

2018/19
Annual Review

Reaching Out Changing Lives



About the Edmund Rice Centre WA

Our Vision

Inspired by Edmund Rice, our vision is to enable people to feel included, to be active participants and to make a positive contribution to society.

Our Mission

We seek to empower the people whose lives we touch through education and development of community with a special focus on youth leadership.

Our Values

Diversity

We welcome, respect and value each person regardless of colour, race, creed or ability and foster harmonious relations between cultural groups.

Personal Dignity

We acknowledge the dignity of each person by acting with compassion, respect and sensitivity, thus fostering a sense of self-worth.

Safety

We create a safe place for all who engage with us.

Empowerment

We enable social change through individual empowerment and community development.

The Edmund Rice Centre acknowledges the traditional owners of Wadjak country and their continuing connection to land, sea and community.

We pay our respects to elders both past and present and to their stories that have sustained them over many thousands of years.

Our Reach



Edmund Rice Centre WA



Adult Programs



Youth Programs



Integrated Services Centres

Yanchep

Butler

Banksia Grove

Girrawheen

Balga

Mirrabooka

Koondoola

Cannington

Thornlie



Chairman's Message

The past year has been one of change at ERCWA. Founding Director Steve Bowman retired and new CEO Natasha Kusmuk has seamlessly taken over as we continue to deliver essential community programs.

What has not changed is our commitment to serving those in the community in need, particularly refugees, migrants and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who continue to seek our assistance. Our reliance on funding from State and Federal Governments along with loyal supporters and sponsors, who share our passion and vision for a stronger, healthy and more inclusive community, remains critical and without whose assistance we could not deliver our programs.

Our 2018-19 Annual Report offers an insight into some of the programs delivered by ERCWA and our commitment to those in need in our community over the past 12 months.

On behalf of the Board of ERCWA I extend our sincere appreciation to all our amazing staff and volunteers whose loyalty, commitment and generosity enables us to deliver important programs and support to those in the community requiring our services. Thank you to all our sponsors & supporters and those who donate, enabling us to continue this important community service.

Bruce Larson
Chair, ERCWA Board



CEO's Message

The 2018-19 financial year was full of successes.

We focused on expanding the scope of our existing programs, ensuring their quality and effectiveness, and establishing new programs to address service gaps.

We welcomed 17 new staff and 18 new volunteers across programs. Seven new placement students also joined us from Murdoch University, Edith Cowan University, Trinity and Mercy Colleges. In addition, we had commitment from two students from Chisholm Catholic College each Tuesday during terms 2 and 3.

As a result, we were able to assist and engage more individuals and communities in need of meaningful participation activities, development pathways and support services in the area of metropolitan Perth.

This Annual Report is all about sharing stories that represent our values: Diversity, Personal Integrity, Safety and Empowerment.

In July 2019 we farewelled my predecessor Stephen Bowman, founder of ERCWA. To acknowledge his contribution to the Centre and the community, we wished to reflect on some of our achievements in 2018-19 financial year and focus on how they have been accomplished.

In this Annual Report, we are delighted to present stories of our programs, our clients and participants, and our volunteers who put in immeasurable hours into ensuring we achieve our mission and vision.

Natasha Kusmuk
Chief Executive Officer



Patron's Message

The Edmund Rice Centre WA (ERCWA) has a proud history and commitment of assisting people from refugee and migrant backgrounds together with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This mission has continued strongly this year with our founder Stephen Bowman retiring and new CEO Natasha Kusmuk taking up the challenge.

All those at ERCWA are to be congratulated on their great work and achievements in providing much needed services where they are needed most. Well done on a productive and successful year. The coming financial year will provide its own set of challenges, and we are very confident that all at ERCWA are well placed to meet them.

Ron Alexander
Patron



Thank you to our volunteers

We couldn't do it without you!



Volunteer Spotlight

Andrew Locke, a former road train driver, believes he has the best role at the Edmund Rice Centre WA. Every week he travels the world by meeting many diverse people while not leaving the driver's seat. Combining his love of driving, meeting people and giving back to the community, Andrew has been a dedicated volunteer bus driver at the Edmund Rice Centre WA for over three years.

But Andrew is not simply a bus driver who supports our sporting events, camps, women's groups, and youth and Moorditj Koolangka programs. At most events you will also find Andrew helping with barbeques and participating in the activities.

He often contributes to the work of other organisations, including schools and other non-government organisations, by extending his time and bus driving skills to them also.

Thank you, Andrew!

"The ladies who attend the Women Together program always appreciate our outings — we could not do it without Andrew, our driver, so I wish to say a special thank you."

Lyn Freeman,
Volunteer Co-ordinator

Volunteer hours and in-kind support

The Edmund Rice Centre WA could not help so many people without the help of our wonderful volunteers and supporters. Over the reporting period (1 July 2018 to June 2019) there were:

5,820 volunteer hours

valued at **\$236,800**



Women on Wednesday

- Run by volunteers Ros, Peta and Sally.
- Funded by generous donors.

A change in government funding meant that our Lifeskills program could not continue in 2019. This caused great disappointment to the many women who had been helped by attending the regular sessions — and to Ros, Peta and Sally who had run the program.

The three ladies met in January and decided that somehow, something had to be put in place for 2019.

