



MARULU STRATEGY GOVERNANCE

Making FASD History



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MARULU STRATEGY LEADERSHIP GROUP

Membership

- Emily Carter (Chair), CEO Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre
- Maureen Carter, CEO Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services
- Marmingee Hand, FASD carer and educator
- Jadhah Davies, Marulu Unit Manager
- Nindilingarri representatives: Programs and Services Manager and/or Alcohol and Drug Health Promotion Coordinator
- parent and carer representatives (to be invited)
- other Aboriginal organisations in the Fitzroy Valley (to be invited)
- other agencies and service providers (invited over time, as appropriate).

June Oscar AO is a founding member of the Marulu Leadership Group and is a Marulu patron.

Essential Partners will be invited to participate and will report to the **Goal Champions** on progress under the different goals.

A **Circle of Friends** will work with us to increase our effectiveness and support us to make a significant difference.

Mentoring emerging leaders

The Leadership Group will actively mentor emerging leaders by:

- inviting them to participate in Leadership Group meetings
- engaging them in Strategy initiatives
- providing them with opportunities to shadow Leadership Group members when possible.



Overview of the Marulu Strategy 2017–22

Vision

Healthy children, families and communities are thriving in the Fitzroy Valley, free from harm. All children and families have access to community-designed models of therapeutic supports, and healing-aware and trauma-informed care (the Marulu model) that meet changing needs throughout their lives.

Purpose

Make FASD History and strengthen community capacity, resilience and wellbeing

Key stakeholders

The Marulu Strategy Leadership Group along with Essential Partners and an expanding Circle of Friends.

Our core values and principles

We are community led.
 We work from and build the evidence.
 We strengthen strategic partnerships.
 We build capacity.
 We respond to the lived experiences and knowledge of the Fitzroy Valley community.
 We have a healing-informed and trauma-aware approach to all we do.

Goals and priorities

1	2	3	4
Prevent children in the Fitzroy Valley from being born with FASD and experiencing ELT	Support children and families living with FASD and ELT throughout their lives	Build capacity and enhance services for children, adults and families affected by FASD and ELT	Develop a sustainable community-driven response to FASD and ELT
Champion Nindilingarri	Champion Marninwarntikura	Champion Marninwarntikura	Champion Marninwarntikura with Nindilingarri
1.1 Provide drug and alcohol support for pregnant women 1.2 Build on community awareness 1.3 Increase education and prevention initiatives 1.4 Provide services that support and empower families to heal from trauma(s)	2.1 Identify intergenerational and early life trauma and promote healing 2.2 Connect families with targeted therapeutic supports 2.3 Identify gaps and create solutions that incorporate trauma-informed practice with comprehensive wraparound supports 2.4 Ensure all families continue to have their needs met through the changing circumstances of their lives	3.1 Advocate for multidisciplinary diagnostic clinics 3.2 Collect data to build on the Lirilwan findings 3.2 Support therapeutic programs 3.3 Ensure Make FASD History is the responsibility of all 3.4 Build understandings and the capacity of all services interacting with Fitzroy Valley families 3.5 Strengthen the capacity of families and carers	4.1 Develop a whole-of-community harm reduction strategy 4.2 Set priorities and coordinate community-driven research opportunities 4.3 Build and share information through the Marulu Knowledge Hub 4.4 Use our experience and expanding knowledge base to influence the national agenda

Terms of reference

The role of the Marulu Strategy Leadership Group is to:

- share emerging knowledge and good practice to strengthen the Strategy's impact and improve outcomes for people and their families living with FASD and ELT in the Fitzroy Valley
- oversee the ongoing development and delivery of the Marulu Strategy, including monitoring the performance of Strategy initiatives for continuous improvement
- deepen collaboration across Essential Partners and key stakeholders by identifying Strategy initiative linkages with additional external activities
- strengthen the service system responses for people living with FASD and ELT and their families
- develop a body of knowledge and resources for use nationally and internationally
- develop policies and procedures, including research protocols for information sharing
- create processes to ensure community ownership
- seek and secure ongoing resources to fund the Marulu Strategy.

Meeting secretariat

The Marulu Strategy Coordinator will provide high level secretariat support for the Leadership Group, including organising meetings, preparing the agenda, preparing Marulu Strategy performance reports, being responsible for the minutes and liaising with members to follow up on the actions arising.

Frequency of meetings

The Leadership Group will aim to meet quarterly.



Leadership Group effectiveness

Members commit to prioritise attendance at the Leadership Group meetings, and if they are unable to attend the meetings, to send a proxy with delegated authority to participate in decision making.

The Leadership Group will review these terms of reference and their effectiveness when necessary

The Leadership Group will engage with Essential Partners and support them deliver enhanced services, develop an evidence base, and monitor and research effective interventions that contribute to the collective effort designed to **Make FASD History**. The effectiveness of the strategy is dependent on growing strong collaborative partnerships and making sure we are all working together to achieve the community's vision.

The Goal Champions will table a proforma report that includes progress made to date under the strategy goals, including contributions by all Essential Partners to the Marulu Strategy initiatives and vision. This information will be conveyed through the Marulu Strategy website to keep it dynamic and promote transparency.

Processes will be set up to share information and make sure all parties, Goal Champions, Essential Partners and service providers, are engaged and fully informed.

