

Rise and Shine

Kimberley Aboriginal Women's Council



Welcome & About the KAWC

The Kimberley Aboriginal Women's Council (KAWC) is an Aboriginal-led and operated community-controlled organisation founded in 2021, built on the fight led by our ancestors, and driven by a groundswell of Aboriginal women and girls across the Kimberley since 2018.

We envision a Kimberley where Aboriginal women are empowered and resilient, and where we take action for a just and equal future. Our mission is to create environments for Aboriginal women and girls to thrive, and to provide the tools for women and girls to determine their own futures.



Rise & Shine

Aboriginal Mentoring Program

- About Rise & Shine
- What we've done
- What we've learnt
- What comes next



About Rise & Shine

- A new KAWC program co-designed with First Nations women and girls
- Aims to build leadership and life skills through culturally grounded mentoring
- Mentors will support our First Nations girls to grow strong in who they are and what they stand for
- Volunteers include First Nations women from across the Kimberley

About Rise & Shine



What we've done

- Co-design workshops across six townships (Broome, Derby, Fitzroy Crossing, Kununurra, Wyndham, and Halls Creek) in the Kimberley. Spoke with 27 girls, 45 women, 12 key stakeholders, and 7 organisations and potential partners.
- Consultations were used to shape the program's design, values and priorities, understanding and unpacking barriers to volunteering that might arise through the program
- Developed initial volunteer training manual, a draft structure of the program, and other initial program resources including Sorry Business policies and processes
- Built strong relationships with volunteers, potential participants, local women's groups and service providers
- Service mapping with over 10+ existing services and program providers

What we've learnt

- Volunteering looks very different in First Nations communities specifically in regards to kinship and reciprocity and cultural responsibilities
- There are significant and distinct differences in barriers to volunteering experienced by First Nations women and girls in each community, including significant amounts of Sorry Business
- The importance of moving at the speed of trust
- Our volunteers need support and care
- Designing projects and programs that involve First Nations volunteers, requires significant adaptability and emergent strategy

What comes next

- Working to secure pilot program funding!!
- Launching pilot program in second half of 2025 led by local First Nations women
- Finalising volunteer support, materials, training and resources
- Conducting volunteer training
- Further refinement of policies and processes to support

The Kimberley Aboriginal Women's Council

www.kawc.org.au
info@kawc.org.au
0422 279 203

Volunteering WA

Empowering people and communities to enrich Western Australia

www.volunteeringwa.org.au
info@volunteeringwa.org.au
08 9482 4333



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

This project was supported through Volunteering WA's Volunteer Management Activity, funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services, and delivered across various lands in the Kimberley region, including the lands of the Yawuru people. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.