



# BushMob Aboriginal Corporation

ICN: 8470

## Annual Report 2015-16



# Chief Executive Officer Annual Report

Thank you to the Young People and families who continue to improve and use the service and to those who have succeeded in change, no matter how small.

My gratitude to the BushMob Board of Management and to a wonderful group of staff across program areas for their ongoing commitment and support during a tough but positive year. I honor the staff and Board members who have moved on and wish them success in the future, particularly Chris Ryder and Damien Ryder.

We began the process of realising a long term strategic aim to move from the NT Associations Act and become BushMob Aboriginal Corporation through the Office of Registered Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporations (ORIC).

There were difficult funding issues to negotiate and while simultaneously receiving the go ahead in realising a long held vision to be gain pilot funding from NT Youth Justice to trial the Apmere Mwerre (good place) camp at Loves Creek station. We always strive to provide as many safe supported spaces for Young People in crisis wether in town or out bush and to assist keeping Young People out of detention.

We continue to be humbled as recipients of monthly donations from small families around the country and their support. Thank you.

The facility has seen a slight rise in the number of Young People using Ice and other amphetamines as part of their poly drug use. This has raised issues around our operational capacity to deal with this type of withdrawal. We continue to receive referrals from all over the NT and interstate. We continue to advocate for additional funding to alleviate staff to client risk ratios.

Bush Adventure Therapy (BAT) provide ongoing weekly trips and maintain outreach to Young People who prefer to be at home. Senior BAT staff often fill in across our other program areas and have assisted with developing the Apmere Mwerre camp. There is a high degree of interest in this option.







# Chief Executive Officer Annual Report

Thank you to BushMob Media for the wonderful work on movies, public relations and providing training and links to CAAMA, NITV, ICTV and other media and also for IT support to all of BushMob.

We continue to be supported through creative voluntary partnerships with our GP Dr Lewis, Psychologist Simon Forbes and Psychiatrist Dr Hickey who provide clinical support to all Young People who participate in BushMob Programs. We have begun discussions for further partnerships into the future with Congress.

We continue to offer employment options to Young People who have been through BushMob programs and have only been limited in this by funding constraints.

Looking forward to the rest of the 2016-2017 period as a time of consolidation and growth.

Will MacGregor.  
Chief Executive Officer  
BushMob Aboriginal Corporation



## Our Vision

Journeys are made in Central Australia by and for Young People to get the self-respect, trust courage and skills to have a fgood life  
- because grog, sniffing, drugs and crime are no good.

(Vision developed by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Young People and families in meetings under trees and in dry creek beds around Alice Springs.)





# Program Managers Annual Report

Our CEO, Will MacGregor, was nominated for the Australian of the Year. After many years of hard work this is a welcome recognition for his hard work in founding BushMob and its ongoing success with Young People.

Another busy year for BushMob. We have not only grown here at the Residential Facility but now have been provided the funding to run the "Sentenced Youth Boot Camp" which we call "Apmwere Mwerre" (an Eastern Arrente phrase meaning Good Place). BushMob does not believe that "Boot Camp" is appropriate phrasing and sounds punitive so chose our own name for the camp.

Special Projects Manager and Unte Mwerre Manager have done a huge amount of work in preparation for the upcoming SYBC "Sentenced Youth Boot Camp" or Apmere Mwerre. Countless hours have gone into this so well done to both of them for their dedication.

We are now officially an Aboriginal Corporation with our change to ORIC this year which has meant a lot of work for CEO Will MacGregor.

B.A.T is now known as Unte Mwerre (Are You OK?). The work that they have done this year has also not gone unnoticed. The outreach support for local young people and ex-clients, community work, Bush Trip and Return to Country Trips. So well done team.

The Facility is doing very well and our success rate is approximately 80%. However it's not about the length of stay it's about what each individual young person is capable of doing for whatever length of time they are here. We see every stay as a success for our Young People and also encourage the Young People to do the same.

Many of our Young People have gone on to find employment when they have finished the program and have made some life changing choices for the better.

We have had some great Camping and Bush Trips this year. All of our Young People attended the Alice Springs Show.

