



Annual Report 2022/2023

Acknowledgment of Country

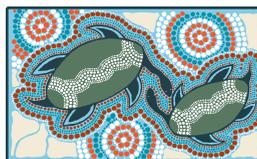
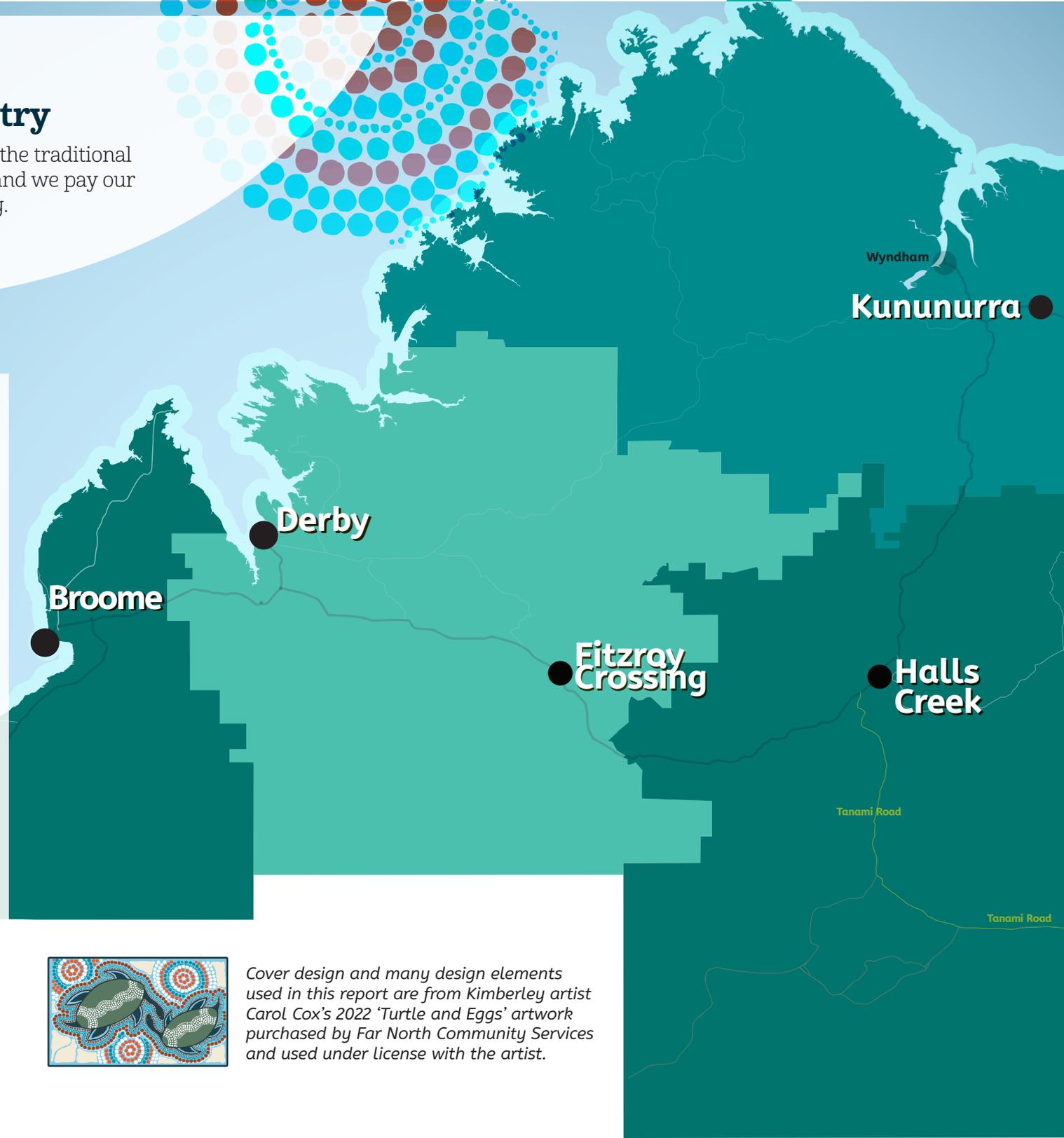
Far North Community Services acknowledge the traditional custodians of all lands on which we operate, and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Far North Community Services is a not for profit NDIS provider servicing the Kimberley region of Western Australia - a region of almost 420,000 square kilometers.

Our offices are in Broome, Derby, Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek and Kununurra, and we deliver remote outreach therapy to numerous sites.

Far North Community Services commenced delivering services on the 24th October 2016 with a vision of quality services in the Kimberley and access to more services.

At Far North Community Services we believe in inclusion, keeping families strong, respecting and celebrating culture and constantly learning so we can support Kimberley people in the proper way.



Cover design and many design elements used in this report are from Kimberley artist Carol Cox's 2022 'Turtle and Eggs' artwork purchased by Far North Community Services and used under license with the artist.

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Some of our corporate services team at the Far North Community Services 2022 Christmas Lunch.

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Our Vision

Communities are enriched through the inclusion of all people

Our Mission

Partnering with people, families and communities to deliver practical, flexible services and support



Thank-you Chris Maher

Chris Maher, our inaugural chairperson resigned at our AGM in November 2022.

Chris was a key leader in the establishment of the organisation in 2016 and his person centered values and strong focus on upholding the rights of people with disability have influenced and shaped the organisation.

As a Founding member Chris will always be held in high regard by the organisation for the fundamental work he did to establish an organisation that continues to make a difference in the lives of people with a disability every day.

Our services

Daily life and community access

Daily life means all the things that you do each day to stay safe, healthy, connected with your family and friends. It might be to clean up the house, or do your washing, buy some food or pay your bills.

