

Katungul



**Aboriginal Corporation Regional Health
and Community Services**

Annual Report 2024-2025

"Culturally Safe, Community Driven, Holistically Delivered"



Introduction

Katungul is committed to delivering high-quality treatment through our general practice, medical and dental clinics. We focus on improving the health, wellbeing and social outcomes of Aboriginal people with a strong focus on holistic, culturally appropriate service delivery. We strive to empower our community and create positive, lasting change.

We offer allied health programs addressing eye health, otitis media and maternity care along with a variety of outreach services to support the broader community.

Additionally, we work in partnership with local health services to meet the medical, dental, social and emotional wellbeing needs of our clients to a high standard. Our service area spans communities from Eden to Batemans Bay.

Our Vision

For Aboriginal people to live healthy lives enriched by a strong living culture, dignity and justice and for Katungul's work to be recognised as a driving force in achieving this.

Our Purpose

Provide holistic and culturally appropriate wellbeing services for and with Aboriginal communities.

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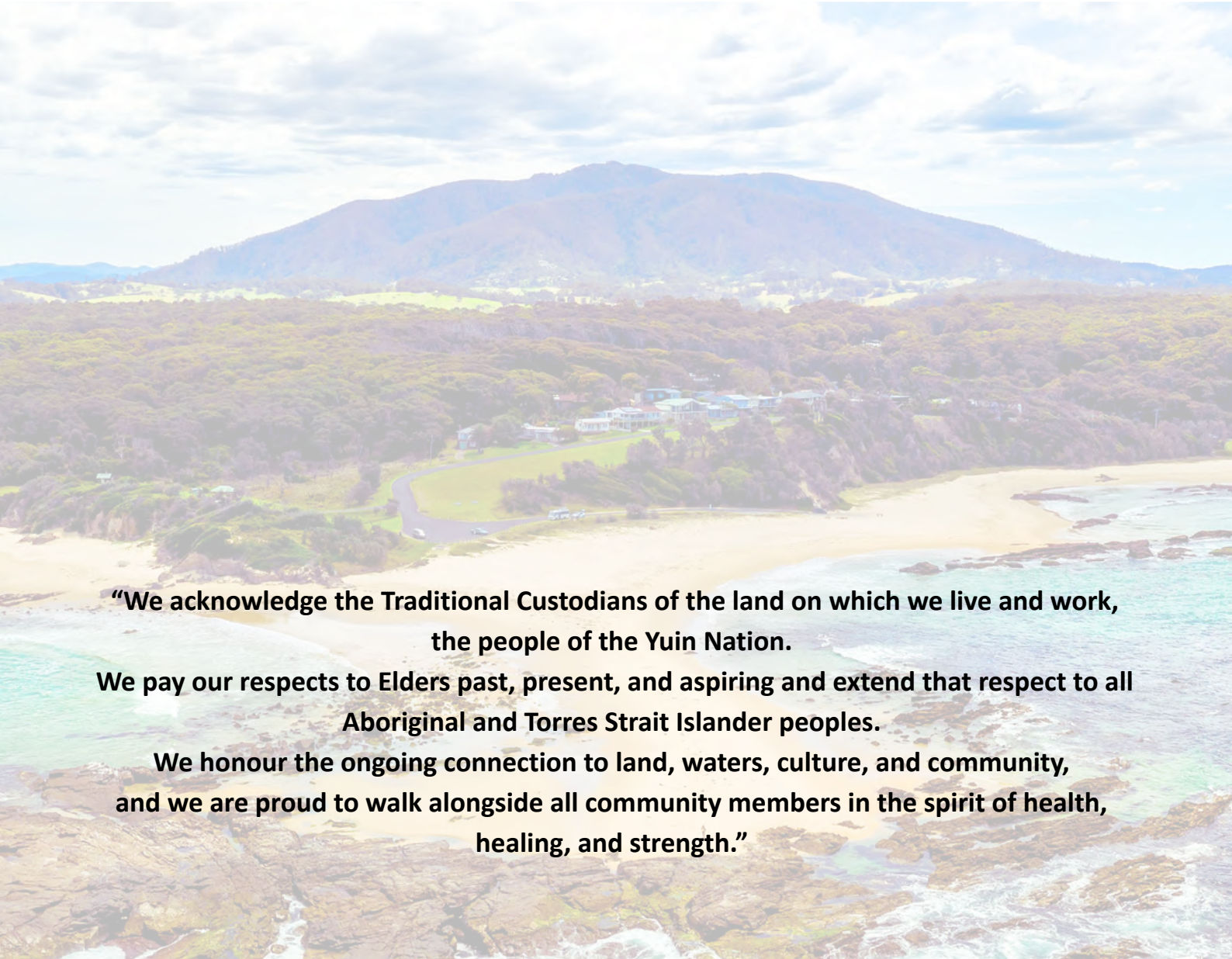
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Cover artwork by Latoya Scott



Acknowledgement of Country



**“We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work,
the people of the Yuin Nation.**

**We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and aspiring and extend that respect to all
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.**

**We honour the ongoing connection to land, waters, culture, and community,
and we are proud to walk alongside all community members in the spirit of health,
healing, and strength.”**

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are advised that this report may contain
records, images or names of people who have passed away.**



Photo by Shannon Mason Photography

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Chairperson's Message

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Regional Health and Community Services, I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2024-2025.

I would like to congratulate David MacQueen on his appointment as CEO of Katungul. David did an outstanding job while he was acting in the role and was selected from a pool of highly qualified candidates.



Organisational Structure

The Board has endorsed a new organisational structure designed to streamline Katungul's services and operations. An important feature of the new structure is the creation of the Cultural Advisory Group. This is part of our commitment to culturally informed leadership and decision-making. The purpose of this group is for Indigenous staff to share information and provide guidance on matters that impact the organisation. The group will also offer advice and guidance on the issues that affect both Katungul's workforce and communities.



Skilled Aboriginal Workforce

Katungul is proud to support career pathways that build a strong Aboriginal workforce. Through our partnership with the University of Wollongong, we have worked together to establish a pilot course in Indigenous healthcare based in Bega. Thirteen staff members have received training in all areas of healthcare including workplace health and safety, first aid, infection control and healthcare law. The course will also provide credits towards further studies.

Katungul also supports staff pursuing individual education in healthcare such as Audiometry, Assistant in Nursing, Aboriginal Health Practitioner training and Nursing degrees. This commitment is not only an investment in each staff member's future but an investment in Katungul to deliver community-led healthcare.

Steve Burrows Foundation

The Steve Burrows Foundation was established to connect corporate partners with Australia's First Peoples, promoting sustainable development and empowering Indigenous communities. We are grateful for the support the foundation has provided Katungul with more than \$400,000 worth of goods donated to help us support our communities over the last year.

These donations were gifted to the community at events such as the Family Fun Day, Mogo Big Day Out and the Community Christmas Celebrations. I am looking forward to strengthening our partnership and collaborating more over the coming year.

Growth

Katungul's services have significantly expanded to meet the needs of the communities we serve. We operate three established clinics in Narooma, Bega and Batemans Bay along with outreach services in Wallaga Lake and a newly established outreach service in Eden.

Broadly speaking, in the last 12-18 months, Katungul has doubled its workforce growing from around 57 to more than 100 staff. Program funding has also doubled enabling an increase in programs and services by 50 per cent.

These achievements are a testament to the hard work of our CEO David MacQueen, his leadership team and our dedicated staff.

With full support of the Board, David and his team remain committed to sustaining and growing programs for the benefit of communities across our footprint.



Staff members who took part in the pilot course at UOW

Board Directors



Chairperson Jim Allen



Patricia Ellis



Lynette Goodwin



**Deputy Chairperson
Anne Greenaway**



Judith Norris



Angela Parsons



Yvonne Stewart

CEO's Message

We have had another successful year marked by significant growth in our workforce and expansion of our services and programs.

A highlight of the year was receiving the Outstanding Indigenous Business and the Business of the Year awards for the Eurobodalla Shire. Katungul is a finalist in the Indigenous Chambers of Commerce Awards to be held on October 28, 2025, in the Hunter Valley.



David MacQueen

All staff undergo Cultural Awareness Training, reinforcing Katungul's commitment to providing a culturally safe environment. This training is essential for fostering trust, respect, and understanding between staff and clients, and is a cornerstone of ethical practice in Aboriginal health service delivery.

In partnership with the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (AH&MRC), Katungul participates in Elder Care Support training and Certificate IV in Counselling programs. These initiatives empower Aboriginal workers with the skills to provide trauma-informed, culturally appropriate support to Elders and community members navigating complex social and emotional wellbeing challenges.

