



### NT Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation

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CASUARINA NT 0811

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### Warning

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

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## NTSGAC 2017 Community Activities for the year

<b>Apology Day-</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>Sorry Day &amp; BTH 20-</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> May
<b>Burunga Festival-</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>NAIDOC Week-</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> - 9 <sup>th</sup> July



**HEAL OUR PAST  
BUILD OUR FUTURE**  
\*BTH20 1997-2017  
a Healing Foundation project



**Our Languages  
Matter**  
**2-9 JULY 2017**



CEO: Maisie Austin

2017 has been very busy for our organisation.

Many changes have had to be made in the way we operate to comply with our funding agreement terms and conditions, budget, objectives, Rule Book and the CATSI Act, which governs our organisation. This is to ensure that our funding from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet is maintained, and keeps us in good stead for future funding.

Our Link-Up team has had quite a number of client enquiries and have been involved in planning and arranging Reunions across the Territory and interstate. They have had to travel to Western Australia and a few places within the Territory. Reunions can take months to organise, from tracing and researching to coordinating clients, arranging travel times, accommodation, etc. They have also assisted Link Up organisations in other States.

All staff members work harmoniously as a team in all facets of their duties, and continue to provide other general community assistance to our Elders – helping them fill out forms for Housing, Centrelink, Hospital, advising them on banking, transporting them when necessary, and many other services.



Staff members are undertaking training to gain further qualifications and certificates, which will assist them in their current and future employment, e.g. Certificate IV in Leadership and Management, Certificate III in Business and a nationally accredited qualification specifically designed for people working in Stolen Generations organisations and dealing with Stolen Generations peoples.

We have been fortunate to receive small grants from the Healing Foundation to commemorate the 20th anniversary of The Bringing Them Home Report (BTH20) on 26th May. Consequently, our staff have been busy planning and organising these events. This year we are combining the BTH20 with National Sorry Day and invite you all to attend.

Some of our female Elders enjoyed the Women's Network NT International Women's Day breakfast celebrations at Double Tree Hilton in March. We are hopeful of holding a gathering for our senior men.

Our Chairperson, Eileen Cummings, some staff members and I have attended several meetings, forums and events - The Fred Hollows Foundation launch of their Reconciliation Action Plan 2016-2018, APONT Aboriginal Governance & Management Program, National Link-Up Leadership Forum in Melbourne, National Apology to the Stolen Generation Commemoration Day at Charles Darwin University, and Relationships Australia commemorating the 4th Anniversary of the National Apology for Forced Adoptions.

Attendance at these forums and events helps to keep the focus on NT Stolen Generations history, our people and our issues.



In an attempt to, once again, pursue compensation and/or reparation for our NT Stolen Generations peoples, a sub-committee called CRC NT was elected, with Maxine Kunde as Chairperson.

Board of Directors, members of the sub-committee and NT Stolen Generations members met with a lawyer and Queen's Counsel, who were successful in negotiating compensation for NSW Stolen Generations peoples, to plan a way forward for a successful outcome.

Both Chairpersons Eileen Cummings and Maxine Kunde have been putting in many voluntary hours updating and preparing information on our first generation Stolen Generations peoples, which may be required by the lawyers in due course. They were also endorsed as the persons to communicate with the lawyers.

I attended a meeting hosted by APONT where United Nations Special Rapporteur Ms Victoria Tauli-Corpuz was addressing a number of diverse issues including measures and policies adopted to reduce Indigenous disadvantage. I have contribute to a briefing paper (on compensation/ reparation for NT Stolen Generations peoples) that Ms Tauli-Copuz can include in her final report to the Human Rights Council (United Nations) and raise with the Australian Government on her Australian visit, and at the international level.

In June, our organisation will undergo an ISO Surveillance Audit, which is part of our accreditation required by the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet.



Our Board of Directors have held regular meetings, as well as meetings with the subcommittee CRC NT, have met with our accountants, and will be meeting with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and ORIC representatives in the very near future.