Community access means support to help you stay connected to your friends, family and places you like to go to relax or join in with what is happening in your community.

NDIS daily life and community access supports are there to help you when it is hard to do these things on your own.

Therapy Services

Our therapy services include:

- Physiotherapy,
- Occupation Therapy,
- Speech Pathology,
- Early Intervention,
- Remote Outreach Therapy Services
- and Specialist Training Workshops

Respite

The NDIS call respite short term accommodation or STA, it means giving the people who are a carer a break. A carer is different to a support worker. A carer is not paid and is usually a family member or friend.

We have houses that people can stay in with a support worker and sometimes family, so that the carer can stay strong and keep providing your care. Respite is usually a few days but can be longer if your NDIS plan includes this.

Supported Independent Living (SIL)

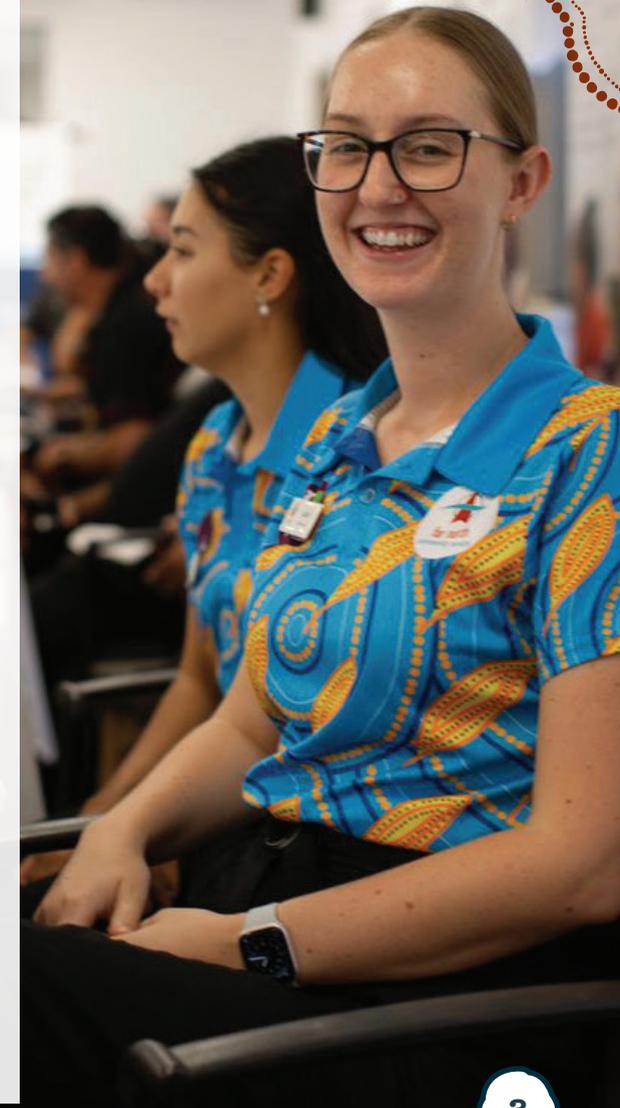
SIL means the funding in your NDIS plan so that you can have a support worker for up to 24 hours a day so you can live with friends or other people you get to know who have a disability.

You have to pay your own rent, food and bills and your support workers help with all the things you need each day to live a good life in your own or share home.

Plan Management

This is when the plan manager pays the invoices for you to the services you have chosen. The plan manager makes sure your NDIS funds are managed so you don't run out and that the people or providers who support you have a service agreement with you. This way you can make sure you are in control of your NDIS funds.

Speech Pathologist Lauren at the 2022 Derby International Day of People with Disability celebration.





Core service outcomes

Over the last year, we have had many participant success stories from across the region.

Continuous collaboration with individuals we support, their families, legal guardians, allied Health staff, support coordinators, medical teams and other stakeholders has ensured supports and services for people we support are meaningful and responsive to their needs.

In our SIL homes, health care has improved resulting in cases of reductions in cholesterol, stronger diabetes management, and increased kidney function meaning reductions in medication requirements. One participant who uses augmentative communication, has begun using email as frequent means to communicate with the coordinator and therapists. The participant is able to use email to seek updates, provide feedback, manage appointment times and request meetings with coordinator. In the East Kimberley, we've supported participants in moving to a large rural property creating an increased culturally secure service.

Left: Kimberley disability advocate Victor Patrick enjoys a cuppa with Johnno at the Norval morning tea in June 2023.

Right: Fitzroy Crossing participant April works on a painting.





In the West Kimberley, we've supported a participant in travelling to Cygnet Bay for weekends (almost 400kms as a round trip) and also link in with family each day. Previously only day trips had been possible.

Overall there has been a reduction in restrictive practices and a reduction in behavioral incidents.

Our expanded respite services now reach more individuals with disabilities exploring respite services in Broome. Respite referral have seen our team connect with participants coming from Balgo, Fitzroy Crossing, Noonkanbah, Perth, and South Hedland.

We've supported a participant living in an aged care facility to reconnect with family and community with her Aboriginal support worker. Outcomes as a result of this reconnection includes increased engagement with other residents and participation in activities within the aged care facility.

There is enhanced understanding and capacity building in understanding service agreements (Broome) where Coordinators sit with family and ensure they understand the agreements and their rights.

Above left: Fitzroy Crossing guests Geraldine and Latoya enjoy a breakfast with support workers Annika and Veronica at our Broome respite house.

Above: Kununurra participants often head out fishing as a group activity. Markus pulled in a Barra on support worker Liz's birthday, then refined his kitchen skills by battering and frying the fillet.

