Aboriginal Family Support Services Newsletter





Reece, Lillian and Amie having a meal together after the program.

Community Safety & Wellbeing (CS&W) Circle of Security-Parenting Port Lincoln - Term 1

We have had a deadly time together in the Community Hub Space at Lincoln Gardens Primary School, where we completed the Circle of Security-Parenting Workshop. A big warm 'thanks' to Kelly who has made our group feel welcome, safe and comfortable. Also a big thanks to Principal Sandra Spencer, for offering the space to us. For each workshop, we came together, had a feed and yarn and shared the stories of parenting, including the highs and the lows, while offering support to each other. When our journey came to an end, we then got the chance to have a feed on the last session with the kids. One participant stated, "Circle of Security has absolutely changed my ability to be able to parent my children, understand their needs, and recognize my own behaviour and reactions." We are running a Healthy Homes, Resilient Families -Growing Up Healthy program at the Community Hub space, Port Lincoln in Term 2. Please see page 3 for calendar dates. Come along for a feed, a yarn and tips on all things parenting.



Cheryl and Brett after completing Healthy Homes, Resilient Families - Routines and Rules.

CS&W - Healthy Homes, Resilient Families - Routines and Rules Ceduna - Term 1

As always, it was a pleasure and feels like going home when travelling Ceduna way, and we were very lucky to have a fabulous group come together to share their own experiences of the challenges that we face with setting up Routines and Rules for different families - we all do it differently. We learned about how to use consequences in healthy ways where our kids feel safe! A participant said after completing the workshop "I feel more empowered now, like I know I am on track, some things I needed to do differently, but mostly I am stronger now." The highlight is always coming together and sharing a feed and have a laugh. We would like to thank Ceduna Blues Footy Club, and Woodsy who always makes sure the venue is ready for us. If you want to join our next session, please see page 3 for term 2 calendar dates, or contact Melissa McNab on 0417 255 724.

A message from the Chief Executive

I would like to welcome you all to AFSS March/April Newsletter.

I hope you are all keeping warm as we transition into the colder months of the year.

AFSS CS&W Terms 2 Program Calendar is now available (page 3), so please have a look to see if any of these workshops suit you, or your family.



This month, we will be celebrating Reconciliation Week (27 May - 3 June). We have listed some local events and activities on page 8. The theme for this year is 'Be A Voice For Generations', which encourages all Australians to try and be a voice for Reconciliation, in a creative and tangible way, throughout everyday life - where we work, live, and socialise.

I would also like to say a farewell to two of our long-standing staff, Phillip Holland (HR Manager) and Helen Laxton (Executive Assistant) who have both been working with us for over 10 years. They have been a valuable assistance over this time and we wish them both all the very best in their retirement.

I would also like to welcome AFSS new HR Manager, Hazel Stackhouse who comes with many years of knowledge and working in various industries in her role. We look forward to working with her and seeing what she can bring to AFSS.

On page 13-14, you will find what the Young People have been up to at the Coober Pedy Youth Shed, during Youth Week (24 March - 2 April). It has been a busy time including disco fun, a community BBQ and also the broadcasting of the radio program which was put together with the help of Dusty Radio.

