

NTSGAC Sponsors



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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation Level 2, 55 Wentworth Ave, Kingston ACT PO Box 4363 Kingston ACT 2604

Newsletter Aug - Dec 2016



NT Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation

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Warning

Photos displayed in this newsletter may contain images of deceased persons and may cause distress.

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Midpul's (Prince of Wales)

Larrakia Nation Elders unveiling, Prince of Wales Midpul's mural art display at the Charles Darwin University.











Eileen Cummings: Chairpersons report

I would like to make Welcome our new official CEO Maisie Austin, a true Territorian who has worked and lived her life in the Territory, a strong business woman who ran her own Real Estate agency for many years and has been in the world of basketball as a player, Coach and administrator. Maisie comes from the big Adams family and all have been participants of sports throughout the Territory. The NTSGAC organisation now have full capacity of staff, CEO, Administration Officer, Receptionist, Three Case workers, Research Officer, Project Officer and a Counsellor.

Our new Link-up Research Officer: - Miriam Cleary, I would like to welcome Miriam to NTSGAC and wish her all the success in her professional role as the NTSGAC Link-up Research Officer and our NTSGAC staff, Gerard Hurst and Daniel Fejo have graduated in completing their Certificate/ Diploma through Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia Incorporation Personal Development Unit and graduated on Friday 5th August 2016 in Adelaide. I was pleased with the way both Gerald and Daniel excelled in their training and received praise for their efforts from the Trainers.

The NTSGAC Board remembers and acknowledges the sad passing of "Boyd Scully" a very strong and committed Board Director a man of great integrity. Also the Board would like to remember other Elders and their families in their sad losses over the past months.



On the 1st September, NTSGAC Board of Directors and staff met with the Royal Commissioners David Wragge and Rachel Malthouse to discuss the work that will be conducted on the Tiwi Islands into Institutional Abuse.

South Australian Reparation Scheme, Maria Atkins and fellow workers also met to discuss the reparation scheme of South Australia and gather information of children removed from the Northern Territory to Institutions and foster and adopted homes in South Australia. A group of Elders from each Institution is compiling a list of Stolen Generation people who were sent to Institutions and homes in South Australia in the 50/60s, to present to the South Australian Reparation Scheme.

The opening of Red Cross office invited Aunty Kathy Mills and her daughter June to sing (Arafura Pearl) and Yvonne Bradley to sing one of her original songs about reconciliation. They had a great turn out of people from various organisations and the Honourable, Chief Minister Michael Gunner and other government officials were also present for the official opening.

As the Chairperson also gave a presentation about Stolen Generation in the NT to medical students at CDU and there was a lot of interest about the topic and good discussion between all the students. Another event at CDU was unveiling the restored artwork of Larrakia Elder Midpul (Prince of Wales) which many of the Larrakia Elders attended for the smoking ceremony and welcomed the delegates to Country.

NTSGAC is also working on applying for more grants for next year to help run learning facilities with an extended range of Indigenous education resources and opportunities to sit with community Elders and to gain further knowledge. I will also be sitting on the Indigenous committee within Royal Darwin Hospital.

Also enclosed is our Christmas Greeting and the invitation for the Senior Christmas Party Venue from NTSGAC.

Cheers Eileen Cummings







CEO - Maisie Austin

I was honoured to be appointed initially as the Interim Chief Executive Officer, then through a formal selection process, the Chief Executive Officer in September.

For those of you who don't know me, my parents are Charlie and Mona Adams. I was raised and educated in Darwin, have been a business owner/operator and company director since the 1970s, and have been Chairperson, President and Board member for various organisations over the years. I was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM), the Australian Sports Medal (ASM) and inducted into the Northern Territory Sports Hall of Champions. I intend to work with the Board of Directors, staff and members to manage, lead and administer our Organisation with integrity, credibility and professionalism, and to be open, transparent and accountable to all our members.

Accordingly, one of my first priorities was to meet with the Prime Minister & Cabinet Department (PM&C), which provides the funding to our Organisation, to establish our current financial position.