We have been lucky enough to have our volunteer Dr. Libby Lewis with us who does an amazing job with health care and health care plans for our Young People.





# Program Managers Annual Report



We also have had a volunteer Psychiatrist Dr. Bernard Hickey offer his services to us and Psychologist Simon Forbes. This has helped give Young People a wider range of mental health support and we are very thankful for their work.

Volunteers from interstate have been regularly coming in and out for experience in the AOD sector they were wonderful and we were glad we could offer them this opportunity.

Our BushMob Counsellor, Facility Manager and Team Leader have been working extremely hard this year but as always, have met every challenge they have faced with professionalism and enthusiasm.



Regular activities such as movies, pool, day trips to swimming holes, Horse riding weekly, football ( some of our young people are playing in local teams), night walks and bike rides, disco's and so much more. We have a fantastic team of staff all round and they have contributed to some of our biggest successes this past year and BushMob thanks every one of them for their contributions. Without good solid Case Workers work would be much harder.

Another year with 100% school, training or work for our young people which alone is an amazing effort. Much thanks to the schools such as Alice Outcomes and Malcolm Solomano and St Josephs and staff like Rochelle Fielding for their support with young people.

We again have had major facility maintenance issues which we are always struggling to get appropriate responses to.



## **Fee for Service:**

This year we have had 1 x Fee for Service with a Young Person from interstate. We also have opportunity of making this a more regular practice with South Australia.

We have also brought in Fee for Service with our work at Secure Care and utilising our training room for other organisation to use for forums or training.



# Program Managers Annual Report

## Stakeholder Relationships:

We have been building our relations with Community Corrections, Corrective Services, Legal bodies, DCF, CAYLUS, ASSYAS, Local Police, CAYJ, YSAS, Schools, and the Mental Health Service at ASH.

CAYLUS as always has been wonderful giving vouchers for clothing for Young People who are referred to us with very little.

ASSYAS and BushMob have continued its growing supportive relationship with the Friday night BBQ's either here at BushMob or over at ASSYAS. ASSYAS young people often stop in to engage in some of our activities.

VSA clinicians are still working with us to try to engage as many Young People as possible in our program.

Our Facebook page has become a massive hit thanks to the hard work from Keith Skinner our Media Manager.

Mission Australia has been working in our shed doing up a care for the NATS. All interested young people have been helping in this project.

## Program Managers Comments:

BushMob has had so much publicity this year around the positive work we do for all young people. It's a pleasure coming to work and the future possibilities are endless.

I have also started the Quality Improvement for BushMob which is going to be full on for the foreseeable future. It will help improve all of our standards around better practice well into the future.

Melissa Nichols  
Program Manager  
BushMob Aboriginal Corporation





# Counsellors Annual Report

While BushMob is not funded for a counsellor position, in February this year we fully implemented a Counsellor role within BushMob to provide counselling and case management services four days a week to clients in our care.

BushMob is very aware of our role as a trauma informed service as we deal with complex case traumatised children and young adults who may have experienced adverse experiences with the criminal justice and youth detention systems.

The service has been accessed extensively by our young people since it began, often playing a critical role in their journey at BushMob and as part of supporting their case managers and case management processes.

The Counsellors position has been complimented by the services of a volunteer Psychiatrist and Psychologist who visit the BushMob facility weekly to work with our clients.

In addition the Counsellor acts as liaison between our volunteer GP and our clients, manages school re-engagement and enrolments, and inter-agency client appointments and crisis management.

More recently the role has expanded to provide services to our clients engaged at the Sentenced Youth Camp, Apmere Mwerre, on Loves Creek Station.

## **Stats:**

Counselling Sessions: 95  
School Enrolments: 23  
GP Consults: 230  
Psychiatrist Referrals/Consults: 58  
Psychologist Referrals/consults: 220

## **Inter-Agency Case Conferences including:**

VSA clinicians, Women's Shelter, SARC, CAYLUS, CAALAS, NAAJA, NTPOL, Courts, Clinic 34, CAAC, ASH, Tangentyere Council, DCF, Anglicare.