With great support and encouragement from the Director, the Board at ERCWA and some wonderful donors, they decided to continue on a voluntary basis.

WOW began in February, and so did the WOW moments!

Each week between 12 and 15 women from many countries including Eritrea, Congo, Burma, Sudan and Ethiopia attend sessions at ERCWA or take part in our excursions.

Sessions are informative and held in a relaxed, enjoyable atmosphere. This year we have conducted workshops on:

- domestic violence
- cyber safety
- issues with children and schools
- Hepatitis B
- cooking and nutrition.

We have taken excursions to:

- the Kidsafe House
- Mirrabooka Library
- Sculptures by the Sea
- Kings Park Wildflower Festival and other places of interest around Perth.

The women are given timetables and instructions so they are able to re-visit these places with their families.



A WOW excursion in March 2019; the women visited the mural at Fragrant Gardens in Mirrabooka and learnt about the Noongar seasons.

Why WOW is important

- The women are keen to learn new things and can do so in a fun and caring environment.
- Bringing them together means they can help each other as they make a life in their new country.
- WOW helps the women understand more about life in Australia. They are more able to:
 - deal with their children's schools and other everyday situations
 - make good decisions about food safety and healthy eating
 - shop more economically.

Every refugee family has a different experience settling in a new country. By helping the women, we can make a difference to the whole family.



The Place of the Footprints, a special place in Indigenous culture. After learning about the Aboriginal history of the area we visited Point Walter and enjoyed a glorious day in the sunshine.



Healthy food workshops at the Edmund Rice Centre WA; essential learning for women unfamiliar with processed Western food.

"The fun of being with such a great, caring group of women makes our sessions something we all look forward to."

"Seeing the women learn new things and help each other as they make a new life in a new country is pretty special to be involved with."

Ros, volunteer

Women Together

- Funded by generous donors including the Aquinas Ladies' Auxiliary.
- Run by volunteers.

Each Monday a group of up to 14 ladies aged from 50 to 90 meets for social activities and outings. Some have limited English and would have difficulty meeting people of other nationalities and enjoying a social life. The ladies originate from Italy, Spain, Chile, Vietnam, Libya, Sudan, Iran, Iraq, Turkey and Afghanistan.

Benefits of Women Together

- Helps combat social isolation.
- Builds confidence: Ladies who were shy about expressing their opinion are now happy to voice their thoughts, and meet new people. They are happy to share some of their life story, and that's healthy.
- The ladies can practise speaking English.
- Gaining practical knowledge from guest speakers and learning new skills.
- Making items for charity including cloth bags for the homeless, and knitted scarves and beanies.

Some of our activities at ERCWA

- Talk from the WA Police about scams and security.
- Pilates, tai chi, dancing and singing.
- Four-week program run by Foodbank about healthy eating, understanding labels, recycling and budgeting.
- Information about voting.
- Learning about Christmas and cooking Christmas food.

Some of our outings

- Perth Zoo.
- Hillarys Marina.
- Burswood Park.

All outings include a picnic lunch with food of different cultures made by the ladies.



"Everyone makes an effort to understand each other, with a lot of laughs in between, and sometimes tears, so empathy is always appreciated. One lady tells me she is so excited about coming to Women Together that she can never sleep Sunday night."

Lyn Freeman,
Volunteer Co-ordinator



Computer Studies

- Funded by the Office of Multicultural Interests for two terms and ERCWA for two terms.
- Run by two staff and one volunteer.

Why this program is important

Computer skills are essential for education, finding work, running a business and everyday needs such as banking and finding information. This is particularly challenging for refugees, many of whom have never used a computer before, or lack the skills and confidence to do so effectively.

We teach from an introductory to intermediate level. Subjects covered are: computer general knowledge, keyboard skills, typing and accuracy, internet, emails, word processing, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher and others as needed.

Our computer courses are fully subscribed and there is always a waiting list.

Who benefits

The main groups who participated were from a refugee background and also disadvantaged people and job seekers.

"I really like this class, I feel very confident and have improved my computer work, I wish to have more hours and keep going to help me get a job in the future. Thank you."

"I have found my time at this course to be both educating and socially enjoyable. The way in which the processes of understanding was delivered by Tia Hattar, made it easy to learn, whilst undermining the fear factor."

Integrated Service Centres (ISC)

- Funded by the WA Department of Health, Child and Adolescent Health Service.
- A collaboration between the Department of Education, Department of Health and ERCWA.
- The ISC team consists of a clinical nurse and senior social worker, employed by Department of Health; and a multicultural community liaison worker (MCLW), and administrative assistant employed by Edmund Rice Centre WA.
- Programs are run with the help of seven casual staff and volunteers.
- The centres are situated at the Intensive English Centre (IEC) at Thornlie and Koondoola primary schools.

Why the service is important

The ISCs respond to the need for continuing support services for refugee families for their social, community, health and psychological needs.

This service is offered through case management, outreach support, adults' educational activities and information sessions, as well as afterschool and school holiday programs for the students.

Child minding and transportation is offered to ensure that the most isolated and vulnerable families in the community can attend programs.



Thornlie ISC at a glance

- 726 case work sessions for 56 families.
- Operates 50 weeks per year.
- Clients mainly from Burma, Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq.
- 28 parent group-sessions including: practical English class, pathways to citizenship course, parenting sessions, sewing class and personalised training in basic computer skills including using the internet.

