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BY: ATSIA 

# INQUIRY INTO THE HIGH LEVEL OF INVOLVEMENT OF INDIGENOUS JUVENILES AND YOUNG ADULTS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

## Juvenile Partnerships Scheme

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### Background

Circle sentencing is a proven practice that has successfully diverted Indigenous people away from the criminal justice system. However, for circle sentencing to be successful there needs to be a certain set of conditions at play in the community. These conditions influence the level of functionality within the community. The process that we are proposing identifies the underlying tools of functionality which communities can use to walk the path of positive change.

Our methodology is based on a social determinant of health principle that focuses on highlighting the major social conditions that produce specific social outcomes such as what conditions predispose Aboriginal juveniles to come in contact with the justice system in their local community. These identified social conditions then inform the development of community driven solutions and tools that can be successfully embedded within the local Aboriginal community.

### Summary of Key Points:

- Pilot project (Juvenile Partnerships Scheme) that investigates the best practice model of how to embed a successful circle sentencing method in three Aboriginal communities.
- Addressing the method of how an intergovernmental approach is developed to assist in delivering a community driven circle sentencing method.
- Triangulation of thematic data collected from the three areas of community, departmental, and young people's to form a best practice model for addressing juvenile incarceration and restorative justice issues.

### Outcome of Pilot Project

The overall outcome of the project will inform the process of implementing a functional community owned and driven juvenile crime and restorative justice system. This will be done through the development of a framework to engage and develop a community driven initiative that ensures that young Indigenous Australians are diverted away from the criminal justice system and are encouraged to become productive members of their community. A framework that will inform the best practice model for other Indigenous communities in Australia that share the common issues of addressing juvenile incarceration and restorative justice issues. This project will engage the communities in participatory action approach and propel and move the community towards positive change through coordinating and identifying a best practice model in this area of Indigenous youth justice issues.

Mr Geoff Ferguson

Ms Alice Haines

Ms Serene Fernando



*Indigenous Youth Advocacy Coalition*

## *Proposal 2010*

Objectives:

Implementation of a Juvenile Partnership Scheme:

- To target 3 contrasting (rural, urban and remote) communities as a pilot programme of 18 months to help facilitate existing infrastructure and organisations to bond relationships within Indigenous communities. Proposed communities are Canberra ACT, Coolgardie WA and Toomelah NSW Mission communities.
- Establish potential partnerships with existing organisations that service Indigenous youth health and wellbeing and restorative justice issues.

Incomes:

3 x's Salaries for Serene Fernando PT, Geoff Ferguson FT and Alice Haines FT Head Co-ordinators

1 x's Administration Assistance casual income (Canberra)

2 x's Casual income Contact Community Support Staff (Coolgardie & Toomelah)

2 x's Professional consultants (Statistician and Criminologist)

Programme Implementation for 18 months

Total Cost:

\$679,798.80

Mr Geoff Ferguson

Ms Alice Haines

Ms Serene Fernando

**BREAKDOWN OF BUDGET FOR 18 MONTH PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

<b>IYAC Pilot Project Budget</b>			
<b>Expense Category</b>	<b>Planned Expense</b>	<b>GST</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
<b>Building Rent / Lease</b>	\$15,000.00		\$15,000.00
<b>Equipment Rent / Lease</b>	\$38,000.00		\$38,000.00
<b>Product / Material</b>			
Report & DVD component	\$42,000.00		\$42,000.00
<b>Operation Expenses</b>			
Accommodation	\$49,700.00		\$49,700.00
training program	\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00
Travel costs	\$5,768.80		\$5,768.80
Air travel	\$5,800.00		\$5,800.00
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>			
Fax/Copies	\$300.00		\$300.00
Office Supplies	\$1,300.00		\$1,300.00
Business Cards	\$350.00		\$350.00
<b>Sales Expenses</b>			
Travel Allowance	\$47,280.00		\$47,280.00
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Utilities	\$6,600.00		\$6,600.00
Insurance	\$12,000.00		\$12,000.00
<b>Salaries</b>		GST 10%	
<b>2 ft/ Professional Staff</b>	\$261,000.00	\$26,100.00	\$287,100.00
<b>1 p/t Professional Staff</b>	\$66,000.00	\$6,600.00	\$72,600.00
<b>3 Support Staff</b>	\$66,000.00		\$66,000.00
<b>2 Professional Consultants</b>	\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$647,098.80</b>	<b>\$32,700.00</b>	<b>\$679,798.80</b>

Detailed budget analysis and workplan is available upon request

Mr Geoff Ferguson

Ms Alice Haines

Ms Serene Fernando