

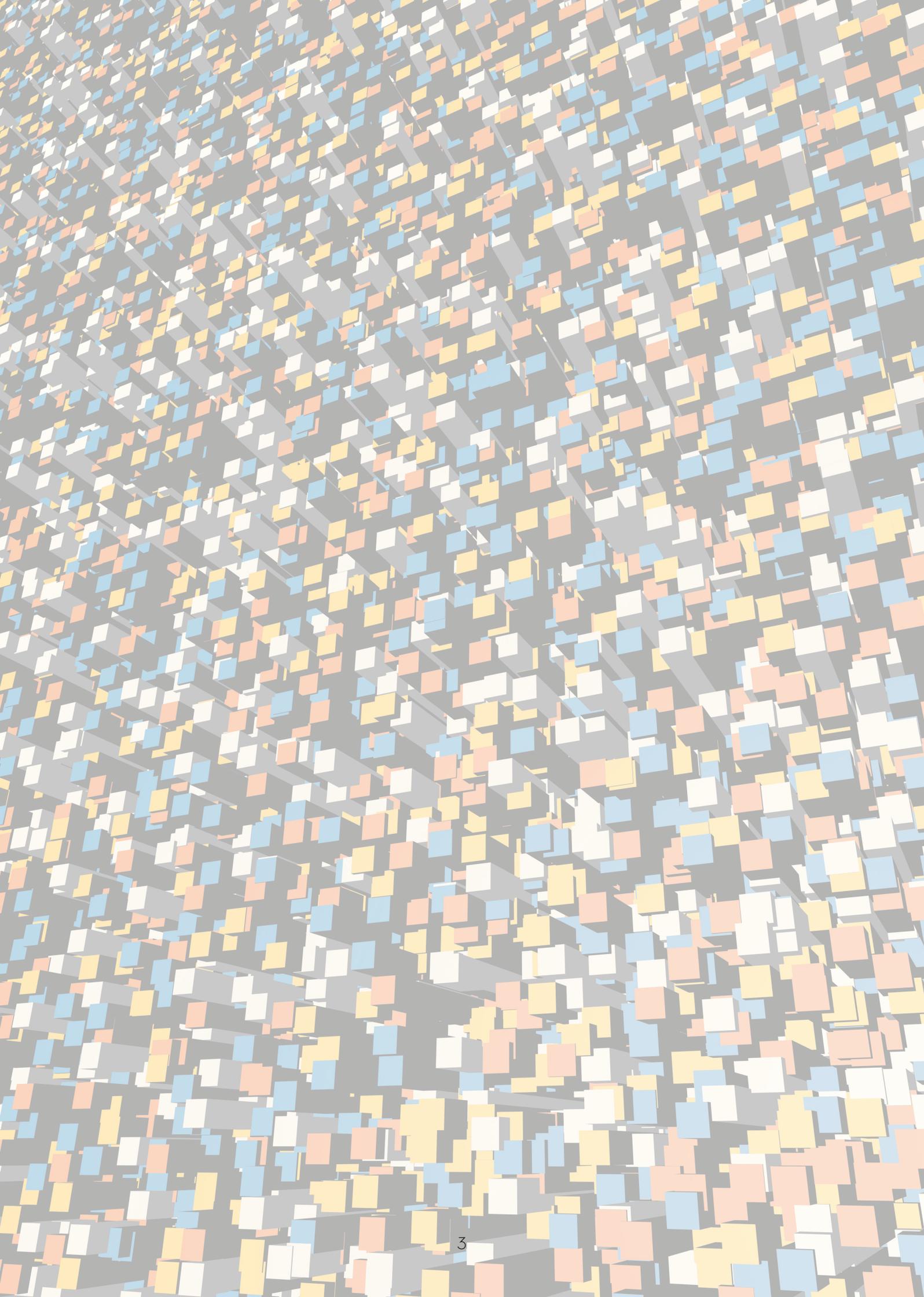


# **YOUTH INVOLVEMENT COUNCIL**

Annual Report 2010–2011

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# YIC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

Wangka Maya Conference Room, South Hedland

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**Wednesday 5 October 2011 – 2.30pm**

Meeting open:

Present:

Apologies:

**1. PRESENT AND CONFIRM MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**2. BUSINESS**

**2.1** Chairpersons Report

**2.2** Managers Report

**2.3** Program Reports

**2.4** Financial Report and  
Statement 2010–2011

**3. RESIGNATION OF YIC BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEMBERS**

**4. CONSIDERATION OF ANY NEW NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**5. ELECTION OF NEW BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEMBERS INCLUDING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

**5.1** Chairperson

**5.2** Vice Chairperson

**5.3** Secretary

**5.4** Treasurer

**5.5** Up to eight general members

**6. APPOINTMENT OF AN AUDITOR FOR 2011–2012 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**7. OTHER**

Meeting Closed:

# LAST YEARS AGM MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2010 of the Youth Involvement Council Inc., held on Thursday 26 August 2010 at Youth Involvement Council Inc.

## 1. Meeting Opened: 4.35pm

### 2. Present:

Gloria Jacob, Kelly Howlett (Mayor), Fran Haintz, DejaAnn Clanton, Josh Cox, Porscha Cox, Mark Davis, Neville Sellwood, Vicki Stephens (staff), Josephine Bunney (minute taker)

Ex Officio: Kerri McGregor

Proxy: Fran Haintz for Trish Barron

### 3. Apologies:

Andrew Heath (WACHS), Nicky Latham (Centrelink), Ray Holt (WA Police), Graham Boyd (DET-Yandeyarra Community School), Trish Barron (PDC), Lana Treasure (FMG)

## 4. Welcome by Chairperson, Gloria Jacob and thank you to attendees.

## 5. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting on 4 November 2009

Moved: Fran Haintz      Seconded: Gloria Jacob

## 6. Chairperson's Report from the previous Financial Year

Overview and acknowledgement of Board Members and staff of YIC.

## 7. Presentation of YIC Annual Report 2009/10 by Kerri McGregor – CEO

## 8. Treasurer's Report and Audited Financial Statement for 2009/10

Moved: Fran Haintz      Seconded: Mark Davis

## 9. Consideration of any new applications for membership

New Members:

DejaAnne Clanton	Moved: Gloria Jacob	Seconded: Mark Davis
Neville Sellwood	Moved: Fran Haintz	Seconded: Gloria Jacob
Porscha Cox	Moved: Fran Haintz	Seconded: Mark Davis

## 10. Resignation of YIC Management Committee Members

All current Committee Members stood down.

