

Creating Child Friendly Communities: NAPCAN's Approach to Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect in Australia

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Abstract

Since 1987, NAPCAN has been Australia's only national charity working solely for the primary prevention of child abuse and neglect — that is, stopping abuse before it happens. NAPCAN has offices in each state and territory and since 1990, has been responsible for facilitating an annual national public awareness and engagement campaign during National Child Protection Week celebrations.

NAPCAN is working to achieve its vision of a child-safe, child-friendly society through three specific approaches to community engagement. These are awareness, advocacy and education. Our 'awareness' approach involves engaging government, community and corporate groups in activities that encourage them to play a part in nurturing children and keeping them safe. It also involves encouraging innovative and creative communities to showcase their stories as part of our program to create child-friendly communities across Australia.

Our 'advocacy' approach is two-fold: engaging the media in responsible, factual and positive discussion of child abuse prevention; and promoting the rights of children by calling for a child-friendly focus to all policy development across Australia based on the UN Convention for the Rights of a Child (UNCROC).

Our 'education' approach involves engaging with both professionals and communities in forums to share information, knowledge and skills about prevention of child abuse and neglect.

On last year's figures, an Australian child is reported abused or neglect every 2½ minutes. Each year, the figures are getting worse, despite millions of dollars being poured into child protection systems across Australia. NAPCAN's presentation will highlight the need for a national approach to universal primary prevention as the only way to reduce the ever-growing numbers of child abuse cases.

NAPCAN's approach to the prevention of child abuse and neglect in Australia

The scale of the problem

Child abuse is Australia's most serious social problem. Suspected cases have doubled in number since 1999–2000. In 2004, 220,000 reports of child abuse were made — chilling figures that equal one report for every 25 children in Australia. A child was proved to be abused (a substantiated case) every 13 minutes — 40,000 children in 2003–2004.

The findings of a respected UK prevalence study lead us to believe that these figures greatly understate the Australian reality. The study in 2000 by the UK National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children

(NSPCC) entitled 'Child Maltreatment in the UK: A Study of the Prevalence of Abuse and Neglect' found prevalence averaged 13 per cent across all forms of abuse and neglect.

The effects

Child abuse is rarely a one-off incident and is always harmful. Children who are abused get the message that they are of little value.

Abuse is known to increase the risks of:

- substance addiction
- crime
- homelessness
- poor physical health
- educational failure
- poor employability prospects
- depression
- suicide.

As a result, past victims of abuse and neglect are grossly over-represented in the following demographics:

- Populations of our prisons
- Perpetrators of crime and violence
- Economically and socially disadvantaged members of our society.

Economic costs of abuse and neglect of children

The annual financial cost of abuse and neglect of children is enormous. In 2003, Kids First Foundation determined the direct economic costs to be \$4.93 billion a year. From its 2004 report, the Office of the Status of Women calculated the impact of domestic violence on children to be a further \$769 million annually.

Child protection systems in crisis

Child protection systems across Australia are overwhelmed and in danger of imploding with escalating notifications, severe problems in the recruitment and retention of staff and foster carers, and demand for out of home care greatly exceeding the supply (Scott D, AIFS 2005). This is an unsustainable and unsatisfactory situation.

Long-term investment

In international literature reputable studies, such as the Perry Preschool Study and The Costs of Child Abuse vs. Child Abuse Prevention: Michigan's Experience, have shown that economic and social benefits of investing in early intervention and prevention of abuse and neglect provide savings of between 13:1 and 19:1 compared to the huge costs of dealing with the aftermath of the problem.

Further findings from the investment in primary prevention in the Perry study include:

- 50 per cent higher rate of high school completion
- 35 per cent less criminality

- twice as many men raised their own children.

Preventing child abuse is a multi-generational task. We are nearer to the beginning of the task than the end, but we need to invest now. Despite considerable budget increases, child protection services across Australia are struggling to service the demands made of them. The excellent social and financial returns from investment in promotion of wellbeing, and prevention of the risks of abuse and neglect, makes choosing to make this investment a critical decision for the viability of Australia's social and economic future.

NAPCAN's vision

NAPCAN's vision is:

“Every Australian Community is Child Friendly.”

A Child Friendly Community provides children with opportunities for optimal growth and development: socially, emotionally, culturally and spiritually.

It embodies a life for children, free from harmful or abusive behaviours, systems and services. Families, parents and carers are supported within their community and readily access help when experiencing difficulties. Children are valued, respected and actively included in the community.

