



**Meerilinga™**  
promoting positive childhoods

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[www.meerilinga.org.au](http://www.meerilinga.org.au)



# Annual Report 2012 – 2013



*promoting positive childhoods*



**Meerilinga™**

**Meerilinga's association with children dates back to 1911, to the pioneers of the kindergarten movement and continues today as a vibrant and innovative organisation and advocate for children's development, wellbeing and participation.**

**Recognised for excellence, Meerilinga provides a range of education services, research activities and local community centres.**



**Meerilinga is a Western Australian not-for-profit organisation and registered charity that promotes positive childhoods through direct services and programs that work with children, families, childhood professionals and planners, social investment partners and the broader community.**

## **Our Vision**

**To be Western Australia's foremost organisation for children.**

## **Our Mission**

**To be outstanding in the development and wellbeing of children, supporting their families and community as a local, independent, charitable organisation.**

# From the President

Meerilinga has experienced unprecedented growth in the last year with many new programs and centres delivering outstanding service to the families of Western Australia. Our mission is to be outstanding in the development and wellbeing of children and to support their families and community as a local, independent, charitable organisation continues to be realised through the number of Meerilinga services accessed by children and parents/ carers.

As we grow, the Board is confident that Lesley Moreschi, Chief Executive Officer and her team will manage the challenges and successes with continued consultation, collaboration and integration with other organisations and communities, and always with needs of children and families at the heart of all decisions.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I thank Lesley Moreschi and her team for another highly successfully year. We welcome three new board members; Graeme Sheard, Fiona Lander and Susan Sheath to the Board and look forward to their contribution to the attainment of our mission to be Western Australia's foremost organisation for children.

**Bruno Camarri AM**  
**President**



*Toddler Tucker launch - Beechboro 2013*

# From the CEO

Meerilinga is a vibrant and innovative organisation with a strong capacity to manage services, complex projects, training and research. With two years of substantial investment in service growth and capital improvements, I am delighted that we achieved our first key objective to close this fiscal year with a small surplus. This surplus will be utilised in the 2013-2014 year to improve our technology and to enable the full integration of our Training College with existing programs.

This year, as we managed the implementation and coordination of expanded programs and locations from the previous twelve months, a key objective was to expand our Early Learning Programs to Cockburn and Kingsley and increase the programs at Beechboro. All three objectives were achieved and, while our services have always worked within a licence system, for the first time Meerilinga's early childhood services were incorporated into the national education and care system. Our Woodvale service was the first to be re-issued their licence and undergo the quality audit achieved a final rating of 'Exceeding National Standards' - a testament to the dedicated early childhood educators, the training services team and centralised support.

Similarly, our second key objective, to increase our parent support programs was achieved through expansion in Beechboro and Kwinana. This saw with additional funding for home visiting through the Midland Communities for Children Plus initiative as well as and commencing in Kwinana in a collaborative project with local services to provide a Family Support Service for young parents that have disengaged from education and training. By co-locating on site with Gilmore College, young parents re-engage in school while being supported to access education and training pathways. Meerilinga's team includes an outreach family support worker specialising



and early childhood educators offering the crèche and linking parents to childcare, health and local parenting programs as well as assisting them negotiate other barriers affecting their education and parenting.

A highlight for this year was the Toddler Tucker program funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing under the Live Longer campaign piloted in the City of Swan, City of Cockburn and Beagle Bay (Kimberley region). Following on from our successful Taste Bubs program, Toddler Tucker is a set of resources that supports Aboriginal parents with toddlers 'to equip them to help their children to learn and enjoy a variety of healthy family foods and avoid eating environments, routines and behaviours that may lead to narrow food preferences and over reliance on non-nutritious foods. The project's success was founded on outstanding collaborative partnerships and our sincere thanks go to David Wirrpanda and his partner Shannon McGuire as Toddler Tucker's Aboriginal Ambassadors. There were many agencies and organisations who generously participated, including Meerilinga Kadadijiny Playgroup parents and children; Aboriginal Health Council of WA; Beagle Bay Community; Boab Health Services; Child and Adolescent Health Service; Child Australia; City of Cockburn; City of Swan; David Wirrpanda Foundation; Department for Communities; Department of Indigenous Affairs; Edith Cowan University Child Health Promotion Research Centre; Jalygurr-Guwan Aboriginal Children's Services; Midvale Early Childhood and Parenting Centre; NGALA; Health Consumers' Council WA; Dental Health Education Unit; WA Country Health Service; and West Beechboro Primary School.

On target in all strategic areas to 2015, I sincerely thank the Board of Governors for their continued support and guidance, Meerilinga's team of staff and volunteers for their dedication and professionalism and the sponsors and partners who assist us to achieve our goals.

**Lesley Moreschi**  
Chief Executive Officer





# Finance

This year was a year of growth for Meerilinga. Substantial effort has been expended on the Children & Family Centres acquired last year, to embrace them fully under the Meerilinga banner. The establishment of our additional services and the increase in the business of the Training College also required substantial input. The Training College successfully completed a project in the Wiluna district, where we assisted the community to establish a well-run community centre and the training of staff who now hold a qualification in Community Work. In addition, our Early Learning Program continues to expand.

We have fully renovated our Children & Family Centre in Coolbellup with the financial assistance of Lotterywest, who have generously provided financial assistance to enable a total upgrade and expansion of our information technology. Both projects will directly benefit the community that engage with Meerilinga across all services.

Meerilinga's overall financial position remains sound and the year ended with a small surplus.

The 2013-14 Financial Year will present a new set of challenges as we again look to an expansion of, and an increase in, our business. Meerilinga, however, remains well placed to counter all challenges that we may experience.

We thank the Department for Communities and Lotterywest for their continued support and significant funding for our various programmes.

In addition, the support of our partners, stakeholders and friends is greatly appreciated and invaluable to the organisation.

With this continued support, the Board of Governors, Executive and staff are confident the year to come will prove to be very successful.

Our annual financial audit was conducted by Ray Woolley Pty Ltd who verified that the financial reports fulfilled the financial reporting requirements under the *Associations Incorporations Act 1987 (WA)* and the constitutions of both Meerilinga Young Children's Foundation Inc and Meerilinga Young Children's Services Inc.

# New Website Changes

In this financial year we have continued to expand and enhance the Meerilinga Website by organising the content and layout of the site and providing clear and intuitive navigational aids.

The website has been redeveloped to look more streamline, neat and allows the community to view our publications and resources easily. The Nutrition section of the website has been redesigned and is now consistent with branding on the other pages of the website. In addition the Toddler Tucker section has been added plus we have modified the online purchased section of our resources. We have also worked on driving more people to our website by investing in our search engine optimization tools.



# New Children and Family Centre and Crèche

Meerilinga is proud to introduce a new children and family centre in Ballajura, which will offer parenting support and advice, a variety of playgroups and facility hire options.



and offers 15 to 25 year old parents the opportunity to receive parenting support. The service operates with funding from the Department of Communities, Better Futures, Local Solutions.



# Official Opening of the Cockburn Centre

The Meerilinga Children and Family Centre, Cockburn held their free family official opening day on 14 May 2013 to officially celebrate and present to the community the newly renovated centre. The event was also an opportunity to thank everyone in the community for their support, including local families and sponsors.

The centre was officially opened by His Worship Mayor Logan Howlett, City of Cockburn, and the Hon. Tony Simpson MLA, newly appointed Minister for Local Government; Community Services; Seniors and Volunteering; Youth, with a welcome to the country presented by Charlie Kickett.

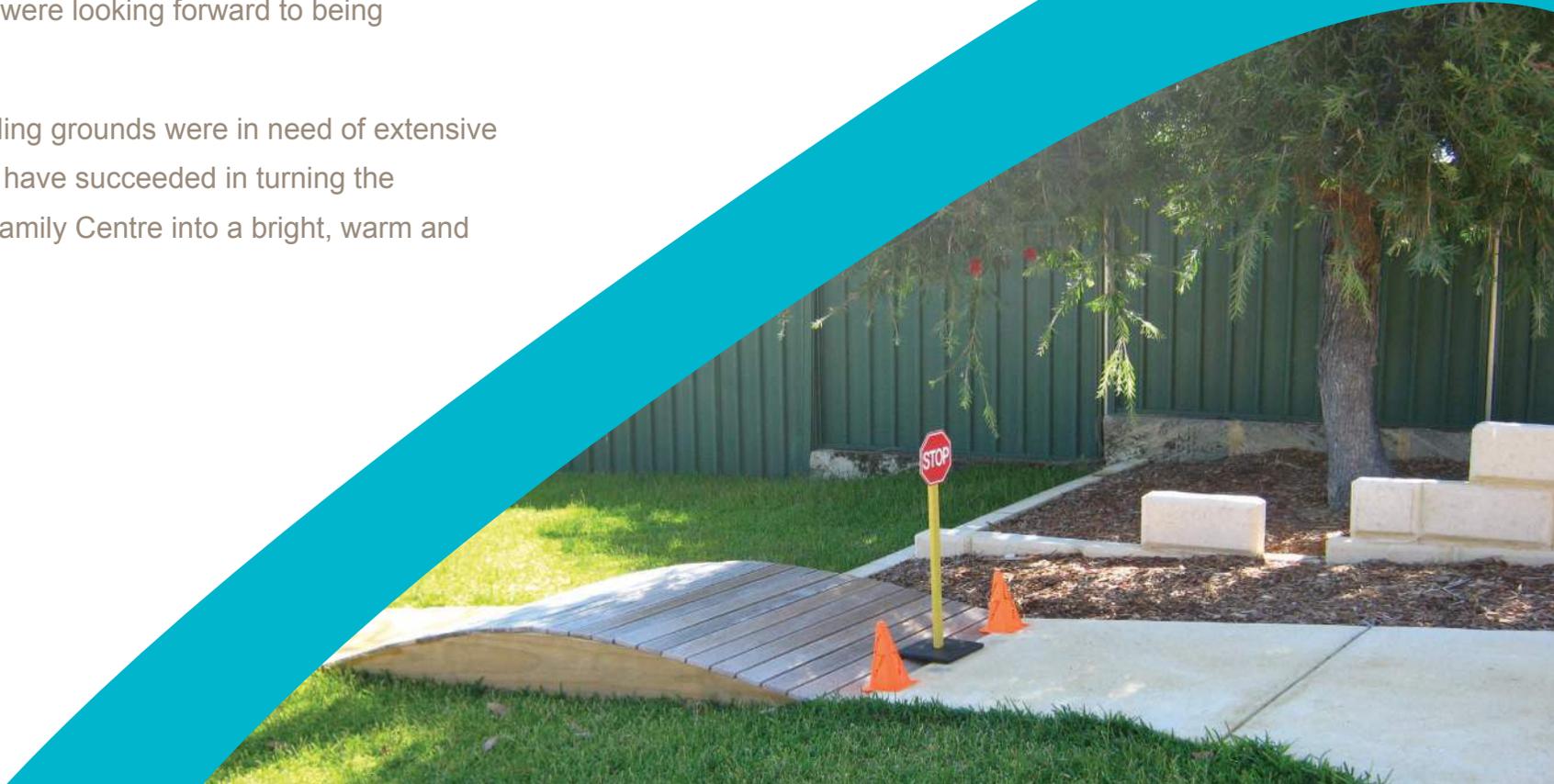
Children and families were welcomed to the centre by the Early Learning Program children singing their "Hello Song" and holding the ribbon for the official opening, a very proud moment for families and parents. Special arts and craft activities entertained children.



The children were also educated on the importance of road safety by Izzy, the mascot for School Drug Education Aware Smart Steps Program. The day was completed with a free sausage sizzle, face painting, craft activities and sing-a-long songs.

Families who attended the event said the recent renovations had revitalised the centre and present an exciting new change they were looking forward to being a part of.

The building and surrounding grounds were in need of extensive repairs for some time and have succeeded in turning the Meerilinga Children and Family Centre into a bright, warm and welcoming facility.



# Toddler Tucker

## 'Grow us up Strong'

### The Project

A healthy lifestyle promotional campaign designed with Local Community Partners. The program provides resources, training and promotional material to assist Aboriginal parents and carers develop knowledge and strategies around healthy eating behaviours for their toddlers aged one to three years, by:

- Making the right nutritional choices for their children.
- Seeking information, sharing their experiences and concerns about mealtimes and feeding.
- Organising regular health checks for their children.
- Developing safe and hygienic food preparation and hygiene practises.

### Project Aims

- Promote key messages about healthy living within the community and/or beyond.
- Build community and/or cultural identity.
- Increase parents and carers understanding of the development of their child's eating skills and behaviours, and help parents acquire the skills to develop



Facilitating the Toddler Tucker program in the community has been a privilege. The beautiful images and simple messages have been enthusiastically received. Seeing participants sharing stories, learning from each other and gaining confidence in their ability as parents and carers is what the program is about.

Thank you to our Aboriginal Ambassadors, David Wirrpanda and his partner Shannon McGuire and their children.





# HIGHLIGHTS

## Over 12,000 people attended the Family FunSafe Day in Whiteman Park!

The official launch at the State Library of WA with renowned artist Phil Doncon incorporating dance to paint his own entry.

Over 250 Awards of Recognition entries were received.

The Art Exhibition 'A Place to Be' was on display at the Heath Ledger Theatre on the day of the award ceremony, then at the State Library.

Once the exhibition was completed the children were given their art work framed. The exhibition created a large amount of interest from the general public visiting the State Library.

### Thank you to our 2012 Children's Week Sponsors



## CHILDREN'S WEEK

Children's Week™ is held around Universal Children's Day in October each year.

Children's Week aims to recognise the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children and young people. The celebration is based on the articles expressed in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, emphasising play, wellbeing and protection. Meerilinga is the convener of Children's Week in Western Australia and coordinates two major events: the Western Australian Children's Week Awards of Recognition and the Children's Week official opening.



**ATING CHILDREN**

# AWARD WINNERS

We would like to congratulate all nominees, winners and highly commended entrants for 2012

## ART Awards

### Individual 7 – 9 years

Winner: Chloe Hewitt

Highly Commended: Jarrod Sinfield

### Individual 10 – 12 years

Winner: Cyanne Kelly

Highly Commended: Ethan Borgogno

### Group 3 – 6 years

Winner: Beechboro Aboriginal Playgroup

Highly Commended: Wind in the Willows Kindy Room

### Group 9 – 9 years

Winner: Room 6, Junior Education Support Centre

Highly Commended: Year Three, St Stephens Primary School

### Department for Education 'Making a Difference Award' – Group 7 years and under

Winner: Pre Primary Year 1 – Biggest Morning Tea for Cancer

Tambellup Primary school, Taylor St, Tambellup

Highly Commended: Woodvale Early Learning Program - Earth Guardians

### Making a Difference Award – Group 8-12 years

Winner: Year 6 library monitors, Woodbridge Primary School

Highly Commended: Year 3, Dawesville Catholic Primary

School, Mandurah

### Meerilinga – Volunteering Adult Award

Winner: Kevin Costello

Highly Commended: Nola Marnham

Highly Commended: Margaret Frost

### Department for Communities – Regional Services Award

Winner: Smart Start Project

Highly Commended: Indigenous Parenting Services Project

### Department for Communities – Metropolitan Services Award

Winner: Families and Schools Together (FAST)

Highly Commended: Children's Adventure Map of Subiaco

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



# Education

- Education Support, Children and Community Services
- National qualifications and professional development
- Parenting Programs
- Early Childhood Programs

**Meerilinga Training College is a registered quality training organisation with over 30 years experience in successfully training education support, children's services and community service professionals in WA, offering customised, responsive, flexible and innovative programs.**



## Highlights

- Meerilinga Training College (MTC) successfully had two of their Aboriginal students graduate from the Wiluna program, and a further nine were awarded recognition of study. This was a very rewarding partnership development with Ngangganawili Aboriginal Health Service in Wiluna to deliver Certificate II in Community Services and utilise family centres.
- The number of private Diploma students is rising rapidly due to the implementation of new Education and Care Regulations for 2014. Because of this, Meerilinga has seen a positive growth in numbers, with almost all students studying the Certificate III in Children's Services with us staying on to complete their Diploma in Children's Services.

**Meerilinga promotes positive parenting through providing resources, home visiting, telephone support and advice that is informative, friendly and researched.**

## Workplace Learning

Workplace Learning for students in years 11 and 12 from Corpus Christi, Careerlink, Hampton Senior High School, Central and South West Instep Inc and Work Link attended vocational education and training at Meerilinga Training College whilst attending school. Thirty four students attained nationally recognised qualifications as an alternative pathway to achieving their secondary graduation.

*Students rate MTC as a quality provider and would recommend it to others.*

## Workforce Readiness Program

- Meerilinga successfully filled 20 funded places with students completing Certificate II in Community Services and moving onto Certificate III in Children's Services.

## Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre

- Meerilinga has developed strong partnerships with the Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre to deliver nationally recognised qualifications in community and children's services.
- Meerilinga successfully had 20 students sign up with the MMRC.

## Community Access

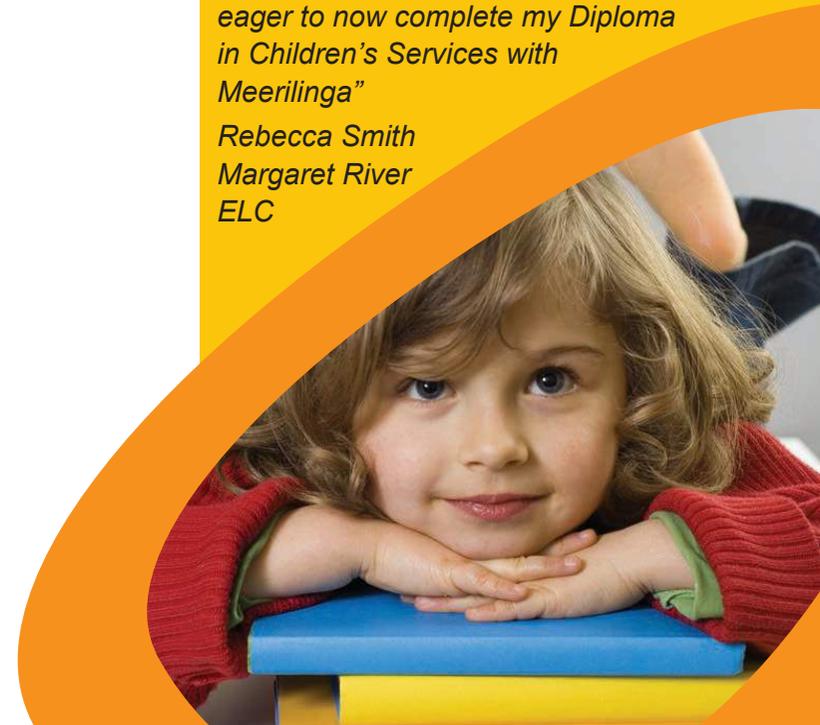
- MTC has significantly increased the number of traineeships, with a more than 100% increase.
- MTC has improved accessibility to training by introducing classes off-site and utilising our own children and family centres for delivery. 57 students attended our centres and have completed the Certificate III and Certificate IV in Education support.



