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Sent: Wednesday, 3 May 2023 12:55 PM
To: ACVPA
Subject: Webform submission from: ACVPA Nomination Form 2023

Submitted on Wed, 2023-05-03 12:00

1) What is the name of the project?

Maranguka Justice Reinvestment - Maranguka Youth Support Model

2) When did the project commence?

2017

3) How is this program funded? If there is more than one source of funding, please show the percentage of funds from each source

NSW Government Funding (RYIP Grant) 35% Federal Government (Stronger Places, Stronger People) 50%
Philanthropic support (Wellness Connect) 15%

4) Project summary — Please provide a brief statement about the project

Maranguka is Australia's only operational Justice Reinvestment program, modelling First Nation's led self-determination, cultural governance and cross-sector commitment to reducing crime and violence and improving life outcomes for the community of Bourke NSW. Maranguka is the working arm of the Bourke Tribal Council which represents 22 Tribal Clan groups in Bourke and guides the work of Maranguka on behalf of the community. Maranguka's Youth Support Model is a successful community and cross sector collaboration, taking a holistic, strengths-based approach to keeping young people safe, out of trouble and on positive pathways, connected to community and culture.

5) Is this project led by a police organisation?

No

6) Name of lead organisation

Maranguka Community Hub

7) Address of lead organisation or individual responsible for the project

41B Mitchell St, Bourke NSW

8) Contact person/s for the project

Name

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Email

[REDACTED]

9) Names of all partners involved in the project

- Maranguka 8-18 Working Group
- Bourke Tribal Council Community Elders DSS – Stronger Places, Stronger People Just Reinvest NSW
- NSW Police NSW Police Youth Command Police Citizens Youth Centre (PCYC) Birrang BACCHS (Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service) Western NSW Primary Health Network
- Bourke Primary School Bourke High School Department of Communities and Justice NSW DCJ – Juvenile Justice Brighter Futures
- Catholic Care Connected Communities Community Mental Health Dusseldorp Forum Interrelate
- Mission Australia New Ways Oxfam Picking Up the Pieces Wellness Connect

10) Has this project previously applied for an award under the RPA program?

No

11) Is this a nomination for a project you are working on?

Yes

12) Project description

A core element of the Maranguka Justice Reinvestment program, the Maranguka Youth Support Model has delivered a significant reduction in the rates of youth crime and anti-social behaviour, including break and enter, stolen vehicles, vandalism, and theft, in Bourke. Enabled by cross-sector collaboration, Maranguka facilitates early intervention, wrap-around supports and individual case management for vulnerable and at-risk Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.

Police reported a 72% reduction in youth crime over the past year, directly attributable to an increase in the collaborative efforts by community and all key agencies, to engage at risk youth in positive activities, services as needed and reengagement with education. (See attached).

A foundational element of the Maranguka Justice Reinvestment program is the co-designed Maranguka community strategy - Growing them up Safe Smart Strong Strategy (see attached), a local strategy and corresponding initiatives co-designed to achieve positive social outcomes and reduce many types of offences, recidivism, and family violence. Work to achieve the community aspirations is guided by inclusive cross sector and community Maranguka Working Groups.

The Maranguka Youth Support Model is guided by the 8-18 year old working group – the members are listed as our

project partners in this award nomination. The Safe Smart Strong Strategy includes outcomes aimed at preventing (and reducing the impact of) involvement with the criminal justice system and enabling young people to achieve positive life outcomes. (See attached).

The Maranguka Youth Support Model has 4 core Support Components that are delivered in collaboration with services, agencies and community, that contribute to reducing crime and violence in Bourke.

Acute Response and Return to Community

A strategy between Juvenile Justice, Police and Maranguka where an acute plan to stabilise the young person when returning from custody or care is developed and the young person is proactively engaged with wrap around supports. The schools, services at the Maranguka Daily Check-In and Maranguka Tactical Interagency are also notified and engaged.

