



# Breakaway Aboriginal Corporation

PATHWAY TO WORK

# INTRODUCTION

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Renee Pitt – CEO

Service is located at the Djidi Marlak Community Hub in Glen Iris "Old Picton School"

This location provides us with a bush setting - one of the key strengths of our program, a connection to land.

**South West Regional TAFE  
STAFF**

**Victoria Coyne** – Lecturer  
**Rainer Hawley** – Lecturer  
**Sean Malloy** – Lecturer  
**Tracy Belotti** – Aboriginal  
Programs Development  
Officer



**BREAKAWAY ABORIGINAL  
CORPORATION**

**STAFF**

**Renee Pitt**  
CEO

**Kris Penny**  
Site Leader

**Sharon Renfrey**  
Personal Assistant

**Max Jetta**  
Peer Support Mentor

**Hanni Hofsink**  
Peer Support Mentor

**Lidia Cavallaro**  
Youth Mentor

**Arnie Regan**  
Youth Mentor

**Glennis Fitzgerald**  
Youth Mentor

**McKie Craig**  
Workshed Supervisor  
Sport and Recreation

# OVERVIEW

The Pathway to Work program is a family, community and corporate approach to assisting individuals to overcome impediments to either furthering their education or securing and maintaining employment.

Our focus groups are:

- Disengaged or high risk youth who have had multiple contacts with police or the juvenile justice system
- Adults with long term welfare dependency
- Adults exiting the corrective services systems





# Participants

Participants will be drawn from the following Breakaway programs:

- Ninety Degrees and Beyond project for disengaged and high risk youth
- Time to Work and Prison Throughcare Program held in the Bunbury Regional Prison
- Work for the Dole Projects

# Program Model

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Our program's model is based on a peer support mentoring approach centering on Breakaways three core pillars.

- Caring for self
- Caring for family
- Caring for country

Our focus is on a holistic approach to lay the strongest foundations for all.

# Referral Process

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South West District Police – Community Policing

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Juvenile Justice

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South West Regional Schools

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Family Members

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Accordwest

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Employment Plus

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Bunbury Regional Prison

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Self Referrals

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# Presenting Issues



CRIME AND OR  
DRUG RELATED  
BEHAVIOR  
LEADING TO  
INCARCERATION



YOUTH - LOW  
SCHOOL  
ATTENDANCE



EDUCATION  
DISENGAGEMENT



MENTAL  
HEALTH



ANTI-SOCIAL  
BEHAVIOR



FAMILY  
RELATIONSHIPS



# Stage 1



Establishing a trusting relationship with participants and family members



Improving self esteem and self confidence and enhancing mental health resilience



Through a Peer Support Mentoring approach working with individuals to identify their barriers to employment – AOD dependency, need for counselling or additional family support, licensing or court issues



Re-engagement into structured learning environments



Developing an individual's Pathway to Work Plan – assisting each and every person to identify their own chosen career pathway.

## Core elements of stage 1 are:

- Active participation in a 40 hour Leadership and life skills workshop series delivered by Bilya Mooditjabiny Training Services
- 20 hour Mental Health Resilience training program
- Completion of a Cert II in Leadership conducted by South West Regional TAFE in conjunction with SW Jobs and Skills Centre