*Student Placement has been very successful with some excellent feedback from students being supervised and trained in our services.*

*"I loved the tailored service I received from MTC and how much it suited my learning style. I felt personally supported and am eager to now complete my Diploma in Children's Services with Meerilinga"*

*Rebecca Smith  
Margaret River  
ELC*



# Parenting and Family Centres

Meerilinga parenting services aim to assist parents with advice and support by building on existing strengths, enhancing parenting knowledge, developing skills and modelling positive behaviours as well as offering linkages to other relevant support and resources during their child's early years. Our significant investment is focused on children's needs for warm, nurturing relationships with their parents and on their parents' experiences, feelings and confidence as they take their journey in meeting their children's needs.

## Highlights

Our Children and Family Centres act as child 'right' hubs and provide parents and children with resources and social networking opportunities including a variety of playgroups to suit everyone and events.

- Kingsley Children and Family Centre has had a large variety of community playgroups running eight sessions a week, including the very successful German speaking language group, and the 'Friendship Cafe' group. Parents have agreed the atmosphere has been both warm and welcoming. These groups have not only provided parents with valuable information, but also acted as an opportunity for them to meet other families, and provide social interaction for them and their children.
- Woodvale Children and Family Centre refreshed the paint in their foyer area in May 2013. The outdoor backyard area has also been revamped, with a new vegie garden developed with the Early Learning Program children.
- Meerilinga Outreach Parenting Support Service has been a successful service for three years now, providing parents with access to information on child development, parenting strategies, or linking to other services in the community. A qualified Mothercraft Nurse, Gail Aulsebrook, is available to weigh babies and discuss any parenting concerns.
- Beechboro Children and Family Centre celebrated Family Week in May, alongside some of our valued volunteers receiving much earned recognition during National Volunteer Week.
- In the first three months of the Kwinana Creché opening, eight children were enrolled, five women completed their course, and 11 were continuing with a waitlist for 2013.
- Cockburn Children and Family Centre took part in the first Cooby Festival, held in Coolbellup in March 2013, giving people in the area information about the SDERA Smart Steps Program. The event was a great networking opportunity and thoroughly promoted the SDERA Program.

Meerilinga works with SDERA to raise awareness, distribute resources and support the delivery of the Smart Steps road safety program to parents/carers and families



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# Aboriginal Parent Support Service

## Highlights

- NAIDOC Week was successful with a focus on partnerships with local Aboriginal Elders, families, schools artists and community groups.
- WA Children's Week Art Award was won by the Kadajiny Playgroup
- Harmony Week was celebrated during March with a special supported playgroup activity involving a Games Around the Globe.

**Aboriginal Parent Support Service offers an inclusive, non-competitive partnership with parents and carers of children from birth to eight years of age.**

## Dads in the Early Years <sup>®</sup>

### Highlights

The facilitated workshop, 'Working with Dad's' has provided fathers and father figures with not only a great source of information, but networking and social opportunities. 287 staff from 74 community services have participated in the training sessions.

The EY playgroup, operating since 2008, has continued to provide a strong bond between fathers and their children with more than 55 dads and 100 children involved. In late 2012, a program was aired on Channel 7 highlighting ECU student's work. Live footage from the program was shown on the show and is now viewable on YouTube:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=igoXNFX9BoU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igoXNFX9BoU)



**Dad's in the Early Years is a service dedicated to dads with children from infancy to eight years of age, and the agencies that support dads in their fathering role.**

- 9% of dads were of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.
- 78% of dads were 30-49 years old.
- 11% were under 30 years old.
- 87% of dads were in a 'two parent family'.
- 10% of dads were sole parents.
- 3% were grandfathers.
- 9% of dads were stay-at-home/seeking employment/students.
- 91% of the dads were employed in work outside of their homes.
- 11% of dads were fly-in fly-out workers.
- 16% were shift workers.

