

# Youth Strategy for Borroloola and Robinson River 2022-2025 Request for Quote (RFQ)







#### Introduction

The McArthur River Mine Community Benefit Trust (CBT) is seeking proposals from interested and qualified individuals, service providers or firms to develop a Youth Strategy for Borroloola and Robinson River 2022 - 2025. The strategy will provide an operational model for a youth service, inclusive of recommendations regarding the location, programming, staffing, costing, potential funding and delivery of a youth service in Borroloola and Robinson River, based on the outcomes of the Youth Scoping Study undertaken in 2020/2021, and additional engagement with service providers.

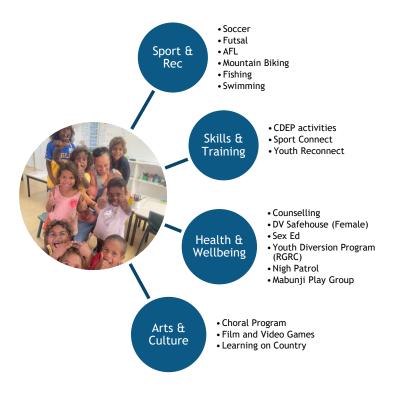
This project is stage two in an investigation supported by the CBT to ensure young people's needs are being met in the Borroloola and Robinson River region in a holistic way.

From consultation with stakeholders and community members in Borroloola and Robinson River since 2018, the need for a dedicated youth service has been identified as a priority for the CBTs funding as there are a lack of places for young people to seek support and participate in positive activities, especially for those who are not in schooling. This is particularly significant given young people aged 10 to 24 years make up over 25% of the population in Borroloola (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016).

As a general point of guidance to the study, the CBT will support **collaborative**, **community led solutions** from a range of stakeholders and will be seeking recommendations that centre around **collective impact** models involving young people themselves and existing stakeholders. The CBT does not seek to replace the role of government, and rather will seek to use its resources to directly invest in, or incentivise other agencies, to co-contribute to improved outcomes for young people, and will also support this project with project management and support from its Project Officers and assist in negotiating with youth service providers and other agencies.



# **Project Background**



Above: Existing Youth Programs in Borroloola, as identified in the Youth Scoping Study (2021)

The CBT engaged consultants Lia Pa'apa'a and Liam Maza to undertake the Youth Scoping Study in 2020/2021. The scoping study involved extensive consultation with the Borroloola and Robinson River communities to identify the issues pertaining to young people and create recommendations for future programming. The study has been attached with this RFQ.

Key findings of the study in Borroloola include:

- There is a huge gap in services that need to be addressed to support young people. In order to achieve this, there needs to be more work done to get an understanding and confirmation of what each of the existing organisations can contribute as far as funding, human resourcing and in-kind support to a new youth services model.
- If there is a willingness for the key stakeholders to work together for collective impact, the young people will greatly benefit. This project should seek to re-engage with key service providers and agencies actively in the development of the new youth services model.
- Although the lack of services and programming currently comes at a great impact to the young people, there is also an exciting opportunity to develop and deliver a best practice model that works for the town's current needs and environment.



- One of the main issues was the lack of human resourcing available to deliver ongoing, consistent programming. There needs to be targeted training and resources invested into meeting this issue. Whether it be training of existing staff or the engagement of a non-local person to be employed.
- It is recommended that if a non-local person is employed, that there be KPI's attached to the training and hand over of the role with a clear succession strategy/plan within a certain timeframe built in.
- Barriers to engaging new service providers include housing provision which needs to be further built into recommendations. However, the successful consultant should engage with existing stakeholders to determine if housing can be made as their contribution to project outcomes, in lieu of monetary or spatial contributions to the service provision.

Key findings of the study in Robinson River include:

- There is little to no support with programming and infrastructure for the community of Robinson River and this sentiment is felt by community members who often commented that the bulk of resources go to Borroloola, and they are "left out".
- The establishment of a multi-age playground with safe water play would be a huge investment into the whole community and be utilised by all. Furthermore, it would irradicate the key concern for children's safety around swimming unaccompanied in the River where drownings and crocodile attacks are the concerns.
- Without accommodation for visiting specialists, it is hard for Robinson River to receive the outside resourcing and support that it requires.
- JMF and Waralungku Art Centre both visit the community on a regular basis and if there was the option of further activity through them they would welcome it with the right resourcing.
- Robinson River programming may be conducted as an outreach service, depending on other outcomes from the project.

## Scope of Works

The scope of works to be undertaken includes:

- Translate the findings and recommendations from the Youth Scoping Study into the Youth Strategy 2022 2025, strategies and actions
- Identify recommended service delivery models for a youth service in Borroloola and Robinson River, including program development and provision of infrastructure
- Develop a draft program, inclusive of existing and proposed programming. The program should:
  - Focus on recreation, on country activities and camps, training, counselling, as identified in the Youth Scoping Study (2021).
  - On-Country cultural programs: link into the Borroloola School on-Country program, where Elders and community representatives can be engaged by the service to facilitate more on-Country experiences.
     An on-Country program is currently staffed by one employee at the Borroloola School
  - Map out existing training programs that are available and identify where other training programs can be added
- Infrastructure Recommendations. The study should identify:
  - Opportunities at the recreation centre at the pool, and the new sports courts in partnership with RGRC



