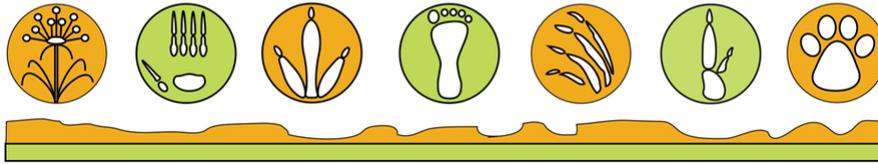


BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



MEDIA RELEASE

5 October 2016

Funding for alcohol action initiatives a boost for Elliott

The town of Elliott has regained more control over alcohol management with more than \$200,000 in funding to promote alcohol action initiatives (AAI) in the community.

Under the former Northern Territory Government's Harm Minimisation Unit, Barkly Regional Council staff in Elliott applied for AAI funding to support alcohol reduction and diversion strategies and activities as part of the Elliott Alcohol Management Plan (AMP).

The funding, some of which covers 2016 and 2017, goes to a variety of projects including a Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) education program, new playground equipment, community art and alcohol signage, casual employment for local Indigenous residents at the water park and a men's shed.

Councillor Bob Bagnall said the funding allows the Council to help support the community continue to develop the Elliott AMP and AAIs that meet the needs of locals and work towards diversionary and reduction activities and promotion of responsible drinking and healthy messages.

"You've got people in communities who are good responsible citizens, who don't want to see their people getting into an unregulated consumption of alcohol pattern," he said.

"These measures support different groups within Elliott to provide diversionary and educational programs and activities. They are community driven, meaningful, help build capacity and provide early intervention and much-needed resources for locals."

The AAI funding, delivered under the former government's Department of Business, is allocated to the following projects:

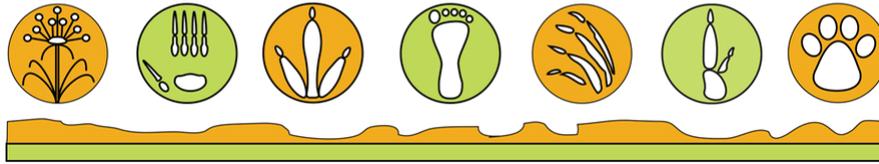
Safe House Support: FASD education program

The development of community specific FASD and Domestic Violence education materials to supplement existing materials. The program, running over two years, also includes the delivery of activities and workshops to women in the community.

Playground Equipment for North Camp, South Camp and Town Park

Play equipment will provide diversionary activities for children and families, and is a much needed resource being requested by the community as a demand reduction initiative.

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Community art and alcohol signage

Funds will be used to pay artists/residents to design, complete and install artwork for signage that promotes relevant and educational well-being messages such as abstinence or responsible drinking along with community rules for residents and visitors to Elliott.

Water Park

This is an opportunity to create employment/training for local Indigenous residents to work as attendants at the water park for two years. The water park is a valuable resource and diversion for the whole community, particularly children and youth.

Men's Shed

Material for the construction of a men's shed, including transportation and labour costs, and provision of employment and training for local residents to construct the shed and undertake specific programs and activities for men. This initiative will provide diversion from alcohol, support a reduction in alcohol demand and increase self-worth amongst males in the community to be strong and supportive role models to younger males.

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