



[Atitjere, Engawala and Bonya](#)

[Ntaria](#)

[Gunbalanya](#)

[Lajamanu](#)

[Maningrida](#)

[Ngukurr](#)

[Santa Teresa](#)

[Utopia Homelands](#)

[Wadeye](#)

2015 has been a huge year for Stronger Communities for Children (SCfC). We welcomed the additional SCfC sites of Atitjere (with Engawala and Bonya), Gunbalanya, Lajamanu, Maningrida and the Utopia Homelands, and have enjoyed sharing the SCfC learnings between communities.

SCfC Decision Making groups and Facilitating Partners from across the NT have progressed their Community Plans and are seeing very exciting projects, activities and services rolling out on the ground. Many SCfC Decision Making Groups are in the early stages of developing impact assessment frameworks, and have worked to build on the strengths of existing governance practices in the different communities.

Two SCfC Seminars were held in 2015, the first being in Alice Springs in May, where Decision Making Group members and Facilitating Partners had the opportunity to work with each other.



Seminar in Darwin Oct 2015

The second Seminar was held in Darwin in October, which was the first time that representatives from the ten SCfC sites were able to come together as a big group. At both seminars participants had the opportunity to hear from various experts, external stakeholders including Menzies School of Health Research and have open discussions with Prime Minister & Cabinet.



Desert Knowledge Precinct, Alice Springs Seminar, May 2015



*Left: Linda, Rosemary and Donna workshopping at Darwin Seminar Oct 2015.
Right: SCfC at SNAICC seminar in Perth*

In September, representatives from the Galiwin'ku, Wadeye and Ntaria Decision Making Groups and Facilitating Partner organisations, along with Ninti One, gave a presentation at the Secretariat of the National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC) conference in Perth. Conference attendees enjoyed hearing about the SCfC model and how it is rolling out the different communities.

These Project Updates are compiled from the stories and experiences of the people in each community. The contributions are provided directly from the Facilitating Partner Organisations, and Ninti One wishes to express its deep gratitude and appreciation for the hard work and collaboration of these organisations running SCfC on the ground.



Atitjere, Engawala and Bonya

SCfC has kicked off to a great start in Atitjere, Engawala and Bonya, where three active decision making groups (one on each community) have been meeting twice a month. The Jesuit Social Services, as the Facilitating Partner organisation, worked with the groups to submit a Community Plan that has been accepted by PM&C.

The regional priorities are:

- Health, Well-being and Safety
- Connection to Culture and country, arts and language
- Meaningful activities/training or employment
- Care for young children

The Community Plan already includes 3 activities that will be implemented between December 2015 and February 2016:

- Engawala Ethical Nutrition activity (3 day cooking program)
- Atitjere Ethical Nutrition activity (3 day cooking program)
- Bonya mosaic activity (6 day activity)



Left - Celebrating after the first meeting of the Engawala Decision Making Group in June

Top right - The Engawala Decision Making Group and JSS staff capturing their ideas at the first meeting in June

Bottom right - The Engawala Decision Making Group (with staff from the JSS and Ninti One) during a governance workshop.



SCfC Galiwin'ku has been funding eight exciting community-led programs over recent months.

Healthy Lifestyle Festival

During the October school holidays, SCfC Galiwin'ku held the Healthy Lifestyle Festival, which finished up on Friday and Saturday night with the very popular concert nights. Famous and popular musicians and bands from around community and nearby got all the young ones dancing (and a few oldies). The festival has been running with Miwatj Health for a number of years, increasing awareness about healthy lifestyle choices.

Gurrumul Foundation's mentor project

This year SCfC funded the Gurrumul Foundation's mentor project, training and mentoring Yolgnu to participate in the planning and running of the festival. As well as supporting the festival committee, a professional mentor worked alongside 13 young people who learnt key skills on the ground. Their roles included site management, stage and sound technicians, event coordination and master of ceremonies.

Hope for Health

Why Warriors are working with community on the Hope for Health project. Currently,

SCfC has funded a part of the program focussing on mentoring two Yolngu health coaches. Their role is to develop and run educational sessions around food choices, food access, preparation, exercise and chronic illness management across two cultures. The goal is for mentors to build skills ready to run curriculum in a future intensive Health Retreat on Elcho island and train others.

Raypirri Rom, Men's Program and Healing and Wellbeing programs

The Raypirri Rom, Men's Program and Healing and Wellbeing programs currently being run by Yalu Maringithinyaraw Indigenous Corporation have been strengthening partnerships and relationships with the School and the Learning on Country program with Rangers. The different programs have run individual sessions and activities at school camps and with class groups, teaching important parts of the traditional knowledge system as well as activities around community (and on country) with other groups. Yalu has employed three young people in their programs, who are taking on important roles within their teams to help record and report on the work they do.