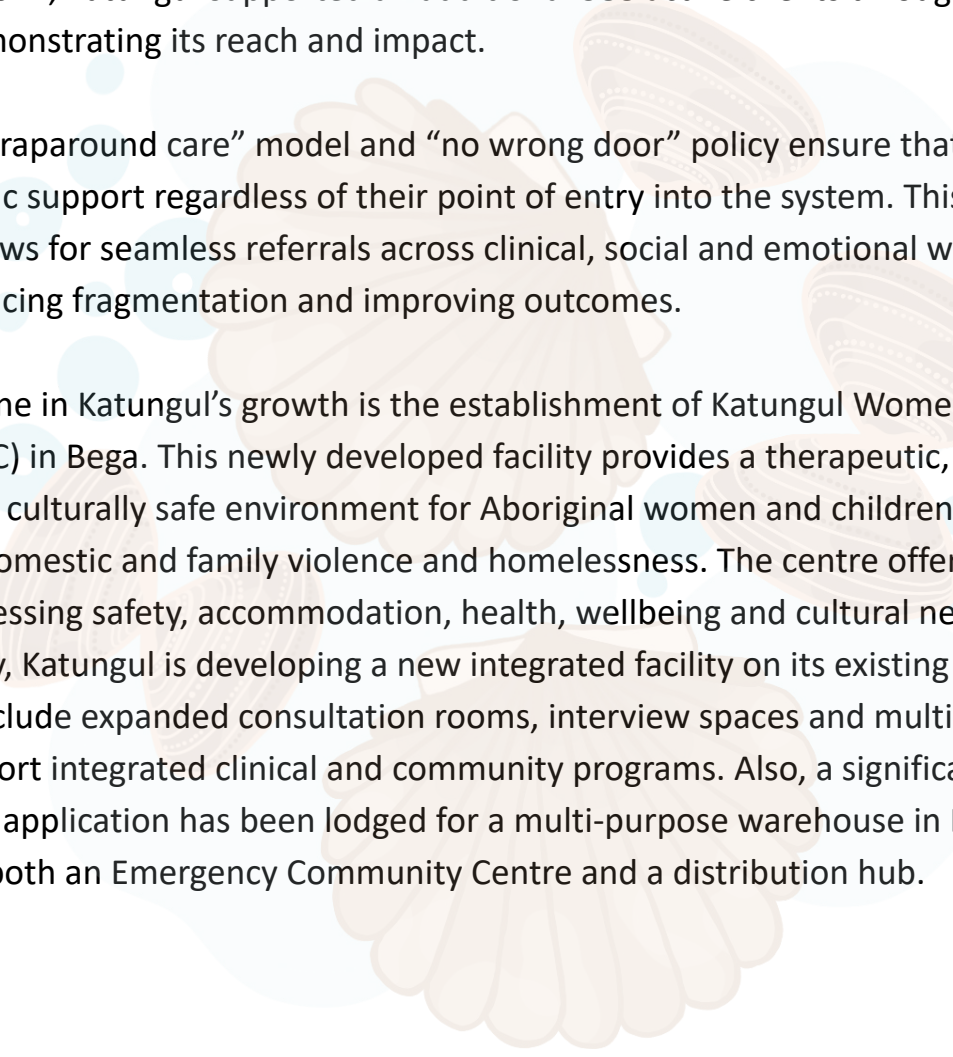


Katungul also leads the Stay Strong Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Treatment Support Program, funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency. This strategic initiative, delivered in consortium with Waminda, supports individuals and families affected by substance use through integrated care, counselling, and cultural healing practices. The program reflects Katungul's commitment to addressing the root causes of addiction and promoting long-term recovery.

Through its Integrated Team Care (ITC) Program, Katungul provides targeted support for chronic conditions such as eye health and otitis media, which disproportionately affects Aboriginal children. The Otitis Media Program includes school-based screenings from Ulladulla to Eden, family education, and referrals to ENT specialists at Westmead Children's Hospital. In 2024, Katungul supported an additional 388 active clients through its ITC Program, demonstrating its reach and impact.

Katungul's "wraparound care" model and "no wrong door" policy ensure that clients receive holistic support regardless of their point of entry into the system. This integrated approach allows for seamless referrals across clinical, social and emotional wellbeing services, reducing fragmentation and improving outcomes.

A key milestone in Katungul's growth is the establishment of Katungul Women's Healing Centre (KWHC) in Bega. This newly developed facility provides a therapeutic, trauma-informed and culturally safe environment for Aboriginal women and children experiencing or at risk of domestic and family violence and homelessness. The centre offers holistic support addressing safety, accommodation, health, wellbeing and cultural needs. In Batemans Bay, Katungul is developing a new integrated facility on its existing footprint. The facility will include expanded consultation rooms, interview spaces and multi-purpose areas to support integrated clinical and community programs. Also, a significant development application has been lodged for a multi-purpose warehouse in Bega, which will serve as both an Emergency Community Centre and a distribution hub.





Katungul's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) approach is further strengthened by its extensive partnerships with leading research institutions and health organisations. These collaborations support innovation, knowledge exchange, and culturally responsive service delivery.

Key partnerships include:

- St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, where Katungul contributes to culturally safe care models and joint professional development initiatives.
- The Poche Centre for Indigenous Health at the University of Sydney, which works with Katungul to co-design research and programs that address systemic health inequities and promote Indigenous leadership in health policy.
- Macquarie University, through the HEAR (Hearing, Education, Application, Research) project, which supports hearing health strategies aligned with WHO Indigenous health frameworks.
- University of Wollongong, delivering skill-based training and Certificate IV qualifications for Aboriginal Health Practitioners.
- Monash and Melbourne Universities, collaborating on trauma-informed care and domestic violence prevention programs.
- University of Western Sydney, Flinders University, The Australian National University, Charles Sturt University and University of New South Wales, all of which engage with Katungul through student placements, research and advisory roles.

These partnerships not only enhance Katungul's service delivery but also contribute to the broader advancement of Indigenous health and wellbeing across Australia. I would like to sincerely thank the Katungul Board for their support and guidance during the year. Thank you to our Katungul staff who have worked tirelessly during the year to provide culturally appropriate health care and community services across our footprint.

Top Honours

Katungul was the standout winner at the 2025 Eurobodalla Business Awards held at the Bay Pavilions in June.

We were awarded Outstanding Indigenous Business as well as taking out the top prize of Business of the Year.

Eurobodalla Mayor Mathew Hatcher noted that Katungul's impact extends beyond clinical care with services spanning general practice, social and emotional wellbeing, and holistic community outreach. He described Katungul as more than a health clinic, it's a cultural connector and community powerhouse led and staffed by Mob for Mob.

The awards celebrated innovation, dedication and outstanding achievements of local businesses and community organisations across the region.

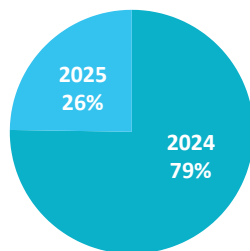


Photo courtesy of Eurobodalla Shire Council

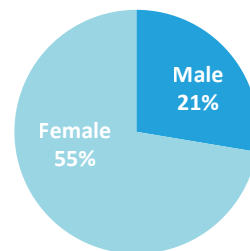
People and Culture



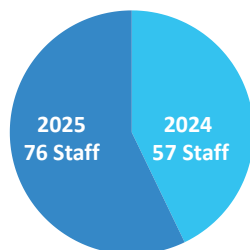
Turnover



Gender



Staff



Cultural Identity

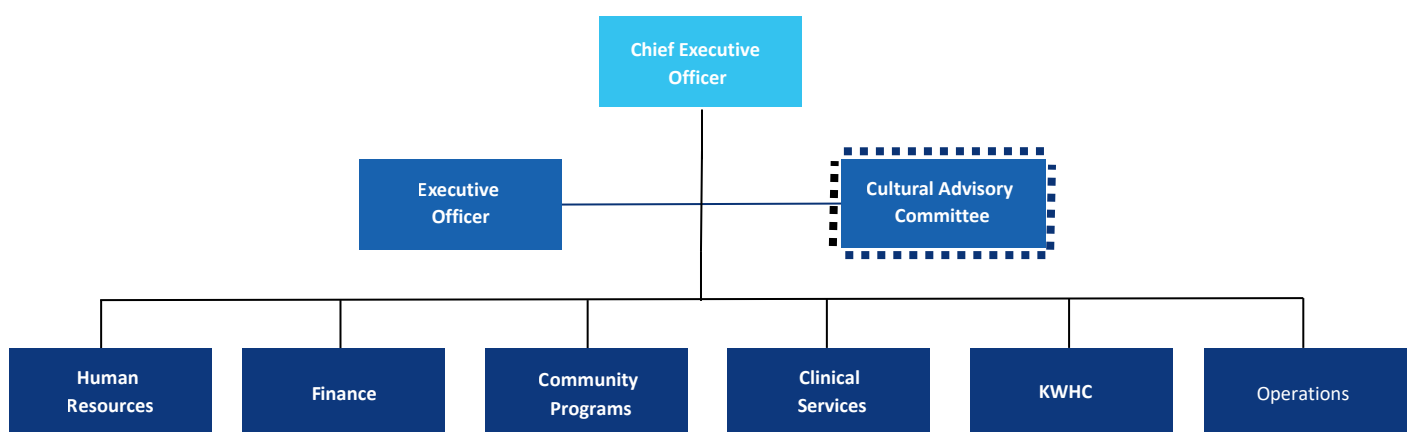


Organisational Chart

As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen operations and enhance service delivery a new organisational structure has been implemented.