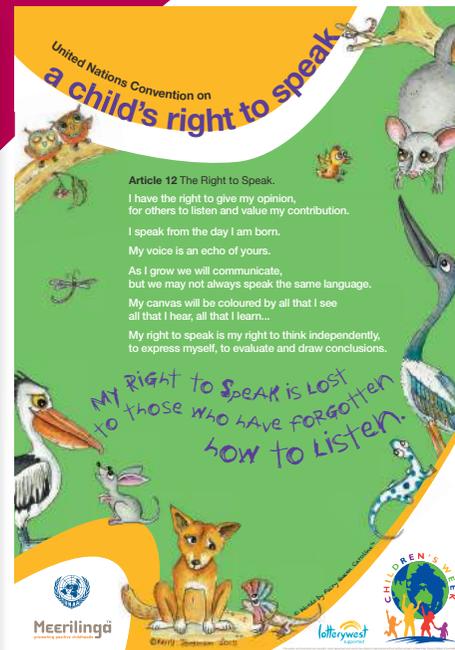
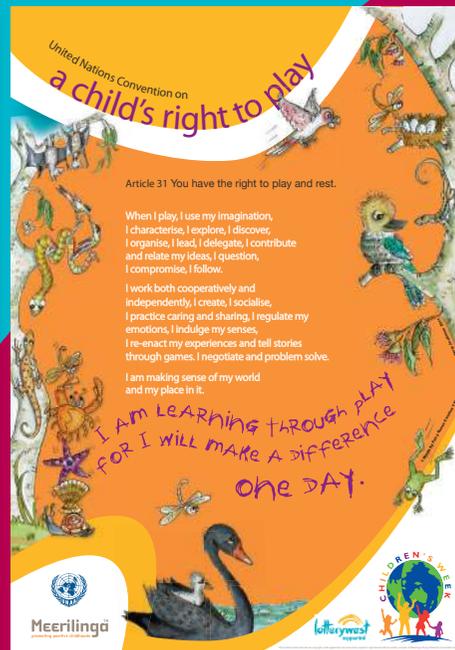


# Sales Resources

Each year Meerilinga develops a new poster to coincide with Children's Week WA. The set of A3 glossy laminated posters highlight the articles in the UN Convention on the Right of the Child.

The 54 articles that make up the Right's of the Child have been re-written in child friendly language and, with illustrations generously provided by WA artist Kerry Anne Jordinson, have been designed to form the first in a suite of posters highlighting and advocating the 'Rights of the Child.'

Following the success of the initial posters, Fairy Queen Caroline and Kerry Anne worked together to create a new poster highlighting 'The Right of the Child to Speak', which was launched during Children's Week 2012.



The Taste Bubs parent handbooks have been rewarded with a fresh new look.





# Nutrition

## Highlights

- A very successful launch of the Toddler Tucker Program was held in May at our Children and Family Centre in Beechboro. Toddler Tucker is an Aboriginal health and nutrition program initiative that was developed in-house through funding from the Commonwealth, Department of Health and Ageing.
- Toddler Tucker is currently being piloted in the City of Swan, City of Cockburn, Beagle Bay and Broome. This has involved a number of training workshops being held in each area with parents/carers, playgroup and health care workers.
- Taste Bubs booklet was updated into our fresh new branding. The community need for the Taste Bubs resources increased and the association with the WA Department of Health and other health organisations continues to grow.



Distribution has been National and International



# Early Learning

A fun, nurturing early learning program for 3 year olds that focuses on the importance of play, social learning and development in early childhood.

*“Chloe absolutely loves the Early Learning Program at Cockburn and talks about it regularly during the week. She says “mummy, I don’t want to go to daycare kindy anymore, it’s boring, I want to stay at Meerilinga!” - Claire Fisher, May 2013*

## Highlights

### Woodvale Exceeded National Quality Standard

2012 marked the year Meerilinga Children and Family Centre, Woodvale excelled in all seven areas to bring the Early Learning Program to its current exceptional level. Congratulations to Woodvale staff and entire the Meerilinga team on an outstanding result in the National Quality Standards Assessment and Rating Process.

A new furry friend has also been introduced to the centre. ‘Patches’ the rabbit has become an exciting part of the ELP!



### Kingsley

The Kingsley Early Learning Program is running at full capacity for the current two groups, pink and white, which run on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Due to the high demand and interest in the program, we will be looking to start a new group each term to cater for this.



### Cockburn

ELP enrolment day at the Meerilinga Children and Family Centre, Cockburn in January 2013 was a success, with families and children having an enjoyable time, participating in a variety of activities and story telling.

The event enabled parents to gain information about the new Early Learning Program, as well as meeting the teachers, visiting the centre and learning about what other playgroups and resources Meerilinga have on offer.

### Beechboro

Beechboro Early Learning Program expanded its programs to four days from February due to the high demand and interest from the community. This program enjoys a high participation rate of people from diverse backgrounds and languages. This strengthens Meerilinga’s understanding in working with diversity. This service has recorded the highest number of children / families supported through Meerilinga’s Inclusion Program – The Patricia O’Sullivan Scholarship Fund.

