



Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-23



Martu are the traditional owners of the Martu native title determination spanning 13.6 million hectares, an area about twice the size of Tasmania. The determination includes parts of the Great Sandy, Little Sandy and Gibson Deserts, collectively referred to as the Western Desert. Martu Country is rich in cultural heritage and environmental value both for the Martu and the wider community. Fifteen fauna and twenty-nine flora species of international, national or state significance can be found on Martu Country.

Many Martu were born and became adults in the desert, living a traditional life without the knowledge of the Western world with many coming in from a completely traditional desert life in the 1950s and 1960s. This group are known as *pujiman*.

Martu *pujiman* hold a vast amount of social, cultural, spiritual and environmental knowledge and a rich language unique to the Western Desert. This knowledge assists Martu in maintaining the connection to Country, cultural identity and social stability.

Martu now live mainly in the remote communities of Jigalong, Parnngurr, Punmu and Kunawarritji as well as the neighbouring towns of Newman, Port Hedland and Wiluna. People who identify as Martu are also located in several Kimberley communities, particularly Bidyadanga and communities south of Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek.



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Martulu ngapilu Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa. Martu-ya wangkangu warrkamurriku-la. Martu-ya yumu-ya parrayanu warrkamparni. Kanyirninpa jukurrpangkakurrungu warrkamu-ya manu, warnku-ya manu, ninti-ya manu, nantirrarringu-ya. Kurrurnpa palyarringu nantirrarringu.

Muuki Taylor, OAM

Martu created Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa (KJ). Martu said what work it should do. Martu were walking around with not much work in the communities before KJ. Some went to work with KJ. They got work, they got good money, they got knowledge, they got strong. The feeling inside, their spirit is happy and strong.



OUR VISION

Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa (KJ) is a Martu organisation established in 2005 to work with Martu to build strong, sustainable communities. Our vision is to:

- support Martu to look after culture and Country;
- build a viable economy in Martu communities and
- build pathways for young Martu to a healthy future.

To achieve these objectives, we deliver an integrated suite of programs that provide significant social, cultural and economic benefits to Martu. All programs are based on Martu culture, priorities and aspirations to teach young people about their culture, and go back and look after country. By looking after culture, KJ assists Martu to retain a strong Martu identity, social stability and resilience to face increasing social and development pressures.



OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES



WALYJA

Family – people working together and identifying personally with this work as one would with family.



NGAPARRJI-NGAPARRJI

Respect – Martu and non-Martu working strongly together, respecting each other and acting with respect towards each other.



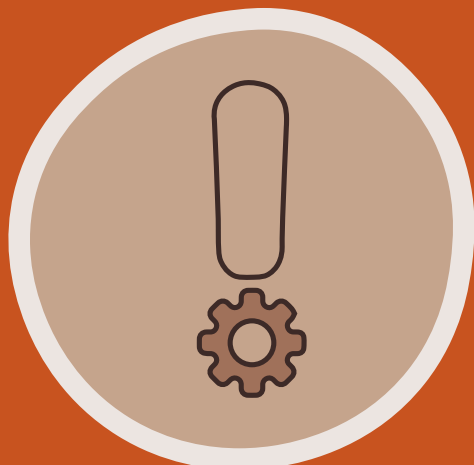
KUJUNGKA

Partnership – Martu and non-Martu working together as equals, with complementary skills and knowledge.



WARRKAMU

Participation – by building a culture of participation in Martu communities, individual Martu will be supported and strengthened.



MINYIRRPA

Being serious – taking matters seriously, ‘not playing games’ and being ‘real about it’.



YILTANYJU

Honesty – talking to and dealing straight with each other, government and others.



YIWARRA

Building – creating the future that Martu want, that strengthens Martu society and engages confidently and effectively mainstream society.



NYAKUMA NINTIRRI

Reflection – combining action with reflection, continuously learning as we go.



Muuki Taylor, OAM

Muuki was born in 1945 at Wayinkurungu, a soak on the side of the Percival Lakes. His family walked across the entire Great Sandy Desert, north to Joanna Springs and south to Parnngurr. Muuki was brought into Jigalong mission in 1965 and returned to the desert in 1980. He now lives in Parnngurr. Muuki is a senior law man with encyclopedic knowledge of Martu law, songs and customs, waterholes and Martu walking tracks, flora and fauna of the desert and Martu family histories.

He, along with Peter Johnson and Sue Davenport, founded Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa. He was the chairman of the KJ board for many years. Muuki works as the senior cultural advisor and is a co-patron for KJ, providing invaluable cultural advice and guidance. In 2020 Muuki was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his service to Martu.



MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR CULTURAL ADVISOR

Kujungka-la nyininpa Martukaja. Kanyilkura-la ngurrakaja. Kanyilkura-la jamumili yaparlimili wangka kurrurnja pukunyju. Julyju yatilypa-lampaju-ya nyinapayi pukurlpa, warrarnpa-ya kanyilpayi pukurlju mikuparnilu. Nintirnu-lanya-ya, wajarnu “ngurra-lampa-ya kujungka kanyila”. Kanyirninpa-la KJ-lu jukurrpa yatilypamili muripirru.

Kuwarri-nyurra marlajanulu pukurlju kanyilku yaparlimili jamumili ngurra. Jirlpikaja-laju kuwarri manarrarringu. Kuwarri-nyurra ngaa marlajanulu pukunyju kanyilku warrarnpa KJ-ngka. Yanku-nyurra nyakumalpa kanyilmalpa ngurrakaja. Martu-la pukurlpa ngurrangka nyinara, walykukajangkamarra town-jamarra. Martu-la yankura nyakumalpa ngurra, wajanmalpa-la wangka Julyjujanu. Martulu-la warukaja kampamalpa warrarnpa, kanyilmalpa wululu.



Martu are one family. We all have a responsibility to take care of our land and make sure our culture stays strong. Our Elders, who came before us, shared their wisdom about taking care of our homelands, and they did so without jealousy. They understood that our Country belongs to all of us and has been cared for by many generations of old people.

The future generations need to carry on as we the old people are getting tired. So, it's up to all of you, the young ones, to keep going and working with KJ. You must learn about our special places and carry on visiting and learning once we're gone. Martu, we are at our strongest when we are on our Country, far from the troubles of town. Martu must keep coming returning to Country, learning and sharing the stories from our ancestors, passing on knowledge, burning Country and looking after it forever.





MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-PATRON

I am very proud of the great range of activities KJ undertakes. Its on-Country work combines caring for Country with caring for people. It involves Martu of every age in ways that contribute to building strong communities and strong individuals.

A recent meeting I attended between KJ, the Department of Justice and the Department of Corrections reminded me of the importance of the external relations KJ has developed and its community work. There is great respect for the work that has been done to make the justice system work better for Martu as well as better for the courts, the police and the departments involved. At its heart is this success, the involvement of Martu people on-Country and in town, which assures the outside agencies that there is a real commitment of the Martu people to making things work better. This is the secret behind the support external stakeholders give to KJ across the whole range of its programs.

Among the many activities set out in this report, the Martu leadership program remains vital. The involvement of men and women in strengthening Martu capacity to deal with both Martu and external issues is at the heart of every successful program. Martu survival depends on the strength of Martu people and communities. That strength can only come from the commitment of the many individual Martu program participants.



Fred Chaney, AO

Mr Fred Chaney was appointed as Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 1997 “for service to the Parliament of Australia and to the Aboriginal community through his contribution to the establishment of the Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia and mediating with the National Native Title Tribunal”. Mr Chaney held ministerial posts in the Australian Government, including as Minister for Indigenous Affairs. Fred was appointed KJ’s co-patron in 2016. He has a deep respect for Martu people.



In 2020, Muuki Taylor’s contributions to Martu and KJ were acknowledged with the prestigious Medal of the Order of Australia. In September 2023, we will all join in congratulating and thanking him in Parnngurr community. I am really proud to be associated with Muuki as a co-patron. His role as a cultural and community leader has been outstanding, and this recognition officially acknowledges his important contribution. His life and work are a reminder of how important it is that there are strong Martu individuals to guide and lead the community. My congratulations to all of you who have joined together to make Martu and KJ strong.



513

MARTU EMPLOYED



52%

MARTU WOMEN EMPLOYED



\$3.24M

PAID IN MARTU WAGES

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD

In the past year, Martu have been working in KJ's land, culture, and social programs. We've been out on-Country, going on more than 200-day trips and overnight camps. Younger generations are learning from their Elders, gaining a deeper understanding of our culture and connection to Country.

Over 80 Martu Elders and rangers from Jigalong, Punmu, Parnngurr, Kunawarritji and the diaspora communities attended a five-day cultural and ranger training camp in May. This was an excellent way for everyone to come together, learn from the Elders, and gain more skills in first aid, four-wheel drive recovery, firearms, and right-way fire.

Martu travelled to Perth to talk to many agencies, including the National Indigenous Australian Agency (NIAA), WA Police and the Department of Justice. A group of Martu women met with the Perth Children's Hospital staff, where the women talked about the challenges that stop families from attending appointments. The Martu people are speaking with determination, and now the younger Martu (aged 17-24), known as the Young Guns, are actively participating in these meetings and speaking up.

Throughout the year, the Board held six board meetings. We try our best to have these meetings in our communities so everyone can come. These meetings show how serious we are about being open and involving the community. This way, everyone gets a chance to join in, speak up, and be part of the *wangka* (conversation). KJ is a Martu organisation, so everyone's voice matters.

During the Board meetings, we keep a close eye on our organisation's finances, review safety measures, ensure we're meeting our funders' expectations, and most importantly, that our work stays true to our core values and vision – to look after our Country, maintain our culture, build up our younger generation for the future and create sustainable communities.

We want to thank all Martu and non-Martu who work at KJ. We are very proud that this year KJ has employed over 500 Martu, paying more than \$3 million in wages. In every Martu community, there's a chance to work with KJ and be part of our programs.



Terry Sailor
Newman representative



Marlene Anderson
Newman representative



Galvin Roberts
Jigalong representative



Maria Lane
Jigalong representative



Adrian Bullen
Parnngurr representative



Murphy Williams
Parnngurr representative



Neil Lane
Punmu representative



Danielle Booth
Punmu representative



McLean Williams
Kunawarritji representative



Ashley Simpson
Kunawarritji representative



Randall Bullen
Diaspora representative



Barbara Hale
Diaspora representative



Muuki Taylor
Senior Cultural Advisor



Peter Johnson
Non-voting Advisory Director



Sue Davenport
Non-voting Advisory Director



Alice Barter-Lapworth
Non-voting Advisory Director

Cultural Advisors to the Board: Gladys Bidu, Ngamaru Bidu, Mark Jefferies, Thelma Judson, Marianne Larry, Kumpaya Girgirba.