Right: Support worker Wendy cooks a BBQ for our Halls Creek participants.





Lauren, Therapy Manager Rebecca and Hayley measure up the entry to a participant's residence for accessibility modifications.



Kayla and Tash work with a participant on the basketball courts in Looma



Speech Pathologists Georgia, Lauren and Sam at office Speech Pathology week celebrations



Some of the team delivering therapy activities on country.

Therapy Outcomes

Our Therapy Services have continued experiencing enormous growth over the past 12 months and we are sought after to provide services across the Kimberley in all disciplines.

A key focus throughout the year has been balancing expansion with consolidation and ensuring quality services are consistently delivered. Far North Community Services have now moved into a position of therapy provider of choice across the Kimberley.

We currently offer regional therapy services to around 350 participants, 85% of whom identify as Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander. Scheduled, consistent and frequent outreach services are delivered across the Kimberley to numerous remote locations including Kalumburu, Kandiwal, Kupungarri, Wangkatijunka, Baylu, Looma, Ringer Soak, Warmun and Wyndham.

An increase in travel has also meant expanded services for Bidyadanga, Dampier Peninsular communities of Beagle Bay and Ardyaloon, and Balgo, Bililuna and Mulin.

The values of understanding, integrity, inclusion, respectfulness, responsiveness and consistency are embedded in our practice and form the foundations of strong relationships between Far North therapists, individuals, their families and communities.

Our regional team has grown to a full capacity of 20 which includes 17 Therapists, a Therapy Services Manager, an Administrative Support Officer and a new combined role of Therapy Support Officer and Aboriginal Therapy Assistant. Over the last 12 months, we have had full Therapist staff retention.

In both West and East Kimberley, a Senior therapist structure was instituted to assist with Supervision of more junior staff. This structure provides enhanced opportunities for career progression and retention of experienced therapists.

In June 2023, a decision was made to cease Specialist Behaviour Support services within Far North Community Services when our sole Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) Practitioner left for a new career opportunity in the NT. To ensure our participants were not disadvantaged, a transition process was carefully managed and additional PBS providers have since been drawn to both the West and East Kimberley. This has resulted in participants having increased choice and control opportunities. Our therapy team collaborate significantly with these providers and integrated services are still available to participants.

Our entire therapy team has progressed in nominations for both the National Disability Services Awards and the Rural Health West Excellence Awards. Additionally, two of our Senior therapists who have been supervising West Kimberley OT and Physiotherapy students have been nominated in the Marjalin Supervisor Awards.

Project work is currently being undertaken by the therapy team within small specific task-focused groups. Collaborative research in the area of Huntington's Disease is currently being explored by our Physiotherapy team who have also linked with Huntington's Australia and Marjalin in Kununurra. Physiotherapy staff have participated in Honours research around factors influencing choice of remote role in the Kimberley as well as factors influencing retention. The Therapy Manager assisted in research question development for this research.

We eagerly await the findings!

Flood water line



Above left; Damage to our Fitzroy Crossing Office immediately after flood waters had subsided. Marking shows how high water levels reached at the peak of the flood.

Unseasonal rainfall in late June created further problems for the area, with the temporary crossing washing out (Above right),

Road travel was compromised by the crossing closure, and frequent logistics planning was required to ensure our remote services continued.

Right: With river crossing impossible by road, Physio Grace waits east of Fitzroy Crossing at Cadjebut Airstrip to board a return flight to Broome.

Left: OT Kaitlin unpacks mobility equipment in Broome for set up and delivery to Fitzroy Crossing.



Kimberley Floods

In early January 2023, the largest flooding event in WA's history wreaked havoc across the Kimberley.

Towns and communities throughout the region were flooded and isolated in a deluge from ex-Tropical Cyclone Ellie.

On January 4th, 2023, the Fitzroy River peaked at 15.81m (1.8m above the previous record) and Fitzroy Crossing flooded. Homes, businesses and vehicles were damaged and destroyed, thousands of cattle drowned, and the Fitzroy Bridge - a vital piece of infrastructure on Australia's longest highway - buckled.

Derby, Broome, Noonkanbah and dozens of remote Aboriginal communities were isolated by flooding. A section of road near Willare suffered severe damage with 3km completely washed away, leaving Derby inaccessible by road until early February.

Torrential rain and damaging winds hit Broome and the surrounding area and the town was temporarily cut off, removing all road access to the West Kimberley for a number of days.

Helicopters lifted residents from sodden outstations and communities, and three Australian Defence Force aircraft were stationed in the region to assist with the evacuation and resupply of affected areas.

The Far North Community Services Office in Fitzroy Crossing was destroyed in the flood and a number of vehicles lost to the flood waters.

Our response

The priority of Far North Community Service's response to the emergency was to ensure the safety of our participants and staff. From the onset of the emergency, contact was made to confirm all participants were safe and accounted for. Some were with family, some in evacuation centres and others were evacuated to Derby, Broome and other areas.

Our Fitzroy Crossing Coordinator lost his accommodation and belongings to the flood waters - and bravely chose to remain in Fitzroy

to assist the community and local services in dealing with the crisis. We were able to secure temporary accommodation at the Lodge and provide him with a borrowed vehicle courtesy of lead response agency Marra Worra Worra. Our Fitzroy based support workers were fortunate that their staff housing avoided flooding.

Our therapy teams were extremely responsive and adaptive and ensured the needs of participants were at the forefront of all decision making. Upon confirming the safety and wellbeing of all participants, our teams contacted individuals and commenced applications for the replacement of equipment that was lost to ensure minimum wait time. They also reviewed any special equipment needs for participants relocated to hotels or other temporary accommodation. With constant transportation, accommodation and other logistical barriers emerging, frequent monitoring and reorganisation of remote travel arrangements was required to enable continuation of services.

