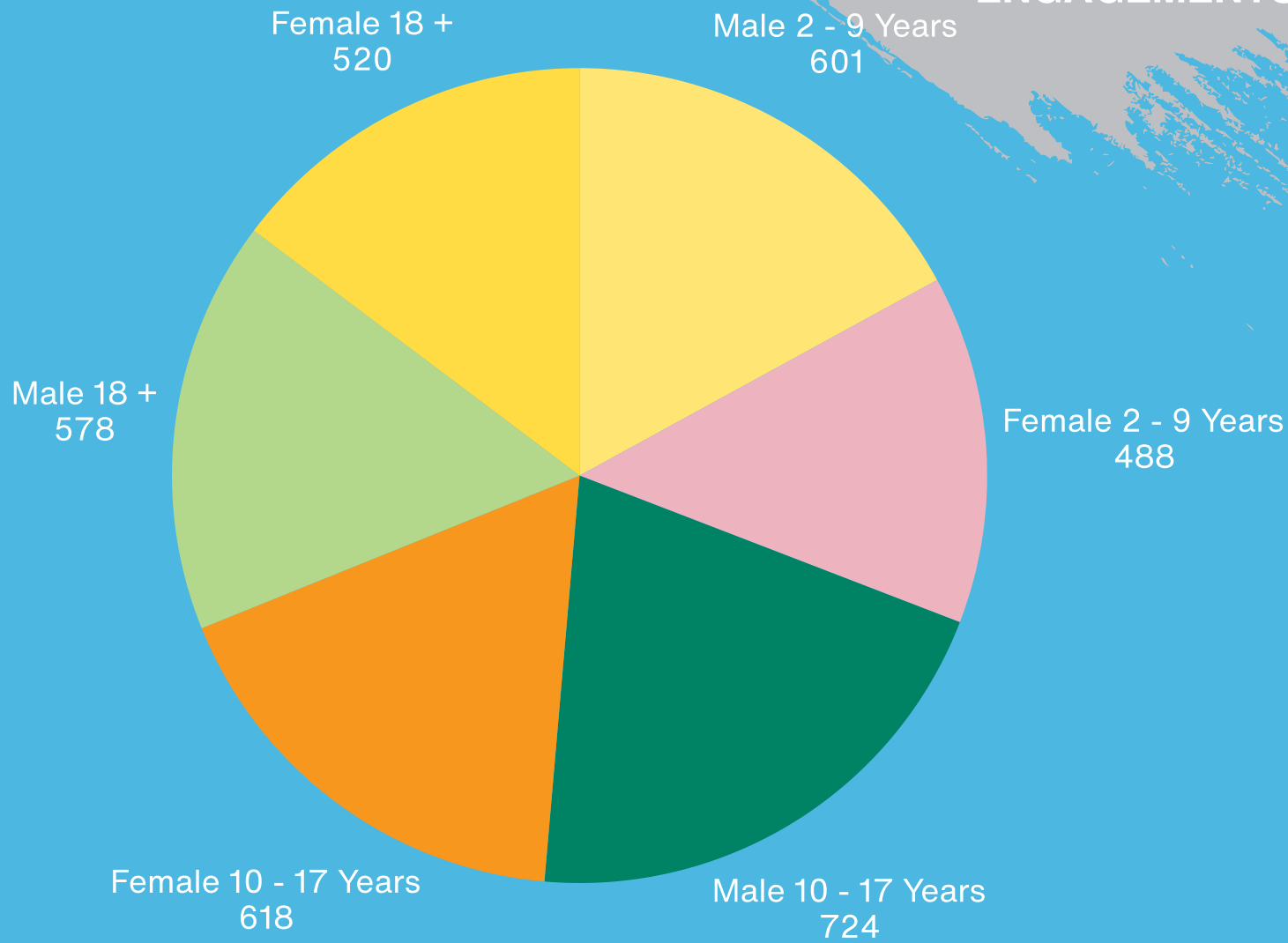


Image: Skateboarding in Ramingining

YIRRKALA DROP IN CENTRE NOW OPEN

WE ARE VERY PLEASED TO HAVE RE-OPENED THE YIRRKALA DROP IN CENTRE IN DECEMBER.

THE SPACE HAS BEEN GIVEN NEW LIFE WITH FRESH PAINT, NEW FLOORS, NEW FURNITURE, NEW LIGHTS, LARGER ROOMS, A NEW BATHROOM, EXTERNAL ACCESS RAMPS, AND A LARGE EXTERNAL KITCHEN WITH INCREDIBLE COOKING FACILITIES.