- Opportunities from existing organisations, including space which is currently underutilised for other purposes
- Recommend a preferred location(s) the service could operate from in partnership with local organisations
- *Undertake engagement* with key stakeholders and service providers listed above. When a recommendation for a service delivery model has been made, test this model with representatives from key stakeholders to ensure it is fit for purpose and supported by the community and sector
- Determine, at a high level, works required to bring an identified space up to a standard where a youth service could operate and approximate costs, and identify other spaces and times the service may operate from at key times
- *Identify the operational costs* of a service(s) over three-years, including staffing and programming costs and accommodation (housing) costs (unless provided in-kind by project partners) (see service models below)
- *Identify potential funding streams* and key funding partners for the delivery of the youth service, including the role of the CBT and other agencies (including NIAA)
- Liaise with the NIAA to *confirm currently funded programs* and outcomes and ensure any recommendations do not duplicate these services and determine NIAA requirements to provide co-funding to a youth service in partnership with the CBT and other funding bodies
- Identify potential youth service providers from within and outside the region who might be appropriate to run a service
- Undertake initial engagement with these providers to determine their interest in tendering to deliver this service
- Develop a draft EOI document for issue to service providers to tender to provide this service

#### Potential Youth Service Models

Given the remoteness of the region, and the size of the population, this project calls for fit for purpose services and activities for young people, and potentially new models of service delivery to be established. These might include the following service and spatial models or combinations, or a recommended transition from an expanded service model to the establishment of a new stand-alone service and space. This might involve the following scopes, among others if identified:

#### Service Model

- Expanded service model funding to an existing community organisation to engage youth worker (s) to deliver the program recommended by this project in partnership with other service providers. Under this model, local organisations individually, or in partnership would deliver the services.
- New Service stand-alone youth space offering programming and services by qualified youth and community
  workers operated by a newly formed service provider, or via extension of services from an existing service
  provider currently operating in other regions. Under this model the new service would work with other
  providers in partnership

#### **Spatial Requirements**

- Utilisation of existing spaces if expanded service model is recommended
- New youth space identified

#### A Scalable Service



The project may result in recommendations around an evolving and transitional model starting with the
expansion of existing services and moving toward a new, standalone service over time, depending on demand
and resources available.

The CBT and partners will support the model that can provide the best outcomes for young people within the resources available to the project from the CBT and co-funders. The CBT is seeking best practice approaches and outcomes.

## **Project Stakeholders**

Key stakeholders relevant to this project include, but are not limited to:

- Young people in Borroloola and Robinson River aged 10 25
- Borroloola School and School Council
- Robinson River School
- Elders and Traditional Owners
- Police
- Mabunji Waralungku Arts
- MAWA
- Roper Gulf Regional Council
- NT Government
  - Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities
  - o Department of Health
  - Department of Education
- Federal Government National Indigenous Australian's Agency (NIAA)
- Organisations with capacity and responsibility to fund youth services projects to understand the potential funding landscape
- Other remote communities with established youth services functions, to understand day-to-day costs and lessons that may be learned for best practice operations
- MRM Community Team
- MRM Community Benefits Trust Project Officers (POs)
- Other agencies identified as relevant during the course of the project

## **Project Management**

The successful applicant will work with the CBT MRM Project Officers (POs) to support this consultancy with regular meetings and provision of information and contacts.

The POs will organise and facilitate a workshop to present findings and recommendations with the youth service providers to elicit support and direction on recommendations.

The successful applicant will be expected to undertake one engagement residency in Borroloola and the CBT will organise travel, accommodation and transport to the appointed person or team from Darwin.



## **Specific Contract Requirements**

The project needs to be completed by June 30, 2022.

The budget for undertaking this project is \$60,000 ex GST. The CBT will consider alternative fees if consultants can demonstrate value in alternative, additional approaches.

## **Submission Requirements**

The Closing Date for this RFQ is COB Friday 19th November

Please submit your fee proposal to <a href="mailto:cbt@planc.com.au">cbt@planc.com.au</a>

Your proposal should include:

- Individual or firm's operating name, ABN and contact details
- An explanation of the methods and process proposed for the delivery of the project
- An outline of the ability of the organisation to complete the project, including project experience in undertaking similar projects
- Details of any collaborations or personnel required to complete the project
- Brief descriptions of key personnel's professional qualifications and experience in relevant assignments
- Fees and/or Rates
- Insurances held: Professional Indemnity
- Exclusions
- Project requirements from CBT Project Officers

Please contact Project Officer Jim Gleeson on 0422 794 072 or at <a href="mailto:cbt@planc.com.au">cbt@planc.com.au</a> for more information.

#### **Assessment Criteria**

Proposals will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- Project experience
- Understanding the brief, study context and deliverables
- Ability to meet timeline
- Track record and referees
- Budget

#### **Timeline**

The following timeline is anticipated.

Item	Activity	Indicative Date
1.	Request for Quote released	Week of 18 October 2021
2.	Request for Quote submissions due	19 November 2021
3.	Project Awarded and Inception Meeting	Week commencing 29 November



#### **Available Material**

The CBT Project Officers will make the following information available to the successful consultant:

- Youth Scoping Study
- Other relevant background information

## **Community Benefit's Trust**

The CBT is a partnership between the McArthur River Mine (MRM), the Northern Territory (NT) Government and the local community that commits \$1.25 million a year to projects located in the Borroloola region.

The Trust's area of influence extends to the communities bounded by Robinson River in the south-east, the Sir Edward Pellew Islands, the Limmen Bight River in the west and Balbirini Station in the south. The township of Borroloola sits at the heart of this region. All funding decisions are ratified by the CBT Board of Directors, which include one representative from each local language group (Gurdanji, Garawa, Yanyuwa and Mara), one representative of the local community, one representative of Glencore, one representative of the NT Government and two independent directors appointed by MRM and the NT Government.

The Trust uses contributions from MRM to support projects in the key community focus areas of *culture* and art, enterprise and job creation, social and community development, education, health and the environment. The Trust provides support to local community projects that would otherwise be without the aid of the private or public sector.

More information about the CBT and supported projects can be found on the website: <a href="https://www.mrmcommunitytrust.com/">https://www.mrmcommunitytrust.com/</a>

