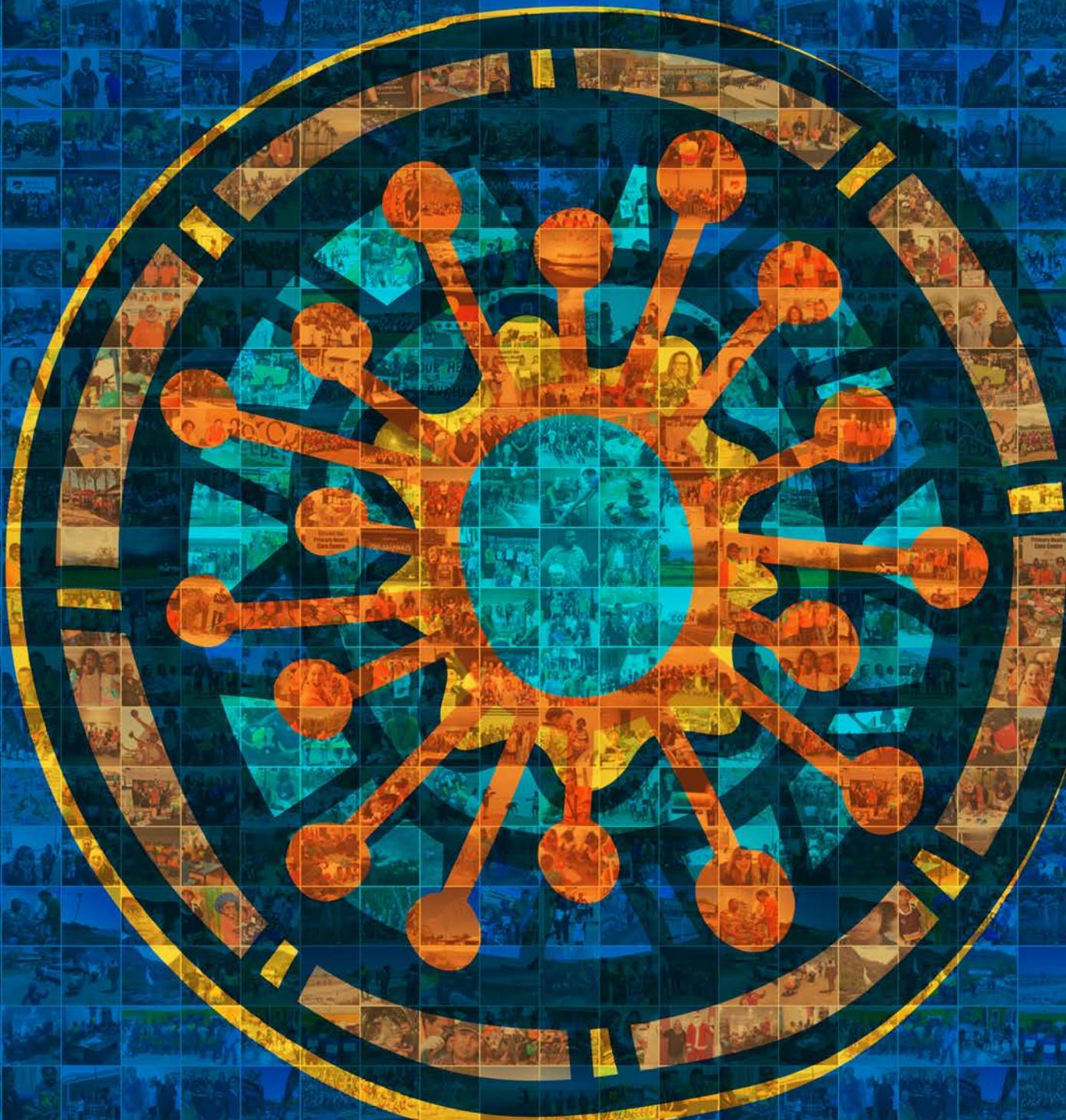




apunipima

CAPE YORK HEALTH COUNCIL



# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



CAPE YORK HEALTH COUNCIL



CAPE YORK  
PENINSULA



**HORN ISLAND**

**NEW MAPOON**  
**UMAGICO**  
**INJINOO**

**SEISIA**

**BAMAGA**

**MAPOON**

**NAPRANUM**

**AURUKUN**

**LOCKHART  
RIVER**

**COEN**

**PORMPURAAW**

**KOWANYAMA**

**HOPEVALE**

**LAURA**

**COOKTOWN**

**WUJAL WUJAL**

**MOSSMAN  
GORGE**

**CAIRNS**

**our health in our hands**



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## CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

It's a true privilege to welcome everyone to this year's Annual Report and to present it on behalf of the Board and the communities we proudly represent. I'd like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land throughout the Cape, and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. I also extend sincere thanks to all communities for warmly welcoming Apunipima onto their land and enabling us to deliver essential services where they're most needed.

What a year it's been! In November 2024 Apunipima turned 30 and to celebrate our pearl jubilee we hosted a two-day health summit and gala dinner in Cairns. The 'Cape York Health, Stronger Together' Summit was all about bringing together health officials, service providers, and community members from across the Cape to talk openly and honestly about how we can keep improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Cape York.

Over two days, we had around 130 people in the room, including representatives from all 11 Cape communities and the Northern Peninsula Area, alongside key health organisations. It was a rare chance for policymakers and executives to hear directly from the people of Cape York, something that needs to happen more often.

The keynote of the event was the signing of a Statement of Commitment by our CEO together with the Chief Executives of CHHHS, TCHHS and RFDS. We now have a concrete commitment from all the major health service providers in our region to work together to Close the Gap in the Cape. The summit was followed by a Gala dinner which was a fun night and a fantastic opportunity for members of the Apunipima family and others to get together outside of the usual work environment.

Last year, we had two exciting infrastructure projects underway, and it gives me great pleasure to report that one of those projects is complete and the other is very close. In June we took possession of three new accommodation buildings in Mapoon. These two and three-bedroom facilities are right next to our PHC centre and are going to provide our staff with stability and a place that feels like home when they fly in to provide care for our community

members. Similar accommodation facilities in Kowanyama were delayed by severe weather during the wet season however, by the time you read this I foresee that we will have possession and our staff will be making full use of the buildings.

Looking forward, the next big infrastructure project for us will be a new PHC centre in Hope Vale. We have the funding and are currently in the process of community consultation to ensure that the residents of Hope Vale get exactly what they need from the new centre. I know that there's a lot of excitement in Hope Vale around a new centre as it's something the community has wanted for a long time.

We also have elections coming up in November this year. This is always an important time for our organisation as our community members get ready to vote in who they think will best represent their health interests over the next three years. Obviously, we don't know what the outcome of the elections will be however I would like to take this opportunity to thank the current Board for all their hard work over the last three years. I'd like to acknowledge the outgoing Board members for their contribution, and wish the elected Board members all the best for the next three years.

Lastly, as you read through the incredible work our staff and management have accomplished over the past 12 months, I invite you to reflect on the dedication behind it. Every day, these people show up to improve the lives of our mob in the Cape and for that, we are deeply grateful. On behalf of the Board, I extend a heartfelt thank you to all our staff, managers, and HAT members for another outstanding year of service, building on the 30 years that came before it.

Here's to the next 30, Stronger Together.

TREVOR SHANE GIBSON  
CHAIRPERSON

# CEO FOREWORD



This is the 5th year that I have had the pleasure of presenting the Apunipima Cape York Health Council (Apunipima) Annual Report.

Firstly, I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, sea and waters of the Cape York communities where we deliver our health and wellbeing services and pay my respect to Cape York Elders past and present.

Apunipima is privileged to work across eleven Cape York communities alongside our Health Action Teams, community members and service providers to improve the health and wellbeing of Cape York people.

The following pages of this report will provide examples of the work that the Apunipima teams do across Cape York and demonstrates the commitment of our hard-working staff in continuing to work towards better health outcomes for Cape York individuals, families and communities.

In November 2024, Apunipima celebrated its 30th anniversary with a Health Summit where we invited Cape York community members, service providers, funders and policy makers to come together to discuss health issues and propose solutions. The attendance of our partners, the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS), the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service (TCHHS) and the Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service (CHHHS) provided participants with the opportunity to discuss barriers, challenges and opportunities to improve health outcomes across Cape York. With support from the participants, we were able to develop a Road Map of seven pillars to support the health and wellbeing journey for Cape York.

