



NGUNGA GROUP
WOMENS
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Ngunga Group Women's Aboriginal Corporation

www.ngungagroupwomens.org.au

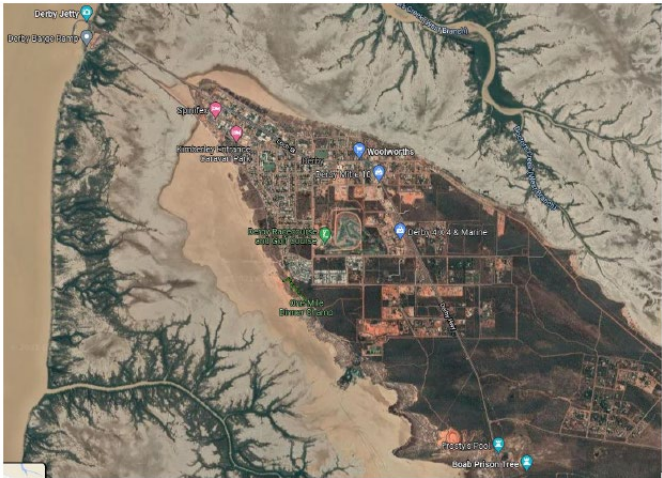
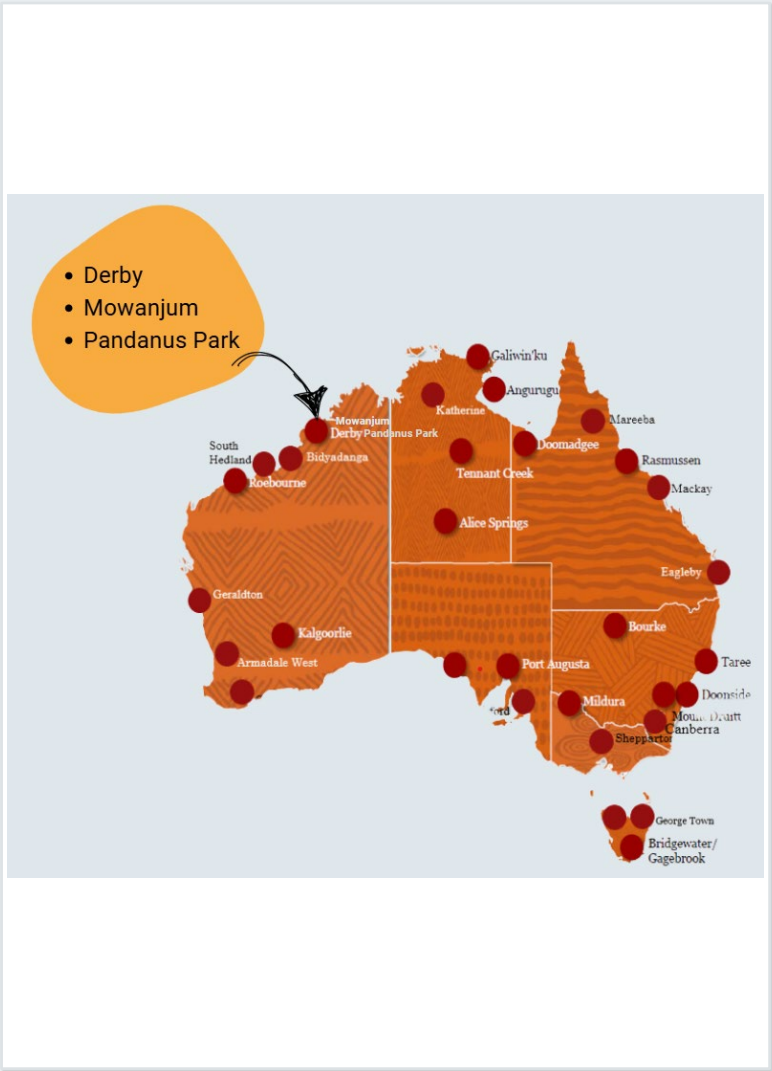
Rowena Mouda is the Chief Executive Office of the Ngunga Group Womens Aboriginal Corporation (Ngunga) in Derby, Western Australia. Rowena has over 20 years' experience in community and economic development in remote Aboriginal communities in the Kimberley region. Ngunga offers a range of early childhood years programs and culture and language programs that respond to community priorities.

Community-led early years support across Derby, Mowanjum and Pandanus Park and the Gibb River Road.



Map of locations

Derby township with partner communities Mowanjum and Pandanus Park.



Derby township

Figure 3. Terrain map of Mowanjum Aboriginal Community



Mowanjum Aboriginal Community

Figure 4. Terrain Map of Pandanus Park Aboriginal Community



Pandanus Park Aboriginal Community

Ngunga's programs and data vision

Programs that respond to community priorities, and a practical approach to telling the story of change.

Programs

- **Place-based playgroups** in Derby, Mowanjum and Pandanus Park, with wider outreach along Gibb River Road.
- **HIPPY** home-based learning that helps parents and carers be their child's first teacher.
- **Connected Beginnings** linking families with health, education and family support services.
- **RJED, Duniyi Jarndu & Ooba Babanil (Strong Women and Children), Seasonal Calendar, Language Booklet, First Nations Playgroup**
- **Culture, language and access supports** including community music, local resources and transport access.



Vision for capturing our data to tell our story

- Through Bonterra, potfolios and Folktale we bring together **program reporting, KPI tracking, family voice and service evidence** into one Ngunga-owned picture of change – indigenous data sovereignty.
- Capture what is changing at **child, family and community** level - not just outputs for separate funders.
- Use data to:
improve decisions, show what works and advocate for investment in community-led early years services.



Ngunga's successes and challenges

Successes

Years of community-led work in the Derby region

- Over three decades of community leadership and trusted local presence.
- Programs spanning playgroups, HIPPY, Connected Beginnings, Dunyji Jarndu and Ooba Babanil (Strong Women and Children), Seasonal calendar, Pandanus Park transport, Early Years Centre and Family Hub and culture/language work.
- EYP Capability milestone 1 marked complete, with practical tools for stronger program capability.
- New Derby Early Learning and Family Centre funding announced in 2026, building toward a community-led hub for Derby, Mowanjum and Pandanus Park.

Challenges

Reporting items already tracked in the current register

- Services span multiple communities, so access depends on transport, travel and coordinated partnerships.
- Staffing: mixed skill levels across literacy, documentation and compliance, compliance vs real world delivery tension – real world context = remote, cultural, relationship, unpredictable. Creates challenge staff struggling to create paperwork vs community engagement, risk of under-documenting, data evidence and some reporting gaps.

Next steps: targeted coaching and mentoring on track, documentation routines, training, simplifying forms, templates and visual guides on track.

Training key staff in data system that supports accountability, learning, advocacy and Indigenous data sovereignty at the same time.

Opportunity: build one Ngunga-owned data system that supports accountability, learning and advocacy at the same time.