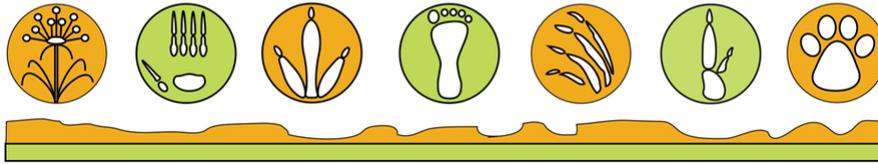


BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



MEDIA RELEASE

10 March 2015

A moving women's day in Tennant

A 16-year-old girl brought women to tears at the International Women's Day (IWD) Breakfast in Tennant Creek with her call for locals to be understanding and supportive rather than judgemental.

She called on community members to become mentors for younger people.

Tshanka Storey, one of the High School's Stronger Sisters, spoke before a 200-strong crowd, at the event held last Sunday.

Barkly Regional Council President Barb Shaw said Tshanka was a strong, courageous young woman who had not only enlightened, but inspired those present.

"She is a perfect example of the dynamic, talented youth we have in Tennant Creek," she said.

"Tshanka was loudly applauded by the guests and everyone present was hugely proud of her.

"The theme of the day was 'Crossing the Generations - Make It Happen' and with people like Tshanka on our side it was very obvious that Tennant Creek is well on its way."

The IWD event in Tennant Creek was held at Nyinkka Nyunyu where a photographic exhibition focusing on the importance of mentors in the community was also held in the gallery.

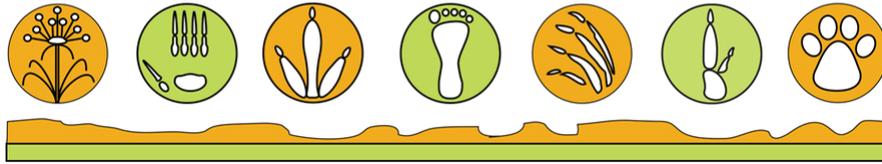
One of the organisers, Ktima Heathcote, said locals Sean Spencer and Lincoln McKinnon took photos especially for the project where women from all walks of life met up with young women from the Stronger Sisters program to share stories, ask questions and have fun. Mothers and daughters and residents at Pulkapulka Kari Nursing Home also collaborated for a photo shoot.

"The response was amazing and the photographs were poignant and moving," Ktima said. "One particularly emotional experience was when Tshanka dressed in the cloth of the legal profession to have her photo taken. All the older women were in tears. She changed, she stood up taller, and she took on the character of being a lawyer.

"It was not so much about the photos, that's the end result. The exhibition was about young girls coming together with older women and finding out about opportunities and goals and dreams and inspirations."

President Shaw said the exhibition was a unique celebration of the women in the Barkly region who have inspired, enriched and contributed to the community.

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“There is a web of rich and diverse local activity that connects us all and marks the considerable achievements of women here,” she said.

Other speakers at the breakfast included Barb Shaw, Ktima Heathcote, Jennifer Kitching and Adrienne Mackenzie who talked about the banner highlighting all the various women’s groups in town.

Rosemary Plummer welcomed the group to country and also read some of her own poetry.

Media contact: Ktima Heathcote 08 89620027 or ktima.heathcote@barkly.nt.com.au