STEPS

STEPS is an afterschool and school holiday program for students enrolled at the IEC. It strives to develop creativity, critical thinking, social strategies and wellbeing. It also encourages learning and integration into the community.

32 children enjoyed:
- 20 afterschool activities
- 10 school holiday events

Aboriginal Youth Arts

- Funded by the Crown Resorts Foundation and the Packer Family Foundation.
- Three staff.

What we do

The program gives opportunities to Aboriginal youth. We use the arts to increase the self-confidence and self-esteem of participants through developing new skills and learning about Noongar culture and family connection.

What are the benefits?

Out of respect for Aboriginal protocols our programs are community driven. Our activities increase the connection to Noongar culture through language, dance and knowledge of traditional stories of the local area in and around Balga.

We focus on working with the community, creating strong relationships to bring change and opportunity to young people from disadvantaged backgrounds whilst simultaneously educating greater society.

The Aboriginal Youth Arts program is important because it gives opportunities to Indigenous youth who may not have had them previously. It gives youth who are in care or come from similarly disadvantaged backgrounds a platform for self-expression and to be proud of who they are.



Edmund Rice Centre WA Annual Review 2018-19

Highlights

Nee Kadadjiny

This year we coordinated the *Nee Kadadjiny* (Listen to the Knowledge) book project at the Wadjak Northside Aboriginal Community Group. We worked with five elders, 15 female youth and 12 male youth throughout the project.

Stories and knowledge of Lake Gwelup and surrounds were passed from the Elders to the girls who re-interpreted them into stories and illustrations.

Aboriginal artist Seantelle Walsh conducted 14 workshops with the Tree of Life girls program to illustrate the book. Aboriginal dance artists Preston Culbong and Clinton Culbong conducted three workshops with the Tree of Life boys program.

Using the story from the book the boys developed a dance that was presented to the community at the Mirrabooka NAIDOC day 2019. With over 2000 people watching the presentation of the book and the boys' dance, this was a very successful community project.

Nee Kadadjiny:

"Every morning the kulbardi sings to ngarnkg. In Kambarang season the kulbardi swoops to protect her babies as this is the season of birth." Illustration by a participant in the program.



When the earth was in darkness

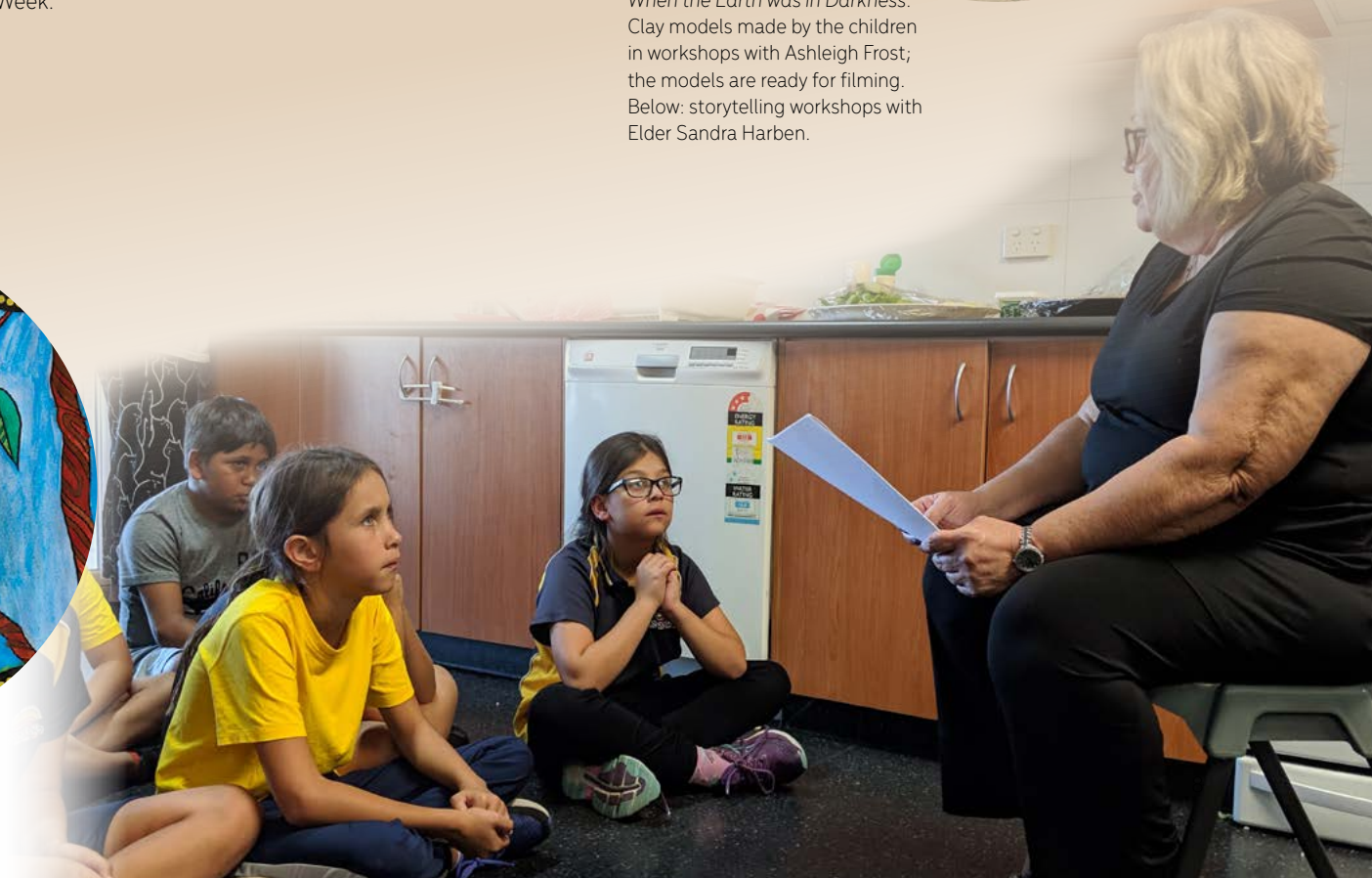
We also worked closely with Noongar elder Sandra Harben, community artist Ashleigh Frost and film maker Ian McGlynn to create a short film for NAIDOC Week.