A key outcome of the Summit was also the signing of a Statement of Commitment by Apunipima, RFDS, TCHHS and CHHHS as we agreed to work together to strengthen our partnership and collaborative efforts to Close the Gap in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health in Cape York. While 2025 has seen some progress in implementing the outcomes of the Health Summit, Apunipima has taken the lead and is working with our partners on reviewing the Pillars, the proposed solutions and developing an Implementation Plan. As we move through this in the next twelve months, we hope to see improved collaboration and relationships between the partners and Cape York communities as we work towards Closing the Gap.

Over the past 12 months, the Board and senior management has committed a significant amount of effort into reviewing the operations of our six primary health care centres. We have identified gaps in clinical service operations which we have been working actively to address with the intent of improving clinical services. While our clinical services have been satisfactory, we know there is always room to do better and this assessment has identified an improvement is needed in early intervention and prevention as well as data collection and analysis. Our team has been working to strengthen integration of services to

enable improved delivery of holistic care and focussing on developing better data collection, analysis and reporting systems. Improved data will enable us to better understand the health and wellbeing needs of Cape York communities and allow us to refocus our limited financial, human and physical resources where it is most needed.

This year we successfully sourced funding through the Queensland Workforce Strategy 2022-2032 to implement a key objective of our Grow Our Own Strategy. With funding from Jobs Queensland and the Department of Youth Justice, Employment, Small Business and Training, we were able to commence a local community based training program that enabled us to recruit eighteen local community members and provide part-time employment for twenty weeks while the recruits received training in a Certificate II in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care.

Through our partnership with the Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council (AH&MRC) a Registered Training Organisation, our Apunipima trainers have been able to provide group and one-on-one training to enable the trainees to complete their qualification. The funding has enabled the trainees to work part-time in our Primary Health Care Clinics while they completed their training providing them with hands on experience in a clinical environment.

We have secured funding to continue this program to 30 June 2026 and hope to be able to offer ongoing employment, including further training, at the completion of the program, to some of the recruits. While we cannot offer ongoing employment to all trainees, we hope that the opportunity to secure a qualification will provide encouragement to continue on their training journey in primary health care.

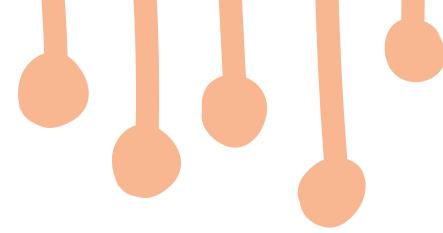
2025 will see the end of our current Strategic Plan (2022-2025) with the Board and Senior Management working together to develop the next Strategic Plan to take us through to 2030. We continue to recognise that to be effective, the delivery of comprehensive primary health care, must be underpinned by the principles of community control and our new Strategic Plan will provide the strategic direction to maintain that focus as a Cape York community controlled primary health care organisation.

With the launch of the 2026-2030 Strategic Plan at the 2025 Annual General Meeting, I am confident that Apunipima will remain committed to its journey of continual growth as we maintain our focus on Closing the Gap for Cape York people and communities.

*Debra Malthouse*

DEBRA MALTHOUSE  
CEO

# THIS YEAR



## APUNIPIMA HOSTS HEALTH SUMMIT TO CELEBRATE 30-YEAR MILESTONE

In November, Cairns played host to a large delegation of Cape York stakeholders for a Health Summit that coincided with the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Apunipima Cape York Health Council.

The purpose of the 'Cape York Health, Stronger Together' Summit was to bring health officials and health service providers together with community representatives from all over Cape York to discuss and workshop ways to continue improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the region.

Apunipima was created during a similar health summit held in Injinoo, 30 years ago. The 1994 summit was called to discuss ways to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Cape York and resulted in the establishment of Apunipima Cape York Health Council.

"In terms of Closing The Gap, not much has really changed over the past 30 years. Life expectancy is still somewhat lower than mainstream Australia, and nowhere near where we would expect to be in 2024, so what's our plan as service providers and policy makers to change that in the next 5 to 10 years, to ensure we're moving in the right direction? That's what this summit is all about," said Apunipima CEO, Debra Malthouse.

Representatives from all 11 Cape communities that Apunipima services as well as the Northern Peninsula Area communities were joined for the two-day event by executives and staff from Torres & Cape Hospital & Health Service (TCHHS), Cairns & Hinterland Hospital & Health Service (CHHHS), Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) QLD, National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), Queensland Aboriginal & Islander Health Council (QAIHC), and several local and regional Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander community-based organisations.

"The goal was to make sure that we got as many of those executives, stakeholders and policy makers together in the room with Cape York people because a lot of them don't get a chance to hear from Cape York people directly, so this was an opportunity to do exactly that," Ms Malthouse said.

Throughout the summit, the 130 attendees heard from keynote speakers on a range of topics, listened to panel discussions and discussed and workshopped problems and ideas relevant to the individual communities and the broader Cape region as a whole.

Apunipima Chairperson and Hope Vale resident Trevor Gibson said that there was a great vibe at the event and community members bought into with the program structure.

"From a community perspective it was very helpful because not only do we get to hear from the industry experts, but we also get to speak as well. We know there's a lot of different opinions in our communities about health and being able to explain our issues and get answers is important to all of us. For us, that's our vision of how community control works," he said.

The keynote event of the summit was a panel discussion titled, Stronger Together: A Road Map for the Future. Ms Malthouse was joined on stage by TCHHS Chief Executive Rex O'Rourke, CHHHS Chief Executive Leena Singh and Regional Lead at RFDS QLD Shaun Francis, with the discussion centred on four priority areas for Cape York; access and equity, partnerships and collaboration, community participation and codesign. The panel members each presented what the organisation's priorities were against the focus areas and were then asked questions by the Summit Facilitator.

Following the discussion, a Statement of Commitment was signed by the four panel members that outlined and reaffirmed each organisation's commitment to Closing The Gap in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Care through working together and addressing the four priority areas. Ms Malthouse believes that the signing was a huge step but also warned against complacency.

"Accountability is the key to moving forward now that we have a statement of commitment from the four key health providers. Our ability to work together to develop a plan of action against those commitments, in collaboration with community groups and members, is what will lead to an improvement in the health of Cape York people."





## CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF OUR HEALTH IN OUR HANDS

On the evening of November 22, Apunipima held a Gala Dinner to celebrate its 30th Anniversary at the Hilton in Cairns.

With the conclusion of the Cape York Health Summit earlier that afternoon meaning many people from the Cape were present in Cairns, it was the perfect chance for current Apunipima representatives, some past Apunipima legends, community representatives and our

healthcare partners to come together and celebrate the last 30 years of Apunipima.

With Master of Ceremonies Trevor Tim steering the night, guests were treated to an address by Apunipima Chairperson Trevor Gibson, a short film about Apunipima's story produced just for the evening, and entertainment from Trevor Tim and Black Image Band.

It was also a night for recognising some of our most committed staff and Board members, with Awards for long service and inductions into the Hall of Fame occurring on the evening.





# CAPE YORK STRONGER

## Pajinka

On 15th September 1994, a meeting was held with representatives from all Cape York communities at the Pajinka Lodge at Injinoo. This took place over four days, resulting in the establishment of Apunipima Cape York Health Council with a Chairperson, Chief Executive Officer and a Board of Directors made up of a man and a woman from each of the 17 communities. The organisation's purpose was a 'partnership arrangement with the Peninsula Regional Health Authority of the Queensland State Government and with other relevant Commonwealth and State departments (with the aim of) strengthening and improving the existing services and making them more appropriate to Aboriginal communities.'

"The people of the Cape made it clear they wanted their own voice to speak about the health of Cape York people"  
Willie Gordon  
Chairman 1995

1995  
Apunipima officially begins work as an advocacy organisation

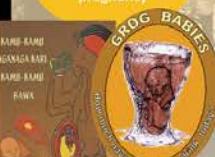
## Pre-Pajinka

In 1994, there was consensus among Aboriginal communities, senior Cape York health officials, the federal government and regional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations that the existing health system was not working to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on Cape York and that a new approach was needed. Funding was provided by Queensland Health and Cape York Land Council for a meeting to take place to establish a new Aboriginal Health Organisation in Cape York.

