

IMPACT REPORT 2019-2021



DEADLY CONNECTIONS

TRANSFORMING JUSTICE
TRANSFORMING LIVES
TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Deadly Connections Acknowledges the First Nations people of Australia and specifically the many mobs of New South Wales.

We recognise First Nations peoples' continuing and enduring cultures and connections to land, seas, skies, and community, which deepen and enrich the life of our nation. We recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of Aboriginal people and pay respects to our Elders.

Deadly Connections acknowledges the kinship structures, cultural land management practices, spirituality and sovereignty of First Nations people who are knowledge and memory holders. We stand on the shoulders of our Ancestors and in unity with our mob.

We understand intrinsically the continued custodianship and connection to the land and promise to tread lightly on unceded land. Always was, always will be Aboriginal land.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that this report may contain images or names of deceased persons.

Given Deadly Connections' location in NSW, mob and community connection to Aboriginal people, the terms 'First Nations' and 'Aboriginal' will be used throughout the report. However, the authors of this report recognise the diversity of nations, cultures and languages across mainland Australia and throughout the Torres Strait.



THREE YEARS OF BUILDING STRONGER AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.

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NOW IS THE
TIME  FOR
CHANGE.



YOUR SUPPORT MAKES OUR WORK POSSIBLE

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO AND DEPUTY CEO

Aboriginal culture and community are at the heart of everything we do at Deadly Connections Community & Justice Services Limited. This foundation of core values provides a strong platform for us as we continue to deal with systemic racism, deaths in custody, child removals, poor mental and emotional health outcomes including COVID-19, state sanctioned violence and our ongoing fight for social justice and equity, as well as the uncertainty of what might come next.

We established Deadly Connections in September 2018 as a direct community response to the over representation of Aboriginal children, people, families and communities in both the child protection and justice systems. We started with no funding and used the space in our home as a base. We understood the urgent need for a culturally responsive service, one which respects and celebrates our culture and people with every aspect of service delivery in alignment with Indigenous Allied Health Australia. Deadly Connections recognised this gap in care for systems-impacted mobs, and so we acted immediately to respond to the needs of our community. Our lived experience and the lack of culturally responsive services available for our mob remain the intrinsic driving forces that continue to push us forward, despite the significant challenges we've had to overcome in starting a combined Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation and charity.

Deadly Connections has grown dramatically over the past three years. Our work is the product of hundreds of people like you who support us, donate to us, encourage us and stand with us while we fight for healing, and accountability, safety, justice and equity for First Nations people and communities – particularly those impacted by the child protection and justice systems.

Although there is ongoing level of uncertainty about what the future holds while we continue to live through the COVID-19 pandemic and the effects of climate change, what we can be confident of is our resolve to positively disrupt intergenerational trauma, systemic racism, poverty, disadvantage, child removals and incarceration for our mob. The pandemic has served to further expose ongoing inequities in housing, education, health care, food security, justice and employment, particularly for our First Nations people and communities. We remain committed to investing in and providing healing opportunities for our communities.

It is clear to us from the growing number of supporters that now more of us understand the implications and impact of inequalities and the urgent need for systems change. We share our stories and experiences to change the narrative about system-impacted mobs, to highlight the need for Aboriginal community-led services such as



Deadly Connections and for ongoing healing and investment in our communities to develop our own solutions to the challenges we face.

We would not be able to achieve this on our own. By harnessing the passion and commitment of our staff, community, Elders, donors, philanthropic agencies and accomplices, we are creating sustainable solutions that will continue to positively affect the lives of our mob and younger generations for years to come.

Our impact report highlights the community driven, innovative work we have achieved over the last three years and how we continue to disrupt harmful cycles of racism, trauma, disadvantage and system involvement of our mob. We will continue to advocate for individuals and our community but also systemic change for issues that disproportionately affect First Nations people, families and communities while providing relief to the current needs of our community members. As we work, we grow,

we learn, we adapt. Our partners featured in our report have made it possible for our reach to grow even wider. We continue to seek advice, guidance, wisdom and support from our Elders and draw our inspiration and strength from our Ancestors and the trailblazers who came before us.

We invite you to learn more about our work, our partners and how you can continue to support the work we do. Please join us in making an impact, creating opportunities for healing and safer communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Carly Stanely'.

Carly Stanely, CEO and Co-founder of Deadly Connections

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Keenan Mundine'.

Keenan Mundine, Deputy CEO of Deadly Connections





DEADLY CONNECTIONS HOLDS CULTURE AND COMMUNITY AT ITS CORE

A MESSAGE FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

The impact Deadly Connections Community & Justice Services have made in our communities has been nothing short of inspirational since being established in 2018. Under the leadership of their CEO and Deputy CEO, Deadly Connections has launched themselves as a reputable Aboriginal community-controlled service provider for our mob, with culture and community at the core of who they are and what they do.

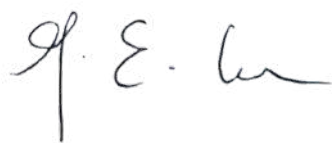
As a Board member, I have witnessed first hand the passion and commitment the team contribute towards improving the lives of our people who have come into contact with the justice system, who are impacted by child removals and are faced with navigating the layers of institutionalised and systemic racism.

Driven by social justice principles, their objective to disrupt the settler colonial legacy of poverty and intergenerational trauma is based on a will to transform the lives of First Nations people which is evidenced by the clients they have supported and nurtured in such a very short time.

Originating from a unique lived experience and a shared story of struggle, Deadly Connections offers an authentic service-delivery for families driven by generosity and love for community. The team was on-hand throughout the pandemic in 2021, providing on the ground support to our mob who struggled under the weight of the health crisis. They continued creating culturally safe programs for men, women and children to network and develop capacity-building and self-empowerment skills at a time engulfed with such uncertainty.

I look forward to the year ahead as Deadly Connections continue to expand on what has been a remarkable journey thus far. And encourage people to get on board and support such a timely and essential service transforming, healing and changing lives at the coalface in our communities.

Yindyamarra (respect).



Lynda Coe, Wiradjuri
Deadly Connections
Advisory Board Member

Deadly Connections was founded on the lived and professional experiences of Carly Stanley and Keenan Mundine as First Nations people.

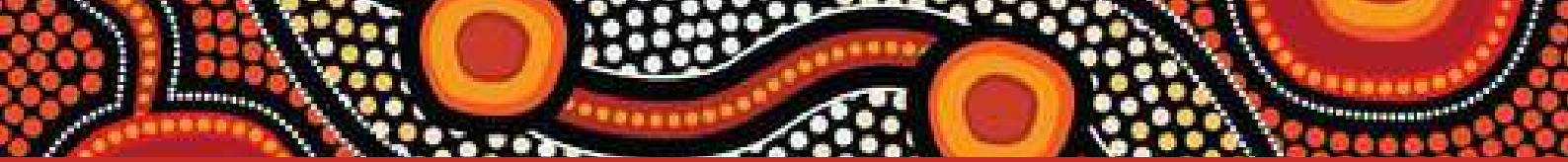
ORIGINS OF DEADLY CONNECTIONS

Carly Stanley is the CEO and Co-founder of Deadly Connections. Carly is a proud Wiradjuri woman, born and raised on Gadigal land. Carly founded Deadly Connections in 2018 as an Aboriginal-led, community focussed, grassroots not-for-profit (NFP) organisation. As an ongoing and active member of her Aboriginal community, Carly has strong cultural and community connections, knowledge, and skills to adequately respond to the needs of the Aboriginal community and to establish and grow Deadly Connections. In 2020 Carly was awarded a Churchill Fellowship and an AMP Tomorrow Makers award.

Carly has both lived and professional experience in a number of community services areas but has spent over 20 years working across the government and non-government sector supporting justice involved people, families and communities. Carly has held senior level management roles, and has practical experience working with young people, counselling, teaching, case management and within correctional settings. In addition to Carly's professional expertise, she also holds a Masters of Criminology and other academic qualifications that complement her practical acumen.