DEDICATED, MODERN, LOW ENERGY DROP IN CENTRE / LIBRARY SPACES ARE NOW OPEN IN YIRRKALA, MILINGIMBI, GAPUWIYAK AND GALIWIN'KU.

THE POTENTIAL OF THESE SPACES IS IMMENSE, AND WE WELCOME CONTINUED COLLABORATION ON THE DELIVERY OF ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT POSITIVE LOW ENERGY ENGAGEMENT, SELF-REGULATION, WELLBEING AND MORE.

OUR DROP IN SPACES COMPLIMENT THE HIGH ENERGY ACTIVITIES WE ALSO FACILITATE IN COMMUNITY REC HALLS, OVALS, BASKETBALL COURTS, AND MORE.



Image: Movie night in the Yirrkala Drop in Centre



Image: Enjoying the new furniture in the Yirrkala Drop in Centre

DECEMBER 2025



EMPLOYMENT & CAPACITY BUILDING

DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, OUR DELIVERY NETWORK FEATURED 26 STAFF, INCLUDING **22 STAFF MEMBERS IDENTIFYING AS INDIGENOUS**. THIS INCLUDED:

3 X FULL-TIME ACTIVE COMMUNITIES COORDINATORS

1 X CASUAL/PART-TIME YOUTH MENTORS

15 X CASUAL/PART-TIME ACTIVE COMMUNITIES WORKERS

3 X LIBRARY & CULTURAL HERITAGE WORKERS

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



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: KEVIN GARRAWURRA



I STARTED WORKING AS AN ACTIVE COMMUNITIES WORKER BECAUSE I WANTED TO TEACH KIDS HOW TO PLAY DIFFERENT SPORTS – NOT JUST FOOTY AND BASKETBALL. IN THIS JOB I AM GETTING GOOD AT RUNNING ACTIVITIES EVERY DAY. I AM MAKING KIDS HAPPY BY RUNNING THESE PROGRAMS FOR THEM.

I LOVE TO TAKE KIDS ON EXCURSIONS FOR FISHING. OUR PROGRAM IS NOT JUST RUN IN THE REC HALL BUT OUT ON COUNTRY TOO. ON THESE EXCURSIONS WE TEACH THE KIDS ABOUT CULTURE AND ABOUT WHO LIVES IN EACH HOMELAND. WE ALSO CATCH GOOD BARRA!

IN THIS ROLE I'VE LEARNED A LOT - INCLUDING HOW TO WORK IN A TEAM. I'VE ALSO LEARNED HOW TO SET UP AND RUN SPORT FOR KIDS. MY LEADERSHIP SKILLS HAVE ALSO DEVELOPED. I WANT TO KEEP LEARNING SO THAT I CAN WORK AUTONOMOUSLY. I'M ALSO INTERESTED TO DEVELOP MY COACHING SKILLS. I TRY TO LEARN AS MUCH AS I CAN FROM THE COACHES AT MY FOOTY CLUB IN DARWIN WHERE I PLAY IN THE NTFL. THIS HELPS ME TO LEAD OUR PROGRAMS BETTER AND THE KIDS CAN GET MORE OUT THE PROGRAMS.

THIS JOB IS FUN. IT'S ABOUT TEACHING KIDS ABOUT CULTURE AND DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES. TEACHING THEM THE RIGHT WAY.

GALA DAY REPORT

6 DECEMBER 2025

3X3 COMMUNITY HUSTLE BASKETBALL - GALIWIN'KU

THE 3X3 COMMUNITY HUSTLE BASKETBALL GALA DAY WAS HELD ON 6 DECEMBER AT THE GALIWIN'KU RECREATION HALL, BRINGING TOGETHER TWO TEAMS FROM EACH OF GALIWINKU, MILINGIMBI, AND RAMINGINING FOR A DAY OF COMPETITIVE SPORT AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION.

THE EVENT WAS SUCCESSFULLY DELIVERED INDOORS FOLLOWING A CHANGE OF LOCATION TO THE REC HALL. THIS ADJUSTMENT ALLOWED THE GALA DAY TO RUN SMOOTHLY DESPITE CHALLENGES INCLUDING DELAYED FLIGHTS AND POOR WEATHER CONDITIONS. THE INDOOR VENUE CREATED A POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE AND ENSURED GAMES COULD BE COMPLETED SAFELY AND EFFICIENTLY.

RAMINGINING CLAIMED OVERALL VICTORY IN THE 3V3 COMMUNITY HUSTLE, WITH MILINGIMBI FINISHING AS RUNNERS-UP AFTER A STRONG PERFORMANCE. INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS WERE RECOGNISED THROUGHOUT THE DAY, WITH BEST & FAIREST AWARDS PRESENTED TO LYNETTE GARRAWURRA (GALIWINKU) AND MALI SNAP (MILINGIMBI). THE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER (MVP) AWARDS WERE WON BY JONAH MALIBIRR (RAMINGINING) AND ATARAH MUTJU (MILINGIMBI) FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS ON COURT.

A SERIES OF SKILLS CHALLENGES ADDED FURTHER EXCITEMENT AND ENCOURAGED FURTHER PARTICIPATION. BEST LAYUP CHALLENGE WINNERS WERE JONAH MALIBIRR (RAMINGINING) AND CELIA LILIPYANA. THE FASTEST THROUGH THE DRILLS CHALLENGE WAS WON BY JAYRON GANAMBARR (GALIWINKU) AND BRIDGET GURRUWIWI (MILINGIMBI). THE 3-POINT CHALLENGE WINNERS WERE RESHEBA BURARRWANGA (GALIWINKU) AND EZEKIEL GARRAWITJA (MILINGIMBI).

THIS EVENT FOLLOWED COACH TRAINING DELIVERED EARLIER THIS YEAR BY BASKETBALL NT THAT WAS ATTENDED BY ACYS STAFF FROM RAMINGINING, MILINGIMBI AND GALIWIN'KU TO DEVELOP THEIR BASKETBALL COACHING SKILLS. DURING THIS TRAINING THIS COHORT ALSO LEARNED HOW TO DELIVER THE 3X3 COMMUNITY HUSTLE PROGRAM. OVERALL, THIS GALA DAY WAS DELIVERED TO A HIGH STANDARD. ALL ACYS STAFF WERE WELL PREPARED AND WORKED COLLABORATIVELY TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE EVENT, WITH EVELLENA AND HER TEAM PROVIDING STRONG LEADERSHIP THROUGHOUT THE DAY.



3X3 COMMUNITY HUSTLE - GALIWIN'KU AWARD WINNERS



Best and Fairest



Grand Final MVPs



Champions - Ramingining



Runners up - Milingimbi



Fastest through the drills winners



Best lay up winners



3 point challenge winners

3X3 COMMUNITY HUSTLE BASKETBALL GALIWIN'KU



GALA DAY REPORT

13 DECEMBER 2025

VOLLEYBALL - GAPUWIYAK

A VOLLEYBALL GALA DAY WAS HELD ON 13 DECEMBER 2025 IN GAPUWIYAK TO SHOWCASE TALENTED VOLLEYBALLERS FROM ACROSS THE REGION.

THE EVENT WAS PROMOTED TO PARTICIPANTS IN GAPUWIYAK, YIRRKALA AND GUNYANGARA. MULTIPLE GAMES OF VOLLEYBALL WERE PLAYED FOLLOWED BY A DELICIOUS LUNCH OF BEEF BURGERS COOKED BY SOME OF THE GAPUWIYAK BOYS WHO TOOK ON CHEF DUTIES FOR THE DAY.

IN THE FUTURE WE AIM TO BUILD THESE GAPUWIYAK-YIRRKALA-GUNAYNGARA GALA DAYS INTO LARGER EVENTS. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO COLLABORATING ON THE NEXT GALA DAY WHICH WILL BE HELD IN YIRRKALA OR GUNYANGARA IN EARLY 2026.



VOLLEYBALL GAPUWIYAK



LOOKING AHEAD...

UPCOMING EVENTS

13 DECEMBER - 27 JANUARY

- SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS - ALL COMMUNITIES

12-16 JANUARY

- CORRUGATED IRON YOUTH ARTS - MILINGIMBI
- SOUNDED - RAMINGINING
- BUILD UP SKATEBOARDING - GAPUWIYAK

19-23 JANUARY

- HOOPS 4 HEALTH - GALIWIN'KU
- NEXT 9 SPORTS ACADEMY - MILINGIMBI
- BUILD UP SKATEBOARDING - RAMINGINING



**DRUMMING, CIRCUS &
HIP HOP DANCE**

2026 SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Mon 12 JAN - FRI 16 JAN
MILINGIMBI - REC HALL

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East Arnhem
Regional Council

 **Corrugated
Iron**

JOIN OUR TEAM!

ROLES WITH THE ACYS TEAM ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE IN:

GALIWIN'KU, GAPUWIYAK, GUNYANGARA, MILINGIMBI, RAMINGINING & YIRRKALA

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)



We want to hear from you!

EARC Activity Provider Community
Visits Survey 2025



Active Communities
& Youth Services

SCAN THE QR CODE

FOLLOW US ON YOUTUBE!

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES & YOUTH SERVICES PLAYLIST



**Active Communities
& Youth Services**

