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Acknowledgement of Country

Escare Inc. acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we live and work, Kepa Kurl Wudjari people of the Nyungar Nation, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise the ongoing connections to Country of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

> Ngalel taunn-gak karditch wudjari Nyungar bridyia Boodja ngalorl kumbaal yey. Ngalak jinang bolong ngabin ba Boodja, wudarn, ba warl. Dit guling ngalel naan kuttitch bolong deman ba deman york koora koora dwordak ba moorditjabiny

Escare Inc
Annual Report 2023-2024

Message from our CEO

It is with great pleasure that I reflect on another year of growth, collaboration, and impact here at Escare Incorporated. The 2023-2024 period has flown by, marked by our 40 years of Incorporation in 2023.



Photo: Jo Aberle @ the Taste Of Esperance

We have exciting new partnerships and strengthened existing collaborations, enabling us to extend our reach and support the Esperance community. This year, we bid farewell to Erin Donovan, who retired after $3\frac{1}{2}$ years of dedicated service as our Youth Worker. We thank Erin for her significant contribution. We are delighted that Shelley Napijalo, who was a member of the Escare team several years ago, has stepped into this critical role. Shelley has strong relationships within our community and this has ensured continuity for our regular young people and their families.



I acknowledge Sharon Henning, who stepped down from the Escare Board after over a decade of service. Sharon's commitment and insights have significantly contributed to Escare's governance and growth, and her legacy will continue to inspire our work. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for her service and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

Photo : Board Members - Nicole Harris, Sharon Henning, Joanne Halliday and Meredith Waters

Our achievements over the past year would not have been possible without the incredible dedication of our team and Board of Management, and the continued support of our community partners, funders, and stakeholders. Most importantly are the people we work alongside who continue to put their trust in our service and come along to many wonderful activities we offer. We are deeply grateful for your continued support.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to strengthening our services, fostering partnerships, and building on the solid foundation that has been laid over the past 40 years. Together we are Better.

Jo Aberle

Our Organisation

Escare continues to assist individuals and families dealing with a range of challenges, such as poverty, illness, domestic violence, disabilities, and mental health concerns. Guided by our constitution and values, we aim to transform lives, promote equality, support self-empowerment of individuals, families and communities with respect and care.





Escare Board

Escare Inc. is led by a local Board of Directors, who work closely with the Executive Officer and ensure governance in line with our constitution. Our committed volunteer board members are instrumental in offering outstanding support to the organisation.

Board of Directors

Joanne Halliday

(Board Chair)

Former Escare Youth worker. Small Business and Tourism. Extensive knowledge of service with Nursing background.

Meredith Waters

(Office Holder)

Hope 103.9 Fm Manager, WACHS Board Member, DHAC Chairperson, Realise Ability Support Coordinator

Nicole Harris (Office Holder) Secondary School Teacher, Business owner, Volunteer at various local clubs

Jane Mulcock

Community Programs Facilitator at Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation; former CEO Esperance Community Arts; long term collective leadership with Escare Inc. Doctorate in Anthropology.

Johnine Graham

Traditional Owner and Coordinator of Future at ETNTAC and former Escare Board Member.

Katrina Stewart BOICO Support worker; Carers WA Regional Coordinator, Board member at Esperance Crisis Accommodation; St John volunteer

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Escare Team

Our dedicated and innovative team members are essential to strong community partnerships and meaningful outcomes in our community

Jo Aberle

CEO

Natalie Symonds

Team Leader & Empowering Communities Coordinator

Erin Donovan (to February 2024)

Shelley Napijalo (from March 2024)

Youth and Community Worker

Peta Horan

Financial Counsellor

Megs Sims

Family & Community Worker

Karen Collins

Admin: HR, Finance & IT

Renae Rance

Bookkeeper & Office Administrator

Janie Drayton

EOSHC Coordinator (to January 2024)

