

The David Wirrpanda Foundation exists to Improve the Life Outcomes of Indigenous Children by promoting strong role models and healthy life choices. 2005 saw the launch of the David Wirrpanda Foundation through the support of Woodside Energy Ltd as founding sponsor.

The focus is to:

- Increase the retention of indigenous students in school,
- Improve the health of Indigenous children, and
- Improve their life choices after leaving school by encouraging further study or entry into the workforce.

Since commencing operations in 2005, the Foundation has established successful programs in Perth and in the Pilbara and attendance and behaviour has improved.

Mentoring by West Coast Eagles footballer David Wirrpanda, former Fremantle footballer Troy Cook, member of the West Coast Fever Netball team Bianca Franklin and other indigenous role models are an important part of the Foundation's work.

The Foundation has established strong links with the communities in which it operates as well as obtaining funding from sponsors and government sources.

Major sponsors of the Foundation include founding sponsor Woodside Energy, Rio Tinto, Pilbara Development Commission, the West Coast Eagles Supporters' Club, Lotterywest and Commonwealth Grants.

The Foundation programs are funded under the National Community Crime Prevention Programme.

The Foundation now plans to build on these successes by expanding its operations in Perth and the Pilbara.

MAJOR SPONSORS

RioTinto



An Australian Government Initiative

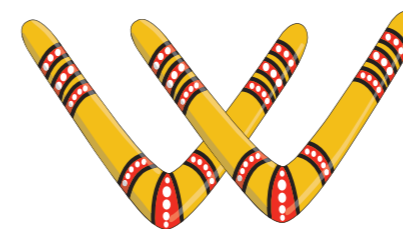
NATIONAL COMMUNITY
CRIME PREVENTION
PROGRAMME

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david
wirrpanda
foundation

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*Promoting Strong Role Models and
Healthy Life Choices for Indigenous Children*



The David Wirrpanda Foundation was founded out of mutual desire to assist and develop young people through education, promoting healthy lifestyles and building self-esteem.

FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES

The main focus of each program is to improve the life outcomes of Indigenous children by targeting specialized areas at specific stages in their life.

WIRRA CLUB

The Wirra Club, opened in mid 2005 and currently operates out of Perth, Wickham in the Pilbara, and in the near future throughout West Australia.

The main focus of the program, is keeping indigenous children in school and improving standards of behaviour and achievement.



Features of the Wirra Club include: Provision of an educational and social meeting place; Physical activity session; healthy snacks; mentor session with a role model; and special workshops.

The Wirra Club is available to schools by appointment and with the assistance of Foundation staff various projects can be undertaken.

These projects include education about anti-social behaviour including abuse, bullying and health and lifestyle issues including substance abuse.

TROY COOK HEALTH & FITNESS

Building a Healthy and Active Lifestyle for our future generation. Troy Cook has developed a program including Health, Mental Well being and Substance Abuse.



Troy's program is a ten week program designed to provide the opportunity to experience the life of a professional athlete by participating alongside the program mentors.

The program will empower the participant to evaluate opportunities and challenges associated with day to day living in society and will teach how to take action to lead a healthy lifestyle, to avoid injury, make socially and personally responsible decisions and reduce threats to your health and well being.

DARE TO DREAM GIRLS GROUP

The program was developed in the Perth office in June 2007. The program has identified the need for activities specific to girls.



Some objectives of the program are to: Increase self-esteem; Educate about drug/ alcohol, health issues including sexual health and healthy relationships, including domestic and family violence; Promote positive role models in the community; and Participate in sporting activities and courses related to delivering sport in partnership with the Nyoongar Sports Association;

The program aims to provide opportunities for the girls that they would otherwise not have.

“ON MY WAY” PROGRAM

The “On My Way” program was designed for secondary school aged children. The program commenced at the Roebourne High School and is now expanded throughout the Pilbara..



Some objectives of the program are to: Increase school attendance and participation; Decrease participants' contact with the Justice System; Encourage re-engagement with education; and Provide mentoring and strong role models both by the Foundation and within the community

The program is rewards based.

PLAN 2DAY 4 2MORROW (EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM)

Plan 2day 4 2morrow focus on indigenous people who are keen to enter the workforce, aiming for a job for all who successfully complete the pre-employment program.



The target group is Indigenous males and females, who have completed year 10 schooling.

The foundation provides a work ready camp which specializes in career direction. We focus on job ready skills, health, lifestyle, culture and team development.

“My heritage gives me so much power it’s unbelievable. I’ve got the confidence to go out and speak in front of anyone and present Aboriginal culture. At the end of the day that’s going to stay with me for the rest of my life.” - David Wirrpanda