1994  
1999

"Apunipima is now recognised as an important stakeholder in advocating the best possible health service delivery to Bama in our region"  
Gerhardt Pearson  
Chairman 1996

1997  
Apunipima launches program about dangers of alcohol during pregnancy



"I sincerely believe that when there is unity within, the vision of our people have better access to health care, moving back to our country and being self sufficient will become a beacon of reality, not a dark tunnel of despair"  
Doreen Hart  
Chairperson 1998

1999  
Apunipima begins developing River of Life Health Strategy focused on prevention and awareness of chronic disease



1998  
Apunipima develops the Family Violence Advocacy Project



2000  
2004

2003  
Apunipima joins Queensland Aboriginal & Islander Health Council (QAIHC)

2004  
All 11 Cape communities develop Local Health Plans through the Health Action Teams. HATs change from 'as required' to become permanent part of Apunipima's governance structure

## River of Life

Born out of meetings with community groups in the late 90s and adopted by the board in 2000, the River of Life Health Strategy said that we need to take a holistic approach to health care and look at the 'upstream factors' (the social determinants) that affect a person's health, such as housing, family life, nutrition, etc. For the first time at Apunipima, the River of Life looked past short-term funded programs at long-term preventative health care. This would signal a shift in thinking for the organisation and would later prove to be a key driver for the transition to service delivery.



2005  
2009

2005  
Cape York Regional Health Forum saw creation of the Cape York Regional Health Strategy which was supported by Queensland Health regional management and which mandated the need for reform of health in Cape York



2009

Apunipima employs doctors in Mossman Gorge and Hope Vale

2008

Apunipima begins to deliver maternal and child health services



## Service Delivery

From 2008 to 2010 is a period of significant growth for Apunipima. The shift from advocacy to service delivery sees staff numbers go from 30 in 2008 to 100 in 2010. Apunipima begins to deliver maternal and child health. The first doctor is appointed in Mossman Gorge. A Health Summit in Palm Cove sees the first ever community plan for Apunipima to progress the delivery of health services.

# K HEALTH : TOGETHER



## A Decade of Expansion into Community Control

In 2012, Apunipima opened its first Primary Health Care (PHC) Centre in the community of Mossman Gorge. This was a huge milestone as it cemented Apunipima's role and signified that community control was the future of health care in Cape York. Shortly afterwards, Apunipima opened its second PHC Centre in Kowanyama. Apunipima's growth gained momentum and over the next decade the organisation opened or took over a total of 5 standalone PHC Centres and 4 Wellbeing Centres.

**2011**

Apunipima begins delivering chronic disease services across Cape York  
First ever tele-health appointment  
Inaugural Mini Health Summit held in Aurukun

**2010**

Apunipima hosts Health Summit in Palm Cove with mandate to progress health reforms through community control



**2012**

Apunipima opens first Primary Health Care Centre in Mossman Gorge

**2015**

Apunipima celebrates 21st birthday and marks coming-of-age milestone with rapid growth in service capacity including a large base of community-based and FIFO support staff



**2016**

Apunipima opens two new Primary Health Care Centres, Charkil Om in Napranum and Aurukun Health Care Centre

Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) launches in December



**2015**  
.....  
**2019**

**2017**

Coen Primary Health Care Centre opens in March  
Apunipima hits 250 staff



**2013**

Apunipima establishes second Primary Health Care Centre when it moves into the Atharpuch Centre in Kowanyama



**2014**

Apunipima teams up with Deadly Choices for the first time to offer the Cape's only speech pathology program

Apunipima commences award winning Baby One Program



Delivery

of immense growth for delivery into service delivery employees in 2010 to 85 by over a range of services like the organisation also employs in 2010 results in a clear health reforms through control.

## Social and Emotional Wellbeing

Four Wellbeing Centres transition from RFDS to Apunipima in Aurukun, Coen, Hope Vale and Mossman Gorge.

**2016**

**2020**

Covid-19 severely impacts the organisation's ability to deliver services which leads to innovations

**2021**

Apunipima opens a brand new Atharpuch PHC Centre in Kowanyama

**2020**  
.....  
**2024**

**2023**

Aurukun hosts Health Expo with all service providers and stakeholders in community taking part in the event



**2018**

Apunipima's Learning and Development team is established to support rapidly growing workforce



**2022**

Hope Vale hosts Men's Health Summit  
Thimithi-Nhii PHC Centre opens in Mapoon, Apunipima's 6th standalone PHC Centre

Health Action Team Forum in Cairns results in reinvigoration of Community Health Plans and solidifies HATs increasing role in Apunipima's governance structure

**2024**

Apunipima celebrates its 30 year anniversary with a 2 day Health Summit and Gala Dinner in Cairns

**2024**



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Trevor Shane Gibson**  
Chairperson



**Thomas Hudson**  
Deputy Chairperson

**REGION FIVE**  
HOPE VALE

**REGION THREE**  
KOWANYAMA



**Patricia Yusia**

**REGION ONE**  
BAMAGA



**Mary Yoelu**

**REGION ONE**  
UMAGICO



**Aileen Addo**

**REGION TWO**  
MAPOON



**Dereck Walpo**

**REGION THREE**  
AURUKUN



**Ethel Singleton**

**REGION FOUR**  
LOCKHART RIVER



**Donna Henning**

**REGION FIVE**  
MOSSMAN GORGE

## OUR SKILLS-BASED DIRECTORS



**Barbara Schmidt**



**Ilario Sabatino**



**John Andrejic**



# OUR COMMUNITIES

# AURUKUN

## HEALTH EXPO: A CELEBRATION OF CONNECTION, CULTURE & CARE

In June, the Aurukun Community Health Expo brought together over 250 community members for a day filled with health education, storytelling, music, and cultural pride. Organised by Apunipima and supported by local stakeholders, the event was a vibrant success.

From the free BBQ with over 300 plates served to the shady play areas and art stalls, the atmosphere was festive and welcoming. Johanna Hunt, Aurukun PHCC Manager, ran a tight ship coordinating stall placements, stakeholder roles, and

community outreach with precision and heart.

Highlights included mental health advocate Grant Shelley promoting early intervention and stigma reduction, the Skin Health Program raising awareness around skin sores and Rheumatic Heart Disease, the Aurukun Women's Art Group showcasing stunning pottery and paintings, and Employment Centre staff talking about their jobs board, training, and the ongoing support they offer community members interested in starting work.



# COEN

## COMBINING ANNUAL MITPI CEREMONY WITH RAISING AWARENESS FOR DV

Coen recently undertook a significant project to clean up the community's cemetery and host a morning tea to raise awareness for domestic violence. The first part of this initiative, led by the Coen Regional Aboriginal Council (CRAC), was a massive clean-up of the cemetery by a band of volunteers.

"Over the last couple of months, the community has made it very presentable again by cutting back overgrown vegetation and clearing rubbish," said Coen Social & Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) Counsellor Paul Mamone, who was involved with fellow SEWB Workers Randall Fyfe and Rheanna Peter.

The second part of the project began with CRAC hosting a morning tea which focused on awareness of domestic violence issues in community. Once the morning tea had finished, the official Mitpi Ceremony began.

Mitpi involves different families coming together to honour their loved ones who have passed by cleaning and decorating their grave sites. Each family had several representatives that took care of the graves in their own section, and the graves now look fantastic with timber edging, a coat of paint, and some fresh flowers. "Community members have done a fantastic job of making the cemetery look great again. The ceremony was a special time for families to gather, remember, and celebrate their ancestors," Paul said.

Following the ceremony, there was a Kup Murri (celebratory feast), traditional dancing, live music, and a celebration of the people, their lives, and the impacts they had during their time in the community.

"This combined effort not only enhances the appearance of the cemetery but also strengthens community bonds and honours the memory of those who have passed. It's a testament to the community's dedication and respect for their heritage and loved ones," he said.



## LAURA INFORMATION SESSION

In April, the team from Apunipima, along with representatives from other organisations, came together at Ang-Gnarra Hall to share information about the services available to the Laura community.

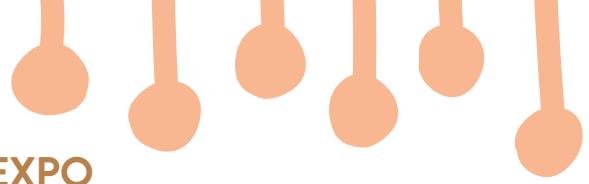
Jana Booy and Natalie Newie from Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS), Health Promotions Officer Damien Grogan, Raeleen Veivers and Rosaline Flinders from Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD), Community Nutritionist Rosetta Romeo and Hope Vale SEWB Team Leader Janita Gibson were all on hand to engage the community members with some great activities and discussion around health and wellbeing topics.

Other participating organisations included the Community Recovery Program, Gungarde Community Centre Aboriginal Corporation, Cooktown Community District Centre and Laura Rangers. It was a wonderful morning of connection, shared conversations, and finished with a delicious lunch.



# HOPE VALE

## TURNS OUT IN GREAT NUMBERS FOR HEALTH EXPO



Hope Vale community gathered on Wednesday 18th September 2024 for its Health Expo at the Pioneer Hall. With the presence of several Apunipima teams, BlueCare, My Pathways, Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service, Alternate Care, RAATSICC and Cooktown District Community Centre, all those present were treated to a day full of healthy messaging, games played, entertainment, yarning, education and family fun.

