

# Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment: Final Report

Report prepared for the Australian Red Cross  
on behalf of the Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Group

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## Executive Summary

The Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Group (KYJRG) was established in 2016. Its aim was to progress a community vision to transform youth justice services and systems in Katherine to focus on prevention and early intervention with the intent of reducing incarceration.

This research project is intended to provide *preliminary information* to invest in a more comprehensive four-stage youth JR process in Katherine. More specifically, it aims to provide baseline information to assist with stages 1 and 2 of the JR process, including:

- collection and analysis of multiple local quantitative and qualitative data sources (including publicly available data, and de-identified administrative data held by relevant government agencies); and
- the adoption of a collaborative community development approach, in partnership with local partners and stakeholders, to develop a business development strategy (including identification of funding sources and support with funding applications) aimed at sustaining the youth JR approach over subsequent years.

A key deliverable in the service agreement with the Australian Red Cross was for CDU to provide a final report by April 2019. A one-month extension was negotiated based on (a) delays with the provision of youth justice data; and (b) prioritisation of the development and submission of an Ian Potter Foundation Grant.

This is the final report. It includes:

- Information about the background and context of the project;
- A descriptive account of the processes associated with the project, including elements relating to:
  - Contract negotiations,
  - Composition of the research team,
  - Ethics submissions,
  - Engagement,
  - Data collection and analysis,
  - Strategic Plan,
  - Business Plan,
  - Development and submission of funding proposals, and
  - future research;
- A qualitative analysis of key stakeholder viewpoints, including those of service providers, Indigenous service providers, and local youth
- Five Compendium Reports relating to:
  - Social media depictions of youth in Katherine
  - Social issues data, relating to general demographic information, early childhood, family life, housing, income and employment, education, health, and other data;
  - Police data
  - Corrections data
  - Child protection data
- Key strategic documents, including a strategic plan and business plan.

The information included in this report is designed to inform further work of the KYJRG from mid-2019 and beyond. The Final Report is designed to be a public document. The Compendium Reports are designed for use by the KYJRG only, primarily for purposes of planning and strategy development.

## 1. Background and Context

In 2015-2016, Ms Fiona Allison from James Cook University (JCU) worked alongside various community stakeholders to undertake an initial 'proof of concept' project about JR in Katherine. This led to the release of *Justice Reinvestment in Katherine: Report on Initial Community Consultations* (Allison 2016). Results of this consultation process indicated that stakeholders in Katherine were overwhelmingly in support of the introduction of a JR approach and led to the establishment of the Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Group (KYJRG), a group with membership of, and which built on, the initial project Steering Group. KYJRG has now been meeting to undertake JR work since 2016. This work has been enabled through in-kind secretariat support from the Australian Red Cross, and significant in-kind contributions from various Non-Government Organisations, Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and NT Government agencies located in Katherine. KYJRG has been exploring ways in which significant changes can be made to the NT youth justice system with the aspiration of implementing justice reinvestment initiatives in Katherine.

The KYJRG is actively involved in NT-wide and national networks such as Making Justice Work and Justice Reinvestment Network Australia. It also presented at the 'Building communities not prisons - Justice Reinvestment and reducing recidivism forum' in Canberra in December 2018; and at the World Health Promotion Conference in Rotorua, New Zealand in April 2019.

In December 2017, Australian Red Cross acting on behalf of the Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Group (KYJRG) contracted Charles Darwin University (CDU) to undertake a strategic consultation project and data collection and analysis to contribute to stages 1 and 2 of a JR approach relating to youth Justice Reinvestment (JR) in Katherine. This contract was awarded through a competitive Expression of Interest process. The intent was to build on the initial proof of concept work, by mapping services and collating data to inform the development of a JR Plan for Katherine. An interim report with an extensive analysis of publicly available social issues data was presented to KYJRG in August 2018. These relationships have continued to flourish with subsequent data collection and analysis, grant applications, and strategic knowledge translation activities since the completion of the interim report.

### What is JR?

JR is an internationally recognised approach that focuses on transforming justice services and systems to focus on prevention and early intervention with the intent of reducing incarceration. JR is a framework or methodology that seeks to tackle the rising rates of imprisonment through a community development approach: enabling local communities to identify and implement initiatives and strategies likely to have some impact on reducing incarceration. A key component of JR involves the diversion of a portion of correctional funding used to incarcerate people, to instead be spent inside that community to enact positive change – both in and out of the justice system.

This research project is intended to provide *preliminary information* to invest in a more comprehensive four-stage youth JR process in the Katherine region over the longer term. It marks the beginning of JR – which is typically a four-stage process (as per Figure 1):

1. Data analysis and service mapping;
2. Needs identification and strategy development (known as the JR Plan);
3. Implementation; and
4. Evaluation

This project aims to lay groundwork required for implementation of stages 1 and 2 of the JR process described above. This includes:

- collection and analysis of multiple local quantitative and qualitative data sources (including publicly available data, and de-identified administrative data held by relevant government agencies); and
- the adoption of a collaborative community development approach, in partnership with local partners and stakeholders, to develop a business development strategy (including identification of funding sources and support with funding applications) aimed at sustaining the youth JR approach over subsequent years.

**Figure 1: What is Justice Reinvestment?**



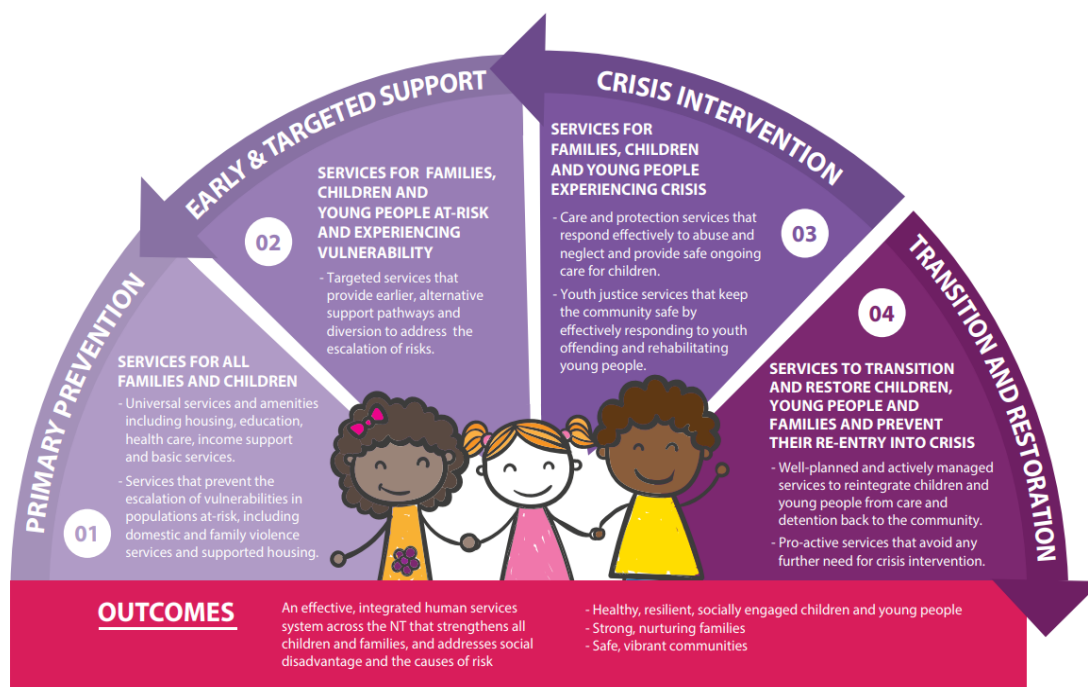
The intent is to identify potential economic, social and cultural 'levers for change' to support the local community to lead sustainable youth JR strategies. It is envisaged this project will *inform* the work of the KYJRG's vision of redistributing justice investments in the town of Katherine and local communities away from punitive responses to offending, with a particular focus on reducing incarceration of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people aged 10-24 years.

The JR approach in Katherine is highly consistent with the aims of multiple Northern Territory Government policies and strategies to have an integrated approach to addressing a range of health, justice and social issues. This includes, but is not limited to, the objectives and actions outlined in:

- *Safe, Thriving and Connected: Generational Change for Children and Families 2018-2023* – notably the ‘public health approach to reform’, and commitment to ‘improving youth justice’ (see Figure 2)
- *Domestic, Family & Sexual Violence Reduction Framework 2018-2028* – notably ‘investment in evidence-based prevention’, and ‘expanded integrated response models’
- *NT Alcohol Harm Minimisation Action Plan 2018-2019* – notably the focus on addressing ‘social determinants of health’; ‘strengthening community responses’; and ‘comprehensive, collaborative and co-ordinated approaches’
- *Starting Early for a Better Future – Early Childhood Development in the NT 2018-2028* – notably the focus on ‘strong families’ and ‘getting it right for life’
- *The Best Opportunities in Life: NT Child and Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Strategic Plan 2018-2028* – notably the focus on improved ‘health equity for Aboriginal children and young people’; and ‘children and young people receive high quality support where and when they need it’
- *NT Chronic Conditions Prevention & Management Strategy 2010-2020* – notably the focus on key action areas relating to ‘improving the social determinants of health’; and ‘increasing the focus on primary prevention’
- *NT Health Promotion Framework* – notably the ‘continuum of practice’ advocating for both ‘issues’ and ‘settings-based’ health promotion planning
- *Addressing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) in the Northern Territory 2018-2024* – notably the focus on ‘prevention’, ‘assessment’, and ‘family support’

It is envisaged the content included in this final report, and associated compendium reports, will be discussed, unpacked and refined further by the KYJRG to progress the YJR agenda in Katherine over the coming months and years.

**Figure 2: A public health approach to child protection youth justice reforms (NTG 2018)**



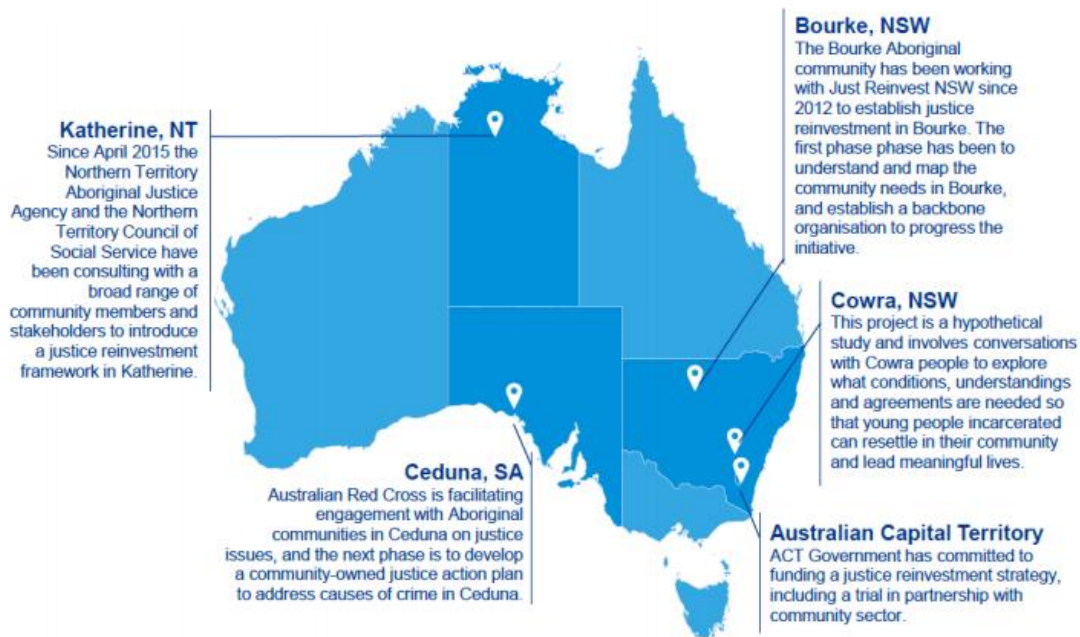
Source: Safe, Thriving and Connected, NTG 2018, p10



Katherine is currently the only community in the NT adopting a JR approach (albeit in its relatively early stages) and has quickly earned a reputation as a national leader alongside other projects in NSW, ACT, and SA (see Figure 3 below). Additional JR sites across Australia include Halls Creek in WA, and Cherbourg in QLD.