## Stage 2



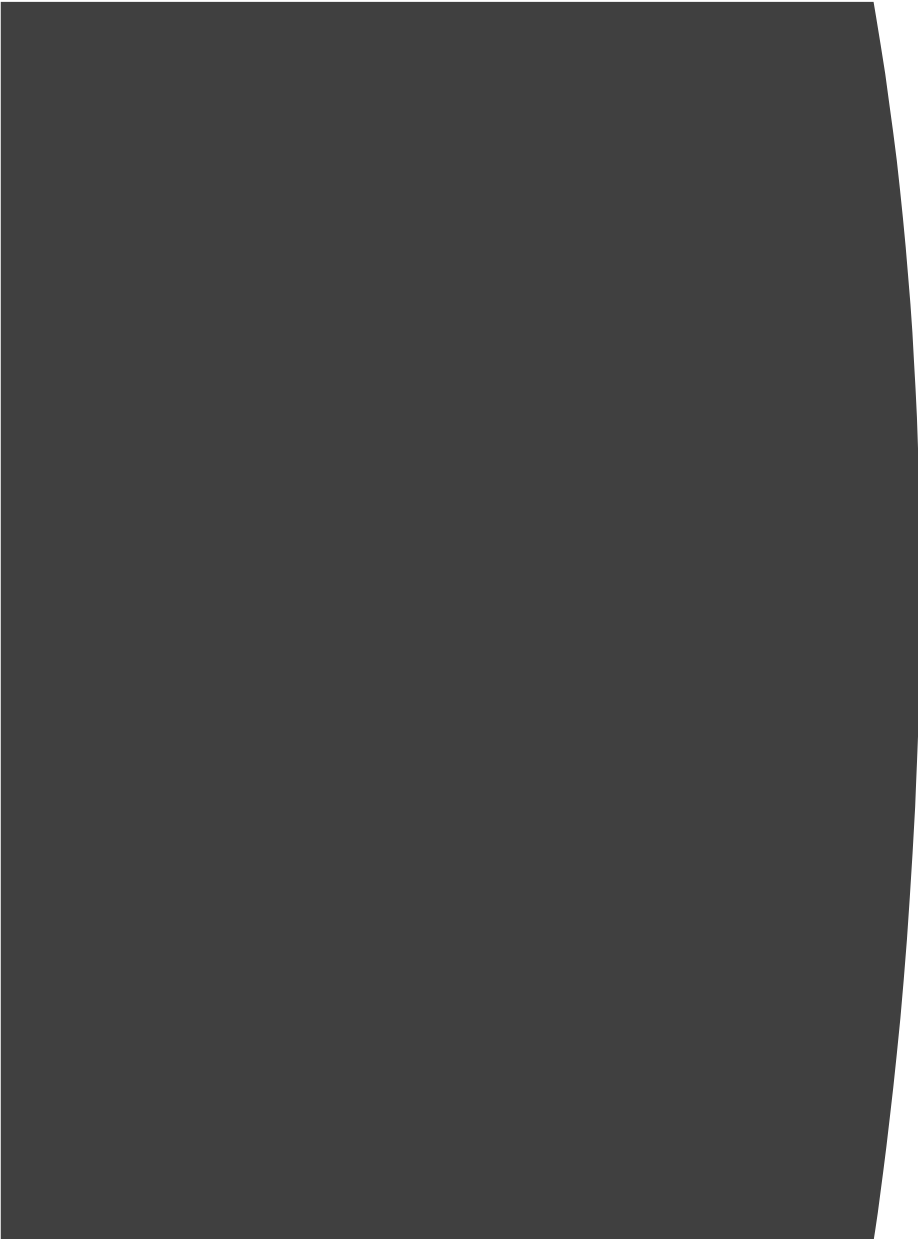
During the second 6 months of the program participants will have the opportunity to move forward with a Cert II or III in the relevant field.



Working in conjunction with Job Actives and SW Jobs and Skills Centre this stage focuses on improving their work readiness and prepping them with the expectations of a workplace.



Participants will now start to reenter the workforce in various capacities in part time employment into Breakaways other programs and social enterprise.



An additional 4 participants of this stage will be offered a traineeship of 20 hours per week as members of the Breakaway Crew to work on projects that we secure through local government, forestry industries and Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions - Parks and Wildlife Service

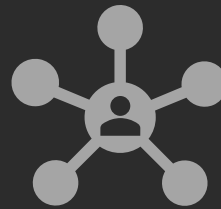
These are rolling positions and throughout this stage participants are then on their pathway to secure further employment with 6 months on the job mentoring



# Stage 3



Breakaway has been actively seeking sponsorships from Local Government Agencies, local companies and organisations.



Sponsorships are in the form of dedicated positions to participants of the Pathway to Work program.



This will be a new chapter for many of our participants and their families.

# Entry into Pathway to Work



Three main streams:



Ninety Degree and Beyond Program



Rehabilitation and Employment Services  
at Bunbury Regional Prison



Work for the Dole Group Activities

# 90 Degrees Overview

This program is designed to empower youth 14 - 18, who have a history of multiple police contact, to take a 90 Degree turn away from crime and antisocial behaviour.

The aim of 90 Degrees is to reconnect disengaged and high risk youth of our community back into an educational program they can connect with hoping to give them a pathway into further education and/or future employment.





