

Changing lives through sport



Organisation:

Fair Game

Website: www.fairgame.org.au

Focus: First Nations

FAIRGAME
recycling sports equipment inspiring healthy communities.

“Not everyone is dealt a good hand of cards, and I think sport can really be a game changer.”

Originally from Katanning, Simon is a proud Noongar man and descendant of the Kaniyang and Goreng Noongar peoples. He has lived on Whadjuk Noongar Country since the age of seven, when his family moved to Perth.

APPROACH

In August 2022, Simon joined Fair Game through a partnership with UWA's McCusker Centre for Citizenship and St Catherine's College program, Dandjoo Darbalung. While at Fair Game, Simon ran their Recycle & Donate program, which provides pre-loved sporting equipment to communities that need it most. He trained new recruits on all aspects of the program, from unpacking and sorting donations, to cataloguing stock online.

OUTCOME

At the end of his Fair Game internship, Simon transitioned into a project officer role at the organisation to manage their First Nations internship program. He is now following his dream to teach at Aranmore Catholic College, working with Aboriginal kids in the classroom as a teaching assistant.

“I've always wanted to be a teacher, because I want to give back to the community and be that person to change people's lives”

– Simon (volunteer)

LEARNINGS

- Being flexible will make volunteering more accessible for people, including priority group volunteers. This may mean redesigning processes, following cultural protocols, or adapting flexible volunteering hours.
- Use appropriate methods such as contacting an Aboriginal group, university, society or peak body to allow easy initial conversations, assist with co-design and offer additional support structures for your volunteers.
- Don't 'over-utilise' your priority group volunteers.