

Link Up

Working to Trace Families

Nunkuwarrin Yunti's Link-Up Program is funded by the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (Commonwealth) and also receives reunion funding from the Department of Premier & Cabinet, Aboriginal Affairs & Reconciliation (State). We provide family tracing, reunion and counselling services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their families who have been separated under the past policies and practices of the Australian Government. Assistance is also provided to people over the age of 18 years who have been adopted, fostered or raised in institutions. The program is not funded to provide genealogy assistance, to locate missing persons or to find family members that have been separated due to family break downs.

Please note that priority is given to 1st generation clients.

Link-Up provides: · Client contact and assessment. · Client and family support. · Research of client files and other relevant information. · Counselling support. · Financially contributing to reunions according to need. · Initial family contact and/or approach. · Ongoing support for clients and family following reunion. · Public awareness. · Privacy, trust and confidentiality. Bringing Them Home is the title of the Australian "Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from Their Families". The report marked a pivotal moment in the controversy that has come to be known as the Stolen Generations. The enquiry was established by the federal Attorney-General, Michael Lavarch, on 11 May 1995, in response to efforts made by key Indigenous agencies and communities concerned that the general public's ignorance of the history of forcible removal was hindering the recognition of the needs of its victims and their families and the provision of services. The 700 page report was tabled in Federal Parliament on 26 May 1997.

Two reports were produced; a formal 700 page report titled "Bringing them Home" and subtitled "Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from Their Families" a less formal and shorter Community Guide titled "Bringing them Home - Community Guide" and subtitled "A guide to the findings and recommendations of the National Inquiry into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families"

The report concluded among other things that "Indigenous families and communities have endured gross violations of their human rights. These violations continue to affect Indigenous people's daily lives. They were an act of genocide, aimed at wiping out Indigenous families, communities and cultures, vital to the precious and inalienable heritage of Australia." 'It never goes away. Just 'cause we're not walking around on crutches or with bandages or plasters on our legs and arms doesn't mean we're not hurting ... I suspect I'll carry these sorts of wounds 'til the day I die. I'd just like it not to be so intense, that's all.' (Bringing them Home)

SA Link-Up works in strong community partnership with the South Australian based Counsellors. Counsellors are located at;

- Aboriginal Sobriety Group Incorporated (Berri)
- Nunkuwarrin Yunti (Adelaide)
- Goretta Aboriginal Corporation (Maitland)
- Ceduna/Koonibba Aboriginal Health Service Inc
- Mid North Regional Health Service (Port Pirie)
- Mount Gambier South East Aboriginal Health Service Inc
- Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health Service Inc
- Umoona Tjutagku Health Service Inc (Coober Pedy)
- Pika Wiya Health Service Inc (Port Augusta) If you know someone who needs please contact SA Link-Up on PH: 8223 5217

For more information about the SA Link-Up Program, please visit our website <http://www.salinkup.com.au/> Other Link-Up Program locations include;

Queensland Link-Up (QLD) Aboriginal Corporation PO Box 5487, West End QLD 4101 Phone: (07) 3034 8444 Fax: (07) 3255 2099 North Queensland Regional Office PO Box 12045, Cairns QLD 4870 Phone: (07) 4081 5683 Fax: (07) 4027 9665 Link-Up Townsville PO Box 7534, GBC Townsville QLD 4814 Phone: (07) 4728 8229 Fax: (07) 4422 0221 Victoria Victoria Link-Up Program PO Box 494, Northcote Plaza Northcote VIC 3070 Phone: (03) 9480 4511 Fax: (03) 9480 4311 Northern Territory Central Australian Stolen Generations & Families Aboriginal Corporation PO Box 744, Alice Springs NT 0870 Phone: (02) 8953 3899 Fax: (02) 8953 6683 Northern Territory Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation PO Box 882, Parap NT 0840 Phone: (08) 8981 7900 Fax: (08) 8981 7933

New South Wales
New South Wales Link-Up Program
PO Box 93 Lawson NSW 2783
Phone: (02) 4759 1911
Fax: (02) 47592607

Western Australia
Kimberly Stolen Generations
PO Box 2775, Broome WA 6725
Phone: (08) 9193 6502
Fax: (08) 9193 5693

Yorgum Aboriginal Corporation
176 Wittenoom Street, East Perth WA 6004
Phone: (08) 9218 9477
Fax: (08) 9221 0487

Wangka Maya Pilbara Aboriginal Language Association
PO Box 2736 South Hedland WA 6722
Phone: (08) 9172 3275
Fax: (08) 9172 1075

Ngnowar Aerwah Aboriginal Health Service
PO Box 250 Wyndham WA 6740
Phone: (08) 9161 1496
Fax: (08) 9161 1510