Casual

Colleen Frost

Qualified Educator & Community engagement

Lara WIlliams

Qualified Educator & Vacation Care Leader

Brenda Stevens, Pearl Mitchell, Amy Rose, Madison Maitland, Lyn Gallagher,

Ashleigh Batley

Educators/Creche workers

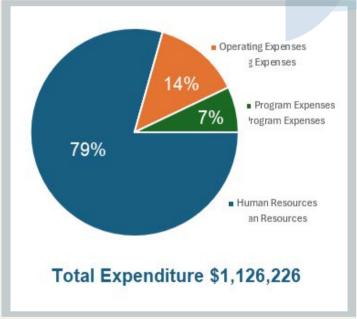
Escare Inc

Annual Report 2023-2024

Resources & Financial Management

Escare's core funding is provided by the Department of Communities, supporting our contracted services. Additional grant funding from Ngala (MY Time program), Mt Burnett Foundation (ADHD in the Community workshops), Lotterywest (Professional Developemnt subsidies) has contributed to activities and staff development. Childcare subsidies from the Australian Government, family fee payments, and a generous donation from a service user, have also supported the operation of our EOSHC service.

A significant portion of Escare's expenditure is invested in its invaluable staff, who are recognised as both a major cost and a vital asset. Escare Inc. is proud to cultivate a positive work environment, fostering long-term relationships within the team and active involvement with the local community. The dedicated Escare team is to be commended for consistently delivering high-quality programs while demonstrating strong fiscal responsibility, effectively managing project costs, and staying within budget.



Looking ahead, the combined efforts of the Escare team, partners, and the broader community are crucial in shaping our impact. We continue to see Escare as a safe, community-centered space offering support and encouragement, ready to tackle new challenges and opportunities with determination.

Escare remains committed to maximizing resources to deliver meaningful outcomes, ensuring every investment aligns with our core goals of empowerment, equality, and community building.

2023–24 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

OUR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS ENGAGED MORE THAN 8,000+
INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND YOUTH

HOW WE ENGAGED



Children Events & Community Activities
This includes...

117

Youth and Women's groups

43

Community Education and Parenting

72

Community Events and Social Connection Groups

4

Publications 250+ Hampers and Essential

s and Essentia Items

INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED

850+



We didn't do it alone... 135 +

Cross Sector Networks & MOU Collaborations



PEAK BODY MEMBERSHIPS

WACOSS, Linkwest, Connect Groups, Early Years Australia, Community Employers WA, FCAWA, WA Association for Mental Health, YACWA, SNAICC Child Care Alliance.



Debt Waived Via Financial Counselling Service \$39,304.04



62 Children Enrolled

54 Families Enrolled

373 Crèche hours



100,000+ Reaches 973 Followers

Pages we manage Escare page, Esperance Early Years, Yorga Barmah, MyTime, Brick Club, Women Learning for Life



Learn more

www.escare.org.au





Dedication

Escare is proud to have a dedicated team with several team members achieving Long Service Leave entitlements in the past few years. Collectively we have over 100 years of experience in our team.



Photo : Megs and Nat Symonds Team leader with Wildflower exhibit 2023

Outstanding Contribution to Youth Work in WA

Erin Donovan, our vibrant and dedicated Youth Worker, was honoured to be nominated for this prestigious award by Escare and former colleagues from Edith Cowan University. She was thrilled to not only receive the nomination but to go on and win the award in 2023.

Outback Award for Service to the Community

We are incredibly proud of our Financial Counsellor, Peta Horan, who was awarded the 2023 Outback Award for Service to the Community in recognition of her exceptional contributions to the Esperance community. She received this honour at the Financial Counsellors Association of Western Australia Conference in Perth

Diploma in Financial Counselling

Escare has proudly supported team member, Megs Sims, in completing her Diploma. Congratulations and well done, Megs

Escare Services & Programs

Our core funded services are supported by the WA Government's Department of Communities, while our Esperance Outside School Hours Care program receives support from the Australian Government through Fee-Based Income and the Child Care Subsidy.

Family & Community Service

Escare has held a contract with Department of Communities, or equivalent since 1982. This service is the cornerstone of the work we do, as it is from here new services and programs were added to value add to what we do and create a central point for people seeking assistance and connection.