**Figure 3: Summary of Justice Reinvestment in Australia**

## JR in Australia



Source: McIntosh & Inkpen, 2016

KYJRG is a volunteer, community-based collective comprised of multiple individuals, agencies and service providers across the Katherine township and region. KYJRG members are interested in redistributing justice investments from punitive responses to offending towards those focused on prevention and early intervention. There is a particular focus on reducing incarceration of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people aged 10-25 years old, given their over-representation in NT detention centres and prisons. To achieve this aim, KYJRG recognises that locally-led prevention and early intervention activities need to involve people of all ages and across a range of demographics to have maximum community impact. This KYJRG has been exploring ways in which significant changes can be made to the NT youth justice system with the aspiration of implementing justice reinvestment initiatives in Katherine on a sustainable basis over the longer term.

## **2. Project Components**

### **2.1 Contract Negotiations**

Charles Darwin University (CDU) responded to the Expression of Interest to undertake an evaluation of the Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment (KYJR) project on 27 March 2017. CDU was invited to present to a sub-working group of the KYJRG on 21 April 2017. CDU was advised of its success on an in-principle basis on 4 May 2017, with formal confirmation received on 16 May 2017. After further discussions between CDU and the Australian Red Cross it became clear that an evaluation was not required as there has been no implementation of JR in Katherine. After multiple meetings with key stakeholders, and in consultation with the KYJRG, a more strategically focused project was negotiated, with the intent of collecting information that could inform the initial stages of youth JR in Katherine. The final contract was executed on 6 December 2017, with the first meeting held with KYJRG in February 2018 to move the project forward.

A collaboration agreement was subsequently negotiated between JCU and CDU to facilitate Ms Allison's engagement in the research team and was executed on 19 July 2018.

### **2.2 Composition of the Research Team**

This research team has involved multiple investigators. This has included

- Professor James Smith (JS), Wellbeing and Preventable Chronic Conditions Division, Menzies School of Health Research (previously CDU)
- Ms Fiona Allison (FA), Cairns Institute, JCU
- Mr Ben Christie (BC), Wellbeing and Preventable Chronic Conditions Division, Menzies School of Health Research
- Ms Sarah Clifford (SC), Wellbeing and Preventable Chronic Conditions Division, Menzies School of Health Research
- Ms Kim Robertson (KR), Office of Pro Vice Chancellor – Indigenous Leadership, CDU
- Dr Sarah Ireland (SI), College of Indigenous Futures, Arts and Society, CDU
- Ms Tessa Wallace (TW), Wellbeing and Preventable Chronic Conditions Division, Menzies School of Health Research

### **2.3 Ethics Submissions**

An important part of conducting research with a high level of integrity involves obtaining ethics approval from a certified Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). A detailed ethics proposal was prepared which involved both quantitative and qualitative research elements. The ethics proposal was submitted to CDU HREC in May 2018. Ethics approval is essential for accessing, analysing, and presenting de-identified regional population and service delivery quantitative data that is suitable for informing the planning and implementation of youth JR in Katherine. An initial response with provisional ethics approval was received from CDU HREC on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018. A letter of response was submitted to CDU HREC by the research team on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Formal ethics approval was received on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018 (H18044) (Appendix A). Reciprocal ethics approval was obtained through the NT Department of Health and Menzies School of Health Research HREC on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018 (Appendix B). The ethics approval was due to expire by 30<sup>th</sup> December 2018. However, a variation to extend the project until 30 April 2019 was submitted to both committees with a subsequent extension granted by CDU HREC on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.

### **2.4 Engagement**

A Communication and Engagement Strategy was developed during project commencement (see Appendix C). This was designed to be an iterative document that could be revisited throughout the implementation of the project.

Representatives of the research team have attended multiple KYJRG meetings throughout the course of this project. They have also supported strategic planning discussions; representation in meetings with senior NT Government officials, facilitated grant funding workshops, written multiple grant

proposals, and support knowledge translation activities through presentations at relevant forums and conferences. Table 1 provides an outline of engagement and key activities throughout the project.

**Table 1: List of engagement and activities relating to the KYJR project**

<b>Dates of Engagement</b>	<b>Researchers / Stakeholders</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
5 March 2018	JS, KR, BC	Meeting with KYJRG and local stakeholders to consider research components of the KYJR project
12 – 13 April 2018	BC, SC	Meeting with KYJRG and local stakeholders to update project progression and next month's New Territory Forum
10 – 12 May 2018	BC, FA, JS, SC	Attending the Katherine 'New Territory Forum' and consultations with KYJRG as well as local stakeholders to consider research components of the KYJR project
18 – 19 May 2018	BC, JS	Co-facilitating and provide support for the Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Strategic Planning Session
14 May -15 June 2018	BC, JS, SC	Preparation and submission of Menzies Small Research Grant for 'Listening to youth voices: Strengthening youth justice reinvestment in Katherine'. Awarded on 19 July 2018.
7 – 10 June 2018	BC	Meeting with KYJRG and local stakeholders to update project progression, including Ethics Research Update and key stakeholder consultations
10 – 11 July 2018	BC, JS, SC	Meeting with Sub-Working Group and interviewing local community service representatives
9 – 10 August 2018	BC, SC	Meeting with Sub-Working Group and interviewing local community service representatives and youth
28 – 30 August 2018	BC, JS	Interviewing and Focus Groups with local community service representatives
5 – 6 September 2018	SC	Conducting youth Focus Group
10 – 12 September 2018	BC, FA, JS, KR	Consultations with KYJRG, Interviewing local community service representatives
22- 24 October	BC	Interviewing with community service representatives and local youth
26 – 30 November 2019	BC, SC	Visit Katherine High School to build relationships, deliver JR presentations to class groups, and interviewing and Focus Groups with local community service representatives
15 Nov-7 December 2018	JS, BC	Perpetual Impact grant proposal prepared and submitted. Outcome announced in June 2019.
9-11 January 2019	JS, BC, TO, SL, TW, EF	Consultation and proposal development for EOI Back-on-Track tender application with key KYJRG initial partners, and interviewing youth groups
4 February 2019	JS, BC	Facilitation of Back-on-Track submission to Territory Families. Unsuccessful, not invited to progress to stage 2.
25-26 February 2019	BC	Preparation for conference presentations and update on grant application submissions
11-15 April 2019	JS, SL, TO	Two presentations about youth justice reinvestment in Katherine and Australia at the World Health Promotion Conference in Rotorua, NZ
26 March -17 April 2019	JS, BC, TO, SL	Preparation of Ian Potter Foundation EOI. Advanced to second stage on 7 May 2019.
7-29 May 2019	JS, BC, TO, SL, EF	Preparation and submission of Ian Potter Grant proposal. Submitted on 29 May 2019. Outcome announced in August 2019.

## 2.5 Data Collection & Analysis

The collation and use of data is a central component underpinning stage 1 of the JR process. This includes collecting and analysing both quantitative and qualitative data. It is often difficult to ascertain exactly what data is required when embarking on a JR project. As such, we adopted a broad approach to data collection and analysis which resulted in:

- A qualitative analysis of key stakeholder viewpoints, including those of service providers, Indigenous service providers, and local youth (involving BC, JS, SC, KR and TW)
- Five separate data reports relating to:
  - Compendium Report 1 - social media depictions of youth in Katherine (reflecting a Masters of Public Health research project completed by SC and supervised by JS)
  - Compendium Report 2 - social issues data relating to general demographic information, early childhood, family life, housing, income and employment, education, health, and other data (led by FA)
  - Compendium Report 3 - child protection data (led by FA)
  - Compendium Report 4 – justice data (led by FA)
  - Compendium Report 5 - Police data (led by FA)

Further information on these activities is provided below.

### 2.5.1 Stakeholder Views About Youth Justice Issues in Katherine

The research team proposed to undertake individual interviews and focus groups with key stakeholder groups in Katherine as part of the project commissioned by the Australian Red Cross. An additional Menzies Small Grant has assisted in expanding the scope of this project to reach broader stakeholder groups, specifically Katherine youth. Between July and November 2018, 23 individual interviews and 7 focus groups were conducted, with a total of 64 participants. Interviews were conducted by BC, SC, JS and KR. Participants were defined as either Service Providers (SP), Indigenous Service Providers (ISP) or Local Youth (LY). A full description of the methodology and data analysis is provided in Section 3 of this report. This is intended to inform strategy development and prioritisation as part of Stage 2 of the JR process, in tandem with the data presented in the quantitative reports.

### 2.5.2 Social Media Depictions of Youth in Katherine

Ms Sarah Clifford expressed interest in completing a research project for her Masters of Public Health as part of the KYJR project. After meeting with the KYJRG on two occasions, engaging with local youth and service providers during trips to Katherine, and after attending the New Territory Forum, she proposed to undertake a project examining '*community depictions of youth in Katherine as portrayed through social media*'. The research team considered that a project of this nature would have potential to develop strategies to portray Katherine youth positively through social media. The ethics proposal for the sub-project was submitted to the Department of Health and Menzies School of Health Research HREC on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018. This included a letter of support from KYJRG. Unfortunately, this project was not approved due to the proposed methodology of using a closed Facebook group. An alternative project was conceptualised which involved asking key stakeholders about their perceptions of social media depictions as part of the interviews and focus groups described above. This research identified five major themes, including:

1. Facebook is "like, for the older generation"
2. Small town news on a big time platform
3. Dealing with 'crime' through Facebook
4. Racial profiling and the alienation of difference
5. Using social media through JR: an opportunity for Katherine

The results of this sub-study are presented as Compendium Report 1. It is envisaged these will be useful for KYJR strategy formulation. Actions relating to these research findings have been incorporated into recent grant applications currently under assessment.