We held storytelling workshops with Sandra Harben. Ashleigh Frost then helped us turn the story into clay models. We then worked with Ian McGlynn to animate the objects and record a film.

Our film is called *When the Earth was in Darkness*. It tells the story of why the magpie sings in the mornings. The film was screened on the tower at Yagan Square during NAIDOC Week.



When the Earth was in Darkness: Clay models made by the children in workshops with Ashleigh Frost; the models are ready for filming. Below: storytelling workshops with Elder Sandra Harben.



Common Goal Academy vs WA Police in the Perth African Nations Cup
(Inset: Community Cup Semi Final)



Common Goal

“

In March 2016 the Common Goal program was implemented in Mirrabooka, the first program of its kind in Western Australia, and possibly Australia. It is a strategic partnership between the Edmund Rice Centre WA (ERCWA), the Western Australia Police Force and Football West, with the involvement of local governments and service providers. The program draws on the successful Edmund Rice local parks program, with the aim of providing a point of first contact with young people, and operates in two metropolitan locations.

Common Goal was initiated by the WA Police Muslim Community Advisory Group (MCAG), which is overseen by the Police Commissioner's Executive. Reflecting on the Commissioner's directive to focus on at risk youth and vulnerable communities, Common Goal uses soccer as the vehicle to engage and develop young people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds. Each location partners with a nearby Mosque, which becomes the 'home' of the program. The program is open to all young people between 8-18 years of age and WA Police Force representatives regularly attend weekly sessions to engage with the participants.

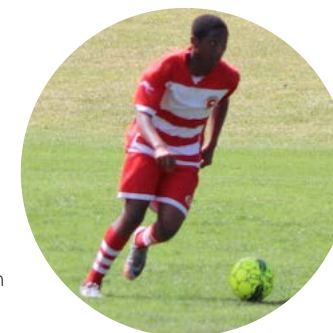
In 2019 the program added the Developing Community Leaders Initiative (DCLI) to its scope. DCLI develops young people, predominantly from CaLD backgrounds, into strong community leaders with an active presence within their local and broader communities. It provides structured training and development opportunities to help young people take the lead in initiating and contributing to community programs and initiatives. They attend forums and provide advice to government and non-government organisations in their development of programs and policies.

Following the success of Common Goal, it will be extended to a third metropolitan location in 2019-20 financial year.

WA Police Force
Common Goal program partner



Left: Common Goal girls' and boys' teams bringing the World Game to youth at the Banksia Hill Detention Centre. Visiting teams inspire the Banksia Hill youth to play at their best.



Right: Pacifique in action for the Wanneroo City Soccer Club, runner-up in their competition.

Highlights

1. **Common Goal Community Championships.** The competition brought the communities together; the finals day of the competition was huge - everyone came out with their families and had a great day full of fun.
2. **Australasian Police and Emergency Services Games.** Common Goal was invited to play the WA Police Force in the curtain raiser for the APES Games 2018 soccer tournament.
3. **Pacifique became a player with the Wanneroo City Soccer Club.** He was a very quiet, shy player when he started with Common Goal, but became one of our best players, scoring in almost every game. Pacifique was everyone's favourite player and has a great future in the game!

415 participants • 49 cultural backgrounds
7 staff • 8 volunteers

Developing Community Leaders Initiative

Coordinated by the Edmund Rice Centre WA with funding and participation from the WA Police Force.

The Developing Community Leaders Initiative (DCLI) develops young people, predominantly from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, by expanding their involvement in social, civic and economic life so they become strong leaders with an active presence in the community.

DCLI participants receive personal and professional mentoring, as well as unique networking and tailored opportunities to suit their individual development goals.

This includes:

- structured training
- employment
- education
- participation on boards of management, non-government forums and government advisory groups.

Outcomes

The program opens doors for young people through developing strategic links and networking opportunities. It gives young people an edge in a competitive world. Those who participate actively in the program change their lives by taking up high level opportunities which grow as they grow. They increase their networks and develop their skills. They have more influence because they are asked for their opinions.

31 participants + 17 Police Rangers

1 staff member • 1 volunteer on placement each 2 months

We help young people become strong leaders with an active presence in the community.



