



# Annual Report

## 2008-2009

## **CONTENTS**

- 1. Statement by Belyuen Council Manager**
- 2. Statement by Belyuen Council CEO**
- 3. Annual Report requirements Local Government ACT 1 July 2009**
- 4. Assessment of Council's performance against objectives**
- 5. Report on non core service delivery**
- 6. Audited financial statements for 2008-2009**

## **Statement from Belyuen Council Manager**

It gives me great pleasure to present Council's 2008/2009 Annual Report.

In the previous twelve months Belyuen Community Government Council has worked with service providers and residents to achieve a range of service outcomes for the community.

During 2008/09 Council progressed a number of projects including the oval shelters, council office refurbishment and establishing the YMCA office, and upgrades to information technology including establishing a new council web site.

The YMCA partnership between FaHCSIA and council has progressed satisfactorily and YMCA staff has undertaken a number of valuable recreational and sporting projects that have been enjoyed by many residents especially children and young adults. YMCA has sourced a significant amount of equipment and materials for use by community members across a range of activities, none the least providing BBQs, drinks and healthy food to participants. The partnership will continue into 2009-10.

During the year council sponsored a number of community planning meetings that provided direction for council's 2009-10 Shire Plan. The Plan is an important future guide to council's service delivery operations and community support and is available on the council web site..

The financial position of Council has had a strong emphasis on cost control as council's funding base has remained the same for 2009-09 financial year.

Reserve funds are being used to contribute to the oval toilet / change room block and other community activities. At the end of June 2009 there is \$1,343,167 cash on hand and at the bank.

I am pleased to confirm that this report is in accordance with and complies with the Privacy Act.

The next twelve months will be a time of further opportunity for Council and the community. Be assured that Council will work cooperatively with all sections of the community and government to get the best result for all.

Neil Murray

Manager.

## **Statement by Belyuen Council CEO**

The 2008-2009 annual report reflects many of the programs and activities that are on going in the Belyuen Community. During this period there was a positive move forward in the community and programs such as the market garden, women's centre and the YMCA/Belyuen Sport and Recreation played a major role in this. These programs enabled a lot more community people to be involved as they were Council programs that worked alongside Service Providers in particular Darwin Regional CDEP and the Top End YMCA. Joint working partnerships are very important for the future of the Belyuen Community as the Council's funding base is limited and Council will never be in a position of being able to provide employment for everyone. Council can however play an important role in helping build partnerships with a view to providing employment for local people.

The Northern Territory Emergency Response continues to impact the community particularly in regard to income management, prohibition of alcohol within the Belyuen boundaries and housing and building issues.

Income Management should I believe be a personal choice as there are some families who find it a very helpful way of budgeting their money. There are however many families for a number of reasons that are no better off even though they are income managed. It has become another welfare service which is used as a bandaid to cover the real oppression of Indigenous people. There is little difference between people receiving food rations of flour, tea, sugar and tobacco and those using a card to purchase identified items (not tobacco though) in identified shops. What has it cost the Government to roll out income management? What indicators are used to measure the 'success' of income management? Can it be measured? Income Management has allowed the circle of poverty /drug and alcohol dependency within the extended family group to be supported by government policy. Quaranteeing Centrelink money has not guaranteed that children are fed regularly or what they eat is healthy. It has not taught people to budget their money Centrelink does that for them through Income Management.

Prohibition of alcohol in the community has not reduced the amount of alcohol that people consume. Many drinkers of alcohol are 'alcohol dependent'. Having laws to prohibit people drinking in their community does not address alcohol dependency it just moves the problem somewhere else or what is referred to as 'doing a geographic'. People in the community have become very adept at 'doing geographics', particularly with the increase of Police patrols. Fortunately there is a Night Patrol service operating which will bring people back into the community where they are safer and families do not have to worry about where they are and what may happen to them. No amount of tipping people's alcohol out or forcing them to 'do geographics' will stop an alcohol dependent person from drinking alcohol. It must be noted that it is not illegal for Indigenous people to drink alcohol. It is only illegal for them to drink alcohol in their community.