Rusty Stewart, Counsellor, BushMob Aboriginal Corporation.





# Bush Adventure Therapy/Intensive Outreach

## Overview:

This past year we bid goodbye to Tim Lodge as he left us to work with Waltja in June and welcomed Abe Kozeluh who had worked in the facility for the past 3 years.

Abe took over Tim's position with enthusiasm and grace, quickly getting stuck into the last of the Return to Country (RTC) trips and the continuing Wednesday bushtrips and overnight camping trips.

Mel and Abe have started liaising with the people of Titjikala around AOD Information sessions run through camps with the Men and Women independently. This is being funded by the NT department of business.

Mel and Abe have also been involved in supporting the Facility through covering of shifts during their AOD diploma training while also completing the training themselves.

Jock and Kerri have been mostly occupied with the planning and then implementation of BushMob's newest Program Ampere Mwerre (Good Place) which launched in August after missing the scheduled July launch due to lack of Referrals by Corrections.

We have also seen a slight dip in Clients this year but attribute it to not running a Horse Culture Trek this year.

## Horse/Culture Trek:

Sadly the Horse Culture Trek did not happen this year as we were unable to secure funding.

## Training:

Abe completed the AOD/VSA diploma this year and Jock and Mel became VSA authorised persons.







# Bush Adventure Therapy/Intensive Outreach

## Trips:

Day trips continue to be a regular occurrence on Wednesdays and we have been to places such as Ellery Big Hole, Chambers Pillar, Glen Helen, N'dhala Gorge, Rainbow Valley and Wiggles Waterhole to name a few. These trips are around unstructured Alcohol and other Drug sessions, healthy living and swimming and hiking and enjoying the bush.

We are Running more overnight camps then we have in previous years to places such as 2 mile and Loves creek.

The BushMob horses were moved to Loves Creek and the Horse culture riding program has been continuing there with an emphasis on the Clients of Ampere Mwerre taking an ownership and leading role with the horses and Facility clients. This aims to improve their self-confidence.

## Conclusion:

In the coming year Mel and Abe will be focusing on the Titjikala Programs with a goal to extend the program from the four camps its currently funded for as well as spreading to other communities.

Jock and Kerri will be focusing on the pilot program for Ampere Mwerre with the goal of securing recursive funding as we see this as a more therapeutic alternative to detention.

We also hope to resecure funding for a more permanent Return To Country program as this improved our relations with the communities we visited and opened up new referrals to the facility from people who may not have heard of BushMob or know how to access the service.

Jock MacGregor  
B.A.T. Manager  
BushMob Aboriginal Corporation



# BushMob Media Annual Report

Hello

This past year has been very positive. The Media position was to have it's funding terminated but the Department of Prime and Cabinet has decided to continue funding under the umbrella of Children and Schooling.

This was a welcome relief.

BushMob is currently trying to source funding for a further Media position.

The popularity of the BushMob Facebook and Web pages continue to grow. The Facebook pages is now consistently getting over a thousand visits per week.

This has greatly increased the public awareness and raised community consciousness of the great work that BushMob Aboriginal Corporation is undertaking.

Substantial donations from the public have been coming into BushMob partly as a result of the increased value of the BushMob profile.

BushMob Media was able to liaise with CAAMA Youth Radio to provide training in radio broadcasting.

To everyones great delight, two BushMob Young People completed the course and progressed to the CAAMA Amplify Program, a 15 week training course in which they gained skills such as production and presentation of a weekly 1 hour radio show.

The two BushMob Young People received accreditation for the course which was assessed by a registered Northern Territory teacher and marked against the year 10 curriculum to contribute to their end of year school report.

A big thanks to Charlotte Geer, the trainer, "GMan" Gerry and all the crew at CAAMA.

We hope to continue these training sessions with CAAMA in 2017





# BushMob Media Annual Report



Alice Springs Town Council and members of the Public Arts Advisory Committee provided BushMob Young People with an opportunity to engage with the local community and to contribute to local culture.

This was achieved by involving the BushMob Young People with a special project soon to take up permanent residency in the mall.

The BushMob Young People painted individual tiles to be glazed and installed in public seating for installation in Todd Mall, Alice Springs.