All service providers were kept busy with a constant stream of adults and children that were keen to listen and learn as to what options they had available for their health, plus the interactive activities and games which are always a hit. It is also a great opportunity for the service providers to immerse themselves

within the community, engage and network to community members that they may not usually reach.

Highlights were watching the children immerse themselves in play and dance competitions (with the occasional adult jumping in), seeing the happy faces of those winning the giveaways, the infamous Smoothie Bike, a clearly unrehearsed open mic session and an open forum for community members to share their thoughts on the expo and local health issues.

Thank you to all the service providers and Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council for their support and presence. And most importantly the Hope Vale community for making it the fun and special event that it was.





## KOWANYAMA DELIVERING INFO SESSIONS

The Health Promotion team visited Kowanyama in April where they joined women's groups, men's groups, PCYC, schools and kindy to deliver information sessions to community on a wide range of topics. One of the key topics was skin health and hygiene and washing hands was a big focus particularly with the school ages. The team used dye under a bluelight to highlight the areas that get easily missed when hand washing which is always fascinating to the young children. Personal hygiene packs were also handed out.

Another topic was around the importance of immunisation and vaccination with games and an obstacle course created to provide a fun environment to teach the importance of immunisation and vaccination. Special resource packs were created to support teams in PHC's and Wellbeing Centres so they can run activities, set up information stalls and engage with community groups. The packs will be used with both men's and women's groups, schools, stalls and one-on-one discussions. Other topics delivered in Kowanyama included FASD, TIS and Nutrition.



## LOCKHART RIVER APUNIPIMA TARGETS FASD

Apunipima's Health Promotion team hit Lockhart River to promote the Strong Born campaign which launched in Cape York last year. The NACCHO-funded campaign aims to create awareness of the dangers of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) for people in Cape York.

The campaign targets a broad range of people with the aim of educating everyone on the dangers of FASD. This includes pregnant women and young women in general, and also the men in community so that everyone is aware of the dangers of drinking alcohol during a pregnancy.

"We met with a bunch of different groups including Council, Lockhart River Youth Coordinator and the Kuunchi Kakana (KK) Centre to ensure that we get the message out to all parts of the community," said Health Promotion Lead, Fiona Millard.

The Strong Born campaign is an important campaign for the Health Promotion team who incorporate it into their core work and is also promoted by Apunipima's Baby One Program who incorporate it into their work with expecting mothers.

"Strong Born is an important program of ours and we're really pushing it hard this year because we want all babies in the Cape to grow up strong and be healthy," Fiona said.



# MAPOON

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

In the first week of March, the team acknowledged International Women's Day while also promoting other important health initiatives at the Thimithi-Nhii Primary Health Care Centre in Mapoon.

Thimithi-Nhii Centre staff, Health Action Team member Aunty Dawn Braun and Council members came together at the clinic for a shared lunch, and discussion around this year's International Women's Day theme,

'Accelerate Action.' The theme focuses on the urgent need to take swift and decisive steps towards achieving gender equality.

The occasion also promoted NACCHOs "Strong Born" FASD campaign, promoting alcohol-free pregnancies with resources to be shared at Women's and Men's groups in Mapoon.

The Health Promotion team was also promoting a community led initiative by the Council, Mayor, CEO and the PHC

Centre Manager and Staff encouraging 715 health checks. The campaign will be shared with Mapoon and other Cape York communities and includes video and social media content aimed at increasing the number of people receiving a 715 health check. Yearly health checks are crucial for maintaining good health and we encourage everyone in our communities to participate by making an appointment with their local Apunipima Primary Health Care Centre.



## PORMPURAAW COMMUNITY BUZZING FOR NAIDOC WEEK

In July 2024, Pormpuraaw opened its NAIDOC week with a fantastic event organised by Pormpur Paanthu Aboriginal Corporation and the Pormpuraaw Art Centre. Most of the community, including school children, were in attendance and the best of community culture was on display from the start with an exciting performance by the Pormpuraaw Cultural Dancers, last year's winners from the Quinkan Dance Festival in Laura.

Service Development and Outreach Operations Executive Adelina Stanley, and Deputy Chair of the Board Thomas Hudson, were in community to attend a Health

Action Team (HAT) meeting with Council and Thomas was also a guest speaker at the NAIDOC Launch event.

"Thomas spoke about the significance of NAIDOC, the importance of recognising community leaders and the role Cape York communities have played in improvements in health and other areas of life in recent years. After Thomas, local Elder and dance leader Meredith Arkwookerum, spoke about the importance of this year's NAIDOC theme of Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud and Proud. All the guest speakers spoke brilliantly," Adelina said.

After the morning's activities, there was

a BBQ lunch for the whole community followed by a talk at the Art Centre where Adelina received a donation from the community of several paintings that she accepted on behalf of the community.

"The artworks are beautiful and we've put them up in the office in Cairns. It was such a great event to be a part of and with our Health Action Team (HAT) in Pormpuraaw doing a great job, it's exciting times for Apunipima in Pormpuraaw and we're really looking forward to increasing the amount of services that we can provide to community members," she said.



# MOSSMAN GORGE

## EXPO LOADS OF FUN FOR COMMUNITY

Mossman Gorge also held its Health Expo on Wednesday 4th September and thankfully the rain held off for the day as the event was able to be held on the grass outside our Primary Health Care and Wellbeing Centres.

The locals were keen to drop in and have a ride on the 'Smoothie Bike' with the nutrition team – always fun to see that in action and delicious smoothies were on offer for all community members who were in attendance.

Mossman Gorge Health Expo was a little different to the other community expos in that Apunipima were the only service providers involved. This made for an intimate event and there was plenty of yarning with community members as everyone enjoyed a BBQ lunch.

Thanks to staff from Health Promotion, Integrated Team Care and Nutrition as well as community-based staff that attended and provided info on Apunipima health programs and services to community members.



### R U OK? DAY

On September 12th Mossman Gorge SEWB Team hosted a Community Brunch for R U OK? Day. Community members came and had brunch with staff while sitting outdoors and yarning and listening to music On Country. SEWB Team Leader in Mossman Gorge Tyler Hafstad said it was a low-key event this year but lots of fun nonetheless.

"It wasn't a huge showing this year compared to previous years, however it was loads of fun for the dozen or so community members that came along. We had a feed and had some laughs and chatted about the key messages for R U OK? Day," Tyler said.

## NAPRANUM

### MAKING DEADLY CHOICES AT THE HEALTH EXPO

In July 2024, Apunipima teamed up with Deadly Choices to deliver a Health Expo to Napranum community. Apunipima has partnered with Deadly Choices this year to increase 715 Health Checks in our communities to ensure our people are the healthiest they can be by coming in every year for a medical checkup. Deadly Choices ambassadors Steve Renouf, Tyrone Roberts and Brenton Bowen flew up to Weipa for the day and having the former rugby league stars on the ground created a real buzz around the community.

The day started early for Apunipima staff with the event scheduled for a 9am start. Napranum Councillor and Traditional Owner Ernest Madua Jnr opened the event with a Welcome to Country before handing over to the Deadly Choices ambassadors. After a short information session from the ambassadors on the importance

of getting an annual 715 Health Check, it was time to throw the footy around with about 20 school children from the local school lining up for a passing competition before hitting the oval for a game of touch footy.

While the touch footy was happening the rest of the attendees got around to the stalls and met with service providers and other key stakeholders. It was a great networking event for staff with lots of introductions to new and old staff from the various organisations.

"I think today went well, I'm really glad that all the stakeholders came along and provided information on what they do in community. Our team was great they just came in and got the job done. Big thanks to Paul, Shaniqua, Kaylah, Gloria, Shontelle and Josie from Health Promotion who helped out at the event, and Renee, Fran and Betty for looking after the Charkil Om Centre," said Napranum PHC Manager Deb Jia.





## WUJAL WUJAL

### NAIDOC EVENT A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY RESILIENCE!

Wujal Wujal NAIDOC celebration was held in July 2024, with the celebration to recognise the community's incredible bounce back from the disastrous December 2023 cyclone and flood event that destroyed most of the township.

The Wujal Wujal Community Fun Day event started with a street parade with the whole community getting involved. There was a prize for the best-decorated vehicle in the parade, and this inspired community members and service providers, including Apunipima, to decorate their vehicles in balloons and streamers with some even going further and painting their cars in

lively colours! There were also lots of traditional dancers taking part in the parade as well.