Having seen the impact (in a very short time) that the Market Garden made in the community, and not just in the fresh fruit and vegetables, I believe that it is programs such as this that

money and resources should be directed into. Programs that give people a sense of pride, of ownership, of achievement and of contributing to the community. Programs that have the potential to help people make changes in their own personal life, changes that they will be in control of as opposed to the current situation of trying to force change through Laws and ACTS.

There is a lot of uncertainty that Council is having to deal with as a result of the NTER. Who owns the buildings in the community? Who is responsible for removing asbestos identified under NTER building audits? Who is responsible for the demolition of buildings that were condemned under the NTER stage 1 'making houses safe' and twelve months later they still stand empty?

It is all very well and good for NTER to go around identifying things in the communities that they 'took control' of but at the end of the day who is responsible and where is the money going to come from to address what is identified?

Belyuen Community has a lot of major issues to deal with over the next few years. Issues such as Shire boundaries and development of Kenbi land will impact greatly on the community. The task will be for the community to be in a position to grasp opportunities which will not only benefit the community but individuals.

I would like to thank Neil Murray for all the work he has done for Council and the community in his role as Council Manager over the last twelve months. Neil has provided a lot of support to myself as the CEO and to all Council staff. His task as Manager has not been easy as Council is not just about roads, parks and waste management but about providing a whole range of services, programs and projects; about linking Council and community needs in with programs that Service Providers are funded to provide; about keeping up to date with changes in Government policies and service delivery; about community planning for the future and financial accountability to funding bodies. Neil had to get his head around all of this and build a relationship with the community and Council staff all within a short period of time and at the same time as performing his own work within the Department of Local Government.

I would also like to thank Council staff for their dedication to their work and providing high quality services to the community.

Thank you to the following people for their contribution to the 2008-2009 Annual Report: Mark Perejuan Community Services Manager; Gloria Singh Coordinator Women's and Children's Program; Leanne Twomey Coordinator Imabulk (Aged Care) Program; Zoe Singh and Craig Woodie Sports and Recreation Officers; John Mclean Belyuen YMCA Coordinator; John Sampson Night Patrol Coordinator and Caroline DeBusch Coordinator CatholicCare Family Coping Program.

Cathy Winsley

CEO

## **Annual Report Requirements under the Local Government ACT 1 July 2009**

### **Part 14.1 Annual reports**

#### **199 Annual Reports**

- (1) A council must, on or before 15 November in each year, report to the Minister on its work during the financial year ending on the preceding 30 June.
- (2) The report must include a copy of the council's audited financial statement for the relevant financial year.
- (3) The report must also contain an assessment of the council's performance against the objectives stated in the relevant municipal or shire plan (applying indicators of performance set in the plan).
- (4) As soon as practicable after the report has been delivered to the Minister, the council must:
  - (a) publish the report on the council's website; and
  - (b) publish a notice in a newspaper circulating generally in the area informing the public that copies of the report may be downloaded from council's website or obtained from the council's public office.

## **Report on non core service delivery**

### **Market Garden**

The Market Garden was funded under an Indigenous Training & Employment Program 2008-2009.

The Garden is one of the big success stories for Belyuen in 08/09 and has seen up to 25 CDEP (including women) participants involved in the construction of the gardens from clearing the land and erecting fencing to installing irrigations systems, planting crops, maintaining crops and harvesting.

As the first year was designed as an establishment /experimenting / learning year the crops harvested were distributed around the community so that everyone got a taste of what was grown. Vegetables planted included: pumpkin, zucchini, tomatoes, cucumber, squash, capsicum, chillies, sweet corn. Fruit planted included pineapple; passionfruit, mangoes, pawpaw, limes, oranges. The Coordinator at the Imabulk (Pensioner) Centre did some 'cook ups' with some of the vegetables that people do not normally eat such as zucchini and squash so people could see how to cook them and see what they tasted like.

The gardens have also been supported by Darwin Regional CDEP who has provided some equipment.

Both Darwin Regional CDEP and Larrakia Development Corporation have contributed to the wages of the CDEP Supervisor Steve Brown who has worked with the participants at all stages in the program. This support has been crucial to the success of the gardens and without this daily support the participants would not have been able to achieve. The market garden project is a very good success story for any 'work ready' program as many of the participants had been struggling to do anything with their life apart from drinking. Steve Brown as their Supervisor has encouraged them, given them responsibility and involved them in all decisions about the garden. Recently Steve with assistance from the YMCA has started a men's breakfast program and this group of men have taken responsibility for preparing the breakfast and cleaning up before they go to work. The men can be seen at 7am getting their breakfast ready.