Arnhem Land Progress Association

The SCfC team has been working with Arnhem Land Progress Association to better connect and support a relationship between SCfC Programs and RJCP where RJCP participants can get work experience within programs or participate in SCfC activities.



Left: Sound technicians from the Gurrumul Foundation's mentor project – working at the Healthy Lifestyle Festival

Right: Galiwin'ku community members enjoying live music at the Healthy Lifestyle festival



Gunbalanya

SCfC in Gunbalanya has achieved a number of milestones recently. We have hired two coordinators to deliver the SCfC program- Jayred Dawson-Smith, and Lois Nadjamerrek, and held our first meeting of the community advisory group "Karrimud

Rowk” (All Families Together).



*Left: Lois Nadjamerrek next to Karrimud Rowk’s brainstormed priorities
Right: Karrimud Rowk SCfC Group meeting in November*

The members of Karrimud Rowk shared their ideas and priorities for Gunbalanya moving into 2016 however they are keen to ensure there is maximum community consultation and input in our community plan. The first task Karrimud Rowk have given themselves is to conduct surveys within their family groups and present the findings at the next meeting. It was great to see the level of enthusiasm towards SCfC among the group.

In late October four directors from the facilitating partner Adjumarllarl Aboriginal Corporation attended the SCfC conference in Darwin. The conference presented a great opportunity for the directors to see how the program is going in other communities as well as the possible challenges that may arise. The directors really enjoyed hearing stories from the original five communities about the activities that SCfC has brought to their community.

Looking forward to 2016 - there is lots to be excited and optimistic about as we look to start rolling out activities shortly.



Lajamanu

SCfC in Lajamanu has had an exciting few months, with the formation of a SCfC Board made up of enthusiastic and dedicated members! The Board has been working closely with Life Without Barriers, the Facilitating Partner organisation, and Ninti One, to understand the SCfC model and consult broadly with other stakeholders in community.

The Board has held two meetings in Lajamanu, where as a group, they were able to brainstorm ideas and begin thinking about their vision and priorities for SCfC. The group identified service gaps, and talked about what is already working for kids and families in Lajamanu, that can be built upon. SCfC Lajamanu is looking forward to a big 2016, with plans to appoint a Coordinator, hold governance training and start rolling out SCfC services and activities.



Left: Celebrating after the second meeting: Lajamanu SCfC Board members and Life Without Barriers, Families as First Teachers and Ninti One staff.

Right: Members of the Lajamanu SCfC Board with Life Without Barriers and Families as First Teachers staff

Maningrida

Malabam Health Board Aboriginal Corporation (Malabam), the SCfC Facilitating Partner in Maningrida, has been very busy getting the infrastructure in place for the SCfC program. They have appointed a very experienced manager who has worked extensively in remote Aboriginal communities over the past 15 years, who will be commencing work in January 2016. Malabam have transported an accommodation demountable into Maningrida, and are getting it ready to be occupied by the new manager when she commences!

Malabam is in the process of forming a community Reference Group, and have a number of community members who have expressed an interest in being involved. A number of service gaps have been identified that will be further considered by the Reference Group once formed.

Malabam have also purchased a SCfC vehicle, and are looking forward to SCfC progressing in the New Year.

Ngukurr

Sadly, Ian Gumbula resigned as Stronger Communities for Children Coordinator at Ngukurr, leaving a big gap in community engagement and program coordination. To take some of the pressure off Eslyn Fletcher (who manages the whole of KRAHRS not

just SCfC), Danielle Aquino has been temporarily filling in the Coordinator role on a part time basis until a new person can be recruited on a more permanent basis.

Several exciting things have happened over the past few months.

***#friends-remote* program**

Firstly, on 9-10 November we welcomed Adrian Williams from the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) to stimulate discussion about how to best implement *#friends-remote* at Ngukurr. Participants were keen to incorporate cultural aspects into discussions with young people about what respectful relationships mean in Ngukurr. Further work needs to happen to put together a strong plan for how the training will be adapted and rolled out in 2016.

Computer Training for School and Work activity

The second stage of the Computer Training for School and Work activity commenced on 17 November and is running well. This time, in addition to the two programs of 'class room' based training, the International Teacher Training Academy (ITTA) trainers have been providing workplace mentoring to assist people further develop their skills. The classroom based training has been well attended, mostly by people who are currently unemployed. Two children's sessions were held on the weekend and the young girls who attended had a great time practicing typing skills and making Christmas Cards for their family and friends.