Keenan Mundine is the Co-founder and Deputy CEO of Deadly Connections. Keenan is a proud First Nations man with connections to the Biripi Nation of NSW through his mother who is from Taree, and Wakka Wakka Nation, Queensland through his Father who is from Cherbourg. Keenan is the youngest of three boys, born and raised on Gadigal land – Keenan grew up in Redfern, notoriously known as “The Block”. Keenan had a rough start to his childhood after losing both parents at a young age, being placed in care and separated from his siblings.



Keenan has faced his own difficulties in life and made some poor decisions in his adolescence which resulted in his lengthy involvement with the justice system. Keenan found his passion in giving back to his community and working with people who have similar experiences to him. Keenan's journey has taken him to the United Nations, to address the Human Rights Council and share his story so that the UNHRC may lean on Australia's government to raise the age of criminal responsibility.

Both Keenan's and Carly's journeys inspired them to create a unique, community led solution and response to the current mass incarceration and child protection crisis of First Nations people. With the combined practical experience of Keenan's lived experience and Carly's professional skills and academic qualifications, as First Nations people they are committed to changing the narrative for their mob and communities.

Keenan and Carly built Deadly Connections from the ground up. They began by volunteering their time through the Street Smart project, with an office out of their fourth bedroom. In just three years, Deadly Connections has grown exponentially with almost 200 referrals in 2021 alone and 10 staff members.

“Our combined professional and lived experiences told us there were no services that could support us in the way that we needed, that understood our cultural values and needs... I’m connected to the community, I’m connected to the issues, I know what needs to happen to help our mob.”

– Carly Stanley, Co-founder Deadly Connections.

WELCOME

ABOUT DEADLY CONNECTIONS

Established in September 2018, Deadly Connections Community & Justice Services Limited (Deadly Connections) is a specialist Aboriginal community-led NFP organisation. It implements community driven, grassroots, innovative solutions to address trauma, systemic racism, disadvantage and over-representation of Aboriginal people, families and communities in the child protection and justice systems.

OUR TRUTH

First Nations people of Australia are grossly overrepresented in the child protection and justice systems. This is the result of a complex range of factors related to intergenerational experiences of entrenched grief, loss, trauma and disadvantage for Aboriginal families and communities. First Nations People are:

- 17 times more likely to be in both child protection and youth justice supervision than non-Aboriginal people
- 13 times more likely to be incarcerated than non-Aboriginal people due to disadvantaged position
- Over represented in the justice system, particularly among the Aboriginal female population
 - 33% of NSW female prisoners are Aboriginal, despite being only 3% of the total state population
 - The fastest growing prison population in Australia are Aboriginal women, and 80% are mothers
- Nearly one in three (31.4%) Aboriginal people are living below the poverty line
- Aboriginal children in out of home care is projected to double in size by 2028



THE SOLUTION – SERVICES BUILT BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY

True lived experience, culture, healing, self-determination and a deep community connection must be the heart and soul of all work with First Nations communities. It is only in this way that there can be a paradigm shift away from the institutions that control First Nations lives. Through self-determination and systemic changes, we can disrupt cycles of intergenerational trauma, oppression and poverty and thereby eliminate the numbers of mob in child protection and the justice systems.

"Indigenous people are more than consumers of social services; we have the skills and capabilities to drive the services of our community. Our model of service delivery requires us to employ local Indigenous people and build the capacity of the workforce within our community and this is what makes the Indigenous community-controlled sector so critical to achieving change."

- Dr Christine Bond, Oodgeroo Unit QUT and board member of Inala Wangarra.

Deadly Connections programs are developed by the community for the community, in collaboration with Elders, people with lived experience and professional support services. Deadly Connections develops and delivers innovative, culturally responsive ways to support First Nations people. By caring for the community, families, children and individuals at every life stage, we create stronger, safer communities and greater opportunities.



Sources from statistics on previous page:

1. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2018. Young people in child protection and under youth justice supervision: 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2017. Data linkage series no. 24. Cat. no. CSI 26. Canberra: AIHW.
2. ALRC. 2018. Disproportionate Incarceration Rate | ALRC.
3. Korff, J., 2020. Aboriginal Prison Rates. [online] Creative Spirits.
4. Ketchell, M., 2019. Aboriginal Mothers Are Incarcerated At Alarming Rates – And Their Mental And Physical Health Suffers.
5. Davidson, P., 2018. Poverty In Australia. [ebook] Sydney: Australian Council of Social Service.
6. SBS News. 2019. Number Of Indigenous Children In Out-Of-Home Care Expected To Double.



PURPOSE. VISION. VALUES.

Why we exist

Deadly Connections positively disrupts intergenerational disadvantage, grief, loss, trauma by providing holistic, culturally responsive interventions and services to First Nations people and communities, particularly those who have been impacted by the child protection and/or justice systems.

What we want to achieve

To break cycles of disadvantage, systemic racism, trauma, child protection and justice involvement so First Nations people of Australia can thrive not just survive.

What we stand for

CULTURE

Our organisation, work, approaches and solutions are grounded in culture, respect, and identity

CREATE

We create innovative solutions and opportunities to amplify our people's voices to enable Aboriginal-led and community driven solutions

COLLABORATE

We work to develop collaborative partnerships to working with community, government, and non-government partners to improve outcomes for our mob

COMMITMENT

We have a long-term, deep responsibility and commitment to our people, communities, and future generations



BREAKING THE CYCLE OF DISADVANTAGE

THE DEADLY CONNECTIONS MODEL

Deadly Connections creates community-centred support that focuses on accessing justice, strengthening culture and community, and promoting healing.

We offer holistic, practical, culturally responsive programs combining lived experience and professional support to break cycles of disadvantage, trauma, system involvement that transform, improve outcomes and create positive pathways for First Nations people, families and communities

We advocate, consult and collaborate to improve justice and child protection systems. We unapologetically challenge policies and practices that disproportionately affect First Nations children, people, families and communities. We stand in solidarity with our mob to elevate their voices, challenge systemic

inequalities and assist mob to create a brighter future for themselves through advocacy.

Our aim is to facilitate the development of cross-cultural working relationships that make non-government and government services more accessible to and utilised by First Nations people and communities. Our consultation services generate improved service delivery outcomes and transformative practices that benefit our community.

Through our collaborative partnerships we build relationships that are personally and professionally transformative. Developing a deeper understanding of cross-cultural collaboration is just one way we address complex barriers and mitigate the harms inflicted by human services, child protection and justice sectors.





The Deadly Connections model is based on five key elements:

Self-determination

Aboriginal people, families and communities are experts of their own lives, with solutions to the challenges we face and our own agents for change.

Healing Centred Engagement

A holistic healing model and framework that adopts Aboriginal culture, traditional knowledge, traditional and contemporary healing, spirituality, community action and collective healing.

Lived Experience

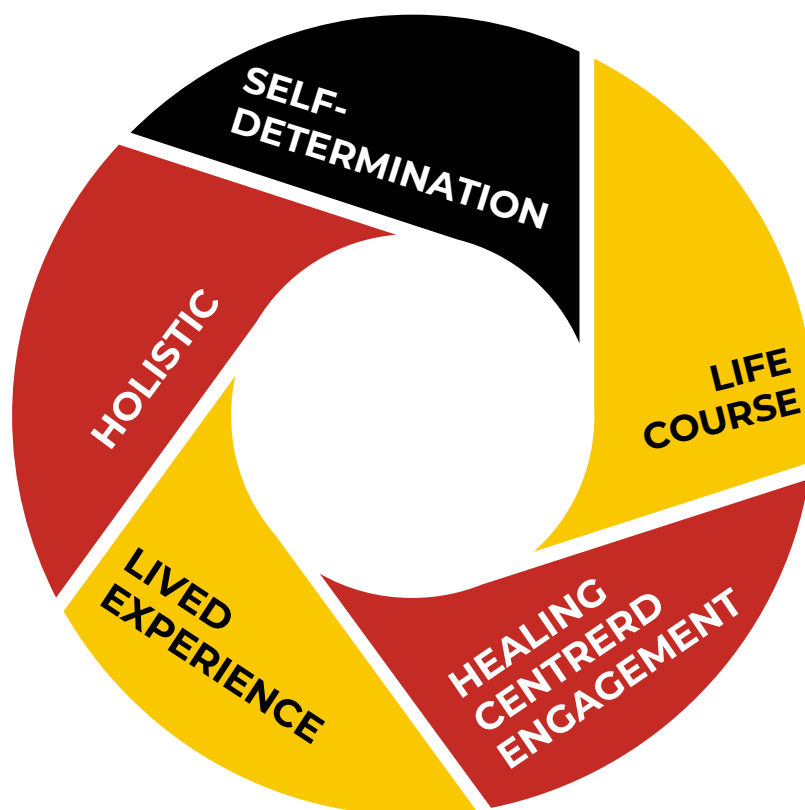
We have developed an intervention model that combines a person's lived experience with professional support to ensure a whole-of-life approach to transforming lives.

