

NINTIRINGTJAKU PROFILE

ISOBEL NAMPITJIMPA GOREY Papunya Community



I was born in Laramba. My mother was Arrernte, she was born in Hermansberg. My father was Warlpiri. My family moved from Laramba to Papunya. So I started off speaking Arrernte and Warlpiri, then I learned Luritja in Papunya.

I went to school at Papunya, Irene Nangala and me were in the school together. Then I went to Yirara College. When I finished school I came back to Papunya. I got married, Now I have four grown up children, they are all married. I have seven grandchildren, six live in Papunya and one in Kintore.

I started working as Health Worker at Papunya, checking for sugar and blood pressure, and women's health check. Batchelor College did our training. We did the training for accident and injury and snakebite, with Batchelor College. I did this work for a long time, in the 1980s.

Then I worked for a long time with World Vision at Papunya, right up to 2001, looking after old people and the teenage kids to keep them healthy, running discos for them and doing health checks.

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I have been on Papunya Council a long time. I am on the Western Desert Dialysis Committee, with my husband. We worked hard to get a dialysis machine for Kintore, but not yet for Papunya.

I have worked alongside Waltja youth programs and disability programs. I am a Management Committee member for Waltja and Executive Member since AGM October 2006.

I speak Luritja and English, and sometimes Arrernte, Warlpiri, and Pitjatjantjarra.

I am happy to do Nintiringtjaku work. When visitors come I will introduce them and help everybody to understand. I will help community people to speak up strong.

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