

BLANK PAGE SUMMIT ON SUICIDE

The Billard Aboriginal Community, in the Kimberly, Western Australia, knows what it is like to lose family members to suicide. They have been working hard to find ways to stop any more suicide happening in their family, and they want to help communities everywhere to save lives by stopping Indigenous people killing themselves.

That is the reason they made a 'summit on suicide'. It was called the "Blank Page Summit", to help people talk about suicide in a new way. To find the best way, they invited 150 people from all over Australia to sit down together on country and help them. NPY Women's Council was invited to the summit, and Indigenous Community Volunteers helped to send two directors, Janet Inyika and Valerie Foster, and three staff members, Maime Butler, Lee Ryall and Chris Warren. During the Summit we painted a story that you can see in the picture.

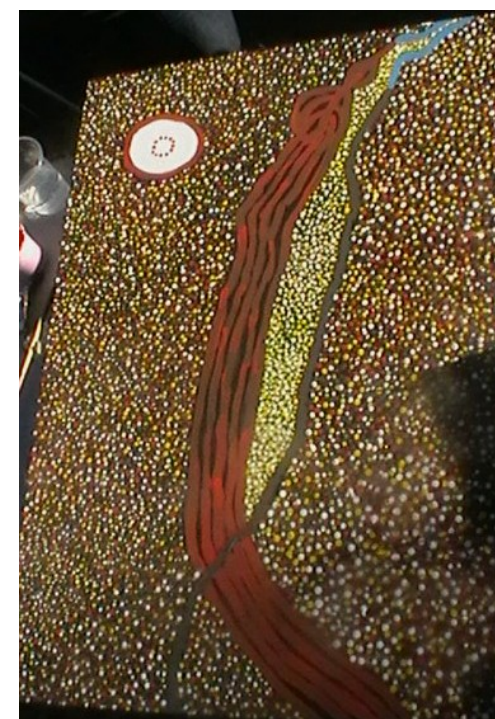
The result of the Summit was a CALL TO ACTION to all Australians to change the way we act through the family, our communities, and with all of us working together.

The CALL TO ACTION talks about: creating suicide-proof communities training families to be families encouraging self-care and healing

You can see many of the things talked about at the summit and in the call to action on this wall. These are many of the same things that NPY Women's Council (and others) are already working on. If you want to talk about how to help your family and community save lives, talk to a member or worker of NPY Women's Council, or call me in the Youth Team on 8958 2381. If you want to read more about the Blank Page Summit I can send you the whole report from the summit.

IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOURSELF OR SOMEONE ELSE COMMITTING SUICIDE, IT IS AN EMERGENCY AND YOU SHOULD TELL PEOPLE STRAIGHT AWAY. TALK TO FAMILY, THE CLINIC, POLICE, TEACHERS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE, OR CALL EMERGENCY SERVICES (000) OR LIFELINE (13 11 14).

Thanks to the Billard Community for holding the summit and inviting NPY Women's Council, and Indigenous Community Volunteers for helping us get there.



No arguing No grog community problem solving fun and cultural activities for all families that nurture growth Healing and self-care Access to treatments

Anangu deciding together to act in a lifesaving way rather than in a habitually self-destructive way

No child neglect and abuse No illegal drugs Community Code of Conduct functional and safe families Aboriginal spirituality self-care and wellbeing country

No pornography No fighting dispute resolution process strong sense of community families that can save lives Respect for everybody Strong culture