The Derby DSM commenced respite planning for participants who had been impacted by the flood.

As flood waters subsided, the Australia Defence Force cleaned up the destroyed office space and our Fitzroy Coordinator was relocated to accommodation in Derby where he has since been able to provide a drive-in drive-out service for the participants able to return to the area.

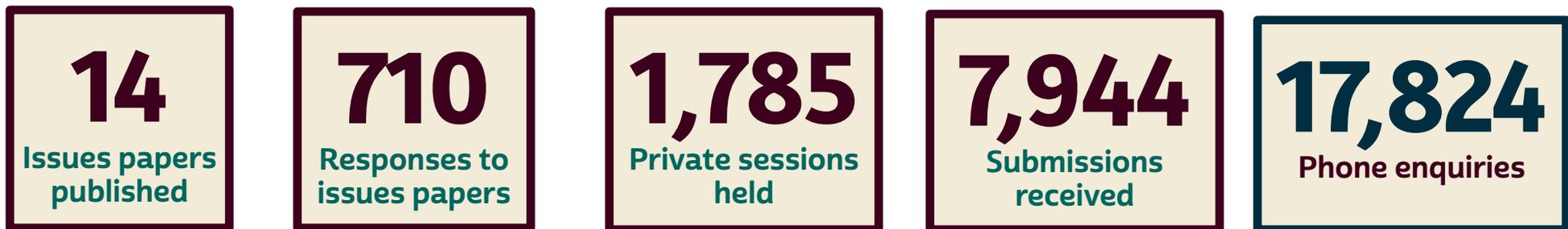
Replacement vehicles for those lost in the floods were in Fitzroy by late January. This included a replacement modified vehicle.

We currently awaiting reconstruction of our office space in Fitzroy and hope to be back into the building during 2024.

The Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability

Starting in April 2019 and ending in September 2023, the Royal Commission made 222 recommendations on how to improve laws, policies, structures and practices.

These recommendations were developed to ensure a more inclusive and just society which supports the independence of people with disability and their right to live free from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.



Information courtesy of Commonwealth of Australia (n.d.). *Fast facts*. Royal Commission Into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People With Disability. Retrieved October, 2023, from <https://disability.royalcommission.gov.au/>

222 recommendations were made by the Disability Royal Commission (DRC).

A summary of the key takeaways include;

- Establish a Disability Rights Act that translates the international human rights set out in the UNCRPD into enforceable law in Australia
- Establish an independent statutory body called the National Disability Commission.
- Create a new disability portfolio that is led by a Minister for Inclusion
- Reduce and end segregated setting for education, employment and group homes
- Change the NDIS rules so support coordination is provided by independent organisations
- NDIS to invest in capacity building for service providers
- Create a national registration body for all disability support workers
- Ensure there is a provider of last resort for people with complex needs
- Review reportable incidents to the NDIS Commission to reduce the volume of reports
- Develop model policies and procedures for service providers
- Enhance complaints processes to require redress, enhanced reporting and investigation
- Enhance sharing of information in relation to worker screening
- Improved governance for organisations, updates to standards and new guidance material for specialist grievance and safeguarding
- Consistent authorisation process for restrictive practices, with elimination targets and performance indicators
- Longitudinal study of positive behaviour support
- Steps to increase the number of behaviour support practitioners
- Introduction of a national community visitors scheme, consistent safeguarding functions, death review scheme and reportable conduct scheme

The Government is considering the recommendations and will provide a report on those they intend to adopt by March 2024.

Public Hearing 25 focused on the NDIS and First Nations people with disability.

Far North Community Services listened deeply to the people who gave evidence at the hearing and fully supports the recommendations for enhanced requirements for the development of cultural security standards, improved cultural awareness training and growth in the Aboriginal workforce.



National Disability Insurance Scheme Review

Announced in October 2022, the NDIS Review has been looking at the design, operations and sustainability of the NDIS. 10 reform areas have been identified and the full report is likely to be handed down in November 2023.

Key themes that have emerged to date include;