Our Family & Community Services offers individual consultations, referrals, advocacy, skill development, and community connection projects.

The Family & Community Service offers several ongoing programs, including My Time and Women Learning for Life, designed to connect women and support their everyday needs.

Our ongoing community connection projects continue to foster a sense of belonging, strengthen relationships, and create pathways for personal and community growth.

Financial Counselling Service

Offers guidance on financial matters, including budgeting, debt resolution, and access to WA No Interest Loans. The service also provides advocacy for financial complaints and delivers community education initiatives.

During May, we conducted four Community Education sessions covering Tax, Bank Accounts, and Superannuation for over 70 students. The objective was to provide information on understanding Tax File Numbers, tax rates, and return requirements; comprehending different bank accounts, their fees, and charges; and understanding superannuation, its necessity, and key factors to consider in a super fund.

The Service partnered with FCAWA and Esperance Crisis Accommodation to deliver Me Myself and Money. This is a financial literacy learning program to help women increase their financial understanding and independence. 19 women attended with lunch and creche provided thanks to funding from Financial Counsellor of WA Association.

Youth Service

Escare Services for Young People targets atrisk young people aged 12–18. We offer recreational and diversionary activities alongside case management.

Our Youth Service continues to engage "atrisk" young people through activities designed to build confidence, encourage selfcare, and support positive life choices. These programs also serve as diversionary opportunities, helping young people to make useful decisions.

Our Youth Worker collaborates with families, schools, the Department of Education, Youth Justice, and Communities to address the complex challenges faced by young people. Recognising that every individual matters and has unique needs, we provide case management, where place based needs of the young person is centre to support. This includes case Management referrals to and from Crossroads, which supports young people (up to 25 years old) who have been in out-of-home care.



Photo : Young people at our November 2023 40 Year Celebration

Empowering Communities

Focuses on fostering connected, inclusive spaces where people feel a sense of belonging, are valued, and actively contribute to their communities and identify in consultation with community what is useful to be offered in our community.



One & All participants having a go at roller skating



Established in 1996, this service provides After School and Vacation Care for children from Kindy to Year 6. It also supports our crèche, which facilitates various group activities throughout the year.

This year has been a challenging one for Esperance Outside School Hours Care (EOSHC). Escare Incorporated, made the difficult decision to voluntarily suspend the After School Care and Vacation Care programs.

This decision follows the departure of our valued coordinator, who transitioned to a new career field in February 2024. Nationwide staffing challenges within the childcare sector, particularly the recruitment of qualified educators, have further impacted our ability to maintain operations.

In June 2024 we were fortunate to engage Lara Williams, an experienced teacher to become our Educational Leader for the July 2024 holiday period.

We are still actively seeking a suitable coordinator to lead our team and ensure the smooth and effective delivery of our programs. Escare remains committed to finding the right candidate as soon as possible to resume providing After School Care as well as Vacation Care to our community.

We have dedicated young people working in unqualified educator roles, taking on professional development opportunities to support our service. With these workers and the Escare team, Vacation Care will move forward in 2024/25 and hopefully, After School Care.



Photo (left): Playing Connect 4

Photo (right) : children building bug centres in the sand pit at EOSHC.



Escare Inc Annual Report 2023-2024

Initiatives to Foster Inclusivity and Connection



Photo: Group with art work /collaboration with Esperance Community Arts Program.

Yorga Barmah Women's Group

A culturally safe space where women can connect, support one another, and foster leadership within the community. We extend our gratitude to Centrecare, Footprints to Stronger Families, and the Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (ETNTAC) for ongoing collaboration.

This group offers weekly opportunity for women to come together and enjoy time for themselves while their children benefit from the crèche. This early learning experience plays a vital role in supporting children's transition to school.

Esperance Early Years Network

A collaborative effort to support families and young children in the region. Programs include Paint Esperance REaD: An early literacy program encouraging families to engage in reading and language development from a young age.

Early Years Child Care Worker Sector Development

Escare has partnered with the Goldfields Economic Development Commission and Workforce Australia to support professional development and networking opportunities for the early years childcare sector in Esperance. This is a crucial initiative for sector development, addressing the growing needs of our community.