We welcome any members to visit our office to meet staff and have a cuppa, and generally discuss any concerns you may have or want clarified about our Social Emotional and Wellbeing and Link Up programme. We also invite you to visit our library and look at photos, which our Family Research Officer has put together. Sadly, this year, a number of our people have passed, and we send our condolences and prayers to all their families.

### **I end my report with some very good news:**

The Chief Minister will be making a public announcement that the Kahlin/old Darwin Hospital site will not be for commercial or residential use, but in fact for a **Museum which will incorporate the NT Stolen Generations.**

The NT Government acknowledges the significance and importance of our history. The Stolen Generations element of the museum project will be a form of compensation/reparation for all our NT Stolen Generations peoples – alive and who have passed on, and the mothers of the children, who were forcibly removed from them.

Congratulations to everyone who has lobbied and fought for many years for this outcome!

Maisie Austin  
Chief Executive Officer



# *Northern Territory Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation*



*Commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*“Bringing Them Home”  
Report*

*&*

*National Sorry Day*



*Date: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017*

*Time: 9.30am - 2.00pm*

*Venue: Jingili Water Park  
Freshwater Rd. Jingili*

*Morning tea & BBQ lunch provided, Performances, stalls  
Guest speakers, fun in the park & games:*

*For further information please contact  
NTSGAC on 89 479171*



National Apology Day  
13<sup>th</sup> February 2017  
Charles Darwin University

CEO Maisie Austin, attended the breakfast function as a guest speaker, hosted by acting Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous leadership, Ms Wendy Ludwig at the CDU on Apology Day 13<sup>th</sup> February. Maisie spoke about our Link Up programme and what the organisation roles is to assist the Stolen Generation people.



Hon. Lauren Moss MLA, Wendy Ludwig, Ngaree Ahkit, CDU Vice Chancellor, Lord Mayor Katrina Fong Lim and Maisie Austin



# The Fred Hollows Foundation launch



The CEO attended The Fred Hollows Foundation launch of their Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2016 – 2018 on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

*Relationships Australia.*  
NORTHERN TERRITORY



NTSGAC Chairperson & CEO attended Relationship Australia's 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Apology for forced adoptions in March







Elders of the Stolen Generation joined NTSGAC Staff, CEO, Lord Mayor Katrina Fong Lim to celebrate International Women's Day at Double Tree Hilton, and CEO joined Andrea Lee from Australian Red Cross and others at an International Women's Day morning tea at CDU this year.



## Hi from the Link Up Case Team 2017

Hello to you all we have started 2017 running.



Healing is complex, and for some the process of healing is a lifelong journey. The issues for people affected by past removal policies vary according to age, gender and the individual's own knowledge of their personal history. The provision of specialised holistic support provided by people who understand the particular issues and unique needs of members of the Stolen Generations does make a difference.

Reunions are defined as reuniting families, culture and community of which these persons are known as the Stolen Generations. 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

We have had reunions in January and February 2017. These reunions were assisted by NTSGAC, Yorgum, Kimberley Stolen Generations, VACCA and SA Link Up's. The clients had been ongoing for several years (this was due to staff turnover and the Case Team having to take over the clients). These reunions were here in Darwin and in Katanning in WA. The reunions had about 70 to 80 participants. The clients had a bit of closure as they found where their relatives were laid to rest and reuniting with relatives that they would have never met if not for the Link Up services.

We are in the process of organising reunions for May to July which have had a lot of family tracing done and now we are at the stage where we are able to have the reunions for our clients. We have participated in National forums for Link Up which has kept our team focussed and were able to share with other Link Ups nationally some of the obstacles that we have faced in our service. We have also had some challenges whilst doing family tracing with searches not available from the AEC and the In-touch service of Centrelink. We are working hard to streamline our Link Up service and update our procedures to ensure that we are working within our funding guidelines and creating an open and transparent best practice environment for the Case Team of the Link Up service. The Link Up service prides itself on open and transparent dealings with our clients and all the information accessed is private and confidential.



