

# FAR NORTH COMMUNITY SERVICES

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- Edward has his own home in Kununurra.
  - Kailem kicking goals!
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**Supports have started in Halls Creek.**

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## **Far North Events**

- AGM
  - Evaluation
  - Broome Christmas Brunch
  - Christmas at the Kununurra Office
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## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

In July we were celebrating the roll out of the NDIS and had great hopes for people living in the Kimberley as they now have access to supports and services and the funding was available to make this a reality. At Far North we are thankful and have gratitude for the families that chose us as their service provider. We are committed to supporting people the best way we can, listening, responding and learning.

Our reputation continues to grow as our service reach does, and it is in the areas of Derby, Halls Creek and Kununurra that we have seen the most significant growth in people now having access to services.

Our State Government has recently made the announcement that we will now transition into the Nationally run NDIS. This will bring more change for people who are already change weary and potentially more questions about their services. Whilst Far North was a keen advocate for and fully supported the state run NDIS, we accept that the decision has been made and will now shift all of our energy into ensuring the best services are available for people who live in this region under the National model.

We have a transition team who are working hard behind the scenes to ensure we transition smoothly to the national model. During 2018 you will receive regular updates as we be fully rolled in to the National NDIS by December 2018.

At Far North our commitment is to our vision and values and people with disability and their families and carers. We believe that people who live in remote areas want services provided by people who live and work in the region and who contribute to our regional

communities. The National NDIS will enable other service providers to register to deliver services in our communities. At Far North we believe our communities deserve strong sustainable and values driven services and we will work hard to ensure that we deliver the best service based on giving people choice and control over their services, where all of their funding stays in our communities and doesn't go back to head offices in other regions or states.

I'm proud to be part of a team of dedicated people, committed to our vision and values. I extend my sincerest thanks to you all. Every day I see examples of values in action and acknowledge the staff nominated for our Shining Stars program. To Leni, Sabine, winners of our first round and Jim and Meagan who were nominated I congratulate you as it is only with the actions of people that we make a difference. Each one of us can make a difference and the collective effort of all of us is incredibly powerful in bringing about change for the better. I look forward to nominations from our regional teams during 2018.

I wish you all a very safe and happy festive season and look forward to working alongside you all during what is shaping up to be a very busy and exciting year ahead.  
Kathy Hough

Kathy Hough

CEO

## Supports have started in Halls Creek!

In our previous newsletter, it was announced that services would begin soon in Halls Creek and we have now honoured this commitment. Far North is celebrating delivery of services in Halls Creek, with the first support taking place on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. This exciting milestone was made even more special as it coincided with Disability Awareness Week. During the same week, Far North partnered with Yura Yangi Aboriginal Medical Service to help raise awareness of the NDIS in Halls Creek as part of the town's celebration of the International Day of People with Disabilities.

Our remaining offices have also benefited from a regional focus. There has been travel to all regional offices, with Sarah Kay providing administrative support from the Broome office to the teams in Kununurra and Derby and Jen Mofflin delivering Coordinator training in Fitzroy Crossing.

Jen Mofflin

Disability Services Manager

## Edward has his own home in Kununurra

This is Edward Smith from Kununurra, Edward has finally got his own home in and is being supported by staff at Far North. This process for Ed to have his own home started one year ago, his carer then did not know if it was going to be possible for this to happen but with a few services working strong together it became possible.



Edward now comments frequently that he is happy and feels safe in his own house in Kununurra.

## Far North Shining Stars Program

In our last newsletter we introduced our Shining Stars Program, at the Far North Christmas brunch our first nominee's and winners were announced,  
Congratulations to;

Jim Hawkins- Nominee  
Meagan Hinde- Nominee  
Sabine Delmotte- Winner  
Leni Koureskas- Winner





## Far North's first Annual General Meeting

On December 4<sup>th</sup> Far North had its first Annual General Meeting held by the Board members of Far North. The afternoon consisted of the AGM formalities, distribution of the 16/17 Annual Report and an afternoon tea with the board members, staff and families who attended.



## Evaluation

Far North was evaluated by Beth Marchbank and Bettina Phillips, Independent Quality Evaluators contracted by Disability Services on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of November. We held a morning tea for staff and families to meet and welcome the evaluators, with a great turn out, yummy food and a bit of fun!



Linda, Michelle, Kelly and Lucy



Jim and Joel



Vinnie and Mark



Sherrie, Rob, Shane, Janet, Sarah and Telisha

# Welcome

Welcome	Role
Aaron Birnie	Kununurra Support Worker
Gail Bondareff	Derby Support Worker
Ruthzie Castanares	Derby Support Worker
Sophie Daws	Broome Support Worker
Ann Marie Everett	Derby Support Worker
Lindsay Everett	Derby Support Worker
Sharon Garner	Human Resources Officer
Rahul Gera	Kununurra Support Worker
Francis Lee	Kununurra Support Worker
Chloe Malay-Murphy	Halls Creek Support Worker
Michael Moore	Broome Support Worker
Jimi Ojo	Kununurra Support Worker
Roslyn Padoo	Fitzroy Crossing Support Worker
Neil Pollard	Fitzroy Crossing Support Worker
Veronia Tareha	Broome Support Worker
Gordon Staines	Broome Support Worker
Edwin Kipruto	Broome Support Worker
Megan Wilkinson	Broome Support Worker



Farewells	Role
Anneke Siefken	Broome Support Worker
Jana Maertins	Broome Support Worker
Emma Young-Trawber	Kununurra Support Worker
Jade Presenza	Broome & Derby ILC Coordinator
Chloe Westgarth	Broome Support Worker

## Human Resources Officer Introduction

Hi,

My name is Sharon Garner and I have joined Far North Community Services as the Human Resources Officer.

I have many years' experience in Human Resources gained in the Mining and Legal industries in regional Western Australia, Perth and Melbourne. I am excited to join the team at Far North and also looking forward to meeting and supporting the team in all things HR.

My partner and I are in the process of relocating to Broome and look forward to being part of the Broome community. We are looking forward to exploring the Kimberley region of Western Australia, following a local football team, spending time with family & friends and enjoying the beautiful sunsets.

I look forward to meeting the team.

Sharon

## Christmas in Kununurra



Francis, AJ, Markus and Jarryd at the office



The Ambulance Service Bear and Jarryd



## Far North Broome Christmas Party

This year we held our Christmas Party at the Runway Restaurant with a lovely brunch, the morning was very enjoyable and we were thrilled with the turn out. We hope everyone enjoyed themselves as much as we did! We are also looking forward to hear how our region office's party's went. Below are some photos from the day;



Sherrie and Meagan



Paddy and Maureen



Sharon and Jesse



Chairperson, Chris Maher

Veronia, Teresa,  
Jodie and Annie





Renarta and Jodie



Kelly, Paddy and Emma



Rob and Leni



Jason and Tendai



Kathy and Glenys



Sarah, Kelly and Chloe



## Kailem Tucker kicking goals!

Kailem Tucker who is getting support from one of Kununurra's new employees Aaron Birnie, Kailem is working on his fitness and would like to get to the top of Kelly's Knob here in Kununurra. This started as a fitness goal but it soon became evident that Kailem has a bit of a fear of heights, Kailem is now working to conquer that fear and along with his goal to get fit he has decided to also conquer his fear of heights so he can get to the very top of Kelly's Knob. In this photo Kailem is up the top of what we call Little Kelly's which has been an achievement of its own.



Kailem at Little Kelly's, well done Kailem!

Thank you for reading, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from everyone at Far North!