## 11. Election of new Committee Members

Chairperson	Gloria Jacob	Moved: Fran Haintz	Seconded: Mark Davis
Vice Chairperson	Trish Barron	Moved: Fran Haintz	Seconded: Gloria Jacob
Secretary	Deja Clanton	Moved: Fran Haintz	Seconded: Gloria Jacob
Treasurer	Fran Haintz	Moved: Gloria Jacob	Seconded: Deja Clanton

## General Members x 4

DejaAnne Clanton	Moved: Gloria Jacob	Seconded: Mark Davis
Neville Sellwood	Moved: Fran Haintz	Seconded: Gloria Jacob
Porscha Cox	Moved: Fran Haintz	Seconded: Mark Davis
Mark Davis	Moved: Deja Clanton	Seconded: Fran Haintz

All positions accepted.

## 12. Appointment of an Auditor for 2010/11 financial year.

Move to appoint Jesper Sentow, CPA, Sentow Business Consulting.

Moved: Fran Haintz      Seconded: Neville Sellwood

## 13. General Business

Mayor Kelly Howlett requested that she be included on distribution list and attend meetings.

Attendees unanimously agreed.

## 14. Meeting Closed: 4.55pm

# CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

## 2011



The year 2011 has been one of immense activity and change and I would firstly commend the efforts of our dedicated team of personnel, who have ensured seamless delivery of YIC's crucial youth and housing programs and

services in Port Hedland.

YIC continues to work in partnership and develop relationships with government agencies, police, schools, industry and community to provide factual information and statistics, and support on various levels.

The Board and staff under the leadership of our longest serving employee and newly appointed Manager Vicki Stephens have been committed to strengthening the structure of the YIC and ensuring its sustainability. High priority continues to be given to the review of our organisation's operation, recruitment of key personnel and the effective delivery of services and programs.

Of key importance was the strategic planning workshop which formulated our Strategic Plan for 2011-2016, and the KPMG review of YIC that delivered a report which identified best practices and a pathway to sustainability, future growth and new initiatives to consolidate and further enhance the way we do business.

Sincere thanks to the staff, Board and community representatives for their valuable contribution.

Our efforts to reduce staff turnover and retain and attract quality personnel have also been boosted by the acquisition of land via the Royalties for Region initiative. YIC in partnership with project coordinators RPS and Plumb Homes aim to leverage existing funds and secure finance to develop and provide staff with

an affordable housing option by May 2012.

A major realignment of our administration and office operations in the second half of the year has translated into process which will deliver more fiscal diligence and improved data management in-house. This will be bolstered by the installation of new computers and a database system in November 2011 courtesy of Lotterywest.

I would also take the opportunity to recognise our industry supporters, most particularly BHP Billiton for their continued corporate assistance, which has enabled YIC to provide our education programs and acquire a 21 seater bus, which currently works with South Hedland Primary School's attendance strategy. Also Atlas Iron for their recent Transforming Teams community project, which gave an incredible facelift to both the Lawson St Youth Centre and YAP House.

Our commitment to the proposed relocation of some of our services to JD Hardie Centre remains under heavy discussion, with our Manager and the Board working closely with the Town of Port Hedland to ensure affordable lease conditions, and a suitable operational plan for occupants of the Centre.

Other activities and achievements to be acknowledged include the upcoming signing of the MOU between YIC and Fairbridge and the commencement of discussions with the Department of Housing and DCP around the YAP House upgrade.

Moving forward the following priorities will carry over through 2012

- The future relocation of YIC to the JD Hardie Centre
- Implementation of Strategic Plan and recommendations from KPMG report
- Recruitment, development and retention of staff
- YAP House expansion requirements

In closing I would like to acknowledge the endeavour and dedication of our Manager and her team in recognition of the energy and loyalty given to YIC, our clients and our vision.

Congratulations also to Lisa Muzzy MacMillan our educator who was awarded the Employee of the Year at the 2011 PHCCI Business of the Year Awards a most worthy recipient.

I would finally express my sincere thanks to the Board, who have made available their time and expertise, whose dedicated efforts over the past year have been invaluable to YIC and its management team.

It has again been my privilege to serve as chairperson of YIC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Jacob', written in a cursive style.

Gloria A. Jacob  
**Chairperson**

# YIC MANAGER'S REPORT

## 2010-2011



**A**fter working for the Youth Involvement Council (YIC) across most of the programs for almost six years I decided to accept the opportunity to act in the position of Manager in January 2011. My initial thought was that this was a trial arrangement however I was surprised at how

quickly my perspective changed from the interests of a specific program to the broader purpose of our organisation and its place within the context of the Hedland community. With the guidance of my executive management committee I settled into the Manager's role and I made plans to prioritise some key areas which would help us gain a sense of direction.

- Recruitment of personnel to complete the Review of Outreach Patrol Services in order to produce a quality document with clearly articulated recommendations and subsequently secure funding for the Mingle Mob program;
- Development of a new strategic plan which would drive our organisation into the expansion required over the next five years;
- Proactive efforts to give our tiring premises (Lawson Street and Stanley Street) a fresh new look where youth take pride in their surroundings;
- Recruitment of strong leaders in coordinator positions (YAP, Mingle Mob, LSYC, Education and Administration) to develop each program to a point of excellence in delivery and constant evaluation and improvement;
- Construction of a shed at Lawson Street to address the storage issues and allow us to purchase more resources such as a BBQ trailer and a covered trailer;
- Development of our BHPBIO funded education programs which were launched in September 2010.

There are some plans that have been in the pipelines for a number of years that are now very close to coming to fruition including the move to the recently refurbished JD Hardie Centre. The relocation of five staff is required to make room for a specialist education centre at Lawson Street.

Overall YIC has had a very busy and exciting year and many thanks goes to the employees who have contributed along the way regardless of how long they were with the organisation. Many thanks also go to the Board of Management who has provided strong direction to the strategic direction of YIC.