Life Course

We recognise the connections across all stages and domains in life. Interventions and change can occur at any stage of a person's life span, which is why Deadly Connections offers programs to support everyone in the community at any stage in their life – families, parents, children and individuals.

Holistic

We believe that individual health and wellbeing encompass the whole community throughout the entire life course. The Aboriginal concept of health includes mental, social, physical, cultural, and spiritual health of the individual but also includes collective issues like social justice, equity, and rights, as well as strengthening connection to culture.





THE DEADLY CONNECTIONS IMPACT THESIS

The Deadly Connections Impact Thesis outlines the impact the organisation has on its clients' and their community..

IMPACT

Deadly Connections seeks to improve the wellbeing of First Nations people and communities with experience of the child protection and justice systems by placing healing, self-determination, Aboriginal culture and community connection at the heart of their work.

OUTCOMES

Deadly Connections achieves this impact by building capabilities and providing access to opportunities across the following areas:

- Connection to Aboriginal culture
- Connection to community
- Connection to family
- Access to supportive relationships
- Holistic wellness
- Resilience
- Social services and resources (specific to Deadly Families)
- Justice system diversion (specific to Breaking the Cycle/Deadly Young Warriors)

OUTPUTS

Deadly Connections delivers the following outputs:

Deadly Families

- Families reunited
- Parents supported when engaging with FACS

Breaking the Cycle

- Adults diverted from the justice system

Deadly Young Warriors

- Youth diverted from the justice system
- Youth engaged with Aboriginal culture and identity

ACTIVITIES

Deadly Connections achieves its outputs through the following activities:

Deadly Families

- Parenting education programs
- Culturally safe activities to promote connection within family
- Support/advocacy when engaging with DCJ/FACS
- Case management

Breaking the Cycle

- Case management
- Multimodal programs tailored to clients' needs
- Men's/women's groups
- Case advocacy

Deadly Young Warriors

- Cultural camps
- Cultural activities
- Substance use education
- Referral for other health/social services

RESOURCES

Deadly Connections requires the following resources:

- Cultural knowledge and lived experience
- Community trust
- Staff / volunteers / accomplices
- Funding
- Office/infrastructure
- Case management tools

A LIFE CYCLE APPROACH

Deadly Connections takes a life cycle approach, with programs designed to intersect with the different stages of life where a person might need support.



Childhood

Despite decades of evidence that community and culture are vital to helping children thrive, First Nations children are dramatically over-represented in the child protection system in Australia, with Aboriginal children 9.7 time more likely to be living away from their families than non-First Nations children.[^] Removal from family inhibits a child's identity with culture and creates and compounds intergenerational trauma, perpetuating cycles of injustice. Deadly Connections supports families who are already, or at-risk of becoming, affected by child protection interventions. Through improving parenting and life skills, families are able to have healthy, connected, strong and safe relationships.

[^]The Family Matters Report 2020



Youth

For many young people caught in the cycle of disadvantage and subject to over-policing and systemic racism, involvement with the justice system starts from an early age. Deadly Connections have undertaken multiple projects that focus on young people, culminating in two current projects – Deadly Young Warriors and Deadly Futures. These projects focus on early intervention with young people who are at risk of justice involvement, or already involved with the system. Through a holistic approach that involves connection to culture, education and key services, these projects build the resilience of Aboriginal youth and support their development with the ultimate goal of disrupting the school to prison pipeline.



Advocacy across the life cycle

Deadly Connections realises that the vast majority of problems facing Aboriginal people are the result of systemic racism and injustice. A service delivery approach – while vital to support people who are already trapped in cycles of disadvantage – can never truly transform the systems that drive disadvantage. Therefore, the Deadly Connections team undertake advocacy at a variety of levels, fighting for fundamental changes to the systems that lead to the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in the justice and child protection systems.



Adulthood

While Deadly Connections' work with young people focuses on prevention, there are many adults already involved in the justice system who need support to break the cycle. The Deadly Connections approach centres healing and connection to culture while providing specialised interventions to divert people from the justice system. Currently, Girra Girra Healing Place provides a residential program for people who are ready to begin their healing journey.



Parenthood

A key part of breaking the cycle of disadvantage many First Nations people are trapped in is through supporting parents who are at risk of becoming involved with the child protection system. For new parents, who may have been removed from families themselves as children or experienced other trauma in childhood, the regular difficulties of becoming a parent can be compounded by trauma resurfacing and a lack of parental role modelling. Deadly Connections is committed to supporting parents who are at risk of child protection interventions or have already had children removed, to build their parenting skills and have the opportunity reconnect with their children and build a safe future for their family. This work is currently delivered through the Girra Girra Healing Place.



BUILT BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY

OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS

Girra Girra Healing Place

After three years of operation, Deadly Connections continues to adapt to our community. Based on our inherent understanding of the community through our lived and professional experience we made the decision in late 2021 to pivot towards an expanded model.

Girra Girra Healing Place combines the foundations of Deadly Families and Breaking the Cycle while adapting our service delivery from outreach, case management to a residential model.


Girra Girra Healing Place is a culturally responsive, semi-independent therapeutic program for people whose lives have been impacted by substance use, homelessness, child protection and justice systems, family breakdown and violence. Girra Girra Healing Place has been developed by Aboriginal people, for Aboriginal people. The program is staffed by people with lived experience who have engaged in their own healing journeys.

Girra Girra Healing Place is a six-month program that provides a safe place for people to begin their individual healing journeys. We take a holistic approach towards healing and recovery by working

with participants to develop the skills, knowledge and resources needed to live full and meaningful lives.

Participants of programs at Girra Girra Healing Place will be supported in working towards healing and change through therapeutic and behaviour change programs, skills development and cultural and healing activities.





The foundational components of the program are:

- Safety – Creation of safety within ourselves and our environment
- Stability & Structure – Creation of routine and structure
- Skills – Developing skills that will move you towards your goals
- Healing, Health & Wellness – Contemporary healing practices, cultural activities, mindfulness
- Engagement – Increase community engagement, self determination
- Recovery – Actions and behaviours aligned with values and goals
- After Care – Ongoing case management support for up to 12 months in community.

Other program components include:

- Case management – Collaborative development of individual goals such as re-establishing or maintaining relationships with children, support with housing applications and other housing pathways, education and employment, skills development, mental health and health
- Therapeutic group work – Goal setting, parenting, yarning, managing emotions, relapse prevention, cultural and healing groups and self-care
- Living skills – Budgeting, time management, cooking, taking responsibly and accountability, respect for self, others and environment
- Health and wellness – Healthy eating, exercise, and establishing routine.

Girra Girra Healing Place addresses a severe gap in service delivery and provides a much needed residential, therapeutic program rooted in culture.

In just one month of announcing our new model, we have received over 50 referrals. The majority of these have been from people in custody who are motivated to

address their substance use and embark on a journey of healing to break the cycle of incarceration. Deadly Connections only have 8 beds available. The need for this program is undeniable and we remain unfunded for this specific project.

Our CEO and Deputy CEO have ambitious and innovative goals for the future of Deadly Connections. Healing, justice, and self-determination for mob is their personal and professional pursuit and they're supported by their staff, partners, and community.