Alternate Directors: Norman Sammy, Gavin Jackson, Anthony Gibbs, Peggy Gibbs, Luke Frank, Richard Taylor, Peter Kendrick, Suzanne (Zan) King.



MESSAGE FROM OUR CORPORATE LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Corporate Leadership Team is delighted to present KJ's annual report for the past year. It has been a year of remarkable growth and progress for our organisation, and we are excited to share some key highlights:

1. Program Expansion: Over the past year, KJ has been dedicated to expanding its programs to ensure meaningful employment opportunities are available in every Martu community. Our extensive range of programs – the ranger program, cultural programs, women and families program, *wama wangka*, leadership initiatives, and various social programs such as the prison program, youth program, and diversionary program – continue to empower Martu. These programs are guided by traditional values, enabling Martu to preserve their rich cultural identity while effectively adapting to contemporary challenges and avoiding the detrimental effects of cultural collision.

2. Economic Empowerment: KJ has significantly increased the number of Martu employed within our organisation. Over the past 12 months, 513 Martu individuals have worked with KJ, with women accounting for 52% of this workforce. Over \$3.2 million in wages were paid to Martu. This underscores our commitment to fostering economic empowerment within the Martu community.



3. Reconnecting with Country: One of the most significant achievements of the past year was the successful running of the *Kalyuku Ninti* trip, which involved 100 people, our largest trip to date. It provided an opportunity for many Martu to return to their ancestral homelands, some for the very first time. This experience was a source of immense happiness and significantly strengthened the sense of unity and connection within the group throughout the entire journey. Reconnecting with Country remains a fundamental aspect of our organisation, helping Martu maintain and strengthen their spiritual, social, and cultural ties.

4. Transport and Accessibility: The *Ngurrakarti* (Getting Back Home -Transport) program has played a pivotal role in assisting almost 500 Martu to return home to their communities. This program ensures that Martu have access to essential and immediate transportation to get out of town. The *Mitirlpa* (Staying at Home) program has made substantial progress by enabling video-link court hearings, legal aid interviews, government business, and meetings to occur without the need for Martu to travel into town. This not only addresses the digital divide evident in Martu communities but also reduces the time spent away from home.

5. Collaborative Partnerships: At KJ, we firmly believe in the power of collaboration. Our success is a testament to the robust partnerships we have cultivated among Martu in all the communities, our non-Martu staff, as well as our partners, funders, and stakeholders. Martu leadership has played a pivotal role in driving our programs, demonstrating to government agencies and other organisations what is achievable through collaboration towards a common goal.

In conclusion, the past year has been defined by significant growth, empowerment, and community engagement for KJ. We would like to thank everyone who has collaborated with us over the last 12 months. Together, we have achieved significant milestones, and we are looking forward to continuing working for and with Martu to build strong, sustainable communities.



Matt Watts



Peter Johnson



Peter See



Sue Davenport



Zan King



CULTURAL PROGRAMS

KJ's cultural programs provide a foundation for all KJ's programs. These programs assist Martu in maintaining their traditional values and culture, preserving their rich tapestry of knowledge, while they continue to adapt to the challenges and opportunities of the modern world. These programs have a profound impact on young Martu, igniting their curiosity about their ancestor's land, their families, and their history. This knowledge nourishes and strengthens the ongoing continuity of Martu cultural identity and responsibilities.



Kalyuku Ninti (Return to Country)

This year's *Kalyuku Ninti* trip was the largest ever, starting in Kunawarritji and ending in Parnngurr. The trip travelled to Juntu-juntu and Rarrki on the Canning Stock Route, Tarl and Jutupa near Lake Blanche and Jatarrngara and Jawul-jawul on the Karlamilyi River, and many more waterholes along the way.

Led by the *nintipuka* (knowledge holders), young Martu who had never been to their Country could learn and care for the places their ancestors once lived and walked. The trip included eight at-risk teenagers from Newman and Jigalong who were supported by a group of young adults and middle-aged men, supporting them to reconnect with their culture and family away from the negative influences of town.

With many different ages and generations joining, this trip enabled the transmission of knowledge to a new generation who will now take care of this Country with pride. At each waterhole, younger Martu were encouraged to recall the stories passed down by their grandparents and continue the tradition of storytelling from the *pujiman* (desert times).

“I feel real different. I feel the same in town, stressed. When I’m out here, get my stress out. It’s keeping me happy. It’s beautiful, right across. I want to learn more and listen to more stories.”

Traison Sailor



100
People



29
Family Groups



12
Days



570
Kilometers



24
Vehicles



1 Hour
Long film
Produced



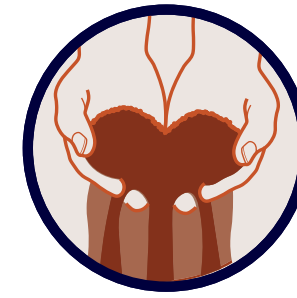
Walyjawinti Yankunya (Family Trips)

Family trips bring together families with a *pujiman* Elder to reunite on their ancestral land. These trips involve multiple generations of a family enabling younger family members to learn about their Country, ancestors, and culture from their Elders, parents and other family members. These trips strengthen family connections, especially among younger generations, who develop a deeper understanding of their history and identity.



“I’m so proud coming back here and taking my little family. All of us. You know when you come back and look at this *ngurrakaja* (homelands), it makes you proud. The rest of my family, we might come back here again next year [for them]. It’s important for us, all of us.”

Lindsay Crusoe Senior



Ninti Martumili Junkunya (Passing on Martu Knowledge Camps)

Elders continue to play a crucial role in passing down traditional skills to the younger Martu generation during day trips and camps. They share songs and stories that help the younger generation connect with their culture and the land. This transfer of traditional skills covers a wide range of knowledge and practices specific to the Martu culture and Country, ensuring that the rich cultural heritage of Martu endures.

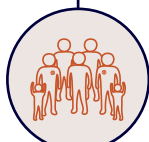
Martu from KJ’s Punmu and Kunawarritji Women and Families program, KJ ranger teams, and Martumili Artists organised a special camp at Yilkunypa Rockhole. The camp brought together older women with valuable knowledge of bush foods and traditional medicines. It provided an opportunity for these women to share their wisdom with younger generations and emphasised the importance of preserving this traditional knowledge for the future.



3
Family trips

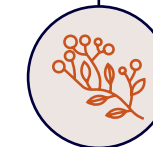


118
Martu



21
Family groups
across multiple
generations
travel on-Country
together

“We had a bit of *wangka* (talking) and the old ladies were naming all the bush tucker and medicine. It was great to learn from them and I am happy.”
Noreena Williams



3 plant species
Harvested for bush
medicines and foods.

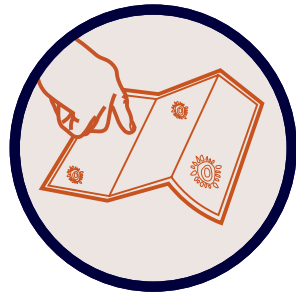


1 rockhole
Located during trip.



13 oral histories
Recorded with *Pujiman*
(desert-born) Elders.



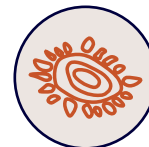


Yintakaja Lampajuya (Waterhole Mapping)

KJ Rangers and Ngurrara Rangers embarked on a joint trip at Kukapanyu (Well 39) and Yapurnu (Lake Tobin) along the historic Canning Stock Route. This location holds significance as it marks the intersection of the Martu and Ngurrara native title determinations and their shared ancestry.

During the trip, Elder Thelma Judson discovered four waterholes that had not been visited since *pujiman* times. These waterholes held a deep connection to Thelma’s own childhood. She shared invaluable knowledge emphasising the historical importance of these sites and the responsibility of caring for Country.

With guidance from his grandmother, Kumpaya, and his knowledge of Country, Clifton Girgiba discovered 11 new rockholes. This collaborative effort demonstrates a commitment to preserving and transmitting the cultural knowledge of the Martu people.



15 waterholes

Located during helicopter mapping.



27 oral histories

About new places and surrounding Country recorded.



“I’m really happy to see my *jamuku* (grandfather’s) Country Nyanjankurangu. We have come a long way. I feel really happy. I’ve always heard about this place and now I’m here. Made me proud.”

Riccardi Thomas



Julyjujanu Wangkakaja (Stories from the Past: Oral History Collection)

In 2022-2023, KJ continued the important work of documenting open cultural knowledge shared by Martu Elders and knowledge holders.

“Wangka nyuntu, yuu, wangka nyuntu. Wajala ‘kuwarri nyakurna Marrawurru, Nanamili ngurra’. Yuu, you gotta talk!”

“You talk, yes, you talk. Say ‘today, I saw Marrawurru, my Nanna’s country’. Yes, you gotta talk!”

Thelma Judson

More and more frequently, younger Martu are also speaking up to share and affirm the knowledge they have learnt from their Elders and Country. Elders support younger people to build confidence – by practicing and repeating cultural knowledge with young people thoroughly. In many of recordings taken this year, a young person has taken on the responsibility of recording the story while an Elder stands by their side for support. This type of storytelling instills pride and confidence for young people to continue sharing traditional cultural knowledge to future generations.



232
Film and audio recordings created.



Primary focuses included Martu genealogies, Country ownership, language and bush foods.





Kanyirninpa Wangka Nantirra (Keeping Language Strong)

The language program fosters opportunities for Martu to learn *wangka* (language) from old people so that younger generations may carry their languages forward and keep them strong for generations to come. The Jigalong language team has delivered 30 activities for Martu children and youth in the past year. These activities include teaching literacy skills and knowledge of *pujiman wangka* (traditional vocabulary) in the classroom, providing immersive play environments in language at playgroup, and delivering on-Country experiences to show children how to live on and care for their *ngurra* (Country).

The language team has been highly active in creating language resources to supplement and support these activities. These resources are an important tool in preserving Martu's extensive linguistic knowledge across the six Martu languages and promoting effective communication within and beyond the community. Martu identify the resources they would like to use, and the drafts are then iteratively tested with a range of Martu Elders and emerging leaders to get feedback. This development process itself provides an opportunity for Elders to teach young people important linguistic knowledge.

In the past year, the team has developed alphabet packages, including flashcards, booklets, posters and digital versions, and Martu *wangka* basics posters, all of which are accompanied by audio files. Many more resources are in development, including body parts posters, health communication boards, and flashcards featuring birds and weather.