The new structure has been developed to:

- Reduce the number of direct reports to the CEO from 15 to 6
- Alignment with strategic goals and values
- Streamline reporting lines for quicker decision-making
- Greater collaboration across the teams
- Break down silos by reorganising teams around functions and client needs
- Creation of the cultural advisory group. This allows for engagement with Indigenous staff to gain their input and advice in relation to issues impacting Katungul.



Cultural Learning On Country



Around 60 staff from Bega, Narooma, and Batemans Bay took part in cultural training sessions aimed at deepening their understanding of Yuin Country and Culture.

The information sessions, delivered by Minga Cultural Experiences, included a guided walk along the Bingi Dreaming Track where staff learned about native plants and their traditional uses. The walk offered valuable insight into the deep connection between land and culture and the ways in which knowledge has been passed down through generations.

Teams also participated in a boat tour on the Wagonga Inlet with Nar-oo-ma Aboriginal Cultural Tours where the tour leaders shared the rich history of the area including the impacts of colonisation on the Yuin Nation. The experience highlighted stories of resilience and connection to Country.

Katungul Women's Healing Centre

Overview

The Katungul Women's Healing Centre (KWHC) provides client-centred support services including crisis accommodation and case management for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander women, with or without children, escaping domestic and family violence. From July 2024 to June 2025, KWHC has assisted 46 families with a total 28 children.

Service delivery includes:

- Provide safe, short-term accommodation while the clients' homelessness is resolved.
- Provide case management and support to mitigate the impact of the immediate crisis. A strong case management approach to ensure integrated support on behalf of the client, as required.
- Help connect clients to other services, including primary health, social and emotional wellbeing, employment, education and training, cultural support, legal, and other relevant community services and networks.
- Work with the clients to transition from crisis accommodation and secure safe and affordable long-term housing and access post crisis support.

Staffing ratios:

- 5 x FTE (Manager, Team Leader, Administration Officer, 2 Case Managers)
- 3 x Part Time (Support Workers)
- 2 x Casual

Women's Program- Walanung Bibaana (Heart Sister) 6-week duration

The development of this program is to engage women within the centre in embedded cultural healing support tools, that have a sense of progression, achievement and movement. The program entails phases where different topics and interests are explored amongst the group.

Key activities include:

- Healing Circles - Facilitated yarning circles led by Elders and cultural mentors.
- Cultural Reflective Practice - Traditional practices such as connecting with Country, language, and storytelling.
- Bush Medicine - Education and use of traditional healing plants and remedies including yam cultivation workshops
- Art Therapy - Creative sessions using painting, sculpture, and other media for expression.

Specialist child and young person support

Breakfast club in the centre is designed to support families by providing a nutritious start to the day to improve health, school attendance and social connection through culturally safe and welcoming morning gatherings. All children are transported to and from school.

Afternoon Kids Club is a culturally safe, after-school initiative designed to support structured activities, healthy snacks, and emotional wellbeing in a relaxed and nurturing environment. It provides a positive space for learning, playing, and connection to culture.

School holiday program

The School Holiday Program provides a safe, culturally enriching space during school breaks. It's designed to foster connection, creativity, and wellbeing while offering respite for families and caregivers. To date, young people have participated in activities such as equine therapy, fishing, a play school performance, Mogo Zoo, cooking and art and craft activities.



The Strategic plan for KWHC will maintain a high level of culturally safe healing modalities within the centre by promoting language, connection with Country, and traditional knowledge with support from respected elders and community members to ensure culture is at the forefront of families' healing journey.

This will include incorporating culturally safe environments within the facility, such as murals of Aboriginal artwork and child-safe playing upgrade zones.

While KWHC implies a feminist approach, it is acknowledged male children are lacking male counterpart interaction from a cultural lens. Our capacity to provide and build men's business programs will entail a whole-of-family approach to practice.

Staff will be trained to build continuous capacity for domestic violence and trauma-informed training: this will be delivered through the Education Centre Against Violence (ECAV).

Sustainability and governance will ensure secure long-term funding is implemented by upholding transparent governance measures and supporting ongoing service delivery, including having the capacity to provide outreach support to our much-needed families for prevention and intervention measures. Katungul's new core values will be applied within the organisation to safeguard members of the community with a lived experience of domestic and family violence. This will guarantee staff accountability and a culturally fit workplace within professional practice.

Katungul Women's Healing Centre will transition into the accreditation by December 2026 under QIP accreditation against the QIC Standards, highlighting Katungul Women's Healing Centre's strengths and gap improvements.

Community Programs

Koori Connections

Koori Connections is a program delivered by Katungul which is funded by the Australian Government via the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA).

The main purpose of Koori Connections is to help close the gap in outcomes between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians by improving access to services and supports.

It provides Indigenous clients with information and supported referrals to a range of local Indigenous and non-Indigenous community services and programs. The idea is to help people connect with services that can improve their health, social and financial wellbeing.

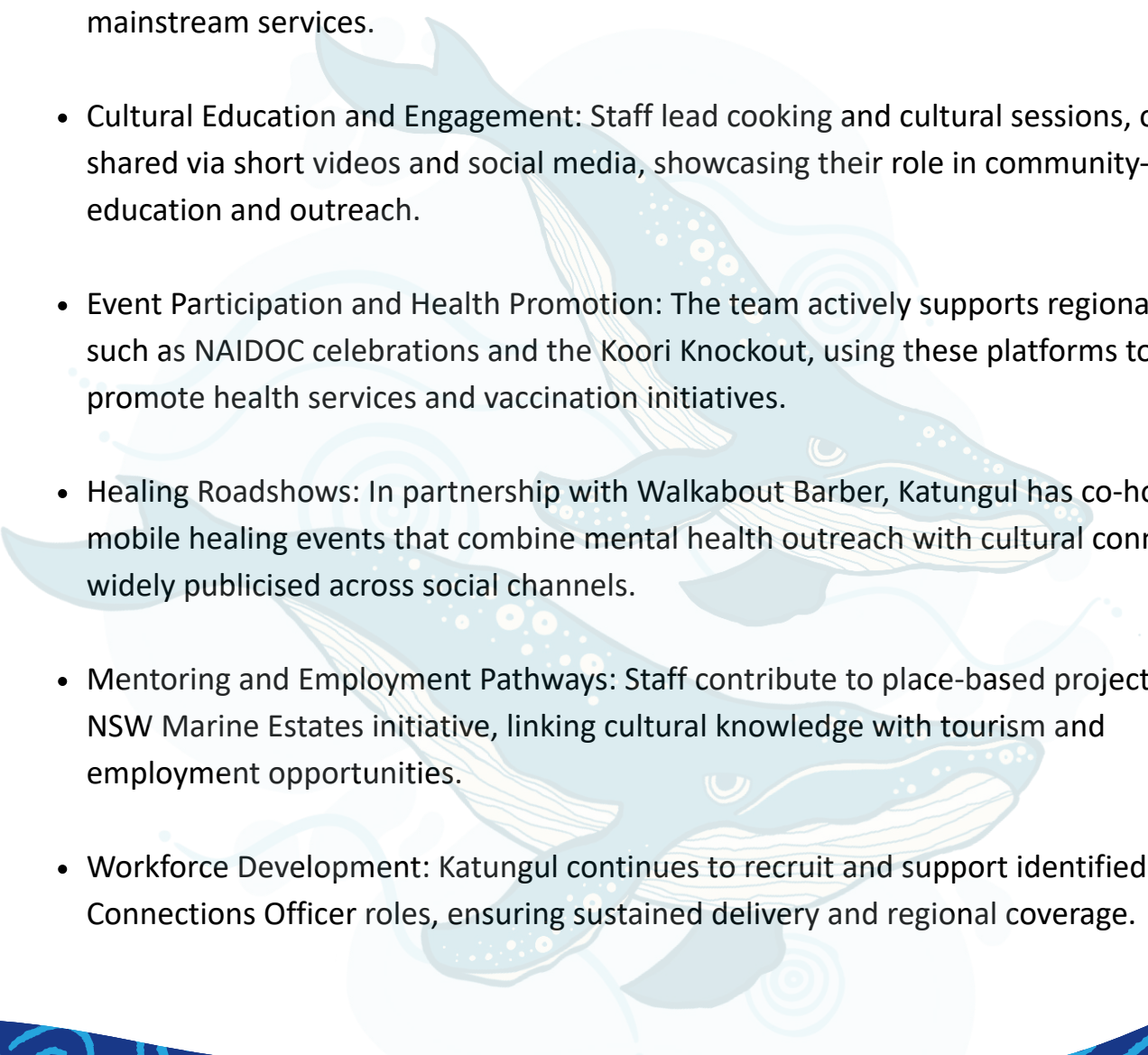




The program operates across its clinic footprint Bega, Batemans Bay, and Narooma delivering culturally grounded outreach, supported referrals, mentoring and community engagement.

It also strengthens links between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients and essential services, including legal, housing, employment, and mental health supports.

