

Palmerston Youth Action Plan 2019-2020 Community Plan



Artwork from Palmerston Postcard Project 2020

Summary

The Palmerston Youth Action Plan was developed through collaboration with young people by the Palmerston Youth - Local Action Group. Established in 2018, the Palmerston Youth - Local Action Group created the Youth Action Plan for the Palmerston community to guide local decision-making, local responses and actions. The plan was launched in July 2019 and supported the collaboration of stakeholders to work together to deliver on goals and actions identified to improve outcomes for young people in Palmerston.

This review is timely to assist the Palmerston Youth - Local Action Group to monitor the progress of achieving outcomes. This group prioritised the first three goals of the plan and has delivered a range of actions that have progressed the goals identified. This review will continue to shape the work of the Palmerston Youth - Local Action Group and will be a foundation document that will guide future plans and actions to support young people and families in the Palmerston region.

Members of the Palmerston Youth - Local Action Group

City of Palmerston; Grassroots Action Palmerston; Larrakia Nation: Grow Well Live Well; Palmerston Indigenous Network; Palmerston and Rural Youth Services Network; NTG Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities; NTG Department of Education; NTG Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet; .



“ The Local Action Group has definitely had an impact. Important goals have been set and now we have a level of communication to the community to make sure they are achieved. ”

Serena Dalton - Grassroots Action Palmerston; Community Member

Top Three Achievements

Palmerston Youth Festival

The Palmerston Youth Festival, delivered by the City of Palmerston, funded through the NT Government Breaking the Cycle of Crime initiative was the biggest event on Palmerston's calendar delivered during the July school holidays in 2019.

Providing plenty of free activities for young people aged 10-24, the festival included the popular Geekfest, cooking masterclasses, interactive activities and the major music performance by Baker Boy and local talent.

Whilst this event was postponed for 2020 due to COVID19, it is scheduled to return in 2021 and young people are working on



the planning group to design and deliver this event for the Palmerston community.

Palmerston Youth Centre (PYC)

The new Palmerston Youth Drop-In Centre officially opened on the 27th June 2020, during the school holidays. An action under the Palmerston Youth Action Plan, and supported through the Breaking the Cycle of Crime in Palmerston initiative, the PYC is a partnership between the NT Government and the City of Palmerston.

Delivered by the YMCA and Larrakia Nation, the centre is open for all young people aged 10-17 years. The PYC provides activities, engagement and support for young people to be leaders.

The centre will operate between 3pm-10pm Monday to Friday and from 10am-10pm on weekends and throughout school holidays.



Palmerston Youth Activity Grants

The Palmerston Youth Activity Grants provided by the NT Government Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities, delivered a range of school holiday and after-hours activities throughout Palmerston.

Activities and programs are designed for young people in Palmerston and those visiting from surrounding communities to have several options for things to do after school and during school holidays.

These activities are also an early intervention opportunity to develop relationships with young people, support their access to more formal service responses if needed and to strengthen youth participation and leadership.

Young people were at the centre of the delivery of activities, providing feedback through consultation about the type of activities provided and how they are to be delivered.



“ The workers are good, they have a lot of stories and life experience. I like talking to you guys. Plus I can get away from home for a bit, play games, and talk to other kids. ”

16 year old, PYC participant

Progress by Goals and Actions



GOAL 1: Young people are supported to be leaders in their community and have a say in their future

● Completed ● To be delivered

YouthX Youth Forum	On September 14 th 2020, over 60 Year 10 students from Palmerston College and Taminmin High came together at the Palmerston Recreation Centre for a day of connecting, talking about issues that impact them, finding out how to be involved in the community and be young leaders.	●
City of Palmerston Youth Media Team	Working with the City of Palmerston council this team of young people are given training and support to create news and media content about youth issues in Palmerston.	●
City of Palmerston Youth Festival Working Group established for 2021	This working group contributes to the design of the CoP Youth Festival and running a major event.	●
NT Youth Round Table	The NT Youth Round Table provides young people with leadership skills and the opportunity to have their views heard by the Minister for Youth and key government representatives.	●
Student Voice Positive Choice (SVPC)	An initiative in Palmerston schools that provides leadership opportunities for students to get involved and act on issues within schools, community and on a global level.	●
Signs of Safety	A Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities tool to engage and partner with young people and families about safety and support for children and young people.	●
CREATE - Speak Up Project	CREATE group empowers young people who have had a care experience to be consultants and provide feedback and ideas to improve the care system and support to young people.	●
City of Palmerston Young Writers Festival	City of Palmerston coordinate this festival which is led by young people.	●
Youth skills and participation workshop for youth sector	To be provided	●

GOAL 2: Create a safe, inclusive youth space for young people in Palmerston. Provide a range of opportunities for young people to join in activities that are fun and engaging