Maranguka Daily Check ins

Since August 2017, Maranguka has coordinated daily check-ins to support at risk children. These check-ins, which run on weekday mornings, provide updates on incidents the previous day / night and give service providers and key organisations an opportunity to meet with local staff at the Maranguka Community Hub to discuss and agree approaches to help at-risk children.

Family Support

A wrap around support model for the whole family was co-designed by the 8 – 10 year old Working Group to support family empowerment and sustained change through a multi-agency approach and trust building. Family referral services are provided through the Maranguka Daily Check-ins and are co-located at the Maranguka Community Hub.

School Based Support (Our Place Program)

An alternative learning environment at Bourke High School for young people who have disengaged or are disengaging from school. It has four components: mastery, independence, generosity, and belonging.

After Hours and School Holiday Support

For every school holiday there is a coordinated youth service response coordinated by Maranguka and involving daily activities, camps and a night patrol. Family Fun Days are a new initiative to bond families and the community, provide families with fun time together and increase engagement opportunities for services.

TRYP (To Reach Your Potential) Program

TRYP's Vision is to empower our Youth to reach their potential and TRYP's Mission is to deliver training designed to encourage, equip, and empower our Youth to make good choices and to effect positive change in themselves, their family, friends and community. The program's strong cultural element focuses on family, connection to culture, spirituality and a sense of belonging. It helps identify positive role models and helps shape participants into young leaders.

Save Our Sons / Save Our Daughters Program

Save our Sons & Save our Sisters (S.O.S) is a grassroots approach that aims to bridge the gap between the young person's connectedness and a sense of belonging to home, education and community by means of utilising whole of community support including elders and recognised role models as ongoing mentors to the individuals.

Wellness Connect Programs

The 2021 Wellness Connect Summit resulted in the program, to enhance cultural understanding and improve youth development, self-confidence and resilience. A renewed focus on children was also embedded in 2021/2022 community workshops as we seek to build community capacity around mental health and suicide prevention.

Tribal Links (Night Patrol)

The Tribal Links program provides after-hours youth engagement and diversion activities, focused on health and wellbeing, education and connection to Culture, at the Maranguka Youth Hub – engaging local young people who are wandering the streets of Bourke after dark. Tribal Links runs 5 nights per week from 6pm-12am, filling the vital time for young people to be able to access positive and safe activities.

13) What is the annual cost of the project?

\$303,000 p/a (including all programs and the coordinating and convening work of Maranguka)

14) Do you make use of in-kind support?

Maranguka is the connector for all the youth services in Bourke. One of the keys to success of the Maranguka Youth Support Model is the strong collaboration from all services in Bourke, including the Police and Police Citizens Youth Centre, community volu

15) Has the project been evaluated independently?

Yes

Please provide a summary of the key evaluation findings. You may also want to provide an electronic copy of the evaluation report or a link if the report is available online.

There is independent evidence of the success of the Maranguka Youth Support Model through local crime statistics that show a 72% reduction in youth crime rates year on year (see attached). Community data is collected and stored in the Palimaa Database, which reflects improvements in youth engagement in activities and with education.

The impact of the Maranguka Justice Reinvestment initiative was independently assessed and evaluated by KPMG in 2017 (see attached) showing significant shifts in key indicators including:
Family strength (including a 23% reduction in police recorded rates of domestic violence)
Youth development (including a 31% increase in Year 12 retention)
Adult empowerment (including a 42% reduction in days spent in custody).

16) What makes the project special or innovative?

Maranguka is the only operational justice reinvestment program in Australia, modelling First Nation's led self-determination and cultural governance, cross-sector collaboration, across all levels of government.

Justice reinvestment is described as a way of reducing Aboriginal incarceration, by implementing strategies that address the drivers into the criminal justice system, led by the community and informed by data.

Maranguka is the working arm of the Bourke Tribal Council which represents 22 Tribal Clan groups in Bourke and is the foundation and guiding light for the work of Maranguka. Through the Maranguka collaboration the community devised a local strategy and developed initiatives to achieve positive social outcomes and reduce many types of offences, recidivism, and family violence. The Maranguka Growing them up Safe Smart and Strong Strategy clearly articulates the shared community vision and objectives, including outcomes for 8-18 year olds. Maranguka convenes quarterly Working Groups, including the 8-18 Working Group, that bring together key service providers and agencies working in Bourke to identify issues, share data and come up with coordinated solutions.

