Welcome Tracey Brand

Tracey Brand has joined the Department of the Chief Minister as the Alice Springs Transformation Plan Executive Director for the Northern Territory Government.

Tracey will lead the implementation of the plan alongside Mark Coffey for the Australian Government. Born and bred in Alice Springs, Tracey started work as a young 17 year old Receptionist with Tangentyere Council and since then has completed undergraduate tertiary qualifications, and today holds a Bachelor of Business, Masters of Aboriginal Administration and a Masters of Business Administration.

Tracey has spent the last ten years as the Tangentyere Council Senior Executive Officer and also served as a member on the Australian Council of Social Services and was Vice President of the NT Council of Social Services.

"I'm very excited about the challenges this role will present and it has real potential to improve life outcomes for many people throughout the town, especially town camp residents" said Tracey.

Apmere Mwerre Visitor Park

Apmere Mwerre (upmura-moora) meaning “good place” is the Arrernte name for the new visitor accommodation park being established on Len Kittle Drive in Alice Springs.

The visitor park will be managed by Aboriginal Hostels Limited who have already started receiving enquiries.

The focus of Apmere Mwerre is to help reduce overcrowding in town camps and to provide a safe place for people to stay when visiting the town.

Town Camps Work Update

A total of 85 new houses will be constructed in the Alice Springs town camps. Eight new houses have been completed across Larapinta Valley, Hidden Valley, Walpiri camp, Little Sisters and Trucking Yards while a further ten new houses are underway at Morris Soak and Trucking Yards.

In addition to the new houses, all 200 existing houses in the town camps will be rebuilt or refurbished through SIHIP and a previously funded housing upgrade program through Tangentyere Council.

Seventeen rebuilds are complete and a further four rebuilds are underway at Trucking Yards, Morris Soak, Hidden Valley and Ilparpa. Three refurbishments are completed.

The ASTP Team is keen to talk to stakeholders about entering construction sites, especially if your service regularly visits town camps to provide services particularly in Morris Soak and Trucking Yards where the civil works will commence shortly.

If your organisation would like to make a time to meet please call (08) 8959 4276.

Targeted Family Support Service

The Targeted Family Support Service has been expanded to provide intensive case management to Aboriginal families who are struggling to care for their children.

The service is the first of its kind in the Northern Territory, where the service accepts referrals from not only NT Families and Children (NTFC) but also community referrals.

The service is provided by Central Australian...
The visitor's park will cater for up to 150 people, providing affordable accommodation options including independent living units and camp facilities.

Families, children and older people will be able to stay at the park for up to two weeks.

It will also be an access point for outreach support services and an alcohol and drug free zone.

Bookings to stay at the Apmere Mwerre Visitor Park can be made prior to arrival in Alice Springs.

If you have any questions contact Aboriginal Hostels Limited on 8952 6544.

Following an extensive recruitment process in February, additional staff including three caseworkers and an Aboriginal Family Support Worker joined the team. This will enable the service to expand its case management capacity from 15 to 45 families. Once all positions have been filled the team will have ten staff including a Program Manager, four Aboriginal Family Support Workers, four Caseworkers, and a Community Child Protection Worker who is employed by NTFC.

Currently the service is working with 39 families, which includes 85 children. The service is offered to indigenous and non-indigenous families.

The team works with families dealing with various issues including children exposed to domestic violence, alcohol issues impacting on parenting, child medical and emotional neglect, child behavioural issues including school attendance, financial and legal issues, family 'humbug' and overcrowding impacting on parenting.

An important part of the service is engaging with other community service providers. The service has been working closely with a number of schools to help facilitate relationships between families and schools and is working closely with other agencies including youth services.

For more information or to contact the service phone: (08) 8958 4534