Escare's Mobile Brick Club

A unique resource allowing community groups to borrow LEGO for events, fostering creativity and engagement.

Our Mission in Action



Photo: volunteers and families for the third Taste of the World March 2024.

Escare was privileged to be part of the Taste of the world event in March 2024, thanks to collaboration with lead agency <u>Esperance Community Arts</u>. The third Taste of Esperance was bigger and brighter with over 2000 people and over 100 volunteers attending and 29 countries' food represented. It was a wonderful and delicious coming together of the community.

Escare is committed to supporting individuals and families facing diverse challenges, including poverty, illness, domestic violence, disabilities, and mental health concerns. Guided by our constitution, we strive to transform lives, promote equality, and empower both individuals and communities.

Transforming Lives

My Time Support group (Est 2012)

Weekly sessions are held during school term, facilitated by Family & Community Worker, Megs Sims.

My Time is a valuable program designed to support parents and caregivers of children with disabilities or chronic illnesses and initiated by Parenting Research Centre in collaboration with Ngala. This partnership indicates a commitment to providing comprehensive support for parents and caregivers to come together, share experiences, access resources and receive vital support from one another who are often bound by the same unique and challenging situations.

Pursuing Equality

Our Narragunawali, Reconciliation Action plan has been refreshed with over 120 deliverables. We are proud of this body of work that documents and supports our service to be culturally safe. Launched in November 2021 in 2023 we were thrilled to be long listed for the Narragunawali Awards. This meant we were in the top ten in Australia. CEO and Colleen Frost shared Learnings and resources with early Years Educators at EOSHC. Escare Inc is proud to be the first service on Kepa Kurl boodja to have a Narragunawali Plan.

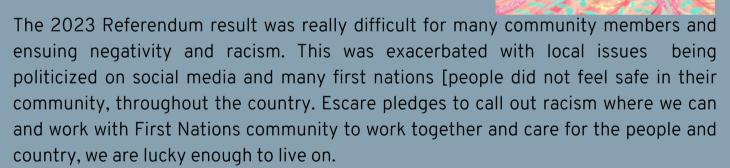
https://www.narragunnawali.org.au/raps/38739/esperance-outside-school-hours-

<u>care</u>

Escare is privileged to work in community to support First nations community on Kepa Kurl Boodja. We had so much fun at the 'Kepa Kurl Children's Day' event celebrating National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day in August of each year. We partnered with students from Stars Foundation, Esperance Outside School Hours Care, Esperance Public Library, Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, Aboriginal Liaison Officers and our team.

Photo::Jennell Reynolds Showing how to blow yolk for the property of the

Photo : :Jennell Reynolds showing how to blow yolk from emuegg, which we then cook up.



Escare is committed to embracing diversity and eliminating all forms of discrimination in the provision of programs we offer. Escare welcomes all people irrespective of ethnicity, lifestyle choice, faith, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Escare strategies and collaborative work ensures we have multiple and varied ways of achieving this goal. Escare has a Disability Access Inclusion Plan that is reviewed annually. These plans benefit people with disabilities, the elderly, young parents and people from culturally and linguistically diverse background.

Empowering People

ADHD in Our Community

For the first time, Escare collaborated with Mt Burdett and ADHD WA to deliver the ADHD in Our Community project. This successful initiative exceeded expectations, addressing the local need for information and support.

Key Outcomes:

Feedback gathered to help ADHD WA understand challenges around diagnosis, support, treatment, and medication. Individuals with ADHD, their families, and carers felt empowered with new knowledge.

Workshop Highlights:

November 2023: Parent and service provider workshops, community consultation, First Nations Yarn, and teacher training at Nulsen Primary School.

March 2024: Community and parent workshops, a First Nations session, and teacher training with an ADHD coach.

Over 250 people were supported through these workshops, and we look forward to building on this vital work.