Key activities include:

- **Community Outreach and Casework:** Delivered from all clinic sites, Koori Connections provides direct client support and referrals, ensuring access to both Indigenous and mainstream services.
 - **Cultural Education and Engagement:** Staff lead cooking and cultural sessions, often shared via short videos and social media, showcasing their role in community-facing education and outreach.
 - **Event Participation and Health Promotion:** The team actively supports regional events such as NAIDOC celebrations and the Koori Knockout, using these platforms to promote health services and vaccination initiatives.
 - **Healing Roadshows:** In partnership with Walkabout Barber, Katungul has co-hosted mobile healing events that combine mental health outreach with cultural connection, widely publicised across social channels.
 - **Mentoring and Employment Pathways:** Staff contribute to place-based projects like the NSW Marine Estates initiative, linking cultural knowledge with tourism and employment opportunities.
 - **Workforce Development:** Katungul continues to recruit and support identified Koori Connections Officer roles, ensuring sustained delivery and regional coverage.
- 

Elder Care Support



Mission Statement

"We provide culturally sensitive, high-quality support to empower our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders to live with dignity and independence. With deep respect for culture and community, our dedicated staff advocate for and guide our Elders through the My Aged Care registration process."



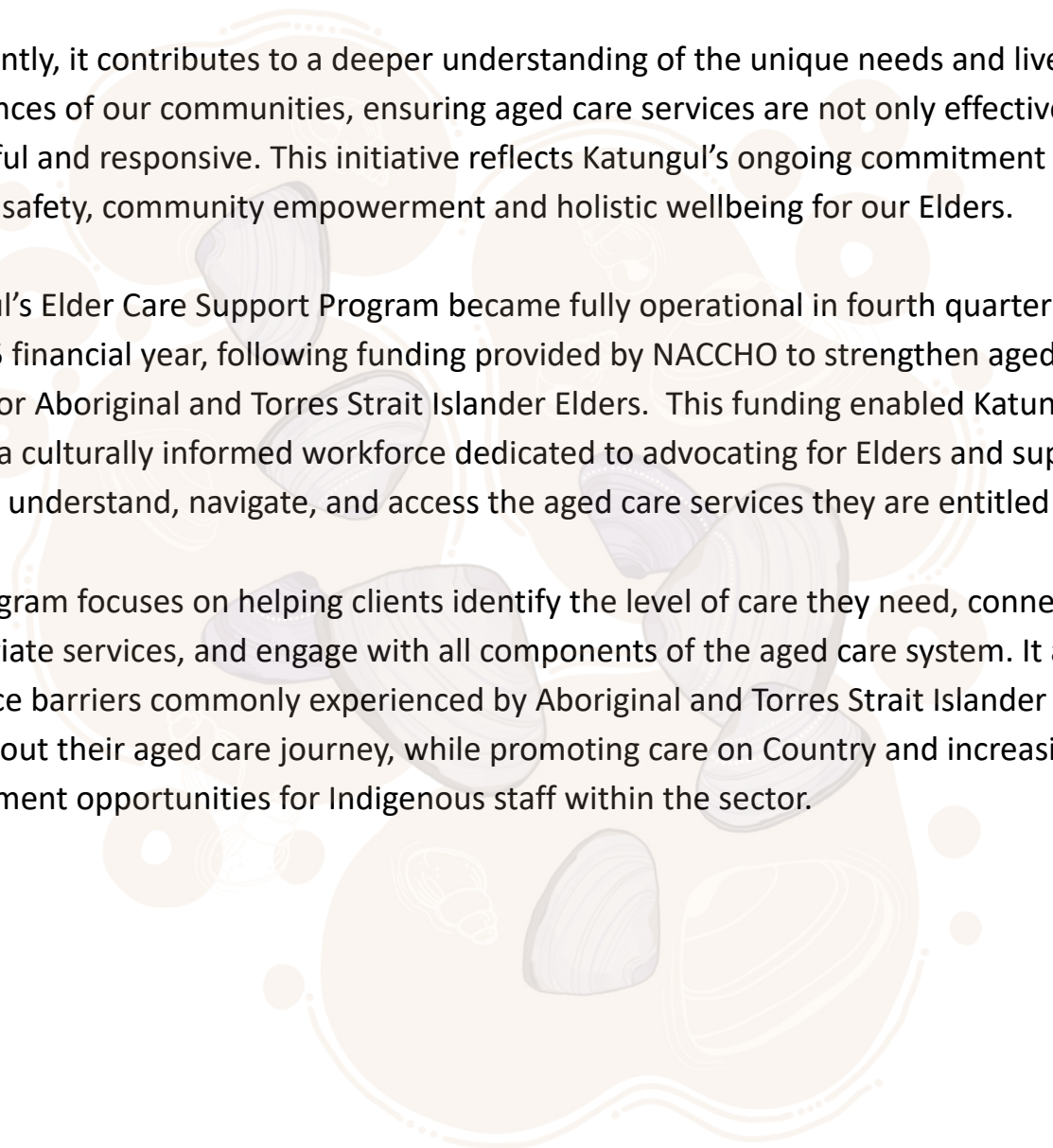
Through funding provided by NACCHO, Katungul has been empowered to expand its Elder Care Support initiatives, ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders receive culturally safe, informed and accessible aged care services.

This support enables our dedicated workforce to advocate for Elders, helping them understand and navigate the aged care system, identify appropriate levels of care and access services tailored to their needs. By embedding local knowledge and cultural sensitivity into service delivery, Katungul strengthens connections between Elders and the aged care system, fostering trust and improving engagement across all components of care.

Importantly, it contributes to a deeper understanding of the unique needs and lived experiences of our communities, ensuring aged care services are not only effective but also respectful and responsive. This initiative reflects Katungul's ongoing commitment to cultural safety, community empowerment and holistic wellbeing for our Elders.

Katungul's Elder Care Support Program became fully operational in fourth quarter of the 2024-25 financial year, following funding provided by NACCHO to strengthen aged care access for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders. This funding enabled Katungul to engage a culturally informed workforce dedicated to advocating for Elders and supporting them to understand, navigate, and access the aged care services they are entitled to.

The program focuses on helping clients identify the level of care they need, connect with appropriate services, and engage with all components of the aged care system. It also aims to reduce barriers commonly experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people throughout their aged care journey, while promoting care on Country and increasing employment opportunities for Indigenous staff within the sector.



Since its launch, the program has achieved strong outcomes. Letters were mailed to 460 clients, prioritising those in Katungul's Integrated Team Care program with chronic conditions.

The team has conducted 663 phone calls, 86 follow-ups, 98 referrals, and successfully completed 52 registrations on the My Aged Care portal.



460 letters



52 registrations



663 phone calls



98 referrals

Monthly Elder care prizes have been raffled in all four locations (including Moruya) and distributed and promoted via Katungul's social media channels, helping raise awareness and engagement. These efforts reflect Katungul's commitment to embedding cultural safety, local knowledge, and community empowerment into aged care service delivery, while contributing to a deeper understanding of the unique needs and lived experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders.

In addition to direct client support, Katungul's Elder Care Support Program has fostered ongoing community engagement through monthly Elders' lunches and yarn ups held in Batemans Bay, Narooma, and Bega.

These gatherings provide culturally safe spaces for storytelling, connection, and mutual support, helping strengthen relationships between Elders and service providers.

They also serve as informal platforms for sharing information about aged care services, promoting awareness and encouraging participation in the program.



This community-based approach reflects Katungul's commitment to holistic wellbeing and cultural continuity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders.



Tackling Indigenous Smoking

The Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) program is delivered with an approach that effectively achieves the required reach to all First Nations people within the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Shire regions.