After the parade the day opened with a traditional smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country, as well as some speeches and thank yous for all the work that has gone into rebuilding the community this year. This was followed by live entertainment from Wujal Wujal's own local musician Patrick Nandy and special guest musician Normey Jay from Yarrabah.

Apunipima held information stall's around TIS (Tackling Indigenous Smoking), AOD and Community Nutritionist where

information was handed out along with a variety of merchandise. Wujal Wujal SEWB Counsellor Raeleen Vievers said it was a great day for the community and a pleasure to attend.

"it was a fun event and great for the community. This year's theme is, 'Keep The Fire Burning! Blak, Loud And Proud,' a theme which honours the enduring strength and vitality of First Nations cultures. Wujal Wujal is a great example of a community whose members have embodied this year's theme and their resilience is inspiring," Raeleen said.

## COLOUR RUN

On the 20th of January, Jabalbina Youth Community Recovery team hosted a colour run for Wujal Wujal youth who were still on school holidays. Apunipima Community Recovery staff in Wujal Wujal worked closely with Jabalbina to organise the event with contributions also from Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council, Justice Group, Queensland Police Service, Bloomfield River State School and local parents and Elders. Community Recovery Program Case Manager Erin Jia said the timing of

the event was perfect as they were all preparing to head back to local schools and fly out to boarding schools.

"There hasn't been a great deal to do around community for the school kids over the holidays and some of them were bored, so this came at the right time and they had a lot of fun," Erin said.

The Colour Fun Run organisation sent up all the shirts and colours but the shirts were only in adult sizes. Erin said, "this added to the fun, as they didn't care and

ran around and had the best time!"

"We had young ones running around in full size adult shirts and they looked hilarious. The local police officer Susan took part in her police uniform, and she was covered head to toe in different colours as well. It was a lot of fun, and I know that Jabalbina and the community were very happy with Apunipima for our help with the event."



# CLINICAL SERVICES



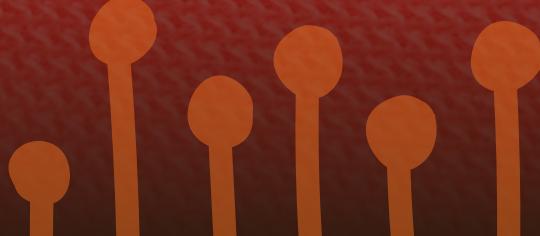
JULY 2024 - JUNE 2025



**CLIENTS 3653**  
**CLIENT CONTACTS**  
**29,849**

\* Clinical Services

60% INCREASE OF HEALTH CHECKS ON LAST YEAR



# CARDIAC HEALTH INITIATIVE CRITICAL FOR CAPE YORK COMMUNITIES

Apunipima was proud to successfully deliver six clinics as part of the ACYHC Cardiac Initiative. In the words of our Executive of Clinical Services, Dr James Doran, "A review of our data conducted over the past 12 months has shown us that cardiac disease causes more deaths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Cape York than anything else, so this area needs a lot of focus."

To make the ACYHC Cardiac Health Initiative a reality, Apunipima successfully negotiated funding for this innovative service from the North Queensland Primary Health Network (NQ PHN). ACYHC takes this opportunity to acknowledge the flexibility displayed by the NQ PHN in funding this vital and innovative health initiative. ACYHC looks forward to further collaborations with the NQ PHN and other stakeholders as we innovate our service offerings to secure increased local delivery of services within each Community we serve.

The specialist investigation and consultation services crucial to the ACYHC Cardiac Health Initiative were delivered in partnership with the Heart of Australia (HoA), a charitable organisation dedicated to the provision of equitable access to specialist healthcare services and testing in rural, remote, and First Nations Communities across Queensland.

The ACYHC Cardiac Initiative delivered six clinics, two involving the onsite presence of Heart 4, a purpose-built mobile clinic housed within a hospital-grade truck and designed to provide a range of diagnostic services including stress testing, ECGs, and sleep apnoea screening. The remaining clinics were hybrid in nature, with in-Community technical testing combined with Telehealth specialist consultations. To ensure equity of access across all the Communities we serve, Apunipima hosted one onsite ACYHC Heart Health Initiative at our headquarters in Cairns, with patients travelling down from their Communities.

A total of one hundred and sixty-nine patients were seen by the ACYHC Cardiac Health Initiative, with one hundred thirty-one electrocardiograms, one hundred and twenty-one cardiac related blood tests, one hundred and twenty-seven transthoracic echocardiograms, seventeen exercise stress echocardiograms, ten 24-hour Holter monitor studies, four blood pressure monitor studies, five sleep studies, and one hundred and fifty-five specialist Cardiology consultations.

The ACYHC Cardiac Health Initiative has not only supported Communities with vital cardiac services delivered locally, but in several cases resulted in lifesaving

interventions. In one particular instance, a Community member being seen by the ACYHC Cardiac Health Initiative in their home Community, was noted by the Cardiologist to have a significant life-threatening cardiac complication. This consultation was immediately followed by an urgent referral for cardiac surgery in a tertiary hospital. The Cardiologist expressed the view that if left untreated, this cardiac issue would have led the client to have a serious and life-threatening complications, considerably shortening their lifespan.

The ACYHC Cardiac Health Initiative was incredibly well received by each patient and every Community. The ACYHC Board, CEO and Executive of Clinical Services acknowledge that hard work done by our Clinical staff, the ITC program staff and Apunipima Travel that made this exciting initiative not only possible, but also so successful.

Apunipima looks forward to continued collaboration with our stakeholders such as the NQ PHN, and ongoing partnerships with HoA as we continue to innovate the way healthcare is delivered to ensure that Community expectations are met, and their preferences for community-based services are respected.



# RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE

## APUNIPIMA TARGETING RHD IN THE CAPE

Apunipima is one of five ACCHOs around the country that is participating in the Echo's in ACCHO's program that kicked off in early 2025. The program aims to increase capacity to screen for RHD in community by providing training to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers to utilise cardiac-ultrasound equipment.

Speaking about the program, Dr James Doran, Apunipima's Executive Manager, Clinical Services said "At the moment, there's a huge waiting list for people to get seen by a cardiologist for both RHD and non-RHD related care,

often involving travel out of the Cape. In the future we hope that our guys can not only detect early RHD but also monitor a lot of the minor cases of RHD, removing the need to travel out of the Cape, and help free up more cardiology appointment slots for patients with more severe RHD and non-rheumatic cardiac disease."



## PODIATRY

### APUNIPIMA LAUNCHES NEW PODIATRY TELEHEALTH SERVICES

Apunipima Cape York Health Council is proud to announce the launch of its new Podiatry Telehealth Service, an initiative designed to increase mobility of community members by improving foot health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across Cape York.

This initiative is part of a broader strategy to integrate diabetic foot screening and care into the entire patient journey, ensuring that diabetes related complications are not treated in isolation but as indicators of deeper health concerns.

A key focus of the program is to ensure that when a foot issue is identified, the patient receives a comprehensive health assessment. Many foot problems experienced by community members are linked to broader health conditions, particularly diabetes. By embedding foot screening and care into the full patient journey, Apunipima aims to address these underlying issues alongside immediate treatment.

The new Podiatry Telehealth Service allows health services across the Cape to connect patients with podiatry specialists quickly and efficiently. A promotional video is currently in development to raise awareness and encourage uptake of the service among health workers and clinics.



# OUR HEALTH IN OUR HANDS



# TACKLING INDIGENOUS SMOKING

## MUSIC VIDEOS

Apunipima rolled out a new Quit campaign across Cape York by teaming up with Dallas Woods from ARIA-award winning band, 3%, to create music videos that promote living smoke and vape-free in Cape York communities, featuring people from those communities.

"The campaign focuses on key messages such as the importance of smoke-free environments in homes, cars, and workplaces, promoting smoke-free pregnancies, and reducing the uptake of smoking products," said Apunipima CEO Debra Malthouse.

With support from schools, PCYCs and other community-based organisations, Mapoon, Napranum, Kowanyama, Hope Vale, and Pormpuraaw communities have shown their creative talents, from writing original lyrics to starring in the videos.

"The community have responded to this opportunity to lead some positive

health activities, and with the support of Elders, young people have been empowered to take centre stage in their community to deliver strong smoke and vape-free messages," Ms Malthouse said.

Ranging from hip-hop, country, and traditional music, the videos not only feature strong smoke and vape-free messaging but also display the beauty and uniqueness of each community.

Mapoon Elder and former Health Worker Dawn Braun features briefly in one of the music videos and said that the whole community is behind the concept, even those that don't like rap music.