Escare continued our tradition of offering Christmas hampers to support people in need. Escare has partnered to deliver hampers since 2012. We were supported by GE Trust and Esperance Ag fund as well As Salvation Army in Kalgoorlie and their Rotary delivering 50 Foodbank boxes 100 hampers reached families. This small gesture supports people to enjoy a special Christmas lunch that can be shared with friends and family bringing comfort and Joy Escare worked collaboratively with services to endeavor to support as many people as possible. Escare receives several donations though out the year including; Sheridan Sleep Safe Sheet Sets, Share the Dignify bags and a new partner in the Essentials collective for women's items. Escare Inc distribute these to people as throughout the year.

The Financial Counselling Service has helped clients resolve debt-related challenges, resulting in over \$36,000 in debt being waived.

Advocacy: Assisting clients by communicating with creditors, service providers, and other organisations on their behalf.

The service attends ECS and enhances support to clients by being available when they access local Emergency Relief (ER) agency.

Partnerships and Collaborations

New and ongoing collaborations occur as opportunities arise that align with our values; below are some new relationships as well as embedded activities.

Esperance Local Drug and Alcohol team (LDAT): Escare was invited to partner with the Alcohol and Drug Foundation to deliver local LDAT team activities. This was in recognition of the place based, connected work that we do in our local community. The LDAT program strengthens protective factors in communities to reduce alcohol and drug (AOD) harms by addressing risk factors. It employs strategies like recreational activities, evidence-based education, mentoring, peer support, and fostering connections with schools, families, and communities.

LDAT first Community action plan identified needs in the community and Dardy Grub cooking and fishing Club commenced in June 2024 and will run until December 2024.

Wills Clinic: Another useful and unexpected opportunity occurred in June 2024 when we were asked to host Perth based, SparkleHelmore Lawyers for a FREE Wills clinic in Esperance. This collaboration was made possible through our ongoing partnership with Goldfields Community Legal Service, who regularly visit our office to have appointments with locals. We anticipate that this will mark the beginning of additional free clinics for the Esperance community.

20Talk: Escare supported 20Talk to deliver Mental health First Aid course to 20 young people over two days. 20Talk reached into Esperance to support our community and reach the aims of their charity; to empower young adults aged 18-30 by integrating essential mental health tools and skills into their lives. Their mission is to be the most relatable mental health charity of the 21st century, challenging the status quo and redefining the approach to mental health education.

Esperance Interagency Network: Escare is pleased to collaboratively lead the Esperance Interagency Network; coordinating the rotating host of the bimonthly meeting as well as email contact list and sharing this as requested.

Esperance Service Booklet : Escare updates and publishes this informative booklet regularly with information received from this group and various visiting stakeholders. Available upon request to print and on our website.

Mental Health Week pop up café:

Over the past six years, this annual event has grown significantly in participation and attendance. The 2023 Pop-Up Café drew over 500 attendees, doubling the 250 from the previous year, highlighting its success and community appeal.

Its success recognised with Escare and Megs Sims leading, being invited to lead this event with the official opening being held in Esperance.

The number of participating services continues to rise as the event's reputation for fostering positive community engagement and sharing valuable service information spreads. Feedback from attendees, both direct and indirect, has been overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing gratitude and appreciation for such a vibrant, inclusive event offered at no cost to the Esperance community.



WAMHA Official opening October 2023



Photo; Cutting the ribbon with WAMHA and Hon Shelley Payne MLA and Megs Sims.



Photo : Blue LiAght disco with WA Police, Shire and Hope FM.

One and All Community Program (est 2012) is a partnership with Esperance Shire that offers targeted, local opportunities for all people to participate in mainstream sport, recreation and community activities with the aim to improve self-esteem, mutual respect, confidence and physical development. Activities are free. These sessions support clubs and community groups to better prepare to work with people with a variety of abilities and backgrounds.

One and All offers two Art and culture workshops each program and is also a collaboration with Esperance Community supported by Escare Youth Worker and Team Leader.

Increasing Individual Capacity

Building Programs and Providing Tools and Resources for Daily Living

More than one in five Australian children arrive at school without the skills necessary to make the most of their early education. Paint the Town REaD (PTTR) is a collective impact, community capacity building strategy that encourages all areas of the community to read, talk, sing and rhyme with children from birth, so that they will be ready for reading and writing in school.