Vicki-Tree Stephens  
**YIC Manager**



**CONNECTING  
WITH  
YOUNG  
PEOPLE**



# LAWSON STREET YOUTH CENTRE

## 2010–2011 Annual Report

The Lawson Street Youth Centre has had a fantastic year with some amazing events, excursions and activities. Attendance has been quite stable when comparing it to last year's statistics with 2400 client contacts reported despite staff difficulties. The LSYC engages clients through recreational activities, life skills and/or general support.

The LSYC receives funding from the Department of Corrective Services (41%) and the Department of Child Protection (59%). YIC is funded to open 26 hours per week during school term and 42 hours per week during school holidays. In this reporting period the LSYC was open from Monday to Friday (2.30pm–6.30pm) and Saturday (11.30am–6.30pm). During school holidays the centre opened from Monday to Saturday 11am–6.30pm.

The LSYC has failed to employ a strong long-term coordinator over the past twelve months and this makes operation difficult because the youth workers have no solid person to look to for leadership. There has been a consistent staff turnover (including the senior roles) but nothing outside of the usual trends that we

would observe. Our main focus for this year will be to recruit a person who can take ownership of the centre, its programs and the staff as this has proven challenging despite advertising on a regular basis.

The Lawson Street Youth Centre engages with youth aged between 10 to 17 years and the majority of clients have been identified as



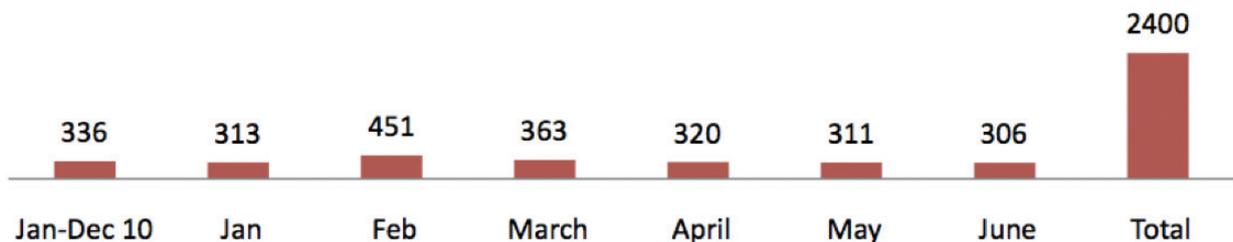
Clients on the waterslide at 2010 YIC Kids Christmas Party.

AGE	JUL-DEC 2010	JAN-JUN 2011	TOTAL
Under 12	122	986	1108
Aged 12–14	136	826	962
Aged 15–17	21	138	159
Aged 18+	57	18	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>1968</b>	<b>2400</b>

The above table and the following graph clearly show the steady increase of youth attending the LSYC throughout the year.

## TOTAL NUMBER OF YOUTH 2010-2011

■ TOTAL NUMBER OF YOUTH



at risk and/or disadvantaged. Ninety seven percent of clients are Indigenous and the age of clients is shown below.

The regular activities run throughout the year have included basketball, dancing (hip hop and zumba), pool competitions, mini Olympics, cooking cleaning, fishing, gardening, life skills, drug and alcohol awareness, anti bullying, sexual health, painting, murals, jewellery making, mosaics, movies, aquatic centre trips, music, water games, laser tag, laser combat, science experiments and table tennis.

The major activities were the NAIDOC basketball competition, the YIC Halloween Disco, the YIC Kids Christmas Party, collaborating with other YIC programs for the Youth Week Hedland Idol competition and helping out at the Welcome to Hedland night.

The number of clients attending the centre continues to fluctuate however a coordinator

with a high level of skill and knowledge around programming and staff management will be able to ensure that there are quality services delivered regardless of how many young people attend. This will also address some of our other concerns around clients who display antisocial and criminal tendencies. The final area that needs some improvement is the recording of accurate data and we hope to implement a database across the entire organisation that will enable us to keep client information for this purpose.

The following table depicts the issues faced by our clients and the services provided:

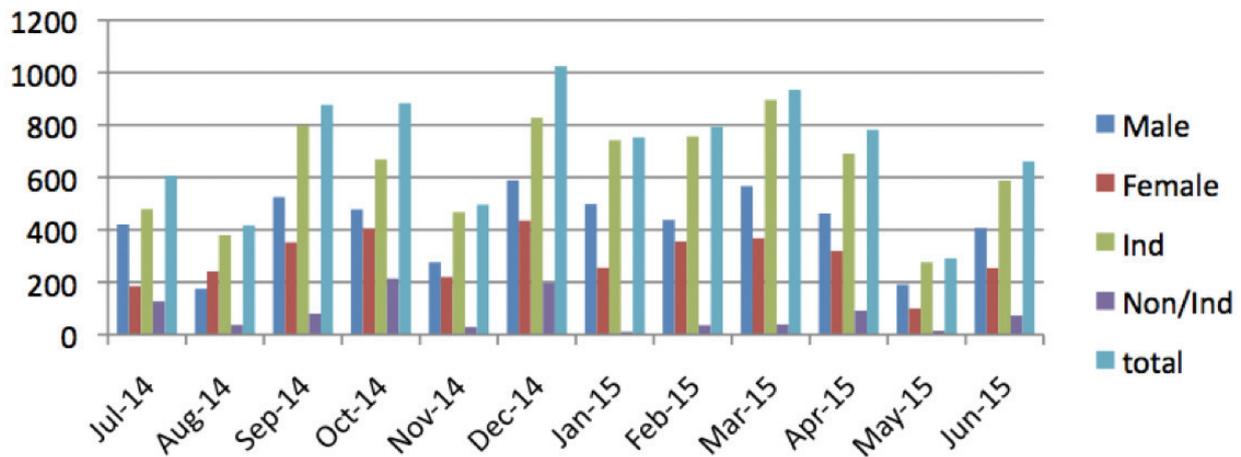
UNDERLYING ISSUES	JAN-DEC 10	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
Family Conflict	21	12	25	27	20	34	45	184
Relationship Conflict (Non family)	2	0	0	39	29	14	27	111
Conflict with Police / Security Off.	6	0	11	22	15	2	1	57
Accommodation / Homelessness	4	18	1	3	2			28
Self Harm / Suicide	2	2	1	1	0			6
Domestic Violence	2	5	12	1	1	1	13	35
Abuse Issues ( other than domestic)	7	6	1	164	124	4	15	321
Substance Abuse/ Drugs / Alcohol	33	20	23	33	21	0	0	130
Non Att. In School, Training or Work	42	25	93	159	111	0	3	433
Anti-Social Behaviour			6	108	96	0	0	210
Poor Self Esteem	52		275	213	221	0	0	761
Motivation / General Attitude	46	165	269	204	205	0	127	1016
Need for Social Contact	38	161	288	26	60	0	74	647
offending / court diversion				0	1	0	0	1
Lack of Parent Supervision				0	56	0	0	56
Practical Assistance (financial, food)	1754			0	25	188	0	1967
Anger/violent behaviour				0	8	0	7	15
Low Level of Literacy				0	10	28	0	38
Counselling				0	0	0	0	0
Running Away From Home				0	0	0	1	1
Information				0	174	0	267	441
Referral to Case Management				0	0	0	0	0
Advice Given				0	154	0	0	154
Informal Counselling				0	6	0	0	6
Support Given				0	145	0	0	145
Training in Independent living skills	25			0	0	0	0	25
Vocational/On The Job Training				0	0	0	0	0
Recreational Leisure Activities	1754			0	224	0	0	1978
Mediation				0	0	0	0	0