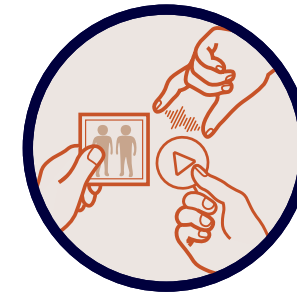
The language team has actively taught Martu *wangka* to non-Martu staff through a series of workshops. This improves communication and relationships between Martu and non-Martu staff.



30 Activities
In language delivered to Martu children in Jigalong.



5 Martu
Language teachers.



Pukunyu-laju Kanyirni (We are Keeping it Safe - Cultural Data Management)

KJ's commitment to preserving cultural records, including oral histories, genealogies, photos and films which ensures the rich tapestry of Martu knowledge is accessible for all – now and for future generations.

Currently, KJ's Community Access Library (CAL) computers house a wealth of valuable cultural records, contributing to the preservation and sharing of Martu knowledge and heritage. Nine new computers were purchased to replace the old outdated computers.

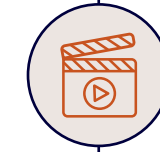
The CAL computer at Roebourne Regional Prison is heavily used. During the last visit, more than half of the inmates accessed the Martu archive in one afternoon session.

The Cultural Data Management team continues to audit cultural records on KJ servers, preserving and facilitating Martu's access to these records. The development of KJ's intranet has improved the processing of contemporary records from staff, making them easier to share with Martu.

Cultural resource packages have been developed and used during on-Country trips and as part of the cultural education program delivered in Roebourne Prison.



63,947
Photos



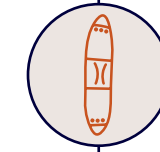
103
Films



414
Sound recordings



3298
Documents



46
Objects



CAL computers have been set up in each community, KJ Newman Office, EPIS and Roebourne.



Accessed by Martu on a daily basis, especially at Roebourne Prison.





LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Guided by Elders and older people, Martu continue to look after their Country the right-way. Ranger teams from Kunawarritji, Punmu, Parnngurr and Jigalong work hard to keep *ninti* (knowledge) strong, locate and clean out water sources, conduct safe and effective burning, control feral animals, and manage threatened species.



750,000

Hectares managed by "right-way fire"



53 activities
Completed for
ground burning.



10 rangers
Joined DBCA's Swan
Coast Fire Crew for
knowledge exchange trip.



10 Rangers
Completed accredited
training with DBCA on
the use of aircraft and
incendiary machines.



Waru (Fire) Program



KJ ranger teams implemented controlled burns, known as "right-way fire," throughout the Martu determination.

The teams worked together to carry out *waru* (fire) work to protect culturally significant sites and their associated biodiversity. The burns were conducted using a combination of on-ground and aerial burning techniques.

Parnngurr and Jigalong rangers, in partnership with the Indigenous Desert Alliance (IDA) and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), conducted controlled burns at Pinpi (Durba Hills). These burns aimed to protect cultural sites and the habitat of the endangered *pakulyjarra* (black-flanked rock wallaby). KJ also collaborated with the Birriliburru rangers at Kaalpi (Calvert Range).

Over 50 Martu people gathered at Kukapanyu (CSR Well 39). Kunawarritji and Punmu teams, along with rangers from Ngurrara IPA and Warla Warran Martu IPA, conducted ground-burning operations in collaboration with KJ's aerial Incendiary Machine Operators. Together, they managed an area of 500,000 hectares through right-way fire.

Parnngurr and Punmu community bush fire risk management burns were effectively conducted by rangers and personnel from DBCA and the Western Australia Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES). These burns were the most successful since establishing of the Community Bush Fire Risk Management Plans.

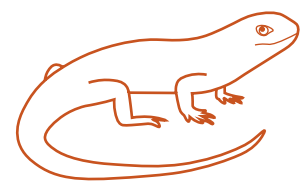
The input from Elders, rangers, and community members was crucial in developing annual fire plans. The consultations and community protective burns were greatly enhanced by the assistance provided by DBCA and DFES.





Threatened Species

Martu Country provides one of the last wild havens for some of Australia's highly threatened desert species. The ranger teams work together with scientists and environmental consultants to coordinate and manage the monitoring and preservation of threatened species such as bilbies, great desert skinks, black-flanked rock wallabies, northern quoll and the night parrot.



Mulyamiji (Great Desert Skink)

The Parnngurr community school joined the rangers for monitoring trip where they learned how to identify *mulyamiji* burrows as well as gained hands-on experience in installing remote sensor cameras. This interaction with the younger generation holds great significance, as it imparts knowledge about the care and preservation of this unique animal for future generations.

The KJ Ranger teams continue to monitor and protect *mulyamiji* population through monitoring and right-way fire.



Experienced rangers have been teaching others, including Junior Rangers, how to install and set up remote sensor cameras.



In March the rangers participated in the *Mulyamiji March* project coordinated by the Indigenous Desert Alliance (IDA).



The project involved undertaking surveys and training for new rangers on the monitoring method being used across a number of desert ranger teams.



Mankarr (Greater Bilby)

The KJ rangers have been actively involved in *mankarr* (bilby) conservation, recording opportunistic sightings of *mankarr* tracks and burrows and completing surveys. Teams collect and review data from remote sensor cameras set up in priority areas as part of their ongoing work. Right-way fire is a crucial management tool to improve the habitat for *mankarr* and ensure they have plenty of protection from predators.

The release of the Australian Government's National Recovery Plan for the Greater Bilby has highlighted the importance of Martu Country and the role that KJ rangers play in actively managing *mankarr* habitat to support wild populations. Almost 50% of on-ground recovery sites in Western Australia and 30% across the entire continent are situated within Martu Country, underscoring the significant responsibility Martu has as custodians of this iconic species.



The Australian Government's National Recovery Plan for the Greater Bilby released.

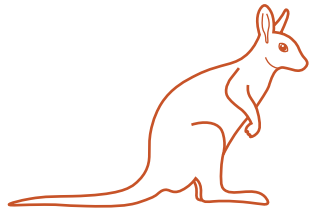


Almost 50% of on-ground recovery sites in Western Australia are situated within Martu Country.



30% of on-ground recovery sites across Australia are situated within Martu Country.





Pakulyarra or Pakaljaa (Black-Flanked Rock Wallabies)



The *pakulyarra* population at Pinpi and Kaalpi continues to thrive thanks to KJ rangers.

In July, the Jigalong rangers went on two trips to Pinpi. The first trip, in collaboration with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation, and Attractions (DBCA) and the Indigenous Desert Alliance (IDA), focused on fire management and monitoring the *pakulyarra* population. The Parnngurr rangers joined the Jigalong team to assist in this vital work.

Both ranger teams returned to Pinpi for predator monitoring after aerial baiting in September. They checked and maintained tracking cameras, changing their memory cards and adding more cameras.

KJ rangers transported fuel drums to Pinpi in preparation for habitat management through right-way fire using a helicopter in June. Rangers also carried out predator monitoring before annual baiting.

KJ rangers and the Jigalong community's ongoing commitment to preserving *pakulyarra* and their habitat remains strong, and we continue to respect the cultural significance of this important work.



23 cameras
Checked and maintained.



Habitat management through right-way fire using a helicopter and ground burning.

“Our families have been working with DBCA for many years to look after the *pakulyarra*. The first KJ rangers based at Jigalong started this work many years ago with DBCA and instructed the rangers and our families to continue looking after the *pakulyarra*. We are proud of our work there.”
Jigalong Ranger



12 *ngaartijirti*
Surveys completed.



5 sites
Where *ngaartijirti* presence has been confirmed.



54% of all *ngaartijirti* sites have been found by Indigenous rangers in Western Australia.



Ngaartijirti (Night Parrot)

Over the past year, KJ rangers have been hard at work monitoring one of Australia's rare and elusive birds - *ngaartijirti* (night parrot). Rangers conducted 12 surveys using song meters and confirmed the presence of this elusive bird at five different locations. Importantly, Indigenous rangers in Western Australia have discovered more than half of all known *ngaartijirti* sites, showing just how crucial their role is in helping this species recover.

Two Punmu rangers travelled to Pullen Pullen in Queensland to participate in field-based learning and an emergency recovery plan workshop for the *ngaartijirti*. The exchange aimed to learn about Western science and share desert knowledge regarding *ngaartijirti*. Topics covered included habitat, diet, calls, mating patterns, social structures, and predator and other animal impacts.

KJ rangers have also been working closely with staff from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and Environs Kimberley. Together, they're sharing knowledge and developing ways to protect *ngaartijirti* for the future.





KJ ranger teams worked closely alongside the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation, and Attractions (DBCA) to monitor *wiminyji* populations within Karlamilyi National Park. DBCA staff held informative training workshops to share knowledge about *wiminyji* habitat and the various threats they face, including the impact of feral cats on their population. Martu Elders continue to play a crucial role in this effort, as they generously share their knowledge about *wiminyji*, including insights into their whereabouts and behaviours within the area.

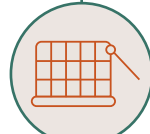
In June, the Parnngurr ranger team, in collaboration with DBCA, embarked on a five-day monitoring trip. At three specific locations, the rangers strategically positioned 16 cage traps in an effort to capture and monitor *wiminyji*. The team also inspected the remote sensor cameras previously installed at priority sites, ensuring that SD cards and batteries were replaced as required. Although the traps and cameras did not identify the presence of *wiminyji*, they provided valuable records of other mammals, reptiles, and birds, enriching our understanding of the local ecosystem.



5 day
Monitoring trip
with DBCA.



3 specific
Locations visited.

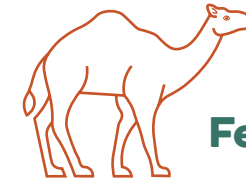


16 traps
Strategically positioned.



“Since 2012, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation, and Attractions has collaborated with Martu Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa rangers to enhance our collective understanding of *wiminyji* within Karlamilyi National Park.”

Dr Harry Moore, DBCA



KJ rangers monitor and manage feral camel populations across Martu Country as a regular part of their work. Rangers have reported a noticeable increase in the frequency of feral camel sightings and their numbers. Remote trips confirm the significant harm feral camels do to cultural sites such as water holes and soaks, which impact birds and animals that rely on desert water for their survival and reproduction.

Aerial operations remain the most effective approach for controlling camel numbers. Unfortunately, no culling has occurred in the past few years due to limited funding and restrictions on access for authorised staff from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation, and Attractions (DBCA). KJ will continue working with key stakeholders to aim to undertake aerial operations next year.

Feral Animal Management



Feral cats are skilled hunters with a relentless appetite for small mammals, birds, reptiles, and insects. They are a significant threat to native wildlife, particularly vulnerable and threatened species. Throughout the year, KJ rangers have been actively engaged in feral cat management efforts. These initiatives include the crucial aerial baiting of Pinpi and Kaalpi in collaboration with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation, and Attractions (DBCA).

In a proactive move, the Jigalong team has initiated spotlighting trials during nighttime to identify feral cat presence. Although no cats were observed during this initial trial, the rangers are exploring the potential of this method for interested teams, acknowledging the importance of innovative approaches in our ongoing efforts to manage feral cat populations.





Junior Ranger Program

Many students aspire to become rangers after finishing school, a decision influenced by watching their parents and Elders who are regularly and actively involved in ranger work. In the past 12 months, 71 students from the four Martu communities have participated in the Junior Ranger program offering diverse activities both in school and on-Country. These activities focus on learning about fauna, flora, bushfood and bush medicine, traditional and contemporary land management practices and vehicle maintenance. The Punmu Junior Rangers have even documented one of their experiences in changing a tyre with a step-by-step photo story, which is now on display at the Punmu Ranger Station.

The program also includes sharing knowledge with visiting schools, such as the joint trip between the Parnngurr rangers and Junior rangers with St. Mark's School from Perth. The Junior rangers demonstrated their knowledge and connection to Country during this trip. They also strengthened their cultural identity and self-esteem as they confidently shared skills and knowledge passed down from their *pujiman* (born on-Country) Elders and older rangers. The Junior rangers guided the older Perth students in various activities, including spear-making, *minyarra* (bush onion) harvesting, lizard tracking, *wama* (grevillia flower) collection, *lungki* (witchetty grub) hunting, *kipara* (Australian Bustard) plucking, and *marlu* (kangaroo) tail cooking.



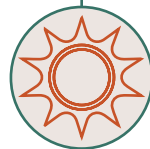
71
Students participated.



8
Overnight camps.



2
School holiday camps.



22
Day trips.



49
Community school activities.



Training

Training is an important part of KJ's programs. Training focuses on both intergenerational knowledge transfer from Elders and senior rangers to younger rangers as well as learning about contemporary natural resource management practices.

In May, over 80 Martu Elders and rangers from Jigalong, Punmu, Parnngurr, Kunawarrtiji and the diaspora communities attended a five-day cultural and ranger training camp. Rangers learned how to recover four-wheel vehicles, handle firearms, and provide first aid at a very realistic simulated accident scene. Martu also received training in fire planning and right-way fire, essential for managing habitat and protecting Martu cultural values. This training reflects our commitment to building skills and preserving our traditions while embracing modern techniques.



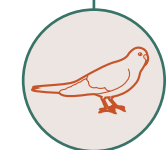
80 Martu
Attended a 5-day training camp.



10 rangers
Attended fire training workshop organised by DBCA in Perth.



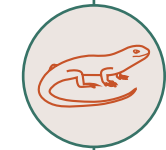
8 rangers
Completed training on the use of aircraft and incendiary machines.



2 rangers
Attended the *ngaartijirti* (night parrot) ranger exchange at Pullen Pullen, QLD.



KJ rangers
Received *wiminyji* (northern quoll) protection training.



11 rangers
Participated in the *Mulyamiji* (great desert skink) March surveys and training.





WOMEN AND FAMILIES PROGRAM

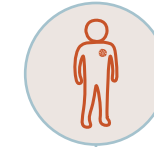
Wantikajaku Jijikajaku (For Women and Children)

The Women and Families Program is delivered in Punmu, Jigalong and Kunawarritji communities. It has become integrated into the daily lives of numerous Martu families. Over the past five years, the program has developed from a program modelled on Western views of early childhood to a women and families program, with an early years focus, located within a Martu worldview, designed to increasingly be Martu-led, and informed by the realities of the Martu context.

The program's primary objective is for Martu families and communities to realise their aspirations for each generation of children to learn, grow and develop into confident Martu adults who contribute to Martu society and have agency over their collective cultural, social and economic futures.



114 Martu
Women employed.



61 children
Over 3 communities participated in a range of bi-cultural learning activities.



214 playgroup
Sessions delivered.



21 children
Enrolled in kindergarten/
pre-primary at their local
community school.



Bilingual Bi-Cultural Playgroup

The Women and Families program staff run playgroups in Jigalong, Punmu and Kunawarritji communities. Each community has welcoming, safe, bi-cultural and bilingual learning spaces. Martu caregivers participate in designing and delivering cultural and mainstream learning activities as well as preparing nourishing meals.

The nurturing environment encourages a strong sense of community and intergenerational bonding. A space where parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles feel welcome to drop in and see or participate in the activities the children are engaged in and promote opportunities for transfer of knowledge.

Visits to the community school's kindergarten class occur weekly, and the schools have increasingly embraced on-Country excursions. The transition to school program familiarises the children with the school environment and routines, which increases the child and caregiver's confidence in attending kindergarten. The collaboration between the community school and playgroup also fosters a sense of continuity and community.

“Upon their initial arrival, young mothers exhibit timidity and restraint. Through interaction with experienced mothers, they gain courage and enhance their self-assurance.”

Jigalong Families Program Coordinator





On-Country Learning

On-Country trips serve as catalysts for preserving cultural identity, fostering a sense of belonging, and maintaining linguistic and cultural knowledge. During these outings, Martu caregivers, Elders and rangers lead activities, including sharing stories of *Jukurrpa* (Dreamtime), harvesting bush foods and bush medicines, animal tracking, painting, and exploring and learning about Country. These experiences contribute to enhancing oral, literacy, and numeracy skills through drawing, writing, counting, and bilingual story sessions.

Keeping culture strong helps Martu children navigate walking in both worlds, leading to better health and wellbeing for all involved.



Working with External Agencies

The Women and Families Program is committed to equipping caregivers with effective strategies, valuable resources, essential knowledge, and confidence to actively engage in their children’s education and overall development. To achieve this objective, the program has fostered collaborations with various external agencies and local community schools. These interactions have led to the growth of trust and the deepening of relationships. One Kunawarritji parent highlighted the significance of this aspect of the program: *“Whitefellas tell us what we should and should not do, but they don’t explain why”*. Regular interaction, especially on-Country, has aided in the sharing and valuing both Martu traditional childrearing knowledge and strength and Western techniques and perspectives. Providing external agencies with the opportunity to participate in on-Country experiences allows the adaption of the content to better meet the needs and perspectives of Martu.

The Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service (PAMS) occupational therapist has added a valuable dimension to the program’s health initiatives. Sessions at the playgroup have covered trauma-informed care, hand-strength exercises, and creative activities. Nutrition discussions were embraced by caregivers, leading to the exploration of new dishes. Utilising resources like Strong Teeth for Pilbara Kids, dental hygiene talks were initiated, and workshops on sugar’s effects were conducted by WA Country Health Service and Foodbank staff, enhancing awareness of overall health.

“Martu women are leading this program”

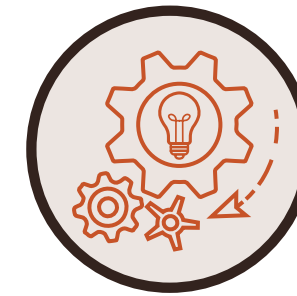
Martu Caregiver





SOCIAL PROGRAMS

Social programs deal mainly with the western world and the consequences of the collision between the *pujiman* (desert times) and mainstream worlds. This collision has led to a lot of problems, but also to new opportunities. Through the various social programs, Martu take a lead in identifying the best way for Martu to address issues, challenges and opportunities.



Martu Leadership Program

The Martu Leadership Program this year had two main emphases. The first was the implementation and continuing development of a range of initiatives that have grown out of the program. These included the *Wama Wangka*, the Prison Program, *Yiwarra Kuju*, *Wangka Minyirra* and *Jijiku Yiwarra*. The emergence of these important programs highlights the value created by the Martu Leadership Program.

The second focus was a new emphasis on empowering young adults, aged 18 to 25, known as the “Young Guns.” This focus is reinforced through the *Wama Wangka* program, which provides a supportive and secure platform for open discussions and learning, facilitated by mentors from the Martu Leadership Program.

The Young Guns also actively engage in various other programs such as the Prison Program, and particularly *Jijiku Yiwarra*, which is tailored to at-risk youth within the community. They serve as role models for these young individuals, steering them toward healthier life choices, especially in the face of challenges such as substance abuse and criminal activities. Beyond imparting knowledge about their culture and Country, the Young Guns also teach practical skills like cooking, camp setup, and navigation.

In addition, the Young Guns are forging a new narrative for the younger Martu generation, showcasing leadership qualities and developing an inspiring vision of opportunities ahead. A significant milestone occurred in December 2022 when seven young men and one young woman, all aged under 21, travelled to Perth as part of a Martu Leadership Program trip, accompanied by male mentors and participants from the Women’s Leadership Program. During this trip, these young adults made presentations to government agencies, participated in workshops, and openly discussed issues and initiatives, often speaking in front of an audience for the first time.



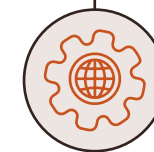
6 Martu presented

At 3 workshops at the 2022 IDA Conference at Yulara with a focus on social issues and cultural responses to those issues.



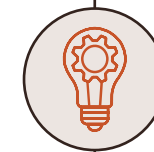
24 leadership workshops

Delivered in both men’s and women’s leadership programs.



3 governance workshops

Conducted, in Kunawarritji, Punmu and Parnngurr communities.



Several new initiatives

In development and early implementation: the prison program, *Yiwarra Kuju* and *Jijiku Yiwarra*.





Women's Leadership Program

Throughout the year, the Women's Leadership program has focused on empowering women within the community. It has provided opportunities for coming together as a collective to address issues of concern to the Martu communities.

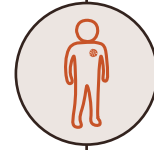
Forty Martu women gathered on-Country at a special women's site in Papuly for a women's only *Wama Wangka* camp. This camp allowed women from six Martu communities to come together and discuss important issues that affect them and their families. These issues included alcohol and the harms associated with excessive consumption, particularly on the well-being of children. Family violence was also discussed in depth, with the women highlighting the contributing factors, such as alcohol and stress. Issues around young kids getting into trouble were also discussed, and it was evident that this issue is very distressing for families. Most importantly, the camp allowed the women to come together and share in a safe space; many described how uplifting it was to talk to one another openly.

"Working together it's been hard as a young mum but now all working together as a team to make it better for Martu and we need your help."

Martu Women



23 financial literacy
Workshops delivered to more than 120 Martu.



