

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

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Date: 9 December 2020

From: Member for Namatjira

To: Minister for Health

Portfolio: Health

Agency: Department of Health

Subject: Selected communities for NIAA funding

QUESTION:

Page 15 of the second report card mentions 'Indigenous youth connect to culture' and that NIAA has committed \$5m for cultural activities in selected communities over 2024. Can you advise which communities have been selected and what basis?

ANSWER:

The Australian Government National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) Corporate Plan 2020-21, Activity 6 sets out improving mental health, social and emotional wellbeing for Indigenous people, including Indigenous youths and supporting suicide prevention in remote communities. <https://www.niaa.gov.au/resource-centre/niaa/niaa-corporate-plan-2020-21> (Refer to pages 17 and 18).

The NIAA has committed \$5 million from 2020 to 2024 for Indigenous Youth Connection to Culture (IYCC) activities to be allocated to local Indigenous organisations for activities that support young people to connect with their culture, Elders and families. This initiative is guided by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Evaluation Project (ATSISPEP) report findings, especially with regard to building protective factors.

To date, IYCC has allocated \$400,000 over 3 years to local Indigenous organisations in the communities listed below:

- Nhulunbuy
- Borroloola
- Numbulwar
- Alice Springs

Further sites are currently being assessed.