Deadly Young Warriors

Formed in mid-2021, Deadly Young Warriors is an amalgamation of two previous successful projects (Deadly Jarjums and Street Smart). It is aimed at Aboriginal young people aged 7-18 years old, living in or connected to the Inner West and Inner City LGAs of Sydney, and who are already justice involved or at risk of justice involvement, coming to the attention of police, engaging in substance misuse, anti-social and risky behaviours.

Our aim is to improve mental health, reduce anti-social and risky behaviours to improve community safety and reduce the disproportionate rate of Aboriginal young people coming into contact with the justice system. The program uses culturally-informed early intervention, prevention and diversion strategies to divert young people from justice involvement and work with those who have already had that lived experience.

We use a holistic approach and engage with the family as a whole to better understand all of the individual's needs, while supporting the development,



resilience and building community cohesiveness. Our staff focus on those young people who may be disconnected from services, culture, family, education, employment and community in order facilitate re-engagement with services and strengthen their cultural identity which serves as a protective factor.

Deadly Young Warriors is delivered through a range of community led, purpose-driven activities, including:

- After school and holiday programs which promote pro-social activities and cultural connection
- School suspension programs
- Individual and group mentoring
- Empowerment through educational program
- Harm minimisation, crime prevention and specific educational activities
- Information, referral and advocacy.

Deadly Young Warriors is designed to:

- Strengthen Aboriginal children's and young people's connection to culture and identity
- Improve school engagement
- Provide accessible, pro social activities to the young people
- Develop social and emotional skills
- Provide mentoring
- Reduce anti-social and risky behaviours
- Provide links to support for children and their families
- Reduce justice involvement for young people, including specialised justice support and advocacy.

Overall, Deadly Young Warriors is designed to empower jarjums and young people to increase and maintain their self-confidence, develop their skills and capacity, and strengthen cultural identity.



Deadly Futures

Deadly Futures offers fun, creative, educational, and cultural activities for Aboriginal young people who have been suspended, are at risk of suspension or disengaged from school, and who are facing multiple challenges in both the home and school environment. The program is delivered three days per week during the school term to high school students..

The main goals of the Deadly Futures project are to:

- Strengthen Aboriginal young people's connection to culture
- Improve and increase school engagement
- Develop literacy, numeracy and life skills
- Disrupt the school to prison pipeline
- Provide accessible, fun, pro social activities to the Aboriginal participants
- Provide mentoring
- Provide links to support for children and their families.



Bugmy Justice Project

The Bugmy Justice Project seeks to improve the sentencing processes and outcomes for Aboriginal people who are defendants. It achieves this by providing courts with Bugmy Justice Reports, which address the unique systematic racial, cultural and historical factors specific to the Aboriginal person facing sentencing by NSW criminal courts.

There is a need for improved community-based and individual background information in sentencing for justice-involved First Nations people. In the decision of *Bugmy v the Queen* [2013] HCA 37, (2013) 249 CLR 571, the High Court considered the issue of sentencing Aboriginal offenders. In *Bugmy v the Queen*, the high court stated that if background information was to be relevant to the offender and sentencing, it was necessary to have 'material tending to establish that background'. Deadly Connections' Bugmy Justice project prepares Bugmy Justice Reports, which provide this relevant material to courts to promote appropriate sentence outcomes.

At present, Aboriginal people are disempowered by Sentence Assessment Reports, which provide a narrow snapshot and risk assessment of the individual. Current risk assessment tools utilised to assess an individual's level of risk and inform Sentence Assessment Reports (SAR) have been proven as inaccurate and potentially culturally-biased against Aboriginal people.

The information in Bugmy Justice Reports provides a set of background factors related to the individual Aboriginal person for judges and magistrates to consider during sentencing proceedings. Submission of these reports enhances the information available and enables the individual to share their life story with the court.



Deadly Brothers and Deadly Tiddas

Deadly Brothers and Deadly Tiddas are free, mental health and cultural support groups which are delivered on a weekly basis in the Inner West and City of Sydney LGA's.

Both groups are culturally responsive and create a safe place for mob to participate in Men's Business and Women's Business. The groups respond to the interests, passions and needs of our community and are facilitated by Aboriginal people.

The groups are open to any First Nations person wanting to attend and provide a place for connection.

Each week a feed and a yarn are provided by Deadly Connections as well as a holistic range of activities including art, cultural, health and wellness activities.

Deadly Borthers and Deadly Tiddas centre healing and wellness to improve holistic health in order for participants to improve mental health and strengthen connection to community and culture. The groups offer a unique opportunity for participants to engage in pro-social activities and develop capacity, self-determination, and self-esteem through healing and culture. Group members have the chance to participate in activities which they may have never been exposed to, encouraging growth and empowerment.



Kids Don't
Belong in
Prison.



OUR PAST PROGRAMS

Over the past three years of operation, Deadly Connections has refined its model, with a view to always evolving programs to become as effective as possible. The following are some of the key programs that have been undertaken in the last three years that have since evolved into other work.

Deadly Families

Deadly Families was a culturally responsive early intervention and prevention program for Aboriginal mums and dads, designed to target risk factors associated with child protection notifications and interventions.

This program focused on one of Deadly Connections core goals – addressing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children and families in the child protection system. The program developed the capacity of Aboriginal parents, improving their parenting and life skills, promoting positive outcomes for participants and their families, and encouraging healthy, connected, strong, safe relationships with their children, through individualised, holistic, cultural and social support.

Deadly Families equipped parents with the skills, knowledge and support to successfully shape their own futures, navigate life's challenges, and begin their journeys of healing.

Breaking the Cycle

Breaking the Cycle was an intervention, prevention and diversion program that was designed by Aboriginal people with both lived and professional experience in the justice system. The program provided culturally responsive services and support whilst addressing criminogenic risk factors, criminal behaviours and other challenges that direct and entrench people into the justice system.

The program used specialist interventions and support to divert participants at any stage of their involvement with the justice system with two key components - intensive, holistic, individualised support provided through a specialised, culturally responsive intensive model of service delivery; and targeted programming to address a multitude of risk factors commonly associated with offending based on the needs of the client. This included a variety of approaches including healing, cultural activities, living skills, counselling, cognitive behavioural therapy, educational support programs, employment training, alcohol and drug use interventions, and restorative justice interventions. Across the many individual supported through the program there were a wide variety of needs and these approaches were drawn upon to give people the best chance to end their involvement with the justice system.

Deadly Families and Breaking the Cycle have now evolved into the Girra Girra House Project.



Street Smart

The Street Smart Project was a street based youth program delivered in partnership with Street Industries targeting 'at risk' Aboriginal young people in the Inner City (Glebe, Redfern, Waterloo). This project was a community-led initiative that was created in response to growing concern amongst parents and community members about local young people's disproportionate involvement with the justice system, high police contact, substance misuse, anti-social and risky behaviours.

This was Deadly Connection's first step into providing culturally responsive, early intervention, programs that met young people where they were at, both geographically and developmentally, with the clear goal of diverting young people from the justice system.

Deadly Jarjums

Deadly Jarjums was targeted towards primary school-based aged children and designed to strengthen Aboriginal children's connection to culture and cultural identity, improve school engagement and develop children's social and emotional skills. With a focus on providing accessible activities for the Aboriginal community and linking children and their families to support, the program operated in the Marrickville LGA, offering after school hours support throughout the entire school term and during school holidays.

Street Smart and Deadly Jarjums have now been combined into one program for young people – Deadly Young Warriors.





EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAMS

SOCIAL IMPACT MEASUREMENT FINDINGS

At Deadly Connections, we see the impact of our work every day, both in the lives of the individuals we serve and the communities we support. To strengthen the evidence of our holistic, culturally centred approach, Deadly Connections partnered with independent measurement experts

Huber Social to measure the social value generated from our programs. Measurement was undertaken in late 2021. Further information and explanation of the measurement approach and findings can be found in the full Social Impact Report annexed to this document.



+42%
IMPROVEMENT
IN WELLBEING

“If I hadn’t been introduced to Deadly Connections I would not be where I am today in my life.” (Deadly Connections client)

Wellbeing refers to a person's position in life and their ability to live a life that they value. To measure a person's wellbeing, our measurement framework measures our clients' subjective wellbeing, by asking people about their overall satisfaction with their own life. It's a holistic measure that takes into account a person's past experiences, present conditions and future prospects.