40 Martu women
Came together on the first women's *Wama Wangka* camp.



Martu women's endorsement
For the establishment of a women's *Wangka Minyirra* panel to address issues around family violence.



6 Martu women
Travelled to Alice Springs to engage with other First Nations organisations and discuss family violence and child wellbeing.



The program also offered opportunities for public speaking and confidence building, enabling the women to engage with various government stakeholders. Nine women embarked on a journey to Perth, where they engaged with various agencies and led a workshop in partnership with Perth Children's Hospital staff. Their collaborative effort aimed to identify and overcome barriers preventing remote community children from accessing vital medical appointments, shedding light on practical challenges. Additionally, they delivered a compelling presentation to the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), underscoring the urgent need for increased investment in their communities to ensure safety and mitigate negative influences of towns.

The program's impact extended to other crucial areas of support. Eight Martu women visited Banksia Juvenile Detention Centre to assist young Martu and engage in discussions about their future prospects. An additional six Martu women conducted two visits to Roebourne Regional Prison, offering guidance and support to incarcerated Martu adults while addressing post-prison plans.

Six Martu women travelled to Alice Springs to engage with various organisations focusing on



family safety, including Children's Ground, Tangengere Women's Family Safety Group, The NPY Women's Council, and Ninti One. The purpose of the trip was to foster collaborative efforts in enhancing family well-being and safety in remote communities.

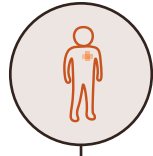
Martu women took a proactive approach by expanding and affirming the Family Violence Strategy, leading to the establishment of the Women's *Wangka Minyirra* panel. This strategy found a platform for discussion in a workshop with law enforcement and other agencies held at WA Police Headquarters, promoting dialogue and collaboration.

The Women's Leadership program also focused on enhancing the financial literacy of women and families by delivering a series of workshops covering vital topics such as understanding work, pay structures, taxation, and superannuation. A "train the trainer" workshop engaged six Martu women, empowering them to become facilitators capable of delivering financial literacy modules to their fellow Martu community members.



"We need to take them out onto Country and show them how Martu are doing it."

Martu Women



The confidence and capability created by this program was demonstrated with 2 Martu-led men's trips, which focused on visiting important cultural sites and educating men about their culture.



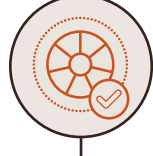
Growth in "family trips", which take several generations of an extended family to their traditional Country and sites.



Decision by the Department of Justice to expand *Wama Wangka* cultural workshops in Roebourne Regional Prison to support Martu in transitioning from prison to a better life.



Start of a structured curriculum for *Wama Wangka* workshops, covering Martu cultural knowledge, language and history.



Interviews and analysis confirm that *Wama Wangka* fulfills all the elements of the Indigenous Wellbeing Framework adopted by the Mental Health Commission.



"I have been hearing about this *Wama Wangka*, but I did not know what it was, know I now and I feel good."

Martu Woman



Wama Wangka

Wama Wangka continues to gain momentum, engaging more Martu each year. The program is a Martu-led response to alcohol, substance abuse, violence, suicide, depression and other ills. Eighty-one workshops have been delivered over the past 12 months. Workshops share two fundamental characteristics: open discussions about a range of issues, including stress, drugs and alcohol and its effects, and the promotion of cultural knowledge as an alternative to a drinking identity. The aim is to empower Martu to make informed decisions regarding alcohol consumption while fostering a strong sense of cultural identity, knowledge and pride.

Wama Wangka continues to run workshops during on-Country trips and various other settings, including community visits, camps and other trips. Participants engage in activities that emphasise the connection between Country, culture, and spirit. Through reflection, storytelling and sharing of traditional practices, Martu explore how cultural identity can be a source of strength and resilience in overcoming the challenges faced in the modern world.

Workshops have also been delivered in Roebourne Prison encouraging inmates to make positive decisions upon reintegration into society.

This year, several on-Country trips led entirely by Martu illustrates the development and growth in confidence and aspiration that *Wama Wangka* is harnessing within the Martu community. The impacts of Martu-led trips are far-reaching and cannot be underestimated in its value and catalytic effect on ranger teams, community members and those who have not been exposed to trips of this nature before.



Martu Visitors Prison Program

At Roebourne Regional Prison, the Martu Visitors Program and *Yiwarra Kuju* have achieved remarkable outcomes, with a 100% consent rate and participation by 93 individual Martu prisoners. Over the financial year, there were ten visits to the prison, each spanning two days and featuring four half-day workshops. In total, 32 workshops were conducted, attended by 387 participants.

Starting in June 2023, these visits extended to three days, with separate focused workshops beginning for sentenced and remanded prisoners and a day of combined cultural workshops.

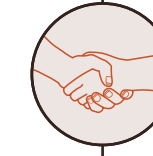
40 to 60 prisoners attend each workshop, representing 90-98% of available prisoners at any time. Workshop content encompasses two key areas: first, the criminal justice system, including bail, sentencing, parole, and life-changing strategies upon release, and second, comprehensive cultural education conducted entirely in the Martu language by Martu facilitators. The program successfully assisted 22 prisoners in parole applications, with 12 achieving parole. Additionally, 52 prisoners received support for bail or sentencing, with 24 achieving favourable outcomes.



The prison program remains the major focus for *Yiwarra Kuju*, providing the most significant opportunities to reduce incarceration.



The Department of Corrective Services now identifies prisoners by language group, allowing for the collection of reliable data on Martu incarceration. We have identified 60-75 Martu individuals in Roebourne Prison, with 55-68% being on remand.



A close partnership with the Department of Corrective Services and Roebourne Regional Prison underpins this program, which has been seen as a major success.



"You can tell the Martu prisoners in the yard. They are more positive. They have hope!"

Prison Staff Member



Yiwarra Kuju (Martu Diversionary Program)

The *Yiwarra Kuju* Program, which commenced full operation in 2022/23, is dedicated to reducing Martu incarceration rates by implementing diversionary strategies and fostering positive lifestyle changes. At its core is *Wangka Minyirrpa*, a Martu panel that convenes to assess individual cases and provide recommendations to magistrates and the Prisoners Review Board. It primarily works within Roebourne Prison. However, it also assists Martu in other prisons, such as Casuarina Prison.

Wangka Minyirrpa hearings are principally conducted by videolink, linking prisoners in Roebourne with panel members in five Martu communities. This is a major innovation that the Department has strongly supported. It creates entirely new opportunities for Martu to play a significant role in decisions about people charged with crimes or seeking parole.



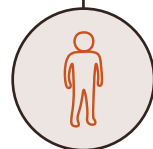
Convened 38 times
Conducting 199 individual hearings (*Wangka Minyirrpa*).



55% - 68%
Martu prisoners in Roebourne Regional Prison are on remand.



29 Martu
Assisted in securing bail and parole.



418 participants
Monthly *Yiwarra Kuju* workshops delivered in Roebourne Prison.



54 adults and 24 youth
Martu transported to and from prison, court bail, or court hearings.



400+ interactions
With lawyers and Justice officials.



Yiwarra Kuju Jijiku (Young People on-Country)

A Martu-driven initiative has been launched to address the pressing issues of youth substance abuse and crime in Newman, Jigalong, and the remote Martu communities. This program is designed to engage with youth and their families to enable connection to Country and culture and the strengthening of identity. Twenty-one at-risk Martu youth identified have been offered trips to their Country. Experiences on-Country have had positive outcomes, including noticeable improvements in behaviour, a deeper cultural immersion, a growing enthusiasm for learning and active participation within the community.

The program has focused on relocating at-risk young individuals from Newman to remote communities, where they can reside with extended family members. This intervention has had a substantial impact on reducing youth-related crime in Newman, resulting in a significant decrease in crime figures compared to the previous financial year. Through the program three youths have successfully transitioned into the Jigalong ranger team.

To address Violence Substance Use (VSU), a dedicated case management group has been set up, working closely with Newman Police, Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service (PAMS), Hope Community Services, YMCA and other relevant service providers to provide support to the youth.

Kuny-Kuny camp has been set up to trial an on-Country long-term camp. The concept is based on the *Wama Wangka* principles and provides a culturally safe haven for at-risk youth. The project's high demand has Martu families considering bringing not just troubled youth but entire families to Kuny-Kuny, creating a positive contrast to urban life challenges.



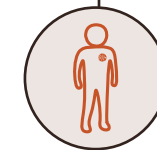
3 extended trips
Taken on-Country.



1 trip
Taken off-Country.



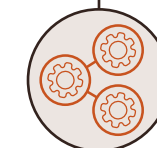
Camp site
Temporary set up out beyond Kunawarritji.



21 risk youth
Engaged in the program.



\$1M funding
For early intervention with youth (State Government Target 120 project).



Formation of VSU
Case management group.



"I feel happy inside, really happy. Like 100% happy!"

Youth Program Participant



191 trips
From Newman to
Martu communities.



499 Martu
Assisted in getting home.



Over 50%
Of people transported for
'high value' trips.
(safety, court-related, health reasons etc.)



156 children and adults
Transported to community
for safety reasons.



93 Martu transported
Transported to community initiated
by the Department of Justice.
(Bail, parole, release from prison and to attend court)