# Media Exposure

## Highlights

- Children's Week WA promoted in The West Australian as a five page liftout, in October 2012.
- Children's Week WA – Year 6 Library Monitors Woodbridge Primary School: Winners of the 'Making a Difference' Award 8-12 years, promoted in The West Australian, in October 2012.
- Toddler Tucker launch at Meerilinga Children and Family Centre Beechboro with David Wirrpanda promoted in The West Australian, in May 2013.
- Meerilinga Children and Family Centre Cockburn - Official Opening Day, promoted in the Cockburn Gazette, in May 2013.



## Published Articles



COOLBELLUP

## Facelift a boost for family centre

OPENING DAY TO CELEBRATE MAKEOVER

STAFF at a family and childcare centre on Wimmerfold Road say renovations have revitalised the facility.

The centre, which has operated since 1985, held a family opening day last Tuesday to celebrate the completion of renovations.

The Meerilinga Children and Family Centre offers parent support programs, playgroups, early learning

program for three-year-olds and facilities for hire.

Centre co-ordinator Jenny Harper said everyone was excited about the fresh digs. "The building and grounds were in need of extensive repairs and renovations," she said.

"The renovations have totally revitalised the centre into a bright, warm and welcoming community facility."



Children play at the Meerilinga Children and Family Centre opening. Picture: Martin Kennealey [www.coolbellup.com.au](http://www.coolbellup.com.au) 0800949

# Meerilinga Staff

## Management Team

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|                   |                             |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Lesley Moreschi   | Chief Executive Officer     |
| Vicki Tot         | Executive Assistant         |
| Peter Harper      | Manager, Finance            |
| Louise Macfarlane | Manager, Business Relations |
| Jenni Magenta     | Manager, Education          |

## Central Team

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|                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Paul Durer-Jones | Finance Officer              |
| Deb McElhinney   | Coordinator, Services        |
| Nikki Davies     | Admin and Reception          |
| Patricia Hope    | Admin Support                |
| Graham Keigher   | Systems Administration       |
| Jayde Ferguson   | Coordinator, Marketing       |
| Betty Trajkovska | Coordinator, Sales           |
| Ann Hanley       | Project Officer              |
| Sally Lewis      | Project Officer              |
| Caroline Heeris  | Coordinator, Children's Week |

## Meerilinga Training College

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|                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Shannon Anderson | Coordinator, Education Services |
| Jessica Daley    | Student Services Officer        |
| Frances Burns    | Education Services Officer      |
| Lauren Wylie     | Education Services Officer      |
| Kelly Shanks     | Education Services Officer      |
| Lisa Murphy      | Education Services Officer      |
| Erika Russell    | Coordinator, Education Services |

## Children and Family Centre Cockburn

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|                 |                                       |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Jennifer Harper | Coordinator, Children & Family Centre |
| Shanee Campbell | Family Support Officer                |
| Gail Aulsebrook | Family Support Officer                |

## Children and Family Centre Beechboro

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|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| April Symmons    | Coordinator, Children & Family Centre        |
| Dijana Skorsur   | Coordinator, Parenting                       |
| Miranda Delaney  | Playgroup Support Officer                    |
| Faye Riley       | Family Support Officer, APSS                 |
| Kerry Power      | Teacher, ELP                                 |
| Meredith Stanley | Family Support Officer, Altone Home Visiting |
| Sunita Parke     | Education Assistant                          |

## Children and Family Centre Kingsley

|              |                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Diana Heeris | Coordinator, Children & Family Centre |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|

## Children and Family Centre Woodvale

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|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Alison Kindred  | Coordinator, Children & Family Centre         |
| Sarah Comiskey  | Program Coordinator, ELP                      |
| Gary Segal      | Program Coordinator, Dad's in the Early Years |
| Claire Laverick | Teacher: ELP                                  |
| Michelle Rossi  | Education Assistant                           |
| Tammie Smith    | Teacher: ELP                                  |
| Jane Copeland   | Education Assistant                           |
| Wendy Andrews   | Education Assistant                           |

## Board of Governors

**President - Bruno Camarri AM**

**Vice President - Rachel Akehurst**

**Treasurer - Peter Melsom (26/10/12)**

## Board Members

**Penny Melsom**

**Susan Sheath**

**Fiona Lander**

**Graeme Sheard**

## Founding President and Life Governor

Dame Patricia  
O'Sullivan OAM DSJ

## Life Members

Miss Margaret Evans  
Mrs Lynette McDonald  
Mrs Jeanette Olsen  
Mr Peter Melsom