The wellbeing of our clients improve from the start of their journey with Deadly Connections, and these improvements are sustained well beyond their time with us. When looking at Deadly Connections' impact as a whole, overall wellbeing was 49% higher among clients who have been with Deadly Connections for three months or more and 42% higher among former clients when compared to people just beginning with Deadly Connections. These findings support the benefits that our clients gain from their involvement with our organisation, both in the immediate and long-term.



+40%

WE ADDRESS WHAT MATTERS MOST TO OUR CLIENTS' WELLBEING

Not only do our participants learn and grow across all of our key program outcomes (as outlined in our Impact Thesis on page 15), but that each one of those outcomes has a statistically significant relationship with wellbeing.

This indicates that Deadly Connections' approach not only achieves its outcomes, but that improvements for our clients are in areas that are most likely to support their overall position of wellbeing.

OUR PROGRAMS STRENGTHEN ABORIGINAL IDENTITY

Our long term clients reported a 40% higher connection to their Aboriginal identity as compared to new clients. In addition, analysis shows that clients who have a stronger connection to Aboriginal culture and identity are more likely to have higher overall wellbeing.

Strengthening culture is a key element of our model, and these results provide further evidence of the real need for culturally centred services to best support the wellbeing needs of Aboriginal people and communities.





In addition to Deadly Connection's impact overall, the evaluation investigated the impact of three of our main programs:

Deadly Families

Our program for supporting families at risk of or current involvement with child protection services. Clients in this program reported 72% higher overall wellbeing as compared to new clients, and experienced greatest improvements in areas related to building and managing healthy relationships.

Breaking the Cycle

Our program for supporting persons with current or recent involvement with the justice system. Clients in this program reported 41% higher overall wellbeing as compared to new clients. Greatest gains were made among factors related to holistic wellness, relationships and daily life skills.

Deadly Young Warriors

Our program for supporting the youngest members of our mob so that they may avoid future involvement with the justice system. While only a few of our young people were able to take part in the study, initial findings show that our Deadly Young Warriors feel most confident in their own resilience and sense of community connection.

These findings provide quantitative evidence to reinforce the stories of success and gratitude that we hear from our clients each day, and vital insights into where to best direct our resources to have the greatest impact on our clients' wellbeing. For more information about our social impact, please refer to the full report located in Annex 1.

**BREAKING
THE CYCLE**
**CARE
NOT CAGES**

A black chain is depicted across the text, with a central link broken into several small pieces, symbolizing the breaking of a cycle.

OUR STORIES

All stories are shared here with permission. Names have been changed to protect right to anonymity.

RENEE, DEADLY FAMILIES

Renee is a 34-year-old Aboriginal woman. During the height of the first COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 Deadly Connections posted a callout for people with lived experience of being in custody while having children as a part of our Parliamentary Submission. Renee reached out to us and although she was out of our catchment area, Renee became one of our first Deadly Families clients.

At the time, her daughter had been diagnosed with Leukaemia and was in hospital while Renee was in prison. Renee's compassionate bail was refused by the courts however her charges ended up being dismissed. Renee was released from prison in her greens and had no way of getting to her daughter in Randwick. Renee managed to find her own way to Randwick Children's Hospital through the grace of a woman who could see Renee's situation and paid for her cab fare. Shortly after being reunited with her daughter, they were kicked out of Ronald McDonald house when they discovered that Renee was on parole. Despite DC's best efforts to advocate for the family to stay, they were evicted and became homeless while Renee's daughter was receiving treatment from the hospital.



Deadly Connections advocated for Renee and her children to be placed in temporary accommodation at a hotel and continued to call on the Department of Housing to provide Renee and her family with suitable housing within 2kms of the hospital to ensure her daughter was receiving the care she needed. Renee was offered housing in Mt Druitt which Deadly Connections challenged was not suitable for the family's current needs. Deadly Connections was able to secure Renee housing close enough to the hospital, as well as fully furnish her home due to the help of our supporters and partners.

Even though Renee was out of area, Deadly Connections understood her mistrust of DCJ and other services and still offered her support and advocacy. Today, Renee's daughter is in remission, all her children are in school and settled into their new home and their DCJ file has been closed.



LEO, DEADLY BROTHERS

Leo referred himself to Deadly Connections in early 2020. He is a 32-year-old Aboriginal man who was experiencing homelessness at the time of his referral. Unfortunately, Leo was in a situation that many First Nations men face, battling the cycle of justice system involvement as a result of intergenerational trauma. Leo has severe chronic health issues and was seeking support for health care, housing, and employment.

Deadly Connections was able to reactivate his housing application which had been put on hold for seven years, and successfully moved him into permanent housing four weeks later with a community housing provider. They furnished his property thanks to the supportive Deadly Connections community and supplied him with some basic necessities such as food and toiletries. Staff also worked closely with Leo to build his resume, leading to his own success in finding employment which will assist him in breaking cycles of welfare dependency and justice system involvement and empower him to work towards his own successes.

Leo continues to be involved with the Deadly Connections programs. He works with the Deadly Brothers group, where he receives culturally responsive support. With this, he is able to embrace his healing and address the challenges that continue to entrench him in the justice system.

DELORIS, BREAKING THE CYCLE

Deloris is a 32-year-old Aboriginal woman. Deloris had accumulated 12 months' rental arrears for her flat, and her children had been removed from her care. The Deadly Connections team engaged with Deloris, negotiated a new rental lease for her flat and prevented the sheriff from locking her out.

A Deadly Connections staff member successfully advocated for Deloris to obtain brokerage to repay her rent arrears. She was also placed on a payment plan, which enabled her to remain in her flat and for her children to return to her care. Deadly Connections provided critical support during a crucial time even though Deloris was considered out of its catchment area. Thanks to Deadly Connections' short-term support, Deloris was able to get back on track.



A TIMELINE OF ACHIEVEMENTS

In July of 2018, Keenan Mundine travelled to Geneva to address the UN and pressure the Australian Government to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 14 years old.

In January of 2020, Deadly Connections relocated from the home of Carly and Keenan to our first office and space for community in Arncliffe, Sydney.

In October of 2020, Carly Stanley was awarded a Churchill Fellowship from the Winston Churchill Trust to travel to the US and Canada and investigate community-led responses and innovative approaches to the justice system.

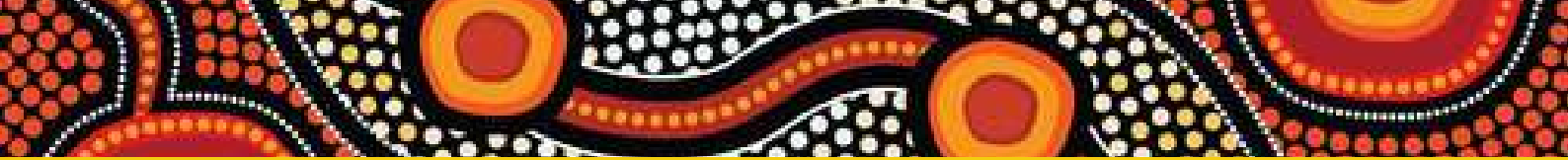
In December of 2020, Deadly Connections was awarded the Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation of the year award by AbSec (NSW Child, Family and Community Peak Aboriginal Organisation).

In September of 2018, Deadly Connections was founded by Carly Stanley and Keenan Mundine. They initiated their organisation through outreach work with Aboriginal youth in Sydney.

In July of 2020, Deadly Connections received our Certification of Registration of a Body Corporate as a Company Certified. This allows us to deliver our services nation-wide with the vision to allow other First Nations organisations to adapt our model to their community.

In November of 2020, Carly was announced as an AMP Tomorrow Maker, generating further resources for Deadly Connections as it continued to grow and employ further staff.

In early 2021, the Deadly Connections Advisory Board was established.

