October 2026 NEWSLETTER

marabisda

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work, the Yuwibara people, and pay our respect to their Ancestors, Elders, and future leaders.

Marabisda Inc.

marabisda

A welcome message from our CEO



Adrienne Barnett

Wadda Mulli all -

October is Indigenous Business Month and our First Nations Business Expo will be held with the support of Trading Tracks in partnership with the Local Buying Foundation and Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships. Mackay Regional Council and BMA also support this event, and this year the Expo will be held at the MECC's North Foyer, between 10.30 and 2.00 p.m., Thursday the 22nd. October.



There's an open extended invitation for everyone to attend to learn more about our local Indigenous businesses - who they are and what they do. We need to support our mob in their chosen ventures where we can, and I have much admiration for their tenacity, sacrifice and belief in what they do as they continue operating in these difficult economic times. I wish them all the best as they continue with their operations into the future and trust that we as a community will support their businesses and services when the opportunity to use their services arises.

Thank you to all of the sponsors and Organising Committee for their hard work in getting the Expo up and running as it becomes bigger and better each year.

R's
AB

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUPER PLAYGROUP COMMUNITY EVENT

"DEADLY LITTLE HANDS"

THURSDAY 5/11
9AM-11AM
VIC PARK STATE SCHOOL

HOSTED BY MCFC X C&K

TRADING TRACKS YARNZ NETWORK

THURSDAY 19/11
7:30AM-9AM
CIVIL SAFETY, PAGET

QTT invites you to share a yarn and connect with a local indigenous business

NURTURING OUR NEXT GENERATION

THURSDAY 12/11
10AM-11:30AM
5 ROBIN ST, SLADE POINT

for pregnant mums that want to connect, interact & learn new skills!

MEET THE ATSIFDVSS TEAM

Soretta



MANAGER

Syed



FPP Support Worker

Marcella



FPP Support Worker

Juanita



FPP Support Worker

program spotlight!

Family Participation Program

FPP works as a team with you and your family when Child Safety is involved to help give you a voice & choice about your children. We support & guide you to be involved in the decision-making process for your children.



When Child Safety is working with you to make important decisions about your child, you have a right to have a FPP worker to support you through the process.

We help you understand the worries that Child Safety may have with your family and work with you to keep your family together through a Family Led Decision Making Meeting with your family to discuss and determine how you are going to keep your children safe.



success story of October

This month at Piccaninny we have a success story: It is a significant outcome for Piccaninny and, most importantly, for the children. I'd frame it around permanency, stability, cultural connection, and the carers' ability to make long-term decisions for the children, while recognising Piccaninny's support role.

This is what permanency can look like.

Since 2022, Piccaninny has walked alongside carers providing a loving and stable home for two of our Aboriginal children.

The carers have now been assessed as suitable permanent guardians, recognising the strong home, relationships, and sense of belonging they have built around the children. Importantly, the assessment also recognises their commitment to keeping the children connected to mum and dad, extended family, community, and culture.

For us at Piccaninny, this is bigger than an order. It is about our children having certainty about where they belong, people who will continue to stand beside them, and the opportunity to grow up knowing their family, culture, and identity.

We are incredibly proud to have supported the carers throughout this journey.

Parenting Tip

Spend a few minutes each day giving your child your full attention without distractions.

This helps strengthen your connection, builds trust, and makes children more likely to share their thoughts and feelings with you.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"No great country has a monarch of another country as their head of state. No great country has the flag of another country in the corner. But more than that, no country which is great, and calls itself great, wants to live with the shame of the dispossession of its original people."

- Paul Keating

program updates



FAMILY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM (FPP)/INDIGENOUS FAMILY WELLBEING SERVICE (IFWS)

The Marabisda Sarina Playgroup commenced on the 19/08/26. The playgroup is held fortnightly and more families are becoming aware and attending.

You don't have to be a client of Marabisda as we welcome any family that wants to attend with their little ones. The Playgroup will be having important guests attending from time to time to provide some information to our families. This may include QLD Health Child Health, Centrelink and our DV service to name a few.

It is a great environment to come with your little ones so you as parents have the opportunity to sit and yarn with other parents, build relationships, and learn about early childhood milestones.

So spread the word as you are all invited to attend.

MACKAY CONNECTED BEGINNINGS

Team Badi had so much fun throughout October! Our Pop-Up Playgroups at Northview Gardens Park and the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens gave our little learners opportunities to connect with nature, explore and learn through play. We also celebrated the launch of our new project, Nurturing the Next Generation, with an Open Day and our first session for expectant mothers.

A big thank you to the Mackay ATSICHS team for collaborating with us for Grandparents Day and to all our bubs, families and community members for being part of our journey. Together, we continue to nurture our children, strengthen connections and help our little learners grow strong and ready for Big School!