Sharron Williams Chief Executive











Community Safety and Wellbeing

Workshop Calendar - Term 2 - 2023

Workshop	Where	When	Creche	Facilitator(s)
Healthy Homes Resilient Families Rules and Routines	Aboriginal Family Support Services 20 Elizabeth Street - Mount Gambier	Thursdays 8 - 15 June	No	Dawn Cardona 0499 889 729
Healthy Homes Resilient Families Routines & Rules	Whyalla Stuart Primary School Bastyan Street - Whyalla	Tuesdays 13 - 20 June	Yes	Fiona Stanley 0499 887 248
Healthy Homes Resilient Families Routines & Rules	Taikurrendi Children and Family Centre 8 Price Street - Christies Beach	Wednesday 17 May	No	Catherine Momo & Annette O'Loughlin 8281 5440
Healthy Homes Resilient Families Routines & Rules	Ceduna Blues Football Club Lot 184, Eyre Highway - Ceduna	Tuesday 27 & Wednesday 28 June	No	Melissa McNab 8625 3466
Healthy Homes Resilient Families Growing Up Healthy	Aboriginal Family Support Services 67 Adelaide Road - Murray Bridge	Thursdays 11 May - 8 June	No	Catherine Momo 8281 5440
Healthy Homes Resilient Families Growing Up Healthy	Pangula Mannamurrna Aboriginal Corporation Community Hall 191 Commercial Street West - Mount Gambier	Wednesdays 3 - 31 May	No	Dawn Cardona 8723 6110
Healthy Homes Resilient Families Growing Up Healthy	Whyalla Stuart Primary School 76 Bastyan Street - Whyalla	Tuesdays 9 May - 6 June	Yes	Fiona Stanley 0499 887 248
Healthy Homes Resilient Families Growing Up Healthy	Salisbury East Neighborhood Centre 28 Smith Road - Salisbury East	Thursdays 4 May - 22 June	No	Annette O'Loughlin 8281 5440
Healthy Homes Resilient Families Growing Up Healthy	Community Hub 31 Barley Road - Port Lincoln	Thursdays 4 May - 1 June (5 weeks)	No	Melissa McNab 8683 1909
Circle of Security	Learning Together Children & Family Centre Gwyn Street - Port Pirie	Fridays 12 May - 30 June	To be confirmed	Fiona Stanley 0499 887 248
Circle of Security	Aboriginal Family Support Services 254 Kings Road - Paralowie	Tuesdays 2 May - 20 June	No	Nartiea Morgan 8281 5440
Circle of security	Neporendi Aboriginal Forum Inc 7 Vine Street - Old Reynella	Wednesdays 24 May - 12 July	No	Catherine Momo & Annette O'Loughlin 8281 5440
Seasons For Healing	Riddoch Gallery Corner of Bay Road and Commercial Street East Mount Gambier	Wednesday 7 - 28 June	No	Dawn Cardono & Nartiea Morgan 0499 889 729 8281 5440

Contact: CS&W Facilitators

⊗ 8281 5440 ⊕ csw@afss.com.au
 ♀ 254 Kings Road, Paralowie SA 5108

What is Seasons for Healing?

Seasons for Healing* is a small group education program supporting adults in the community who are dealing with the issues of grief and loss

Who can attend?

You can choose to attend a Seasons for Healing program, or you may be referred to AFSS by another agency who thinks it might be helpful for you.

What's in the program?

Seasons for Healing uses a relaxed and informal approach to create space for conversation and reflection.

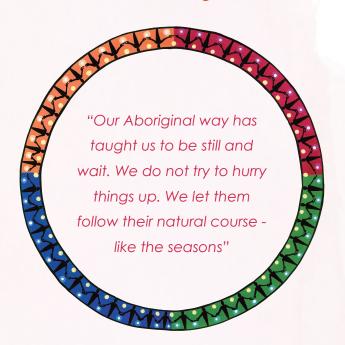
The program is run in small groups, for people who are all going through the same thing - dealing with grief and loss.

It uses the seasons as a way of supporting group members and helping them to understand and recognise their hurt, put a name to their feelings and find positive and helpful ways of responding to these feelings.

The program is led by Companions (AFSS Community Safety and Wellbeing Facilitators) who have undertaken the program themselves and received training to enable them to deliver the program in their own community.

The program Companions accompany participants through their journey during the two days (or four half days) of the program, using workbooks and journals.

Like the seasons life changes



Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann
Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann (AO) is an
Aboriginal elder from Nauiyu (Daly River), where she
served for many years as the principal of the local
Catholic primary school. She is a renowned artist,
writer and public speaker.





Would you like to find out more?

Our Next Seasons For Healing Program Riddoch Gallery

Corner of Bay Road and Commercial Street East

Mount Gambier

Wednesday 7 - 28 June No Creche Facilitators:
Dawn Cardona
& Nartiea
Morgan

If you would like more information, or would like to take part in this program, please contact AFSS staff on: 8281 5440, or you can email csw@afss.com.au





The Hahndorf Story - With a Traditional Custodians Perspective

Early in May, AFSS Board member, Ivan Copley, celebrated the wonders of the land of the Peramangk people with Sharon, local resident and owner/operator of Hahndorf Walking Tours.

The day started with a Welcome to Country and a background history of the First Nations People, followed by an overview of the relationship with the first European settlers in Hahndorf – one of the few good news stories.

It was set on the property of Sir Hans
Heysen 'The Cedars', which is the best
location close to Hahndorf to show the
area in its most original state, and showed
an authentic glimpse of the relationship
between the Peramangk, the gumtrees,
hunting and gathering and the laws of the
Land.



AFSS Youth Support Worker joins the Australian Men's Aboriginal Cricket Team!

AFSS Youth Support Worker,
Tyrell Sinclair, was selected to
represent the Australian Men's
Aboriginal Cricket Team on a
Tour of Vanuatu from May 2-10!
He captained the SA side at
the National Indigenous Cricket
Championships held in Alice
Springs last month and did
quite well to be selected in the
Australian side.

Great work Tyrell!



CS&W - Healthy Homes, Resilient Families Growing up Healthy - Mount Gambier - Term 1

Participants communicated that the Healthy Homes, Resilient Families - Growing Up Healthy program has drastically changed their mind-set on sugar products and that they were now more aware of what ingredients are in items they purchased in their weekly shopping. They relayed that the food choices were now more towards fresh fruit and vegetables and less towards "convenient snack foods", when they felt hungry. All participants actively engaged and eagerly contributed to the cooking of meals each week and learning how to cook with less sugar.

Participants followed recipes and measured the required amount of flavouring and condiments to each meal cooked. Preparation was a group effort with all participating and assisting each other with reading the recipes and labels.

Participants were taken aback when doing the hand sanitizing exercise and commented "I need to wash my hands properly" and "hand cleaning is not as clean as we think".

On the storage of food in the fridge exercise, a participant expressed "I need to practice food safety" and "to carefully store my food at home in my fridge".

If you live in the Mount Gambier region and would like to participate in one of our CS&W Programs, please contact Dawn on (08) 8723 6110.



In term 1, participants attended a 5 week program, with sessions running from 10am-2pm. During this program, participants learnt the effects of a high sugar diet and the impact it has on their families. During the program and at the end, participants stated that; 'The sugar film has changed my perspective on food consumption' and also 'I'm now realising the importance of reading food labels'. Participants also took part in preparing different meals, learning how to cook bulk meals, for a cheaper price.





