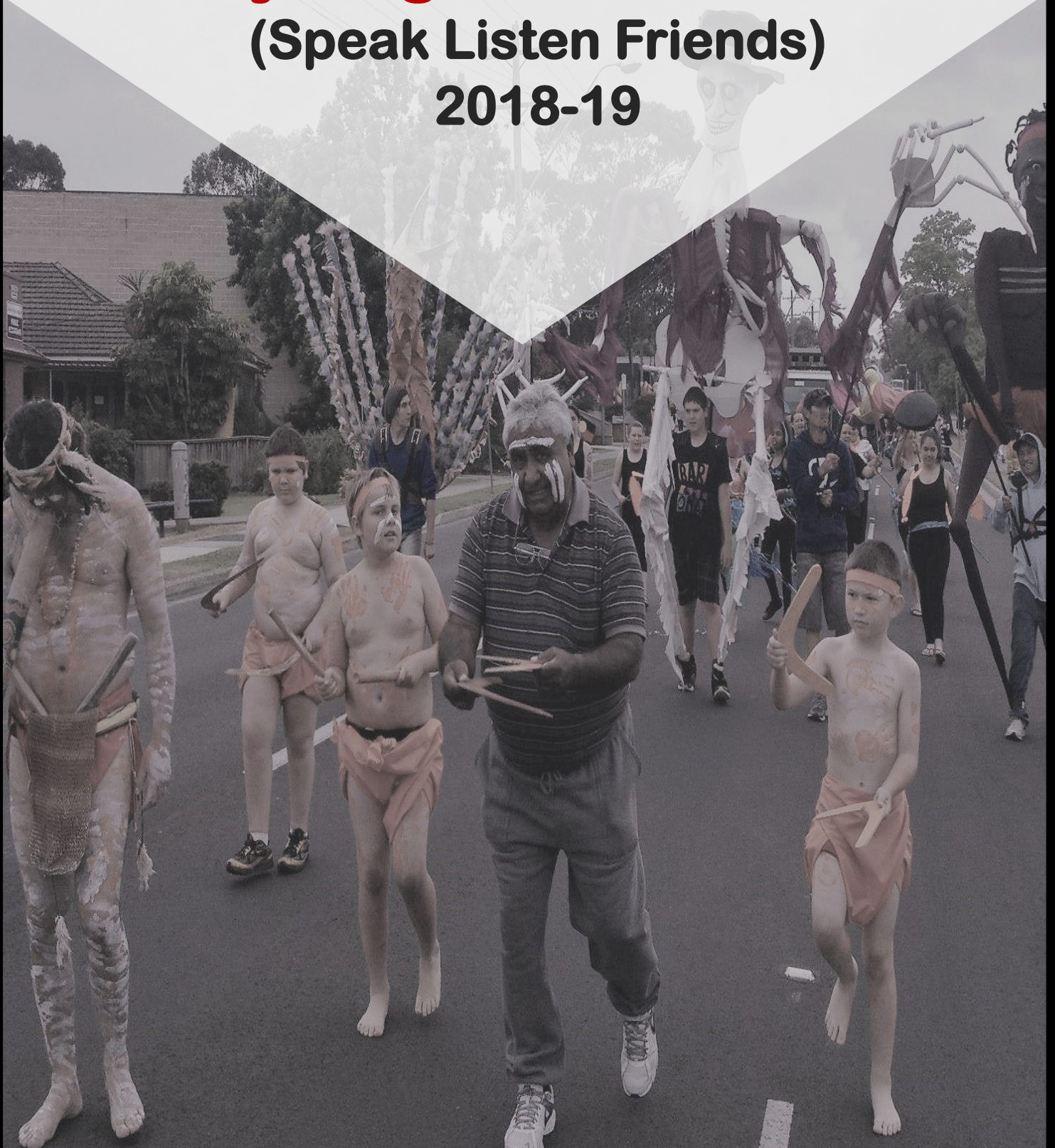




Baya Ngara Gamarada

(Speak Listen Friends)