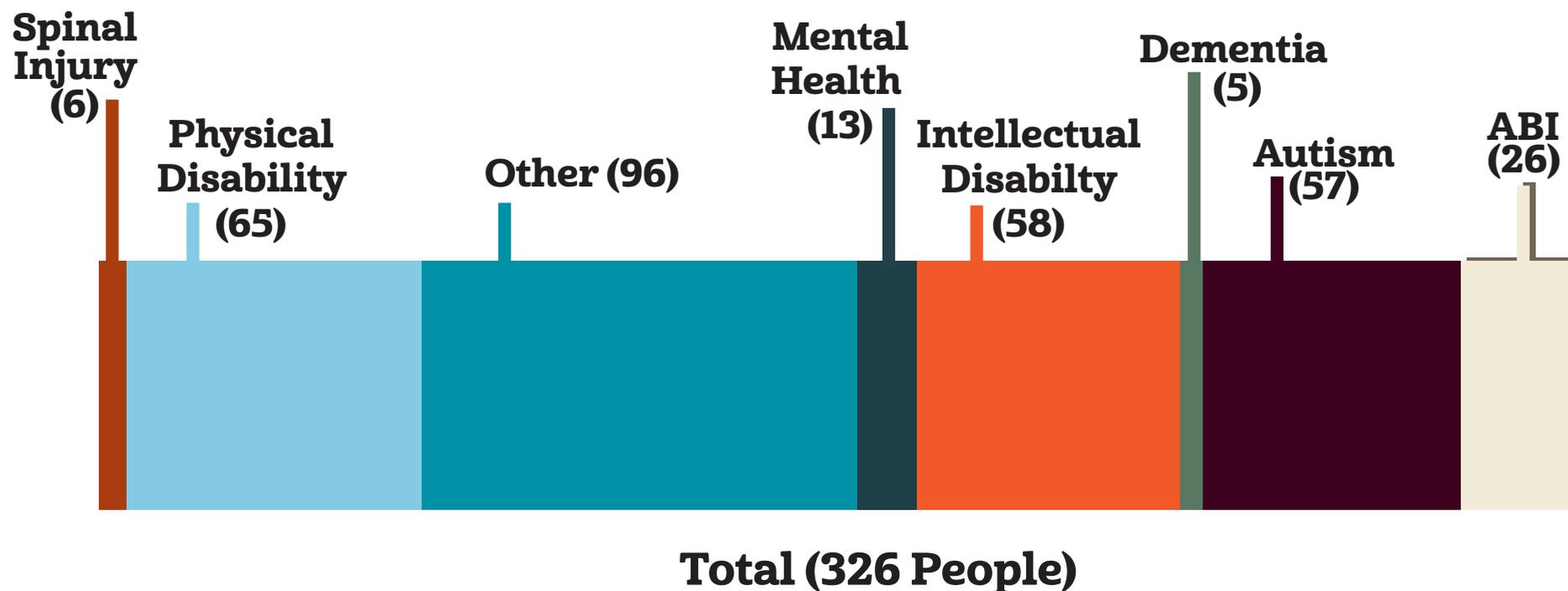
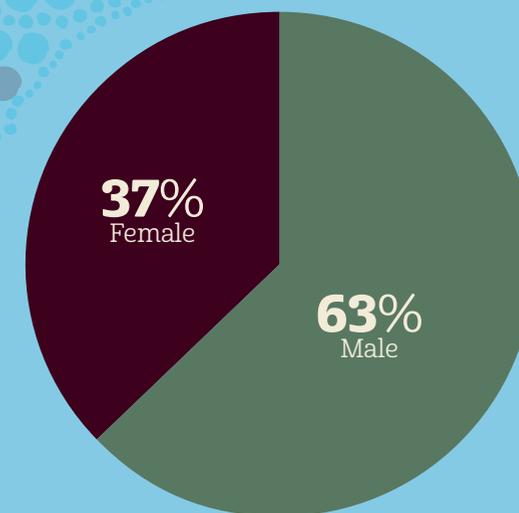
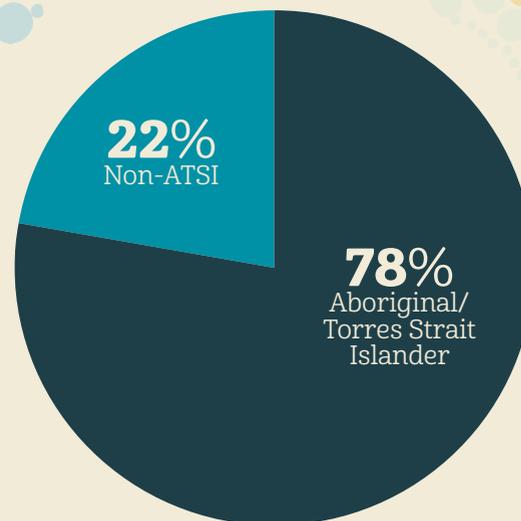
1. The need to re visit supports that sit outside the NDIS and create a new category of supports called foundational supports.
2. Make the scheme more person centred
3. Strengthen access to the scheme based on significant functional impairment rather than medical diagnosis.
4. Clarify what reasonable and necessary supports are to improve fairness and consistency.
5. Refocus early intervention to make sure children with developmental concerns are better supported through best practice, evidence based approaches
6. Consider housing supports more holistically for participants and give people more certainty. Consider ways to scale up more innovative solutions.
7. Look at ways to ensure intermediaries all work together more effectively to better support participants and their families.
8. Regulate the market to deliver the right supports in the right locations and encourage innovation.
9. Build a more responsive and supportive workforce.
10. Expand the quality and safeguard framework to include other disability supports and ensure a greater focus on quality services.



Mary and support worker Annika complete a puzzle

Our participants

April 2023



Physio Tash working with a participant in Derby in June 2023.



Chairperson report



At the AGM in November I was elected to the role of Chairperson, taking the reins from our inaugural chairperson, Chris Maher. Far North Community Services commenced service delivery in the Kimberley 7 years ago with significant drive and leadership from Chris to establish a locally governed not for profit disability provider. Since this time the organisation has been in a constant cycle of growth, change and learning. Chris was instrumental in development of services in the formative years of the organisation and on behalf of the Board, staff and people we support and I extend thanks and appreciation to Chris.

In the past year our focus has been on review and consolidation, preparing for the inevitable and much needed changes that will arise from the Disability Royal Commission and NDIS Review.

Our strategic priority areas were reviewed and we will continue to focus our efforts on service outcomes, excellent staff, influential relationships and strong governance in the coming year.

Having been through a full certification audit in late 2021 and an interim audit in April this year, the Board has confidence that we have strong governance and deliver services that are safe and high quality. Our final reports demonstrate compliance with the NDIS Code of Conduct and Practice Standards.

During the last financial year the Board made the difficult decision to wind up our support coordination services which ceased on the 30th June. When the NDIS first rolled out in the region, we took on all program areas due to the lack of available services in the region. Over the past 2 years we have seen

a growth in the number of providers in the region, particularly in non-registered providers and those who deliver support coordination.