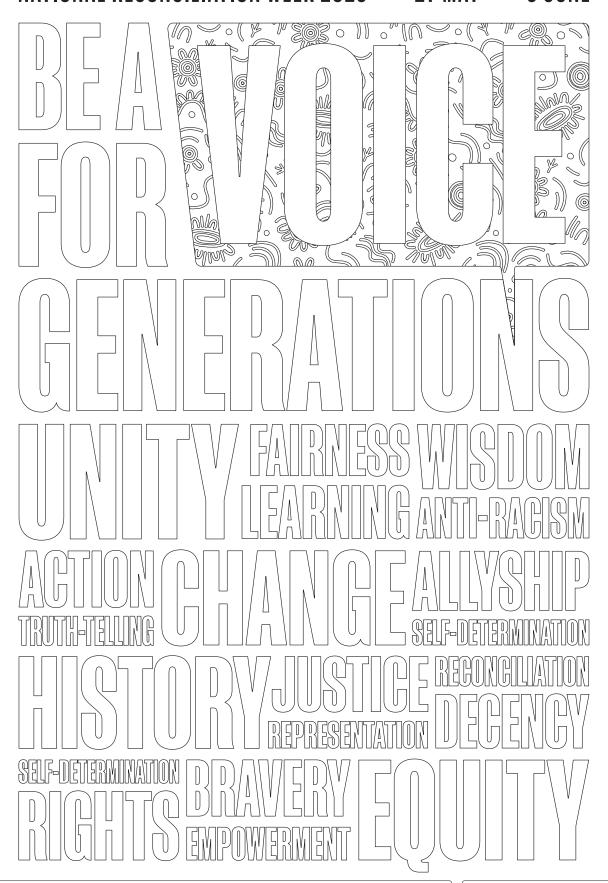








NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2023 27 MAY — 3 JUNE



NRW.RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU

#NRW2023



SA NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK BREAKFAST COMMEMORATING NATIONAL SORRY DAY - 26 MAY @ 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Adelaide Convention Centre North Terrace - Adelaide

A breakfast event that will commemorate Sorry Day and lead into National Reconciliation Week.

STRATHALBYN RECONCILIATION DAY 28 MAY @ 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Strath Neighbourhood Centre 6 Parker Avenue - StrathalbynCelebration of our relationship with the local first nation's people, with dance, food, and fun.

CONNECT TO COUNTRY WITH KYLA MCHUGHES 31 MAY @ 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Victor Harbor Library 1 Bay Road - Victor Harbor

Kyla McHughes is a proud local Ngarrindjeri woman, will talk about the importance of having a Connection to Country.

SERVANT OR SLAVE SCREENING AND CONVERSATION WITH DR JENNI CARUSO - 31 MAY @ 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Tea Tree Gully Library 571 Montague Road - Modbury

Join us at the Tea Tree Gully Library for Servant or Slave film screening and conversation with Dr Jenni Caruso.



RECONCILIATION IN THE WEST 2023 - 1JUNE @ 10.30

Tauondi Aboriginal College -Port Adelaide

Reconciliation in the West is a free annual whole-of-community event that promotes Reconciliation. Featuring free entertainment for all ages, stalls from local service providers and Aboriginal businesses and a free BBQ and much more.

Employment and Education Housing (EEH) program

EEH provides affordable accommodation for Aboriginal residents from remote South Australia who take up employment, education or training opportunities in regional centres, or Metropolitan Adelaide. Pathways Officer's will provide ongoing tenancy and wrap around supports where required. The EEH Program is provided by AFSS through partnerships with housing providers, Aboriginal Community Housing Limited (ACHL) and Community Housing Limited (CHL).

Where are the properties?

EEH houses are located in Port Augusta, Whyalla and Metropolitan Adelaide.



Who is eligible?

EEH applicants must:

- Be an Aboriginal person from a remote South Australian community, including those in the cross border region
- Have children enrolled in school, and the parent or guardian is prepared to relocate and engage in work or study
- Be on a learning or employment pathway or ready to take up further education, training or employment
- Be in receipt of an independent income

Contact us for more info:

Nick Ward - Manager **-** EEH Nicholas.Ward@afss.com.au - 0409 993 444

Lee-Anne Mitchell - Pathway Officer - Adelaide Lee-Anne.Mitchell@afss.com.au - 0400 919 177

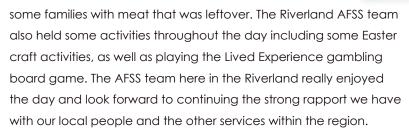
Russel Coulthard - Pathway Officer - Adelaide Russell.Coulthard@afss.com.au- 0409 996 222

