

## Centre Profile 2015

February

### Na marni meyunna 'welcome everyone'

*We would like to acknowledge the land on which our preschool, a place of learning and connecting is situated on is the traditional lands of the Kurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the Kurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.*

### LOCATION

Taikurrendi [pron *Tie-ka-rendi*] Children and Family Centre is co-located on site with Christies Beach Primary school, and was officially opened by Federal Minister for Education, The Hon Peter Garrett AM, MP on 13th June 2013.

### CONTEXT

Taikurrendi is one of four Aboriginal Children and Family Centre's established by the Department for Education and Child Development [DECD] in partnership with the Indigenous Early Childhood Development National Partnership [IECDNP], the Australian and State Governments. Its committed focus is on supporting Aboriginal families with young children to improve early childhood outcomes.

Taikurrendi Children and Family centre integrates a range of education, care and health services for families and community in the local area. Some services that are available include preschool [capacity 56], occasional care, health programs and visiting specialists.

The 2012 Australian Early Development Index [AEDI] Community Profile for this council area shows that:

- 2.3% of children identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander,
- 5.5% of children were not born in Australia
- 3.1% of children had English as a second language
- 92.9% of children reported to have been in non-parental early childhood education and care in the year before school
- 93.6% attended preschool in the year before school.

*The name Taikurrendi comes from the Kurna language meaning, 'to be mixed, together.'*

### PROGRAMS

Taikurrendi Children and Family Centre features core services and programs that meet the needs of Aboriginal communities. Services and programs may be delivered by Government and non-government agencies.

- Preschool for 3-5 year olds
- Occasional Care program for birth to 5 year olds



- Learning Together program for birth to 3 year olds
- Early intervention and prevention programs
- Adult learning opportunities
- Health promotion and support
- Family Support
- Community development and involvement opportunities

## SERVICES

**The Community Development Coordinator** works to increase community capacity to support families to provide the best opportunities for every child. The Community Development Coordinator's work with families focuses on increasing their parenting capacity, linking them with a range of services, and encouraging their participation within their community and in the directions of the Centre. The Community Development Coordinator also promotes partnerships across a broad range of local services and organisations and establishes interagency programs to meet the needs of the community.

**The Family Services Coordinator** works collaboratively with children, families, service providers and community to enhance outcomes for children birth to eight years and their families. The role includes the provision of counselling and therapeutic groups for children and families, service coordination, and the provision of information and links to available services and supports.

## Allied Health- Speech Pathologist and Occupational Therapist

## PARTNERSHIP GROUP

Taikurrendi Children and Family centre work collaboratively with a range of agencies within the Onkaparinga Council. Our site works in partnership with The Joining Hands and Minds Task Group and meets on the first Tuesday of every month.

Membership includes:

- Relationships SA
- ReEngage
- Carer's Support
- DECD delegates
- Southern Junction Community Services
- Southern Primary Health
- Aboriginal community members
- Aboriginal Elder/s

## ENROLMENT DATA

### 2015

Taikurrendi preschool operates fulltime and implements universal access. The structure of the preschool program is family choice to access Kookarki 'kookaburra' group (Mon, Tue and half day Fri) or Nhaalha 'echidna' group (Wed, Thurs and half day Fri). The year has started with 46 enrolments – 42% identify as ATSI (half access as eligible ATSI 3yr olds).

Taikurrendi Occassional care offers six funded sessions of occasional care during the week which is integrated with the preschool program.

## KEY STAFF

Director of Education and Care  
Community Development Coordinator  
Family Services Coordinator  
Lead Early Years Teacher  
Occasional Care Educator  
Early Childhood Educators

Catherine Cavouras ph: 8186 1102  
Darjana Nikolic ph: 8186 1102  
Anna Becker ph: 8186 1102  
Emily Wilkins, Rachel Reeve  
Angie Coulls  
Mela Hoffman, Jess Gray, Tahnee Mallie  
Peta Gill

## VISION STATEMENT

Taikurrendi Children and Family Centre is a safe place for every child and family, where culture will develop and thrive. Partnerships and relationships are created as we lead new ways and opportunities through staff, children and family's education and learning. We will always aspire to reflect a socially just environment that values the identity of our community.

### Centre values are:

- **Relationships and Friendship** – are at the foundations of our work with children, families and our community
- **Belonging** - all children, families and staff are culturally safe, connected and embraced.
- **Kindness** – everyone will be treated with kindness and it is what we expect from our staff, children and families.
- **Courage** – We encourage our children , families and staff to be courageous as we strive together in education with innovation and creativity.

### Guiding principles:

- Every voice needs to be heard through active listening.
- We can learn from each other as we share knowledge and experiences.
- We are committed to showing Respect to all staff, children and families.
- We want to be open minded to new ideas, and actively seek feedback about our service.
- We expect staff ensure that confidentiality is an an important quality of our centre.
- Trust is the foundation of a good team when working with children and families.
- We will deliver our programs and services with clarity and be transparent in our work practices.
- Being kind to each other and our ourselves when we experience conflict and disagreement.