The Board acknowledges the NDIS Quality Safeguards Commission view that there is a potential for conflict of interest when one provider is the support coordinator and service provider. Our organisation has always taken steps to manage any perceived or potential conflict of interest and established the organisation to focus on choice, self determination and empowerment for people who access our services. To this end, we determined that a separation of support coordination and service delivery is one way to demonstrate our commitment to the principles of the NDIS.

Through the Disability Royal Commission, we heard from people with disability that the NDIS has been a complicated and bureaucratic system that is difficult for people to understand, particularly for people in remote areas. First Nations people had the opportunity to talk about their experiences and we have been listening so we can deeply understand how our organisation can be responsive and deliver culturally secure services.

We are at the beginning of developing our Reconciliation Action Plan and the next year will involve more conversations, listening and learning. This is an exciting time where we are well prepared to embrace changes and in the coming year create more opportunities to involve the people we support in the governance of our organisation.

Mark Luca
Chairperson

CEO report



Quality, compliance and consolidation goals shaped the previous financial year for Far North Community Services. The Disability Royal Commission, The NDIS Review and preparation for our second external Certification Audit sharpened our focus on what is important and needed to deliver quality services. We demonstrated our commitment to quality with the employment of a new Quality and Compliance Manager and Operations Manager.

We have spent the past year listening and learning, watching the ever-growing number of new and typically unregistered providers entering the region and thought hard about what makes a culturally secure, safe and quality service.

We have read the Disability Royal Commission stories of what can go wrong in the delivery of services, directly impacting people with disability when the foundational goals of the service are skewed to profit, growth, risk taking and self promotion. We have read the stories of the direct impact for First Nations people when services are not culturally secure, local and consistent.

Our organisation has firmed up its commitment to quality, being person and family centred and culturally secure. We respect and support choice and control and know there are many reasons why there is a need for different service models and ways for people to manage their NDIS supports and services.

I visited every region this year to meet with people we support, staff and stakeholders to listen to feedback on what we need to do better and what is working. I always enjoy meeting with the people we support and our staff across the region and hearing in person the positive impact of the supports and services we deliver. Our reconciliation action plan, workforce plan and flexible approaches to attract and retain staff will shape our work for the next year.

HDAA completed our interim certification audit which focused on governance and management of the organisation. The final report evidences our commitment to strong governance and quality with compliance with the Quality Indicators for Disability Services.

The devastating floods in Fitzroy Crossing in January 2023 caused significant hardship and distress for many people we support and their families. It took time to reestablish services as people were traumatised and being together was the most important thing immediately following the floods. Our staff who live and work in the Fitzroy Valley were also impacted along with our office. The staff are to be highly commended for the care they demonstrated for each other, people we support and the broader community during this extremely difficult time.

Kathy Hough

Chief Executive Officer



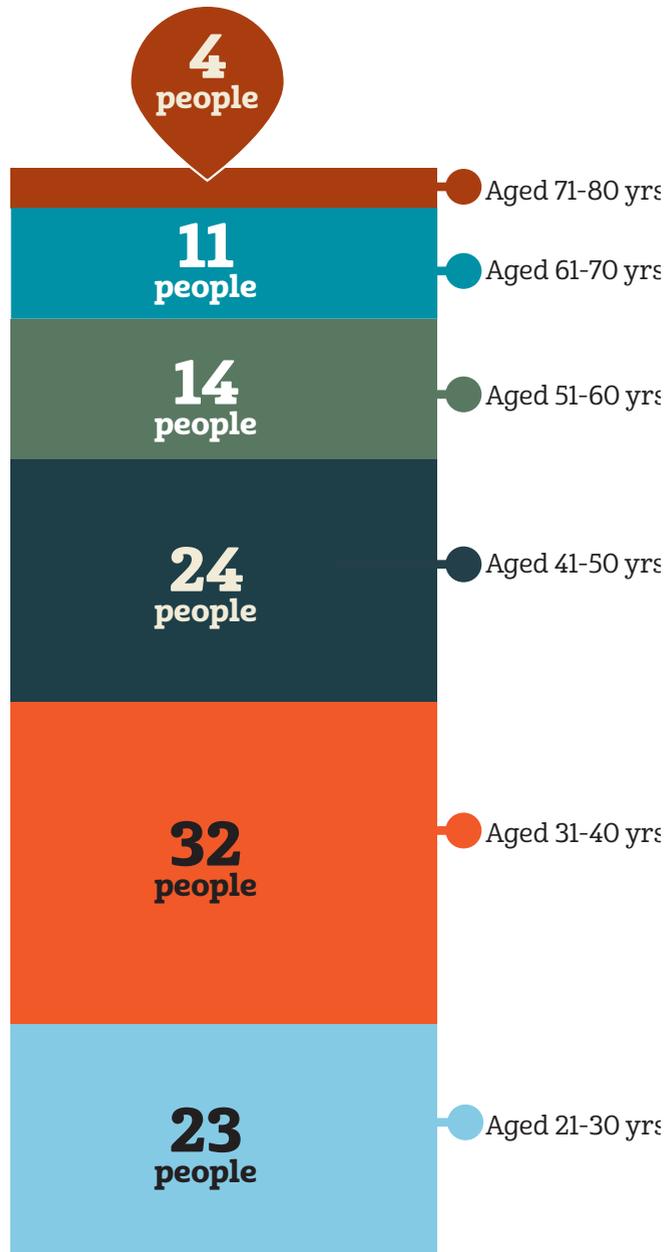
Kathy and Marketing Communications Officer Jesse address attendees of the Broome Far North Community Services Reconciliation week celebration in February 2023.