NAPCAN's mission

NAPCAN's mission is to prevent the abuse and neglect of children by inspiring all Australians to take responsibility for children's wellbeing.

NAPCAN takes a stand for children's rights

It is the right of every child to grow up in a safe environment:

- Playing a part — being included in decisions, freedom to join with others, freedom to express themselves and freedom to receive information.
- Reaching their potential — the right to the things needed to develop as best as they can, including education, family, culture and identity.
- Living well — the right to survival includes all the basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, health, and an appropriate standard of living.
- Being free from harm — children and young people are to be protected from abuse, neglect, economic exploitation, torture, abduction, and prostitution.

NAPCAN's approach — the outcomes sought

The outcomes NAPCAN aims to deliver on are:

- promote the key attributes of Child Friendly Communities that increase protective factors and reduce risk factors associated with child abuse and neglect
- increase the number of Child Friendly Communities
- improve the quality of the actions taken by Child Friendly Communities.

NAPCAN believes that over the longer term the above outcomes will:

- generate continuous improvements in the wellbeing of children
- reduce abuse and neglect of children in Australia.

A Child Friendly Community will contribute to improvements in the following factors related to child development, health and wellbeing:

- Community capacity to respond to family and children's issues
- Resilience factors that provide children, families and communities with the ability to overcome adversity
- Social connectedness and participation of children and families in community life and community groups
- Existence of supportive social relationships and networks
- Respect for cultural diversity
- Available and accessible services and supports which respond effectively to local needs of families with children
- Early identification of and intervention for families and children at risk of poor outcomes
- Community safety
- Children develop a strong cultural identity.

Promoting children's wellbeing

By taking a 'primary prevention' approach, NAPCAN's interventions are aimed at promoting wellbeing and preventing abuse or neglect from happening in the first place. NAPCAN undertakes universal initiatives that target all Australians.

NAPCAN's 'primary' initiatives are designed to be relevant, appropriate and complementary to other initiatives targeting:

- families functioning well
- families experiencing some problems and at-risk families
- families where child abuse has occurred.

NAPCAN's position reflects a developmental prevention approach, where the aim is to:

1. promote wellbeing (i.e. protective) factors that foster resilience and bring communities, families and children to the 'wellness' end of the continuum
2. reduce risk factors so as to keep communities, families and children away from the 'maltreatment' end of the continuum.

Repositioning of NAPCAN

Building upon NAPCAN's 18-year history of successfully engaging parents and child focussed professionals, our new focus is on preventing child abuse and neglect by inspiring and enabling Child Friendly Initiatives and Child Friendly Communities. To achieve this NAPCAN is repositioning itself to engage the whole community regarding everyone's responsibility to include, support, provide for, and protect children.

NAPCAN is establishing itself as a voice for Child Friendly Communities, and advocates the promotion of wellbeing and the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

NAPCAN connects and engages with communities to inspire and enable and support them to be increasingly supportive of children's wellbeing.

For us, engagement is a dynamic two-way relationship in which we seek to:

- raise awareness
- advocate for children's wellbeing
- educate for positive behavioural change.

'Parents Plus' — a whole-of-community approach

NAPCAN's community approach challenges the commonly held view that parents carry the sole responsibility for children's safety and wellbeing. To date, successful solutions to the complex and endemic social problem of child abuse and neglect have only been found by working in a sustained way in partnership with communities. This informs NAPCAN's belief that *children's wellbeing is everyone's responsibility* and that it takes the whole of a healthy community to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Community

When NAPCAN talks about 'community' it is talking about the people in our 'everyday' lives.

We work with a wide-ranging interpretation and understanding of 'community' as any group of people who call themselves a 'community'. Neighbourhoods, sporting clubs, businesses and work places, cultural groups, religious groups, social groups, friends, professional groups, internet groups and interest groups are some of the 'communities' that influence the wellbeing of children. There are a great many more.

NAPCAN's programs and projects

National Child Protection Week

National Child Protection Week (NCPW) is NAPCAN's flagship public event. It provides opportunities for:

- individuals and communities to participate and contribute to the prevention of child abuse and neglect
- child-focussed organisations to participate and promote their own programs and projects
- raising awareness of everyone's responsibility in creating Child Friendly Communities and preventing abuse and neglect of children.

NCPW inspires communities to take action for the wellbeing of children. This community action is then enabled and sustained throughout the week (and year) through the use of NAPCAN's Wellbeing and Prevention Tools and Workshops, and engaging our wide network of child-focussed services.

In 1990, NAPCAN initiated the first NCPW with strong support from The Pharmacy Guild of Australia, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Bec Pierce

Enterprises, and The Australian Medical Association. Subsequent strong support came from Australian, state and territory governments.

Each year, NAPCAN facilitates and coordinates NCPW. In 2004 more than 250,000 individuals were directly contacted to join in NCPW and nearly 100,000 Australians directly participated in at least one of the 737 registered NCPW activities.

NCPW incorporates activities and events to showcase and acknowledge the stories, activities, initiatives and successes of:

- Child Friendly Communities — as they embody the positive difference communities make to the lives of children, particularly to protect them from abuse and neglect.
- NAPCAN's delivery partners in the child-focussed sector — professional and community — and their work.

Advocacy

Our primary message has been protecting children is everyone's business, and our secondary message is a call to action stating that there are many ways in which ordinary people can help prevent child abuse and neglect. Gradually we are moving towards our focus on the importance of child-friendly communities.

We communicate our advocacy through various channels and utilise talkback radio, interviews and feature stories to build and maintain relationships with communities.

We have begun to partner with communities that are taking actions towards becoming Child Friendly Communities to tell their stories and advocate based upon their successes for children, particularly speaking within local communities (schools, sports clubs), with media (talkback, letters to editor), and at conferences and Workshops.

Media

Our mainstream media relationships are one of the keys to continuing to reach the wider Australian public. Utilising this we seek every opportunity to remind people of the vulnerability of children and that all of us can contribute to their wellbeing and prevent abuse and neglect.

Currently media coverage of child abuse and neglect is skewed to the highly emotive. It focuses on sexual abuse, which represents only 10 per cent of the problem. The full breadth of the problem of child abuse (including physical and emotional abuse and neglect) has a low profile relative to the seriousness of the issue, scale of the problem, and its long-term impact. Positive messages about improving children's wellbeing and preventing abuse and neglect are rarely conveyed.

Repositioning and creating constructive media

NAPCAN's advocacy in the media also engages in debate on the constructiveness and effectiveness of the media itself. The purpose of this is to ensure a professional and ethical representation of children by the

media sector. NAPCAN aims to work with media training organisations and networks to advocate constructive and accurate representation of children's wellbeing and safety in the media.

Children's champions

NAPCAN has attracted a team of very high-profile 'Children's Champions', ranging from nationally known sporting and cultural celebrities to high profile sector professionals. During 2004 these included Troy Cassar-Daley, Cathy Freeman, Allan Border, Jane Fleming, Professor Fiona Stanley, AC, Dr Adam Tomison and Dr Bronwyn Gould, AM, who speak up at appropriate times to encourage the community to value children.

Community Service Campaigns (CSCs)

With vast pro bono support from DDB Needham, NAPCAN produces and disseminates CSCs. Future CSCs will focus on portraying children in a positive light, emphasising their value and future potential and providing ideas for ways people can contribute to children's wellbeing and safety.

NAPCAN's current campaign — Don't Just Stand There — is attracting sustained attention and appears to be the driver for a 500 per cent increase in hits on our website.

Media watch — monitoring and analysis

NAPCAN proposes to monitor and analyse public discourse in collaboration with other child-focused organisations. This will provide insights into shifts in public discourse and underlying shifts in public behaviour and social norms. This knowledge will identify advocacy needs and opportunities and inform NAPCAN's own public communication initiatives and be disseminated as key findings to the child-focused sector.

Professional and community workshops

NAPCAN has run hundreds of workshops and educated over 15,000 sector professionals about ways to incorporate child abuse prevention initiatives into their work.

We have also facilitated hundreds of community workshops attended by a total of over 20,000 people. These share information, knowledge and skills about the promotion of children's safety and wellbeing and prevention of child abuse and neglect. In line with current adult learning best practice, the workshops are interactive and experiential.

Professional development partnerships

NAPCAN taps into the existing networks and educational programs of sector professionals, such as the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Association for Children's Welfare Agencies and the Centre for Community Welfare Training, to incorporate child abuse prevention initiatives.

Aboriginal workshops

NAPCAN has developed a long-term relationship with Tuckandee Pty Ltd. The Principals of Tuckandee, Tex Skuthorpe and Anne Morrill, enjoy the trust of a wide range of people throughout Indigenous Australia.

Together, NAPCAN and Tuckandee have facilitated a profoundly effective national pilot consisting of 116 workshops in Aboriginal, rural and remote communities across all Australian states. A total of 3,454 people across the country took part in the joint NAPCAN–Tuckandee workshops.

Involving entire communities of school students, teachers, service providers, prisoners, the elderly, adolescents and young children, the workshops specifically set out to reach groups in a culturally appropriate way and inspire responsibility for children's wellbeing. Some awe-inspiring results are found at Appendix 1 and a confidential report can be sought by permission of the participants through NAPCAN.

Wellbeing and prevention tools

Over the past 18 years, NAPCAN has distributed in excess of 20 million Wellbeing and Prevention Tools — brochures, videos, books, fact sheets, posters, bookmarks, T-shirts, DVDs and other tools. NAPCAN's website has received hundreds of thousands of visits providing both a portal to Tools and links to other organisations, programs, services and products for the wellbeing of children.

Like any tool, NAPCAN's Tools are most effective when they are used with complementary interventions. Used appropriately NAPCAN's Tools assist positive behaviour changes for children's wellbeing.

Existing tools

The Wellbeing and Prevention Tools have been highly valued by the millions of Australians who have used them — professionals working with families, parents and carers, and children. An independent evaluation for the Australian Government in 2000 confirmed that these Tools can be a valuable catalyst for behaviour change benefiting children.

The *Friends of NAPCAN* Survey undertaken in 2004 identified that one in five users of the Tools apply them on a weekly or daily basis. The Tools are rated very highly by users for their quality, presentation, cultural appropriateness, and simplicity. The Tools form a central part of all NAPCAN's programs and projects.

More than 60 parenting topics across dozens of different mediums (print, electronic, visual, audio, etc.) have been produced. More than a dozen cultural and linguistic interpretations have been made of most. A series of Aboriginal storybooks and story posters highlighting community and family responsibility for children formed part of a national tour. These storybooks and posters won an Australian Council for Children and Parenting award.

Tools Plus — teachable moments

NAPCAN's Wellbeing and Prevention Tools will now be developed to apply the findings of the 2004 Parenting Information Project for a community audience. Specifically this repositioning, designed to increase the likelihood of positive community relations with children, will entail:

- positioning the Tools to influence action and behaviour with children
- using the Tools, and apply their information content, at the best moment, a 'teachable moment'
- using the Tools as part of a broader intervention — particularly a relationship — at the 'teachable moment'.

New audiences, content and media

To engage and mobilise communities, new Tools will be developed to support and sustain community actions to involve and support, provide for and protect children.

Future development of topics and content will be led by the recommendations of the Knowledge Institutes (outlined further on) who, in turn, will be incorporating the feedback, comments and needs of the professionals, communities, carers and children who use them.

NAPCAN will continue to develop new and innovative ways to disseminate the knowledge presented in the Tools. We will continue to use 'new media', the internet and any other emerging public communication mediums.

Micro grants

Highly successful Small Grants Programs are being run in South Australia, Queensland, Northern Territory and New South Wales. Utilising these grants, communities develop initiatives that benefit children and progress the community towards becoming a Child Friendly Community. Frequently, there are profound results for successful grantees — the Oenpelli Community's story in Appendix 1 is one such example.

Like 'micro credit', small investments can multiply social returns. A NAPCAN grant is funding youth in Windale to develop a play that tells their story of becoming a child friendly and child safe community.

Over coming years, the Small Grants Program will be expanded so as to be available through all NAPCAN state and territory offices and the national office.

Knowledge Institutes

NAPCAN holds a large library made up of books, journals, videos and newspaper clippings.

We have leading child-focussed researchers including Dr Adam Tomison on our Advisory Council and Professor Fiona Stanley, Patron of NAPCAN Western Australia.

Many other recognised experts assist NAPCAN on an ad hoc basis with specific knowledge required for campaigns, programs and projects. The organising committee for the 2004 ISPCAN Congress, which NAPCAN hosted, included Gillian Calvert, Robin Sullivan, Ross Homel and Dr Adam Tomison.

NAPCAN is a member of the Reference Group for the National Child Protection Clearing House.

We work as a learning community and incorporate well researched and relevant information into every initiative. This means NAPCAN:

- takes an evidence-led approach to programs and projects
- strives to use a best-practice approach in how NAPCAN is organised
- is transparent and accountable in its initiatives and procedures
- adopts lessons from internal and external evaluations into both the process and content of its initiatives.