Advocacy Support

All areas of Escare programs assist with advocacy as needed. As an the Family example Support Service advocates tirelessly for Centrelink people with issues housing, cost of living pressures and violence affecting aand families. There has been considerable support for people we work alongside with housing issues, including applications Department of Communities Housing and advocating with Real Estates and private rentals



Photo: at Government House with the many community groups participating in this important initiative.

Escare Empowering Communities program in partnership with the Esperance Early Years Network commenced 'Paint Esperance REaD' in 2022/23 The egg has visited many places. Look out as the egg will be hatched in May 2025 during Families Week and Esperance too will have a mascot.

NDIS Support

Escare supports many individuals with NDIS plans, advocating for the services and resources they need to live be fulfilling lives. We provide "Natural Supports" and may also deliver services for those who are plan-managed or self-managed, building upon existing relationships to meet people's needs more effectively.

Assisting with Daily Living Challenges



Escare's Youth at Risk program exemplifies our commitment to this aim. Young people referred to Escare are offered entry points through group activities and/or one-on-one case management. These initiatives create opportunities for meaningful connection and support, including:

- · Dardy Grub Cooking Club
- Esperance One and All Community Holiday Program
- TNT Fitness
- Create and Calm sessions at ESHS

Transitional Support Services: Delivered under a 2012 MOU, offering assistance to individuals transitioning from out-of-home care.

Photo: young people finding quiet with horses and sunset in winter

This multifaceted approach ensures at-risk youth have access to resources, shared decision making and a sense of belonging, helping them navigate daily challenges and build brighter futures.

These efforts reflect our holistic approach to addressing daily living challenges and fostering positive outcomes for young people in our community.

Outcomes include Increased confidence and self-awareness among participants. The program also strengths family and community connections through collaborative support. Positive feedback from youth engaging in programs, showing improved decision-making and emotional wellbeing.

Yorgas Wellness, Women Working in Community

Culturally safe, regular wellness activities took place as determined by First Nations women (in community sector, volunteering, home and cultural responsibilities) who have limited time and resources (mentally and financially) to ensure self-care is established, enjoyed and valued. This group was a space to discuss safety in the home and community, discrimination and support each other to respond in a positive way. The group supported women's leadership by supporting their continued endeavours and work in our community. This was an important space for debriefing when faced with local discrimination.



Photo: Paint and Yarn sessions held at Escare

Enriching Community Life

Observing NAIDOC Week

Escare has proudly been a long-term partner of the Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (ETNTAC), collaborating on a range of NAIDOC activities.

In July 2023, we celebrated a significant milestone with the inaugural Youth Kepa Kurl Ball, held at the Civic Centre. This incredible event brought together young people from Year Seven and above to honour and celebrate NAIDOC Week in a vibrant and inclusive setting. The evening was a resounding success, showcasing the spirit, creativity, and unity of our young people on Kepa Kurl Boodja.





Escare partnered with the Esperance Library to Paint Esperance REaD, Black and Yellow partnered with the reading of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander books, story, drawing and songs to encourage everyone to Talk, Read, Sing, Rhyme, Draw and Play with children from birth.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with ETNTAC and local services to celebrate and support NAIDOC activities in the future.

Photo: The egg, like our brains; grows when you read, sing and play with it.

Act Belong Commit - Mindfulness program

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Esperance Community Arts (ECA) for their ongoing support in collaborating with Escare to deliver beautiful workshops to individuals who might not otherwise have access to the arts. We value this partnership and look forward to future collaborations that continue to enrich our community.

Connect, Create, Collaborate

We also partnered with ECA to deliver Connect, Create, Collaborate workshops as part of the Arts for Wellbeing initiative. These workshops provided a safe and creative space for participants to connect, collaborate, and build skills. Facilitated by local artists, sessions included mindfulness activities to promote relaxation and self-expression.