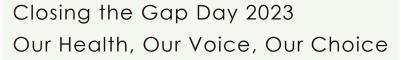


Community BBQ in Renmark

AFSS Riverland team held a Community BBQ in partnership with

the Renmark Chaffey Community Centre. It was a successful day with lots of the local people attending the day, as well as many of the other services in the region. The other services in attendance were Foodbank, Department of Human Services, KWY, Department of Correctional Services, Mind Australia, Uniting Communities and some members of the local mental health team. This was a great turn out and a great opportunity for the local people to talk to these services to get a better understanding on what supports are available to them. The Riverland AFSS team funded a BBQ and supplied





On Thursday 16 March, AFSS Port Lincoln staff participated in Closing the Gap Day along with Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health Services and Eyre & Far North Local Health Network. The event was held at Mallee Park Football Club, holding information stalls, giveaways and a community BBQ. The event saw over 50 attendees who also had the opportunity for free walk-in consultations with services such as Podiatry, Speech Therapy, Physiotherapy and also a Dietician.









Sheryl Giles (Corrections) Nic Barber (AFSS)

AFSS NDIS Team attend Closing the Gap Day

AFSS NDIS team took part in the Closing the Gap Day event, which was held at the Adelaide Showgrounds in Wayville, on 16 March.

The Closing the Gap event was organised by both Sonder and Nunkuwarrin Yunti in collaboration with their partners NAHLN and Adelaide PHN.

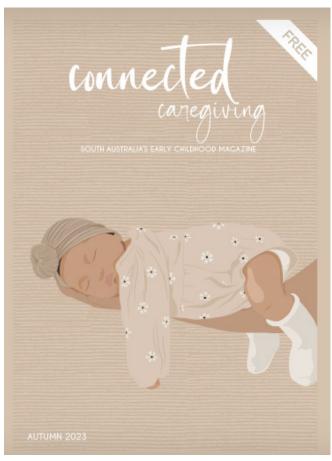
The event was aimed to bring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, communities and health care providers together to share information and promote Aboriginal health equality and community services.

Closing the Gap was a huge success with over 3000 community members attending the event in comparison to last year's event with approximately 1500.

There was an Acknowledgement to Country performed by Uncle

Major Moogy Sumner and also First Nation's music, dancing, arts and crafts, merchandise, AFL Players conducting meet and greets, and a free lunch provided.





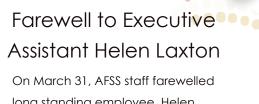
AFSS 'Be With Me' team make an appearance in the Connected Caregiving Magazine - Autumn Addition

AFSS NDIS team was lucky enough to be asked to provide an article in the Connected Caregiving Magazine, South Australia's Early Childhood Magazine.

The publication delivers the latest local information about a range of topics including pregnancy, postpartum, parenting, play-based learning and more! 15,000 copies of Connected Caregiving Magazine are distributed quarterly (Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring), for free, to over 2000 target locations including schools and early-learning centres. Hopefully this will get the NDIS team some well deserved exposure for all of their hard work.

Check out page 28 to read the article featuring AFSS NDIS 'Be With Me' Program!

https://www.connectedcaregiving.com.au/







Rashmi Pandey, Payroll and HR Administration Officer.

My name is Rashmi Pandey. I feel privileged to be your new HR & Payroll Officer.

I have a passion for doing the right thing and my strengths are that I am self-motivated and dedicated. Prior to joining the AFSS family, I was working with a not-for-profit hospital in Melbourne. I chose to make a career with community based organisations because they provide me with a sense of job satisfaction and accomplishment. Additionally, I like working with diverse groups of people and to connect across cultures.

When I am not working, I like taking long walks in nature, reading and spending time with my family. I look forward to working with you all. Please don't hesitate to contact me with your HR Admin needs.

Hazel Stackhouse, Manager Human Resources.