Charles Darwin University has provided a lot of advice and training through their Conservation and Land Management program and this has also been crucial to the success of the program.

Report from Chris Spurr: Remote Lecturer Conservation and Land Management CDU September 2009

*The Belyuen Market Garden Project is a community wide project with the aim of establishing a sustainable market garden and to provide a foundation for long term and relevant training, work experience and cultural participation.*

*Charles Darwin University, Conservation & Land Management was approached to provide technical expertise and training in horticulture to the project. Participants were enrolled in a Certificate I in Amenity Horticulture. The six units were as follows:*

- *RTC1201A Maintain the workplace*
- *RTC1601A Support irrigation work*
- *RTE1005A Support horticultural production*
- *RTC1301A Operate basic machinery & equipment*
- *RTC1801A Prepare for work*
- *RTF1004A Support gardening work*

*Delivery and assessment was performed over time with all participants successfully completing the Certificate I. Enrolment in certificate II has now commenced.*

*Tasks completed that were part of the Certificate I and II program were as follows.*

- *Consultation with Belyuen Council, participants and Traditional Owners to determine site for the market garden.*
- *The design and layout of the fencing and garden beds was determined by participants.*
- *Construction of the fence was lead by a local contractor who trained various participants in fencing construction. Participants involved in this project have completed an accredited skills set in fencing construction (units from Cert II horticulture).*
- *The soil was tested to determine ground preparation prior to bed formation and the installation of reticulation.*
- *The ground was prepared using tractor and plough disc. As only one plough disc was originally delivered instead of two only half the number of garden beds were created.*
- *The reticulation was installed by the participants.*
- *Visit to nurseries in rural Darwin to buy plants for the vegetable garden and fruit trees for an orchard. Plants were chosen by participants with some encouragement from nursery staff to try new things.*
- *Planting. A range of vegetables were planted with varying degrees of success.*
- *Vegetable failures were:*
  - *First crop of corn*
  - *Rockmelons*
  - *Late season cucumbers and zucchini*
- *Vegetable successes were:*
  - *Early season cucumbers and zucchini*
  - *Butternut pumpkins*

- *Chilli*
  - *Capsicums*
  - *Watermelon*
  - *Squash*
  - *Some tomato varieties*
  - *Late season corn.*
- *Many lessons were learnt as to what can be grown on site, what needs lots of work etc etc. This information has been documented to allow for improvements in coming years.*
- *Continuous soil testing and soil amelioration*
- *Regular fertiliser application*
- *Hand pollination of cucurbits. A horticultural expert demonstrated and trained participants in this process.*
- *Pest and disease control of rockmelon, cucumbers, zucchini, butternut pumpkin, tomato using cultural and physical controls and low toxicity chemical control.*
- *Replacement planting of diseased and weak plants or harvested to ensure strong crop growth and continuous supply*
- *Machinery use included training on the use of petrol operated pumps, diesel tractor, knapsack spray units and other hand and power tools.*
- *Occupational health and safety is regularly discussed in terms of manual handling, chemical safety, general outdoor work, safe machinery use and the use and care of PPE.*
- *Fruit tree orchard was fenced and planted by participants. Other fruit trees will be grown on site and planted into the ground as project develops.*
- *Regular cook ups of unfamiliar vegetables to encourage different foods into community member's diets.*
- *Wet season planting of sweet potato have been and will continue to be planted.*
- *Community has identified the desire to build a chicken coop for fresh eggs and possibly meat. Participants discussed and begun clearing area for chicken coop.*
- *There is a desire by the community members involved in the garden project to make the garden a hub of activity and development within Belyuen community. This has lead to fruitful discussions on how to achieve this aim. It is generally agreed that this will take time and the garden needs to become sustainable first.*
- *Some planning with the project coordinator has taken place in terms of short and long term strategies for the future of the market garden and orchard.*
- *Due to the visible success of the garden and the obvious pride participants are showing of their garden the Belyuen Council has agreed to fund the construction of a seedling nursery to raise plants for the vegetable garden (instead of continuously buying them in), trees for the community and possibly for broader sale.*
- *The confidence developed from the 1<sup>st</sup> season of the market garden has empowered participants to revamp the Belyuen community oval. This has involved:*
  - *Mapping of existing reticulation system*
  - *Repair and replace damaged reticulation fittings*
- *Work that will occur through the build up to complete the oval will involve:*