Our people

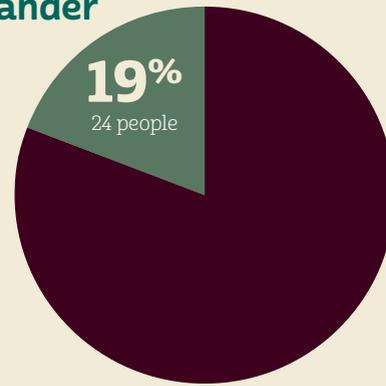
Skilled staff

HR Manager Michael and HR Officer Brooke at the 2023 WA Disability Support Awards evening.

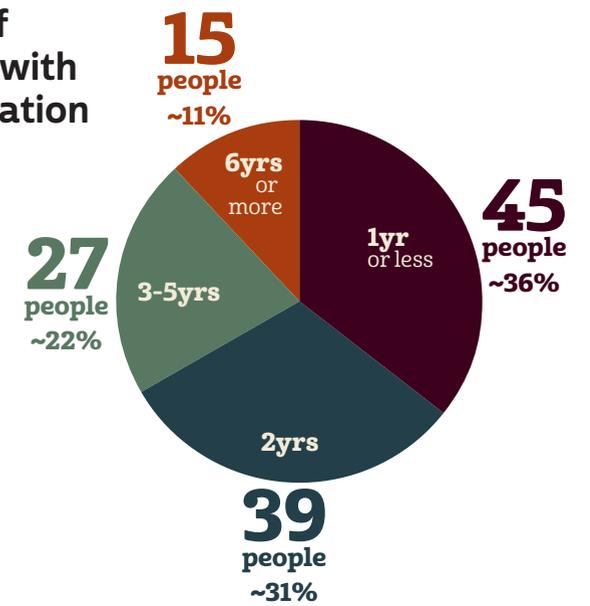
Workforce Age groups



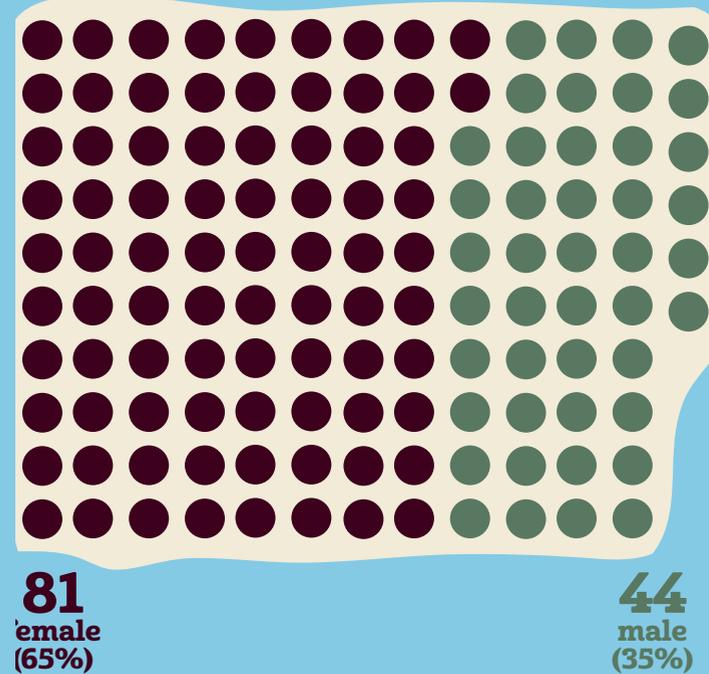
Staff Identifying as Aboriginal/ Torres Strait Islander



Years of service with organisation



Workforce gender





Above: Mitchell Corporate Group's cultural awareness training is delivered to Far North Community Services staff in Broome.

Developing the cultural security of our staff

In the last 12 months, Far North Community Services has continued our focus and commitment to developing cultural security for staff.

Linda Mitchell moved into the role of Aboriginal Liaison Officer.

Work was commenced on Far North Community Service's reconciliation action plan.

In the West Kimberley, we engaged Mitchell Corporate Group to provide face to face cultural awareness training. Immersion cultural awareness training Miriwoong Gageroong deliver training for our East Kimberley workforce.



Above: Wendy from our Finance department undertakes fire safety training in Broome.

Training

Far North Community Services has a dedicated commitment to training and individual training plans are developed for every staff member

Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA)

The East Kimberley Chamber of Commerce and Industry (EKCCI) is the Designated Area Representative for the East Kimberley Designated Area Migration agreement (EK DAMA).

The DAMA enable employers to enter into a contract with the Commonwealth for five years to enable them to sponsor overseas workers under the following visa programs'

- Temporary Skills Shortage (TSS) Subclass 482 visa
- Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional (Provisional) (SESR) Subclass 494 visa
- Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS) Subclass 186 visa

The DAMA is developed when there is a genuine and significant demand for workers in particular occupations that can't be met within the Australian labour market.

Far North Community Services Community a DAMA agreement to sponsor 12 workers over the next 5 years with a breakdown of 5 TSS, 5 SESR and 2 ENS.

Far North Community Services has utilised 75% of our available sponsorship agreements in the first year of the DAMA due to the demand for workers in the East Kimberley region. This provides stability and continuity of service for people accessing services with a percentage of our workforce guaranteed for 3 - 5 years in an area with a high turnover rate.



Broome staff gather at a morning tea to thank and farewell support coordinators Tony and Raymond.

Support Coordination

Following a review, the Board of Far North Community Services made the strategic decision to cease support coordination services. When the NDIS was first rolled out in the region, there were no support coordination service providers in the Kimberley. The Board determined that the market had grown sufficiently to support choice and control and ceasing this program area would reduce the risk of any perceived conflict of interest for the organisation.