There was concern that there has been over-spending of the budget over the past few years and that monies have been used for products and services not funded under our programme. PM&C Canberra has held a Compliance Review on the management of our Organisation. The Review will provide more information on the financial status of NTSGAC and guidance for working with Board Directors around Governance. A contingency plan may need to be implemented, which may with necessitate budget cuts in a number of categories.



Key Performance Indicators

We continue to comply with the six Key Performance Indicators and have submitted required reports before the due dates as per our Grant funding terms.

Consultants Matrix on Board also completed a Strategic Plan, Strategic & Operational Plan, Risk Management Plan, and Code of Conduct, all of which were endorsed by the Board.

Accreditation

We continue to achieve ISO Accreditation – the certification which provides confidence in the services provided by our Organisation.

Operational

Staff positions are at full capacity with the appointment of a Family History Research Officer, Miriam Cleary.

All staff members are working well and positively, individually and as a team. Staff meetings and meetings with the Link Up Caseworkers, Research Officer and Counsellor are held on a regular basis, and checks carried out on a daily basis of all employee's workload and upcoming projects. I personally am very proud of them all and enjoy working with them. All staff attends work in full uniform to promote professionalism and the image of NTSGAC.

Policies and procedures are in place for better administration and delivery of our services. Link-up Caseworker Gerry Hurst and Counsellor Daniel Fejo completed their studies and graduated in Adelaide in August, and Caseworkers Raelene Rosas and Evelyn Perkins attended a national forum in Perth in September.

Our Project Officer, Yvonne Bradley continued her good work with the newsletters, Ladies Days and various other activities. Administration Officer Tyron Major and Assistant Administration Officer Diara Croker continue to attain further skills and knowledge in their positions.



ABA Grant Application

An application for funding has been submitted for the purchase of an established building, which would become a Centre for Stolen Generations and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in the Northern Territory. It would include office space for our operations, a healing room, library, a small museum/display room and lock-up car parking.

A Centre:

- which would provide recognition and acknowledgment of our culture and history;
- would be a culturally safe environment to visit, meet, attend workshops and forums on employment, health, education, recording and maintaining language and culture, leadership and governance that could prove vital in improving social, emotional and wellbeing, and a way of addressing social and economic disadvantage;
- where we can receive recognition, social justice and fair compensation, while retaining our unique identity.
- In the interim, we are seeking larger premises to lease.

20th Anniversary of the Bringing Them Home Report

Next year is the 20th anniversary of the Bringing Them Home Report and it has been suggested that the celebration be held in Darwin. If members agree, we would need to elect a committee to coordinate and seek funding.

We have held three teleconferences with the Bringing Them Home committee, wherein we raised a concerns on a number of recommendations which to date have not been implemented, and various other issues. We will continue our efforts to ensure these recommendations are resolved.



Community Activities

Our Project Officer, Counsellor and I attended a forum organised by Australian Red Cross on "Darwin Indigenous Giving and Volunteer", which may assist us in involving volunteers in our organisation.

I attended a forum called "Tina Talks" organised by YWCA Darwin on 14 July, where our Chairperson was a guest speaker.

Our Chairperson and I attended the Danila Dilba Malak Clinic Opening on 20 July.

Members are welcome to visit our office, meet the staff and see how we operate. We welcome any suggestions or feedback.

Postscript:

NTSGAC strives to promote and represent the NT Stolen Generations members, clients and their families' interests, concerns and issues to Territory and Commonwealth governments and their agencies. However, NTSGAC only receives funding from the Prime Minister & Cabinet Department for Link-Up services, which include counselling and support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, who are tracing and/or locating their families and/or planning a reunion. (Please refer to the Link-Up Research & Reunion Casework brochure at the back of this newsletter).

However, we do provide a service for Confirmation of Aboriginality and funeral support, in the printing of booklets and transport, where possible. We are also setting up a library where members can sit quietly and look at photos, videos and reference/history publications.