### 2.5.3 Non-Justice (Social Issues) Data

Data about social issues outside the justice system (non-justice data) is important for JR-related planning. As the original Katherine JR report shows, this data might be (a) directly connected with offending (such as drug and alcohol misuse) and/or (b) more indirectly connected with it, such as

struggles in the community that feed into offending (unemployment, low levels of education, etc.). Examples of relevant data include:

- health (e.g. maternal and mental health, disability, drug and alcohol use)
- child protection (e.g. notifications, substantiations, removals)
- education (e.g. enrolments and attendance, disciplinary absences)
- employment, adult education and training and economic development
- other income (e.g. reliance on social security)
- family wellbeing (e.g. numbers/percentage of single parent families)
- housing (e.g. overcrowding, homelessness)

This and other data have been sourced through *publicly available* sources (e.g. Australian Bureau of Statistics, NAPLAN reporting, Annual Reports, etc) and is presented as Compendium Report 2. This data was presented to the KYJR as part of the Interim Report. It has already been discussed by the KYJRG Data Working Group on multiple occasions, and has supported the development of multiple grant applications. This report is based on publicly available data, but covers a range of sensitive topics. It is recommended that KYJRG disseminates this report at its discretion.

#### 2.5.4 Child Protection Data

A request for child protection data was submitted to Territory Families. The data the research team requested, included:

- Child protection reports assessed
- Child protection investigations commenced and finalised
- Number of children the subject of reports and investigations
- Cases substantiated and responses to these (e.g. working with family, child taken into care, case closed (no current risk))
- Primary harm type for substantiated cases
- Number of children admitted into Out of Home Care (OoHC) (e.g. foster, kinship, residential)
- Total days of OoHC (for all children in care) [so it can be costed]
- Number of children on protection order (order type: short term, long term, permanent)
- Children exiting OoHC (returning home, entering adulthood)
- Number of children in OoHC\*
- Children in foster, residential and kinship care\*
- Foster and kinship households\*
- New foster/kinship households
- Foster/kinship households exiting system
- If possible, number of children in child protection system also in youth justice system

After multiple meetings with senior representatives and data analysts within Territory Families and the Department of Attorney and General and Justice, the data was provided to the research team. This is included in Compendium Report 3. This should be treated as confidential and is not-for-circulation until discussions with Ms Allison have occurred.

#### 2.5.5 Police data

In 2016, with the support of Ms Fiona Allison, the project requested and had approved by NT Corrections and NT Police the release of justice data (police, corrections, courts) relating to:

- The extent of incarceration in Katherine, whether and by how much it has increased in recent years (how many people are locked up)
- Rates of repeat offending and return to prison/detention; and cycling into adult prison from youth detention
- Current cost of incarceration and other contact with the justice system (nights in detention/prison)
- The most problematic offences, including those that are more likely to lead to imprisonment
- Key drivers of incarceration in justice system (in community corrections for instance, non-completion of orders; in courts, bail breaches leading to remand, in policing, unreasonable bail conditions)
- What's working well in the justice system

This data, along with non-justice data, is critical for developing a JR Plan for Katherine (i.e. Stage 2 of JR).

The original data requests sent to and approved by NT Corrections and NT Police in 2016 were reinvigorated in October 2017 after the project received further funding and had engaged JCU and CDU. It has been a slow process to get hold of the data, despite this earlier approval. The research team received confirmation in early July 2018 that the police data request had been approved. This was released in an adhoc way, and has multiple limitations. The police data is reflected in Compendium Report 5. This should be treated as confidential and is not-for-circulation until discussions with Ms Allison have occurred.

#### 2.5.6 Justice data

After a prolonged series of email and phone conversations throughout 2017 and early 2018 with NT Corrections, a meeting was held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018 with senior representatives from Territory Families and Department of Attorney-General and Justice. Both Professor Smith and Ms Allison attended. It was reinforced that the justice data request should be regarded as a high priority and that the Minister for Territory Families had already indicated her support to accommodate data requests associated with the KYJR project. There was indication that the data originally approved by NT Corrections would be supported by the relevant agencies, but that the request needed to be re-submitted by email to the Office of the Commissioner of Corrections and to Territory Families. This was completed as requested, and a further meeting was held on 23 July 2018. After a meeting with the Acting Chief Executive of DAGJ in Katherine, and a follow-up presentation at the Reducing Recidivism Forum in Canberra (also attended by the Acting CE), an initial tranche of data was provided to the research team in December 2018. However, additional data, in the format originally requested, was still required. The justice data report is reflected as Compendium Report 4. This should be treated as confidential and is not-for-circulation until discussions with Ms Allison have occurred.

#### 2.5.6 KYJRG - Data Working Group

It is important to have community input into what data is being collected and why. It is also important that community are engaged in unpacking what the data means and how it can influence future planning. After the release of the Interim Report, the KYJRG established a Data Working Group to undertake this task on an ongoing basis. This group has met on multiple occasions and prioritised key aspects of the data to support grant funding applications.

Stronger partnerships and alliances will need to be formed between the KYJRG and data custodians within government agencies (primarily based in Darwin) to ensure that ongoing access to relevant data is appropriately prioritised and resourced. This is in keeping with JR's intent to develop new types of relationships between government and local communities, including around access to data. Ongoing engagement with the senior government officials will assist with this process.

### **2.6 Strategic Plan**

A strategic planning day of the KYJRG was held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018. This was attended by Professor Smith and Mr Christie. Key themes identified during the strategic planning discussions were used by the research team to develop the KYJRG Strategic Plan (see Appendix D). This has since been endorsed and adopted by the KYJRG. It has been a central feature of grant application processes.

### **2.7 Business Plan**

A key deliverable associated with the Service Agreement with Red Cross was the development of a 'Strategic Business Plan' for internal use by the KYJRG, and external promotion of the project. Based on the preliminary content of the Strategic Plan (Appendix D), the research team developed an accompanying Strategic Business Plan (Appendix E). It is suggested this is reviewed on a six-monthly basis.

### **2.8 Development of Funding Proposals**

There has been a keen interest to apply for funds to support KYJRG activities. Four different grant applications have been prepared and submitted across the course of this project. This has included:

- A Small Menzies Research Grant (\$38,500) to help sustain the research partnership beyond the cessation of the Australian Red Cross funding; to expand the scope of consultation with local youth; and support knowledge translation activities). This was successful. It will help to sustain ongoing engagement with KYJRG throughout the remainder of 2019.
- A Perpetual Trustees Grant Application (\$120,000 over two years). This was submitted through Menzies and would support a combination of local JR activities and associated evaluation processes. An outcome is expected in June 2019.
- A *Back-on-Track* EOI proposal was submitted to Territory Families through Katherine Regional Aboriginal Health and Related Services Aboriginal Corporation in February 2019 (approx.. \$1,000,000 per year). This was submitted as an Alternative Tender based on local community priorities. This application was unsuccessful. It is suggested that the KYJRG maintain conversations with Territory Families and the Department of Chief Minister about community priorities and a preference for local decision-making in relation to youth justice issues.
- An Ian Potter Foundation EOI submitted through Menzies in April 2019 (\$300,000 over three years). This resulted in an invitation to submit a full proposal by 4 June 2019. An outcome is expected in August 2019.

These proposals have primarily involved advancing to Stage 2 and early phases of Stage 3 of a JR approach in Katherine.

A significant amount of proposal content and strategic prioritisation has occurred through the above-mentioned applications which will assist in the development of any subsequent applications.

## 2.9 Future Research

Once funding has been secured to community-based JR activities, it is proposed that discussions commence about the development of a longer-term Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Grant. The aim of this would be for the research team to continue its engagement with the KYJR project over the longer-term (i.e. next 3-5 years). It would provide funding to monitor and evaluate the process, impacts and outcomes of the youth JR approach in Katherine (i.e. stage 4 of the JR process). There is potential to partner with one or more of the other youth JR sites across Australia in an application of this nature. To be successful this will need to have chief investigators (read as researchers) with outstanding research track-records, and partner investigators (read as service providers and respected community members) aligned with service provision and community action in the Katherine region. It will also need to attract significant cash contributions and in-kind support from partners to be feasible.

### 3. Listening to community views about youth justice reinvestment in Katherine

Section Authors: Benjamin Christie, Sarah Clifford, James Smith, Kim Robertson, Tessa Wallace & Fiona Allison

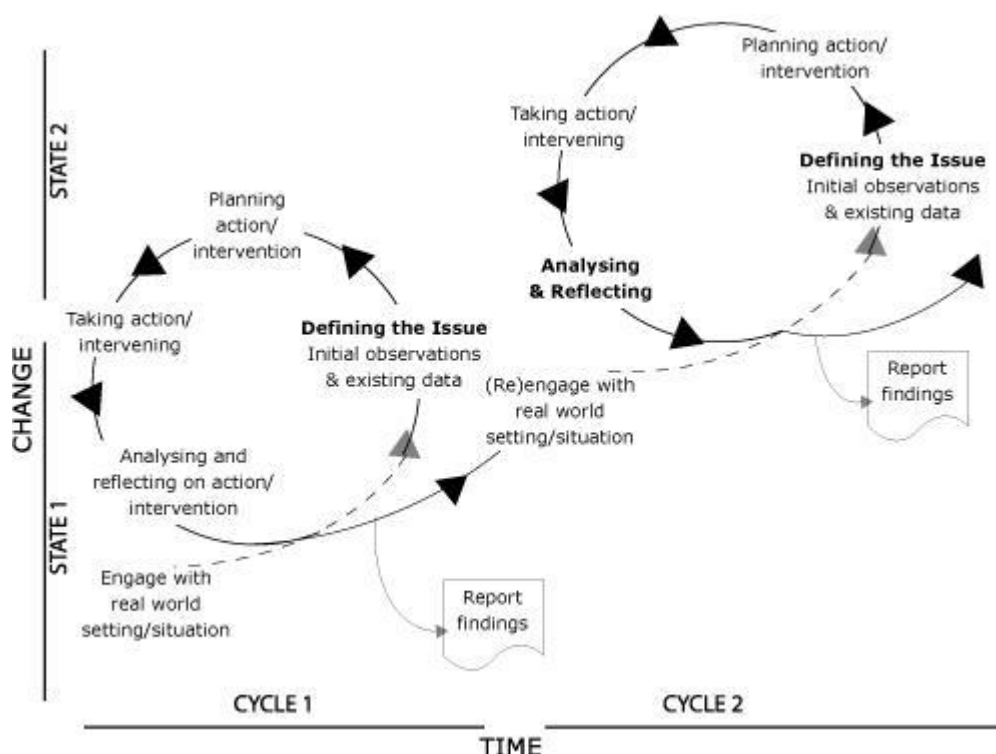
#### 3.1 Background

The intent of this section of the report is to listen to the views of local stakeholders about the potential for youth justice reinvestment in Katherine. It complements the previous work completed by Allison (2016) during the initial proof of concept phase. This work extends on this to provide new insights about community strengths and respective economic, social and cultural 'levers for change.' These levers should assist the KYJRG to lead sustainable youth justice reinvestment strategies into the future.