# Achievements to Date



63% attendance during  
first 6 months



79% reduction in  
criminal offences



5 youth transitioning into  
Pathway to Work



2 youth obtained  
employment





# Prison Services Overview

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- 10 week pre release life skills workshop series – Bilya Moorditjabiny Training Services
- Family support conferences with mutual goal settings
- Post release Peer Support Mentoring
- Time to Work Employment Service

# Achievements to Date



Over 100 participants engaged through contracted services



78 have completed the pre release life skills workshops



41 prisoners released



6 have returned back to to prison (15% compared to WA average recidivism rate of over 40%)



Currently a two year waitlist



# Cert II in Leadership

Organise and Complete Daily Work Activities

Undertake Self Development

Promote a Socially Diverse Environment

Develop Leadership Skills

Contribute to a Team Project

Communicate Effectively

Operate a Personal Computer

Undertake Propagation Activity Seed  
Collection

Carry out Natural Area Restoration





# Bilya Moorditjabiny

- Self Empowerment
- Family Kinship
- Importance of Culture
- Aboriginal History
- Storytelling
- Positive Communication Skills
- Strengthening Relationships





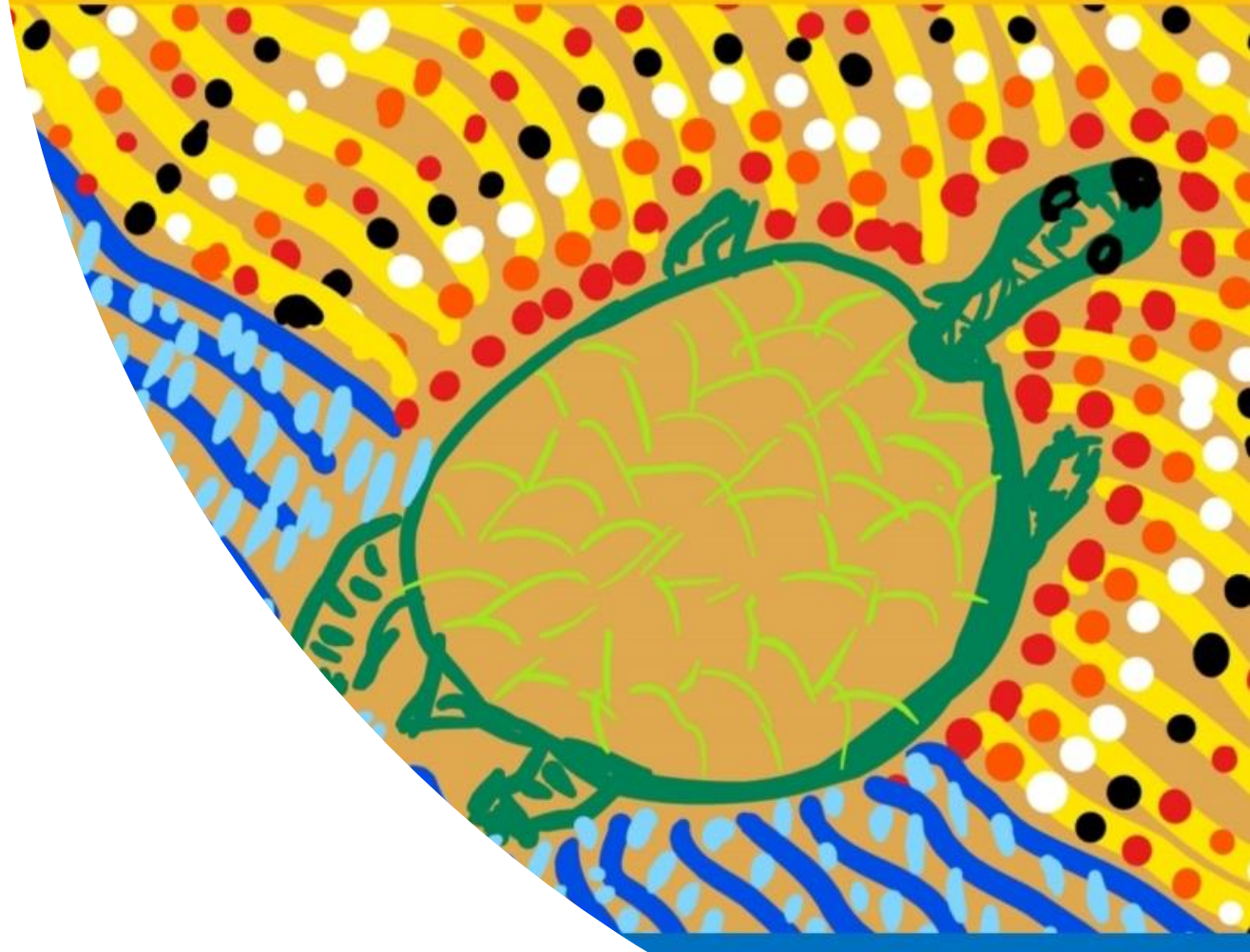
# Mental Health Resilience Workshops

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With focus on:

