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PREVENTING CHILD ABUSE

NAPCAN Play Your Part Award 2012 - Northern Territory Recipient

Recipients: Timmy Duggan
For: Hoops for Health Aboriginal Corporation
Based in: Darwin, Northern Territory

Background:

Hoops 4 Health Aboriginal Corporation (H4H) is a non-for-profit Indigenous organisation that operates throughout the Territory. It evolved from the identified needs and issues pertaining to the dire health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Hoops 4 Health began as a health education program that was initiated by current the Director, Timmy Duggan.

The H4H Program commenced in 2002 and the inaugural sessions were conducted in Tennant Creek through a grant from the Anyinginyi Congress Sport and Recreation Department. The organisation relies on a strong volunteer base and has no core funding.

Over 10,000 Indigenous youth have participated in the programs since H4H formed 2002. All Directors are Indigenous and from the NT, with Anthony Mundine as the H4H patron. The founder of H4H Aboriginal Corporation, Timmy Duggan, is the first person from the NT to play in the National Basketball League.

Current programs run by Hoops 4 Health Aboriginal Corporation are:

- The BALLERS Program - (Basketball After Hours Linking Learning and Engagement Equal Results for Safety)
- Moonlight Basketball
- The Live Longer Program

The programs use basketball as the medium but focus on preventative health using a social marketing campaign. They aim to promote healthier lifestyle choices to youth in urban, regional and remote locations. Focusing on youth diversionary activities by using culturally appropriate methods H4H tailor programs to suit the audience with respect to family values, environment and local knowledge. Located in Darwin their dedicated board consists of professional Indigenous role models from various locations throughout Australia, bringing a vast knowledge of personal and professional experiences of family connections, work, sport and community involvement activities. Hoops for Health



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Aboriginal Corporation deliver unique programs to suit each individual community using sport as a vehicle to drive and deliver our messages.

In Basketball the most points you can acquire in any one shot is 3. H4H acknowledge that sometimes we only have one shot to make a difference in our lives. By participating in the H4H events, Aboriginal people, namely youth, benefit from the following:

- a sense of achievement and positive self image
- leadership skills and qualities
- the ability to make decisions and accept responsibility
- an interest in sports participation as an adult
- be linked to a pathway with existing mainstream basketball competitions

Recognition of achievement

NAPCAN'S 2012 Play Your Part Awards are about acknowledging individuals, communities or organisations that work towards strengthening communities and thereby creating environments that support the safety and well being of children and young people. Timmy Duggan is an example of an inspiring individual who turned an initiative he had into a reality. Through Timmy's initiatives communities within the Northern Territory have been strengthened. Timmy has been awarded the NAPCAN Play your Part Northern Territory award 2012.