46 Martu
Returned to community
for health reasons.
(Hospital release, respite and doctor appointments)



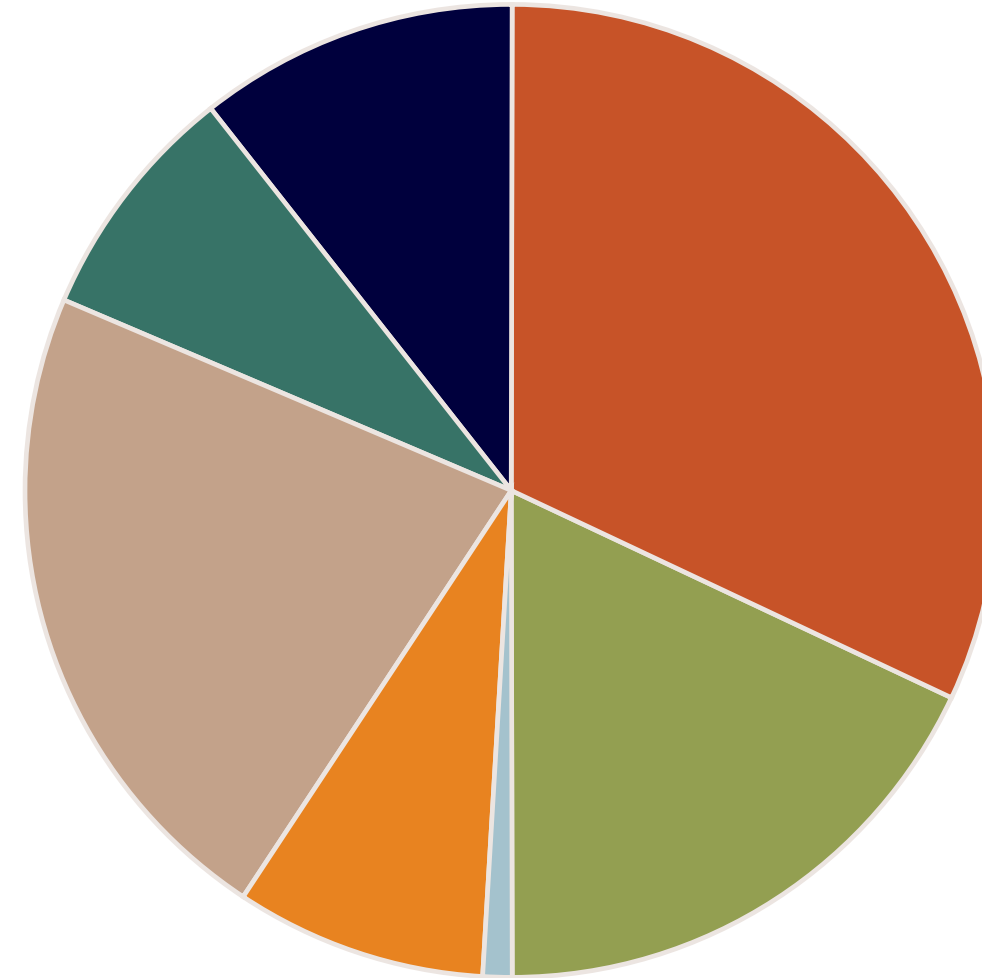
Ngurrakarti (Getting Back Home)

Over 1,000 Martu live in Jigalong, Parnngurr, Punmu and Kunawarritji communities and often need to travel to Newman for various appointments, transactions, and personal matters. Unfortunately, the lack of reliable personal transportation has been a significant challenge, often forcing Martu to stay in Newman for extended periods before they can return home. While in town, Martu are exposed to toxic influences such as alcohol or drugs, which exacerbate substance abuse, violence and destructive cycles, which have consequences for both Martu and non-Martu stakeholders in the community.

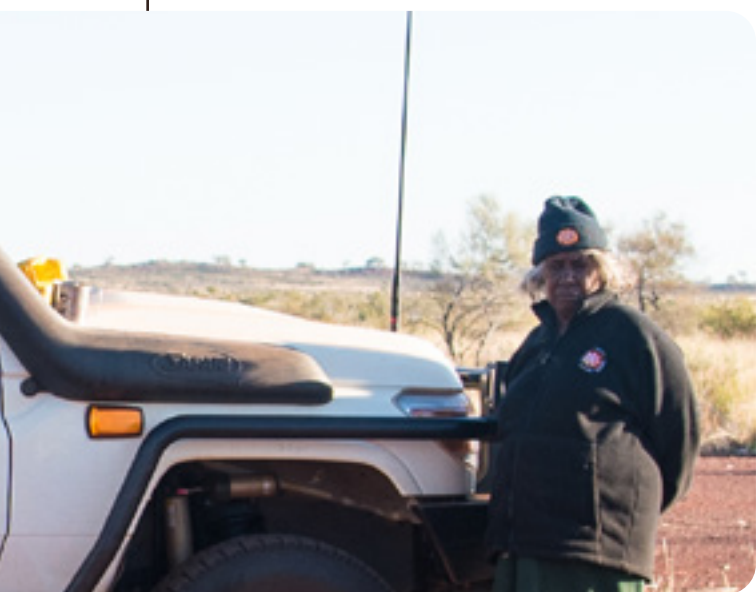
The *Ngurrakarti* Program has been a crucial solution to this problem, providing safe and timely transportation for Martu to return to their communities. This program not only employs Martu drivers but also assists Martu in obtaining driver's licenses, including extraordinary licenses, addressing a fundamental barrier to personal transportation. As of August 2023, 14 Martu have been granted extraordinary driver's licenses to allow them to drive for work and cultural purposes.

Over the past 12 months, the *Ngurrakarti* Program has facilitated a total of 191 trips, transporting 499 Martu back to their communities. This includes 123 children who were supported and transported, leading to many Martu youth choosing to extend their stays in their communities, residing with family members. This shift in behaviour has significantly reduced youth-related crime.

"We want our kids back in Country to learn Martu way, we don't want them in town. Town is no good, it's all trouble. Martu kids should come back to live in Country and learn old people ways."



- Safety
- Criminal Justice
- Child related
- Health related
- Cultural
- Work
- General





Mitirlpa (Staying at Home)

The *Mitirlpa* Program has continued to provide essential transactional services to support Martu living in communities. These services have proven invaluable in bridging the digital divide between these communities and the mainstream world. One of the key initiatives involves facilitating transactions, enabling Martu to access critical online services such as banking, licensing matters, employment-related activities, taxation and engagement with the justice system (court proceedings, payment of fines, etc.).

Martu Support Officers play a pivotal role in assisting Martu as well as training and mentoring younger Martu to complete transactions and assist older members of the community.

The program has also assisted in supporting video meetings between Martu inmates at Roebourne Regional Prison and *Wangka Minyirra* (the Martu Cultural Advisory Panel) of the *Yiwarra Kuju* Program (the Martu Diversionary Program). These meetings have proven instrumental in helping incarcerated individuals secure bail, community-based sentencing orders, parole and a smooth transition back to their remote communities. Video meetings are also supported between Martu and their legal representatives, ensuring access to legal counsel and advice.

“Without reliable and affordable communications, in particular internet and mobile services, it is exceptionally difficult for Martu to do their business in remote communities.”



“Understanding the significant impact which stress has on Martu lives will enable us to develop creative solutions for people living in remote communities.”



The majority of the transactions Martu needs assistance with are related to financial issues. (355 of 860 total transactions).



This program is now a critical part of *Yiwarra Kuju* – the Martu Diversionary Program.



KJ is working with a high performing superannuation fund to develop Martu-friendly processes.



Cultural Awareness

Cultural Awareness courses are provided to services and agencies who work with Martu. The foundational course provides an opportunity for participants to begin to understand Martu history, culture and Country. KJ also provides tailored workshops for services that require more in-depth courses. Courses have been presented to Roebourne prison staff, the Department of Justice, Telethon Kids Health Research Institute, Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service (PAMS) and a variety of other service providers in Newman.

“We all were so impressed with the cultural training. It was such a valuable and insightful session.”

Training Participant



“We got the police to do a cultural awareness about our skin, how we’re related” It was good fun for everyone, they enjoyed it but we want to teach the new ones because it’s very important, the coppers might not know about avoidance relationships. They might not know about that but we got boundaries.”

Martu Presenter

CORPORATE SERVICES

Financial Report and Charts

For the 2022-2023 financial year, KJ employed 513 Martu with a total of \$3,243,693 million paid in wages to Martu. 52.4% of Martu employees were women. Another \$662,615 was paid to Martu communities for supplies and rent, therefore making the total contributions to Martu and their communities rising to \$3,906,308 million.

KJ remains in a healthy financial position, which is, as always aided by the efforts of the KJ office in Newman who, work hard to ensure that:

- Martu are always assisted and supported regarding pay and other needs.
- Logistical support is provided for Martu before and after trips.

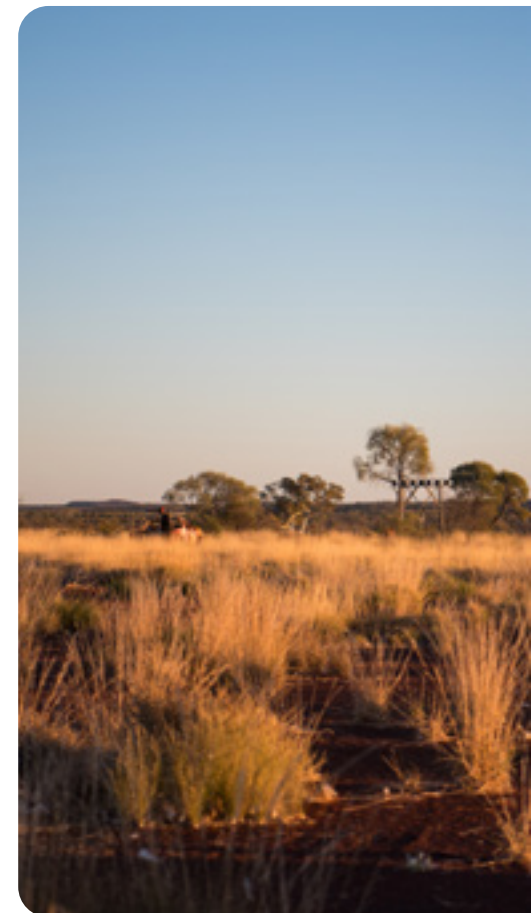
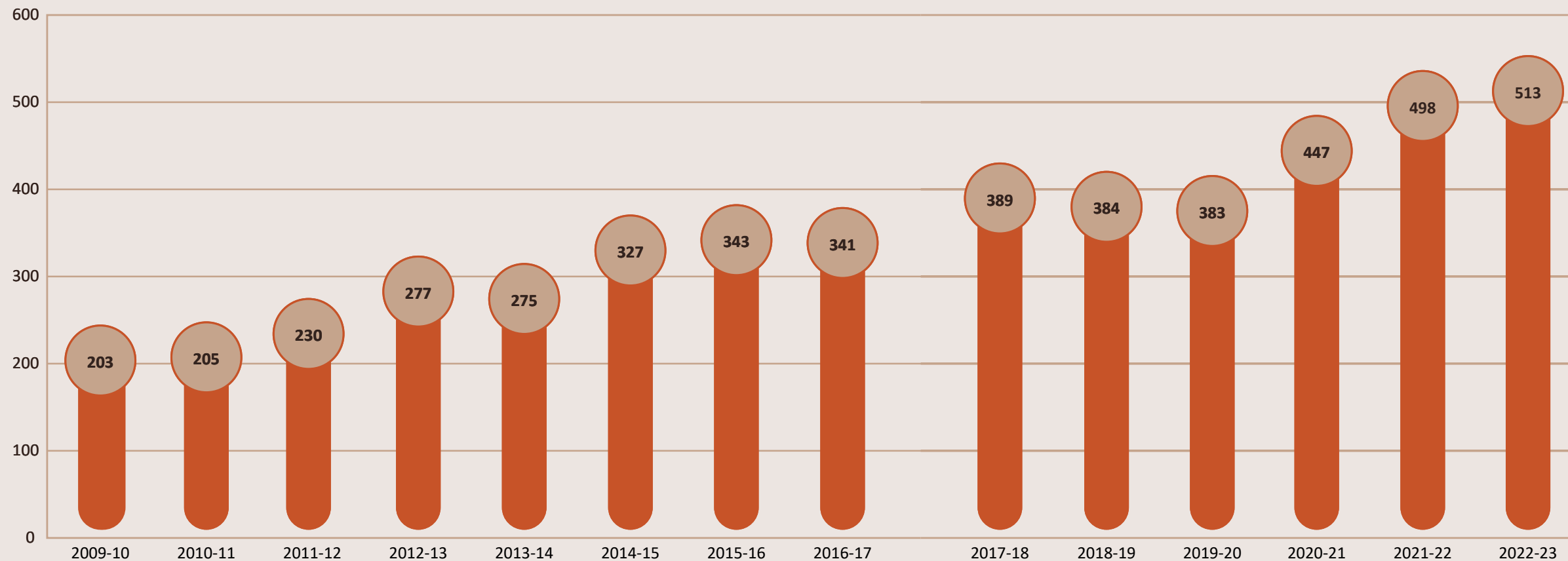
- Accurate payments to suppliers are done on time.
- KJ's board is well supported regarding the planning of meetings, accommodation, and travel.
- KJ's vehicles are well looked after and always ready when needed.
- Buildings and equipment required by KJ's teams are properly maintained and cared for.