To maintain our leading position in respect of knowledge and best practice we propose to form two Knowledge Institutes. One will focus on Social Change and the other on Wellbeing.

Each will be required to distil key knowledge, leading evidence and best practice from leading international and national child welfare organisations, research organisations and clearinghouses and to use it to inform and guide NAPCAN's own initiatives. The Knowledge Institutes will play a part in the internal evaluation of NAPCAN's work.

Partnerships will be sought with key organisations — such as the Australian Institute of Family Studies and the National Child Protection Clearing House — to have representation.

In the event that knowledge gaps are identified, NAPCAN may undertake research itself or seek academic engagement in conducting research for us.

Measuring progress and success

Key goals

1. Child Friendly Communities:
 - Improved child wellbeing and reductions in child abuse and neglect
2. Children's participation (principle lived in all of our work)
3. National Child Protection Week:
 - National Child Friendly Community Awards
4. Advocacy — media:
 - First point of call for media comment
 - National Awards
 - A national network of Children's Champions
5. A national Community Workshops program
6. Wellbeing and Prevention Tools:
 - A range of best practice Tools for communities.
 - A national Micro Grants program.
7. Research and evidence:
 - Knowledge Institutes are recognised as a leading source of evidence to increase child wellbeing and reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect
 - A national prevalence study will be undertaken that accurately identifies the incidence of child abuse and neglect in Australia.

Success indicators

In general terms, individual and community behaviour changes benefiting children are a key indicator of NAPCAN's success. NAPCAN's evaluation framework will focus on behavioural improvements that are observable and measurable as an objective way to determine the appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of its initiatives.

In the case of reduction in abuse and neglect of children in Australia, the absence of prevalence data impedes the measurement of this goal. As public awareness of child abuse and neglect issues continues to develop, it is possible that the number of reported and substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect in Australia may increase.

Although anecdotal support within the sector suggests we are making progress, it may be that child abuse and neglect in Australia is increasing rather than decreasing. In the absence of prevalence data NAPCAN, our sector peers, the government, and the public, cannot truly know.

Indicators of the quality of initiatives taken by Child Friendly Communities include:

- increased public awareness of the importance of children and the collective responsibility of communities to nurture the development of children
- increased community involvement in the development and provision of flexible, responsive services for families and children at the local level
- effective links and coordination among services for families within communities
- communities that foster the development of informal support networks, cultural diversity, and social inclusion for all families
- built and natural environments that support children's wellbeing (such as safe neighbourhoods, green spaces and facilities that encourage active play, family activities, and learning, and access to key resources like libraries, affordable transport and essential services)
- family-friendly work places that assist parents achieve a balance between work and family commitments.

The achievement of these objectives may require innovative solutions for isolated children living in rural and remote communities.

Indicators that guide what is best for children are developed from the guidelines and associated indicators of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. They are, that children:

- Play a part
 - Level of participation in decisions
 - Ability to join with others
 - Freedom to express themselves and receive information.
- Reach their potential
 - Quality of education and family life
 - Cultural freedom
 - Opportunity to fulfil their identity.
- Live well
 - Quality of food, clothing, shelter and health
 - Quality of overall standard of living.
- Are free from harm
 - Freedom from abuse
 - Freedom from neglect

- Freedom from economic exploitation
- Freedom from torture
- Freedom from abduction
- Freedom from prostitution.

Appendix 1. Oenpelli, Creation Mother

In September 2003, the Oenpelli community (Arnhem Land) were awarded a Micro Grant and the support and resources at the disposal of the NAPCAN Northern Territory (NT) office. The grant funded a facilitator and a project team made up of five community elders who were mature-age students at NT's Batchelor College to produce a locally-based Prevention Tool that was culturally appropriate for Bininj people (language group of Oenpelli).

The grant application read:

“As traditional land owners living in isolation, Bininj people have many issues. We do not want our children removed and want to work in partnership with key people in promoting the protection of children and young mothers Bininj way.

The project is not only for sick children or mothers. It is a whole of community approach to all children, young mothers, grandmothers, fathers and grandfathers, in promoting good health Bininj way, balancing Bininj and Balanda [non-Indigenous] health outcomes. We are working together with everyone in the community creating a sense of belonging culturally.”

At that time, data showed (measuring 155 of the total 156 children in Oenpelli's community):

- | | |
|--|----|
| • Small children (stunted) | 19 |
| • Underweight | 43 |
| • Wasted (malnourished) | 20 |
| • Anaemic (insufficient iron in the blood) | 6 |

As a result, child welfare agencies frequently intervened to remove children from their families and the community.