Emerging leader Christal Quartermaine with WA Governor Hon Kim Beazley AC.



Emerging leaders Lueth Duot, Obaida Mahrous and Jamal Aziz with WA Police Commissioner Chris Dawson.



Emerging leader Lueth Duot undertaking media training provided by the Office of Multicultural Interests.



Emerging leader Victoria Maywen was accepted onto the board of the Brighton Seahawks Junior Football Club.



Sergeant Anne Loe, Obaida Mahrous and Mirrabooka Police officer-in-charge Graeme Macey.

Obaida's Story

Obaida Mahrous joined the Developing Community Leaders Initiative in 2018. His dream is to become a police officer "to help the country that brought me here".

Through the DCLI, Obaida was accepted onto the Mirrabooka Police Station's work experience program, where he was instrumental in the development of the Mirrabooka Police District Youth Advisory Group. The advisory group brings together emerging leaders and district police officers to discuss issues faced by multicultural youth and their families in the community, thus facilitating direct conversations between WA Police and young people.

Through the DCLI and with the help of the Mirrabooka Police Station, Obaida has applied to become a police trainee through the Police Preparation Program.



The leadership development component of the Australian Islamic College's Police Ranger Program was delivered through the Developing Community Leaders Initiative.

Australian Islamic College Leadership Program

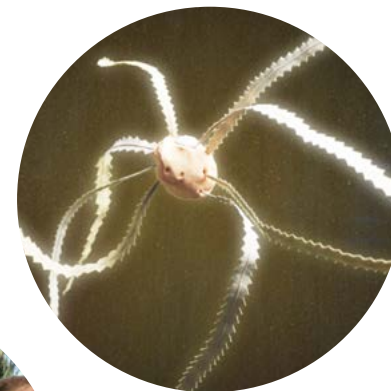
The DCLI delivered the leadership component of the Australian Islamic College Police Rangers Program. The program is designed to increase self confidence, team building skills and self esteem through activities such as learning emergency skills, bushcraft, survival procedures, climbing, abseiling, orienteering, drill techniques, bushwalking, archery, camping and marching.

Leadership development started in early 2019 and the students have benefitted immensely through improved self expression, confidence, listening skills and teamwork.

Using established leadership philosophies and principles rooted in traditional martial arts, the students learn how to interpret situations on a deeper level. They are asked to work in groups and alone, learning stories and reflecting on what the past has to offer the present and share their own wisdom. The following is an example:

Interpreting the words: "The difference between what we do and what we could do is enough to solve all of the world's problems", Police Ranger Salma wrote:

Humans are the most intelligent creatures. Our intellect is beyond measure, and so is our capacity and capability. This has been proven to us by so many leaders, inventors, scientists, writers and a number of different men, women and even children. We constantly associate these people's achievements with formal education or money but many of them were poor or uneducated. This is proof that amazing potential exists within all of us. We have the potential to solve all of the world's problems but we are not doing it. I believe this is simply because many people do not value the natural human powers they were born with. Many people wake up and get on with very normal and mediocre lives, and settle for it. Not many value the simple thoughts and questions they ask themselves in between times, which could have been a spark for an amazing invention or solution. They just ignore it and get along. Not many give themselves the opportunity to learn and expand their mind by reading, watching and listening. Not many question what they hear and learn deeply enough, and instead just take it for granted. Nobody bothers to find and feed their passions. The world could be so much better if we did more.



Moorditj Koolangka: 'Strong Children'

- Funded by the Smith Family.
- Run by three staff and volunteers.

Who is this program for?

Moorditj Koolangka is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in Mirrabooka, Girrawheen and Balga.

The program runs on Wednesday afternoons after school for up to four hours. We also run outings, including fun days for the families of participating children.

For a lot of the children it's an opportunity to get out of the house and be active.

The benefits

We provide the opportunity for children to learn and be encouraged in whatever they love to do. We aim to create activities that each child will enjoy being a part of, while also challenging them to think independently, strive for their best and come together to form new relationships.

We encourage children who have graduated from the program to come back as volunteers and help the next generation — fostering leadership is an important part of our philosophy.

Highlight

The creation of our NAIDOC Week video was a massive highlight for the program. Working closely with Noongar elder Sandra Harben, community artist Ashleigh Frost and film maker Ian McGlynn we created a short film which was displayed at Yagan Square during NAIDOC week 2019.

Sandra Harben taught dreaming stories and language to the Moorditj Koolangka participants over three weeks. To fit with the NAIDOC theme of *Voice. Treaty. Truth.* she told the story of why the kulbardi (maggpie) sings in the morning.

Artist Ashleigh Frost then ran clay model workshops with the children, visualising the story and creating a collection of small models. We then worked with filmmaker Ian McGlynn to animate the objects and create our short film *When The Earth Was In Darkness*.

The children loved the result and were exceedingly proud of it. See the video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DNuWDwgTqco>

or search *When The Earth Was In Darkness* ERCWA on Youtube.

18 participants aged 7 to 12

AFL Umpiring Academy

- Funded by the Office of Multicultural Interests.
- Three staff and two volunteers.

What we do

The umpiring academy trains young people to become umpires in Australian Rules football through development sessions and camps.