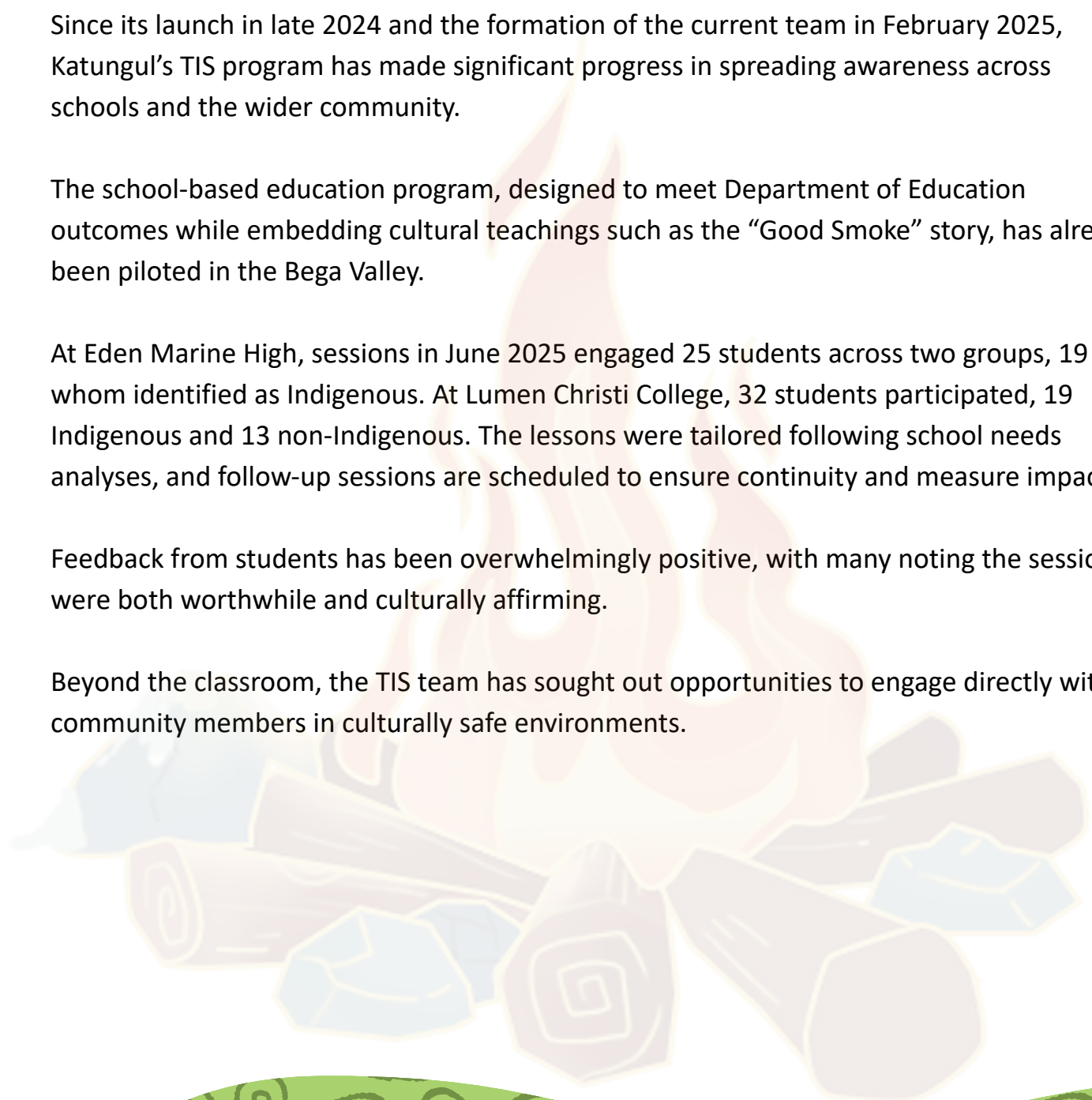
Since its launch in late 2024 and the formation of the current team in February 2025, Katungul's TIS program has made significant progress in spreading awareness across schools and the wider community.

The school-based education program, designed to meet Department of Education outcomes while embedding cultural teachings such as the "Good Smoke" story, has already been piloted in the Bega Valley.

At Eden Marine High, sessions in June 2025 engaged 25 students across two groups, 19 of whom identified as Indigenous. At Lumen Christi College, 32 students participated, 19 Indigenous and 13 non-Indigenous. The lessons were tailored following school needs analyses, and follow-up sessions are scheduled to ensure continuity and measure impact.

Feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive, with many noting the sessions were both worthwhile and culturally affirming.

Beyond the classroom, the TIS team has sought out opportunities to engage directly with community members in culturally safe environments.



In April the team joined the Nowra Girls Cultural Camp at Wallaga, holding a yarnning circle that debunked myths around vaping and smoking in an informal, youth-friendly setting. In May further outreach occurred including the Women's Cultural Camp at Murramarang and the Walkabout Barber roadshow across Bega, Narooma and Mogo where the team engaged with more than 50 youth and community members.



At the Stars Foundation Day in June, the Katungul tent became a focal point for conversations with young people, combining health education with culturally informed activities, prizes and strong messaging about making empowered, smoke-free choices. Promotions have also been central to the program's strategy.

On World No Tobacco Day (30 May), the team launched the school program to around 80 staff across Katungul's Bega, Narooma and

Batemans Bay sites, raising awareness internally about TIS goals and strategies for 2025. Social media has become a powerful tool, with regular Facebook and Instagram posts targeting young audiences and busting vaping myths. The team has also produced its own culturally relevant posters and flyers, which have been requested by partner Aboriginal Medical Services, NSW Health, St Vincent's Hospital, Bega Hospital and other local organisations, demonstrating the strength and transferability of Katungul's TIS messaging.

Smoking Cessation Clinics

Smoking cessation clinics are specialised health services that support people to quit smoking or vaping. They are usually run by trained health professionals such as nurses, doctors or counsellors and provide a combination of medical and practical support tailored to each person's needs.

Key features of smoking cessation clinics include assessment and counselling, nicotine replacement therapy (NRT), follow-up and ongoing support. In short, smoking cessation clinics give people the tools, resources, and personalised support they need to break free from nicotine addiction, improve health, and reduce the risks of smoking-related disease.

Running alongside TIS, Katungul's Smoking Cessation Clinics provide direct, practical support for individuals ready to quit smoking or vaping.

Operating weekly across Bega, Narooma, Batemans Bay and Wallaga Lake, the clinics are led by an RN under a Nurse Initiated Medication Policy, offering Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT), counselling and follow-up care including home visits when required. While not funded through TIS, the clinics are supported by AH&MRC and benefactors who have donated large quantities of NRT patches. In the fourth quarter alone, 47 clients began or completed their journey to becoming smoke- or vape-free with many also ceasing cannabis use.

Strong GP support and the program's accessibility and cultural sensitivity have made these clinics a cornerstone in reducing the burden of chronic and acute disease in our community.

Together, the TIS program and Smoking Cessation Clinics create a comprehensive approach to tobacco control. Katungul continues to raise awareness through World No Tobacco Day activities, staff presentations, and a strong social media presence that regularly busts myths about vaping and smoking.



At the same time, smoke-free workplace policies, signage and staff engagement reinforce a culture of health across the organisation. By combining education, community engagement, direct cessation support and cultural empowerment, Katungul is tackling tobacco use at every level and building healthier futures for our communities.

Katungul's smoking cessation clinics are designed to be culturally sensitive and supportive, recognising the role of community, culture, and holistic wellbeing in helping people succeed.

Strong Families, Strong Communities

The Strong Families, Strong Communities Program aims to address the barriers to wellbeing and connection by providing holistic support to young individuals and their families impacted by past government removal policies and intergenerational trauma.

Katungul's community programs have delivered a combination of individual support services, group activities/programs, workshops and community events that provide healing, outreach and advocacy.

There has been strong progress toward project outcomes by deepening youth and community engagement, strengthening partnerships and promoting Strong Families Strong Communities across the Eurobodalla. We have built connections with local high schools and organisations including Waminda, Campbell Page and My Voice My Journey.

Despite staffing changes in October, we recruited a Youth and Engagement Worker in early 2025. With strong community ties and lived experience, he has enhanced our mentoring capacity. We have also delivered or participated in several key events:

- Sorry Day Bridge Walk - promoted healing and service visibility
- Batemans Bay Touch Football - connected with hard-to-reach youth
- NATSI Children's Day (5 Aug) - cultural games and SEWB promotion
- NAIDOC Community Days and Giiyong Festival - promoted SEWB and AOD services
- Katungul School Holiday Program - six activities with more than 70 participants
- Walkabout Barber Tour - engaged communities in Bega, Narooma, and Mogo, blending cultural connection with service promotion

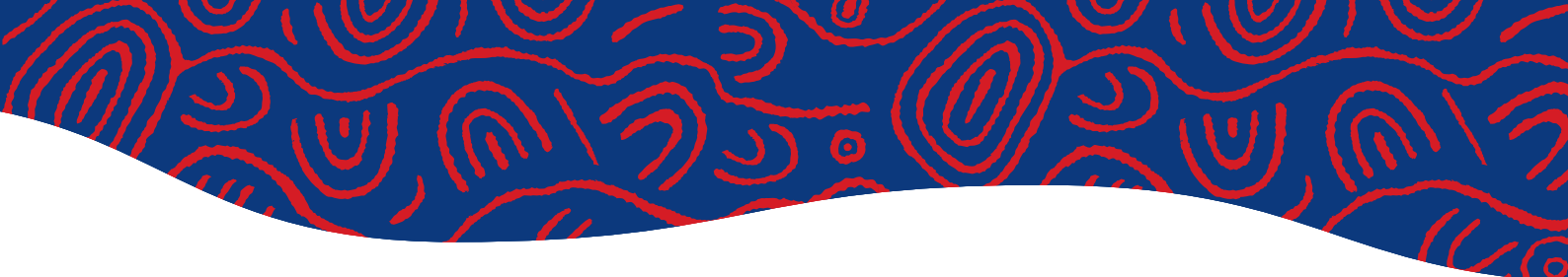
Giiyong Festival



School Holiday Program



NAIDOC at Batemans Bay Highschool



Building Aboriginal Community Resilience

Building resilience in Aboriginal communities requires a multifaceted approach that includes culturally relevant programs, community engagement and recognition of historical contexts. By fostering connections to culture and community, these initiatives aim to empower Aboriginal peoples to navigate challenges and enhance their overall wellbeing. By embedding Aboriginal perspectives, cultural safety and shared governance into mental health service delivery, this initiative strengthens support for Aboriginal individuals, families and communities ensuring care pathways that are both effective and culturally appropriate.

Over the 2024-25 period, Katungul has actively embedded cultural connection, community celebration and collaborative partnerships into its resilience-building work across its service footprint. We have supported a series of local NAIDOC Week events including family fun days and community gatherings helping to amplify cultural pride, strengthen networks and foster shared belonging across Bega, Narooma and Batemans Bay.