## MINGLE MOB

### 2010–2011 Annual Report

#### Demographics of Mingle Mob clients Jul 10- Jun 11



The following graph shows the number and demographics of clients that Mingle Mob has had each month over the past year.

This graph shows information about gender of Mingle Mob clients as well as the rate of indigenous clients that we get. It is clear that consistently our clients are mostly male and mostly indigenous. It is also very obvious that the Christmas and New Year period was the busiest month this year which is interesting as last year it was the quietest period. There were a lot of kids from the communities Warralong and Yandeyarra in town who become common clients of Mingle Mob.

This year May was very quiet and that was a result of the Mingle Mob bus breaking down and needing a new mobiliser (which we had to wait weeks for). Patrols still ran and we put posters up and told kids that the bus was out

of service. We used other company vehicles but the kids were unfamiliar with the vehicles and were hesitant to engage as they normally would which was quite interesting. The 21 seater bus and the YAP car with Mingle Mob signs on it did not seem to appeal to the kids like the urban art covered Mingle Mob bus does.

Thursday night's are always the busiest and we never know what quite what to expect on a Friday and Saturday night. We still have skate park BBQ on the last Thursday of every month which proves to be popular among the kids. Unfortunately, the Hedland Youth Leadership Coalition (HYLC) who usually provides the music was not very reliable and sometimes didn't show up. We have started looking

at ways of providing the music ourselves as it definitely adds to the atmosphere of these nights. We would also like to run these fortnightly as the youth really enjoy it and it creates a great forum to build rapport.

One of the most popular hiding places in this reporting period was the roof of the Lotteries House complex as there is construction happening making it easy to get up. The Police and the Town of Port Hedland were notified and the scaffolding was quickly removed. The kids are also buying (or stealing) sparklers from the shops and throwing them at other kids and cars. The shop was approached about this but as the kids buying them are of legal age there is nothing the shops will do. Local youth have also started stealing deodorant cans from Coles and BP and setting them on fire.

Coles said there is nothing they can do as it is a house hold item however BP took the cans from their shelves and now display them behind the counter. There have also been instances where some clients got straws and spat pins at one another through them. This concerned us as it is potentially very dangerous and hard to control but eventually it stopped.

In March there was a ban put on dropping youth to a specific house in South Hedland as they were getting dropped off by the bus load. We reported it to the Police as we had reason to believe that there was illegal activity occurring at house including selling illegal substances to minors.

In the early months of 2011 the youth started to talk about sniffing a lot. We didn't actually catch any in the act however we found many kids who appeared to have been sniffing and a lot of empty deodorant cans about the place. We reported it to DCP and while most agencies are aware of the problem it is difficult to address.

The following graph shows that the main issues continue to be alcohol and antisocial behaviour with the damages to property at the highest to date. This is primarily because the skate park and new town square are under construction which resulted in the lights being turned off. The kids were stealing matches and fire lighters from Coles and constantly lighting fires, throwing lit matches at each other, climbing fences/shelters and throwing clay and rocks at cars passing by. The Town of Port Hedland were contacted about the lights and eventually they put up temporary lighting. The

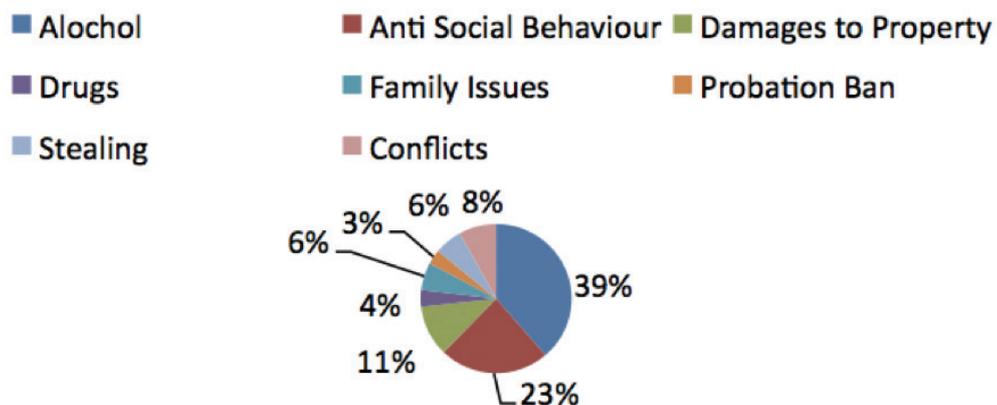


anti social behaviour calmed down a bit with light on the scene but the kids continued using the construction site for a playground. Another issue has been some of our clients being very disrespectful to staff including spitting, swearing and jumping on the back of the Mingle Mob bus when it starts moving.