Cheers
Maisie Austin
Chief Executive Officer



Kybrook- Pine Creek Community



NTSGAC Chairperson Eileen Cummings, May Katona with Bessie Coleman

Elders Pine Creek: - On the 5/9/2016- NTSGAC had a meeting with Elders of Pine Creek in regards to erecting a monument somewhere in Pine Creek for the Children of the Stolen Generation. There was a home in Pine Creek and the people in Pine Creek would like to remember the home by erecting a monument. Discussions will continue with the people of Pine Creek, NTSGAC and the Regional council







Red Cross Volunteers

Red Cross office officially opened two new sites in Darwin and the Tiwi Islands that will strengthen our long-term commitment to working with the people of the Northern Territory. NTSGAC CEO Maisie Austin, NTSGAC Counsellor Daniel Fejo and NTSGAC Project Officer Yvonne Bradley attended the Volunteers work group to connect with other volunteers through Red Cross organisation to help assist NTSGAC with community events and other projects.





Darwin Red Cross Head Office Launch Monday 26.8.16

The Arafura Pearl is a well-known song that describes Darwin, its beautiful landscape and friendly people. It was fitting that writer Kathy Mills and her daughter June sang the song at the opening. Kathy also read one of her poems written about the strength of women and Cyclone Tracey which devastated Darwin on Christmas Day in 1974. Yvonne Bradley also sang one of her songs about reconciliation. Also present at the opening was Northern Territory Chief Minister, Hon. Michael Gunner.









Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia Inc



Gerard Hurst and Daniel Fejo have graduated in completing their Certificate / Diploma through Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia Inc Personal Development Unit and graduated on Friday 5th August 2016 in Adelaide.

Daniel Fejo – Diploma of Narrative Approaches for Aboriginal People (Counselling, Group and Community work).

Gerard Hurst – Certificate IV in Stolen Generations Family Research and Case Management.



NTSGAC Chairperson Eileen Cummings represented the Organisation on behalf of the NTSGAC Board for our two NTSGAC Graduates.



Link Up Caseworker Team

The Case Team of the Link Up Service consists :-

Raelene Rosas - Team Leader

Evelyn Perkins - Female Caseworker

Gerard Hurst - Male Caseworker

Daniel Fejo - Counsellor/Well-being Support Officer

Miriam Cleary - Research Officer



Gerard Hurst, Miriam Cleary, Daniel Fejo, Evelyn Perkins, Raelene Rosas

We have a full Case Team now that Miriam Cleary has joined us and we are currently streamlining our Link Up Service. We have had a busy time in the last year with Reunions, Community events, Certificate IV in Stolen Generations Family History and Case Management Pilot, Marumali, First Aid and now the Certificate IV is at the evaluation stage. The service that we deliver to our clients under the Link Up Service has been improved and maintained with the ISO accreditation of NTSGAC. We have been working closely with other Link Up Services nationally and have been improving our service delivery of best practices for the last year with our Case Team.







New Link-up research Officer

Miriam Cleary Donohoe, married with four children and grandmother to one (first time Nana ya!) Lives out at Darwin River on 20 acres surrounded by animals, exotic fruit trees and tropical gardens. I love the outdoors and being with family and friends.

Born DarwinLived rural most of my life and other parts of the Northern Territory. Lived in Samoa (Pacific) for two years, volunteered working with locals in villages and loved it. Worked for various organisations (majority being Aboriginal) throughout the NT. Worked in many Aboriginal communities throughout the NT also.

I love getting to know people, bush/back roads, good fishing and camping spots. Hunting and collecting bush tucker, cooking and eating different types of foods from around the world, except I can't come at eating dog....pass

It's lovely to be back working with Stolen Generations as I miss the closeness of extended family and likeminded people. I enjoy listening to a good yarn with the oldies as they pass on so much wisdom and great stories and I love being with the young ones for their zest for life and sense of humour.

Cheers **Miriam Cleary**



Midpul Unveiling - (Aka Prince of Wales)



Unveiling the restored 4 meter long ceremonial mural art of a Larrakia Elder Midpul (Prince of Wales) The bench is in the fore-court of the Blue Precinct at the CDU campus. The Larrakia Elders performed the smoking ceremony and welcomed the delegates to Country.