PICCANINNY KINSHIP & FOSTER CARE

We are also excited to share that Piccaninny's Family Connection Safe Place Room is now up and running, providing a welcoming and supportive environment where children and families can come together for family contact visits.

Together, we can help children stay connected with the people who matter most. ❤️

DELEGATED AUTHORITY

- Supporting families behind the scenes.
- Reconnecting extended family on Darumbal Country.
- Reconnecting young people with Country.
- Strengthening family connections and relationships.
- Building brighter futures together.



TRADING TRACKS

In celebration of Indigenous Business Month, MARABISDA's Queensland Trading Tracks program was proud to be part of the working group that delivered the Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday First Nations Business Expo on Thursday, 22 October, at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre.

Sponsored by North Queensland Bulk Ports and the Mackay Regional Council, the Expo brought together over 40 Indigenous businesses and business support providers, creating valuable opportunities to connect with procurement representatives from Mackay Regional Council, NQBP, QBuild, the Queensland Government and Stanmore.

The event also provided an opportunity for businesses to network with the wider community and engage with local students, helping strengthen connections and showcase the services and opportunities available across our region. A big thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the event a success!

Our next Yarnz Network, proudly hosted and sponsored by Civil Safety on Thursday, 19 November 2026, from 7:30am to 9:00am at Civil Safety, 27 Iridium Drive, Paget. Civil Safety is a leading Registered Training Organisation delivering practical, industry-focused training across Queensland and Western Australia.





October Trauma Tip

Understanding and Managing Anger.

Write it down - grab a notebook and pour all your thoughts onto the page
Breathe and pause - before reacting, count slowly to 10 or take 5 deep breaths
Channel it creatively - anger is energy, and it can fuel art. Try drawing, painting or even scribbling wildly
Talk it out - text a friend, chat with someone you trust, share your feelings with a parent or mentor
Move it out - physical activity is one of the fastest ways to let anger burn off.



ACCESS HERE

Information reproduced from 24th Edition Empowered Digital Magazine by Trauma Assist

Please be advised that due to our Indigenous Family Wellbeing Workers in Sarina out providing support to the community, the office can be unattended. Please read the notice on the front door and contact either of the numbers provided. Our staff are here to support you.

Please Note

The VEX Birth Certificate program has now closed for evaluation. A big thank you to VEX Engineering from us all here at MARABISDA for providing funding for the purchase of over 100 birth certificates for clients of the Indigenous Family Wellbeing Service and MARABISDA.

MARABISDA ADMINISTRATION TEAM

A Little Help for Mum

Newborns can find the world a little overwhelming, so try creating a simple calm space for feeding, cuddles and quiet time. Keep the lighting soft, reduce background noise and have your essentials within reach before settling in with bub. Remember, you don't need to entertain your newborn all day — your voice, touch and loving presence are more than enough.

A Powerful Message for Mum

"You don't have to be a perfect mum; you just need to be a present one. Your love, your comfort and your care are helping your little one grow strong, one day at a time."

Mackay & surrounding support services

CASA:
CASA (Community Accommodation & Support Agency) provides crisis accommodation, community housing, and tenancy support. It helps people find stable homes, prevents homelessness, and offers financial or care programs. **PH 4951 4299**

ATSICHS:
ATSICHS Mackay Ltd is committed to providing holistic health care to raise the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the ATSICHS Mackay Ltd Service Area.
PH 4957 9400

BRAVEHEARTS:
Our Mission is to provide a coordinated and holistic approach to the prevention and treatment of child sexual abuse.
PH 4953 6600

TOGETHER STRONG CONNECTED CARE:
is a free, culturally safe, community-based initiative targeting Type 2 Diabetes for Aboriginal, Torres Strait, and Australian South Sea Islander people
PH 0477 365 283

contact us!

ABN 32094705973

PH 07 4848 1060

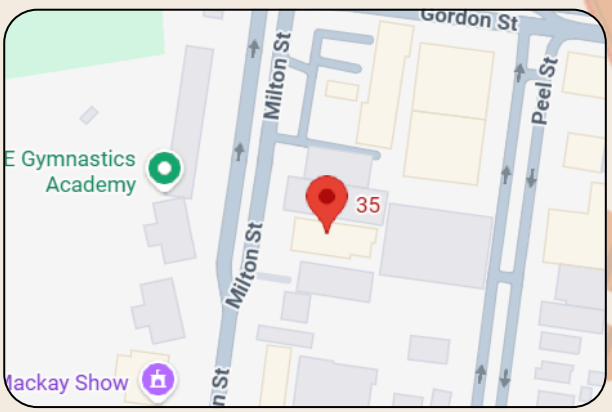
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MARABISDA WEBSITE

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MARABISDA INSTAGRAM