- *Rotary hoe weed infested and non grassed areas*
- *Distribute top soil to these areas and fill any holes*
- *Re-sow grass seed into these poor areas*
- *Maintain water supply and fertiliser regime over wet.*

*The market garden project has been a catalyst for community engagement and skills development. Considering that all participants have had minimal involvement in such ventures in the past the learning curve that has been experienced this year will hold them in good stead for subsequent years.*

*Opportunities abound for other projects to spin off from the garden project. There are Indigenous Enterprise Development opportunities with sugarcane honey production, cycad transplanting etc. Potential landscape construction and garden maintenance services, public works programs and private enterprise opportunities.*

*The training that has been carried out to date has been in a group context. As the program continues it is envisaged that different participants will continue their training at different rates. Indeed some participants may reach a point of not wanting to do any further training and simply just work on the project. Others will be encouraged as they are identified to continue with their training if deemed appropriate in terms of leadership, specialist or divergent skills etc.*



Snap shot of the market garden

## **Belyuen YMCA and Belyuen Sport and Recreation**

Belyuen Community has been extremely privileged to have had John McLean and Chrissie Lovett from the YMCA working with the children and youth in the community. Both people have shown complete dedication in their roles and each week come to the community and run programs for all age groups of children. John and Chrissie have been mentors for the two Belyuen Sport and Recreation Officers Zoe Singh and Craig Woodie who took on the role to 'give it a go and help the kids in the community'. The partnership between YMCA and Belyuen Sport and Recreation has seen many programs been implemented such as Youth Vibe Holiday Program, Youth Vibe Youth Week Program, NAIDOC program, participation in the Barunga Sports and Cultural Festival. Grants have been sought to purchase a lot of equipment and apart from sporting equipment Belyuen now has disco equipment and movie screen equipment.



Belyuen YMCA and Sport and Recreation first trip in the new community bus.

Report from Zoe Singh and Craig Woodie: Belyuen Community Sports and Recreation Officers

*In January we took a group of children and youths to Darwin for four days for a Youth Vibe Program. We stayed at the YMCA and did lots of activities with the Belyuen YMCA workers John and Chrissie. We have had mini sports day activities, bbqs and discos at Belyuen. In June we took youth and adults to the Barunga Sports and Cultural Festival. Craig and John had been*

*training the football team and I had trained a women's basketball and softball team. We have taken the smaller kids on outings to the Wild Life Park and took the older children to the wave pool and after that had a bbq. Everyone enjoyed themselves.*

*It is very good working with YMCA and NAPCAN and Craig and I look forward to doing it all again next year.*

Report from John McLean: YMCA TOP End ( Belyuen Program)

### *Aim*

*YMCA Top End (Belyuen Program) works in partnership with Belyuen Government Government Council and other identified stakeholders to develop and implement flexible projects that promote healthier lifestyle's, social well-being programs and projects for Belyuen Community members.*

### *Project funding*

*YMCA Top End (Belyuen Program) is funded by ICC (FACSLIA)*

### *Examples of Partnerships*

*In partnership with Belyuen Government Council, Government Business Manager and other key stakeholders YMCA identifies opportunities in funding and program development and delivery for Belyuen Community.*

*For example Belyuen Government Council Management and staff have played a leading role in supporting and assisting YMCA Belyuen from the very start of our YMCA services inception into Belyuen Community. Council Management has provided us with a repainted office space that we can conduct our business from. They purchased new equipment for us to use in our office for example, desks, chairs, cabinets, camera, computers and other odds and ends that make a comfortable office space. Overall they have been the key stakeholders in supporting YMCA to identify and establish positive working relationship and partnerships within Belyuen*

*In partnership with Belyuen Sports and Recreation workers YMCA delivers regular sports and recreation workshops such as football, softball, arts/crafts, movies, Disco's and community BBQ's and events. Children and family members attend these activities.*