NTSGAC AGM

23rd November 2016

This years AGM was held at the Michael Long Centre Lecture room on the 23rd November 2016. The AGM was facilitated by Lenore Dembski and minute taker was the CEO Maisie Austin as Gloria Daylight was too ill to attend the meeting. The NTSGAC Members discussed and endorsed the following:

- Minutes from the previous AGM held on 24th November 2015
- Minutes of the Special General Meeting 17th June 2016
- Chairperson, CEO report and the Financial Audit,
- 2 new Board of Directors were elected, Halpin Hart and Verna Macauley,
- sitting fees were not endorsed by the members after a long discussion,
- that the Accountant & the Auditor be present at the AGM.





NTSGAC Members, Minute taker (Maisie Austin) and Facilitator (Lenore Dembski)





PRESERVATION

by Luke.S.Morcome

Country keeps calling
Beckoning to come home
Time now to settle down
Never more to roam

Leave that concrete jungle Set that broken spirit free Move back to mother country Settle down by the sea

Bring back the children
The ones we couldn't hide
Taken away by government
That saw many mothers cry

Time to learn about country Listen to the stories being old And take on responsibilities Elders getting far too old

They have been handed down
Since the beginning of time
Although a generation stolen
Government thought it no crime

Now the Elders are dying
Culture to day strong
Knowledge must be passed on
Dreamtime stories an sacred songs

Preservation of Aboriginal Culture
Desperately trying hard to survive
Aboriginal children in total confusion
Great increase now in suicide

Got to address this problem
Aboriginal people must understand
Remember the ancient teachings
United must make a stand

Community Services in Darwin

Beyondblue

Phone:- 1300 224 636

Support: 24hours 7 days a week

Chat line:- 24 hours- 7 days a week

Support in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

Beyondblue recognises that much needs to be done to address depression, anxiety, suicide and related drug and alcohol problems in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Over time and across Australia, generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have experienced <u>trauma</u>, <u>grief and loss</u>.

Psychological distress is high among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and this is worsened by ongoing social and health factors. In consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations, *beyondblue* has developed a range of research, information, education and support strategies for the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

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Carers NT

Phone: 1800 242 636

Phone: 89444888 – Community Advisory Services Address: 59 Bayview Boulevard, Bayview. Darwin

Disability Services & Age Care Organisation

- Stress Managements
- Crisis Counselling's



The Foodbank Warehouse in Darwin

Contact Us:

Foodbank Northern Territory 9 Mel Rd Berrimah NT 0828 08 8947 3669

Are you or your family members struggling to meet financial bills? foodbank could help you

Foodbank is by far, the largest hunger relief organisation in the Northern Territory. Last year alone, Foodbank Northern Territory provided enough food for 216,760 meals.

Foodbank Northern Territory is a non-denominational community supported, non-profit organisation which relies on the support of a large network of dedicated people who have a commitment to fulfilling the aims and objectives of Foodbank Northern Territory.

The concept of Foodbank Northern Territory is simple — to feed the country's needy by redistributing surplus food. Food growers, manufacturers and processors produce quantities of food which, for various commercial reasons, cannot be sold. The products may be incorrectly labelled, have faulty packaging, be part of a trial run or are not produced to exact specifications. It is estimated that as much as 30% of all food produced is unsaleable for a variety of reasons. Increasingly, welfare agencies are involved in an on-going struggle to provide food relief to thousands of people who are dependant on food handouts to supplement their welfare benefits.



Helping people hear.

Australian Hearing provides hearing services to over 80 remote and rural communities across the NT, which are each visited between 2 and 4 times per year. At the combined NAIDOC week event held in conjunction with the Northern Territory Stolen Generations and the Red Cross, one of our clients, Mrs Mona Singh presented Australian Hearing with a beautiful painting she had done showing fish, turtle, stingray and dugong. Mona is seen at the community of Belyuen, and receives hearing services there when required.

Australian Hearing's clinical services, including hearing assessments and provision of hearing aids, can be provided to people who meet our eligibility criteria. Device include behind the ear hearing aids, assistive listening devices, and bone conduction hearing aids in a band or in a "hearing hat" for those who have had or continue to have ear infections. Australian Hearing clients are generally those who have received appropriate medical treatment for their hearing problem, but who continue to have significant difficulties hearing. For example it may be difficult to hear their family and friends or perhaps are having trouble hearing in a group such as at a meeting.