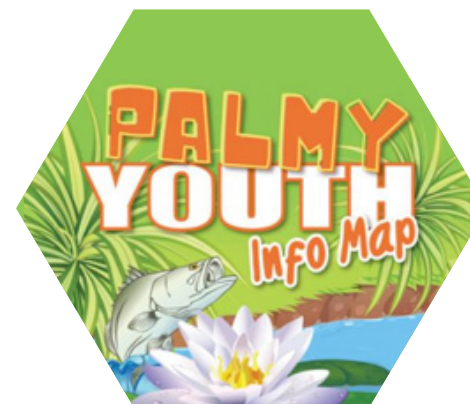
● Completed ● Ongoing ● To be delivered

Palmerston Youth Drop-In Centre (PYC)	Established in June 2020. The YMCA and Larrakia Nation deliver activities and provide a safe space for young people in Palmerston aged 10-17.	●
New Youth Outreach and Re-engagement Team space (YORET)	Established in June 2020 the new site provides direct engagement with young people and the opportunity for other service providers to use the youth space to deliver programs.	●
Palmerston Youth Activities Grant	After hours and school holiday activities delivered through the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities and coordination support provided through the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet.	●
Palmerston Youth Festival	Delivered in July 2019 (postponed in 2020 due to COVID). Planned for 2021.	●
Palmerston response to COVID-19	Included engaging with young people in an outreach model, providing information, meals, care packs and support. Providers were responsive to changing programs and maintained connection with young people during the lockdown of the April school holiday period 2020. Virtual programs and the Postcard Project supported art and positive activities for young people.	●
24 hour overnight crisis accommodation	This was identified as Stage 2 in the Youth Drop-In Centre establishment and is an ongoing gap in services prioritised by the Palmerston community.	●

“ The youth activities delivered in Palmerston mean that young people are better supported through a connected network of providers who place the welfare of young people at the forefront of their delivery. Through this network, they are supported to make positive choices and access safe places where material basics are met and support is readily available. This network assists to meet both the needs of the young people, and the community they form part of. ”

Lance Godwin Program Manager PaRBA

GOAL 3: Develop a 'Palmerston Youth Resource Map' for young people and their families so they know where to get help and access support



● Completed ● Ongoing

Palmerston Youth Resource Card	<p>The Youth Info Map was created to support the connection of young people to services and safe spaces in Palmerston. It highlights services and how young people can get in contact with them. It also includes important emergency numbers and informs young people about the six safe spaces that are available to them to socialise or to ask for help. Distribution and promotion of the resource map will be ongoing.</p>	<p>●</p>
SoRTLl online resource	<p>The CREATE SoRTLl online resource was promoted to young people in Palmerston and services that work with them.</p>	<p>●</p>

GOAL 4: Improve community awareness of trauma and its impact on young people

Understanding trauma and trauma informed care and healing	<p>A three day workshop was delivered for members of the Palmerston Indigenous Network (PIN) in November 2019. A working group from PIN will deliver this information to community members and stakeholders in Palmerston with the aim of supporting schools to become more trauma informed.</p>	<p>●</p>
Workshops and training	<p>Key service staff have participated in trauma informed workshops and training including YORET and Anglicare NT Youth Support Development Office based in Palmerston.</p>	<p>●</p>
Community awareness	<p>Continue support to develop and deliver 'Understanding Trauma' training to community members and frontline workers.</p>	<p>●</p>

GOAL 5: Improve cultural connectedness throughout the community



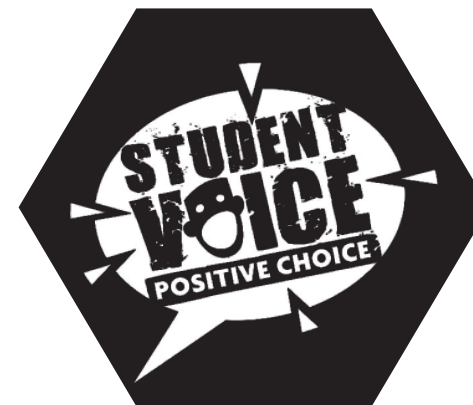
● Completed ● Ongoing

Palmerston Youth Festival	The Palmerston Youth Festival celebrated youth culture through the creation of youth art and street art. It also showcased Aboriginal role models and successful artists through the Street Festival event with performances by JMila and Baker Boy.	●
Palmerston Youth Activities Grant	The Palmerston Youth Activities Grant funds a range of art and cultural activities being delivered through Young Mulliga's and Cudgeries provided by Larrakia Nation. Dance Culture, a program delivered through Larrakia Nation delivered performances at a range of events providing Aboriginal young people a platform to perform and share their skills.	●
Harmony Day	The Harmony Day was a great celebration in Goyder Square that promoted the many cultures that live in Palmerston with shared food, dance and music.	●
NAIDOC Week	NAIDOC week events were delivered that provided opportunities for community members to participate in this celebration of Aboriginal and Islander culture.	●
Learning about culture	Larrakia Nation through the Palmerston Family and Cultural Centre has provided a range of school based and site based events that deliver cultural learning opportunities for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students of Palmerston schools.	●
Consultation with elders	Consultation with local Elders and Aboriginal organisations has occurred through the Palmerston Indigenous Network (PIN). This forum has provided improvements in cultural connections and connecting local service providers to address issues in regards to young people in Palmerston.	●