Building a Safer Community through Cooking

The weekly Building a Safer Community through Cooking sessions run in partnership with the Guluman Child and Family Centre are continuing. Planning is underway for a special Christmas Cooking activity where participants will prepare a Christmas feast to share with each other and celebrate their involvement in the program. At the activity, participants will receive a cookbook compilation of the most popular recipes cooked over the year.

Strongbala People Wanbala Voice Committee

A big focus of the Strongbala People Wanbala Voice Committee is to have a more stable membership and look at decision-making processes, accountability and commitment. These things take time but the Committee is continuing to work towards strong governance. Overall the program is progressing well and many people working together to achieve the Committee's vision of Strong Education, Stronger Leaders, Strong Community.



*Left: Participants of the Building a Safer Community through Cooking activity
- cooking up a storm!*

*Top right: Strongbala People Wanbala Voice Chairperson Regina Rogers and
Committee member Daphne Daniels catch up at the SCfC Seminar in Darwin*

Bottom right: The Computer Training for School and Work activity underway in Ngukurr



Ntaria



The SCfC Western Arranda Leaders Group

We currently have 16 members – 4 men and 12 women. Each member represents a family group in the community. The Leaders Group meets every month to discuss issues and new ideas.

Being part of the Leaders Group gives us the opportunity to network with other families in our community and to have a say about what should be happening for our children and youth.

Member's voices

- "I like being heard"
- "It makes me feel proud"
- "Seeing kids happy"
- "Knowing that children have something to do on holidays –that they are safe"
- "I want to be a role model for the kids"

Projects currently supported by the Leaders Group are:

The Anzac ride

- Ntaria senior students

Study tours:

- SNAIC conference
- Darwin seminar
- Alice Springs seminar

Keeping our kids staff:

- Holly ann Visit the communities 3 times a year

Pots that tell a story:

- Students from Ntaria School
- Ntaria Potters

The new projects that the Leaders Group have approved are:

- Aranda tribe ride for pride
- Macyouth 3 years Holiday program
- Safe 4 Kids
- Family together

What we have learnt being part of the SCfC network

The Leader's Group members say that when we travel to the SCfC seminars:

- "We feel more confident and stronger in dealing with community issues. It helps us with decision-making and community collaboration."
- "We enjoy making new friends and learning different ways"
- Working together from different regions

The Leader's Group are strong supporters of community events that involve children in a safe environment. The Leaders are also working towards supporting families to become more aware of children safety and family get-together.



Santa Teresa

It's been a busy time for Santa Teresa SCfC, with a number of different projects and activities taking place:

"Your Voice, Strong Voice"

The "Your Voice, Strong Voice" project saw artists working closely with young people in the community to create a mural and a music video capturing their voices and vision. The Local Advisory Committee was very pleased with the catchy lyrics, the colourful mural and the cool video - to be shared via social media soon!

Cultural Heritage

Four young trainees are working with a consultant to capture stories from elders and families in the community. Trainees are also learning basic project management skills and improving their numeracy and literacy.

NAPCAN

NAPCAN has delivered a series of workshops with Santa Teresa service providers and community members to tackle cyber-bullying.

Learning Camps

In a partnership lead by the Central Land Council (CLC) Rangers, Atyenhenge-Atherre Aboriginal Corporation (AAAC) ran their first learning camp with young people, rangers and elders to learn about caring for country and culture.



Photograph of the SCfC-funded "Your Voice, Strong Voice" mural in Santa Teresa

Utopia Homelands

Utopia SCFC - known locally as "Apmer akely-akely" - is progressing well. A plan has been generated through community consultation, and has been endorsed by the Local Community Board and by PM&C. Activities supported by the Local Board and Canberra to date are:

Family engagement project

The Alparra school and families work together to produce resources in local languages and about locally relevant themes. This project also aims to provide local language reading materials in the home.

Cultural and botanical knowledge

Support to integrate cultural and botanical knowledge into the curriculum at the local school, through structured bush trips involving local elders.

Interpreting and language lessons

CAYLUS can administer payment for community members to be paid as interpreters, and additionally, is supporting agencies to better communicate in local language by providing language lessons to staff.

'Quick-response' brokerage

CAYLUS administers support for small opportunistic projects. So far, this has included a hairdressing project, specialist training for early childhood staff (in recognising and responding to early childhood trauma), plus the purchase of some small items for other local initiatives.

Service coordination

CAYLUS is providing secretariat support for a local interagency forum. The forum aims to provide support and coordination for local agencies that work with children and families.