#### 3.2 Methodology

This qualitative study broadly draws on principles associated with Participatory Action Research (PAR), Collaborative Research, and Collective Impact approaches. These are all iterative processes, as depicted in Figure 4 below.

**Figure 4: Participatory Action Research (PAR) Approach**



Source: <https://postgrowth.org/participatory-action-research-par-for-sustainable-community-development/>

These approaches emphasise the integral role of participants in the data collection and analysis phases with a focus on empowering communities to enact action (Baum, MacDougall, & Smith, 2006). Collective Impact specifies the collaboration of stakeholders across various sectors to combat complex social issues among local communities (Christens & Inzeo, 2015; Kania & Kramer, 2011). In this context, this project has involved sustained, cyclical engagement with local stakeholders to identify and co-design YJR strategies. Methods of engagement have included meetings, individual interviews and focus groups with the KYJRG and its member organisations. Further interviews and yarning style conversations were conducted with key



local stakeholders, service providers and local youth. For the purpose of this research, youth is defined as individuals aged between 12 and 24 in alignment with definitions used by the United Nations (UNESCO, 2017). These individuals were recruited based on expert advice from members of the KYJRG. These practices are defined as snowball sampling and purposeful sampling, respectively. Snowball sampling recognises the valuable nature of existing networks in recruiting subsequent participants, and asks participants to recommend other individuals who they believe have relevant knowledge and interest (Noy, 2008). In a small town like Katherine, these connections are often well-established, and considered important. Purposeful sampling is common in qualitative research and identifies individuals who have the knowledge relevant to the research topic.

As mentioned previously, between July and November 2018, 23 individual interviews and 7 focus groups were conducted, with a total of 64 participants. Interviews were conducted by BC, SC, JS and KR. Participants were defined as either Service Providers (SP), Indigenous Service Providers (ISP) or Local Youth (LY). When participants fell into multiple categories they self-identified their preferred category.

**Table 2: Participant Identification**

Participant 1	LY	Focus Group 1 (n=7)	LY
Participant 2	SP	Focus Group 2 (n=8)	ISP
Participant 3	SP	Focus Group 3 (n=7)	LY
Participant 4	ISP	Focus Group 4 (n=2)	ISP
Participant 5	SP	Focus Group 5 (n=2)	LY
Participant 6	SP	Focus Group 6 (n=4)	LY
Participant 7	LY	Focus Group 7 (n=11)	LY
Participant 8	SP		
Participant 9	SP		
Participant 10	ISP		
Participant 11	SP		
Participant 12	SP		
Participant 13	SP		
Participant 14	LY		
Participant 15	SP		
Participant 16	SP		
Participant 17	N/A		
Participant 18	ISP		
Participant 19	LY		
Participant 20	SP		
Participant 21*	SP		
Participant 22*	SP		
Participant 23	SP		

\*combined interview

Overall 35 local youth (4 interviews and 5 focus groups), 15 service providers (14 interviews) and 13 Indigenous service providers (3 interviews and 2 focus groups) took part in the study.

Interviews and focus groups took between 30-90 mins. Areas of inquiry included current youth engagement, service provision, and perceived strengths and areas for improvement. An interview scheduled guided questioning, but included probing on other issues identified by participants, if relevant to project objectives (see Figure 5 below).

**Figure 5: Interview Schedule**

- What do you think are the key issues affecting local youth in the Katherine region?
- Why do you think some local youth end up in the justice system/corrections/prison? How could this be changed?
- What helps local youth to stay out of trouble in Katherine and why?
- If you could do one thing to help youth in Katherine to stay out of trouble what would that be?
- What things would you do locally to support youth engagement? How could this be achieved?
- Are existing programs and services for youth in Katherine meeting their needs? How could they be improved?
- What do you think the life aspirations of youth in Katherine might be?
- How could local services better support the needs of local youth?
- Which existing services do you think work best for youth and why?
- What is the impact of social media on youth in Katherine and why?
- Is there anyone else in Katherine you think we should talk to about youth justice reinvestment?

Each interview was recorded and transcribed by an external transcription service. De-identified interview transcripts were coded using a combination of manual and computer-assisted processes (using NVivo 12). The coding was completed by BC, TW, and KR. An explicit strengths-based approach underpinned the coding and subsequent thematic analysis process.

There arose six themes; the young person; familial structure and disadvantage; safety; service provision; criminal justice interventions; education and school environment; workforce; depictions of young people by the community; and opportunities. In accordance with Participatory Action Research, the underpinning methodology of this project, these six themes are presented as six strengths-based goals.

### **3.3 Discussion**

#### **3.3.1 The impact of family & socio-economic status in mediating health and social outcomes**

A stable and supportive family environment is a crucial element in the healthy development of a child and young person (Shonkoff et al., 2012). Many participants voiced concerns that a stable and supportive family environment is lacking for several Katherine. The social issues data (Compendium Report 2) highlighted that 34.8% of children in Katherine are classified as 'developmentally vulnerable' on 1 or more domains, and 20% on two or more domains which encompasses 'language and cognitive (school-based) skills', 'communication skills', 'social competence', 'emotional maturity' and 'physical health and wellbeing'. This was corroborated throughout the qualitative research, with many participants pointing to young people's early experiences and role models (or lack of) as crucial factors resulting in antisocial behaviour later in life.

The cycle of poverty and disadvantage is particularly acute for Aboriginal Territorians, given the combination of regional and remote disadvantage, well documented intergenerational trauma, and the ongoing impacts of colonisation (Maru & Chewings, 2011). It was widely recognised by participants that the environment in which young people are raised in sets the social norms and constructs and subsequent aspirations for each individual's life. Concerns the normalisation of alcohol and drugs, domestic and family violence, and a lack of boundaries were common throughout the qualitative data.

*I think the reason why that I guess they go there is because they don't know what's right and what's wrong because they've lived in a household where drugs, violence and just abuse have just happened constantly...I guess that's why the kids break in and do all these things because they get shown no attention. They don't get given anything, not supported, and the family's just broken. And I think that's why they end up going to these [justice] systems. [Focus Group 3: LY]*

*I suppose one of the other things is the family structure, in that from what I've seen from my friends, a lot of the time, they're running around after their younger siblings because their parents aren't there, and I think that's a struggle for them. [Participant 14: LY]*

The vulnerability of the young people in question was raised several times, particularly in relation to the amount of responsibility they have at a young age.

*There's girls that look after five, six little kids and they're responsible for getting them their dinner, making, you know, cleaning their clothes. [Focus Group 3: LY]*

The discussion which followed this often highlighted the responsibilities of the parents.

*Well I reckon that it all boils down to the parents. That's their responsibility, they should be the ones looking after their children. [Focus Group 2: ISP]*

Whilst the focus of this project remains on youth, what cannot be ignored is the impact of early and ongoing life circumstances.

*I think backtracking, like supporting the community and educating the parents on how to look after their children is really important, because a lot of the time, they're just going by the example that they've had, which means that they may not know if they're neglecting their child's needs. They also might not have the ability to provide for their children as well, which can be a challenge for them. [Participant 14: Local Youth]*

The safety of these at-risk children and young people is a major concern for the majority of participants. A recurrent point made was that young people are spending time on the streets late at night because they do not want to be at home, given the unstable environment. This creates challenges for police and night patrols when seeking to remove young people from the streets late at night, as they do not have a safe environment to return these youths too.

*I think there needs to be somewhere where if they're not able to go home, dropping them home and families are drinking and partying and fighting and you drop them off and where else do you take them? So, I think there needs to be somewhere that maybe is like an emergency accommodation overnight. [Focus Group 3: LY]*

*No, emergency accommodation. There's just a lot of kids that don't have anywhere - if things are really unsafe at home there's not a lot of other places that they could go. [Participant 23: SP]*

*Sometimes you get kids from another community coming into town. They really do have trouble with the Night Patrols, you know...It's not only Night Patrols trying pick up all these kids, the police is doing it too, trying to take them home because it's not safe for kids. [Focus Group 2: ISP]*

The dearth of accommodation is an issue across the NT, and Katherine is no exception (see Figure 6 below).

**Figure 6: Waitlists for public housing in the NT**

Region	1 bedroom	2 bedroom	3 bedroom
Darwin/ Casuarina	6 to 8 years	2 to 4 years	4 to 6 years
Palmerston	4 to 6 years	Less than 2 years	2 to 4 years
Alice Springs	4 to 6 years	4 to 6 years	4 to 6 years
Katherine	6 to 8 years*	4 to 6 years	4 to 6 years
Nhulunbuy	4 to 6 years	2 to 4 years	2 to 4 years
Tennant Creek	6 to 8 years	More than 8 years*	4 to 6 years

\*Due to limited stock and turnover, median value cannot be applied.

Source: NT.GOV.AU (<https://nt.gov.au/property/public-housing/apply-for-housing/apply-for-public-housing/waiting-list>)

Some programs provide accommodation options and related support for young people in Katherine (ie. Anglicare's Youth Accommodation Support Services (YASS), Out of Home Care, and Intensive Youth Support Services (IYSS)). However, given the magnitude of the issue these programs are often at capacity. Participants noted a particular gap in emergency accommodation.

The concerns regarding acute domestic safety, and a lack of safe accommodation, have a subsequent impact on the amount of young people on the streets late at night. This was raised numerous times as a factor in opportunistic crime (such a property damage, theft and trespassing).

### 3.3.2 Promoting safety in schools and the community

Though acute domestic safety concerns have been highlighted in the previous section, there are also significant community safety concerns. Specifically, this relates to school settings and the wider Katherine community environment. Within the community the relationship between the police and the young people needs repair.

*I did an echocardiogram on a 17-year-old boy with rheumatic heart disease, and I had a long chat with him, and he'd twisted his ankle and it turned out that he'd jumped a fence, and I asked him why he jumped the fence and he said some police turned up and they were driving past and so they shone their light at him, and he suddenly saw them and he decided to run and he jumped the fence, and I asked him why he ran and he said, 'it was the police'....He jumped the fence because it's a natural response, fear and antagonism between the police and these kids. I think when you talk about one of the driving issues, it's the attitudes of the police and the antagonism between the police and the young kids that often results in children being dragged into the criminal justice system because of that antagonism and over-policing. [Participant 16: SP]*

*I was actually walking with my cousin and my brother and this was near the school. Out of nowhere we just seen four police cars rock up and basically what*

*happened, about four cars got stolen on Northside and they started blaming us because they were like, "Oh, what are you doing walking around?" And basically, my dog was just being crazy so we took him out for a walk. [Focus Group 3: LY]*

Though there were consistent acknowledgements that there are some police officers who are well-regarded by young people, a generalised response was one of avoidance.

Considering the overrepresentation of Aboriginal youths in this cohort, this distrust of the police is unsurprising (Yang, 2015).