“ I am inspired by my family and our connection to our country. ”

Shane age 17 - Palmerston Postcard Project Bio

GOAL 6: Support young people to remain in school and stay engaged in education and training



● Completed ● Ongoing

<p>Student Voice Positive Choice (SPVC) is funded in each Palmerston School to help students make positive choices and have a strong voice in the community.</p>	●	<p>The Department of Education are an integral part of Strike Force Orion, dedicating an Engagement Officer to the Orion team to strengthen engagement in schools for at risk young people.</p>	●
<p>A new psychologist position has been established at the Palmerston Top End School of Flexible Learning to assess and support students at risk.</p>	●	<p>Clontarf Academies are continuing at Palmerston College (years 7-9 and 10-12) as well as newly established programs at Moulden Park Primary School and Driver Primary School.</p>	●
<p>The Young Mums are Strong Mums program supported participants to gain the Certificate 3 in community services through Batchelor Institute.</p>	●	<p>Girls Academy: In school support and mentorship program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls, with a focus on increasing school attendance and graduation rates. Palmerston College and Taminmin College .</p>	●
<p>The new Youth Skills Centre has begun and offers courses in auto mechanics with a proposed expansion to engineering. The Back on Track program in coordination with First Steps is delivering construction at this site, located in East Arm.</p>	●	<p>Youth Outreach and Re engagement Team (YORET) work with individual young people to access education and training and to re-engage or remain engaged in education and training pathways.</p>	●
<p>Current courses at Tivendale include auto mechanic and hospitality.</p>	●	<p>Reconnect Program - Anglicare NT located in Palmerston to support young people to stay engaged and or return to school.</p>	●
<p>The Student Engagement unit in the Department of Education provides support to students and families who have barriers to education. Students are case managed and other services and supports are engaged to provide wrap around support to break down barriers to education and training.</p>	●	<p>STARS Foundation: Intensive support program for indigenous girls in schools with the aim of improving health and education outcomes.</p>	●
<p>The Department of Education, as part of the Back on Track program, are providing individualised support for youth, strengthening engagement and supporting reengagement with education/training.</p>	●	<p>Identify and work together with stakeholders to remove potential barriers to young people in education and training.</p>	●

GOAL 7 Promote the good things that young people are doing in Palmerston



● Completed ● Ongoing

Palmerston Youth Action Plan	The launch of this plan promoted the involvement of young people.	●
City of Palmerston Youth Media Team	City of Palmerston have established a Youth Media Team who will be creating stories and conducting interviews with young people and service providers about the range of positive events and actions from young people in Palmerston.	●
Digital Storyteller Project	Grow Well Live Well Digital Storyteller project filmed stakeholders in the community to create a digital story of Palmerston. This resource will be used to promote collective work that is happening in Palmerston and how others can get involved.	●
Student Voice Positive Choice (SVPC)	SPVC was established at all schools in Palmerston and provides a platform to promote positive stories and engage students to develop solutions and work together to improve outcomes for young people in Palmerston.	●
NT Youth Week Ambassador	The NT Youth Week Ambassador promoted youth week events in the media which included two episodes of "Around Palmerston". This raised awareness of events delivered and the message of celebrating young people in the community.	●
NT Young Achievers Awards	The NT Young Achievers Awards have the purpose of acknowledging, encouraging and promoting the achievements of young Territorians. The awards demonstrate young people's achievements and showcase the recipients as role models in the community.	●
NT Youth Round Table	The NT Youth Round Table provides an opportunity for young people to have their views heard by the Minister for Youth and key government representatives. The 2020 round table consisted of 4 members from the Palmerston region who were able to share a youth perspective on a range of topics and issues that were important to young people in Palmerston.	●

“ The NT Youth Round Table was an incredible experience. It gave me the opportunity to develop a project I am passionate about in the Palmerston community. ”

17 year old, 2020 NT Youth Round Table member from Palmerston

Where to from Here

This review will inform the next phase of the work of the Palmerston Youth - Local Action Group. Whilst some key actions have been delivered, there is more work to do in reaching the goals identified in the current plan.

This will be delivered through continuing to strengthen the collaboration of young people in this work and working in a coordinated way through the Palmerston Youth - Local Action Group.

Acknowledgements

- Northern Territory Government
- City of Palmerston
- Grassroots Action Palmerston
- Larrakia Nation
- Grow Well Live Well

Get Involved

If you work with young people and can support them in contributing to their community and implementing parts of this plan, contact the Office of Youth Affairs by emailing TF.OYA@nt.gov.au

TERRITORY FAMILIES
territoryfamilies.nt.gov.au