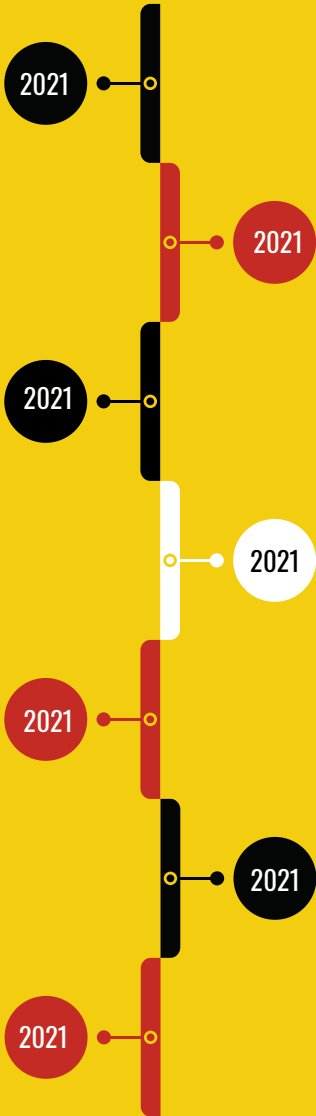


In July of 2021, Deadly Connections, with the support of a number of partners including Igniting Change and Virgin Unite were able to purchase two brand new LDV 7 seater vans. These vehicles have been pivotal to our work with the community and have decreased our dependence on external services while allowing us to maximise our efficiency and impact.

In July of 2021, Keenan Mundine was announced as the Central and Eastern Sydney Primary Health Network (CESPHN) Aboriginal Excellence NAIDOC Award winner

In November 2021, Deadly Connections was a finalist for Australian Human Rights Commission's Community Human Rights Champion award

In December 2021, in partnership with Inner West Council, Deadly Connections moved into our community hub in Enmore Park, Marrickville.



In July of 2021, Deadly Connections was featured in the Law Society Journal which can be found [here](#).

In 2021, Deadly Connections won the Outstanding Work with Aboriginal Young People award at the NSW Youth Work Awards 2021.

In November 2021, Deadly Connections was awarded the Outstanding Work with Aboriginal Young People - Youth Action award.



DEADLY ACHIEVEMENTS

PARLIMENTARY SUBMISSIONS

Deadly Connections has written and contributed to multiple parliamentary submissions, calling on the New South Wales government to address the many complex barriers faced by First Nations people. These submissions are evidence-based while drawing on case studies from Deadly Connections work with the community and offering community-led solutions. Parliamentary submissions further illustrate the holistic and comprehensive approach of Deadly Connections' advocacy.

In May 2021 Deadly Connections staff spoke at the New South Wales Parliamentary Inquiry into support for children of imprisoned parents at NSW Parliament House.

Please see below for a list of Deadly Connections' parliamentary submissions:

- Appearance at NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Deaths in Custody (2020)
- Inquiry into high level of First Nations people in custody and oversight and review of deaths in custody (30 Sept 2020)
- Support for children of imprisoned parents in New South Wales (28 Feb 2020)
- Submission to the Australian Law Reform Commission on the Review of Judicial Impartiality (5 July 2021)
- Witness invitation - Inquiry into NSW Government's management of the COVID-19 pandemic (17 Sept 2021).





RESPONSE TO COVID-19

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic was detrimental to much of the NFP sector in Australia. While many organisations were scaling down, Deadly Connections was growing considerably during this time as we continued to engage with the community and provide much needed culturally responsive support. We went above and beyond, as paid staff often volunteered their time in order to ensure that their clients were safe throughout this difficult period.

During this time, Deadly Connections acquired a space to operate from when previously our office was based out of our CEO and co-founders' home. This was instrumental in delivering services to our clients and walking alongside them in their journey of healing. We were able to expand the services we offered, including group programs facilitation and one-on-one individual and family counselling. Deadly Connections

increased its capacity through hiring new specialised staff members who have a wealth of professional and lived experience. We also had a significant number of volunteers begin working alongside our organisation and their skills and expertise were influential as we were again able to expand our capacity and support more of the community.

Amid the global COVID-19 outbreak, Deadly Connections delivered over 200 meals per week to Elders, community members with chronic illness and rough sleepers in Glebe and Central Sydney. We spent a considerable amount of time advocating for visits to be reinstated for people in custody and for our free call number to be added to every Aboriginal inmate's call list so they could access culturally responsive support, efforts which led to an appearance on Studio 10.



RESPONSE TO COVID-19

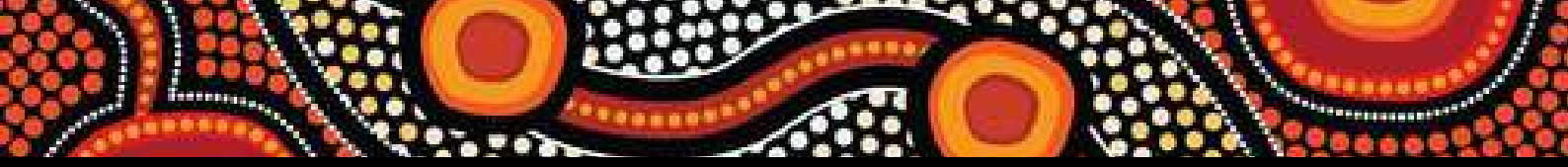
We also supported a number of open letters advocating for the release of people from prison during COVID-19, as in line with standard international practices during the pandemic response. Families deserve to be connected in times of turmoil and panic.

During the second lockdown in 2021, Deadly Connections again increased its work to support community who continued to be systems impacted. We employed two new staff members in COVID-19 emergency response roles and delivered over 200 meals per week to communities in the Inner West and City of Sydney LGAs.

While many other organisations operated at a limited capacity during this period, Deadly Connections continued to accept referrals and work with clients. We also continued to advocate for First Nations people to be released from prison due to the threat of COVID-19 infection and had our 1800 free call number placed on every contact list of Aboriginal inmates in NSW correctional facilities. With this hotline, our staff provided information to people being held in facilities and to their family and friends, escalating any issues to correctional staff when necessary.

Without the consistent support and advocacy of Deadly Connections, the First Nations people would have been left even further behind in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even in the face of danger and uncertainty Deadly Connections fought for the health and social justice rights of our people, and we will continue to do so to ensure that everyone has equal access to the services they need whether in crisis or in daily life.





The Black Lives Matter Movement was not a singular point in time for Deadly Connections but is built into our everyday lives both inside and outside the office.

BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT

In May of 2020, the death of George Floyd sparked an international outrage that accurately reflected the Australian context and ongoing issue of Aboriginal deaths in custody. The non-First Nations community were forced to confront an issue that they had too often turned a blind eye.

During this time, Deadly Connections experienced exponential growth as many people looked to support organisations that worked with Aboriginal people who are justice involved. We received over \$100,000 in donations which assisted us to implement the four key program models we developed and directed back into the Aboriginal community. These models include:

- Individualised, tailored, one-on-one case management to Aboriginal clients who are or are at risk of systems involvement (including child protection and justice)
- Group programs, including our Deadly Brothers and Deadly Tiddahs groups

- Delivery of much needed goods to our clients, including rehousing and refurbishing those experiencing domestic violence and financial distress
- Brokerage assistance, including the purchasing of school uniforms

As the only Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) justice specialist agency in NSW, Deadly Connections was able to invest this money back into the community. Furthermore, Keenan was invited to speak at BLM rallies across Sydney and share his experience as a man of colour in a racially-unjust world.

The Black Lives Matter Movement was not a singular point in time for Deadly Connections but is built into our everyday lives both inside and outside the office. The movement is both our history and our ongoing work. Our organisation, its staff and volunteers will continue to strive towards justice and equity for First Nations people. Black lives matter, today and always.

ADVOCACY, LOBBYING AND CAMPAIGNING

In addition to the work produced by Deadly Connections, we work collaboratively to raise our voice alongside other Aboriginal and human rights organisations partners in calling for reducing First Nations incarceration and enhancing rights. In 2021, we lent our voices to two campaigns in particular:

Raise the Age

In Australia, children as young as 10 years old are vulnerable to being arrested, prosecuted, and incarcerated. In just one year across Australia close to 600 children aged 10 to 13 years were locked up and thousands more were hauled through the justice system. First Nations children are disproportionately impacted by these laws and pushed into prison cells at even higher rates, accounting for 65% of these younger children in incarceration facilities.

