

Wirru-Murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal  
Corporation  
2020/2021 Members & Community  
Support Policy  
Effective from 1 July 2020

Approved by the Board of Directors by resolution on 18 June  
2020



This Policy is a commitment by  
WMYAC to provide a  
contribution of up to \$750,000  
for the benefit of Members &  
the Community over the next  
12 months.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The 2020 – 2021 Members & Community Support Policy focuses on five key areas:

1. Health and Support;
2. Education;
3. Community Support;
4. Home Support; and
5. Lore & Culture.

These areas have been selected and approved by the WMYAC Board of Directors to respond to members and Community needs and complement other assistance that are available. The Board is also actively identifying and supporting strategic projects to achieve our Corporation objectives for the long term. In addition to providing financial assistance, the WMYAC owned assets may be used by Members or the Community for approved purposes.

The Directors want to highlight that WMYAC **does not** receive any Native Title royalties and our ability to support our Members and Community rely solely on the success of our business operations. WMYAC is not a Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) nor is it a Registered Native Title Body (NTRB). If you are a Member of other Aboriginal organisations that offer support, please make sure that you access that support as well, especially if the other Aboriginal Organisation is a PBC that receives royalties on your behalf.

The policies and procedures that are used to govern the Members & Community Support Policy are described in this document.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR WMYAC SUPPORT

### (a) Members' Support

To be eligible for Members' Support you must:

- ✓ Be a WMYAC member
- ✓ Fill out the application form
- ✓ Provide all the information requested and meet the conditions
- ✓ Provide an invoice (no cash payments will be made).

### (b) Community Support

To be eligible for Community Support you must:

- ✓ Be requesting support that will benefit the local Community
- ✓ Fill out the application form
- ✓ Provide all the information requested and meet the conditions
- ✓ Provide an invoice (no cash payments will be made).

### 3. MEMBERS ONLY SUPPORT

If you are a Member of WMYAC, you are entitled apply for the following support:

#### (a) Utilities and Food Support

A payment of up to \$1,000 towards your utility bills including electricity; gas; or water. A member may also spend these funds on food vouchers.

Please note that WMYAC has approximately **400 Members** and providing this support to every Member amounting to a contribution of **\$400,000**.

\$400,000

Commitment

#### (b) Critically Ill Family Member Assistance

Members can apply for assistance with transport and accommodation costs associated with visiting a critically ill family member. Please note that the Board has allocated a fixed budget to this support, which means that we will not be able to assist every Member and that there will be a limit on how many Members can be supported in relation to each Critically Ill Family Member.

The budget for this support is limited to **\$50,000** and the maximum support to cover travel and accommodation costs is \$2,000 per Member. Each Member is only eligible to apply for this support once per year.

If the budget has been fully expended, this support will be put on hold until such time that further funds are approved by the Board or a new financial year commences. Please ensure that you access the Patient Assistance Transport Service (PATS) via your local health service prior to requesting support from WMYAC.

\$50,000

Commitment

#### (c) Funeral Assistance

Members can apply for assistance with funeral director services, Shire fees and caskets for the funerals of WMYAC members and their biological and/or dependent children (under the age of 18 years).

The Board has approved a budget of **\$100,000** to support our Members.

The maximum amount per Member is \$3,000 and only one application per funeral may be submitted. Once the funds have been spent, the Board can either allocate additional funds or Members will need to wait for the next financial year.

\$100,000

Commitment

It is important that Members approach their PBC or other Aboriginal organisations to help contribute towards funeral costs.

#### (d) Education Support



Members can apply for support towards the costs of education related to their children and/or grandchildren up to an amount of \$200. This excludes school fees or uniforms.

Where a Member has a Child or Grandchild in Years 11 or 12, Wirlu Murra provides up to \$1,000 of support per member towards educational equipment such as a laptop.

The Board has approved a budget of **\$50,000** which means that not every member will have access to this support. Once the funds have been spent, the Board can either allocate additional funds or Members will need to wait for the next financial year.

#### (e) Emergency Support – White Goods



Members can apply for support towards the cost of replacing essential items that may have been damaged due to circumstances such as fire; or flooding.

Essential items are limited to: Fridge; and Washing machine.

The Board has approved a budget of **\$25,000** with a maximum of \$1,000 per Member. Once the funds have been spent, the Board can either allocate additional funds or Members will need to wait for the next financial year.

#### (f) Elders - Food Vouchers



Members that are elderly or unwell may apply for food vouchers. These vouchers are limited each year and will be managed by the Corporation Manager. If you are a working member, you will not be eligible. No spending on alcohol or cigarettes.

WMYAC are unable to provide vouchers to every member in need but has set a budget of **\$25,000** for the year. We encourage members to manage their personal income by prioritising food. Once the budget is expended, no further vouchers will be available until the new financial year.

(g) **Members - Food Vouchers**

\$25,000  
Commitment

Members that are having a tough time financially, they may apply for food vouchers. These vouchers are limited each year and will be managed by the Corporation Manager.

WMYAC are unable to provide vouchers to every member in need but has set a budget of **\$25,000** for the year. We encourage members to manage their personal income by prioritising food. Once the budget is expended, no further vouchers will be available until the new financial year.

(h) **Lore & Culture**

\$25,000  
Commitment

Members can apply for support towards the costs associating with lore and culture ceremonies.

The criteria for the use of any approved funds will be determined by a Cultural Advisory Group through the Corporation Manager.

The Board has approved a budget of **\$25,000** towards supporting our Members to participate in Lore & Culture.

#### 4. **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

\$50,000  
Commitment

WMYAC will provide support Community Projects and Events that align with our objectives. The only other criteria for applying is that our Members will benefit from the Project or Event.

The Board has approved a budget of **\$50,000** towards Community Project and Events with a maximum of \$1,500 per project or event. This will ensure that WMYAC are able to support over 30 Community Projects or Events over the course of the year.

***Through this Policy, the WMYAC Board is committing to spending up to \$750,000 in the 2020/ 2021 Financial Year to Support our Members and Community. These funds will come from our business***

***profits. WMYAC does not receive any donations; sponsorships; royalties; or Government funding to operate our organisation. We are proudly self-funded and self-sustainable.***