

Partner Update

GANBINA NOVEMBER 2022

25 YEARS OF CREATING BRIGHTER FUTURES



Twenty-five years ago, Ganbina set out to change the future for Indigenous people in this country.

Our methodology was then, and is now, unique. We nurture young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, from the ages of 5 to 25, with the tools, skills and encouragement they need to unlock their full potential in life.

In 1997, our Vision was that by helping to unlock this enormous potential, Indigenous communities would achieve true cultural, economic and social equality in Australia, within two generations.

That Vision has remained constant, and in 2022, Ganbina celebrates the half-way mark in achieving our goal.

To date, we have helped nearly 1,700 young Ganbina participants achieve incredible success in education, training and meaningful, paid employment.

Statistics by themselves are easy to gloss over. But what we never forget, is that behind every single one of those numbers, is a real person who has made a success of their life, often against all odds. A person who is a powerful 'Agent of Change' in their own communities, inspiring and leading others to create a better future for themselves, their children, and their children's children.

The Ganbina model is now being migrated to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities around Australia for implementation on a wider scale.

To our founders, our supporters and our team – our sincere thanks for your part in this historic Ganbina journey. Together we will continue to dismantle the status quo to bring about meaningful and lasting change for Indigenous people in this country.

We are one generation down. One to go.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Cavanagh'.

Anthony Cavanagh, CEO

GANBINA 25TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY



L-R Panel participants: Sylvia Geddes (financial supporter); Jim O'Connor (founding partner); Kirsty Allen (Sidney Myer Fund); and Simon Faivel (Social Ventures Australia).

Ganbina partners, participants and staff, past and present, gathered in October to celebrate our 25 year milestone. Over a two hour event, guests listened to a range of presentations, panel discussions and interviews reflecting Ganbina's 25 year journey to date.

Our thanks go to our speakers including Uncle Tony Garvey, Adrian Appo OAM, our panel participants and Ganbina graduates; and to ANZ and Louise Ellis for hosting the event at the ANZ Centre in Docklands.

"Longevity of financial and other support is so important. I believe that if something is working well and achieving its objectives, like Ganbina, it is important to maintain that support. Predictable, sustained funding gives organisations the time and space they need to develop, maintain, evaluate and refine their activities to meet ongoing identified needs."

Sylvia Geddes

"Social purpose organisations need to rigorously assess and articulate their effectiveness. This not only helps to clarify the value they create from investment dollars, but it also informs their future direction. Ganbina has invested in evaluations that prove their impact is deep and results in sustainable change."

Simon Faivel



GANBINA AGENTS OF CHANGE



JOE BARNES-HILL

Joe is a Project and Policy Officer with Murray & Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations. He is also the founder of Aus Electric Car Chargers.

Joe said that he would not have finished school without Ganbina's support and that it opened the doors to many opportunities he would not have had otherwise.

"I remember going with Ganbina to Melbourne to visit Crown and CGU and Allens, and sitting on the 40th floor of a Collins Street office just looking out at the city.

"It was the first time I'd ever been in a building and a business like that. And I think that's such a big and powerful thing to do for someone, to show them what's possible.

"I definitely wouldn't be here today, in the way that I am, without Ganbina."



LENA-JEAN CHARLES-LOFFEL

Lena-Jean is the Impact Coordinator at Clothing The Gaps Foundation and a Ganbina Board member.

"Ganbina was super positive and supportive to me throughout my education. It is a really awesome space to engage young Aboriginal people, and to give them a platform to explore future opportunities that they might not necessarily get through mainstream organisations.

"There is no way I would have got my driving licence at 18 without Ganbina. And I probably wouldn't have heard about the degree I did at university if Ganbina hadn't shown me the flyer about it.

"Being on the Board now is a great way for me to give back to future participants."



EDDIE BRYANT

Eddie is a Koorie Academy of Excellence (KAE) Facilitator with the Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc. (VAEAI).

Eddie said that Ganbina had created many important first time experiences in his life.

"My first time sitting in a big city boardroom, my first passport, my first overseas trip, my first job, and my first driving licence – all of those were with Ganbina.

"It was also the first time that I felt that I had a voice, and that I would be listened to, even as a young person. Ganbina had a very big impact on me and always made me feel that I mattered.

"I often reflect back on my time with Ganbina and realise how important it was, and how much of the program has stuck with me throughout my adult life."

25 YEARS OF RESULTS

THE GANBINA EFFECT

ATTAINMENT OF SECONDARY EDUCATION QUALIFICATION



Non-indigenous
88.5%



Indigenous
63.2%



Ganbina
88%

EMPLOYED



Non-indigenous
76%



Indigenous
49%



Ganbina
76%



The book *'Ganbina – a generation of change'* is a history of Ganbina's 25 year journey to date. It was compiled by Ganbina's Media & Communications Manager, Samantha Lenkic.

The front cover is a reproduction of a painting called 'Anganya' by Chloe Jones. Chloe has been a Ganbina participant for 16 years. Today she sells her art, and offers educational and cultural services, via her online business, Dungala Creations.

"With the ongoing support of Ganbina, my family, and my community, I have been allowed to speak without fear or judgement or rejection and to simply just be me - a young creative who is passionate about her craft, her culture and her community. That is why we need organisations such as Ganbina - to help us believe in ourselves."