The very young age of criminal responsibility in Australia is far out of step with international standards and has wrought havoc on families across the country. Raise the Age unites the voices of domestic and international organisations, international governing bodies and human rights advocates in a call for Australian lawmakers to raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility. Because all children deserve the right to be supported throughout their childhood so that they may have the chance to reach their full potential.

To sign the petition and learn more about the Raise the Age initiative, visit their website at <https://www.raisetheage.org.au/>

Change the Record

485 Aboriginal people have died in police or prison cells, or after interactions with police. This is for two reasons - discriminatory policies and discriminatory policing. First Nations women are 34 times more likely to be hospitalised as a result of family violence, and children are being taken away from their families at heart-breaking rates.

Change the Record is Australia's only national Aboriginal-led justice coalition of legal, health and family violence prevention experts. Its mission is to end the incarceration of, and family violence against, First Nations people.

To join the campaign, visit their website at <https://www.changetherecord.org.au/>





ACADEMIC WORK

Justice Health Conference

In 2021 both Carly and Keenan were invited to present as keynote speakers at the Justice Health Conference. The conference is sponsored by the Public Health Association of Australia, and the 2021 theme was 'Evidence, Accountability, Action.'

Deadly Connections Advisory Board member Professor Megan Williams was Co-convenor of the conference overall, and chaired the session where Keenan and Carly shared their keynote addresses. Additional speakers included Hon. Ken Wyatt, Minister for Indigenous Australians and Deadly Connections Advisory Board member Professor Thalia Antony. This was a unique opportunity for Deadly Connections to provide evidence for the overrepresentation of First Nations people in the criminal justice system and the role Deadly Connections is playing to dismantle structural health and justice inequities fuelling this crisis.

'Indigenous Perspective in Criminal Justice'

One term per year, Carly and Keenan teach a subject at UNSW. The course, 'Indigenous perspective in criminal justice,' is co-convened with Professor Howard Sercombe.

The course traces the use of the justice system in Australia to control Aboriginal people, from the period of colonial dispossession to contemporary times. Looking at crime and justice through a post-colonial lens, students get to hear from Aboriginal voices about experiences of crime and justice, identify emerging trends in Indigenous justice from Australia and elsewhere, and consider the possible role of self determination and reconciliation in the 'decolonisation' of justice.



MEDIA PRESENCE

Over the past few years, Deadly Connections has successfully leveraged its leadership role in the Aboriginal services space to represent our sector and community in the media. We have been able to elevate our voice and the voices of our community members to national and global platforms, advocating for the rights of First Nations people and the injustice we face each day.

Every message we share takes us one step closer to achieving our goals. Deadly Connections has been featured on The Project, The Today Show, in Rolling Stones magazine, Kindling and Sage magazine and in the Koori Mail. The following are just a few of our many noteworthy media contributions:

Addressing the UNHRC on minimum age of criminal responsibility in Australia

As an Aboriginal rights advocate and formerly incarcerated youth, Keenan was invited to speak in front of the United Nations Human Rights Commission, to address world leaders about the unjust minimum age of criminal responsibility in Australia. He called out the Turnbull government's hollow promises of equality and freedom for all children and urged the UNHRC to force Australia's hand in delivering on what it has pledged to do.

To listen to Kennan's speech, go to:
<https://www.hrlc.org.au/video/2018/7/4/keen-an-mundine-un>

TEDxSydney 2020 – First Nations led solutions for the justice system

At the TEDxSydney 2020 event, Keenan shared his own lived experience of breaking the cycle of incarceration and recidivism.

He explains how he was able to leverage his experiences into the work of Deadly Connections and brings to light the problems with Australia's justice system, why we must raise the age of criminal responsibility, and why social justice for First Nations people must be community led.

To watch to Keenan's TEDxTalk, go to:
https://www.ted.com/talks/keenan_mundine_first_nations_led_solutions_for_the_justice_system





Incarceration Nation

Incarceration Nation is a story of strength and resistance in the face of racism and oppression. The film lays bare the story of the continued systemic injustice and oppression of First Nations people on their own land, told by First Nations peoples. Both Keenan and Carly were called on to share their truths and expose the entrenched racism within the Australian justice system.

The documentary premiered on NITV in September 2021; it is available to watch on SBS on Demand. Watch it, share it, raise your voice.

Ladbible UNHEARD

In response to the rise in incidences of discrimination and racism-fuelled violence during the COVID-19 pandemic, media organisation LADBible Australia has partnered with local justice organisations - including Deadly Connections - to launch the UNHEARD campaign. Its goal is to shed light on the lived experience of everyday Australians from all cultural backgrounds, and to promote greater discussion around issues of racism, inequity, and social injustice.

As part of the campaign, Carly and Keenan are featured in a six-part documentary series. They use their platform to shine a harsh light on the disproportionate incidence of deaths among First Nations people in custody, and advocate for the need for deep justice reform.

The UNHEARD documentary series premiered in November 2021 and is available to watch on Amazon Prime. To learn more about the UNHEARD campaign, go to:
<https://www.ladbible.com/unheard#about>



Additional Contributions

- ABC, "Keenan's Courage." *Conversations*
- Carly Stanley, "The reality of Indigenous women giving birth in custody." *MamaMia*
- Carly Stanley, "Indigenous incarceration: an extension of the Protection Era." *IndigenousX*
- Keenan Mundine, "Woven Threads." *Filmotion*



Kias No
Belong in
Prison.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SUPPORT US

DEADLY CONNECTIONS TEAM

Directors

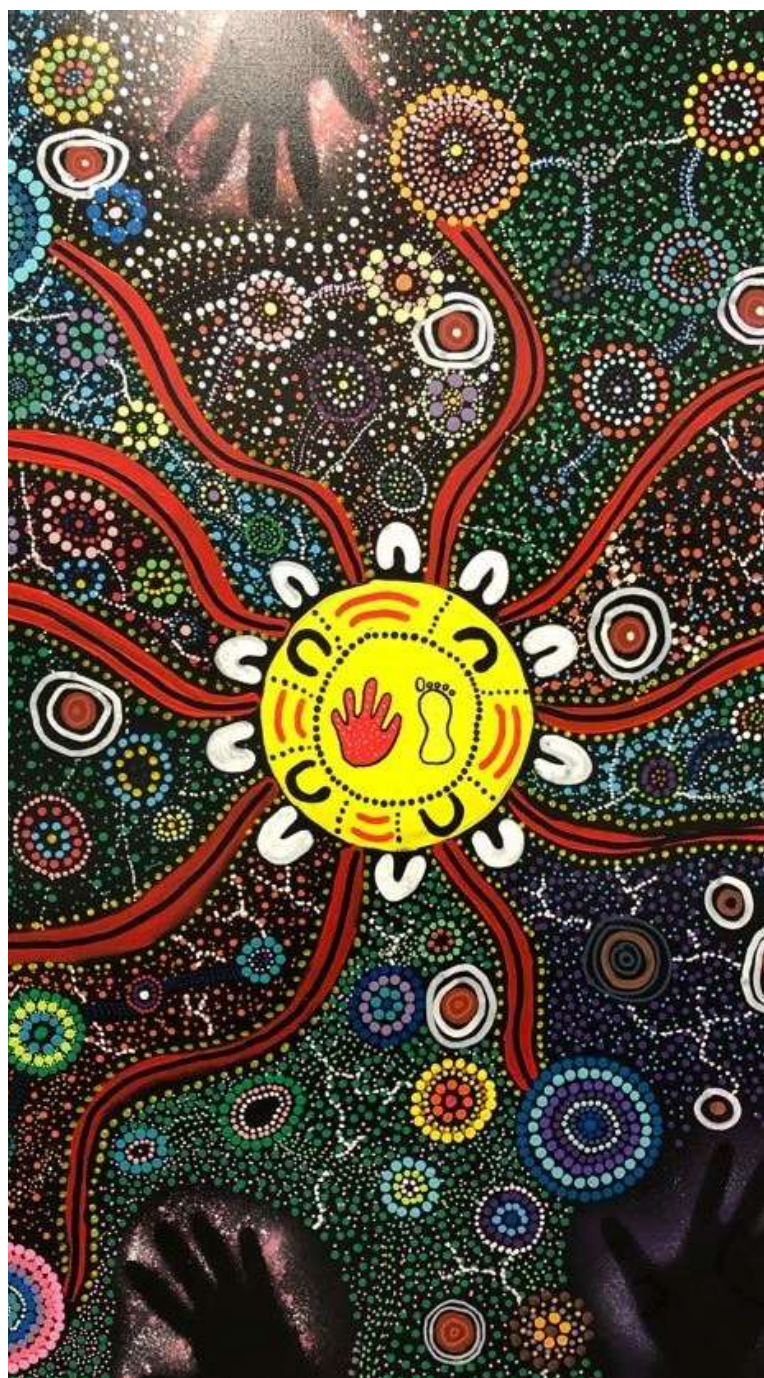
- Carly Stanley
- Keenan Mundine
- Aunty Melva Stanley