In just one year, the Yingana project team have:

- produced a T-shirt from a traditional painting called Yingana 'Creation Mother'
- developed a series of 12 paintings telling the 'Creation Mother' story which, in their own words, is a 'big story'
- made posters on child nurturing (in Bininj language)
- written a book to tell the story of the Yingana (and the project)
- made a presentation with the community's first-ever use of MS PowerPoint
- inspired strong, sustained collaborative support for this project from NAPCAN, traditional owners, Batchelor Institute, Injalak Art Centre, Family and Children's Services, Oenpelli Health Centre, Gunbalunya Community School and the Office of Children and Families.

Impact on the problem and benefits to the community

The project demonstrates that communities can use their own knowledge, language and resources to develop innovative, relevant child abuse Wellbeing and Prevention Tools, and can successfully negotiate to attract relevant effective agency support and assistance.

The community has generated self-esteem and a sense of pride in achievement, and changed the behaviour in all generations (grandparents, parents and children) within a community.

Appendix 2. Sharing A Canvas workshops

During 2001 to 2003, 116 urban and remote communities across Australia took part in a revolutionary series of workshops.

Conducted in every state and territory, these workshops touched the hearts and minds of thousands of people — leaving a profound lasting impact and clearing the way for future positive exchange on the issue of child wellbeing.

Named the NAPCAN Family and Community Workshops, this powerful national tour was undertaken by specialist facilitators Tuckandee, as part of NAPCAN's program, Using Aboriginal Art to Teach.

With a theme of 'strong communities look after children', the Workshops strived to reinforce NAPCAN's specific messages including supporting children and community-mindedness in raising children.

Specifically, the Workshops set out to:

- develop child-friendly communities whose members interact more positively
- facilitate improved communication within communities and improved capacity to solve their own problems
- facilitate an improved approach to learning and respect within communities and increased self-reliance.

Workshops involved entire communities of school students, teachers, service providers, prisoners, the elderly, adolescents and young children. In particular, they targeted Aboriginal communities nationally.

Envisioning a future

The Tuckandee Workshop process utilised a profound practice of painting as its key tool. In the Workshops, each participant was given the opportunity to paint their own canvas, and in doing so, was asked to express their vision of their community's future, specifically the future of children.

Following this, the group was facilitated in a discussion of the themes arising from the paintings. They were encouraged to articulate the obstacles to achieving their vision and were assisted in finding ways to overcome them and to take the first steps toward their dreams.

The resulting paintings thus became tangible and inspiring references for these communities and in some cases went on to be publicly displayed as positive examples of these communities' innate creative self-determination.

This first round of Workshops has been instrumental in inspiring many tangible new developments. Communities have taken their own initiative to activate programs involving young people. Concrete examples of these community initiatives include:

1. A few highlights from the Jail Workshops — an inmate in a Tasmanian juvenile detention centre has become a prolific artist, and by invitation now has a work of his art displayed in the state premier's office and the state Commissioner for Children's office. Many exceptional outcomes from the work in men's and women's jails occurred when collaborative artworks were produced by (up to 40) prisoners answering questions such as:
 - "How would you like to show respect to your kids?"
 - What are the important things you would like to leave with your children - what would you like to teach them?
 - What will you do each day to contribute to the achievement of the meaning of your painting?"
2. Coorara School, South Australia, changed its curriculum to include Aboriginal studies, which continue two years since the Workshop. The school has continued to develop the curriculum and assist teachers to become more comfortable in teaching Aboriginal studies. Ninety-nine per cent of teachers are now involved in the teaching. The school has increased their Indigenous activities, have gathered resources to use as teaching tools, inviting guest speakers, and arranging excursions for Aboriginal students to explore their cultural identity. The school continues to gain and grow; "If Tuckandee could return to the school it would be fabulous."
3. At Wyndham, South Australia, was the community's idea of a future tourism project with young people creating paintings for sale. This initiative is now in progress enabling people to travel to the outstations to live a more traditional life, give young people meaningful jobs away from the influence of alcohol and recreate an economic base for the community.
4. The community at Lightning Ridge agreed to the importance of developing a community centre to improve accessibility and coordination of services for children, families and the community as a whole. The community has now succeeded in having land granted for the site and are working on construction plans. This initiative has involved people from 57 different nationalities and cultural backgrounds.