

Wirilu-Murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation



MEMBER & COMMUNITY SUPPORT POLICY HANDBOOK

Financial Year 2023/2024

Valid until 30th June 2024



1 INTRODUCTION

The WMYAC Board of Directors have carefully considered these key areas to assist our members and extended community:

1. Elder's Health and Wellbeing
2. Education
3. Lore & Culture
4. Community and Small Business
5. Financial Hardship

These key areas will be covered by the Policies within this Handbook. Please read through each Policy and their respective criteria prior to applying, as some criteria and Policies may have changed from the previous Financial Years.

The Directors would also like to highlight that WMYAC is not a Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) or Registered Native Title Body (RNTB) and we do not receive any royalties from the Government to assist our members. Any funds we provide towards our members is funded by our business Wirilu-Murra Enterprises Pty Ltd.

IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF A PBC OR RNTB, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM YOUR PBC/RNTB FIRST.

Our Vision and Mission

Wirilu-Murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation is committed to establishing a sustainable self-sufficient future for all Yindjibarndi people. Our vision is for family and the community to walk together, united for a better future.

To achieve our goals, we will work with resource companies, government, and the broader community to promote Yindjibarndi interests and provide opportunities for our people. Most importantly, we will involve our community in the discussions and decisions of the Corporation. As one of the traditional owners of the Pilbara, we will honour our land and our culture to preserve Yindjibarndi heritage.

Our board of directors, including some of Western Australia's most respected Yindjibarndi elders and lore bosses, will ensure transparency and integrity in our organisation for the benefit of all our members.

Our Offices

Roebourne Office

9-11 Sholl Street, Roebourne
(08) 9182 1157

Member Services: adminsupport@wmyac.com

Reception: roebournetrainee@wmyac.com

Perth Office

Unit 4, 2 Canning Highway, South Perth
(08) 9200 3431

2 ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE

To be eligible to apply for ALL Members Assistance Policies you must meet the following criteria.

1. Must be a current WMYAC member
2. Complete relevant application
3. Meet the Policy criteria
4. Every application must be signed by applicant (not electronic signature)
5. Any email application must have photo ID attached for every application (this minimises fraudulent applications)

To be eligible to apply for Community Assistance you must meet the following criteria.

1. The assistance being requested must benefit Yindjibarndi people/community
2. Relevant application form to be completed
3. Meet Community Assistance Policy criteria

Please note, WMYAC does not provide cash payments for Member and Community Assistance.

3 MEMBER ASSISTANCE POLICIES

Every year our membership grows, this budget and policies are put in place to assist as many of our members as we can, but we may not be able to always help everyone. At the beginning of FY24 our membership count is 492 people.

Please note, WMYAC staff can only discuss member balances with the member directly, not any third parties, regardless of the relationship.

For Financial Year 2024, we have committed \$1.5M towards benefits for our members.

We do not cover the following in any of our Policies:

- Rent or mortgage payments
- Vehicle repairs, tyres, or registration fees
- Whitegoods or household furniture
- Loan payments
- Accommodation (conditional)
- Cash payments of any kind

All application forms are available and downloadable on our website www.wmyac.com

Total Policy Budgets for FY24

Policy	Budget for Financial Year
Utilities	\$920,000
Elder Support	\$414,000
Elder Medical Assistance	\$25,000
Education Assistance – PP-Yr6	\$25,000
Education Assistance – Yr7-Yr12	\$15,000
Critically Ill Family Member	\$30,000
Funeral Assistance	\$36,000
Special Assistance	\$40,000
Lore & Culture	\$20,000
Community Support	\$12,000
Total Budget	\$1,537,000 (\$1.5 Million)

*The Financial Year is from 1st July 2023 – 30th June 2024.

The following policies are available to Wirilu-Murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation members only.

3.1 UTILITIES POLICY

The Utilities Policy covers hardship assistance for members requiring Woolworths food vouchers, Woolworths fuel vouchers and payment of utility bills (power, water, gas etc.). Please use your funds wisely and as needed. *Once you have exhausted your Utilities funds, you will be required to wait until the next Financial Year.*

Budget per member: \$2000.00

When applying for Utilities assistance, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current WMYAC member
- Complete Application for Member Support form
- Regarding bills, copy of bill required – must have member’s name and address on bill (if not, proof of address is needed)

3.2 ELDERS MONTHLY SUPPORT POLICY

The Elders Support Policy is to assist our Elders with ONE Woolworths food or fuel voucher only per person, per month. If an Elder misses a voucher one month, they cannot receive two vouchers the following month.

Budget per Elder: \$250 per month (ONE voucher)

To apply for this assistance, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current WMYAC member
- Be an Elder (aged 50 years and over)
- Complete Application for Member Support form



3.3 ELDERS MEDICAL SUPPORT POLICY

The Elders Medical Support is to assist our Elders with urgent or essential medical treatment. This assistance is only available to our members. Elders can purchase bush medicines under this policy.