Deadly Connections would also like to acknowledge our student placements and volunteers who we would not be able to exist without. As a small not for profit, their generous support is transformative for our organisation, and we recognise their contribution in walking alongside First Nations people while always remaining open to learning.

Advisory Board

We would like to thank our Advisory Board, made up of professionals, Elders and community members who support us in our everyday work. Deadly Connections is deeply grateful for the contributions of our Advisory Board and values their individual expertise:

- Professor Thalia Anthony
- Professor George Newhouse
- Rosemary Iskander
- Lynda Coe
- Professor Megan Williams
- Simon Jovanovich
- Aunty Phyllis Simpson
- Angela Coe
- Steven Caruana
- Uncle Kevin Telford
- Aunty June Christian





Staff

Deadly Connections operates from a Credible Messenger model and primarily employs people with lived experience of systems involvement. We employ both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal staff. All of our staff are committed to changing the narrative for First Nations people both inside and outside of their work.

Current:

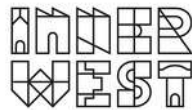
- Racheal Carr
- Leia Kefalianos
- Trinkia Kent
- Tanya Miles
- Peter Moran
- Tatea Reilly
- Rosie Schofield
- Sambavi Seermaran
- Sonia Wannous
- Lucie Zangger-Page

Past:

- Joan Blanas
- Matthew Coe
- Suwana Combo
- Benjamin Dennison
- Jake Fing
- Yillylung Gordon
- Cecil Heron
- Dean Lloyd
- Jade McDonald
- Simon Miles (RIP)
- Lena Mountford
- Kayla Payne
- Harry Wedge



Funding Partners



Raymond E Purves
Foundation

Memberships, affiliations, networks, partnerships



INCARCERATION NATION



Justice Policy Partnership

Deadly Connections would also like to thank each and every individual who has contributed to the growth of our organisation through their donations. No matter the amount, your generosity goes directly back into the daily operation of Deadly Connections and our support of community, and we simply would not be able to exist without it.

EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS

THE FINANCIALS

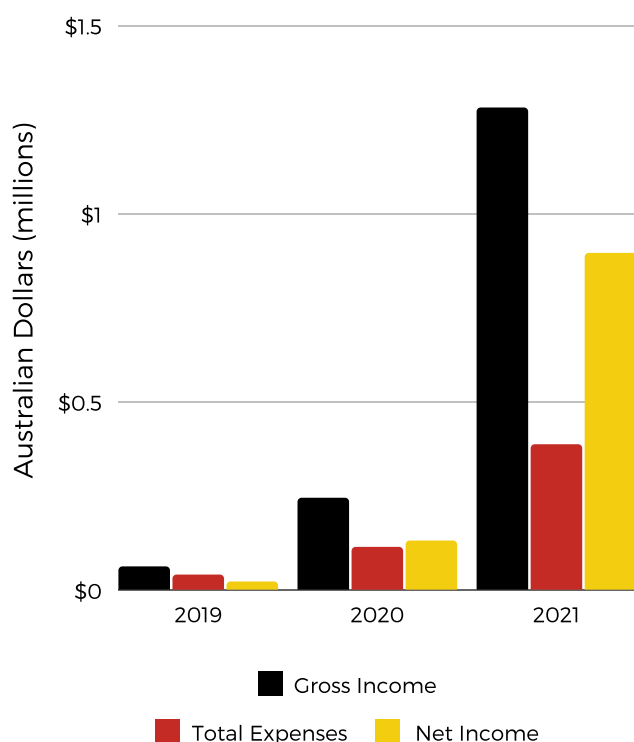
Deadly Connections financials have grown exponentially since opening its doors three years ago. From an initial operating budget of just \$60,000 dollars, Deadly Connections has become a million-dollar not-for-profit entity, and has just successfully completed its first audit.

A significant portion of its growth can be attributed to the hundreds of donations received in the past years. Last year alone,

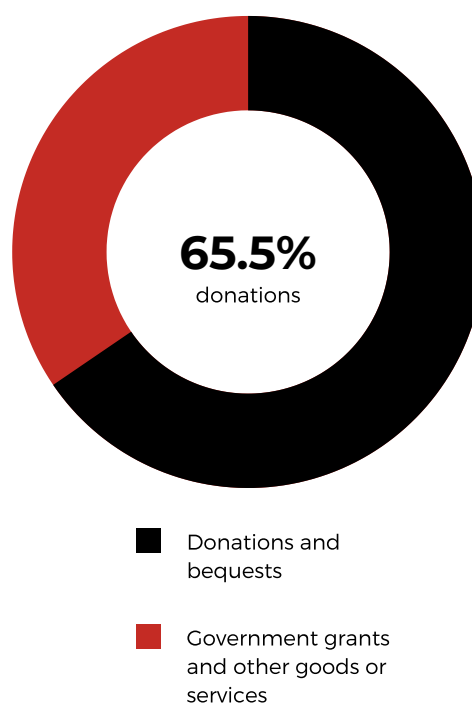
we received over \$825,000 dollars, which was used to expand our COVID-19 response efforts and secure two new residential healing houses for our new Girra Girra program.

The Deadly Team wants to thank each and every person and organisation who has donated to our cause, and recognises the impact of your generosity in bringing us closer to achieving our mission.

Deadly Connections Annual Financial Information, 2019-2021



Deadly Connections 2021 Income Sources





SUPPORT YOUR DEADLY COMMUNITY

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Deadly Connections works with Aboriginal children, young people, adults, families and communities to break intergenerational cycles of disadvantage and trauma – particularly those impacted by the child protection and/or justice systems.

Below are just some of the ways you can help your community feel more connected, supported and whole:

Become a Deadly Accomplice

Becoming a Deadly Connections Accomplice is a way to support the work of Deadly Connections through various ways including through direct volunteering, mentoring, research, community engagement and connections, extending our reach. If you would like to become a Deadly Accomplice or Volunteer, contact info@deadlyconnections.org.au for more information.

Partner with Deadly Connections

Deadly Connections values collaborative partnerships and aims to partner with businesses, agencies and organisations to ensure greater efficiency in our actions, opportunities and outcomes, in accordance with our vision and aspirations. Contact info@deadlyconnections.org.au for more information.

Donate to Deadly Connections

Deadly Connections exists to provide culturally responsive interventions which will build stronger and safer communities, to create deadly futures for Aboriginal people and communities. Making a donation to Deadly Connections is an investment in positive change, and can support an individual or family in crisis.

To make a donation today, visit <https://deadlyconnections.org.au/>





GET IN TOUCH



CONTACT DETAILS

Info@deadlyconnections.org.au

18004USMOB (1800 487 662)

Postal address:
PO Box 6166
Marrickville South NSW 2204

Office address:
Enmore Park, corner of Enmore Rd and Victoria Road
Marrickville NSW 2204

Social Media:



DEADLY.