*Male 1: You won't see much white kids.*

*Male 2: Not seeing much really, three or four.*

*Male 1: Only a couple.*

*Male 3: A couple who hangs around with all the coloured kids. [Focus Group 2: ISP]*

There was an interesting narrative presented regarding 'gangs' in Katherine. There was some evidence presented that young people who leave their homes at night do so to spend time with certain 'gangs'. The terminology of gang was strongly refuted by other participants. Rather, it was acknowledged that individuals who identify with one another are generally simply referred to as friendship groups. The safety aspect of being in a group was also highlighted.

*I think if you had those young people running around as individuals instead of gangs, they'd be really vulnerable. So one person walking through the Katherine streets at a night time in the dark is dangerous. A group of people walking together maybe not so dangerous. [Participant 3: SP]*

*I mean, I wouldn't say gangs. There's definitely groups of kids who are like, 'I'm part of this group', and they fight with other groups of kids. I don't know if gangs would be the right word. I don't know if the kids would say they're gangs either, it might be more like family, or kids from the same community or something that are in your group. [Participant 6: SP]*

The developmental impairment and trauma discussed in the previous theme affects young peoples' ability to function well at school. Without appropriate management, this can decrease the safety of that young person and their peers at school. When talking about a student suspension, one participant stated:

*There was no support, the school had no plan to deal with his behavioural problems which had obviously started due to traumatic experiences in his previous five years of life, and it is very, very clear that he's on a one-way trajectory to the youth justice program in Katherine. [Participant 16: SP]*

The high school environment is described as one of conflict. As an anecdotal example, the research team was at Katherine High School for approximately two hours in Term 4 2018, during which time two fights were observed. In addition, a youth interview referred to it as 'Katherine Fight School'. Narratives of this nature were prominent throughout all stages of data collection.

*And I think at the beginning of this year we almost every day or every second day there was a huge fight. [Focus Group 4: ISP]*

One indicator of safety within schools is the suspension rate. Suspension rates are also associated with negative academic outcomes and non-attendance (Zhang, Musu-Gillette, & Oudekerk, 2016). Suspension rates at Katherine High School are depicted in Figure 7 below.

**Figure 7: Suspension rates at Katherine High School**

	<b>No. of enrolments</b>	<b>No. of suspensions</b>	<b>% suspensions*</b>
<b>2018</b>	607	117	19.3%
<b>2017</b>	599	178	29.7%
<b>2016</b>	605	151	24.9%

Source: NT.GOV.AU (<https://education.nt.gov.au/education/statistics-research-and-strategies/school-suspensions>)

\*NB: the same student may be suspended multiple times, which is not accounted for in this data

What should be highlighted, however, is that some youth feel that the reputation of violence and conflict at Katherine High School is a result of previous staff and events, and the current environment has improved.

*I think a lot of people over at the other high school have the impression that there are fights every day and it's really dangerous, and that may have been the case a very long time ago, but it's not anymore. Being both student and staff, the opinion at the school is changing, and the work being done is definitely more positive now than it was. But I can understand why people would have a negative opinion, especially from past events and the inconsistency of staff there. [Focus Group 7: LY]*

The feeling of safety and comfort at school among youth impacts their likelihood to attend, participant and complete their studies.

### 3.3.3 Reducing offences through quality education

Education has long been recognised as a driving factor in breaking cycles of disadvantage. It has also been linked to reductions in criminal behaviour (Lochner & Moretti, 2004). As highlighted in Compendium Report 2 young people in Katherine aged 15-24 years are 'learning/earning' at a lower rate than the national rate (63.7% and 84.3% respectively). This is likely to be exacerbated by brain drain; the loss of high achievers from a community, which is pronounced in regional towns across Australia (Cardak et al., 2017). This is similar in Katherine; a number of youth who participated in this study have plans to leave the town to seek higher education in interstate cities. Katherine has a higher percentage of young people (16-24 years) receiving unemployment benefits compared to the Australia average (7% and 3.5% respectively). For Aboriginal people in Katherine aged 15-24 years the rate of unemployment is 21%.

Issues relating to the environment of Katherine High School has been discussed earlier, though this is not the only education pathway for young people in Katherine. There have been several notable alternative options to traditional school formats established, in an attempt to remedy issues such as low attendance and nonattendance. Two support programs are located at Katherine High School: STARS Foundation and Clontarf Academy, catering for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait female and male students, respectively. Katherine Flexible Learning and Education Centre (KFLEC) has been established, at a separate location. An

interesting outcome of the establishment of KFLEC at a different location was a perception that it had a twofold impact. This included strengthened educational engagement of 'at-risk' students, but also provided a safer and more stable environment for other students enrolled at Katherine High School. This was perceived as a win-win situation.

*I think at KFLEC they're doing really, really good over there. And it's taken the kids that, you know, the naughtier kids it's taken them away from [high school], because they used to take other girls with them and you could see that they were the leaders. So to get them away, is really good. Like the attendance of most of the girls have gone up and it's because they were scared to come to school because they would have conflict after school and then they'd bring it back here [Focus Group 4: ISP]*

Catering to individual student abilities and goals is seen as paramount in retaining engagement with education options. It was acknowledged that student goals are unlikely to be homogeneous, and recognition of this is vital. Even within the 'mainstream' school environment there are steps being taken to recognise the variety of pathways into employment and training.

*That hands on, like accepting that the classroom is not for everyone, and then fostering that, and saying, "Okay, but we can still get you to finish school because you deserve it. How else can we do this?...And actually they're changing that at the school now, and they're offering, like, "Okay you want to start work, you can do that but we're going to do it through school so you still get your Year 12 certificate." So they're recognising this. [Focus Group 7: LY]*

These options suggest that there is significant drive and recognition of the need for alternatives to strictly academic education streams. This includes participation in VET pathways through local RTOs such as CDU and BIITE.

#### 3.3.4 Working together to prevent engagement with the criminal justice system

Preventing young people engaging with the justice system is a primary concern. There is an acknowledgment that 'bad' behaviour in a school setting, while potentially disruptive, is less likely to be criminal. The issue with previous "machine gun suspension" [Participant 22: SP] pattern noted at Katherine High School was raised several times, particularly regarding its ineffectiveness for young people in the absence of supportive familial structures to encourage re-engagement with the education system.

*Prior to that, they were being naughty at school. And just naughty. But they weren't doing anything illegal. But once they were excluded from school for that period of time, they then turned to crime in a really big way. And I think saying, "You can't be here," isn't an effective punishment. It is for kids who have good parenting, who then go home and find that they're digging holes in the garden or cleaning windows instead of being at school, that's fine. But if you suspend a child who's just going to be doing whatever they like, you're asking for problems. [Participant 21: SP]*

Some existing options for alternative education options have already been outlined above. However further support and capacity is likely to be required to appropriately address the extent of these behavioural concerns. The school is insufficiently resourced to deal with the magnitude of the problem.

There are similarities between the discourse regarding suspension and diversion in Katherine, with some participants dismissing the impact of diversion.

*I fully understand where they're coming from because there's nothing worse than living in fear of repeated break-ins and not feeling safe in your own home and many people feel like that in Katherine... when they see a lack of action they vent and use social media to do that...Diversion is nothing in Katherine*  
[Participant 11: SP]

The view that there is little repercussion for young people who commit crimes has led to 'venting' on social media, particularly community Facebook groups. This has ultimately cultivated an online culture of aggressiveness and intolerance (Clifford, 2018). Bail was another contentious issue. Some participants felt that there was insufficient support for young people on bail to prevent them from participating in further criminal behaviours and thus adding their sentence.

*So it just creates - seems to create this treadmill that they can't get off. And once they have contact with - one of the things that I've found most frustrating and hardest was once they have contact with the justice system and they're on bail, they start things like curfews and not - non-association orders - is that those things are really difficult for kids to actually abide by. So then they get breached. So then they're before the courts again. So their initial offending might have been quite minor, but they're potentially arrested and put on bail and then they breach their bail.* [Participant 22: SP]

A young participant eloquently summarised the need for justice pathways to be more focused on tangible and holistic reengagement.

*At Don Dale, I think that they should have set up a wellbeing program or at least a program that they could've helped kids get a job or something for when they get out so therefore, they have something to back them up since they haven't been in school and they're still young. So, I think they should've taken more care of them. My cousin went there and she just got treated like an animal. So, I think I guess the system needs to be changed because it's literally just making the cycle repeat itself and then you're just going to see that happen over and over again and that's why it's increased.* [Focus Group 3: LY]

It is perceived that rates of recidivism will reduce if reengagement is the goal of justice interventions.

### 3.3.5 Understanding the enablers and barriers to effective service provision for local youth

There are numerous, well-established barriers to accessing services for young people, particularly in a regional context; predominantly transport, costs and service operating hours. These were echoed in this study.

Katherine does not have a public transport system, and taxis are expensive. For example, a 15-minute taxi ride from Binjari (an Aboriginal community just outside Katherine town) to Katherine township can cost up to \$50 one way. As one local youth summarised, transport is "a constant issue with Katherine" [Focus Group 7: LY]. For young people who have access to a car, getting one's license seems to be the logical step to avoiding the public transport issue. However, the cost associated with this process is identified as a barrier.

Stability of service provision for a transient population is difficult. As Katherine town is a hub for the region, there are several young people who come in and out of Katherine at different times. There is a common tension across many sectors, particularly health, with cultural practices (such as sorry business or ceremony) requiring Aboriginal people to attend to cultural needs, that be in or outside the region. This can disrupt engagement in education. For example, when young men go through ceremony, their role in their community changes. Culturally they are perceived to be more senior, sometimes resulting in withdrawal from school (Smith et al. 2019).



This can be difficult to cater for in a Western system of schooling, where maturity is arbitrarily associated with age.

*So the transiency of Indigenous people and youth is - obviously, makes it challenging to the stability of service provision and stability for them in employment and training and education...Disengagement from school, particularly after boys go through ceremony, seems to be - they fall off that.* [Participant 22: SP]

The time of operation was the most consistently raised barrier. As has already been highlighted, there are relatively significant numbers of young people wandering the streets and public areas of Katherine late at night.

*Without a word of a lie [I] have seen up to 150 kids in the main street on a weekday at three in the morning, and this is common.* [Participant 20: SP]

Service providers and youth alike recognise this as a significant gap in service provision. The concept of a 'safe space' was raised multiple times, particularly in providing an avenue to connect young people with service providers and develop rapport.

*Just having a safe place that's open quite late at night where kids could drop in and talk to a reasonable person who's - they've perhaps built a relationship with over time for dropping in. And where they could get a piece of toast and a cup of Milo. And have a chat with somebody, or a yarn, about what's happening for them. So something as simple as a cup of Milo and a piece of toast could build bridges.* [Participant 21: SP]

*I think definitely a group, a community effort needs to be made to make something like this work. We're not going to be able to rely on just one organisation to take this on. But I see it as not a place where you get picked up and dropped off at the centre but it could be a place where if the kids don't want to go home police can place them there for the night or something like that. If that's something that, like they're out on the streets because they don't want to be at home for – and if it's a good enough reason as determined by the police I think being able to drop them off somewhere safe where they know they're going to be fed and they know they're going to have a safe warm place to sleep that's a good thing. And it saves trying to find emergency housing.* [Participant 7: Local Youth]

This data supports an investment into a local youth engagement facility that operates 24/7, something that the KYJRG has been advocating for.

