

**Murdi Paaki Partnership Project
Community Facilitator
Walgett/Collarenebri
PO Box 31
Walgett NSW 2832**

Hello Everyone

George McCormick, Walgett Shire Council Youth Development Officer is in the process of developing a five (5) Year Youth Strategy Plan 2009-2014 for Walgett Shire Communities. Walgett Shire Council is committed to ensuring that the health, safety and welfare of children is maintained at all times during council operated activities and to encourage the whole community, the opportunity to actively participate and contribute.

Consultation and active participation is crucial in developing and maintaining effective and long term community growth and development. Sharing ideas will strengthen a more unified approach between local government and the wider community. A community approach to educating and training our young people to be responsible, healthy and compassionate will promote early intervention strategies for criminal and anti social behaviour.

George is off to a flying start, he has put together this survey and he is keen to include your comment so that we work actively together to improve the quality of service to achieve better outcomes. You may have already spoken to George as part of:

- Walgett Shire Youth Council
- Walgett Shire Youth Group
- Lightning Ridge Youth Group
- Collarenebri Youth Group
- Walgett Community Working Party
- Walgett Interagency
- Service providers within the Shire of Walgett

All agencies are encouraged to contribute and identify programs/partnerships and targets/issues. In doing so; agencies are more dedicated to accepting responsibility for, and innovative in, changing a culture of 'welfare'.

Take a few minutes to scan over, make comments in red and flick back to George at: gmccormick@walgett.nsw.gov.au

Thank you for your support

(Please make any additions or comments in red)

Existing programs / initiatives

Program /partnership	Target/ issue	Council's Role
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Eating • Healthy Lifestyle • Lets get active days • Youth Mental Health • Sexual Health and well being • Anti drink and drug awareness • Vacation Care Programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with organisations in a view to form partnerships. • Develop • Promote • Work in partnership • Develop
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yawarra Meamei Women's Group and Safe Families • Barwon Cottage Women's and Children Refuge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic Violence and Family Violence awareness and promotions • Anti Domestic Violence Programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate /develop • Continue to work in partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCYC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs and activities for young people 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castlereagh Area Command Police Force 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Reelers Movie Nights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote /work in partnership

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater Western Area Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of health issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All major service providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YOUTH WEEK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate, promote
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mission Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walgett Reconnect Youth focused initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work In partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country Rugby League 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rugby League Training/skills and drills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote/facilitate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RSPCA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dept Sport and Recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sporting disciplines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate promote
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Murdi Paaki 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> promote
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Table 2. (as with table 1 please make any additions, comments or changes in red)

Identified gaps/needs and issues

Issue/ need / gap	Recommendation	Council's Role
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for more recreational areas for our young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote safe and affordable opportunities for young people to recreate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote Seek funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access difficulties for young people, particularly in outlying areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify options to facilitate access to recreation and services for young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate Facilitate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to provide sexual health information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote access to sexual health information for young people Advocate for additional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote Advocate Assist in

	counselling services for sexuality issues	development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of services to address the special needs of younger persons with a disability, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for services for younger persons with a disability, Completion of Certificate Three in Community, Disabilities and Youth for Youth Workers 	Advocate Increase training opportunities for staff
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of adequate accommodation for crisis/refuge for young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for provision of emergency accommodation for young people 	Advocate Develop and investigate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of co-ordination of services between peak agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate stronger inter-agency partnerships between youth service providers 	Continue to promote the forming of partnerships with service providers and agencies.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gap between need for early intervention in relation to crime 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for more support and early intervention services for young offenders More awareness Programs 	Advocate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for stronger mentoring programs and peer support programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop effective mentoring programs Develop programs and peer support Identify appropriate leadership/umbrella process for mentoring program 	Investigate
		Facilitate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for more support from Indigenous organisations to promote parental support for our young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify mechanisms for peer support for young parents 	Develop
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for additional resources to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for additional funding for youth workers/ promote more 	Advocate

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for additional resources to support youth development programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for additional funding for youth workers/ promote more training opportunities 	<p>Advocate</p> <p>Facilitate training</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to promote positive images of youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate on behalf of youth to counter negative perceptions of youth • Promote the negative 	<p>Advocate</p>

Table 3. (Please make any additions, comments or changes in red)

IDENTIFIED GAPS IN SPORT THROUGHOUT WALGETT SHIRE:

Identified gaps	Recommendation	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of Parental support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the need for parental input ,create awareness to the overall outcomes if parents support their children 	<p>Dept Sport and Recreation</p> <p>Schools, weekend clubs.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of qualified coach's • Support personal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby Sport/Recreation Departments to increase accessibility to training opportunities. • Promote the need for qualified coach's in sport 	<p>Department of Sport and Recreation ,</p> <p>Netball Australia,</p> <p>Cricket Aus,</p> <p>Country Rugby League</p> <p>PCYC ,</p> <p>Other State/Nation wide sporting bodies.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer rewards for participation and completion of training. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No structured, season lasting competitions • Transportation to and from events /supervision on the buses. • Lack of Indigenous young people participating in individual sports • and/or swimming, little athletics ,pony club ,gymnastics • etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan calendar to last a full season by taking into consideration the school holidays and availability of young people to access transport to and from events. • Promotion of all sports to young people. School system to play vital role in the promotion of a wider range of sports in school curriculum • Create a year long sporting calendar relevant to each community. 	<p>Department of Sport and Recreation</p> <p>Ministry of Transport</p> <p>Local Schools ,weekend clubs by way of promotion</p> <p>All service providers</p>

Table 4. (Please make any additions, comments or changes in red)

IDENTIFIED GAPS AND NEEDS - FACILITIES

Needs / gaps	Recommendation	Council's role
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased recreational areas for young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The building of youth friendly skate park .family parks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek funding • Advocate funding bodies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More playground equipment – especially in smaller villages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erect playground equipment throughout the Shire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up grade current 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source funding

areas, seating, shade areas	maintenance and upgrading of facilities	for regular improvements on existing facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas where youth and young people can “hang out” after 6 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for extended hours the youth centres are operational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate, develop, • Seek funding

Please email your comments to George McCormick at:
gmcormick@walgett.nsw.gov.au