*YMCA works in partnership with other government and non-government agencies such as Ironbark Services, Belyuen Council, Amity Service, Catholic Care, Team Health, Active After School, NAPCAN, NTAFL Junior Development, NT Touch and Softball Association, Government Business Manager and CDEP.*

*For example YMCA is working in partnership with Belyuen CDEP and the Belyuen Council for a men' s breakfast program for the CDEP participants.*

*YMCA in partnership with NAPCAN (National Association Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) and Belyuen Council are working together to create partnership that works towards addressing children and family's safety and well being issues. (Children's Nutrition/Cooking Program, Community Newsletter,)*

### *Support*

*Engage with young people to develop their physical and social skills to confidently be able to engage in all social environments.*

*The YMCA provides ongoing support and assistance to the Belyuen Sports and Recreation Officers such as programming, administration and developing activities and events.*

*YMCA and Ironbark employment are networking and collaborating to employ two local Community Development Workers who will be employed by YMCA Belyuen*

*Belyuen YMCA and Darwin YMCA OSHC service will take a leading role in providing support and direction the Belyuen Family and Children's Centre (provide support , mentoring and program development to the staff)*

*In partnership with YMCA youth services, aquatic centre and Recreation Centre assisted in the development and implementation of the Building Bridges project. (Belyuen young people visit to Darwin services)*

### *Programs and Activities*

*Assists in providing structured and regular games, arts/crafts and activities with Belyuen Sports and Recreation Officers*

- Youth Week (Jumping Castle, touch football, Aus kick Clinics, Active After School Games, Disco and dance workshop and BBQ)*
- Building Bridges (15 Belyuen young people participated in a 3 day visit to Darwin YMCA Youth Centre)*
- School Holiday Programs ( face painting, art/crafts, games, disco, football and community BBQ)*
- Barunga Festival (introduced training workshops for football and softball for older youth and adults to prepare them to participate at the annual Barunga Cultural Festival. Two nights a week for a period of two months)*
- Barunga Festival Visit (facilitated a three day visit to Barunga with a football and softball team as well as Belyuen community members.)*
- School Based Program (facilitated 10 sessions of the YMCA Social Skills Program for identified primary students)*
- Introduced softball and football workshops for 8 to 15yr olds boys and girls two times a week. (organising games between town based schools)*
- Child Protection Week (facilitated two days of activities for children and family)*

*members, such as rock climbing, jumping castle, art/crafts, water slide and promotional give away materials and resources from participating services)*

- *Provide assistance in the facilitation of monthly Belyuen service provider meetings.*



Snapshot of Belyuen kids having fun at YMCA and Sport and Recreation organised activities.

## **Belyuen Night Patrol Service**

Belyuen Night Patrol is not a service provided by Belyuen Council however for approximately the first 9 months Council supported the service by making available the Training Centre to be used as their work base.

The Belyuen Night Patrol Service continues to work closely with Council and be a very positive service to the community. Apart from their actual night patrol duties the Service has supported many activities in the community either through sponsorship such as providing meat for community bbqs, providing 'man power' at activities such as Belyuen NAIDOC week or being available to assist with community discos. Night Patrol also assisted with the middle of the year community bush holiday activity. Council is very appreciative of the support that the Night Patrol Regional Manager continually offers without hesitation.

Report from John Sampson Night Patrol Services Regional Manager – Ironbark Development Services

*Belyuen Night Patrol has been operational in the Belyuen Community for over 15 months providing a 7 day a week service 3pm to 11pm to all community members. Through this service we have provided culturally appropriate assistance to Indigenous people at risk of either causing harm or being harmed, including intoxicated people, young people, victims of violence and providing all individuals the right to a safe community. The community has a responsibility to work towards the prevention of anti-social, destructive and illegal behaviours.*

*Belyuen Night Patrol supports a safe community through the development of a partnership framework that provides linkages to other programs and service providers for those at risk of being harmed or causing harm or whom have personal barriers which stops them from moving forward in their lives. It also provides advice, information and assistance that may help prevent further repeat behaviours. Night Patrol collects statistical information on all contacts/assistance made with clients.*



### **Women and Children's Service**

The Belyuen Women and Children's Service has been operating for 5 years. The Service operates out of an old community house which was originally a Centre for aged people. Council employs two community women part time to run the program. Both women are employed under a CDEP conversion to employment program. The program caters for 0 – 4 year olds and is based on a playgroup concept where an adult in the child's family is encouraged to come to the centre with the child. The mobile Fun Bus regularly visits the community and links into this program. The program has gone through struggling times however prior to the end of the financial year discussions took place with NAPCAN to have one of their workers assisting the staff with planning and activities. This has been extended to also involve Catholic Care workers.