#### 4. Conclusion

The issues faced by the youth of Katherine are similar to those echoed across other NT communities. We have identified key issues relating to youth Katherine, as perceived by both service providers and local youth. As PAR is an iterative process, there has been cyclical feedback of the research findings throughout this project.

In mid-2018 the following strategic objectives were identified by the KYJRG during a community-driven strategic planning process:

- To facilitate a safe and happy community environment for the families, children and youth of Katherine
- To reduce offending and incarceration of Katherine youth
- To value and celebrate the contribution of youth in the development and implementation of youth justice reinvestment strategies in Katherine
- To strengthen leadership, governance and community ownership for youth justice reinvestment in Katherine
- To strengthen and sustain partnership approaches in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the youth justice reinvestment in Katherine

In 2019, the following areas for action were identified in the *Back on Track* funding application drawing on some of these emerging research themes:

- A feasibility study and service delivery model to establish a 24-hour youth reengagement facility and supported accommodation (including bail accommodation) for at-risk youth in the Katherine region and surrounding communities, in partnership with Mr David McGuire from the Diagrama Foundation.
- Cultural mentoring and other activities aligned with lore and law and building connection to country.
- Development and implementation of a suspension prevention program, suspension activity program; and re-entry service in partnership with Katherine schools. This service will involve supervision of and mentoring and other positive activities for students during their suspension.
- An integrated child and adolescent developmental and therapeutic assessment tailored for at risk-youth aged 8-17. The assessment process will be developed during the first six months of operation in collaboration with a range of child and adolescent health, education and justice experts. This is likely to include a combination of assessments relating to cognition; language, literacy and numeracy; hearing; alcohol and other drug use (including FASD); disability; and mental health and wellbeing.
- Co-ordinated case management for at-risk youth aged 8-17, identified by the courts, police and/or other local services. It is envisaged this will reflect a similar coordinated case management process to that being implemented for adults through the Katherine Individual Support Program funded by NT Department of Health.
- The provision of co-located psychological, counselling, AOD, disability-related and mental health support specifically tailored to the needs of local youth, in partnership with Wurli and Headspace
- Enhanced referral processes and data-sharing systems between health, education, housing and justice services to better meet the respective needs of local youth and their families
- The delivery of a broad range hub (centre-based) and spoke (outreach) youth and family activities in collaboration with identified participating organisations. Activities are likely to include life coaching and skill development, sport and recreation, arts
- Support for youth to learn to drive and obtain their drivers' license
- The development and implementation of a community engagement and social media strategy that celebrates and profiles local youth achievements
- Direct linkages and pathways into local training providers, such as CDU and BIITE

- Engagement with local industries and businesses to increase training and employment opportunities for youth
- An exploration of youth-focused transport options that can leverage of additional infrastructure, services and programs already underway in Katherine (i.e. night patrol)
- Establishment of an annual Youth Business Champions Awards to recognise the efforts of local organisations supporting at-risk youth to further their education and training; and to improve youth employment, particularly among Aboriginal youth. The Awards will also acknowledge the achievements of youth within those organisations.
- The delivery of an annual New Territory Forum to bring together youth and their families, interested community members, service providers and other key stakeholders from across the Katherine region.

Proposed outcomes included:

- Reducing suspension rates among high school students in Katherine
- Increasing educational retention and attainment rates across all school years, including year 12 completions
- Increasing positive social media commentary relating to Katherine youth
- Increasing employment opportunities for local youth, particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth, through enhanced industry engagement
- Strengthening cultural identity among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth
- Expanding the suite of JR activities offered throughout Katherine
- Increasing intersectoral collaboration among service providers engaging youth
- Enhancing complex case-management for 'at-risk' youth
- Building a more robust evidence-base to inform future JR approaches at local and national levels

These actions are aimed to positively engage youth through tailored opportunities that recognise their achievements, essentially shifting negative community perceptions of youth. These outcomes align with the KYJRG Strategic Plan (Appendix D), which includes a vision to “work together and support positive change across all generations in Katherine communities to reduce youth incarceration”; and a mission “to lead effective youth justice reinvestment strategies in Katherine”.

These priority areas should remain a key focus of the KYJRG and are key in guiding the next steps of JR in the region.

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## Appendix A – CDU Ethics Approval Letter

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8 June 2018

Dr. Sarah Ireland

*Via email*

*[sarah.ireland@cdu.edu.au](mailto:sarah.ireland@cdu.edu.au)*

Dear Sarah,

RE: H18044 – Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Project

### Human Research Ethics Committee – Proposal Approval

Thank you for submitting the above proposal for ethical review. The proposal has been considered under the auspices of the Charles Darwin University Human Research Ethics Committee (CDU-HREC) and is **approved from the date of this letter to the expiry date listed below.**

**EXPIRY DATE: 30/12/2018**

An annual progress report must be provided to the Ethics Office before each anniversary of the commencement date. This approval is contingent on submission of a satisfactory annual progress report.

**APPROVAL IS SUBJECT TO** the following:

1. The safe and ethical conduct of this project is entirely the responsibility of the investigators and their institution(s).
2. The Principal Investigator must **report immediately any event or circumstance that might affect the ethical acceptability** of the project, including:
  - Adverse effects of the project on participants and the steps taken to deal with these;
  - All other unforeseen events that influence the protocol or participants; and
  - New information that may invalidate the ethical integrity of the study.
3. The Principal Investigator must obtain approval for any **variation to the protocol** (including the addition of new investigators) prior to implementation the proposed variations. Requests for approval of variations must be submitted in accordance with the procedures of the Ethics Office.
4. The Principal Investigator must advise the University immediately of **unapproved protocol deviations or protocol violations**.
5. The Principal Investigator may request an **extension of the project past the expiry date listed above**. An extension may be requested at any time, however, the preferred time and method of requesting an extension of ethical approval is in the **annual progress report**.

6. The Principal Investigator must notify the Ethics Office of his or her **inability to continue as Principal Investigator**, including the name of and contact information for their replacement. The research may not proceed without an approved Principal Investigator.
7. Confidentiality of personal information of research participants should be maintained at all times as required by law.
8. You must forward a copy of this letter to all investigators and to any associated organisations.

This letter constitutes ethical approval from the CDU Human Research Ethics Committee only.

Should you wish to discuss the above research project further, please contact the Ethics Team via email: [ethics@cdu.edu.au](mailto:ethics@cdu.edu.au) or telephone: (08) 8946 6063.

Best wishes for the success of your project.

Yours sincerely



Professor Lawrence Cram  
Acting Chair, Human Research Ethics Committee  
Charles Darwin University, NHMRC Registration No. EC00154  
<http://www.cdu.edu.au/research/ori/human-ethics>

*This HREC is constituted and operates in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007).*



22 January 2019

Dr. Sarah Ireland and Prof James Smith  
Office of Indigenous Leadership  
*Via email*

*[sarah.ireland@cdu.edu.au](mailto:sarah.ireland@cdu.edu.au)  
[james.smith@menzies.edu.au](mailto:james.smith@menzies.edu.au)*

Dear Sarah and James,

RE: H18044 – Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Project

#### Human Research Ethics Committee – Annual Report Approval

Thank you for submitting an annual report for the above approved protocol. The annual report has been considered under the procedures of the Charles Darwin University Human Research Ethics Committee (CDU-HREC) as meeting the requirement of *The National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research* and has been approved.

EXPIRY DATE: 30 April 2019

Further annual progress reports must be provided to the Ethics Office before each anniversary of the commencement date. This approval is contingent on submission of a satisfactory annual progress report.

APPROVAL IS SUBJECT TO the following:

1. The safe and ethical conduct of this project is entirely the responsibility of the investigators and their institution(s).
2. The Principal Investigator must **report immediately any event or circumstance that might affect the ethical acceptability** of the project, including:
  - Adverse effects of the project on participants and the steps taken to deal with these;
  - All other unforeseen events that influence the protocol or participants; and
  - New information that may invalidate the ethical integrity of the study.
3. The Principal Investigator must obtain approval for any **variation to the protocol** (including the addition of new investigators) prior to implementation the proposed variations. Requests for approval of variations must be submitted in accordance with the procedures of the Ethics Office.
4. The Principal Investigator must advise the University immediately of **unapproved protocol deviations or protocol violations**.



5. The Principal Investigator may request an **extension of the project past the expiry date** listed above. An extension may be requested at any time, however, the preferred time and method of requesting an extension of ethical approval is in the **annual progress report**.
6. The Principal Investigator must notify the Ethics Office of his or her **inability to continue as Principal Investigator**, including the name of and contact information for their replacement. The research may not proceed without an approved Principal Investigator.
7. All investigators are responsible for **retaining clear, secure and complete records** of all research including data, primary materials and records regarding *consent, access, ownership, retention, use and future use*.
8. Confidentiality of personal information of research participants should be maintained at all times as required by law.
9. You must forward a copy of this letter to all investigators and to any associated organisations.

**This letter constitutes ethical approval from the CDU Human Research Ethics Committee only.**

Should you wish to discuss the above research project further, please contact the Research Integrity and Ethics Team via email: [ethics@cdu.edu.au](mailto:ethics@cdu.edu.au) or telephone: (08) 8946 6063.

Best wishes for the success of your project.

Yours sincerely



Professor Marilynne N Kirshbaum, RN, BSc, MSc, PhD, FHEA  
Chair of Human Research Ethics Committee  
Charles Darwin University, NHMRC Registration No. EC00154  
<http://www.cdu.edu.au/research/ori/human-ethics>

*This HREC is constituted and operates in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research, 2007 (Updated 2018).*



## Appendix B – Department of Health and Menzies School of Health Research Reciprocal Ethics Approval Letter



**Postal:** PO Box 41096, Casuarina NT 0811, Australia  
**Location:** John Mathews Building (Bldg 58),  
Royal Darwin Hospital Campus, Rocklands Drv, Casuarina NT 0810  
**Ph:** (08) 8946 8600 **Fax:** (08) 8946 8464  
**Website:** menzies.edu.au  
**ABN:** 70 413 542 847

19 July 2018

**Ethics Administration Office**  
**File Reference Number:** HREC-2018-3191  
**Phone:** (08) 8946 8687 or (08) 8946 8692  
**Email:** ethics@menzies.edu.au

Professor James Smith  
Wellbeing and Preventable Chronic Diseases Division  
Menzies School of Health Research  
PO Box 41096  
Casuarina NT 0810

Dear Professor Smith,

**HREC Reference Number: 2018-3191**  
**Project Title: Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Project**

Thank you for submitting the above research project for ethical review. This project was considered by the Chair of the Human Research Ethics Committee of the Northern Territory Department of Health and Menzies School of Health Research (HREC) in accordance with the NHMRC *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2007* and guidelines for minimising duplication of ethical review.

I am pleased to advise that the **Chair of the HREC** has granted **reciprocal ethical approval** of this research project to be undertaken in the Top End of the Northern Territory.

**Approval Date:** 19/07/2018

**Approved Timeline:** 19/07/ 2018 – 30/12/2018

**Please submit a final report to this HREC:** 30/12/2018

**Please note:**

- The HREC endorses the approval granted by the **Charles Darwin University** Ethics Committee as the lead HREC (Ref number: H18044) and reciprocal approval is granted subject to the researchers' continued compliance with conditions set by the **Charles Darwin University**, without further review by the NT Dept Health & Menzies HREC.

**APPROVAL IS SUBJECT TO** the following conditions being met:

- The Coordinating Principal Investigator will **immediately report anything that might warrant review** of ethical approval of the project.
- The Coordinating Principal Investigator will notify the Human Research Ethics Committee of the Northern Territory Department of Health and Menzies School of Health Research (HREC) of any event that requires a **modification or amendment to the protocol or other project documents** and submit any required amendments in accordance with the instructions provided by the HREC. These instructions can be found on the Menzies' website.
- The Coordinating Principal Investigator will submit any necessary reports related to the **safety of research participants (e.g. protocol deviations, protocol violations)** in accordance with the HREC's policy and procedures. These guidelines can be found on the Menzies' website.
- The Coordinating Principal Investigator will **report** to the HREC **annually** and notify the HREC when the project is completed at all sites using the specified forms. Forms and instructions may be found on the Menzies' website.



menzies.edu.au



5. The Coordinating Principal Investigator will notify the HREC if the project is **discontinued at a participating site before the expected completion date**, and provide the reason/s for discontinuance.
6. The Coordinating Principal Investigator will notify the HREC of any plan to **extend the duration of the project past the approval period listed above** and will submit any associated required documentation. The preferred time and method of requesting an extension of ethical approval is during the **annual progress report**. However, an extension may be requested at any time.
7. The Coordinating Principal Investigator will notify the HREC of his or her **inability to continue as Coordinating Principal Investigator**, including the name of and contact information for a replacement.
8. The safe and ethical conduct of this project is entirely the responsibility of the investigators and their institution(s).
9. Researchers should immediately report anything which might affect continuing ethical acceptance of the project, including:
  - Adverse effects of the project on participants and the steps taken to deal with these;
  - Other unforeseen events;
  - New information that may invalidate the ethical integrity of the study; and
  - Proposed changes in the project.
10. Approval for a further twelve months, within the original proposed timeframe, will be granted upon receipt of an annual progress report if the HREC is satisfied that the conduct of the project has been consistent with the original protocol.
11. Confidentiality of research participants should be maintained at all times as required by law.
12. The Patient Information Sheet and the Consent Form shall be printed on the relevant site letterhead with full contact details.
13. The Patient Information Sheet must provide a brief outline of the research activity including: risks and benefits, withdrawal options, contact details of the researchers and must also state that the Human Research Ethics Administrators can be contacted (telephone and email) for information concerning policies, rights of participants, concerns or complaints regarding the ethical conduct of the study.
14. You must forward a copy of this letter to all Investigators and to your institution (if applicable).

**This letter constitutes ethical approval only.** This project cannot proceed at any site until separate research governance authorisation has been obtained from the CEO or Delegate of the institution under whose auspices the research will be conducted at that site. Should you wish to discuss the above research project further, please contact the Ethics Administrators via email: [ethics@menzies.edu.au](mailto:ethics@menzies.edu.au) or telephone: (08) 8946 8687 or (08) 8946 8692. The Human Research Ethics Committee of the Northern Territory Department of Health and Menzies School of Health Research wishes you every continued success in your research.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Lewis Campbell  
Chair

**Human Research Ethics Committee  
of the Northern Territory Department of Health  
and Menzies School of Health Research**  
<http://www.menzies.edu.au/ethics>

**This HREC is registered with the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and operates in accordance with the NHMRC National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007). NHMRC Reg no. EC00153**

## Appendix C – Communication & Engagement Strategy



# Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Project

## COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

### Background

Australian Red Cross acting on behalf of the Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Working Group (KYJRG) has contracted Charles Darwin University (CDU) to undertake a strategic consultation project which builds upon the initial 'proof of concept' work completed by Fiona Allison from James Cook University (JCU) in 2015/2016, as documented in *Justice Reinvestment in Katherine: Report on Initial Community Consultations* (Allison 2016).

This project is being led through Charles Darwin University (CDU) in partnership with Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) and James Cook University (JCU).

The aim of the current project is to inform the work of the KYJRG's vision of redistributing justice reinvestments in the town of Katherine and surrounds away from more punitive responses to offending, with a particular focus on reducing incarceration of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal youth. The intent is to develop a clear strategic vision and respective funding proposal/s to advocate for a longer-term investment in YJR in Katherine, as well as laying groundwork for longer-term JR implementation.

### Rationale

To support this project, and potentially the longer-term work associated with KYJR, the development and implementation of a Communication and Engagement Strategy (CES) is necessary. The CES provides a clear outline for effective communication between key stakeholders, including members of the KYJRG, local community members, service providers, policy-makers and researchers. It is intended to be a flexible working document that is iterative and is capable of responding to change.

The CES is a core component of the Justice Reinvestment approach. It should be viewed as a guiding document, which outlines preferred communication principles, as well as preferred communication methods to be used throughout the project. It is important to have an agreed way of communicating at all stages of the KYJR process.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the CES is to:

- 1. Identify preferred communication and engagement approaches;**
- 2. Outline key communication and engagement principles that will be used during the planning, implementation and evaluation of the KYJR project; and**
- 3. Describe indicative communication and engagement strategies with key stakeholder groups.**

## **1. Communication and Engagement Approaches**

It is recognised that a range of oral and written communication approaches will be used throughout the KYJR project. Some of these will support strategic decision-making. Some will support day-to-day operational functions. Others will support research activities.

Below is a list of communication and engagement activities and methods that could be used when developing the communication strategy:

- Individual meetings (e.g. face-to-face discussions, interviews)
- Group meetings (e.g. community meetings/workshops, public displays and forums, meetings, yarning sessions, open days/site visits, Steering Group meetings, story-telling, focus groups, monthly KYJRG meetings, informal and formal community consultation)
- Phone conversations and/or teleconferences
- Videoconferencing (e.g. Skype, Zoom, WebEx, Facetime)
- Written correspondence (e.g. service agreements, MOUs, project plans, partnership plans, briefs, letters, emails)
- Group forums (e.g. wiki, wordpress blogs)
- Formal reporting (e.g. media releases, briefings/presentations, project status reporting, progress reporting, evaluation reporting)
- Social media use and engagement (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Youtube, LinkedIn)
- Audio and visual media (e.g. photographs, recordings, USBs)
- Research tools (e.g. surveys, newsletter, websites, social networking, diaries, letterbox drops/mailouts, observational techniques)
- Creative expression (e.g. artwork, paintings, songs, dance)
- Funding proposals (e.g. government grants, philanthropic funding bids, research grants)
- Academic writing and presentations (e.g. research papers, conference presentations, other research translation activities)

## **2. Communication Principles**

The following communication and engagement principles will underpin KYJR:

- ✓ Thoughtful
- ✓ Genuine
- ✓ Meaningful
- ✓ Ethically Appropriate and Inclusive
- ✓ Open and Transparent
- ✓ Responsive
- ✓ Culturally Respectful (in both approach and delivery)
- ✓ Participatory and Collaborative
- ✓ Considerate of, and responsive to, first languages
- ✓ Underpinned by two-way learning approaches
- ✓ Reflective

### **3. Indicative communication and engagement between groups of stakeholders**

#### Communication and engagement between project partners

- Formal partnership and/or service agreements will be established between project partners, where deemed necessary
- Project partners are encouraged to meet out-of-session to discuss ways to collaborate and to reduce service duplications/silos
- There is regular written and verbal communication between KYJR project partners.
- There is a commitment to open and frequent communication.

#### Communication and engagement between KYJRG Working Group representatives

- KYJRG will meet monthly, and revise its Terms of Reference and membership on an annual basis
- Agreed sub-groups of the KYJRG will meet as required to progress key actions out-of-session
- Additional stakeholders may be invited to participate in KYJRG meetings on an ex-officio basis from time-to-time (e.g. researchers, high-level policy-makers)
- The Chair of KYJRG will meet with dedicated YJR (Australia Red Cross) staff on a weekly basis
- Local Service Providers are encouraged to meet regularly.
- KYJR team members are encouraged to meet regularly about specific projects
- KYJR team members are encouraged to meet face-to-face to generate solutions to emerging issues

#### Communication between KYJRG and researchers

- Formal Service Agreements established to support evaluation, research and program functions and deliverables associated with KYJR.
- KYJRG invites research representatives to participate in relevant meetings/forums and/or provide verbal briefs about issues arising
- Research representatives invited KYJRG representatives to participate in relevant meetings/forums and/or provide verbal briefs about issues arising
- KYJR research team to communicate through existing internal governance structures and key local stakeholders, including the Chair of the KYJRG

- All research proposals are planned and endorsed in collaboration with the KYJRG or its nominated representatives, preferably prior to submission. Subject to agreement, letters of support are provided, if required.
- KYJRG members will assist in identifying relevant participants for YJR focused research projects.
- Opportunities are provided for KYJRG representatives to be named investigators on research proposals and/or represented on the research steering groups and/or advisory committees.
- Communication between researchers and the KYJRG is consistent with the NHMRC Guidelines for Ethical Conduct in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research; and the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Guidelines for Ethical Research in Australian Indigenous Studies
- Researchers will share emerging research findings with the KYJRG and other relevant community stakeholders

#### Communication and engagement with other external stakeholders

- KYJRG will identify and commit to working with a range of stakeholders to strategically advance the YJR agenda in Katherine. This will include community members (including youth and Indigenous stakeholders), service providers, policy-makers and researchers.
- KYJRG will advocate for YJR among government agencies, philanthropic sources and private industry to help sustain the work of YJR in Katherine.
- Ideally, engagement with external stakeholders should add value to the YJR work occurring in Katherine, and assist in building the capacity of local decision-making, and promote or enhance community control.

**Note:** the examples provided above are indicative only. It is envisaged that additional communication and engagement practices will be used throughout the project.



## Appendix D – KYJR Strategic Plan



## **OUR PRINCIPLES & VALUES** THAT GUIDE THE WAY WE WORK

THE KYJRWG COMMIT TO:

**PROMOTE** EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

**ACT** ETHICALLY, THOUGHTFULLY AND MEANINGFULLY

**ADOPT** A STRENGTHS-BASED POSITION

**PROMOTE** COMMUNITY-LEVEL LEADERSHIP AND OWNERSHIP

**PROVIDE** A CULTURALLY SAFE AND RESPECTFUL ENVIRONMENT

**WORK** COLLABORATIVELY AND SUSTAINABLY FOR LONGER-TERM OUTCOMES

**EMBRACE** EXISTING COMMUNITY ASSETS

**BUILD** AND FURTHER DEVELOP YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY

**ADVOCATE** FOR POSITIVE CHANGE AT FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LEVELS

**DEMONSTRATE** FLEXIBILITY AND AGILITY IN RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

**SHOW** TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN DECISION MAKING



## Appendix E – KYJRG Business Plan 2018-2020

### Background

The Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Group (KYJRG) is a volunteer, community-based collective comprised of multiple individuals, agencies and services across the Katherine township and region. KYJRG members are interested in redistributing justice investments from punitive responses to offending towards those focused on prevention and early intervention. There is a particular focus on reducing incarceration of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people aged 10-25 years old. This KYJRG has been meeting since 2016 to explore ways in which significant changes can be made to the NT youth justice system with the aspiration of implementing justice reinvestment initiatives in Katherine on a sustainable basis over the longer term.