We would like to wish a warm welcome to AFSS new Manager Human Resources, Hazel Stackhouse. Hazel's Human Resource management career spans across two continents, having moved with her family from the UK to Australia in 2006. She has advised and coached executive management, and developed HR strategies within a range of industries including automotive, quarry and industrial waste, construction, disability services, joining AFSS in March 2023. After qualifying as a lawyer in Australia, Hazel gained a Post Graduate qualification in Human Resources management and is as passionate as ever about developing talented people in diverse organisations.

Are you interested in working at AFSS?

In the last 3 years AFSS has grown immensely, going from an organisation of 250 employees, to 450! If you have the skills and passion needed to work in a challenging, but rewarding role with us, then we'd love to hear from you! Current positions are advertised on our website at:

https://www.afss.com.au/employment

What are the additional benefits working with AFSS?

As a Public Benevolent Institution (PBI), one of the benefits

https://www.cbb.com.au/discover-salary-packaging/



valuable assistant to our CE Sharron.

Youth Week (24 March - 2 April) at the Coober Pedy Youth Shed

Youth Week at the Coober Pedy Youth Shed was a huge success! In total we had:

- 24 Young People do various trainings between the ages of 5-25 years old.
- 7 Young People in supporting roles who helped younger students.
- 17 radio shows produced and played on air, with Dusty Radio, plus the school students did live broadcasts all week during their first lunch break.
- 3 local Young People who released their own songs on the radio.
- 83 Young People and about 12 adults attended the disco.
- 40 people attended the BBQ launch after school at Dusty radio.





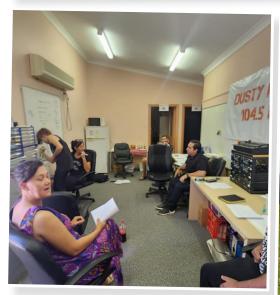
















Foster Carers wanted across South Australia!

- Are you passionate about the future of Aboriginal children and young people?
- Are you supportive and understanding?
- Can you help keep young people safe in culture and community?

AFSS is looking for caring people just like you, who want to play their part in supporting Aboriginal children and young people

Contact an AFSS office in your area

Adelaide - Megan Proctor ≥ assessments@afss.com.au € 8297 5708

Berri - Nicole Barber ⊠ nicole.barber@afss.com.au € 8582 5503

Ceduna - Michelle Naylon ≥ michelle.naylon@afss.com.au € 8625 3466

Coober Pedy - Julie Knight ⊠ julie.knight@afss.com.au ⊘ 8672 3066

Mount Gambier - Dawn Cardona ☑ Dawn.Cardona@afss.com.au 🕜 8725 6200

Port Augusta - Deb Merchant ≥ deborah.merchant@afss.com.au ⊘ 8641 0907

Port Lincoln - Mandy Drummond ☑ mandy.drummond@afss.com.au ⊘ 8683 1909





follow us on facebook



Foster Care Information Sessions

Wudinna Community Library

Friday 26 May 2023

Lock Community Library

Elliston Town Hall

Monday 22 May 2023





Please contact Mandy Drummond for more details: mandy.drummond@afss.com.au / 0417778310

AFSS Events Committee

AFSS have recently initiated an Events Committee! The main aim of the committee is to gather information in regards to any significant or upcoming events, and put them into a calendar which will be placed onto our Website, Intranet for staff, and into the Newsletter. We will not be organising any events, but collecting and distributing information. We will also be sending out regular emails of any upcoming events. Most of these will be linked to significant Aboriginal Annual Anniversaries like NAIDOC Family Fun Day, Apology Day etc. But also other National days of celebration including; RU OK Day, International Women's Day etc. There will also be other cultural activities that will pop up here and there. Your Carer Liaison Officer will let you know of anything that may be beneficial for you and your children in Care. If you have anything that you would like to put forward, which you think may be beneficial i.e. Something that is happening in the community, cultural activity, then please email:

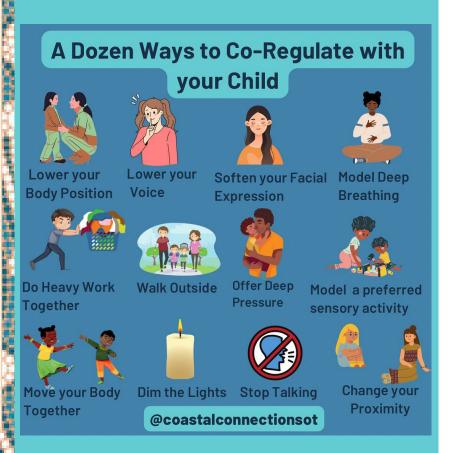
events@afss.com.au

Tips for Foster Carers

Co-regulation is an interpersonal process in which participants continuously adjust their interactions in a coordinated pattern to co-create and maintain a positive emotional state. During emotion co-regulation, participating partners co-regulate by adapting their actions to regulate one another in a cooperative way. This mutual regulation between people involves matching, mismatching, rupturing, and repairing connections.

An individual learns to self-regulate by first co-regulating with others. Co-regulation is important because it is a way for parents to help their children develop emotional self-regulation. Emotional regulation is essential for healthy child development. Studies have found strong links between social-emotional development and a child's successful functioning in a lot of areas, from physical and mental health to academic performance and socioeconomic success. Difficulties in self-regulation development are associated with many negative outcomes in adolescence and adulthood.

https://www.parentingforbrain.com/co-regulation/



Where to find us

Adelaide

134 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000 ② 8205 1500

Berri

23 Denny Street Berri SA 5343 ② 8582 3192

Ceduna

28 Poynton Street Ceduna SA 5690 @ 8625 3466

Coober Pedy

Lot 1991 Aylett Street Coober Pedy SA 5723 © 8672 3066

Cross Road

503 Cross Road South Plympton SA 5038 ⊘ 8297 5708

Mount Gambier

20 Elizabeth Street Mount Gambier SA 5290 © 8723 6110

Morphett Vale

Unit 1-365 Main South Road Morphett Vale SA 5162 ② 8186 4000

Murray Bridge

67 Adelaide Road Murray Bridge SA 5253 © 8532 1790

Paralowie

254 Kings Road Paralowie SA 5108 ② 8281 5440

Port Augusta

8-10 Victoria Parade Port Augusta SA 5700 © 8641 0907

Port Lincoln

21 Washington Street Port Lincoln SA 5606 © 8683 1909

Port Pirie

23 Norman Street Port Pirie SA 5540 © 8632 2227

Salisbury

4 Ann Street Salisbury SA 5108 © 8182 6567

Salisbury

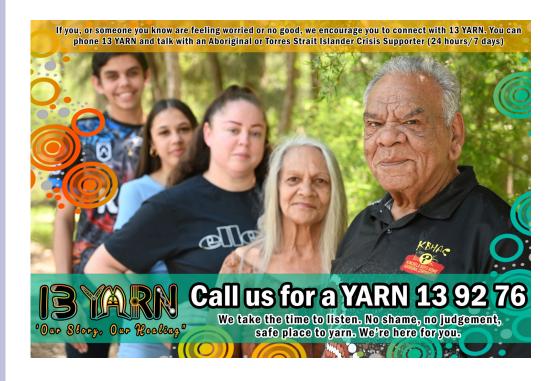
20 Ann Street Salisbury SA 5108 © 8281 3440

Whyalla

19B Darling Terrace Whyalla SA 5600 © 8644 0116



AFSS Port Lincoln team have currently been working on a radio advertising campaign. We enlisted the help of carer Marlene Wilson and also one of AFSS Young People in care to help with the production. We spent the morning rehearsing and recording. The advertisement will be aired on Magic 89.9 and 5CC in the near future.



If you love savings on food and entertainment, then follow this link to purchase a digital Entertainment Book & help support AFSS!

https://au.entdigital.net/orderbooks/9x50254