Child health and youth wellbeing

CAYLUS is working with relevant agencies to develop early childhood health activities. These will be aimed at babies from conception to three years of age. In addition, CAYLUS has a focus on promoting youth wellbeing and developmental activities for young people during high-risk times. This work is ongoing.



Left: One of the Alyewarr language comic books that were developed as a part of CAYLUS's work around the importance of reading at home.

Right: Example of a promotional poster for the language support activity, with names of local interpreters added to the poster.



An image from the hairdressing project

Wadeye

The Kardu Lurruth Ngala Purrungime Committee have been very busy in Wadeye undertaking Governance training and delivering and preparing programs to be implemented. Some highlights for Stronger Communities from Children in Wadeye are set out below. In August the KLNP Committee engaged Roy Price from Ethical Nutrition to deliver Bush Wok cooking workshops in Wadeye and a community cooking competition.

Bush Wok

Roy Price and SCFC delivered two small cooking workshops targeting parents- in particular young parents. The women's Softball team 'the Dockers' and the men's AFL Team 'Saint Marys' took part in the two separate workshops. Participants learnt basic cooking skills, such as preparing vegetables and meats and looking at alternative ways to cook large healthy family meals.

The Community cooking competition was held as part of the Wadeye Festival. A total of 9 teams competed against each other, including the Thamarrurr Rangers, Women's Centre, FAFT and youth from the Wadeye Boarding School with the team from the Women's Centre taking out first prize. Ingredients also included local pig caught by local rangers.

The aim of this project was to provide a fun and engaging opportunity for parents and families to develop and learn new cooking skills and food knowledge, so that more children in Wadeye grow up strong and healthy. Using the Bushwok activity as a starting point, TRAAC staff began work with Ninti One to develop an impact assessment framework to measure SCfC outcomes, and look forward to developing the system further in 2016.



Left: Roy Price (left) and members from the Saints AFL team during the Bushwok community cooking competition
Right: Wayne, Mundi and Eric cooking up a storm in Wadeye

Cert II Indigenous Leadership

In September this year KLNP Committee members Leonard Dulla, Mary Dulla and Stephen Dulla graduated from the Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre with a Cert II in Indigenous Leadership. Participants undertook two blocks of training in Darwin with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from across Australia. Leonard spoke about his passion to see more culture taught to young men and supporting those who are getting into trouble or coming out of prison.



Mary and Leonard Dulla receiving their Certificate II in Indigenous Leadership from the Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre in Darwin

SNAICC

Four KLNP Committee members travelled to Perth in September to present at the SNAICC Conference. The young women were mentored by Committee member Julie Thardim. Committee members had the opportunity to develop networks, meet other Indigenous people from across the country and learn about programs running to help keep kids safe and strong. The young women spoke about their vision for the community as not only youth of Wadeye but also as young mums. Tessa Narjic spoke about her wish for more local people to be in jobs and not relying on outside people to do the work.

Welcoming the Women's Centre

November saw the closure of TRAAC in Wadeye, which for SCfC, meant a transition in Facilitating Partner organisations. We warmly welcome Palngun Wurnangat Association Inc (the Women's Centre) to SCfC as the new Facilitating Partner organisation in Wadeye. Sorrell, Rose and Margo bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to SCfC and are gearing up for a big 2016!



Stay in Contact

Stronger Communities for Children is currently running in 10 sites throughout the NT. It is a community development program funded through the Commonwealth Government, and run on the ground by locally based Facilitating Partners and SCfC Decision Making Groups.

Ninti One would like to express our appreciation for the hard work and collaboration of all Facilitating Partner organisations, and their contribution to this newsletter. Ninti One is the lead organisation in the Quality Service Support Panel (QSSP), and works with all SCfC sites to ensure SCfC remains a strong and supported program.

We invite you to pass this update onto colleagues and friends who might also be interested in this project. We always value feedback – contact details are below, so please stay in touch or contact us for further information.

Ingrid Johanson, Project Officer Quality Services
Support Panel, Stronger Communities for Children

Email: ingrid.johanson@nintione.com.au Mobile: 0438 352 544

Beth Woodward, Senior Researcher Quality Services
Support Panel, Stronger Communities for Children

Email: beth.woodward@nintione.com.au Mobile: 0412 299 048 / 0437 455 043

Or, check out our Facebook site:



Forward
to a Friend



Vist our
Website



Other
Projects

Contact Details

You have received this
email because you are
subscribed to the Ninti One
Limited Managing Director's

Ninti One Pty Ltd
PO Box 3971
Alice Springs, NT 0871
info@nintione.com.au

Email and News.
Copyright © Ninti One
Limited All rights reserved.

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update](#)
[Preferences](#) | [Privacy](#)

www.nintione.com.au