Our participants are boys and girls from a CaLD background: South Sudanese, Sudanese, Ivorian, Burundian, Ethiopian, Afghan, Iraqi, Ugandan, Indian, Argentinian, Pakistani, South African, Tanzanian, Somali and Lebanese.

Extension opportunities:

1. Eight extension opportunities provided from March to June 2019 including umpiring at Optus Stadium, Fremantle Oval and Christ Church Grammar School.
2. Umpires trained with the WAFL Development Squad.

Other achievements:

1. Seven umpire coaches trained.
2. Five graduates of the academy entered the umpiring talent pathway through their local district.
3. One graduate entered the WAFL Development Squad.

Why we do it

- Promote the transition of CaLD youth into mainstream umpiring.
- Bring cultural diversity to football.
- Provide training and development opportunities to multicultural young people.
- Support disadvantaged young people and bring them on par with their more affluent peers.

40 participants aged 11 to 23

What are the benefits?

- Brings cultural diversity to AFL, and in particular, to umpiring.
- Helps those who otherwise may not have been able to umpire independently due to lack of awareness, lack of support etc.
- Creates an employment pathway and enables participants to earn an income.
- Builds confidence and self-reliance.

Highlights

- Over 40 umpires from a CaLD background trained.
- One umpire entered the WAFL Development Squad.
- ERCWA umpires offered to umpire Christ Church Grammar School's entire AFL season.
- One umpire's story was featured on 10 News First.

"I lacked confidence to start with, but the program has helped me be much more confident."

"I get to go places and umpire professionally and gain experience."

"The academy has helped me achieve my highest level of confidence. It has helped me realise how professional I can be."

"I was scared of the crowd watching but now that's all gone."

What others say:

"I have never seen this many multicultural umpires at the same place, at the same time." David Crute, Head of Umpiring, WA Football Commission

"I can't believe what I'm seeing. A group of young girls controlling an entire game." Parent of a Christ Church Grammar School player who bought coffee for all the girls after the match.

"What a fantastic idea. It must take years to build something like this." Hale School AFL Coach

"You're the best umpire I have seen in a long time." Robert Goodin, Umpire Coach

"The way she carries herself out on the field is just fantastic." John Beaton, Umpire Coach

"They make our job really easy and make us look really good." Christ Church Grammar School Phys Ed Teacher





Edmund Rice Eagles Street Basketball

- Funded by the Smith Family – Communities for Children.
- Three staff and volunteers.

What we do

We run structured basketball training sessions for young people who may not have the opportunity to participate in sporting activities, or are not comfortable participating in sporting activities offered elsewhere. Most are Aboriginal or from a CaLD background. The program is free of charge.

We run the program in a local park that most of the youth in the area already use so that distance is not a barrier.

Our coaches come from diverse but similar demographic backgrounds to the youth who participate in our program.

What are the benefits?

Participating in sport helps kids develop more than just their physical health:

- Improved social skills and self-control.
- Greater confidence.
- Increased personal accountability.
- Positive relationships with adults outside their family.

Our hope is that our participants will develop not only an ongoing love for sport, but that they will become successful members of society.

60 participants aged 6 to 12
18 participants aged 13 to 18

Highlights

1. **Tournament against the Banksia Hawks.** In July 2018 the Edmund Rice Eagles went to Banksia Hill Detention Centre to play in a tournament against the Banksia Hawks. The Banksia Hawks won but it was a very close game with a nail biting finish: 59 to 58. The trip to Banksia Hill was a highly educational experience for our participants and enabled them to see what life was like for youth who had made mistakes in the past and are now doing their best to get back on the right path.
2. **Junior returned as a coach.** Junior had been a participant on the program and returned as a coach. His capacity to engage the kids and challenge them at times when they displayed difficult behaviour has added further value to the program.

Delilah's Story

Delilah joined the ERC Eagles in 2017. She says that joining the Eagles has helped her feel more confident about participating in sport at school. She also feels less nervous about trying new sports.

Delilah explained that becoming an ERC Eagle has helped her make more friends from different cultures and that the program is especially good for families who may struggle to enrol their kids in clubs for financial reasons.

Pictured: Delilah with Perth Wildcat Rhys Vague. The Wildcats delivered clinics throughout the year to ERCWA basketball programs and supplied their uniforms.



We believe all children should have access to sporting opportunities regardless of their social or economic situation.



Banksia United

- Funded by the Smith Family – Communities for Children.
- Two staff and two volunteers.

What we do

Banksia United exposes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth to a number of different sports that they may have never considered or been able to participate in.

Most of the activities are free of charge to participants, something we would not be able to achieve without the support from key partners such as Tennis West, Royal Lifesaving WA and Star Mites Gymnastics.

Our bus pick-up service ensures participants are able to get to the activities. We do this in a way that helps Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth foster positive social relationships and feel comfortable engaging with different community organisations.

What are the benefits?

Banksia United uses sport as a vehicle for providing participants with a positive alternative to the many negative influences that can reach young people. The program aims to break down cultural differences by using coaches and volunteers from different cultural backgrounds.

The program offers the following benefits:

- Improved social skills and self-control
- Builds confidence
- Increased personal accountability
- Positive relationships with adults outside their family.

Our aim is that our participants will develop not only an ongoing love for sport, but that they will become successful members of society.

