

Working in Partnership to Support Youth Education and Training



Monday 6th May 2024

KUNUNURRA, Western Australia – The Wunan Foundation and MG Corporation have teamed up to provide valuable services from a Kununurra hostel site. The commencement of services was celebrated by a vibrant sundowner event that brought together over 50 community members, including esteemed guests and representatives from the Kununurra Chamber of Commerce.

This milestone was made possible through the support of its funders, including the Department of Social Services Community-Led Support Fund, brokered through Binarri Binyja Yarrowoo (BBY).

The event marked an important milestone in the revitalisation of the 42-bed facility, now dedicated to providing youth accommodation and educational programs.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Wunan Foundation and MG Corporation, the hostel has undergone a transformation to ensure the facility is fully utilised to meet current community needs. The hostel aims to empower young individuals by offering essential resources and opportunities for growth.

The reopening event, supported by Lily Lagoon Resort, saw their team collaborating with culinary experts Don Hancey and Mark Attard from Activated Hospitality. Under their guidance, trainees showcased their newfound hospitality skills, providing catering and highlighting the success of the resort's training program, backed by Tourism WA through the Jila Plan.

Notably, the 17 Indigenous trainee positions at Lily Lagoon Resort were funded by National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) as part of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy's 200 Jobs program trial. These trainees also play a vital role in the hostel's operations, further demonstrating the program's impact.

"We are pleased with the success of the event and grateful for the support from the community and stakeholders who have supported this transition. It's encouraging to see everyone come together to celebrate the revitalisation of the hostel," said Prue Jenkins, CEO of Wunan Foundation.

"The Kununurra Hostel is set to become a cornerstone of support for young people seeking access to education and training, and we look forward to paving pathways to stability and opportunity for the youth it serves."

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