## Auditor

Ray Woolley Pty Ltd

## Patrons

His Excellency Malcolm  
McCusker, AC CVO QC,  
Governor of Western Australia,  
Mrs Tonya McCusker



# Facilities

- Child 'Right' Hubs
- Innovative and cohesive service initiatives
- Expanding Capacity through Collaboration and Partnering

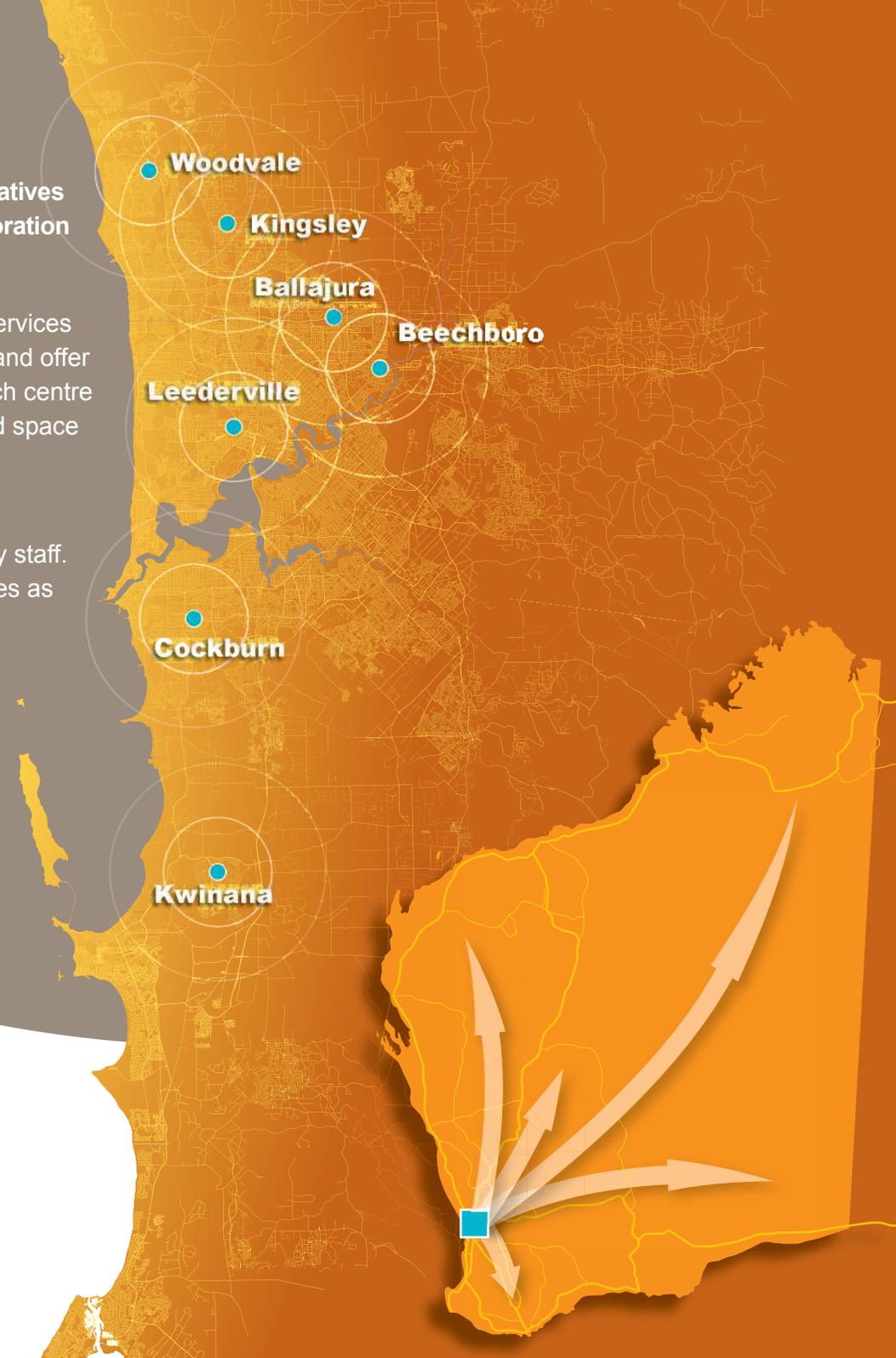
Meerilinga Children and Family Centres are co-located with services such as child health, parenting and early childhood programs and offer ease of access and links to other services and resources. Each centre has child appropriate play environments, toys and facilities and space to store equipment.

Our centres continually work towards being culturally and age inclusive and are coordinated by knowledgeable and friendly staff. Staff are committed to building relationships with families as their needs change and children grow.



## Highlights

- Meerilinga's work supported families established in Kwinana.





**Meerilinga**<sup>TM</sup>  
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