"I'm definitely not a rap fan but watching the kids, it was great to see them getting so hyped up. I think everyone has embraced the project because smoking and vaping is very addictive and it's so easy for them to fall into that trap."

Mrs Braun believes that the key to getting through to the next generation of smokers is to engage them constantly with the right messaging.

"We gotta keep plugging it, we have to be repetitious. We need to promote this continuously because there's still too much exposure to it. Projects like this, videos filmed using local community members, in their backyards, in their fishing spots, they love this kind of thing and so the messaging resonates," she said.

Apart from the full-length music videos each community produced, the campaign also features a mix of short 'reel' videos for social media. The videos can be seen on the What's Your Story Cape York? Facebook Page as well as Apunipima's YouTube Channel.



# AFTERCARE PROGRAM

## AFTERCARE LAUNCHES PROVIDING SUICIDE CRISIS SUPPORT FOR CAPE YORK

Aftercare is a NACCHO-funded program new for Apunipima in 2024 which facilitates care after a suicide crisis. Whether the incident is an ideation, an attempt or a completed suicide, Aftercare engages stakeholders to provide post-care by supporting families and community members that have gone through an incident. The program is non-client based and consists solely of working with community stakeholders or Cairns-based organisations that have funding and capacity to service the Cape.

"If there is an incident, we will work with whatever support is

available in community and if they need more support or there isn't any in community, we will engage external support," said Aftercare worker Annie Don'e.

The Aftercare program lies within NACCHO's Culture Care Connect Model of Care, which serves as a blueprint for local and jurisdictional suicide prevention planning, as well as the coordination and delivery of aftercare services. Culture Care Connect integrates suicide prevention and holistic aftercare with cultural sensitivity and community empowerment.



## ELDER CARE SUPPORT PROGRAM

### INFO, BINGO AND COWBOY HATS: ECS PROGRAM WINS BIG IN AURUKUN

In June 2025, the Elder Care Support Team visited the Chivaree Aged Care Centre in Aurukun, where they hosted a lively Bingo activity that brought smiles, laughter, and a wonderful sense of community.

The team shared information about the Elder Care Support Program through relaxed yarning sessions with Elders before and after the game, fostering culturally respectful and meaningful connections. In addition to these informal conversations, Jahlela Boyle facilitated a formal session using a PowerPoint presentation, providing a clear and engaging overview of the program and the support available.

As prizes were won, the competitive spirit came alive. A few of the gentlemen proudly claimed cowboy hats, their eyes lighting up with joy and pride. One of the most heartwarming moments came when an Aunty won a \$50 voucher generously provided by the Chivaree Centre. Her happiness was contagious and everyone celebrated with her.

The event was more than just a game; it was a chance to connect, share stories, and build relationships. The laughter, the

cheers, and the shared moments of celebration made it a truly memorable occasion.

"We thank Chivaree Aged Care Centre for welcoming us so warmly. It was a joy to spend time with the Elders, share stories, and see them light up during the Bingo games. We look forward to many more opportunities to come together, celebrate culture, give hope, and support one another."

~Laura Lyall, ECS Support Team Coordinator



## STRENGTHENING THE WORKFORCE BEHIND ELDER CARE: TRAINING UPDATE



Behind Apunipima's Elder Care Support (ECS) Program is a passionate training team working to build and sustain a culturally safe aged care workforce across Cape York, Townsville, and Mt Isa. While they don't provide direct care, their work is vital in empowering those who do.

Their mission is to strengthen the ECS workforce through culturally safe training, mentoring, and collaboration. Their work ensures aged care support is community-controlled and responsive to local needs. In June 2025 the ECS Training Program has secured an additional 12 months of funding. With this renewed support, the team can train more Community Connectors and expand the reach of culturally safe aged care across Northern Queensland.

# GATHER AND GROW

## REMOTE FOOD SECURITY ISSUES

Gather & Grow is a project working with communities to invite community solutions to address food insecurity. The program started in January 2022 and was finalised in June 2025. The focus communities in the last year were Hope Vale, Wujal Wujal, Laura, Mossman Gorge and Coen.

Rose Romeo was Apunipima's nutritionist leading the project and Rose worked with a number of HATs, community groups, community agencies and services to develop Community Action Plans to address remote food security issues. Rose also worked closely with the stores and relevant store nutritionists to promote healthy food and drink options in community.

Part of the project was focused around children and young people to ensure they have the best start to life and there were lots of activities with children and parents. Also the project focused on community events, school sessions, working with SEWB groups and other key events. Gather and Grow often worked with other Apunipima teams including TIS, Health Promotion, Community Development and SEWB.

The project was funded by Health & Wellbeing Queensland.

## OUTREACH SEWB

### HEALTHY MINDS AND BODIES THE FOCUS OF ON-COUNTRY CAMPS

In May and June 2024, Apunipima hosted three 'On Country' Mens Camps which brought together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men from different regions of the Cape to reconnect with culture and strengthen their spirit through shared healing. These camps were designed to be immersive cultural experiences, while also supporting social and emotional wellbeing, leadership, and community connection.

The camp locations were chosen for their cultural significance with men from Hope Vale & Wujal Wujal attending Camp 1 at Normanby Station, Men from Aurukun attending Camp 2 at Moreton Telegraph Station, and men from Pormpuraaw attending Camp 3 at Paa Panthu Homelands.

"Being on country creates a sense of peace and clarity that allows the men to reflect on their lives, their roles in community and encourages them to share about who they are and where they come from. This is the foundation of spiritual health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people," said Community Development Officer, William Blanco.

The aim of the camps was to create a culturally safe space for the men to speak openly. Each camp went for four nights with the days consisting of workshops and discussions, on topics such as identifying values, empowerment, goal setting, leadership qualities and self-care.

The sessions were broken up by various 'on-country' activities designed to both stimulate the mens' cultural identities and get them outside to stretch the legs. They included activities like smoking ceremonies, visiting sacred rock art and other cultural sites, bush walking and fishing.

"Sitting together around the campfire, walking through the bush or in the daily yarning circles, the men found common ground and built strong bonds by listening and sharing with each other," Mr Blanco said.

Apunipima's First Nations Mentor Richard Assan attended Normanby Station and Paa Panthu and said that the camps provided an ideal setting for the men to be able to open up and discuss what's important to them.

"The guys loved getting out of the community and back on country, where they're free to participate in men's business away from the distractions of the community. Over the few days



you could notice the change in the men as they connected with themselves, each other and with country."

The men from each camp were primarily from that community's Men's Group with Apunipima Mens Support Workers from that community also attending, as well as support staff from Cairns. The workshops revolved around personal and group reflection and discussions followed around how the men could be strong role models and leaders in their communities.

Len Winston Paul from the Aurukun Men's Group attended the Moreton Telegraph Station camp and said the camp was great with everyone taking plenty away from it.

"I enjoyed it and I think the other guys did as well because everyone connected straight away. It was very peaceful getting out of the community and good that everyone shared their concerns and discussed what we need to do to be strong leaders in our community," he said.

The men's camps were delivered as part of Apunipima's Men's Outreach Program and were made possible through the support of The Department of Health and Aged Care.





# OUR PEOPLE

Apunipima continues to take pride in fostering a workforce that reflects diversity and inclusion, consistently surpassing national benchmarks in this space. This year, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation reached 71% of our total staff. This achievement extends into leadership, where 68% of roles are held by individuals identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.

Our commitment to gender equality remains strong, with women comprising 74% of our overall workforce and 73% of leadership positions. We are pleased to report ongoing compliance with the Workplace Gender Equality Agency's standards, reaffirming our dedication to fair and balanced representation.

A further highlight this year was the appointment of 24 team members to act in higher duty roles, offering valuable opportunities to build leadership capability. Of those stepping into these positions, 18 identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander—demonstrating our continued investment in nurturing Indigenous leadership across the organisation.

**182** EMPLOYEES

**71%** IDENTIFY AS ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

**25%** OF OUR EMPLOYEES ARE BASED IN COMMUNITY

**68%** OF LEADERS IDENTIFY AS ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER



WORK READY PROGRAM TEAM 2025

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

In an inspiring step toward strengthening Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services, Apunipima Cape York Health Council has launched a transformative 20-week paid work experience program aimed at nurturing the next generation of health workers from Cape York communities.

Funded by the Queensland Government's Department of Employment, Small Business and Training (DESBIT), and coordinated by our very own Work Ready Transition Coordinator, Merwez Whaleboat, this initiative is all about building skills, confidence, and career pathways for young adults aged 18–30.