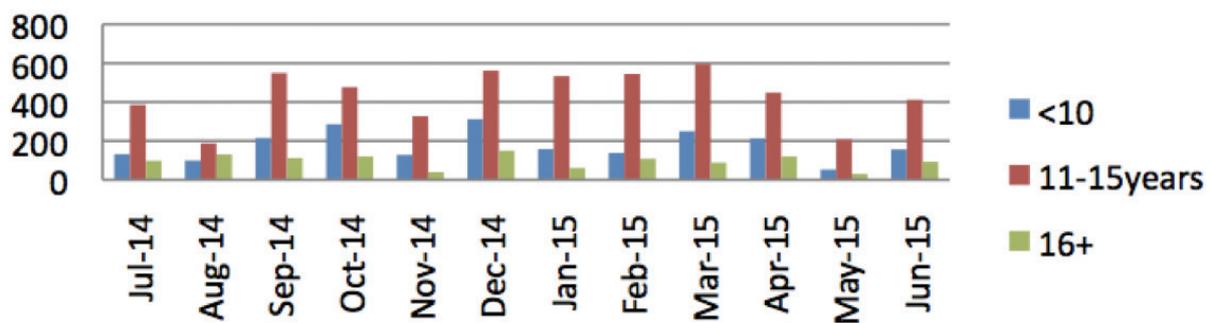


The following graph shows the age of Mingle Mob clients. The 11-15 year old age group continues to be the most popular client group although the under 10 age group are not to far behind. Even though the older age group are not accessing the services as regularly we still see them about and get information about them from the younger kids.

## Issues that Mingle Mob staff come across



## Age of clients accessing Mingle Mob services Jul 10-Jun 11



The following table shows the year at a glance and the main events that Mingle Mob has been involved in or was present at. One of the main priorities has been to support any Blue Light or Community Events as there are many opportunities to engage with the kids in different environments.

Throughout the reporting period Mingle Mob has been involved in the following:

- Transporting and engaging with youth at carnivals, Port Bound and the Spinifex Spree;
- Supporting LSYC activities such as the holiday programs, the Halloween Disco and client drop offs;
- Transporting and linking youth to various activities such as fishing, speedway, go kart racing, footy games, West End Markets, Community Outdoor Movies, Hip Hop, BMX and the visiting circus;
- Supporting clients and their families by helping out with transport, moving house and other small errands;
- Providing transport and supervision at Blue Light Events and fundraisers throughout the year;
- Supervision and patrols at a large event at the skate park;
- Assisting with Operation Barn activities at Tjalka Boorda;
- Supporting Butterfly activities such as involvement in the Miss Country Girl Australia beauty pageant and the slumber party;
- Supporting Brotherhood activities such as trips to paintballing, speedway and BMX;
- Helping out at the YIC Kids Christmas Party;
- Organising the fire brigade to attend the skate park and inform the youth of the dangers of fire after the recent trend in concerning activity;
- Providing food to youth attending The Hood Hip Hop on Friday nights.



# YAP-YOUTH ACCOMMODATION PROGRAM

## 2010-2011 Annual Report

The Youth Accommodation Program (YAP) has successfully supported and/or case managed 103 young people for the contact period of July 2010 to June 2011. Primarily clients have sought safe and secure accommodation with meals and amenities. They have also found that entering into case management with intensive support from youth workers has enabled them to gain some direction in their life and look towards life after YAP. This happens in a supportive and non judgemental environment so as long as the client is willing to meet us halfway they have every chance of creating a better future for themselves.

YAP can accommodate up to eight young people who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness however in addition to this there are over 30 external clients who continue to receive ongoing assistance. These are often referred to as outreach clients because they are not accommodated at YAP. It is important that young people receive this face to face contact, ongoing monitoring, support and advocacy in order to continue improving their life circumstances. The aim is to provide support in the social, emotional, educational and vocational development for the young people who we engage with.

It is evident that young people generally respect and appreciate the ongoing help and contact they receive through YAP services. Some clients have been eligible to receive Crossroads funding which helps us to access funds to help achieve the goals set out in their support plan. This may be used at the youth worker's discretion to cover expenses for legitimate needs such as household appliances, emergency food supplies, drivers licence costs,

uniforms, stationery, clothing, birth certificates and any other needs relevant to the client. Other common forms of support provided is transportation to appointments and meetings with Centre Link, Job Network agencies, medical centres, court and sometimes family and friends.

In February 2011 the YAP employed two full time workers in the positions of senior case worker (Teigan) and fulltime youth worker (James). Both workers have experience with DCP and social services so this increased the capacity and quality of the service provided.

Many clients who present to YAP have a range of issues including substance abuse, domestic violence, family breakdown, unemployment, homelessness, medical needs, social disorders, behavioural problems, conflict, legal problems, mental health and other barriers in their life.

Depending on the assessment of the client and the support plan young people are referred to a range of specialist services such as Wirraka Maya Health Service, North West Mental Health, Job Futures/ ITEC employment agencies, counselling services, Crossroads TSS, Centre Care (Perth), Department of Corrective Services, and the Department of Child Protection.

The YAP has run a ten week parenting workshop in the reporting period. This was in collaboration with the community health team and aimed at building the capacity of young mothers to enable them to provide a nutritional, healthy and happy lifestyle for themselves and their children. Although the numbers were small the program was a huge success

due to the information the young parents received. There were also instances where the children received much needed medical attention for skin problems that had not been addressed. Other programs trialled at YAP include the development of resources for an anger management program and kinaesthetic activities involving various art forms.

Throughout the year there have been ongoing challenges regarding staff recruitment and retention. There have always been those employees who worked tirelessly to ensure that

the service remained open to full capacity and operated 24/7. The YAP has now recruited Jean King who brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position so there are many plans to action heading into the next financial year.

At a glance this table can look as if the numbers are declining however the key to success at YAP is the successful outcomes for the client in regards to the completion of support plan goals and the quality of the assistance provided. High numbers can also

Number of Clients Accommodated at YAP 2010–2011.

	RESIDENTS	FEMALE	MALE	ABORIGINAL	NON	TI*
July	15	6	9	11	4	
August	14	6	8	10	4	
September	12	7	5	10	2	
October	14	8	6	14	0	
November	9	5	4	7	2	
December	6	3	3	4	2	
January	7	5	2	5	2	
February	9	5	4	7	2	
March	6	2	4	5	1	
April	4	2	2	3		
May	3	2	1	2		1
June	4	2	2	3		1
Total	103	53	50	81	19	2

\*Torre Strait Islander

represent many clients having short stays as there would ideally only be six clients at any one time accommodated at YAP. In saying this, we have taken up to eight in temporary emergency situations.