2018-19



Baya Ngara Gamarada
(Speak Listen Friends)
2018-19

CONTENTS

Acknowledgement.....	3
The MacUnity Creation Story.....	4
Who Are We & What Do We Do.....	5
Vision.....	5
Guiding Principles.....	5
About This Document.....	6
Our Goals.....	7
How We Will Achieve Our Goals.....	8

Baya Ngara Gamarada
(Speak Listen Friends)
2018-19

**MacUnity members acknowledge the
Traditional Custodians of the land
where we meet and work and the many
nations represented by our Aboriginal
community.**

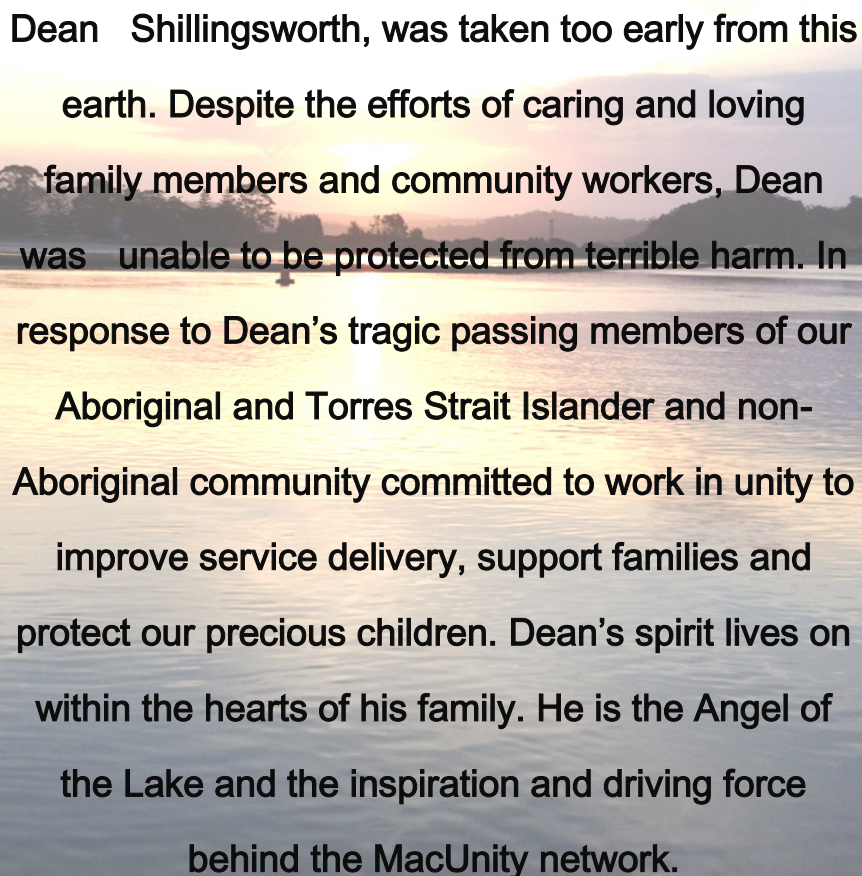
**We respectfully acknowledge all Elders
and Aboriginal people of today and their
Ancestors of the past who have
performed age-old ceremonies of
celebration, initiation and renewal.**

**We acknowledge the living culture and
unique role of our Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander community in the life of
the region.**

Baya Ngara Gamarada **(Speak Listen Friends)** **2018-19**

THE MACUNITY CREATION STORY

DEAN SHILLINGSWORTH - THE ANGEL OF THE LAKE



In 2007, a precious 2-year-old Aboriginal boy, Dean Shillingsworth, was taken too early from this earth. Despite the efforts of caring and loving family members and community workers, Dean was unable to be protected from terrible harm. In response to Dean's tragic passing members of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal community committed to work in unity to improve service delivery, support families and protect our precious children. Dean's spirit lives on within the hearts of his family. He is the Angel of the Lake and the inspiration and driving force behind the MacUnity network.