### Purpose

The purpose of this draft business plan is to provide an overview of the priority strategies to be undertaken by the KYJRG from 2018-2020. It aims to provide a roadmap to progress the vision, mission and strategic objectives outlined in the recently developed strategic plan. It is designed to be an iterative document that can be reviewed intermittently throughout its life cycle.

Strategic Objectives	Priority Strategies	Measures	Responsibility	Timeframe
<b>1. To facilitate a safe and happy community environment for the families, children and youth of Katherine</b>	a) Develop and maintain an up-to-date register of partners and key stakeholders to plan and implement the KYJR business plan.	Number of stakeholders involved in implementing KYJR implementation plan.	KYJRG Secretariat	Ongoing – suggest refreshing monthly
	b) Develop a Community Engagement & Advocacy Plan to help sustain planned community engagement and advocacy activities relating to YJR in Katherine	Community Engagement & Advocacy Plan developed	Advocacy Sub Working Group	Sept-Dec 2018
		Number of community engagement and/or advocacy related activities	All KYJRG members	Ongoing
	c) Use data from the current KYJR project to inform the development of a preliminary JR Plan (Phase 2 of a JR approach).	Evidence that data has been used to inform actions identified in the	Data Sub Working Group	July 2019- Ongoing

		preliminary development of the JR Plan		
	d) Plan, implement, evaluate and celebrate the effectiveness of opportunistic 'circuit breakers' aimed at sustaining the focus on YJR in Katherine.	Number of circuit breakers that have been planned, implemented and/or evaluated	All KYJRG members	Ongoing
	e) Increased investment in youth focused activities and supports that directly meet identified youth needs (e.g. actions to address issues such as boredom, bullying, and stress)	% increase in planned and co-ordinated youth focused activities  Number of youth activities formally evaluated from the perspective of local youth	All KYJRWG members	Ongoing – suggest monitoring on six monthly basis
<b>2. To reduce offending and incarceration of Katherine children and youth</b>	a) Advocate for a strategic investment in youth activities and programs aimed at primary prevention and early intervention; and a strategic disinvestment in incarceration.	% increase in planned and co-ordinated youth focused activities with a primary prevention and early intervention focus  % decrease in youth incarceration	All KYJRG members	Ongoing – suggest monitoring on six monthly basis
	b) Encourage organisations delivering activities/programs engaging at-risk or disengaged youth to invest in impact and outcome evaluation.	Number and quality of evaluations associated with programs and activities targeting at-risk or disengaged youth	Selected KYJRG members	
	c) Develop a high level partnership agreement with the Department of Attorney-General and Justice, NT Police and Territory Families to enable the monitoring of youth justice, crime and child protection data in Katherine over the longer-term.	Partnership agreement/s with relevant NT Government agencies is/are established	Data Sub Working Group (with assistance from Menzies School of Health Research and James Cook University)	Dec 2018 – with annual review

<b>3. To value, privilege and celebrate the contribution of youth in the development and implementation of YJR strategies in Katherine</b>	a) Increase the number of youth participating on the KYJRG.	Number of youth represented on KYJRG	All KYJRG members	Ongoing
	b) Partner with Menzies School of Health Research, Charles Darwin University, James Cook University and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education to understand youth perspectives through the 'listening to youth voices' research project.	Research findings shared with, and disseminated through, KYJRG for incorporation into the preliminary JR Plan	Menzies School of Health Research	April-May 2019
	c) Ensure local youth are involved in the development and implementation of the YJR Plan (Phases 2 & 3 of the JR approach).	Number of youth involved in development and implementation of preliminary JR Plan	Local youth	July 2019-Ongoing
	d) Publicly promote positive youth stories from Katherine through local, NT and national radio, print media and social media; and call-out negative youth stereotyping.	Number of positive youth stories in print media  Number of positive stories on radio  Number of positive stories on social media	All KYJRG members  Advocacy Sub Working Group	Ongoing
	e) Develop a website as a portal of communication about all activities associated with YJR in Katherine (subject to funding)	Website developed and web-site metrics monitored on a quarterly basis	KYJRG Secretariat	March 2019
<b>4. To strengthen leadership, governance and community ownership for YJR in Katherine</b>	a) Continue monthly meetings of KYJRG.	Number of meetings held  Record of meeting minutes	All KYJRG members  KYJRG Secretariat	Ongoing
	b) Seek a sustained funding commitment from the Australian Red Cross (ARC) for positions to support administrative and operational	ARC commit to funding two JR positions until Dec 2020	KYJRG and ARC	Sept 2018

	functions of the KYJRG, including the implementation of the business plan.			
	c) Prioritise the establishment of smaller sub working groups to develop and sustain YJR in Katherine (e.g. data; funding; advocacy; priority issues).	Establishment of Data Sub Working Group	KYJRG with support from the Menzies School of Health Research	Aug 2018-ongoing
		Establishment of Funding Sub Working Group	KYJRG with support from the Menzies School of Health Research	Aug 2018-ongoing
		Establishment of Advocacy Sub Working Group	KYJRG	Sept 2018-ongoing
		Establishment of other working groups as required	KYJRG	Ongoing
	d) Examine the feasibility of establishing an independent JR organisation within Katherine to act as the backbone in subsequent JR phases (noting that status as an Aboriginal community-controlled organisation may increase the scope of funding available).	Independent JR organisation established with appropriate governance structure (subject to funding)	KYJRG  KYJRG Secretariat  Probono Legal Support	Aug 2018-Dec 2019
<b>5. To strengthen and sustain partnership approaches in the planning, implementation and evaluation of YJR in Katherine</b>	a) Prepare and submit funding proposals to a range of government, philanthropic, research and private organisations to assist with the implementation of KYJR in Katherine. This could include: - Aboriginal Benefits Account (ABA)	Number of grant submissions  Success rate with grant submissions	Menzies School of Health Research  KRAHRS  ARC	ABA grant application submitted in August 2018

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community-led proposal through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy within the Department of Prime Minister &amp; Cabinet</li> <li>- Northern Territory Government (e.g. Reform Management Office)</li> <li>- NTPHN</li> <li>- Australian Research Council</li> <li>- Dusseldorp Forum</li> <li>- Balnaves Foundation</li> </ul>		KYJRWG Secretariat	<p>NTG funding request planned and submitted by November 2018</p> <p>NTPHN funding proposal planned and submitted by November 2019</p> <p>Australian Research Council Linkage Grant scoped, developed and submitted by June 2019</p>
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	b) Develop a formal statement of commitment for YJR in Katherine with all relevant stakeholders, such as community leaders, trusted Elders, government agencies, non-government organisations and Aboriginal community-controlled organisation.	Statement of Commitment developed with key local stakeholders	KYJRG  KYJRG Secretariat	March 2019
	c) KYJRG invests in relationships that support research, monitoring and evaluation requirements of YJR (as per Phase 4 of the JR approach).	Evidence of research and evaluation data being used to inform the preliminary JR Plan	KYJRG with Menzies School of Health Research	
	d) Undertake comprehensive service mapping (consistent with Phase 1 of the JR approach) in collaboration with local services and partners	Service mapping completed	KYJRG  KYJRG Secretariat	March 2019
	e) Undertake a youth services service mapping refresh on an annual basis.	Service map is refreshed and shared with KYJRWG members to support collaboration	Menzies School of Health Research + KYJRG	Sept 2018 – suggest annual refresh
	f) Continue advocacy efforts and regular engagement with senior government officials, Ministers and Ministerial advisers to sustain interest in YJR in Katherine.	Number of advocacy activities and meetings held with senior government officials, Ministerial advisers, and Ministers.  Number of tangible actions arising from advocacy efforts.	KYJRG Secretariat  Nominated KYJRG (backbone) members	Ongoing
6.	g)			

## Appendix F – Project Outputs and Knowledge Translation

### Presentations

1. Smith, J., Christie, B., & Allison, F. *Promising approaches to Justice Reinvestment (JR) in Australia: Implications for the global health promotion community*. 23<sup>rd</sup> IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion. Rotorua, New Zealand, 7-11<sup>th</sup> April 2019. (oral presentation)
2. Opie, T., Law, S., Smith, J., Christie, B. & Clifford, S. *A place-based approach to Justice Reinvestment: Realising a community vision to reduce youth incarceration in Katherine, Northern Territory, Australia*. 23<sup>rd</sup> IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion. Rotorua, New Zealand, 7-11<sup>th</sup> April 2019. (oral presentation)
3. Clifford, S. & Smith, J. *Understanding the impact of social media depictions of youth in a regional Australian town: Implications for health promotion*. 23<sup>rd</sup> IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion. Rotorua, New Zealand, 7-11<sup>th</sup> April 2019. (oral presentation)
4. Law, S., Guthrie, J. Hopkins, S. & Allison, F., Moyle, D., Ferguson & A. Inkpen N. *Building Communities, Not Prisons in Canberra, ACT, Australia*. Justice Reinvestment Reducing Recidivism Forum, Canberra, ACT, 5-6<sup>th</sup> December 2018. (panel discussion)
5. Solonec, T., Moyle, D., Axelby, C. & Law, S. *What's working on the ground: Indigenous-led solutions and community capacity building in Canberra, ACT, Australia*. Justice Reinvestment Reducing Recidivism Forum, Canberra, ACT, 5-6<sup>th</sup> December 2018. (panel discussion)
6. Law, S. *Katherine Justice Reinvestment, Katherine, NT, Australia*. Dept. of Attorney General & Justice, Katherine, NT, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018 (oral presentation)
7. Christie, B., Smith, J., Allison, F., Clifford, S., Robertson, K. & Ireland, S. *Justice Reinvestment in Australia: A community-driven model to promote sustainable outcomes for complex social issues*. National Health Promotion Symposium. Canberra, 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> August 2018. (poster presentation)
8. Smith, J. & Allison, F. *Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment: Mapping the next steps*. New Territory Forum: Youth Justice Reinvestment. Katherine, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018. (invited speaker)

### Other Knowledge Translation Activities

Content for posters has been developed to explain (a) What is Justice Reinvestment?; (b) What is the approach to Justice Reinvestment in Katherine; and (c) What local data can drive Justice Reinvestment in Katherine? The research team will await for the Katherine JR logo to be finalised, for inclusion, prior to publication.

Invitations to present to cross-government committees/forums will remain a priority.