

Youth Policy **SNAPSHOT TENNANT CREEK & BARKLY**

NT Government's initiatives and activities for youth

This snapshot should be read in conjunction with the **TERRITORY WIDE** snapshot

Health and wellbeing

<p><i>Grant Programs</i> (DHF)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A separate Tobacco Incentives Grant program provided 11 grants totalling a further \$24,000 for programs to reduce the level of smoking in the Northern Territory, particularly amongst young people. ▪ DHF has provided \$71,000 for a youth diversion/prevention program with Julalikari Council in Tennant Creek.
<p><i>Workforce training</i> (DHF)</p>	<p>Training for remote workers was delivered in 2008-09 regarding the management of sexual health issues in children and young people for health professionals in the non-government health sector. Education for staff on sexual health and positive lifestyles for young people living in rural and remote communities was also delivered.</p>
<p><i>Child Abuse Task Force</i> (PFES and DHF)</p>	<p>The Child Abuse Taskforce (CAT), a combined initiative between the NT Police and NTFC continues to achieve positive results in urban and remote communities. The Taskforce initiative is in line with the vision 'A Safe and Secure Northern Territory' and the NT Caring for Our Children Reform Agenda which recognises the need to develop a strategic approach towards the investigation of serious and systematic abuse of children.</p> <p>Whilst the protection of children and young people is a major responsibility of both Police and NTFC, the Child Abuse Taskforce focuses on allegations of organised or multiple abuse, involving one or more abuser and a number of related or non-related maltreated children and young people. Other relevant agencies such as DET are also engaged where relevant to contribute in a complex abuse investigation.</p>
<p><i>Visiting mental health services</i> (DHF)</p>	<p>Mental Health Services have expanded their services to rural and remote communities.</p> <p>In 2008-09, additional positions have been created in both the Top End and in Central Australia to further increase services to remote communities.</p> <p>In Central Australia, visiting child and adolescent psychiatrists provide services to some remote communities in Central Australia on a regular basis. A psychologist also visits Tennant Creek regularly and new child and adolescent positions will enable expansion of these services.</p>

Education

The annual Careers Expo (DET)

The annual Careers Expo is an opportunity for students, teachers, parents, and the general public in the Territory to explore career opportunities and identify future career pathways.

Expos were run in August 2008 in Tennant Creek, Alice Springs, Darwin, Nhulunbuy and Katherine, with over 3300 students and participants attending.

2008 Expos had 250 exhibitors from a broad range of industries and higher education institutions. This impacted positively on the students and participants.

Overall exhibitor satisfaction with the 2008 Careers Expo in all regions was high due to the introduction of the Careers Passport along with the Careers Trail questionnaire. These tools were distributed to schools prior to the Expo which dramatically increased student preparation. This resulted in a noticeable increase in exhibitor/student interaction.

Training and employment

Training for remote youth (DET)

Training for Remote Youth program is aimed at bringing youth disengaged from school, registered training organisations and local communities/schools together to provide structured training and learning experiences that prepares youth for employment in the community or re-engages them in further learning.

Examples of current programs include: basic mechanics, welding, hospitality and automotive training.

Trainee Program Civil Construction (DPI)

In late 2008 and early 2009, DPI's Construction Division advertised for various Technical Trainee Positions in Civil Construction Supervision and Civil Construction Design. As a result of the campaign, 12 school leavers and others under the age of 25 were given the opportunity to participate in the program. The trainees are located across all regions in the NT:

Darwin-6, Nhulunbuy-1, Katherine-2, Tennant Creek-1, Alice Springs-2.

Six of the current intake are Indigenous trainees.

It is anticipated all will take up full time employment at the end of their 12 month traineeship. The trainees will participate in formal studies at CDU, for a Certificate IV in Civil Construction Supervision and Certificate IV in Civil Construction Design. In addition, they will rotate to various disciplines within DPI Road Projects to gain valuable work experience.

Fun, entertainment and skills development

Youth Engagement Grants Program (DHF) The Youth Engagement Grants Program engages young Territorians aged 12 to 25 years through a variety of drug and alcohol free recreational events and youth development and leadership programs. The funding rounds for the grants coincide with National Youth Week and the major school holidays (June/July and December/January). In 2008-09, 105 grants totalling \$136,400 were awarded to young people and community organisations through the program.

Junior Ranger Program (NRETAS) The long running, NRETAS Parks and Wildlife, Junior Ranger Program affords Territory youth with the opportunity to participate in a range of team building, community leadership, volunteer and environmental education activities. The Program is free for Territorians aged 9-14 years and includes members in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek, Alice Springs and some remote communities.

Remote Festivals Fund (NRETAS) The Remote Festivals Fund supports remote community festivals and/or develops artistic programming and initiatives. Youth involvement rates in remote communities are high and therefore this fund increases access to arts activities.

Safety and security

Operation Themis (PFES) Police working within remote Aboriginal Communities as part of the Commonwealth Government's Emergency Response are extremely active in getting involved in various activities within the community. The aim is to build positive relationships between police and the community to increase community and personal safety.

Police Officers at the communities actively involve themselves in the organising of various recreational and entertainment opportunities such as football clinics and games, Blue Light Discos and BBQs. Police Officers involve themselves in the many events that occur within the communities in a positive, proactive policing manner.