In addition, we held five Christmas parties across our region, offering a space for families, Elders and youth to come together in a celebratory, culturally safe environment. Alongside these, regular Elders' lunches were convened, creating ongoing opportunities for storytelling, connection, and mutual support. At the same time, we have deepened interagency connections to enhance mental health support pathways across the region. We coordinated with mental health services in Bega, Moruya, Narooma and Batemans Bay facilitating referrals, joint case management and information sharing to ensure clients receive culturally safe, effective support.

Through our Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) and community services arms, we have offered case management, community workshops and court-advocacy supports, all delivered with cultural safety and respect embedded. The program has also supported a men's culture camp on country connecting people through traditional practices such as fishing, diving and artifact making. These camps were a huge success engaging people who said they had been isolated and felt disconnected for years. The camps drew client attendance from Katungul's community programs: SEWB, ECS, AOD and TIS.

Family Fun Day

The inaugural Family Fun Day was held on Friday, 19 July 2024 at Bill Smyth Oval in Narooma.

The event brought together families, service providers and local organisations through a day filled with activities and cultural expression. The program featured a variety of stalls with activities including health checks, face painting, weaving circles, traditional games, sports and live entertainment.



Photos by Shannon Mason Photography

A highlight was the generous donation of \$80,000 worth of goods from the Dr Steve Burroughs Foundation, which included clothing, toys, books, and pet supplies. Katungul's service teams showcased their work through interactive and educational activities. The AOD and SEWB team hosted face painting, storytime and boomerang painting. The dental team engaged children with educational games and the Women's Healing Centre facilitated art and craft sessions under the theme "Keep Me Safe."

The Elders tent provided a welcoming space with tea, coffee, and bottled water, reinforcing Katungul's commitment to culturally safe and inclusive care for all generations. The event also featured a passport activity, encouraging attendees to visit service stalls to collect stamps and earn giveaways, including black tote bags and drink bottles promoting the Strong Born initiative.

Children enjoyed a dedicated tent with drawing, beading, ochre shirt painting and wool headband making. Traditional games, boxing, and spear-making added a dynamic physical element to the day, while the Koori Cook-Off kept everyone nourished and energised. The presence of local dancers and a smoking ceremony added powerful cultural significance to the festivities. Events like the Family Fun Day exemplify Katungul's holistic approach to health and community engagement, blending celebration with education and support. The success of the 2024 Fun Day reflects the strength of community partnerships and the importance of culturally grounded events in fostering connection, healing and joy.



Photos by Shannon Mason Photography

Community Christmas Celebrations

In December 2024 we brought the Christmas spirit to communities from Batemans Bay to Narooma, Bega, Eden, and Wallaga Lake.

Each event featured a visit from Santa or his helpers, food, games and activities.

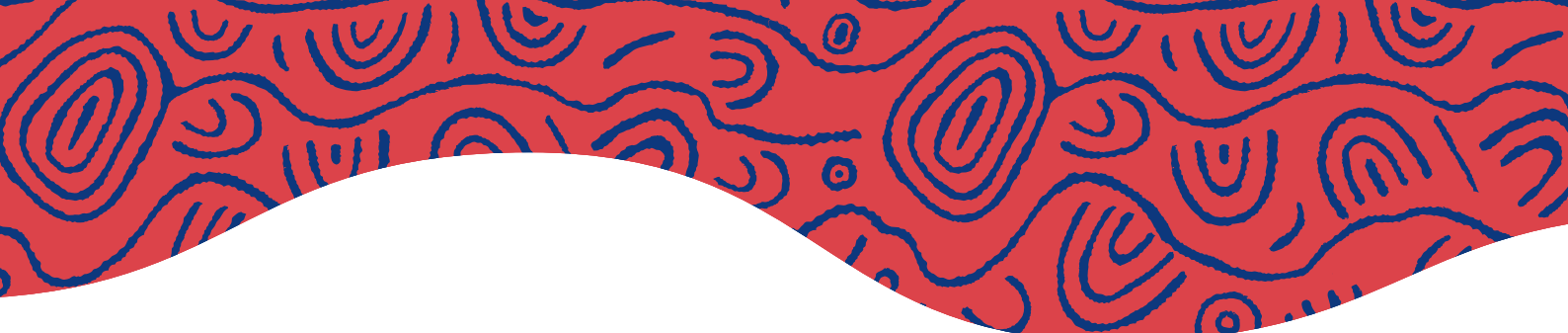
More than 430 gifts were given away that were donated by the Dr Steve Burroughs Foundation. Local services providers including the SES and Grand Pacific Health joined us at each location with giveaways, activities and information.

Highlights

- More than 430 presents distributed
- Multiple communities reached
- Strengthened awareness of Katungul's programs and partner services
- Encouraged participation in health and wellbeing offerings







Stay Strong Alcohol and Other Drugs

The Stay Strong, AOD program promotes individual and community wellbeing and reduction of harmful substance abuse through the provision of culturally appropriate alcohol and other drug prevention, education, treatment, and case management/aftercare services for Indigenous Australians.

Katungul continues to meet KPIs through strong engagement with AOD clients, delivering culturally appropriate prevention, education, treatment, and case management/aftercare services. Using a trauma-informed, wraparound approach, we provide tailored treatment, counselling, brief interventions, goal setting and support in living skills, alongside assistance with Work Development Orders for our clients.

Our wide service footprint and the location of most rehabilitation centres off-Country present barriers with clients often reluctant to leave family and cultural supports. To address this, we deliver as many services locally as possible, reducing travel burdens and maintaining community connection.

A recent concern locally has been the rise in ice use in Bega, which has further increased demand for our services. Our staff have been working closely with stakeholders to coordinate timely interventions, strengthen referral pathways, and ensure culturally safe, accessible support. Partnerships with Family Place, Headspace, Mission Australia and others strengthen cross-service support. Our AOD staff have been working closely with The Glen, Weigelli Rehabilitation Centre and Mandala House to support clients in accessing rehabilitation services. Where needed, our staff provide advocacy to ensure cultural safety and culturally responsive care throughout the process. Our strong rapport with both Weigelli and Fairfield Drug and Alcohol Service has contributed to reduced wait times, with their teams actively working to prioritise our clients and facilitate admission as early as possible.

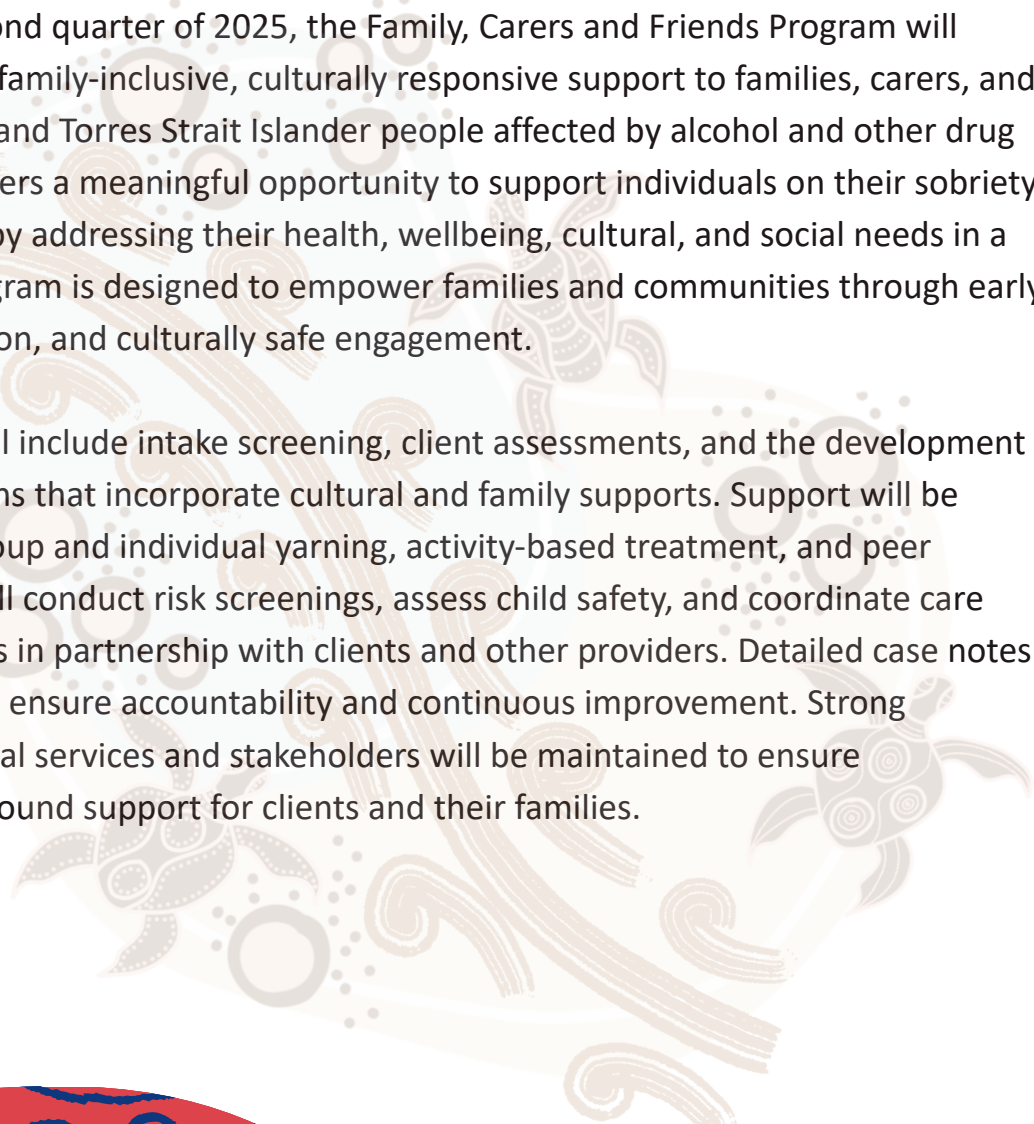


We also supported clients to attend women's and men's camps with Family Place to provide cultural activities and health education. Within this reporting period, we delivered four AOD Yarn Ups to the overall community, which received positive feedback for the relevance and value of the information provided. Staff training included cultural learning on-Country, healthcare skills, first aid, AOD training, and Yarn Smart facilitation.