Self referrals include those clients who have accessed the service before and those who have found out about YAP from another service but opted to bring themselves in. It also includes those young people who know some of our accommodated clients and feel that they too could use the extra support. The DCP and

Police are also aware of our services and will refer young people when necessary.

Over all, it has been a very productive and challenging year. We are looking forward to evaluating our services and finding ways to continuously improve. Our success is not only ours and many thanks goes out to the many people who help us to help the youth of Hedland.

The following table provides information on the referral paths which led clients to become accommodated at YAP.

	POLICE	DCP	SCHOOL	SELF	FAMILY/FRIENDS	OTHER
Jul	2			11		1 Justice 1 Well Women's
Aug	2	3		8		1 Justice
Ser	2	2		6	1	1 Justice
Oct	1	5		7		1 Justice
Nov		2		6		1 Mingle Mob
Dec				6		
Jan		2		4	1	
Feb		1		8		
Mar				6		
Apr				4		
May			1	2		
Jun				4		
<b>Total referrals</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>



## EDUCATION PROGRAMS

### 2010–2011 Annual Report

Thanks to BHP Billiton Iron Ore, YIC was able to expand their scope of programs and introduce numerous education programs this financial year. All of the education programs have experienced successes and set backs however they have definitely laid a firm foundation for YIC to build on in the future. These firm foundations would not have been made possible without the endless ideas, persistence and efforts of our Assistant Educator Belinda James and our coordinating Education Officer Lisa McMillan.

#### **Mentor and Tracking/Transition and Development**

The Mentor and Tracking (MAT) program continued until the end of 2010 with 5 dedicated girls from year 9 (1 Indigenous) meeting once a week. The girls volunteered their time at Karlarra House where they read to residents, wrote letters for them, facilitated bingo games and worked together in beading sessions. The girls developed many skills including communication, confidence and self

esteem through these however the biggest benefit was interacting with elders.

The MAT program changed its direction towards the end of 2010, and with that came a name change – Transition and Development (TAD). The aim of TAD was to engage with the average year 8 or 9 Indigenous student and further develop their skills as independent learners supporting them into positive educational pathways. TAD was developed with the intention of helping students make the transition into already existing programs such as Kicking Goals, Shooting goals or PHEP/ Follow the Dream, however, with the change of staffing at Hedland Senior High School (HSHS) referrals did not happen and the TAD program started attracting referrals from Juvenile Justice who were crying out for support.

In 2011 under new leadership HSHS streamed their year 8 students and formed what is known as 8.6. The students of 8.6 were selected based on NAPLAN and various other literacy tests along with their behaviour record. Eighteen names are on the role (majority are Indigenous) however an average of eight students attends the class per day. HSHS welcomed assistance with their 8.6 class with the intention of slotting those students into the TAD program. Lisa (YIC Education Officer) attended the class once a week (for 1–2 hours) and this was genuinely appreciated. Unfortunately it became evident that these students did not fit the criteria of the TAD program. These students were already known to YIC through other programs such as Brotherhood and YAP and were functioning at a lower primary school standard of literacy.



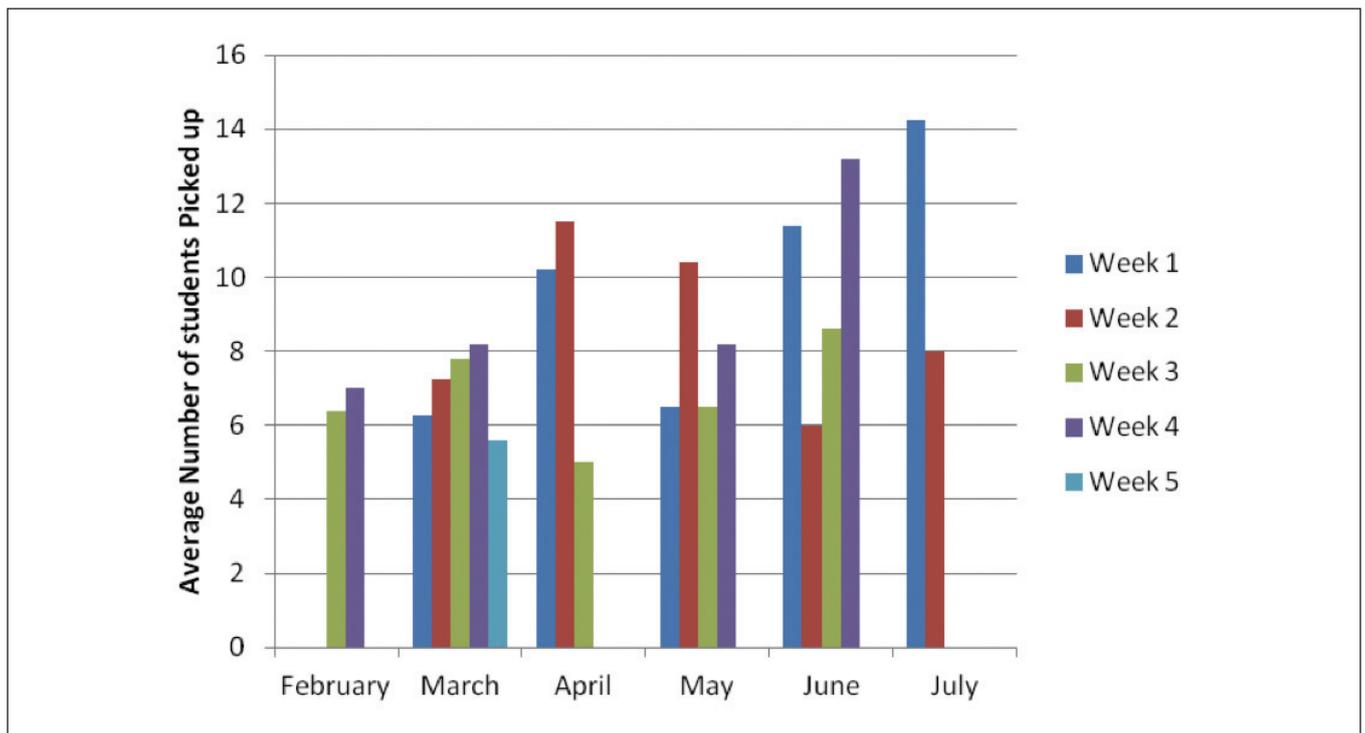
Some could not recognize their alphabet and this alone excluded them from fitting the criteria as it targeted the 'average student'. The end of the financial year finished with YIC questioning if there was a place for TAD within HSHS as it was originally intended and conversations have started with BHP in regards to recommendations for the next agreement due in 2012.

**Juvenile Justice – Deadly Girls Dreaming**

Juvenile Justice approached YIC at the end of 2010 in regard to helping support their clients with literacy and numeracy skills. These discussions lead to the beginning of program which became known as Deadly Girls Dreaming. Six girls were identified by Juvenile Justice and it was agreed to meet twice week

– once as a group at Wirraka Maya and once in a group (2 teachers and 2 clients) at the Lawson Street Youth Centre (LSYC). The girls targeted were aged between 12 and 15, had never had regular attendance at school, lacked basic literacy concepts, self esteem and struggled with confidence.

Positive rapport was formed with the girls and this allowed for testing to occur and individual learning programs to be formed. Unfortunately, Juvenile Justice had staff resignations and therefore the girls were unable to be transported to and from YIC and Wirraka Maya. This program clearly identified Juvenile Justice clients would benefit by having intense individual attention to develop their literacy skills.





### Attendance Bus

AT the beginning of 2011, YIC was employed by South Hedland Primary School (SHPS) to provide a bus and driver every morning to pick up children who have been identified with very low attendance. The service is mainly aimed at students in years 1-3 however it is not uncommon for older siblings to catch a ride. The graph below shows the average number of children that are picked up each week during Term 1 and Term 2. SHPS requested that we not run the service for the first two weeks of term so it operated from February 14th to April 19th. The second break in April indicates school holidays and then the bus operated May 5th to July 8th.

The numbers fluctuate but essentially we have gone from picking up 3-4 students per day at the beginning of the year to 10-20 students per day six months later. Some of the students are even waiting for us whereas we used to be told they were still sleeping. The average number of students collected each day rose from 7.5 in the first term to 9 in the second. Overall, this has proved to be a very worthwhile program and perhaps the main issue is keeping our staff once we have paid for them to get the necessary licence to drive the bus.

NB July statistics have been included in this report to coincide with the end of Term 2.

### Attendance Program – Ready Steady Be Deadly (SHPS)

This has been the most successful education program for 2011. This program started Term 4 2010 and rapidly evolved in the New Year. This was made possible when YIC employed a second part-time teacher (Assistant Educator, Belinda James) to assist Lisa who was already operating beyond capacity.

Initially, a group of 6 boys met once a week as an incentive to improve their attendance. The boys targeted had very low attendance and literacy skills and struggled with a full day in a structured classroom. Literacy and numeracy skills were integrated into activities based around cooking. There were many benefits for the boys coming out of the classroom:

- Activities were able to be set at their level.
- They were able to complete the work and therefore experience the feeling of success.
- They were not in their usual classroom causing disruption due to being unable to complete their work and left feeling inadequate.

# CONNECTING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

Based on the success of Term 4 2010 YIC suggested that it evolved to three days a week in 2011. The ability to meet with these students three consecutive days a week ensured that a consistent approach was beginning to be developed in regards to routine.

The current program is designed to develop positive relationships with each child and enhance general life skills. SHPS identified 13 students (all Indigenous) from years 6 and 7 with attendance lower than 80% and who they believed would benefit from the program. Out of those 12 names, whoever was at school would come to YIC for an hour before lunch. Each day had a certain theme:

Tuesdays: Dreamtime stories and connecting with the Community.

Wednesdays: Cooking, Budgeting, Healthy Eating.

Thursdays: Building challenge (Technology & Enterprise), Sport, Library Day.

Reward systems were created and put in place to encourage attendance and appropriate behaviour:

## **Term 1:**

- Jelly Bean Jar
- Students earned Jelly Beans that went in a jar. At the end of each session, the group decided if they wanted to save the

jelly beans, eat some of them or all of them.

- Celebration Day – Students attending 70% of the sessions for the Term would be a part of a special activity such as a visit to the skate park or a movie at the LSYC.

## **Term 2:**

- YIC Dollars – Students are awarded YIC Dollars (4@ or \$4) for attendance, respect, responsibility, focussed working and being Deadly. The money can be used to buy items from the YIC stall which consists of various prizes from remote control cars and sports equipment to art supplies and school uniform vouchers. This is proving to be a successful incentive for the students. The students are setting goals on what they would like to buy from the shop and understanding what they need to do in order to receive their item of choice.
- Celebration Day – Students attending 80% of the sessions for the Term would be a part of a special activity such as a visit to the skate park or a movie at the LSYC.

*NB All rewards are discussed, made and voted upon by the students.*

The chart below indicates the number of sessions students have attended over Term 1 and 2.

