

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2011-12 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 199

Topic: Closing the Gap - Mai Wiru

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Scullion asked:

Statement: I refer to the operation of stores on remote indigenous lands in particular the Mai Wiru (pronounce: May Wira) stores on the APY Lands in far Northern SA. Mai Wiru is a store management body which allows for systems management across the number of community owned stores on the APY Lands, it was set up under the auspices of Nganampa Health in 2002 and has received funding from DOHA through that body until recently. Last year Mai Wiru was provided with \$495,000 to underwrite its activities and become an independent body.

Q: This year the board has been advised that there will be no ongoing funding. Considering the government contribution funds the overall management, bulk buying and nutritionist services, how does this cutting of funding fit with the Government's commitment to closing the gap?

Answer:

Mai Wiru has received substantial government funding over several years. Discussions are continuing with the organisation, with a view to ensuring that it transitions to a long-term sustainable model of service delivery.