Family, Carers and Friends

Launching in the second quarter of 2025, the Family, Carers and Friends Program will provide high-quality, family-inclusive, culturally responsive support to families, carers, and friends of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people affected by alcohol and other drug use. This initiative offers a meaningful opportunity to support individuals on their sobriety and healing journey by addressing their health, wellbeing, cultural, and social needs in a holistic way. The program is designed to empower families and communities through early intervention, education, and culturally safe engagement.

Program activities will include intake screening, client assessments, and the development of individual care plans that incorporate cultural and family supports. Support will be delivered through group and individual yarning, activity-based treatment, and peer engagement. Staff will conduct risk screenings, assess child safety, and coordinate care planning and referrals in partnership with clients and other providers. Detailed case notes and data tracking will ensure accountability and continuous improvement. Strong relationships with local services and stakeholders will be maintained to ensure coordinated, wrap-around support for clients and their families.



Culture Care Connect

Culture Care Connect Aftercare are proactive services that are designed and delivered to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people following suicide attempt or suicidal crisis. Aftercare provides a safe environment, culturally appropriate care coordination, support and linkages with different aspects of treatment or response.

Through our participation in the national Culture Care Connect program (led by NACCHO in partnership with the Department of Health and Aged Care), Katungul provides holistic, culturally attuned aftercare services. These services support individuals following a suicidal crisis or attempt, offering follow up, wellbeing checks, connection to cultural and community supports and helping coordinate all elements of care so that healing can continue in a safe and sustaining way.

No Wrong Door Policy

We uphold a “no wrong door” commitment: whether someone comes to us, or is referred by another service, or reaches out when in crisis, they will be welcomed, listened to and supported, not judged or passed around. This means coordinating across our services including medical, mental health, social and emotional wellbeing, outreach and allied health to ensure seamless support.



Wraparound Service Model

Our model is wraparound: meeting people where they are, addressing all relevant needs, not just the mental health component but also connection to family, Country, cultural healing, community, practical supports such as housing and transport and ongoing wellbeing.

Regional Focus and Community-Controlled Design

Serving the Far South Coast from Eden to Batemans Bay, we ensure that our service is place-based. We work closely with local Aboriginal communities to co-design interventions and support that respect cultural protocols, including men's and women's business, kinship and cultural obligations, ensuring relevance and safety.

Evidence, Accountability and Closing the Gap Alignment

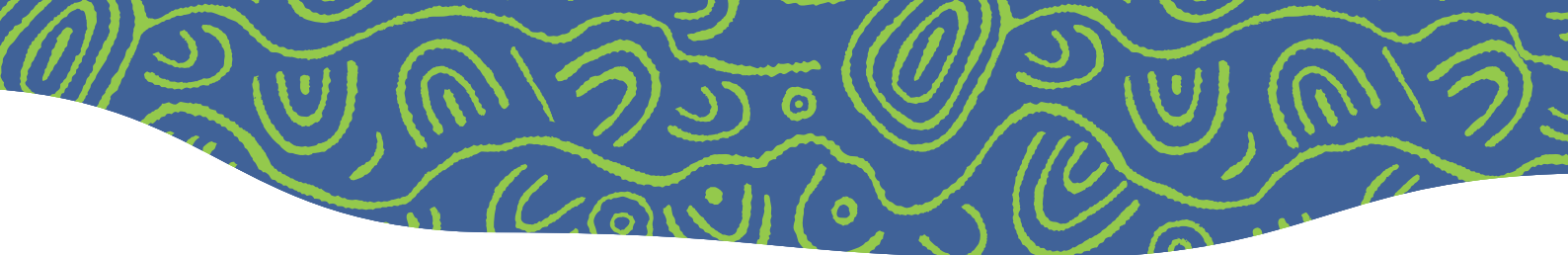
We commit to consistent data collection and transparent reporting to monitor outcomes and enhance what works. Our approach is deeply aligned with Closing the Gap – Outcome 14, and with national frameworks for suicide prevention (evidence from NACCHO's Culture Care Connect and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare).

Safe and Strong Families - Targeted Early Intervention

The Targeted Early Intervention (TEI) Program, launching in the second quarter of 2025, is designed to ensure that families, children and young people receive timely support to prevent the escalation of vulnerability. It aims to address risk factors such as child abuse, neglect, and domestic and family violence early, while ensuring Aboriginal children, young people, families and communities have access to culturally safe, effective and accessible services.

The program's vision is to provide early help where it has the greatest impact, improving outcomes and delivering long-term value for both communities and government.

To achieve this, TEI services will be commissioned to recognise the importance of culture and identity in keeping Aboriginal children and young people safe. The program will support parents in meeting both the physical and emotional needs of their children, assist young people in staying connected to family and making positive life choices and actively engage with vulnerable families to coordinate the services they need. It also aims to strengthen community networks and build resilience by helping communities support and protect their members through stronger social connections.



Community Sector Disaster Capability Program

As the designated host organisation for the South Coast region, Katungul was funded to lead local engagement across the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley shires. Responsibilities included convening workshops, facilitating partnerships and developing culturally appropriate disaster preparedness strategies.

We were tasked with engaging First Nations communities, building capacity within the local NGO sector and promoting the inclusion of community voices in formal emergency management processes. We also collaborated with Eden Community Access Centre (ECAC) to deliver targeted education and outreach activities, including workshops on cultural burning and disaster planning for vulnerable populations.

We delivered a range of initiatives that enhanced disaster resilience in the region. Participation in the Vulnerable Communities Emergency Preparedness Workshops in Bega and Moruya helped boost awareness and capacity among local service providers and community members. Survey results showed that 36% of attendees reported a significant improvement in their understanding of disaster risk management. Katungul assisted in developing a Cultural Burning Road Map, laying the groundwork for long-term integration of First Nations land management practices into local hazard reduction strategies. Despite staffing challenges, Katungul's partnership with ECAC enabled continued community engagement, including document storage education sessions and the establishment of new interagency networks for disaster readiness. Support of and yarn ups at "Emergency Services Playdate" events are ongoing in lead-up to fire season.

The project has catalysed a shift in how disaster preparedness is approached on the South Coast. Katungul's work has led to stronger relationships between community organisations and emergency services, including participation in Local Emergency Management Committees and collaboration with the NSW Rural Fire Service's AIDER program. The Walbunja Rangers and Firesticks Alliance have also contributed by promoting cultural fire management practices that enhance ecological resilience and community safety. These efforts demonstrate the value of Indigenous knowledge in disaster risk reduction and highlight the importance of sustained investment in community-led initiatives.

Clinical Services

Allied and Specialist Health Services

Throughout 2025 significant progress was achieved across Integrated Allied and Specialist Health Services. The Integrated Team Care (ITC) program continued to deliver valuable services, exceeding targets in ear and eye health outreach and onboarding additional qualified staff members who achieved AHP credentialing.

A \$20,000 donation supported equipment upgrades for Otitis Media equipment and has demonstrated strong community and stakeholder support. Katungul has supported all clients within our geographic footprint requiring accommodation and travel to access chronic and complex specialist health services in 2025.

Mental health services expanded with operational psychology clinics in Bega and planning underway for additional sites, while psychiatric services will continue throughout 2025. Katungul also engaged with youth mental health forums and partnered with headspace to enhance school outreach and engagement.

Under RDN-funded programs, the transition of ophthalmology clinics to bulk-billed models and the successful establishment of a fully funded Bega cardiology clinic have improved access and sustainability for our community.

We also continue to provide endocrinology and pediatric clinics to clients now with strengthened operational support and oversight. A strategic pipeline of additional in-house allied health clinics including neurology, ENT, dermatology, and more, was developed for future service growth. With support from visiting locums, general practitioner coverage remained strong, with no gaps forecast through 2025 across Bega, Batemans Bay, and Narooma.

New Hearing Test Tools

The Otitis Media Screening Program has received a donation of hearing test equipment valued at more than \$20,000.

The donation replaced older, bulkier machines with a single sleek and modern device. With automation integrated into the software, processes have become more streamlined, minimising double handling and allowing the team to focus on other tasks.

