

# THE GROW HOPE FOUNDATION

*Walking together, growing together.*



## DEAR SUPPORTERS,

Thank you.

It's been a busy few months for Grow Hope, and we're delighted to share some of our successes with you. What you're about to read has only occurred because of people like you. We don't just value your help - we're indebted to it.

At head office in Melbourne, we've been making some changes to help set up the Foundation for the future. And while there's still plenty to do, we're seeing some tremendous results from our hard work coming through.

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## HOPE HOUSE FEEDBACK

**“I like the house because it is a quiet place ... My bed in the house is mine to use, no one can get in it.” – Donicka, 15**

Our Darwin-based residential house, **Hope House**, has hosted several groups this year.

We were thrilled to introduce a **new Life Skills program!** This has been designed for young women from the remote Gunbalanya community who are re-engaging in school. The students gain skills such as food preparation, budgeting and cleaning, as well as career opportunities through scheduled industry visits.

Meanwhile, another group of students attend the house as they work towards a **Certificate II in Community Services** – and hopefully after that, a Certificate III in Children’s Services.

We’ve also shared the house with occasional visits from students from the **Clontarf Foundation**. This tremendously successful program has seen a boost in school attendance, from 40% up to 100% for some students. We’re thrilled to be a part of it!

The feedback that we’re getting highlights the importance of the work Hope House is doing. We recently asked students what they liked most about the house. The answer? Cleanliness, a lack of humbug (excessive demands from family) – and safety.

We’re committed to continuing to provide a safe, clean and pressure-free environment for these students to flourish. And we can, with your help.

***You can make a difference for as little as \$25 - see page 3 for details!***

***Did you know:  
We didn’t give  
Hope House  
its name – the  
students did!  
Needless to  
say, we  
liked the  
name and it  
stuck.***





# TRAUMA COUNSELLING

Sadly, for many students at Gunbalanya Community School, trauma and its effects are part of daily life. This year, we were proud to partner with Trinity Grammar and Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) to bring trauma counselling programs to the school.

The results have been very positive - and not just for the students. We have seen families and the greater community at Gumbalanya gain an increased understanding of how trauma impacts on their lives.

Meanwhile, the children have shown a significant improvement in their ability to engage with their learning - and school attendance has improved. We are looking to continue to provide these vital programs in the future.



## GIVE HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS!

**'Tis the season of giving** - and if you're looking to make a profound difference to somebody's life, it may be easier than you think.

**Donate just \$25**, and you'll be providing **all meals** for one of our students at Hope House for a day.

**Give \$50**, and you'll be covering the cost of **one night's accommodation**.

**Can you make it \$250?** You'll be providing accommodation for **an entire five-night stay!**

**Just visit**  
[growhope.org.au/donations](https://growhope.org.au/donations)  
**to start changing lives right now.**

*Image above: happy students at Hope House, Darwin.*





## INCURSIONS UPDATE

In partnership with our friends at Wanyara ([www.wanyara.com.au](http://www.wanyara.com.au)), we've seen **over 30 schools** enjoy our Incursions Program this year – leaving students and staff with a deeper understanding of Indigenous culture.

Now not just limited to TAG (Traditional Aboriginal Games), Wanyara has begun to offer art and culture-based activities too! A recent traditional painting session with Northcote High School was a resounding success.

## IMMERSIONS FOR 2020 - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NOW OPEN!

***This is the real Australia. You and your team have journeyed to a remote community on the western border of Arnhem land. You've dived head-first into an ancient culture, visiting sacred sites, meeting with elders. It's been the trip of a lifetime – and one that has changed everything for you and your staff.***

We challenge you to find someone who **wouldn't** benefit from a Grow Hope Immersion to Gunbalanya community! This eye-opening experience will change the way you and your team think about Australia's Indigenous culture.

We are delighted to announce that we have **new availability for a 2020 Corporate Immersion – from June 15-19!** We will also have availability during the spring months (dates by appointment), so please let us know if June doesn't suit.

**Get in touch today to express interest or find out more.**



**Gunbalanya community  
(Oenpelli), NT**



**Dates: June 15-19, 2020. Don't miss out on the experience of a lifetime!**

**Drop us an email at [admin@growhope.org.au](mailto:admin@growhope.org.au) or call Tom Purcell on 0429 948 503 to book your immersion.**





## WHERE YOUR DONATIONS HAVE GONE THIS YEAR

Thanks to you, we've:



Hosted several groups of students from Gunbalanya community and the Clontarf Foundation at Hope House



Introduced over 30 school groups to Indigenous culture through our Incursion Program



Delivered multiple life-changing experiences to Gunbalanya immersion participants



Provided trauma counselling programs for Gunbalanya community



But it doesn't end here. We're doing everything we can, but we're only as strong as the support we have behind us.

### IN 2020, WE HOPE TO:

- Open another residential house to assist another remote community
- Share our Indigenous culture with more Australians by hosting at least two more immersions in 2020
- Reach more school groups, and provide a broader range of incursion programs, thanks to our partners Wanyara
- Pilot an interactive learning exchange between Gunbalanya Community School and a local primary school using Smartboard technology

Your donation is critical in helping us get closer to these goals. Giving to Grow Hope is as easy as visiting the Donations page on our website – but if that doesn't suit, please get in touch.