Developed in partnership with the Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of NSW (AH&MRC), the program offers a tailored Certificate II in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care. This entry-level qualification sets participants on a clear path to Certificate III, with only a few additional units needed to progress.

We welcomed 18 enthusiastic trainees from Kowanyama, Mapoon, and Napranum, selected through a community-led recruitment process. Their passion for making a difference in their communities is the heartbeat of this initiative.

Training kicked off with an onboarding week in Cairns, covering key topics like Workplace Health and Safety, IT, privacy and confidentiality, CPR, and essential soft skills such as time management, goal setting, and health promotion. Trainees are immersed in a weekly rhythm of two days of work and one day of training in their home communities. They're gaining hands-on experience by shadowing senior health workers, visiting health services, and engaging in community activities.



TIMES STAFF WERE PUT THROUGH TRAINING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



**18**

STAFF COMPLETED FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS



**60**

ENROLMENTS IN ACCREDITED AND NON-ACCREDITED TRAINING



STAFF ATTENDED CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

# QUALITY & COMPLIANCE

RACGP Accreditation is conducted every 3 years. All of Apunipima's primary health care centres are now accredited under this standard. Mapoon successfully secured its first RACGP Accreditation. Coen successfully renewed their accreditation. RACGP accreditation is a program that is led by the Clinical Services Team with support provided by the Quality and Compliance Team.

Human Services Quality Framework – Re-certification is required every 3 years, with a surveillance audit conducted at 18 months. Human Services Quality Framework HSQF – Surveillance Audit in December 2024. – Aurukun, Wujal, Kowanyama and Cairns. The Surveillance audit recommended that we maintain our HSQF certification.

ISO 9001:2015 – recertification is conducted every three years with an annual surveillance audit. ISO Surveillance Audit July 2025 – Aurukun, Coen and Cairns were the sites visited – successful and it was recommended that we maintain our ISO 9001:2015 Certification.

WHS – Apunipima conducted site visits to Hope Vale, Napranum, Mapoon and Mossman.

## INTERNAL AUDITS



### Audit Coordination:

Managed annually by the Quality and Compliance Team, with an Audit Schedule endorsed by the Senior Management Team and the Audit and Risk Sub-Committee of the Board.

### Audit Schedule:



TOTAL INTERNAL & EXTERNAL AUDITS SCHEDULED



NUMBER OF TRAINED INTERNAL AUDITORS



DOCUMENTS BEING MANAGED

## COMPLIANCE/CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

Apunipima currently receives funding through 49 funding and service agreements covering diverse activities such as comprehensive primary healthcare, social and emotional wellbeing programs, population health initiatives, and research projects.

Reports Submitted  
(July 2024 - June 2025):



**56**  
FINANCIAL REPORTS



**120**  
PERFORMANCE REPORTS

A core responsibility of the Quality and Compliance team is to cultivate and maintain strong relationships with funding bodies - departmental representatives by delivering timely and accurate reports. Effective internal communication and networking also create a strong foundation for quality reporting and a shared understanding of its importance across the organisation. This approach supports effective collaboration with both new and existing contract managers reinforcing Apunipima's commitment to evidence-based practice, community-led health promotion, and culturally safe health service delivery.

# INFRASTRUCTURE BUILDS



## NEW ACCOMMODATION FINISHED IN MAPOON

Apunipima has completed its accommodation building works project in June 2025 in Mapoon with three new houses now ready for use. The build consists of 2 x 2-bedroom houses and one 3-bedroom house that are available for Fly-In-Fly-Out (FIFO) staff and the community-based PHC manager. A similar project in Kowanyama is also nearing completion after delays due to significant weather. Apunipima's Chief Financial Officer Jemma Lichtenfeld said that the project's completion came at the best possible time.

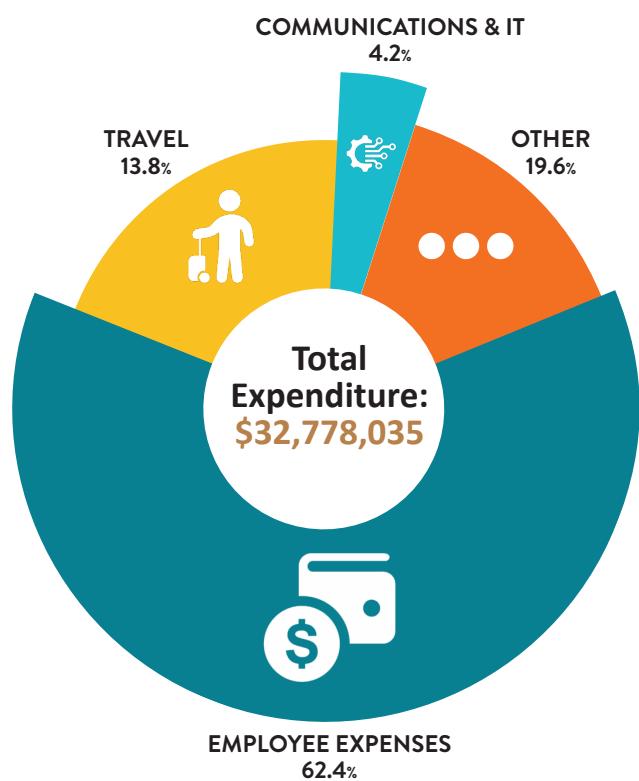
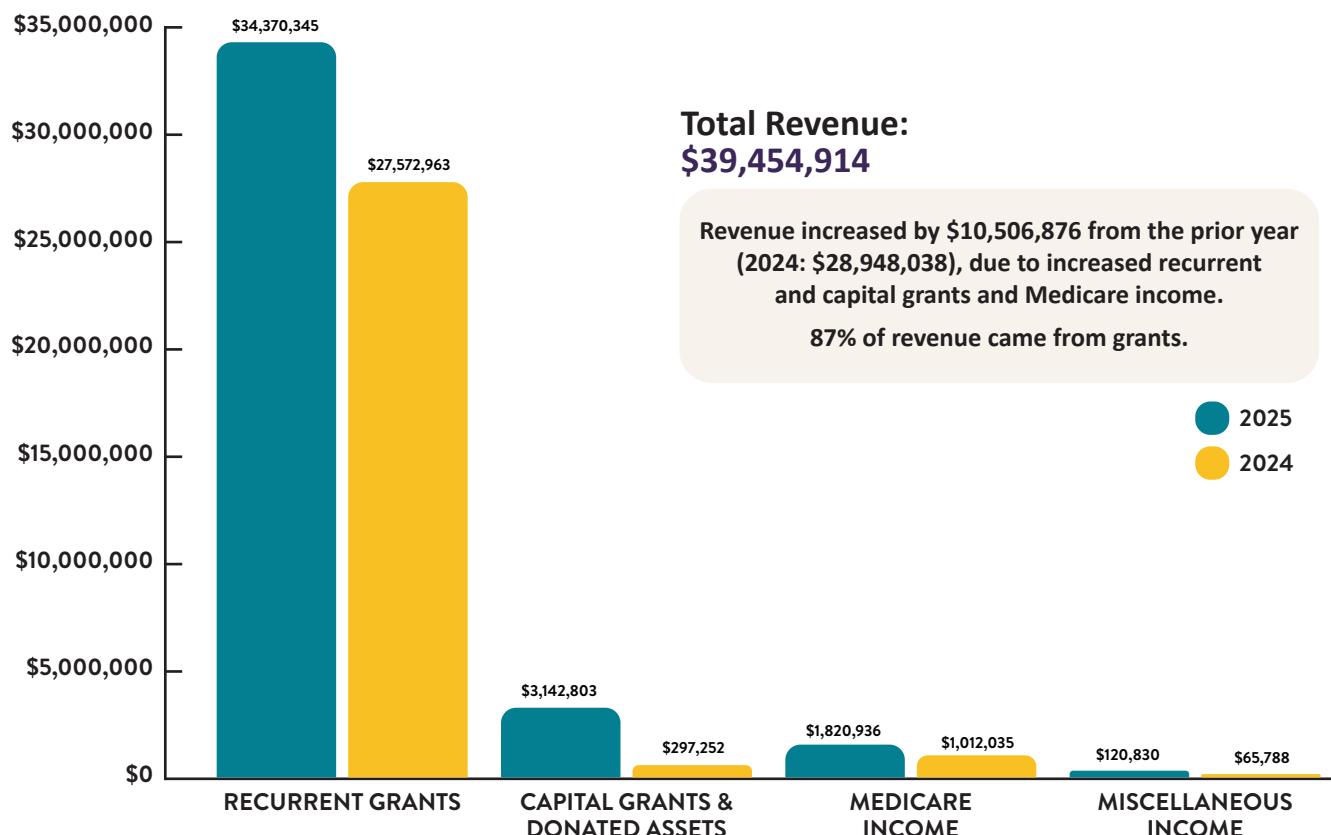
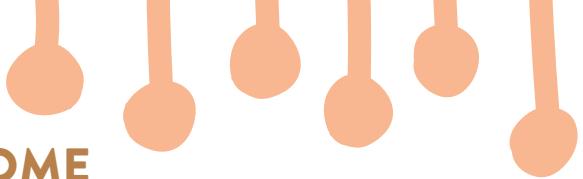
"Finding accommodation for our FIFO staff can be challenging, especially during the tourist season, so to have consistency and stability for our travelling staff in Mapoon is fantastic. With the Kowanyama build due to finish in the second half of 2025, having more options in these two communities will make arranging for service delivery easier and their stay more like home," Ms Lichtenfeld said.