Baya Ngara Gamarada (Speak Listen Friends) 2018-19

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

MacUnity is a network that has been meeting since 2008 to build relationships between our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and mainstream service providers. MacUnity is a collective of service providers and community members in Macarthur and Wingecarribee. We meet to achieve genuine outcomes for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The Baya Ngara Gamarada agreement is our guiding document.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to improve the effectiveness of services delivered to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities through engaging service providers, strengthening relationships and promoting culturally strong practice, in genuine partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders and community

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- ◆ We value and embrace the knowledge and experience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, emerging leaders, young people and communities
- ◆ We are focused on Aboriginal children and families, improving service quality and overcoming barriers to access
- ◆ We are welcoming and supportive, providing a safe place for all services to learn and share
- ◆ We will work together to address challenges and biases within the system

Baya Ngara Gamarada (Speak Listen Friends) 2018-19

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This document will guide the activities of MacUnity over the next three years in order to achieve the goals of Baya Ngara Gamarada to support and enable effective communication of our goals and achievements to our membership and our current and prospective partners.

Our members will implement these strategies and actions in a way that aligns with our commitment to support members and member organisations.

The Plan will be a living document that will be reviewed annually and evolve as more opportunities arise to deliver on the goals of MacUnity and to respond to the needs of the community.

MacUnity acknowledge the invaluable input of Aboriginal community Elders who provided their input, support and wisdom and AbSec who facilitated the review of this document which was originally developed by Waratah Partners Lawyers + Consultants.

MacUnity would also like to acknowledge the input of resources, time and leadership provided by Sector Connect Incorporated in order to review and finalise this document.

Please contact Sector Connect on 02 4648 5933 or email director@sectorconnect.org.au if you have any enquiries or if you would like to assist us in achieving our goals

Baya Ngara Gamarada **(Speak Listen Friends)** **2018-19**

OUR GOALS

- 1) Support and promote local events that bring the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community together
- 2) Identify opportunities to engage with services/systems that impact on our children and young people, and support them to embrace community and culture
- 3) Increase community knowledge of services and supports available to Aboriginal children and families
- 4) Support each other in providing the best possible services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families
- 5) We will work together to address challenges and biases within the system



Baya Ngara Gamarada **(Speak Listen Friends)** **2018-19**

HOW WE WILL ACHIEVE OUR GOALS

GOAL 1

Support and promote local events that bring the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community together

- ♦ Establishing an annual Aboriginal calendar – noting events and local services
- ♦ Actively promote local events (rolling) – establish a period bulletin of upcoming events

GOAL 2

Identify opportunities to engage with services/systems that impact on our children and young people, and support them to embrace community and culture

- ♦ Establish contact between MacUnity and local services, including schools, police etc., to inform about MacUnity

Measurement: # services/organisations engaged

- ♦ Build membership of MacUnity of local services

Measurement: calendar of invitations

- ♦ Regularly share/discuss opportunities for activities across the MacUnity network, supporting engagement

Measurement: # activities facilitated through MacUnity

- ♦ Showcase positive examples

Baya Ngara Gamarada **(Speak Listen Friends)** **2018-19**

HOW WE WILL ACHIEVE OUR GOALS

GOAL 3

Increase community knowledge of services and supports available to Aboriginal children and families

- ♦ Regularly showcase relevant services and opportunities
- ♦ Encourage service promotion through local community events

Measurement: # services participating in relevant local community events (noting work of SWS Koori Interagency) – opportunity for feedback and, service utilisation

GOAL 4

Support each other in providing the best possible services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families

- ♦ Regular agenda item for 'question time' at meetings to raise issues and opportunities
- ♦ Creating links to facilitate partnerships/working groups to examine specific issues as they arise, pool resources etc

Measurement: # relevant partnerships facilitated

Baya Ngara Gamarada **(Speak Listen Friends)** **2018-19**

HOW WE WILL ACHIEVE OUR GOALS

GOAL 5

We will work together to address challenges and biases within the system

- ♦ Challenges and issues are an agenda item
- ♦ Collaborative action such as working parties are established to tackle systemic issues

Measurement– Collaborative action results in an outcome that is relative to the resources available within the group

