

KUKU BAKAL KAYKAYANDA (GIVING WORDS TO ALL THE CHILDREN) PROJECT

Giving voice to young people for healing in disaster recovery

Overview

The project "Kuku Bakal Kaykayanda - Giving voice to young people for healing in disaster recovery" is a collaborative initiative responding to the aftermath of Cyclone Jasper and the subsequent flooding disaster in Far North Queensland. The project, led by the Creative Recovery Network Tropical North partnership, aims to provide a platform for young people at the frontline of the disaster, to build resilience and foster healing through an iterative program of creative engagement. The initiative engages youth from Mossman, Daintree Coast, Rossville, Cooktown, and Bloomfield Valley, including Wujal Wujal, Degarra, and Ayton.

Objectives

Kuku Bakal Kaykayanda underscores the critical role of young people in disaster recovery, offering them a platform to express their experiences and contribute to their communities' resilience. It also highlights the absence of a cohesive national policy framework in Australia specifically addressing the resilience of young people in disasters. As such this project creates an opportunity to fill this gap by providing targeted support and fostering a culture of youth-led recovery and community building.

The project's primary objectives are to:

- Empower young people affected by disaster to express themselves creatively.
- Build resilience and well-being among participants through arts-based activities.
- Foster a sense of community and collaboration across Douglas, Cook, and Wujal Wujal regions.
- Highlight the importance of youth engagement in disaster recovery and resilience-building.
- Promote a broader appreciation for the role of culture and arts in community recovery and connection to place.
- Inform discussions on youth engagement in disaster management and the need for supportive policy frameworks.

Creative Recovery Network Tropical North Partnership

The Creative Recovery Network Tropical North partners include Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation, Creative Recovery Network, Regional Arts Services Network, Douglas Shire Council, Cook Shire Council, Wujal Wujal Elders Justice Group, Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Council, Local Schools, Health Networks, and Community Outreach Organisations across the affected regions.

Funding Partners

This project has received initial funding towards the development and delivery of Stage One from Creative Australia, the Federal arts funding and advisory body and the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund, provided through Regional Arts Australia and administered in Queensland by Flying Arts Alliance.

Creative Australia: \$100,000

Regional Arts Fund: \$30,000

Efforts are ongoing to secure additional funding for subsequent stages of the project, ensuring its sustainability and expansion.

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