47 participants aged 6 to 18

New partnerships

Tennis West provided a five-week tennis program at Nollamara Tennis Club. At the end of the program we held a family open day which gave participants and their families the chance to experience being part of the club.

Our partnership with Tennis West resulted in four of our players being selected to represent WA at the National Indigenous Tennis Carnival (see highlight below).

A partnership has also been established with the **Royal Life Saving Society WA** and a highly successful swimming program was carried out over October and November 2018.

Some of our participants were invited to take part in the filming the new instructional videos used by Royal Life Saving to teach new instructors.

Highlights

1. National Indigenous Tennis Carnival (NITC) 2019.

Four of our participants, Malakai, Angel, Xavier and Andrew, represented WA at the National Indigenous Tennis Carnival (NITC) 2019 in Darwin. None of them had been on a plane before so it was doubly exciting. WA came third in the Ash Barty Cup.

Andrew was one of two recipients of the NITC Deadly Award, presented for leadership, sportsmanship and outstanding behaviour on and off court. Andrew received a racquet decorated with culturally significant artwork created by last year's players and signed by Evonne Goolagong Cawley and Ash Barty.

The Banksia United program reflects the Edmund Rice Centre mission and vision by making kids who may have previously felt excluded, disempowered and discriminated against feel supported, respected and noticed.

We hope that this in turn increases their capacity to achieve their own personal goals and feel confident about becoming successful members of their own community and those beyond.



- 2. Wheelchair basketball.** Banksia United gives our participants the opportunity to play a huge range of sports — including wheelchair basketball. Whilst learning how to play wheelchair basketball, the participants got to meet Amber Merritt, a Paralympian who represented Australia at the 2012 Summer Paralympics in London where she won a silver medal.

Local Parks

- Funded by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.
- Sixteen staff and volunteers.

What we do

The Local Parks program aims to break barriers and give equal opportunities to disadvantaged kids from CaLD backgrounds.

We offer a range of sports at parks that are only a short walk from where participants live, eliminating the barrier of distance and transport. We make our programs free to all kids from 5 to 18 years of age to remove the barrier of cost.

Both these barriers prevent the participants from playing in mainstream sporting clubs.

What are the benefits?

- Learning
- Developed leaders within the community
- We offer extension opportunities to further develop a range of skills
- Happy and active team players
- Healthy individuals
- Inclusion
- Empowerment
- Confidence
- Self esteem
- Creating relationships

321 participants aged 5 to 13
22 participants aged 14 to 18

Highlights

- 1. Police visits** to training followed by a match against Wanneroo Police – great opportunity to interact with the police in a positive setting, and a chance to challenge young peoples' perceptions about police as people who work and live in their community.
- 2. Family fun day** – a chance for participants to show their families what they do at training.
- 3. End of year celebration** – participants from different Local Parks program locations came together in one place to play a number of sports (e.g. tennis, basketball, soccer and volleyball) and enjoy a free BBQ.



"I am now enjoying sports more."



"I have more confidence and ball running, bouncing skills."



Settlement Services

The program

ERCWA continues to provide generalist casework, referral and advocacy services to clients who live in the north metropolitan area.

The settlement services program assists humanitarian entrants and other vulnerable migrants in their first five years in Australia. We have the knowledge and skills to identify, understand and take action to address their settlement needs. The program has a focus on social participation, economic well-being, independence, personal well-being and community engagement.

In this reporting period we provided casework services for clients from Myanmar, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq and Egypt. Most clients were experiencing several complex issues, which may have included:

- Family matters including youth, aged care and domestic violence
- Financial hardship and income support
- Legal and police matters
- Migration information and referral
- Taxation
- Australian citizenship applications and Australian passport applications.

Sessions: 656

Cases/clients: 406

New clients: 108



Members of the Step by Step project team; a consortium with MercyCare (Mirrabooka), Save the Children and ERCWA.

The transition from Settlement Services Activity (SSA) to Settlement Engagement and Transition Support (SETS)

- SSA ended in Dec 2018.
- SETS started on 01.01.2019 and ends on 30.06.2022.

ERCWA is now a part of a consortium with MercyCare (Mirrabooka) and Save the Children to provide an integrated service for eligible clients.

As a result of this partnership, we now have the Step by Step (SbS) program / team.

A change in the administration of settlement grants was announced in June 2019. Following the 2019 election, the Australian Government released the Administrative Arrangements Order which outlines the responsibilities

of each department and agency. As a result, since 1 July 2019 the Department of Home Affairs has had overarching responsibility for settlement services grants, including SETS.

The Community Grants Hub, which is part of the Department of Social Services, will continue to administer these grants as part of the shared services arrangements with the Department of Home Affairs.

Driver Education

- Funded by the Department of Social Services.
- Clients make a contribution of \$33 per hour for practical driving lessons.
- One staff member and eight instructors.

Why the service is important

Having a driver's licence means independence and is a vital pathway to employment opportunities and social integration.

Most of our students are women with children who are single or whose husband is working. Many of them come from countries where they would never have dreamt of being able to do things like take their children to school or go shopping independently.

There is a strong demand for this service; the waiting list can be over 50 people.

What we do

As well as practical instruction, our driver education includes a 20-hour theory course which is held each term. Classes cater for individual needs with attention to the students' English abilities.