The equipment includes an otoscope that captures images of a child's ear that can be sent directly to the doctor. The new system also offers an alternative way to take a tympanometry (TMP) test - for children who may be unfamiliar or uncomfortable with using a headset and pressing a button. The donation was made possible through a collaboration between Sonic Innovation and Macquarie University.



Screen and Support

In May we partnered with several organisations to host a breast screening event in Moruya.

The service, which is held every two years, provided screenings using advanced equipment capable of detecting lumps as small as a grain of rice. Following their appointments, clients were escorted to the RSL Memorial Hall for professional bra fittings. The hall had been turned into a space where women were able to sit and relax with friends over a cuppa and refreshments while they waited.

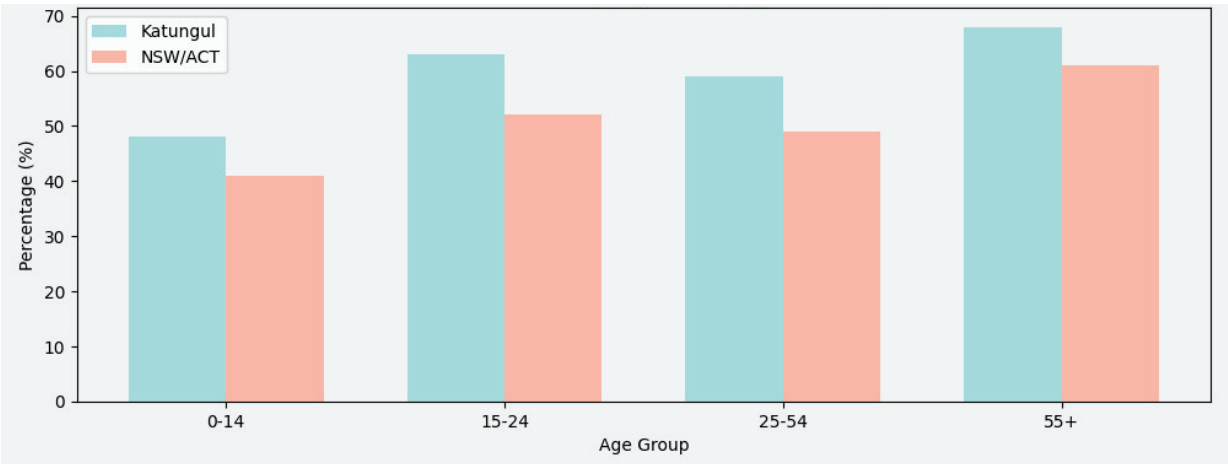
This achievement was made possible through a collaborative effort between Katungul, Grand Pacific Health, Eurobodalla Shire Council, Breast Screen Australia, Support the Girls and Southern NSW LHD.



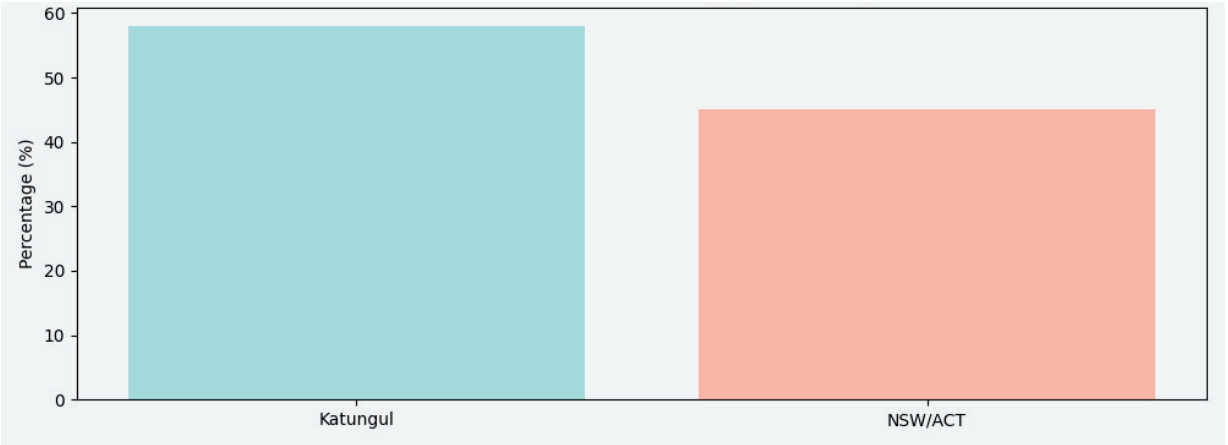
NSW Health KPIs Snapshot

NSW Health’s Key Performance Indicators outline targets used to assess the performance of health services. Katungul’s health check rates exceed NSW and ACT averages across all age groups. Cervical cancer screenings also exceed regional benchmarks and rates have increased by 8 per cent.

715 Health Checks to June 2025



Cervical Cancer Screening to June 2025



Finance

Funding



Aboriginal
Health & Medical
Research Council
of NSW



NACCHO
*Aboriginal health
in Aboriginal hands*



phn
SOUTH EASTERN NSW
An Australian Government Initiative



Australian Government
Department of Health



Australian Government
Department of Social Services



Communities
& Justice



Health



Department of Climate Change,
Energy, the Environment
and Water



Australian Government
National Indigenous
Australians Agency



NIAA



**Grand
Pacific
Health**



RURAL DOCTORS NETWORK



ncoss
NSW Council of Social Service



Health
Southern NSW
Local Health District



NSW
GOVERNMENT



**AUSTRALIAN
COMMUNITIES
FOUNDATION**



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE



ClubGRANTS

Donations

Katungul has received more than \$400,000 in donations from the Dr Steve Burroughs Foundation and Good360. The donations included furniture, clothing, food, toys, blankets, books, backpacks, hygiene products, camping gear and Christmas items. These contributions were distributed to the community at our family fun day, other community events, and through our clinics.

We have also received \$20,000 worth of equipment for otitis media screening from Sonic Innovation and Macquarie University, bikes from XL Events a compost bin from Mitre 10 and family Hampers donated from Anglicare.

We extend our thanks to all these organisations for their generous support.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS OF KATUNGUL ABORIGINAL CORPORATION REGIONAL HEALTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Regional Health & Community Services (the Corporation), which comprises the statement of financial position as of 30 June 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of the Corporation has been prepared in accordance with the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006*, including:

- (i) Giving a true and fair view of the Corporation's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (ii) Complying with the Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Corporation in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Corporation are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Corporation or to cease operations or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at The Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Yours faithfully,



Phillip Miller
Partner
MGI Joyce Dickson Audit
Date: 31 October 2025

Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Regional Health and Community Services (ICN 1816)
ABN: 35 679 076 545

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Revenue - trading	4	11,481,461	13,750,158
Other income	4	167,417	213,276
Employee benefits expenses		(6,842,857)	(7,085,209)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(658,547)	(699,295)
Administration and Other Costs		(3,453,005)	(4,219,677)
Motor Vehicle Expenses		(106,438)	(179,813)
Travel and Training Expenses		(327,595)	(217,945)
Finance expense		(46,659)	(25,111)
Surplus before income tax		213,777	1,536,383
Income Tax Expense		-	-
Surplus for the year		213,777	1,536,383
Other comprehensive income for the year			
Revaluation increment		2,130,167	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		2,343,944	1,536,383

Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Regional Health and Community Services (ICN 1816)

ABN: 35 679 076 545

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	4,893,854	4,323,745
Trade and other receivables	6	2,350	23,264
Other financial assets	7	1,042	1,042
Other assets		348	515
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		4,897,594	4,348,566
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	8	17,388,290	15,422,541
Right-of-use assets	9	150,073	24,371
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		17,538,363	15,446,912
TOTAL ASSETS		22,435,957	19,795,478
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	10	384,469	1,073,413
Borrowings	11	107,845	74,935
Provisions	12	576,313	539,309
Contract liabilities	13	2,882,915	1,996,131
Lease liabilities	9	39,921	26,950
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		3,991,463	3,710,738
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	11	324,673	420,606
Lease liabilities	9	111,743	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		436,416	420,606
TOTAL LIABILITIES		4,427,879	4,131,344
NET ASSETS		18,008,078	15,664,134
EQUITY			
Reserves	14	1,000,000	1,000,000
Asset revaluation		9,462,039	7,331,872
Retained earnings		7,546,039	7,332,262
TOTAL EQUITY		18,008,078	15,664,134

Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Regional Health and Community Services (ICN 1816)
ABN: 35 679 076 545

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Receipts from customers		11,669,959	14,059,719
Payments to suppliers and employees		(10,518,564)	(11,321,253)
Interest paid		(23,147)	(6,343)
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>1,128,248</u>	<u>2,732,123</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(460,000)	(1,219,719)
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(460,000)</u>	<u>(1,219,719)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Lease payments (Principal and Interest)		(35,116)	(200,050)
(Repayments)/proceeds from borrowings		(63,023)	3,130
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>(98,139)</u>	<u>(196,920)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents held		570,109	1,315,484
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		4,323,745	3,008,261
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	5	<u>4,893,854</u>	<u>4,323,745</u>



BATEMANS BAY

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Phone: 02 4488 4050

NAROOMA

26 Princes Highway

Phone: 02 4476 2155

BEGA

25 Bega St

Phone: 02 6492 0532



1800 804 201



www.katungul.org.au