Eligibility for our services includes people who:

- a) are voucher holders which includes:
- people who hold a Pensioner Concession Card and their dependants
- most veterans and members of the Australian Defence Force
- b) Australian citizens or permanent residents under 26 years of age
- c) all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples aged 50 and over
- d) all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples participating in Remote Jobs and Communities program
- 1. In Darwin, clients usually prefer to access hearing services at our office at 13 Scaturhcio Street in Casuarina. Ring 13 17 97 for more information, or you can contact your local health clinic or GP for advice.

Regards, john

John Anderson

Manager Darwin and Alice Springs

Australian Hearing Darwin 13 Scaturchio Street Casuarina NT 0810 P: (08) 8920 5900 M: 0400 449 331 E: john.anderson@hearing.com.au

www.hearing.com.au 🕡 🕲 🗓 💟





Christmas Greetings







Wishing you All A



From NTSGAC Board Directors CEO & Staff













NTSGAC 2016 Seniors Christmas Luncheon



Venue. Airport Tavern

Date: Thursday 8th December

Time: 11.30am

RSVP: please phone 89 479171 by 5th December to book as there are limited seatings. Transport available for NTSGAC senior members only (no family members)





Notifications board

Confirmation of Aboriginality

Due to the high volume of applications and the added costs associated with the administration of the process, applications for confirmation of Aboriginality will now incur a fee.

Applications are endorsed by the Board of Directors

Fee Structure:

Adults: \$10.00 (18+yrs) Children: \$5.00 (0-17yrs)

Family: \$20.00 (2 adults, 2 children)

Re-Issue: \$5.00

All monies received will be put towards NTSGAC's non-funded programs.

NTSGAC Support

Whilst NTSGAC endeavours to provide **printing of booklets** for funerals for Stolen Generations peoples. We do require advanced notice as we have limited staff and cannot always provide the printing.

If you require further information or seek funeral support please contact the CEO directly on 8947–9171.

Meetings/Events

NTSGAC AGM- MLC 23/11/2016

NTSGAC Xmas Party 9/12/2016 Airport Traven Marrara

Link-Up Notices:

Could all clients please inform Link-up at NTSGAC if you have changed your address or contact details.

CURRENT BOARD AND STAFF



Current Board Members

Name: Position:

Eileen Cummings Chairperson

Maurie Japarta Ryan Deputy Chairperson

Audrey Tilmouth Director
Nora Kempster Director
Halpin Hart Director

Verna Macauley Director Joseph Daby Director

Joyce Napurrula Schroeder Director

Bernadette Shields Director

Gloria Daylight-Corliss Secretary / Minute Taker



Current Staff

Name: Position:

Maisie Austin CEO

Diara Croker Reception

Yvonne Bradley Project Officer

Raelene Rosas Link-up Caseworker Evelyn Perkins Link-up Caseworker

Gerry Hurst Link-up Caseworker

Miriam Cleary Link-up Research Officer

Daniel Fejo Wellbeing Counsellor

Tyron Major Administration Officer

Email:

maisie.austin@ntsgac.org
diara.croker@ntsgac.org
yvonne.bradley@ntsgac.org
raelene.rosas@ntsgac.org
evelyn.perkins@ntsgac.org
Gerard.hurst@ntsgac.org
miriam.cleary@ntsgac.org
daniel.fejo@ntsgac.org
tyron@ntsgac.org

Please contact the Stolen Generation office on: 89 47 9171 in regards to membership update of yourself and your descendants.

..We were Stolen from Our Language, Culture & Land......



LINK-UP PROGRAM

Enquiries can be made by contacting the:

Northern Territory Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation

Phone: 08 8947 9171 Fax: 08 8947 9173

NTSGAC acknowledges the support of Prime Minister & Cabinet Department

LINK-UP COUNSELLORS

The Link-Up counsellors provide counselling and support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are tracing and/or locating their families and/or planning a reunion. They offer counselling which includes trans-generational grief, trauma and family relationship counselling. They also provide referrals to other relevant health professionals. They work closely with the Link-Up Service.