- Exploring the mental health journey
- Providing participants with an understanding mental health resilience
- Provide participants with an understanding that cultural factors are a key to improving mental health resilience
- Increase participants resilience to mental health stressors
- Develop participants skills in applying mental health strategies that build resilience

## Breakaway Mental Health Resilience Workshop





# Cultural Activities

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- Digeridoo Making
- Tapping Sticks
- Boomerangs
- Painting and Arts
- Traditional Cooking including Kangaroo and Damper
- Storytelling
- Noongar Language



- Meals Preparation
- Community Passport Design
- Importance of Healthy Meals
- Budgeting
- Ingredients Shopping
- Following Recipes and Instructions
- Cooking
- Trying new foods





# Projects Activities

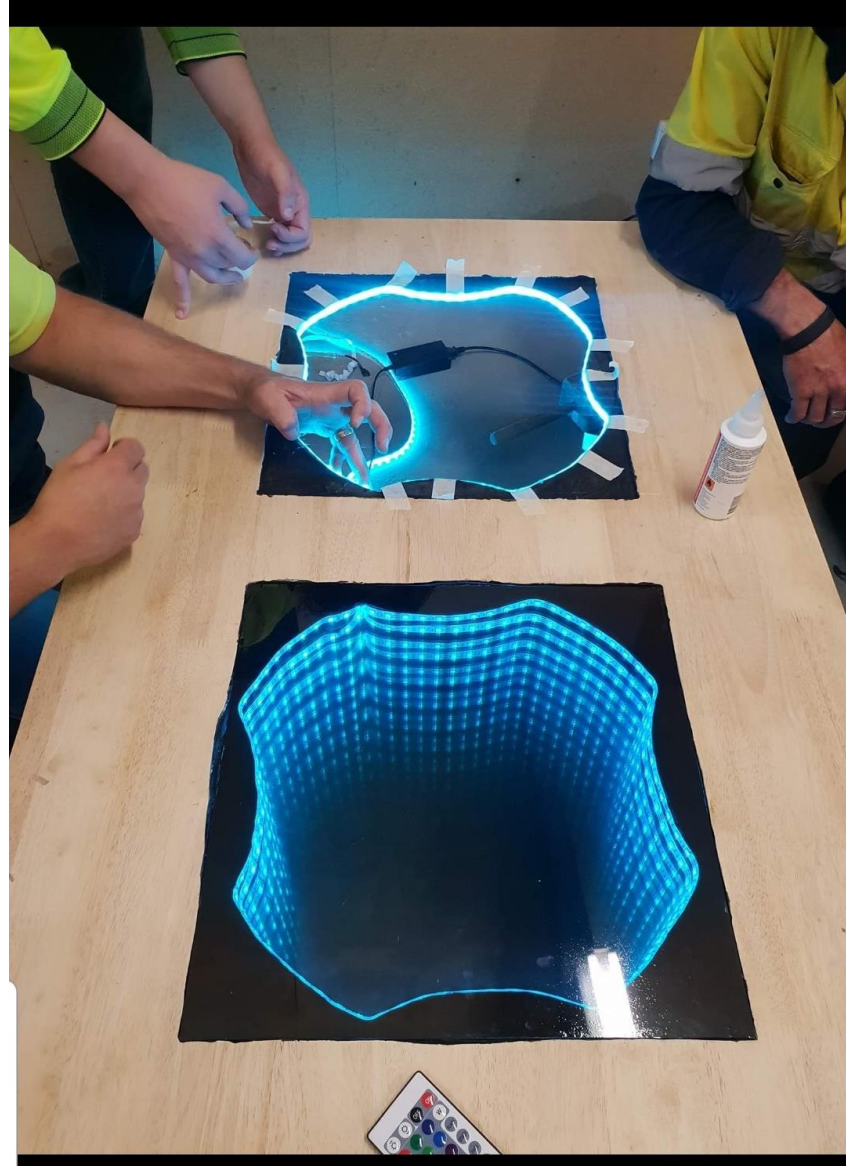
- Djidi Marlak Cultural Walk Trail
- Furniture Building and Refurbishment
- Bird Houses
- John Boyle Park Rehabilitation
- Waterloo Farm Renovations







# Individual Projects



# Closing Statement

A pilot program has been running for the past 6 months and we are currently in negotiations to secure funding required to implement the full program.

Everyone deserves a chance