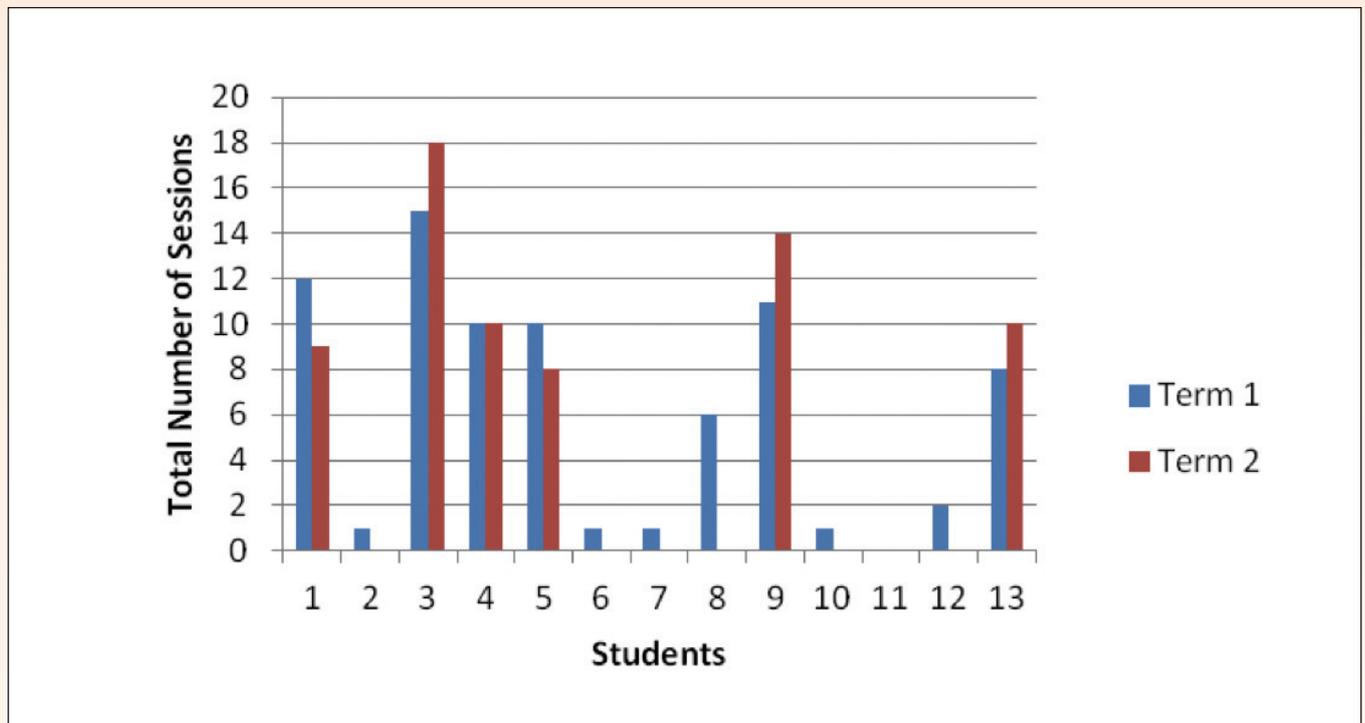
There were a possible 19 sessions for Term 1 and 20 sessions for Term 2 for the students to attend. A small number of sessions had to be cancelled due to staff training, Community Visits and Sports Carnivals.

Some of the trends depicted in this graph can be explained:

- Student 2 has moved to a different school in Port Hedland;

- Student 6 is a chronic truant;
- Student 7 and 10 moved to Yandeyarra Remote Aboriginal Community;
- Student 8 was sent to Rangeview Detention Centre in Perth;
- Student 11 has not been to school this year; and.
- Student 12 threw a rock and hit a YIC staff member in the chest and therefore was not allowed back to the group.

*NB July statistics have been included in this report to coincide with the end of Term 2.*





### **Leadership Program (SHPS)**

SHPS identified 10 Aboriginal students as potential leaders from years 6 and 7 and a program was created to extend their skills. The group met once a week at LSYC.

The students participated in various activities such as Theatre Sports and art and craft. They worked on and consolidated their team work skills, communication skills, confidence and public speaking skills. The group also visited the Courthouse Gallery and had the privilege of meeting Mayor Kelly Howlett at the Council Chambers to ask questions and discuss various topics.

### **Community Visits**

Between July and November 2010 YIC did art activities and circus skills in Yandeyarra and Warralong. Near the end of 2010 the recently appointed YIC Education Officer (Lisa McMillan) visited the Principals of Warralong and Yandeyarra schools to get a clear idea on what could be improved upon, what worked and what activities would be worthwhile in 2011. Both Principals asked for activities that they could not deliver themselves and they specifically asked for no more art activities or circus skills. They requested kite making, bike/car fixing workshops and first aid sessions. Those discussions allowed Lisa to create a successful program for 2011.

Due to the large amount of rain and dangerous roads our first visit did not occur until March 24th to Yandeyarra and April 1st to Warralong.

Our first visit was based around teambuilding skills and was facilitated by YIC staff – Delany Delaney, Lisa Newman, Brodie Tittums, Anthony Low and Lisa McMillan. The children participated in various physical activities including the shape game, person and chair, traffic lights, row boat, flip-a-roo, 'tyre bridge' and a bridge building construction challenge

It was a great day in both communities with lots of smiles and laughter from the students and positive feedback from the staff.

The next visit was a bike fixing workshop at Warralong. Joshua Cox (BHP Billiton Iron Ore), Marisa Bradshaw (BHP Billiton Iron Ore), Happie Mahlangu (Youth Connections), Ric Dale (Mission Australia) and Lisa McMillan spent the morning with some middle primary aged children showing them how to find and fix a puncture and how to look after their bikes. Bikes were also combined to create working bikes. The workshop took place in a shed on the school premises however it grabbed the attention of many adults of the community and by the end of the morning it was a full shed with many working bikes!

Yandeyarra enjoyed a very informative visit with the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Jacqui Hughes and Ron taught the pre-primary Year 2 class how to administer First Aid to a person who had been bitten by a snake. The young children had an awesome time bandaging

various limbs. The older class had the challenge of the recovery position and CPR which they took on and mastered. These skills are essential for living in a remote area.

The final visit for the financial year was from the David Wirrpunda Foundation. Josie Janz and Eddy Brown made the four day visit to the Pilbara. Due to flight problems Josie and Eddy landed 12 hours late. This in turn disrupted their trip out to Yandeyarra however everybody made the most of what time they had with a BBQ lunch and activities facilitated by the mentors. The Warralong Community enjoyed their two days with the mentors as activities encouraging team work were facilitated. They also prepared the younger children for their sports carnival the following day in Marble Bar. In the afternoon the boys spent quality time

with Eddy and the girls with Josie. The whole community enjoyed a BBQ dinner.

Yandeyarra and Warralong have enjoyed a diverse range of activities. The visits would not have been made possible with out the help of BHP Billiton Iron Ore, Marisa Bradshaw, Joshua Cox, Graham Boyd and staff of Yandeyarra Community School, Kate McKenzie and the staff of Warralong Community School and the staff of the Youth Involvement Council. Special mention must also be made of Jacqui Hughes and Ron from the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Ric Dale from Mission Australia, Happie Mahlangu from Youth Connections, Josie Janz, Eddy Brown and Kodie Blay from the David Wirrpunda Foundation who made the visits a success.