Upon cessation of the service, our Community Services Support Coordinators Tony and Raymond chose to embrace new opportunities and established their own service. Far North Community Services is extremely grateful for all their efforts and hard work during their time with the organisation.

Governance

Interim audit

As a registered provider, Far North Community Services is audited every 18 months, with one comprehensive and one interim audit in a three year rolling cycle.

In April 2023, we welcomed Robyn DeJonge and Anne Bradley from HDAA to assess our compliance with the delivery of high intensity supports and governance of our organisation.

With strong governance and management noted and good practices in preparation for emergency management, we were pleased with the recommendations for improvements being limited to updates to recording templates for urinary catheter care to better reflect the support provided by external agencies such as Silver Chain and a commitment to continuing to transfer all risk assessments onto our new and improved assessment template.

The excellent results of our interim audit are recognition of the importance our organisation places on safe, quality services.

Kathy, Piers and Rosalind deliver a workshop with Derby staff



Relationships and networks

Our vision is that *communities are enriched by the inclusion of all people*. We can't achieve this alone and the partnerships we develop and nurture help us to achieve inclusion, celebrations of all peoples contributions and make our communities more welcoming and great places to live.



Agunya Community Enterprise

Far North Community Services have partnered with Agunya to support young men at risk of homelessness and contact with the criminal justice system with small grants for funded support and on-country camps.

In October 2022, CEO Kathy and Operations Manager Piers met with Agunya and other potential stakeholders in a remote area of the Dampier Peninsula to explore opportunities to support at-risk young men with on-country cultural camps.

Relationships and networks

Victor Patrick performs one of his original songs at the Derby World Autism Day Celebration in April. The celebration was also used to open the Derby Ability Group meeting space, a large meeting room Far North has designated for use exclusively by Victor's group.

Victor Patrick

We admire Victor Patrick and his resolve to advocate for people with disability, to ensure government and key decision makers understand what it is like to live in the Kimberley, to be an Aboriginal person who lives with disability, how to end discrimination and how to ensure the voice of people with disability is heard.

Far North Community Services support the Derby Ability Group and value the grass roots and organic nature of its development and the learnings for our organisation from this partnership. Our planning has begun for the next IDPWD event and welcome the celebrations led by Victor.

Relationships and networks

Department of Communities WA Disability Legislation Reform Consultation

In her role as a member of the Disability Services Commission Board and WA Disability Advisory Council, Far North Community Service's Linda McSherry assisted with the facilitation of consultations in Broome, Derby and Kununurra.

Linda McSherry co-facilitating the WA Disability Legislation Reform Consultation with a representative from the Department of Communities at the Liyan-ngan Nyirrwa Cultural Wellbeing Centre Yawuru in Broome.

Council of Regional Disability Services (CORDS)

Far North Community Services hosted the Quarterly meeting of the Council of Regional Disability Services (CORDS) at our Broome office in May 2023. Established in 2004, CORDS is a coalition voice for regional organisations working in the disability sector in WA.

Relationships and networks

Developmental Disability WA

Developmental Disability WA (DDWA) visited Broome to facilitate a chat about 'Your Services Your Rights'. Far North Community Services assisted Beth and John from DDWA with a BBQ lunch and setting for attendees. The discussion provided opportunity for people living with an intellectual disability to learn about their rights and provide skills to speak and get involved.

Habilitas

Far North Community Services are working closely with Habilitas, a WA based registered Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) provider.

This partnership aims to secure accessible, affordable housing for people in our region.

Beth and John from DDWA discussing 'Your Services, Your rights', in Broome.

Relationships and networks

Aged care

In addition to providing NDIS services across the region, our Therapy team have a strong collaborative working relationship with Juniper Aged Care in Kununurra, Fitzroy Crossing and Derby. We have also forged new relationships with Menkawum Ngurra in Halls Creek and Germanus Kent in Broome. Our therapists are sub-contracted to undertake specialist assessments, intervention and training programs including dysphagia management, mobility assessments and manual handling training at these sites where historically little to no therapy input has been available to residents and staff. This service has expanded and is now regularly requested.

OT Amber, Physio Sophie and Halls Creek support worker Wendy deliver a therapy on country session for participants in November 2022.

Allied Health Students

Far North Community Services value the development of the allied health profession and supervising students supports our therapists to refine their clinical reasoning and further develop leadership skills.

We have enhanced our partnership with Marjalin Kimberley Centre for Remote Health in both continued hosting of final year Occupational Therapy students in Broome and have added Physiotherapy placements in both Broome and

Kununurra. One Physiotherapy student travelled from LaTrobe University in Victoria to undertake her final year placement with our Broome team. Marjalin in Kununurra have also afforded our Therapy team use of their facilities which has further enhanced connection. We have now formed a partnership with Curtin and Notre Dame Universities and will be hosting Occupational Therapy, Speech Pathology and Physiotherapy students on final year placements in Broome and Kununurra on an ongoing basis.



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Broome Office

Office 5, Kimberley Regional Offices
29 Napier Terrace, Broome,
PO Box 1766, Broome WA 6725

Derby Office

Ph: (08) 9191 2305
68 Clarendon Street, Derby
PO Box 1174, Derby WA 6728

Halls Creek Office

Ph: (08) 9169 3491
39 Thomas St, Halls Creek
PO Box 136, Halls Creek WA 6770

Kununurra Office

Ph: (08) 9169 3491
50 Coolibah Drive, Kununurra,
PO Box 911, Kununurra WA 6743

Fitzroy Crossing Office

Ph: (08) 9193 0064
30 Bell Road, Fitzroy Crossing
PO Box 355, Fitzroy Crossing 6765

admin@farnorth.org.au • Ph: (08) 9193 5207

farnorth.org.au