The Service is in need of major capital funds to do necessary renovations to the building to bring it up to a more acceptable standard.

Report from Coordinator Women and Children's Service Gloria Singh

*The women and children's centre has been going great now that we have got things happening like activities, art and craft and outdoor play. The YMCA and NAPCAN are now working with us and taking the kids out to places where they can have fun. The Centre had repairs done like the fly screens and there was a shade put up in front of our centre and a new fridge was bought for us. We are doing training in Certificate III for Children's Services through Batchelor College and we will soon be finished. The Centre will soon be upgraded which is great and the YMCA group working with us has made lots of changes in our service. They bring more fun times to the community and our children are more happy about that now.*



Children at the Centre with Save the Children Mobile Play Group staff.

## Women's Centre

The Women's Centre was first built in the late 1980's with funding from ATSIC and it was used by the older women in the community for doing traditional art and craft and teaching younger women. It was also used as part of women's ceremonies. The Centre was never officially funded and overtime the building itself deteriorated.

In 2008 the Government Business Manager helped the Council in consultation with the women in the community apply for funding to undertake some necessary repairs to make the building safe and to purchase equipment for the women to do sewing and printing. A group of CDEP women have since been working in the Centre every morning doing sewing, designing, printing and jewellery making. The Centre has become a hive of activity and the women are very proud of what they are making. Council supports the women in addressing their needs and Council was successful in obtaining funding in 2009-2010 to help them developing their skills. Darwin Regional CDEP provide a woman two mornings a week to work with the women in developing their designing, printing and sewing skills. This support has been very appreciated by the women.

The Women's Centre has become an important Council and community program and over the next twelve months the women will be supported in learning marketing skills with a view to turning their work into a small business.

The Centre is in need of capital funding so that extension can be done to give more space for the women to do their work and to allow more women to participate in the activities.

Report from: Samantha Singh, Sharon Lane and Deborah Singh from the Women's Centre.

*A group of us got together and we decided we wanted to reopen the Women's Centre. We started with a couple of sewing machines we all learned how to use. Now we have four sewing machines and two overlockers.*

*Yvonne Odeegard from Darwin Regional CDEP has been coming two days a week training us at the women centre. The first thing we learnt was how to use the sewing machine. We then learnt how to use an over locker which we use to make quilts.*

*We have also learnt how to do screen printing, batik, tie dye, beading and patch work.*

*We have instruction up on the wall on how to make dyes which we use to tie dye shirts and materials.*

*We now also make tablecloths, wall hanging, curtains, bags and jewellery. Some of our work is sold at markets and our store.*

*We have a digital camera that we use to take photos of our work. All ladies in the centre know how use the camera.*

*The Centre now has a computer so one day a week we do training on the computer with Kylie which the ladies use for making labels and to do a stock take list and write letters. We have learnt how to put our photos onto the computer and we all have our own file so we can keep our own designs on file.*

*We have done OHS which has helped us to keep the centre as a safe working place especially as there are some young children there.*

*A women from Top End Women's Legal Service came and talked with us about copy right for our designs and prints and we know it is important to record everything we do and label it before it is sold.*

*The Women Centre is open Monday to Friday and is a place where we can have training for lots of new things.*



Women with some of their jewellery



Samantha Singh with one of her wall hanging designs

### **Imabulk (Pensioner) Program**

The Imabulk Program provides a very high level of service to aged and disabled members of the community. Over the last five years the service has developed a well organised program run by a group of very dedicated staff. A new commercial gas cooker and stainless steel work benches including large kitchen sinks has provided the staff with a safe working environment which is also easy for them to keep clean. A second washing machine means that blankets and clothing can be washed and dried and delivered back to the client when their meals are delivered. Council has two brokerage agreements with services in Darwin that have Community Aged Care Packages and there are ten pensioners who have been assessed for these. One of the requirements of Aged Care packages is that the client has to be 50 years or older. This disadvantages clients who are younger but because of their medical conditions are on pensions and in need of a higher level of service than what HACC provides. Because of poor health amongst Indigenous people where people can have a number of chronic diseases by the time they reach forty years old this policy of being fifty years plus needs to be re-assessed for Indigenous people.

