



Left: Through Schools Plus, APA supports the Martu Engagement Program and Newman Senior High School, in remote Western Australia.

Below: An APA volunteer helping prepare Pink Ribbon packs.

building brighter futures.

APA Group has a commitment to promote community development. The locations where APA owns and operates facilities are often situated at or pass through Indigenous Australian communities.

Improving health outcomes and education facilities, standards and results for young Indigenous Australians is a central tenet of APA's community investment program. APA works closely with organisations and local stakeholders to develop meaningful targets for APA to assist community development.

For this reason, APA has handpicked the following grassroots community initiatives focused on improving the lives of Indigenous Australians: Clontarf Foundation; Fred Hollows Foundation; and Schools Plus, which is a central program assisting small schools lacking the means to effectively fundraise.

Plans of action are developed and monitored collaboratively, and revisited at regular intervals to ensure all parties are fulfilling their pre-stated commitments.

"APA's partnership with **Clontarf Foundation** provides the obvious

financial support needed to deliver the Clontarf program to over 6000 boys nationally," said Partnerships Manager NSW Russ Aitken. "The partnership, however, is much more than a financial contribution. APA staff regularly engage with Clontarf at various events across the country. This personal engagement contributes greatly in equipping our young men with the necessary life skills to participate more meaningfully in society. The advocacy and business acumen that APA provide and are willing to share with Clontarf also contribute greatly towards ensuring Clontarf Foundation continues to grow. We know there are 10,000 more Indigenous boys who would benefit from the program and our goal is to reach these boys as quickly as possible before their life outcomes diminish."



This support involves large financial contributions; sharing of skills via mentoring, traineeships and work experience; and regular employee engagement experiences. Employees regularly embed themselves in the programs to gain a real world, firsthand experience of how these programs make a difference. APA actively encourages our partners to report back on community development planning and results and monitors the Foundation's achievements through its annual report



Left: APA training with socially disadvantaged teenagers under the guidance of Clontarf Foundation's Russ Aitken (far right)

energy. connected.

Right: APA employees participated in a 33-storey stair climb to raise money for Pink Ribbon.



"Schools Plus is delighted to partner with APA Group to change the lives of Indigenous students in remote Western Australia," said Director of Donor Relations Sherrill Nixon. "APA Group's support for the Martu Engagement Program at Newman Senior High School will boost student engagement in this disadvantaged community, and open young people's eyes to a range of exciting education and career opportunities."

APA has a truly national presence, with workplace sites in metropolitan, regional, rural and remote locations. Mirroring this coverage, APA supports programs positively affecting the whole country. APA's partners are focused on long term goals that will continue to promote health and economic development over generations.

"APA has been a valued partner of The Fred Hollows Foundation since 2014, investing generously in The Foundation's Indigenous Australia Program," said

Partnerships Executive Jessica Kubowicz. "This support has helped restore sight and improve the health outcomes of many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in remote and underserved communities around Australia.

"APA staff have had the opportunity to experience the impact of their company's support firsthand throughout remote Northern Territory and New South Wales. APA gives back to the communities in which they operate, and engage their staff to feel a part of this commitment."

Employees are encouraged to donate their own time and money to these causes, and to participate in outreach programs to see the difference they can make to socially disadvantaged communities.

APA also supports a number of other initiatives, both at a corporate level and in employee-driven campaigns such as the mental health-focused Black Dog Institute.

"APA Group's support has allowed the **Black Dog Institute** to continue to grow their research and education programs that reduce the impact of mental illness and the stigma attached to it, as well as by raising awareness of mental health," said Community Fundraising Program Manager Evan Jackson.

Another beneficiary is men's health campaigner Movember.

"Over the past couple of years APA's Staff has raised funds for **Movember** via a range of activities, the vast majority of which have been employee-led," said a Movember spokesperson. "Funds raised by APA are invested in programs that directly support world-class initiatives related to prostate cancer, testicular cancer and mental health, in four key program areas: awareness and education, living with and beyond cancer, staying mentally healthy, living with and

beyond mental illness, and research."

APA offices around the country annually hold a range of events to support **Cancer Council's Pink Ribbon** and World's **Biggest Morning Tea** fundraising campaigns.

"It is great to see APA Group's employees getting behind Pink Ribbon!" said a Cancer Council NSW representative. "We are so appreciative of the support we receive."

Furthermore, employees regularly Take the Pledge to support **White Ribbon's** efforts to end violence against women; donate time, money and clothes to **Dressed For Success**, which assists women entering the workplace; and contribute to **Orange Sky Laundry**, an innovate washing service for homeless people.

A recent addition to APA's community engagement program is the opportunity for employees to spend a working day volunteering at an approved charitable organisation. Ten volunteers per half-year are chosen to participate, with Dressed For Success, Edgar's Mission, Foodbank and the Cancer Council recent beneficiaries. After the experience, volunteers write an article sharing their day for APA's internal magazine.



Left: APA encourages offices to create their own community engagement events. Kidman Park in South Australia held a morning tea to raise money for the Black Dog Institute.