The seat is one of nine seats that are to be tiled by local community groups.



A member of the Public Arts Advisory Committee, Ms Kim Donald had been looking for an opportunity had been looking to bring an artistic community project to BushMob. After several funding knock-backs this project was realised and completed with great success.

In summing up:

Whilst with BushMob Media, the Young People are taught basic computer skills and literacy which add to the improvement of transitioning to vocational and higher education and work.

On a less quantifiable level, Young People are also given skills in community engagement and positive social interactions, again leading to improvement of transitioning to vocational and higher education and work.



Keith Skinner  
Media Manager  
BushMob Aboriginal Corporation



# Finance Administration Manager Report

## Overview:

After the 2015/16 Financial Audit, BushMob has a Deficit of \$45,101.00.

Monies from Grants Received this year is \$2,759,716.00 being an increase of \$430,378.00 from last year.

BushMob Overall Expenses were \$2,804,817.00 in this financial year. This is an increase of \$395,155.00 over last year's expenditure.

The total worth of BushMob's Net Assets as of the 30th June 2016 is \$401,010.00  
At the end of the last financial year BushMob's total assets were \$446,111.00  
This is a decrease of \$45,101.00 during this financial year.

BushMob's asset worth of Property, Plant and Equipment  
(After Lessing the Accumulated Depreciation) is: \$ 60,641.00

## Additional Notes of 2015 - 2016 Full Year Costing:

We have an increase in our Revenue from last year through Fee for Services and Donations.

Last Year's Revenue was \$71,214.00

This year's revenue is \$138,730.00 which is an increase of \$67,516.00 from Last year.

1. Fee for service \$106,173.00
2. Donations \$2,750.00
3. Sundry \$29,807.00







# Finance Administration Manager Report

## **Additional Notes of 2015 - 2016 Full Year Costing:**

BushMob received funding of \$1,784,069.00 from The Department of Health from:

VSA Bush Adventure Therapy received (AOD Information & Education) \$396,487.00 with an expense of \$396,487.00 thus break even.

VSA Treatment Service (VSA Residential Rehabilitation Program) received \$1,387,582.00 with an expense of \$1,494,047.00 with a Surplus of 106,465.00

BushMob received funding of \$592,359.00 from The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet: Indigenous Advancement Strategy - BushMob Youth AOD/VSA Rehabilitation,

Children and Schooling Activity received \$80,064.00 with expenses of \$92,435.00 thus surplus of 12,371.00

Safety and Wellbeing received \$512,592.00 with expenses of \$551,922.00 thus a surplus of 39,330.00

BushMob received funding from NT Department of Correctional Services: Sentenced Youth Boot Camp project received \$382,343.00 with expenses of 310,404.00 with deficit of \$71,939.00





# Finance Administration Manager Report

## Current Financial Targets for 2016 – 2017:

In August of 2016 BushMob changed from being "BushMob Incorporated" to "BushMob Aboriginal Corporation"

From our Annual Budget next year we hope to establish and maintain a reserve of 25% of our total funding.

## Current financial year is funded by:

The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet for \$717,063.00

NT Government Department of Health for \$1,160,107.00

NT Department of Correctional Services \$691,480.00

## BushMob generates income in several ways. Some examples are:

Income generated from the hiring of the Pinnacle of Terror which has been very profitable and expected to have an increase in its revenue in the future.

We also generate revenue from Fee for Services provided by the Bush Adventure Therapy Team, Horse/ Culture/Healing Team and also from the Cultural Service Support to NT Correctional Services which is also provided by the BAT Team.

The BushMob Facility generates substantial income from Fee for Services in the form of paid admissions. We expect this to be an ongoing and increasing source of revenue for BushMob.

We know that BushMob Media will keep generating further Fee for Service revenue and will continue to increase the public profile and Community awareness of the excellent work that BushMob undertakes.

Saju Xavier  
Finance Administration Manager  
BushMob Aboriginal Corporation







**Thanks to all the Staff, Young People,  
Board Members, Organisations  
and Government Departments  
who make BushMob happen.**