The Case Team has given a presentation to medical students of CDU hospital campus about the Link Up service and NTSGAC the organisation. It was good to get the opportunity to share with the wider community about Stolen Generations and how we deliver our Link Up service. We are involved in the Bringing Them Home 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary which will be this year on the 26 May 2017.

Well, until next time take care. LINK UP CASE TEAM😊





# NTSGAC Library



I would like to let everyone know that we now have a small library at NTSGAC and would like to extend an invitation to all NT Stolen Generations Members to come in and have a look. Read a book, watch Stolen Generation DVD's and check out our photo collection.

Please give the office a call to organise a time.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Miriam Cleary

Link Up Researcher

*NT Stolen Generation Aboriginal Corporation*



**Northern Territory  
Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation**



**Heal Our Past  
Build Our Future**

**“Poetry for Healing”**

*Commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
“Bringing Them Home”  
Report*



**Friday 12th May 2017**

**9:30am – 2:00pm** *(Limited numbers)*

**NTSGAC Boardroom**

**Building 3, 13-17, Scaturchio Street,  
Casuarina NT**

*Presentation*

*Poetry written and presented by Stolen Generations Members  
The language of poetry is used to tell their life stories and express  
their individual thoughts and emotions about their life journey.*

*Light refreshments will be provided*





# 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 trauma, grief and loss.

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.



# 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

**National Sorry Day Event  
&  
20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
“Bringing Them Home”  
Report**

**26<sup>th</sup> May 2017  
Jingili Water Gardens**

## 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

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position:</u>
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

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position:</u>
Maisie Austin	CEO
Diara Croker	Reception
Yvonne Bradley	Project Officer
Raelene Rosas	Link-up Caseworker
Evelyn Perkins	Link-up Caseworker
Miriam Cleary	Link-up Research Officer
Daniel Fejo	Wellbeing Counsellor
Tyron Major	Administration Officer

### Email:

[maisie.austin@ntsgac.org](mailto:maisie.austin@ntsgac.org)  
[diara.croker@ntsgac.org](mailto:diara.croker@ntsgac.org)  
[yvonne.bradley@ntsgac.org](mailto:yvonne.bradley@ntsgac.org)  
[raelene.rosas@ntsgac.org](mailto:raelene.rosas@ntsgac.org)  
[evelyn.perkins@ntsgac.org](mailto:evelyn.perkins@ntsgac.org)  
[miriam.cleary@ntsgac.org](mailto:miriam.cleary@ntsgac.org)  
[daniel.fejo@ntsgac.org](mailto:daniel.fejo@ntsgac.org)  
[tyron@ntsgac.org](mailto:tyron@ntsgac.org)

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





## 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

#### Wurtli 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.ntsagc.org.au](http://www.ntsagc.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

**TOP END LINK UP SERVICE**



**ARE YOU  
OR YOUR FAMILY  
MEMBERS OF THE  
STOLEN GENERATIONS?**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONNECT WITH YOUR FAMILY?**  
**WE CAN HELP YOU WITH FAMILY TRACING, RESEARCH  
AND FAMILY REUNIONS**




**NT Stolen Generations  
Aboriginal Corporation**

Contact Details  
**Phone: 08 8947 9171**  
Fax: 08 8947 9173 • Email: [linkup@ntsgac.org](mailto:linkup@ntsgac.org) • [www.ntsgac.org](http://www.ntsgac.org)

Our Link Up Caseworkers give priority to 1<sup>st</sup> Stolen Generations clients, especially the elderly and those requiring urgent assistance due to health concerns.

Our Link Up Counsellor provides counselling and support within our SEWB programme to those who are tracing and/or locating their families and at reunions. This includes counselling for intergenerational grief, trauma and family relationships.

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



**NT Stolen Generations  
Aboriginal Corporation**

**Office hours**  
**8.00 – 4.30**  
**Ph: 08 8947 9171**  
**Fax: 08 8947 9173**