Maranguka's Youth Support Model is a holistic and strengths-based approach to keeping young people safe, out of trouble and on positive pathways, connected to community and culture, that is made possible through the strength of the cultural governance provided by Bourke Tribal Council and the self-determination enabled by the cross-sector leadership that was developed through the Justice Reinvestment program.

The shared commitment to collaborate and work cooperatively to improve outcomes for young people, as is seen in the breadth of membership of the 8-18 year old Working Group. The widespread support from government, agencies and services enables the development and deployment of locally designed and appropriate responses, that are flexible and responsive to the needs and interests of young people and provide individualised and integrated support for youth at risk, reducing crime and violence in the Bourke community.

The success of the Maranguka Youth Support Model is dependent on the quality of relationships between agencies, services, community, families and young people. The Maranguka team plays a vital role in supporting young people directly, connecting services and supports and providing culturally safe and welcoming spaces for young people to be.

Maranguka is an exemplar of the potential for First Nations communities to determine their own futures, including the futures of their children and young people. The shared commitment and collaboration from across all levels of government, local community, agencies and services to improving outcomes, is seen in the support for the Maranguka Youth Support Model, getting young people on positive pathways and reducing the number of young people who offend and are involved with the criminal justice system.

17) Referees

SAMPLE

[Redacted content]

Referee 2

Name

[REDACTED]

18) What would winning an ACVPA mean for your project / organisation?

Winning the ACVPA would be wonderful recognition of the positive outcomes of the collaborative work by the whole Bourke community, particularly the members of the 18 Working Group who have all contributed to the reduction in youth offending and supporting young people at risk into positive pathways. Winning the award would be great affirmation for all those who contribute and support young people in Bourke. To be nationally recognized would give the community, families and children and young people an increased sense of pride in their place and their community.

Winning the award would also create greater opportunities for other First Nations communities to see the potential of Justice Reinvestment to empower First Nations communities to drive change in their own communities to deliver positive outcomes.

And winning the award could influence policy and decision makers to recognise the value of innovation and doing things differently, encouraging more opportunities for the testing and trying of community led approaches that respond to people in a holistic and coordinated way.

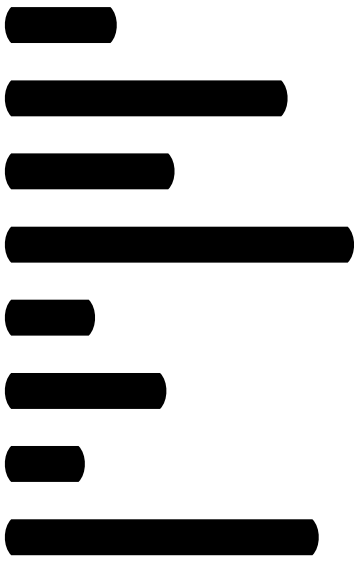
19) How did you find out about the Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards?

- Word of mouth

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



File Uploads

- https://www.aic.gov.au/system/files/webform/acvpa_nomination_form_2023/993/3%20Maranguka%20Justice%20Reinvestment%20-%20The%20First%20Five%20Years.pdf
- https://www.aic.gov.au/system/files/webform/acvpa_nomination_form_2023/993/20230502%20ALS%20Maranguka%20Letter%20of%20Support.pdf
- https://www.aic.gov.au/system/files/webform/acvpa_nomination_form_2023/993/BTC%20Letter%20of%20Support%20-%20ACVPA%20Award%20Nomination.pdf
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- https://www.aic.gov.au/system/files/webform/acvpa_nomination_form_2023/993/Maranguka-CSLG-Case-Study-Sydney-Policy-Lab-2021-FINAL.pdf
- https://www.aic.gov.au/system/files/webform/acvpa_nomination_form_2023/993/Western%20Herald%20Story%202%20March%202023.pdf
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