BRINGING THEM HOME COUNSELLORS

DARWIN Danila Dilba

Social & Emotional Wellbeing Unit 3/1 Malak Place, Malak NT Phone: 8920 9500 Fax: 8945 7443

KATHERINE

Wurli Wurlinjang Aboriginal Health Service

Emotional & Social Well Being Unit 23 Third Street, Katherine, NT Phone: 8971 2716 Fax: 89971 2784

TENNANT CREEK

Anyinginyi Congress Aboriginal Corp

1 Irvine Street, Tennant Creek NT Client Services Counsellor Stronger Families Program Phone: 8962 2074 Fax: 8962 1118

Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc.

Social & Emotional Well Being 25 Gap Road, Alice Springs NT Phone: 8951 4457 Fax: 8958 4515





NT Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation

Bringing Families Together

LINK-UP RESEARCH & REUNION CASEWORK

2/3 Cascom Centre, 13 Scaturchio Street

PO Box 43372, Casuarina NT 0811

Phone: 08 8947 9171 Fax: 08 8947 9173

www.ntsgac.org.au





National aim of Link-up service

Link-Up services provides assistance, in order of priority, to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people over 18 years of age who are:

 First generation members of the Stolen Generation who were directly removed adopted, fostered, made wards of the state and/or institutionalised and otherwise separated from their families and communities as a result of past Government's policies and practices prior to 1975.

What we do

- · Family tracing
- · Family reunion management
- · Research and access to records
- · Guidance and support to clients
- · Referrals to other support services

What we don't do

- Genealogies
- Family History
- Locate Missing Persons
- Child Protection Cases
- · Family Law Courts

Eligibility Criteria

- Affected by the past government policies of removal.
- Must be of Aboriginal and/or Torres
 Strait Islander descent.
- · Must reside in the Top End region.
- Must undertake an initial assessment for registration.

Confidentiality

All staff are obliged to:

- Adhere to NTSGAC confidentiality agreements.
- To ensure that client rights are protected.
- To provide a professional level of service.
- Agree to maintain confidentiality and to respect the views of clients and their families.

Cultural Protocols

Northern Territory Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation is committed to providing a culturally sensitive service to all clients and their families.



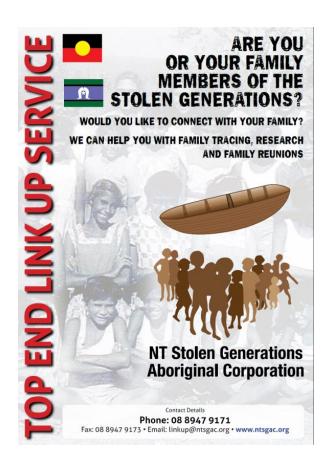
History

NT Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation was formally incorporated in 1998 to respond directly to the needs and concerns of members of the Stolen Generations, their families and communities. The formation of NTSGAC was the result of discussions and the expressed wishes of many members of the Stolen Generations in the Top End since the early 1970s, and previously included members associated with:

Roper River Mission 1908

Bathurst Island Mission 1911
Jay Creek Mission 1911
Bungalow 1913 - Alice Springs
Kahlin Compound 1913 - Darwin
Emerald River Mission 1921 - Groote
Eylandt
Pine Creek Boys Home 1931
Bagot Reserve 1937/1938 - Darwin
Croker Island Mission 1941
Garden Point Mission 1941 - Melville
Retta Dixon Home 1946 - Darwin
St. Mary's Home 1946 - Alice Springs
Fostered
Adopted

Top End Link-Up service & their team



Our Link Up Caseworkers give priority to 1st Stolen Generations clients, especially the elderly and those requiring urgent assistance due to health concerns. We have now employed a Link Up Counsellor and he can provide counselling and support to those who are tracing and/or locating their families and/or planning a reunion and also offer counselling which includes intergenerational grief, trauma and family relationships counselling.

We offer a free, professional, confidential and culturally sensitive counselling service. You can make an appointment by phoning: 8947 9171.

The NTSGAC office will be Shut down between the hours of 1pm-4.30pm on the first Friday of every Month to support administration requirements and staff development.