THE MARULU UNIT ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Marulu Unit is located within Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre. The unit's role is to:

- coordinate the Marulu Strategy, enabling the holistic and integrated approach of the Strategy to be realised
- provide specialist support and leadership for the broader service system across the Fitzroy Valley to strengthen services and provide supports for people and their families affected by FASD and ELT
- ensure that through leadership, community engagement and research the lived experiences and knowledge of local Fitzroy Valley community members are at the centre of the Strategy.

Whole-of-strategy focus

- Coordinate the implementation of the Marulu Strategy work program by supporting the Leadership Group and identifying opportunities for collaboration with Goal Champions, external stakeholders and Essential Partners.
- Provide advice to the Leadership Group in relation to the ongoing development of the Strategy, risks, opportunities and emerging priorities.
- Coordinate the preparation of reports to monitor progress against the Strategy and provide advice to the Marulu Strategy Leadership Group.
- Convene and support the Marulu Strategy Leadership Group meetings and formal and informal communication with Essential Partners and key stakeholders to enable collaboration and coordination of Strategy activities as required.

- Actively seek funding and resources to support the full and ongoing implementation of the Strategy.
- Provide agencies and services with specialist advice and support to help them tailor a healing-informed, trauma-aware approach to service delivery that strengthens their capacity to meet the needs of children, families and communities affected by FASD and ELT. Integrating highly adaptive and responsive local community-driven perspectives. This includes supporting agencies and service providers to develop their own trauma-informed practices and increase their knowledge and understandings.
- Supporting different workforces to adapt and respond appropriately to the needs of children, young people and their families living with FASD over time.
- Coordinate and support visits from national and international visiting experts.
- Contribute to the national conversation on FASD and ELT, and share the lessons learnt from constructing a whole-of-community response that addresses the changing needs of children, families and communities affected by FASD throughout their lives.
- Build on and share the evidence and ensure information about FASD, the evolving strategy and community responses inform other communities, policy makers and service providers.

Community engagement

The Marulu Unit will undertake ongoing formal and informal community engagement activities to enable the community to understand and provide input into the Marulu Strategy work program. This includes:

- developing and disseminating accessible information about Marulu Strategy initiatives

- consulting with community members about their response to and engagement with Marulu Strategy activities to ensure community-driven perspectives help to inform the ongoing design of strategy initiatives, while making sure changing needs are accommodated overtime, and progressively seeking innovative solutions driven by community need.

Community Research and Knowledge Hub

- Work closely with and support Essential Partners to undertake culturally proficient and effective research with people living in Fitzroy Valley communities. This includes being a central point of contact for research partners and others seeking community involvement in research and media-related activities.
- Undertake and support best practice community-driven research on issues related to FASD and ELT in health, education, justice, policing, employment and training, child protection and family support, intergenerational trauma and healing-focused therapeutic responses.
- Develop resources to support community-driven FASD initiatives, including research.
- Construct a model of care that meets the needs of the Fitzroy Valley.

Community awareness

- Organise an ongoing program of community awareness events to promote the Marulu Strategy and positive prevention messages.
- Participate in other community activities to raise community awareness of the Marulu Strategy.
- Develop tools and communication materials that raise the profile of the Marulu Strategy and increase community awareness across the Fitzroy Valley and beyond. The majority of this will be disseminated through the Marulu website, known as the Knowledge Hub.



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Marulu Strategy Coordinator

The Marulu Strategy Coordinator is directly responsible for:

- providing high-level secretariat and coordination support to the Marulu Leadership Group in the ongoing development and delivery of the Marulu Strategy
- preparing reports to enable the Marulu Strategy Leadership Group to monitor the progress and impact of the Strategy
- working to secure funding for the future of the Strategy
- influencing the Fitzroy Valley service system to improve services for children, young people and their families living with FASD and ELT
- working closely with the Marulu Manager and Marulu team members to guide and strengthen their work.

Goal Champions

Goal Champions are one of the lead groups driving the work with a range of Essential Partners. They are responsible for leading, understanding, monitoring and reporting to the Leadership Group about the overall effectiveness of a specific goal. This includes monitoring the external environment for opportunities and risks, and identifying and enabling linkages across the priorities.

Information sharing and support between community-led organisations who champion specific goals, Essential Partners and key stakeholders is crucial to the success of a cohesive collective response.

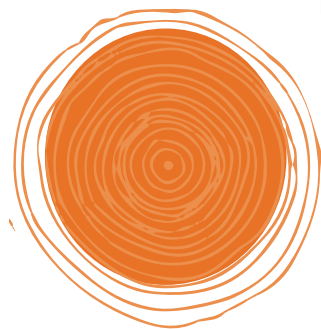
The Goal Champions will be supported by the Marulu Strategy Coordinator to report on progress, emerging risks and priorities to inform the Marulu Strategy Leadership Group and strengthen impact.

Essential Partners

Essential Partners are engaged in initiatives that significantly contribute to the achievement of specific goals and they will provide information to the Goal Champions and the Marulu Strategy Coordinator to assist with monitoring progress and reporting outcomes to the Marulu Strategy Leadership Group and funding bodies.

Circle of Friends

An expanding Circle of Friends will work with us to enable us to create the vision. Our Circle of Friends range from individuals keen to support us, a large group of supporters working in this space including leading national and international experts, people of influence with a commitment to building momentum, and any other interested parties committed to walking alongside us and helping us in a variety of ways.



The Marulu Strategy Leadership Group, the Goal Champions, Essential Partners and an expanding Circle of Friends are creating the ideal circumstances in which to respond to such complex but promising work. Through such a comprehensive community response we will **Make FASD History** and create better futures for all those living and working in the Valley.

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