The funding for the Mapoon build came from the Department of Health and Aged Care - Rural and Remote Health Infrastructure Program (\$1,006,844), Indigenous Australians Health Program – Closing the Gap (\$645,174) and Service Maintenance Program (\$85,625). Apunipima also utilised some of our own funds (\$104,450).



# FINANCIALS

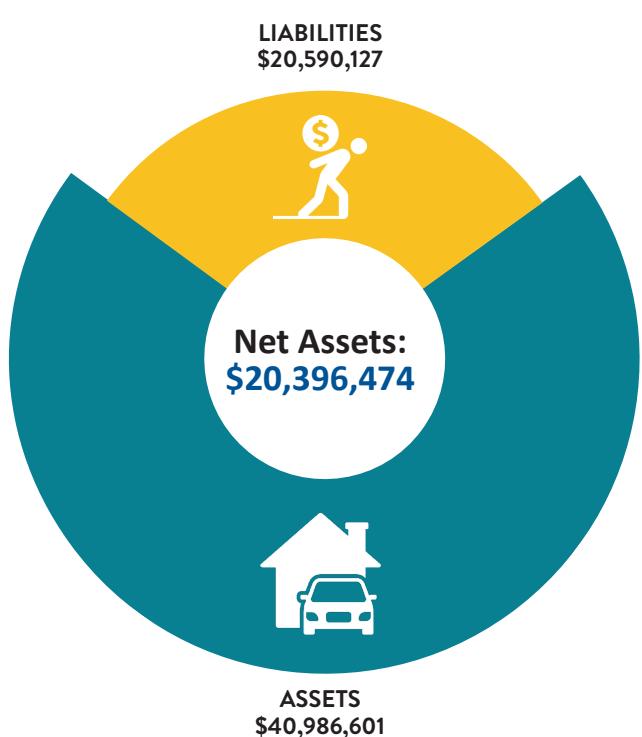
## STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME



Employees costs make up 62.4% of total expenditure.

Staff travel costs made up a further 13.8%.

The organisation had increased expenditure compared to the prior year (2024: \$27,370,481)



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

## Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2025

		2025	2024
	Note	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>			
Recurrent grants	5a	34,370,345	27,572,963
Medicare income	5d	1,820,936	1,012,035
Miscellaneous income	5d	162,118	75,115
Net gain/(loss) on sale of property, plant, and equipment		(41,288)	(9,327)
		<u>36,312,111</u>	<u>28,650,786</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Asset purchase and repairs		289,563	198,007
Cleaning and supplies		292,399	264,625
Clinical expenditure		399,388	272,430
Consultants and professional services		1,662,982	742,508
Electricity		220,728	242,339
Employee expenses		20,455,464	17,794,650
Fleet costs		444,235	390,097
Governance		281,181	301,712
Grants repaid	5c	151,598	60,428
Health promotion resources		1,200,072	501,178
Insurance		214,383	240,857
Insurance claims		1,218	1,000
IT expenditure		680,085	708,653
Repairs and maintenance		351,991	265,697
Staff training		456,557	530,874
Telephone and fax		695,915	706,385
Travel and accommodation		4,529,238	3,759,034
Utilities and facilities		134,270	147,429
Other expenses	6	316,768	242,578
		<u>32,778,035</u>	<u>27,370,481</u>
<b>Results from operating activities</b>		<u>3,534,076</u>	<u>1,280,305</u>
 Finance income		969,281	721,138
Finance costs		(350,056)	(228,435)
<b>Net finance income/(costs)</b>		<u>619,224</u>	<u>492,703</u>
 Amortisation – Intangible assets		-	17,264
Depreciation – Property, plant, equipment, and right-of-use assets	8,9	1,594,201	1,657,062
<b>Total depreciation and amortisation expense</b>		<u>1,594,201</u>	<u>1,674,326</u>
 <b>Net surplus/(loss) before tax</b>		<u>2,559,099</u>	<u>98,682</u>
Income tax expense		-	-
<b>Net surplus/(loss) before capital revenue</b>		<u>2,559,099</u>	<u>98,682</u>

## Statement of comprehensive income (continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Capital grant revenue	5b	3,142,803	297,252
<b>Capital Revenue</b>		<u>3,142,803</u>	<u>297,252</u>
<b>Net surplus/(loss)</b>		<u>5,701,902</u>	<u>395,934</u>
Other comprehensive income		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<u>5,701,902</u>	<u>395,934</u>

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

# Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025	2024
		\$	\$
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		21,936,735	18,263,318
Trade and other receivables	7	1,646,944	854,156
Prepayments		463,223	475,147
Long service leave receivable		236,125	182,319
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>24,283,027</u>	<u>19,774,940</u>
Deposits - rental bond	7	39,207	39,207
Long service leave receivable		76,969	120,806
Property, plant, equipment and work in progress	8	12,230,342	9,627,078
Right-of-use assets	9	4,357,056	4,810,409
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<u>16,703,574</u>	<u>14,597,500</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>40,986,601</u>	<u>34,372,440</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	10	3,999,904	1,965,507
Contract liability	11	6,494,483	7,490,035
Unexpended capital grant liability	12	4,696,770	4,446,861
Lease liabilities	13	980,285	876,830
Provisions	15	377,236	404,131
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u>16,548,678</u>	<u>15,183,364</u>
Lease liabilities	13	3,950,229	4,327,216
Provisions	15	91,220	167,288
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<u>4,041,449</u>	<u>4,494,504</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>20,590,127</u>	<u>19,677,868</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>20,396,474</u>	<u>14,694,572</u>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained surplus	16	19,321,230	13,557,809
Reserves	16	1,075,244	1,136,763
<b>Total equity</b>		<u>20,396,474</u>	<u>14,694,572</u>

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

## Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Attributable to the Company	Note	Restricted Medicare funds	Standard reserve	Retained surplus	Total equity
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2023		960,662	602,692	12,778,323	14,341,677
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>					
Net surplus		-	-	395,934	395,934
Other comprehensive income		-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income		-	-	395,934	395,934
Prior year amendments	16c	-	-	(43,039)	(43,039)
Transfers to/from reserves	16b	-	(426,591)	426,591	-
Balance at 30 June 2024		960,662	176,101	13,557,809	14,694,572
Balance at 1 July 2024		960,662	176,101	13,557,809	14,694,572
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>					
Net surplus				5,701,902	5,701,902
Other comprehensive income		-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income		-	-	5,701,902	5,701,902
Transfers to/from reserves	16b	-	(61,519)	61,519	-
Balance at 30 June 2025		960,662	114,582	19,321,230	20,396,474

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

## Statement of cash flows

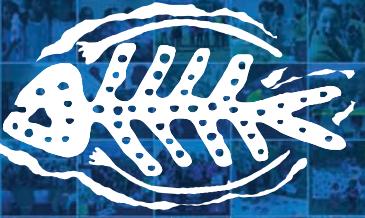
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Cash receipts from funding bodies	37,780,291	35,344,534
Cash receipts from customers	1,980,866	1,087,150
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(36,040,744)	(32,468,320)
Interest received	969,281	721,138
<b>Net cash from/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>4,689,694</b>	<b>4,684,502</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Acquisition of intangible assets	-	-
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(3,289,019)	(413,234)
Capital grants received	3,392,712	985,445
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	3,884	53,736
<b>Net cash from/(used in) investing activities</b>	<b>107,577</b>	<b>625,947</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Payment of lease liabilities	(773,798)	(761,431)
Payment of Bond	-	(23,624)
Interest paid	(350,056)	(224,748)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>(1,123,854)</b>	<b>(1,009,803)</b>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	3,673,417	4,300,646
 Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July	 18,263,318	 13,962,672
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June</b>	<b>21,936,735</b>	<b>18,263,318</b>

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.



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YEARS



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