Report from: Leanne Twoomey Coordinator Imabulk Program.

*In June 2008 funding was sourced for furniture for the Imabulk Centre. These items were nursing beds with electronic adjustment controls, fridges, chairs and over bed tables. There was kitchen ware and bedding bought and placed into the rooms as well.*

*Three of the male aged clients moved in to the centre in July 08. They receive 3 meals a day, have their washing done on a needs basis and have their rooms cleaned daily. The staff also clean around the centre and keep veranda's, laundry, kitchen, bedrooms and bathrooms up to OHS and Environmental Health Standards. The lawns and gardens are also kept neat and tidy.*

*There are 14 other Aged and Disability clients that live in the community. They receive 1 meal per day and cleaning and washing that is done on a roster system. All of the clients go on outings which consist of fishing, turtle hunting and gathering wild plum, shopping and visiting family in Darwin.*

*Staff also pick up and deliver medication to clients. If a client needs to go to Darwin for an appointment they are taken through the program.*

*As of April 2008 three of the staff have been paid through council, council having been paid through the HACC conversion program. These same three women are still working for HACC/council. There are 4 Team Members and a Coordinator.*

*Staff have completed their Certificate II in Health Support Services. This qualification covers the workers to undertake food production, meal assembly and food distribution. The qualification also includes requirements for effective work in the health industry, infection control policy and working safely. The staff also has their CHCAC15A Provide Care Support Which is Responsive To The Specific Nature Of Dementia. These competencies form part of CHC30202 Cert III in Home and Community Care. Performance and Data reports are lodged on a regular basis to ensure ongoing funding.*



## Snap shot of activities for staff and pensioners

Top left – Imabulk workers at Batchelor Institute doing training on how bacteria can spread in kitchens

Top right- Pensioners talking with Dr Katie about bush tucker and bush medicine

Bottom left – Pensioners having a day out in the bush

Bottom right – Rosie Gordon happy with the green plums she collected

### **CatholicCare NT**

Catholic Care (formerly Centacare) have been running Family Coping programs in the community helping women and children. CatholicCare also played a very supportive role in the midyear Bush Holiday Program.

Report from: Caroline DeBusch Coordinator Family Coping Program.

*CatholicCare NT, which was formally known as Centacare NT, is a social services agency operating under the auspices of the Catholic Diocese of Darwin.*

*CatholicCare provides programs and services to people and populations in the Northern Territory– including many Indigenous communities. CatholicCare's mission states that it "contributes to a society that values all its members by strengthening individuals, families and communities in ways that respect their dignity and culture. We provide social services and are a voice for people in need".*

***Family Coping*** is one of the key programs involved in achieving this mission. Family Coping was developed to provide support and reduce harm to Indigenous families who are surviving the effects of alcohol and other drugs. It does this by working with families, extended families, and communities by using education, coping skills training, counselling, and community development.

*Family Coping looks at the way families cope with the problems associated with alcohol, drugs and other issues. It is about recognizing that family members suffer most of the abuse and difficulties that arise from alcohol and other drug misuse; and it is about helping them to manage their own wellbeing.*

*The program involves:*

- *providing support and understanding to families who are struggling with the effects of alcohol, drugs, and associated issues*
- *providing family and extended family members with strategies for coping and looking after themselves*
- *providing practical strategies for staying safe*
- *participating in community meetings to share, learn, and provide feedback with the aim of identifying community needs and developing our program accordingly*
- *organising training workshops for local and visiting service agencies*
- *providing resources for groups and workshops – e.g. arts and crafts, sewing, cooking etc*

### **Family Coping activities at Belyuen**

Family Coping means

- we are trying to manage problems
- trying to make sense of what is going on
- trying to understand & work out what to do





Caring and Sharing

Caring for old people

Looking after family

Dealing with humbug

**Family Coping activities at Belyuen help teach people how to cope with family problems and the importance of looking after themselves.**