Photo of Art piece entered into 2023 Wildflower Community Art section. A combined piece by Escare women's group

Compassionate Community Charter

CEO Jo Aberle participated in a case study on the outcomes of the Compassionate Community Charter Esperance Team, part of the Rural Leadership Foundation. Alongside journalist Dorothy Henderson and photographer Rosie Henderson, they discussed rural leadership and the value of the proposed Esperance Compassionate Community Charter, which Escare believes aligns with our values and mission statement.



Learn more here

https://rural-leaders.org.au/compassion-used-by-larcgraduates-as-a-building-block-for-community-resilience/

Parenting Workshops

Escare continues to offer workshops for parents and carers to Esperance and surrounds.

This has included:

Child Safe Workshops:

ESafe KIDS

Educating children about personal safety is crucial for their protection. These workshops teach simple strategies for unsafe situations while building confidence, resilience, and empowerment to stay safe in various settings.

Behaviour Management

1-2-3 Magic is a simple and effective behaviour management program for parents and carers of children between 2 and 12 years of age.



Financial Sustainability

Value-Adding Grants and Partnerships

Escare strategically pursues small grants and partnerships to enhance non-core programs and sustain innovative activities with local groups and agencies. Beyond funding, mutual in-kind support and collaboration bring immense benefits, as reflected in the diversity of our partnerships shown through their logos.



Escare Inc 24

Service Quality and Impact

Escare is a member of key PEAK bodies and we engage in state and national consultations and network meetings where possible. A short video was made and can be viewed on the <u>Escare website www.escare.org.au</u>

Escare consistently upholds a high standard of service quality and strives for continuous improvement in its operations. The annual audit conducted by Dry Kirkness and Associates, who travel from Perth, reflects the organisation's commitment to robust compliance with auditing standards.

Escare is fully committed to upholding the <u>National Principles for Child Safe</u> <u>Organisations</u> to ensure the safety, wellbeing, and empowerment of all children and young people who engage with our services. These principles guide our policies, practices, and culture as we strive to provide a safe and supportive environment.

Looking Ahead ...

Challenges and Opportunities

Esperance Outside School Hours Care (EOSHC)

Escare Inc., as the approved provider of Esperance Outside School Hours Care is pleased that our voluntary suspension, due to staffing challenges, which was in place from February to July 2024, is behind us. The Education and Care Regulatory Unit conducted both virtual (pre-opening) and in-person inspections during the holidays.

We are thrilled to have delivered a fantastic Vacation Care Program under the skilled and engaging educational leadership of teacher Lara Williams. This success was made possible through the collective efforts of the Escare team and our dedicated casual workers at EOSHC.

Regional Early Years Learn & Lead (REYLL)

Escare has been offered and accepted, important support from the REYLL program which is provided by One Tree and funded by the State of Western Australia's Department of Communities, enabling participation in REYLL at no cost. REYLL is designed to address the unique barriers experienced in regional and remote areas and is committed to ensuring that eligible Early Childhood Education Centre's have access to the support and services needed to deliver high-quality care for families in their communities and support children. REYLL is funded to run for one year, until April 2025.



Escare main office

Empowering Communities
Individual and Family Support
Financial Counselling
Youth at Risk

Unit 8 Balmoral Square 53 the Esplanade Esperance 6450

08 90713110 contact@escare.org.au

EOSHC centre

Esperance Outside School Hours Care
Crèche
My Time
Women Learning for Life
Yorga Barmah
Adult Learning Opportunities

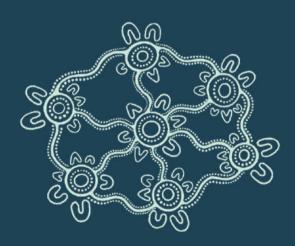
Cnr George & Backland Streets
Sinclair
Esperance
6450



08 90717227

eoshc@escare.org.au

www.escare.org.au



"Escare is in the centre, yarning with various groups, connected by pathways represented by the lines and dots. The people sit around the circles".

Drawing by artist Jennell Reynolds /Nanapa. Commissioned as part of our Empowering Communities Tender application and which we are proud to have utlised on several occasions, with the generosity of Jennell.