The KJ office in Newman employs dedicated project officers who are available to assist Martu with advocacy and pay queries, and Martu men and women are employed to support the Newman office with administration and logistics work.

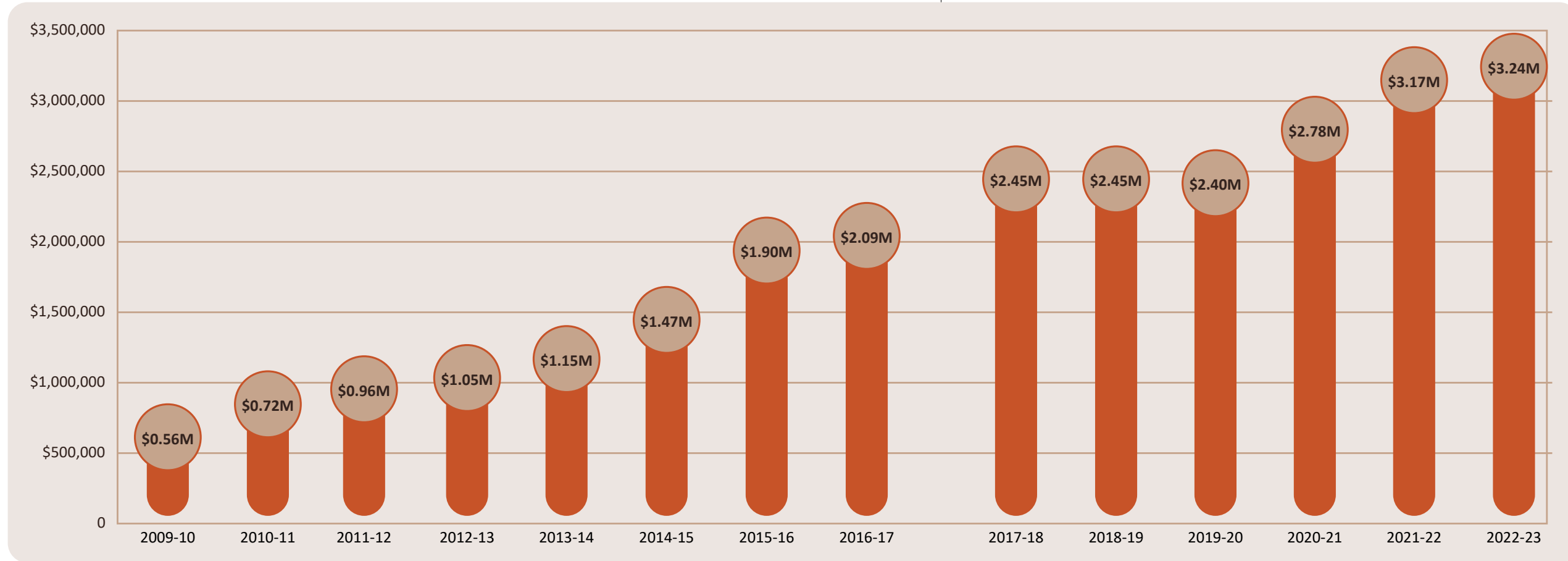
Funding helps to provide the administration and logistical support for KJ to be able to continue to provide work for Martu in all KJ programs. In addition to this, the money is used to build and maintain a sustainable system of governance with a strong Martu Board and a strong executive and operational management team who together create a foundation for KJ to support Martu long into the future.

The detailed audited financial report, including the Auditor's report and Directors' report, will be presented at the AGM in October 2023.

NUMBER OF MARTU ENGAGED BY KJ



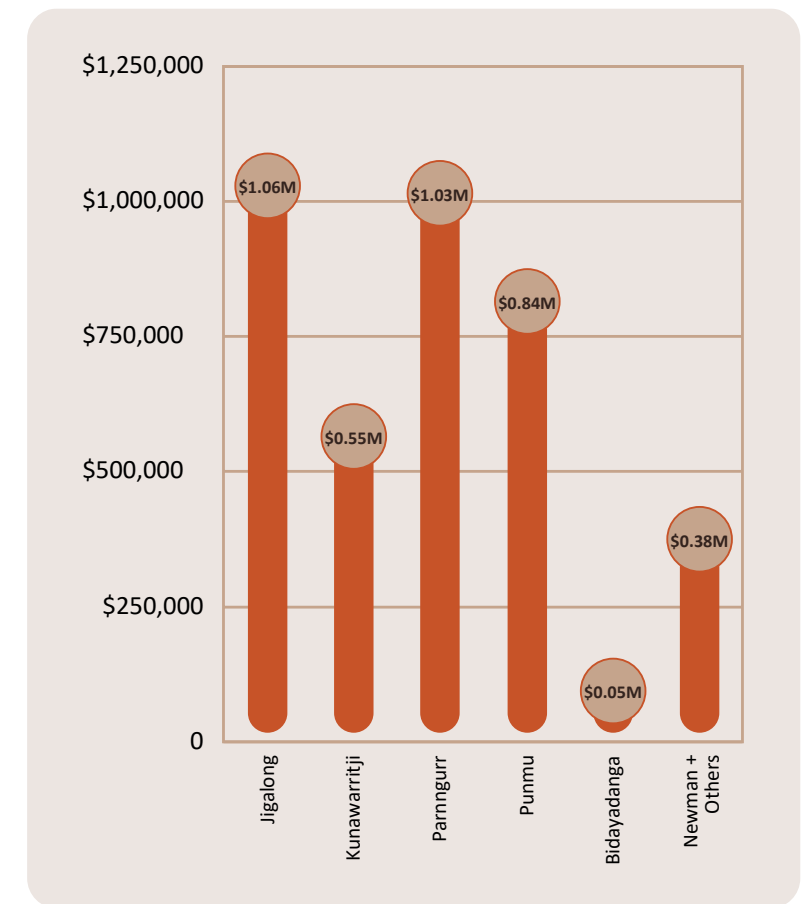
KJ PAYMENTS TO MARTU



MONEY FLOWING INTO COMMUNITIES (TOTAL)



2022-23 COMMUNITY BREAKDOWN



Workplace Health and Safety

The KJ Board takes workplace health and safety (WHS) very seriously. Throughout the year, KJ has implemented various initiatives to ensure it provides a healthy and safe workplace, including:

- Development of a new WHS framework which includes a new suite of WHS policy documents to help keep KJ staff safe in the workplace.
- Aligning all WHS processes with AS/ NZS ISO 45001 (the national standard).
- Introducing increased vehicle safety processes and initiatives.
- Installing an online system for completing vehicle checks, travel plans, and incident reports.
- Improving the KJ vehicle tracking system.

- Refining and developing KJ's emergency response procedures.
- Commencement of the WHS Committee's operational functionality.
- Reviewing and ongoing development of WHS induction and training for staff.

Work has continued with consultancy groups to make sure our WHS framework adheres to the changes in WHS legislation and to increase our ability to monitor and analyse WHS data. This will enable KJ to continue to develop robust and modern safety systems. Over 70 new safety-related documents and processes are ready for endorsement and implementation.



Logistics

The KJ Logistics team continues to provide an excellent organisational backbone from which all programs, teams, and staff are effectively supported.

Over the past year the team have also been working on the following departmental developments:

- Scheduled servicing of vehicles in community.
- Transitioning KJ's fleet to new vehicles.
- Reviewing, streamlining and developing the fleet management system.
- Responsibility for KJ's after-hours and emergency contact support.
- Transitioning to an improved and more reliable community-based internet service.





Finance Team

The Finance Team at KJ plays a crucial role within the organisation, providing essential support for all of KJ's operations. This year, there have been notable advancements in the finance department. This includes the introduction of a virtual debit card system, which has reduced both KJ's reliance on its corporate credit cards and the volume of paper-based purchase orders in the company.

Some of the Finance team's day-to-day responsibilities include:

- Managing payroll and financial on-boarding functions for over 500 employees.
- Monitoring, reporting, and acquittal requirements against all KJ's funding streams.
- Ensuring KJ manages its finances in line with internal procedure and external legal requirements.
- Holding responsibility and accountability for over \$13,000,000 of funding and ensuring that each item of expenditure is allocated to the correct program area.
- Supporting Martu to access their internal and external employee entitlements.

Alongside its external accounting partner, KJ continued its work from the previous reporting period of reviewing the complete finance management system and developing the capacity of the internal Finance Team to take on increased function responsibility. The next step of the process, which is already underway, will see the expansion of KJ's Finance Team to incorporate a Finance Manager position that will allow the company to reduce its reliance on external support and reestablish in-house responsibility for the company's core finance functions.

Administration Team

Throughout the year, the warm and friendly KJ administration team, located in Newman, has continued to create a welcoming atmosphere at the Newman office. Their efforts have made it a comfortable place for Martu, staff, and external visitors to visit and work.

This team provides valuable assistance to Martu, helping with a variety of tasks, whether they're related to KJ work or personal matters. They play a crucial role in maintaining the office's efficiency and ensuring that meetings and events are organized smoothly and have the necessary catering arrangements in place.