Budget: \$25,000 for the year. Maximum of \$1000 per application. Once the budget has been reached, we will no longer be able to assist under this policy until the new Financial Year.

To apply for this assistance, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current WMYAC member
- Be an Elder (aged 50 years and over)
- Complete Application for Member Support form
- Invoice for treatment
- Letter from Doctor/Medical Facility

3.4 CRITICALLY ILL FAMILY MEMBER POLICY

The Critically Ill Family Member Policy is for members with an immediate family member who is receiving treatment for a serious or terminal illness away from home. Each family can access this assistance once per Financial Year; once the budget limit has been reached you can no longer access assistance through this Policy until the next Financial Year if required. Families are encouraged to seek assistance from PATS prior to applying for this assistance.

Budget per family: \$2000.00

What this policy covers:

- Travel expenses to/from visit with Critically Ill Family Member
- Food and fuel vouchers during visit
- Two immediate family members only

What this Policy doesn't cover:

- Accommodation
- Car hire or public transport expenses



To apply for this assistance, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current WMYAC member
- Supporting letter from a hospital official or liaison confirming situation

WMYAC Staff understand the importance of our member's privacy and will not disclose any information provided on these applications to anyone.

3.5 EDUCATION POLICY

The Education Policy is to assist primary and high school students with their education requirements. We have split the Education Policy into two parts: Primary School Education and High School Education.

Unfortunately, we do not cover adult education. Please contact Centrelink and enquire about Abstudy allowance.

3.5.1 Primary School Education Assistance

For Primary School students, from Pre-Primary to Year 6.

This assistance covers stationary, uniform, and fees for each student. We can also assist towards school trips if there are any funds left. Students requiring assistance for school trips need to have attendance of 70% or better.

Budget per student: \$500

To apply for this assistance, you must meet the following criteria:

- Parent/caregiver of student must be a current WMYAC member
- Complete Application for Education Support form
- Attach supporting documents:
 - Invoice from school
 - Attendance records (for assistance for school trips)



3.5.2 High School Education Assistance

For High School student from Year 7 to Year 12.

This assistance covers stationary, uniforms, and fees for each student. We can also assist towards school trips if there are any funds left. uniform, and fees for each student. We can also assist towards school trips if there are any funds left. Students requiring assistance for school trips need to have attendance of 70% or better.

Year 11 and Year 12 students can also get additional funding towards laptops and/or other electrical devices if it is a mandatory requirement for their subjects.

Budget per student: \$500 (Year 7-12 stationary, fees and uniforms)

Budget per student: \$1000 (Year 11-12 only for laptops etc)

To apply for this assistance, you must meet the following criteria:

- Parent/caregiver of student must be a current WMYAC member
- Complete Application for Education Support form
- Attach supporting documents:
 - Invoice from school
 - Attendance records (for assistance for school trips)
 - Invoice from supplier (for laptop/device)
 - Confirmation from school stating laptop/device is mandatory

3.6 FUNERAL ASSISTANCE

The Funeral Assistance is for payment of a member's funerals only. We cannot cover funeral costs for non-members. Members cannot use their funeral funds towards someone else's funeral. We can cover funeral director fees, flowers, booklet printing, chair and shade hire etc.

Budget per member: \$2000.00

To apply for Funeral assistance, you must meet the following criteria:

- The deceased a current WMYAC member
- Complete Application for Member Support form
- Supplier invoice required

3.7 LORE & CULTURE

The Lore & Culture Policy provides food and fuel assistance towards Lore trips for members and travellers from other areas. All requests under this Policy are to the discretion of the Corporation Manager.

Budget per family: \$1000 (for parent of person going through the Lore)

To apply for Lore & Culture assistance, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current WMYAC member (no travellers)
- Complete Application for Member Support form

3.8 SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

The Special Assistance policy is to assist members with special circumstance assistance at the discretion of the Corporation Manager. Some of the special circumstances may include, but not limited to the following scenarios: natural disaster relief (cyclone, fire, flood etc), urgent home support (skip bin hire, gardening service etc), any other assistance that may be deemed urgent or essential that is not covered by any of the other policies.

The maximum per application is \$1000. Each application will be assessed case by case and some may only be paid in part.

To apply for Special assistance, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current WMYAC member
- Complete Application for Member Support form
- Attach supporting documentation

4 COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Our Community Support policy can not only assist our members but the wider community also. We have committed \$1000 per month towards Community Events or Projects.

To be eligible to receive the Community Support assistance, you must describe how the event or project will benefit the Yindjibarndi community.

We will also open the Community Support policy to assist Yindjibarndi small businesses.

Each application will assessed case by case and is at the discretion of the Corporation Manager.

To access this policy, you will need to complete a Community Support Application.