The practical lessons are delivered by a group of eight driving instructors, all of whom speak several languages.

Some of our instructors are graduates of our driving program and were able to start their own business. As well as gaining their own independence, they are now able to help us assist other people from a refugee background.

149 clients enrolled

82 gained a driver's licence

Meet our instructors

Hindi, Urdu,
Creole, French,
English



Nusrudeen Mossuudee, Mauritius
Keys 2 Pass Driving School

Arabic,
Tigrinya, Oromo,
Nuer, Amharic,
English



Zekarias Tekle Buli, Ethiopia
Exodus Driving School

Tigrinya,
Amharic,
English



Israel Andom, Eritrea
Ariam Driving School

Arabic,
Tigrinya,
Amharic, Italian,
English



Michael Russom, Eritrea
Michael's Driving School

Arabic,
English



Sue Parissi, Iraq
Babylon Driving School

Arabic, Tigrinya,
Plen, Amharic,
English



Hassan Geme Ahmed, Eritrea
Erina Driving School

Persian, Dari,
Hazaraghi,
English



Atefa Alizada, Afghanistan
Leap Driving School

French, Arabic,
Zande, Sango,
English



Justin Cleto, Sudan
Justin's Driving School

You can be part of the Edmund Rice Centre WA story too!

The community is at the centre of all that we do.

By reaching out to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our community, we are able to change lives for the better. This would not be possible without the generous support of volunteers, sponsors and donors who believe in our vision and our work.

If you would like to make a donation, no matter how small or how big please make cheques payable to "Edmund Rice Centre" or deposit directly into:

Edmund Rice Centre
Account BSB: 066 183
Account No: 1009 1408

Reference: Your surname & first name e.g. Smith Don

All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Your donations mean a lot to us so we use them wisely.

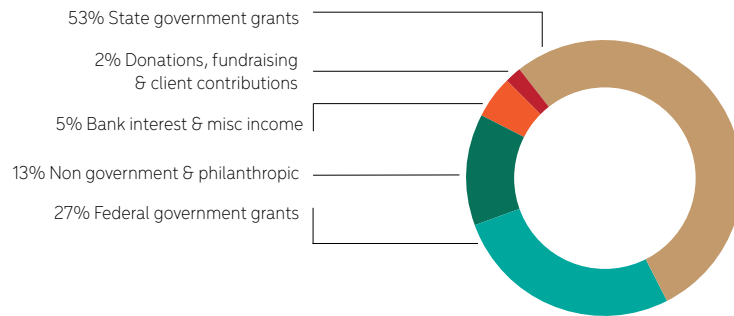
100%
for the development
and delivery of our
programs



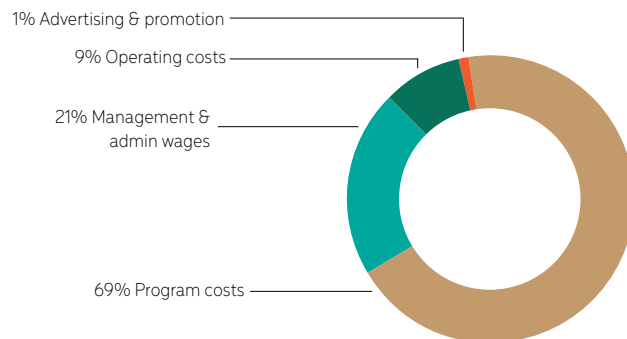
Financial Summary

Audited accounts are available on our website.

Income



Expenditure



In 2018-19 financial year (FY), the overall income increased due to an increase from 17 grants received in 17/18 FY year to 21 grants in 18/19 (including government grants). We also saw a slight increase in donations and client contributions.

General expenditure was comparable in both years. Savings were made in some areas by upgrading equipment and service agreements, including photocopying, telephone and office supplies. This allowed for funding to be directed toward an increase in marketing and promotion, staff training and office equipment to accommodate the increase in staff numbers and program growth. Direct program expenditure also increased both in salaries and resources, particularly in terms of vehicle and travel costs due to program expansion into other geographical area.

Overall salaries increased. This was due to increased number of programs and staff, as well as the transition and handover period between the outgoing Director and incoming CEO in this FY. Nonetheless, 72% of salaries were related to direct program delivery and 28% of salaries were general support and management.

Overall loss made in financial year of \$33,900 which resulted in total equity retained at the end of the FY of \$307,471 (last year was \$341,371).

We thank our funders and sponsors

We thank every one of our sponsors and supporters who so willingly gave to ERCWA in financial contributions or in-kind support which allows us to continue our vital community work.



Student Placements

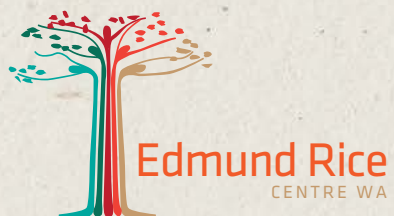
- Mercy College
- Trinity College
- North Metropolitan TAFE
- Edith Cowan University
- Murdoch University
- Notre Dame University
- Curtin University
- Santa Maria College

School staff hosted for PD

- Catholic Education Office
- Trinity College
- North Metropolitan TAFE (AMEP)
- Santa Maria College
- Mercedes College

We also thank our partners:





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