FUNDERS, PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

The core principle of empowering Martu to shape their own future remains central to KJ's mission and guides how we collaborate with funders, partners and supporters to bring about meaningful change. It is through this philosophical alignment and the subsequent shared commitment to recognising ethical self-determination as a fundamental right of Martu people, that KJ's partners and funders contribute significantly and genuinely to making a positive impact.

KJ and the Martu community wish to thank our corporate, philanthropic, government, and community partners who share our values of understanding, integrity, and respect. Your ongoing support through funding, resources and time, is instrumental in ensuring a prosperous and healthy future for Martu.

- Australian Government
- BHP
- CAGES Foundation
- Country Needs People
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (Australian Government)
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- East Pilbara Independent Services
- East Pilbara Shire
- Ecstra
- Environs Kimberley
- Fremantle Foundation
- Ian Potter Foundation
- Indigenous Desert Alliance
- Indigenous Land Corporation
- Jigalong Community
- John T Reid Charitable Trusts
- Kunawarritji Community
- Lotterywest
- Martumili Artists
- Martu Future Fund
- National Film and Sound Archive
- National Indigenous Australians Agency (Australian Government)
- Newman Women's Shelter
- Office for Women (Australian Government)
- Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service
- Paul Ramsay Foundation
- Parnngurr Community
- Perpetual Trust
- Pilbara Development Commission
- Punmu Community
- Rangelands NRM
- Regional Arts WA
- Social Ventures Australia
- The Thin Green Line
- WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional - WA Natural Resource Management (NRM) Programs
- WA Department of Communities
- WA Department of Justice
- WA Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
- WA Mental Health Commission
- WA Museum
- WA Police
- WA Primary Health Alliance
- WA State Government

OUR STAFF

Our accomplishments across KJ's integrated suite of cultural, environmental, and social programs are a result of the dedicated commitment and tireless efforts of our staff, some of whom are highlighted in the images below.

We thank everyone who has played a part in the success of KJ.



Alex Economou
Martu Support Coordinator



Beth Jeffries



Bimbi Samson



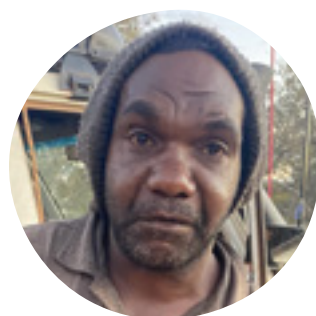
Brenda Sailor



Chris Majors
Community & Field Coordinator



Christine Edmonds



Cyril Whyoulter



Danielle Jeffries



Dean Kogolo



Dennis Jeffries



Devonte Newberry



Galvin Roberts



Gareth Samson



Grant Stewart



Heather Samson



Helen Dale



Jacqui Battin
Language Officer



James Dalbin



Janelle Orange



Jarrick Charles



Jarrod Jeffries



Jerome Jeffries



Jessie Collie



Joseph Brand



Julie Sailor



Kenneth Lee Siddon



Kerry Guardia
Women and Families
Program Coordinator



Lea Kadibil



Lennis Dalbin



Letisha West



Lindsay Crusoe Jnr



Lindsay Crusoe



Lizzie Sailor



Louise Jeffries



Lucena Crusoe



Maria Lane



Marianne Larry



Meisha Charles



Mervyn Jeffries



Adeline Samson



Alana Patch



Albert Butt



Nicole Dalbin



Norman Sammy



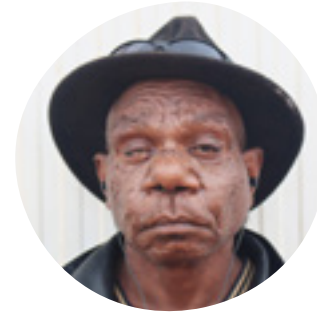
Paxton Charles



Phillipa Charles



Alistern Charles



Andrew Larry



Archie Long



Ashley Simpson



Ralph Samson



Rebecca Jeffries



Roderick Jeffries



Rodney Wumi



Basil Bundabar



Bowden Bundabar



Braydon Atkins



Caitlin Sammy



Roger Fred



Sharelle Stuart



Sharon Hale



Tanya Charles



Christopher James



Clifton Girirba



Danita Wise



Delilah Peterson



Tracey Lubin



Traison Sailor



Trisha Dalbin



Delston Sailor



Derek Steele



Dianah Kelly



Elliot Sammy



Fabian Larry



Geraldine Richards



Gladys Bundabar



Gwen Peterson



Morris Barndabba



Naomi Whyoulter



Norelle Barndabba



Owen Biljabu



Isaac Nixon



Jakewin Williams



Jantana Tisdell



Johnny Yallabar



Patrick Williams



Pauline (Gibbs)
Williams



Roma Gibson



Shina Long



Justin Simpson



Karlston Wongawol



Kieran Patch



Lawrence Whyoulter



Shoshanna Jeffries



Wilson Njana



Winston Williams



Levin McLean



Lionel Judson



Luke Ward



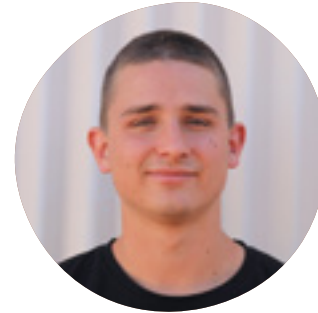
McLean Williams



NEWMAN AND
DIASPORA



Andrew Minyardie



Angus McPharlin
Logistics Officer



Annastasia Woods
Communications Officer



Megan Samson



Melissa Larry



Michael Bundabar



Mikaela Bundabar



Barbara Hale



Carlo Mandijalu



Deborah Bisa
Senior Cultural Data Officer



Doreen Simpson



Eileen Charles



Genevieve Newman
Finance Officer



Gerald Keyer
Senior Practitioner - Social Programs



Helen Weiland
Finance Officer



Peggy Gibbs



Pepita Prince-Ruiz
Project Officer



Peter Johnson
Executive Director Strategy - Social Programs



Peter See
General Manager - Culture and Country



Hunter Jackson
Martu Youth Coordinator



James Nixon



Jarras Sailor



Jerence Girgirba



Randall Bullen



Rhonda Dalbin



Ricky Butt



Scott Weiland
Manager - Logistics & Infrastructure



Jowel Hyne
Fire Engagement Coordinator



Lauren Hamilton
Martu Youth Coordinator



Lingani Akujalo-Stephen
Social Programs Officer



Lorraine Arnott



Shannon Gillespie
Cultural Knowledge Worker



Shannon Munroe



Sheila Frank



Sue Davenport
Executive Director Strategy - Country and Culture



Luke Frank



Marlene Anderson



Matt Watts
General Manager - Corporate Services



Nakita Parnell
Finance Administrator



Suzanne Jess
Cultural Data Officer



Terry Sailor



Torey Minyardie



Tristan Cole
Senior Practitioner - Social Programs



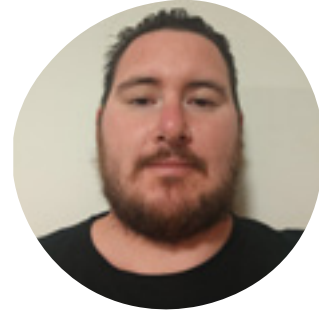
Natasha Busher
Team Leader - Cultural Knowledge Programs



Natasha Martin
Administration Project Officer



Patrick Cook
Senior Practitioner - Social Programs



Paul Stewart
Logistics Officer



Yvonne Mkandara
Senior Practitioner - Social Programs



Zan King
Executive Director - External Affairs



Adrian Bullen



Alistair Wilson



Angus Butt



Karen Jones



Kate Martin
Martu Support Coordinator



Kate McInnes
Community & Field Coordinator



Kiarah Jadia Mandijalu



Anthony Bullen



Billyanna Landy



Carlo Wongawol



Chloe Jadaí



Kumpaya Girgirba



Kylie Butt



Lindsay Robinson



Lynette Rowlands



Clinton Wongawol



Corina Jadaí



Derrick Butt



Dulcie Butt



Mason Dunn



Murph Williams



Murphy Williams



Muuki Taylor



Emelisha Williams



Gavin Butt



Hollis Williams



Jamie Rowlands



Natasha Williams



Neville Taylor



Ngamaru Bidu



Nola Taylor



Jenny Butt



Jessica Dalbin



Jimmy Williams



Junior Rowlands



Noreena Kadibil



Nyari Morgan



Robina Clause



Shakayla Burton



Sharmicka Sampi



Shaylene Taylor



Shirtrek Williams



Slim Williams



Beverley Rogers



Bianca Simpson



Brianol Loxton



Cassandra Nanudie



Slim Williams Jnr



Sonia Williams



Thelma Judson



Tionne Gibson



Claydean Tinker



Curtis Robinson



Danielle Booth



Dean Brooks



Tisharnee Taylor



Trevina Rowlands



Tristan Ginger



Uwen Robinson



Debra Thomas



Donicka Sailor



Dwayne Dunn



Dwayne Whyulter



Yvette Williams



Ethan Patch



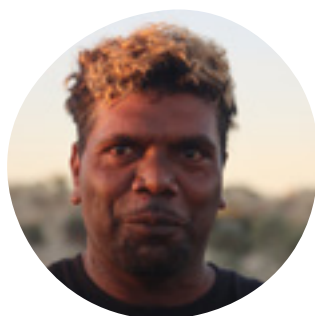
Fabian Tinker



Gavin Nanudie



Gethyn Derrel



Ashwyn Biljabu



Beatrice Fagan
Community & Field Coordinator



Bert Lane



Gladys Bidu



Glen Burton



Glenys Stewart



Ishmael Williams



Jackcory Chapman



James Fabri
Martu Support Coordinator



Janaya Surprise



Jenny Morris
Women and Families
Program Coordinator



Jodie Wingo



Julia Burton



Julie-Anne Thomas



Kara Patch



Kieren Ingerson
Community & Field Coordinator



Kieran Booth



Kimeal Simpson



Lionel Surprise



Marianne Burton



Marissa Rogers



May Burton



Mayika Chapman



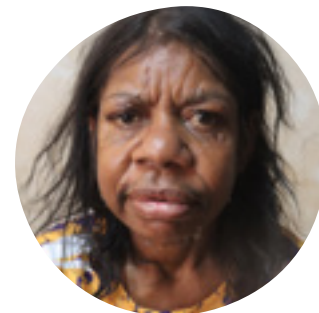
Michelle Thomas



Natasha Surprise



Neil Lane



Renata Surprise



Reubina Gibbs



Ronelle Simpson



Rossheda Thirkall



Sebastian Parker Burton



Shaun Tinker



Sheena Robinson



Travis Sammy



Xavier Brooks



Zayleah Sailor



Zerrick Kelly



