

Focus

update



Hello Ganbina participants, families and guardians,

We are almost at the end of another year of the Jobs4U2 program and I wanted to send a huge congratulations to all of our participants who are about to finish their relevant year of education, training and/or employment.

This year we have had 376 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and youth enrolled in our Jobs4U2 programs. We are very pleased to write that 99% of the children and youth enrolled this year are on track to finish their relevant year of education, training and/or employment.

This is such a testament to the work you have all put in and your commitment to achieving your goals in education, training and employment, as well as the support of your families and community.

We recently celebrated our 19th Ganbina Youth Achievement Awards, which was attended by a record 251 community members. You can read more about this wonderful event and the award winners in this newsletter.

You will also find in this newsletter a Q&A with one of the newest members of our Ganbina team, Klarindah Hudson. Klarindah is our Scholarship Program Project Officer and won the Youth of the Year Award in 2022. Welcome Klarindah!

Christmas is just around the corner and the Ganbina office will soon be closed for the year. The Ganbina office will be officially closed on **Friday, December 22nd 2023**. In the new year, the office will open on **Monday, January 22nd 2024**.

From **January 22nd 2024**, registrations for our Jobs4U2 program - Education, Employment and Training, will open again. Make sure to speak with your Project Officer to ensure you have access to all the services available to you to support you in your education, training and/or employment goals in 2024.

Until then, have a well-deserved Christmas and summer break.

We hope to see you all in the new year!

Kind Regards,

Tracy Bevan
General Manger
Ganbina



Top story



19th Youth Achievement Awards: That's a Wrap!

Last month Ganbina hosted its 19th annual Ganbina Youth Achievement Awards. A record 251 people attended, making it the largest awards night ever. The awards is open to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and youth (Year 7- age 25) living in the Goulburn Valley and recognises achievement in education, training or employment.

The night opened with a Welcome to Country in traditional Yorta Yorta language by local Djeta Merle Miller. The guests were then treated to a traditional dance by the Kalithaban Dancers, which included the amazingly talented didge player Wilfred Stewart, alongside lead dancer Tristen Miller and Kailem Harrison, who are both Ganbina program graduates.

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Ganbina focus



Q&A- Meet Ganbina Scholarship Program Project Officer Klarindah Hudson

Hi Klarindah – welcome to Ganbina! Can you start with letting us know about yourself? Are you originally from Shepparton? What's your mob?

I grew up in Melbourne and moved to Shepparton in 2020, which was good timing because the lockdowns were so much more intense in the city than here. My mum's mob is Gunditjmarra and on my dad's side I'm Yorta Yorta. I moved here because my partner lives here and I play netball here. So I really just needed a job to make the move.

How did the opportunity to work at Ganbina come about?

I felt I was ready for something new, my previous role was starting to feel a bit repetitive so I reached out to Rianne (Ganbina Programs Manager) and asked her if there were any jobs going at Ganbina. She said she would double check and see if there was anything and it turns out this role was available. Then it all happened really quickly, I had the interview the following week and now I'm here. It was perfect timing.

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**Coming Up - Youth Leadership Program 2024 and
Year 10 Leadership Trip to Camp Jungai**



All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth in the Goulburn Valley in Year 10 will have the opportunity to have a taste tester of the Ganbina Youth Leadership Program at a four day, three night leadership camp to Camp Jungai set in the scenic Rubicon Valley.

This is the second leadership camp to Camp Jungai Ganbina has run and will include activities that teach participants about team building, leadership and personal development. There will also be several cultural experiences with an Elder. These activities and teachings serve as a taste test of the skills and experiences that are included in the Youth Leadership Program.

The camp will run from Sunday, December 17th until Wednesday, December 20th. Please note that registrations for this year's Camp Jungai have now closed.

Next year the Ganbina Youth Leadership Program will be reduced from a three year to a one year program for Year 11 Ganbina participants who are enrolled in Ganbina's Jobs4U2 Education program. The program will include three trips in 2024, one to Melbourne or Sydney (exact destination to be confirmed), an interstate trip to Cairns and a final international trip to New Zealand.

Applications for the 2024 Youth Leadership Program will open in early February 2024 to students who will be enrolled in Year 11 in 2024 and Ganbina's Jobs4U2 Education Program. However any participants who are interested in applying can express their interest by emailing Rianne Hood on rianne@ganbina.com.au

Congratulations Year 12 graduates of 2023!

We would like to congratulate all of our year 12 students who have finished their final year of schooling! This year 18 Ganbina participants have completed year 12, which means 86% per cent of Ganbina participants enrolled in year 12 graduated.

It is an incredible achievement to complete year 12. There may be some of you who are the first in your family to do so and no matter what your results are, that is something to be very proud of.

Completing high school is the stepping stone to unlocking your full potential in whatever you want to achieve in your career or further education.

Ganbina's CEO Anthony Cavanagh sent a personal congratulations to the 2023 year 12 graduates.

"As we see out 2023, with excitement we celebrate our year 12 group with 18 outstanding graduates. Each can be very proud of their tireless work paying off with an amazing lifelong recognition of graduation. This benchmark can launch you into a meaningful career, as much more opportunities will now present themselves for you in the years ahead. From everyone at Ganbina – congratulations," he said.

Don't forget that just because you have finished year 12, doesn't mean Ganbina's services and support are no longer available to you. Most of you have met with Dayna, our Employment and Training Program Project Officer and she will be in contact with you in the new year.

We support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and youth up to the age of 25. Our employment and education services are still available to help you achieve your dreams. Whether you need financial support for further education or work expenses, help with applying for TAFE and university positions or would like to be connected with our vast network of employers, we are here to help you.

On the radar

17 Dec - 20 Dec Camp Jungai

22 Dec Ganbina office closes for Christmas break

22 Jan Ganbina office reopens for 2024

22 Jan Jobs4U2 registrations for 2024 program open

1 Feb Primary school registration opens

5 Feb Youth Leadership Program information night

5 Feb Youth Leadership Program applications open

16 Feb Youth Leadership Program applications close



Artwork: Anganya by Chloe Jones

Ganbina acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, learn and work upon. We acknowledge all

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and commit to working respectfully to honour their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to their respective communities.



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