

BACK ON TRACK

CUTTING YOUTH CRIME

EARLY INTERVENTION AND INTENSIVE TARGETED PROGRAMS



Early intervention and intensive targeted programs



Alternative sentencing options



Developing employment skills

EARLY INTERVENTION AND INTENSIVE TARGETED PROGRAMS

Specialised programs targeting young people at-risk of entering the youth justice system are being developed by community organisations and businesses in partnership with the Northern Territory Government.

These early intervention and intensive targeted programs focus on bush camps and education and training.

Programs may include hard physical challenges; outdoor work; practical life-skill development and work experience. They may also include teamwork, cultural connection with elders, get-fit programs and counselling.

Youth bush camps are designed to reduce offending, target substance use and at-risk behaviour, increase educational and vocational engagement, improve cultural connectedness and identity and enhance health and wellbeing.

Camps have proven successful across the Northern Territory with more than 80 per cent of young people who have participated in Operation Flinders not re-offending.

Education and skills training programs are designed to engage young people and equip them with the learning and qualifications required to enter the workforce and become productive members of the community.

EARLY INTERVENTION CAMPS:

- **MacDonnell Regional Council - Central Region**
MacDonnell Regional Council will deliver The Right Track program to support young people aged 10-18 years who are at-risk of entering or have come in contact with the youth justice system. The program will provide intensive specialist case management, support community-based restorative practices, and off-site intensive activities that engage young people, family members, and elders. The program will include four wilderness camps (for up to 10 young people) per year. Camp locations will be in the MacDonnell Regional Council region
- **Operation Flinders Wilderness Camps - Northern Region**
Building on the success of previous youth wilderness camps, additional camps (for up to 10 young people per camp) will be delivered for young people in the Darwin/ Palmerston, Groote Eylandt and Big Rivers regions in 2019/20.

INTENSIVE ON-COUNTRY, CULTURE CAMPS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO DETENTION:

- **Creating a Safe Supportive Environment (CASSE) - Central Region**
CASSE will deliver a six month intensive targeted program for high risk young people. The program provides an alternative sentencing option and works to reduce reoffending, strengthen connections to culture and country and increase engagement with family and community. As part of the program, 10 on-country, culture camps will be delivered for 30 young people each year in partnership with the Men's Tjilirra Movement. This in addition to providing early intervention camps.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND SKILLS TRAINING:

- **First Step Program - Alice Springs**
Murin and the Rusca Brothers will expand the First Step program to include a pilot Vocational Education and Training program in Alice Springs. The program uses Aboriginal mentors and leaders to teach young people about the construction industry, provide them with a trade qualification and prepare them for entry into the workforce. As part of the program, young people build accommodation facilities for remote communities.