

## FROM MEETING 29 FEBRUARY 2024

### THE NORTHERN TERRITORY PREVENTION ALLIANCE (NTPA) HELD OUR EIGHTH MEETING AT DARWIN'S MOTOR SPORTS HOUSE, HIDDEN VALLEY RACEWAY

The Alliance brings together a diverse group of influential NT leaders committed to preventing harm to children and young people and promoting their welfare and wellbeing.

A range of issues was explored at the meeting, including the impact of child maltreatment on children and young people in the NT.

#### Jacqueline Dysart

PhD Scholar, Melbourne University, Manager CatholicCare NT AOD and MH Programs, presented on

#### COMMUNITY-LED RESEARCH WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN DARWIN

- a co-design method involving elders, young people and other community members.



#### Findings to date:

To strengthen wellbeing young people say they need:

- Support (help, talking and being listened to)
- Positive thoughts & feelings (feeling good/proud)
- Things to do (programs and activities, paid jobs)
- Relationships & care (kindness, support, responsibility)
- Good spaces (safe, comfortable, relaxing, youth friendly)

#### What can we do?

- Use models that support the people who care for children and young people
- Help young people to move through difficult feelings
- Look for ways for young people to be involved, and feel safe and comfortable to do so.

#### Preliminary products:

- 'Principles for Strong Collaboration on Larrakia Land'
- 'Speaking Up About Wellbeing' Cards

#### Update: Coalition to Prevent Child Maltreatment

- Prevention cannot be advanced through a child protection lens- leadership from other sectors such as Health, Education and Justice is vital
- Calling on state and territory governments to host child maltreatment prevention summits.



Alicia Perera

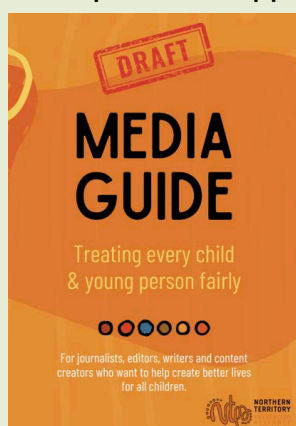
Chair, NT Press Club and Digital Lead, ABC News NT

provided feedback on

the NT MEDIA GUIDE: TREATING EVERY CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON FAIRLY

The NT Media Guide has been developed by NAPCAN and the NTPA to encourage constructive and evidence-based narratives on children and young people in the Northern Territory.

Alicia provided support for the pitch, content and structure of the guide, noting:



- Contains clear messaging on language and terms to use and not to use, and why
- Useful for court reporters
- Would be good to include more scenarios and case studies to highlight helpful and unhelpful messaging



Alicia also provided guidance on media contacts and dissemination opportunities.

## NTPA MEMBERS AGREED TO:

- Retain our focus on the need for **prevention and early intervention** to address child maltreatment, youth offending, school withdrawal and non-attendance
- Reinforce the prevention message, backed by the evidence, in upcoming **inquiries and reviews**
- Continue to reach out to **youth and cultural groups** for **feedback on the message guides and media guide**
- Consider opportunities to launch and share the message guides and media guide
- Review the **NTPA Terms of Reference** to reflect evolution over time
- Continue to build the NTPA web page
- Continue to **share positive stories** about young people and identify narratives for inclusion in NTPA resources.

The NTPA aims to harness the collective impact of key NT agencies and businesses to raise awareness of the needs and experiences of children, young people and families, and focus on wellbeing and prevention.