



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA (Chair), Mr James Milligan MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Elizabeth Kikkert: To ask the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

Ref: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Budget Outlook, p. 151, output class CSD 3.1
Strategic Policy

In relation to: support for staffing at Gugan Gulwan

1. How much operational funding does the ACT Government provide to Gugan Gulwan, and what has been the increase in this funding over the past five years?
2. How has demand for services at Gugan Gulwan increased over the past five years?
3. What is the ACT Government's forward planning to ensure that staffing levels at Gugan Gulwan are sufficient to meet current and future demand?

RACHEL STEPHEN-SMITH MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. How much operational funding does the ACT Government provide to Gugan Gulwan, and what has been the increase in this funding over the past five years?

In 2021-22, the Community Services Directorate provided just over \$795,000 of operational funding to Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation (Gugan Gulwan). This amount is to operationalise the Integrated Support program within Child, Youth and Family Services program and Youth Support under the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement.

Since 2016, the base funding for Gugan Gulwan under these agreements has increased in line with the Community Services Sector Indexation Rate for each year. Total funds in 2017-18 were in excess of \$733,000. There has been a net increase in operational funds for these programs of \$62,000 over the past five years.

In addition, Gugan Gulwan received \$225,000 in COVID-19 Stimulus Funds in 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Please refer to the attached Table outlining all CSD funding for Gugan Gulwan for the past five years.

In addition to the information provided in the table below, Gugan Gulwan works in partnership with OzChild to deliver the Functional Family Therapy – Child Welfare (FFT-CW) program. OzChild will receive \$1,292,000 in 2021-22 and has an arrangement in place whereby Gugan Gulwan provides cultural support and advice for the program. The funding provided to Gugan Gulwan is managed by OzChild.

2. How has demand for services at Gugan Gulwan increased over the past five years?

Child, Youth and Family Services Program

Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation is currently funded under the Child, Youth and Family Services Program (CYFSP) to provide Integrated Support services. This support includes case management, group programs, youth engagement, therapeutic services and broader wrap around supports to address the needs of the whole family.

During the past five years, service demand grew between 2016 to 2019, as evidenced in six monthly performance reporting. In 2019, Gugan Gulwan's reporting requirements were adjusted to better reflect the Integrated Support approach to supporting families. The data provided by Gugan Gulwan in their performance reports from 2019 to 2020 showed a general increase in the number of young people receiving individual support. During the 2020-21 reporting period, Gugan Gulwan provided data that showed there was a decrease in reported numbers.

Through 2020 and 2021, Gugan Gulwan reported an increase in the complexity of case management required to support families. This was reportedly due to the impact of the bushfires and COVID-19 public health emergency which increased pressure on the social and emotional wellbeing of the community. This has resulted in increased number of referrals for counselling services. Gugan Gulwan received \$200,000 in COVID-19 Stimulus funds in 2020-21 and made the decision to share these funds directly with the community through emergency material and financial aid.

Under the 2021-22 COVID-19 Community Support Package, Gugan Gulwan has received an additional \$25,000 to meet the increased demand on service during the lockdown period

3. What is the ACT Government's forward planning to ensure that staffing levels at Gugan Gulwan are sufficient to meet current and future demand?

As the Community Services Directorate moves towards a Commissioning approach, all service funding agreements under the CYFSP will be reviewed in conjunction with community service partners. A joint project between community sector and ACT Government, the Sector Sustainability Review, is currently being finalised to consider the true cost of service delivery for community services. This review will contribute to forward planning to meet current and future demand at Gugan Gulwan.

Table 1 – Gugan Gulwan Funding for the past Five Years

Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation - ABN 25 118 162 073								
AGREEMENTS								
Contract Number	Funding Source	Funding Purpose	Agreement Period	Contract Amount 2021-22 Indexation Rate 1.75% (GST exc)	Contract Amount 2020-21 Indexation Rate 1.9% (GST exc)	Contract Amount 2019-20 Indexation Rate 2.45% (GST exc)	Contract Amount 2018-19 Indexation Rate 2.45% (GST exc)	Contract Amount 2017-18 Indexation Rate 2% (GST exc)
2016.275 17.215	Child, Youth and Family Services Program (CYFSP)	Integrated Service Model	1 July 2016 - 30 June 2022	\$709,824.97	\$700,365.90	\$687,307.07	\$670,870.74	\$654,827.46
2016.276 62.221	National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA) Formerly Social Housing Homelessness Services (SHHS)	Youth Support	1 July 2016 - 30 June 2023	\$85,306.14	\$84,169.36	\$82,599.96	\$80,624.66	\$78,696.59
		Total Funding (GST Exclusive)		\$795,131.11	\$784,535.26	\$769,907.03	\$751,495.39	\$733,524.05

GRANTS				
Grant Number	Funding Source	Funding Purpose	2021-22 (GST exclusive)	2020-21 (GST exclusive)
DG.2020.036	Community Relations and Funding Support (CRFS)	2020-21 Stimulus Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific supports - Gugan Gulwan		200,000.00
DG.2021.070	Strategic Policy	COVID-19 Stimulus 2021-22 Crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families	25,000.00	
		Total (GST exclusive)	25,000.00	200,000.00

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:



Date:

11 / 11 / 21

By the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA.