

The Proposal Summary: Outline of Project Goals

The proposal summary outlines the need for remote social housing funds to be channeled to urban areas such as Cairns where there is a build up an internal migrant population for the place like the Torres Strait and Cape communities migrating for better opportunities or forced by medical requirements.

The proposed project is to alleviate the demands on public housing and others community housing organisations that are back logged with waiting list. Furthermore, we will encourage and provide a home ownership scheme in conjunction with existing scheme that are tailor made for our resident should they wish to invest in the property market.

The proposed project is for a social housing scheme that will cater for the internal migration documented by Mosby¹. Accommodation providers in Cairns have capatalised on this migration which is a much needed service on a short term basis. While trying to accommodate the internal Islander migration accommodation providers have created recreated all the issues Closing the Gap aim to address and prevent.

Thus our proposal is to rechannel remote social housing funds from Closing the Gap to Cairns where there is a growing need for social housing for people from remote Torres Strait islands communities migrating to Cairns.

Our Organization

Pau Enterprises Indigenous Corporation is registered under the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporation (ORIC). It was establishe in 2015 to manage and maintain the Pau family native title lands and interests on Erub (Darnley Island) in the eastern Torres Strait; and create social enterprises on Erub and elsewhere.

Our achievement so far is our involvement in community events.

Pau Enterprises was on the planning and executing team for the 24th Mabo Day Committee
Pau Enterprises planning and executing the 25th Mabo Day Celebration

Biography of Board Members

Tommy Pau

contact: [REDACTED]

email:

[REDACTED]
Committee Overseer and Event Conceptual Planner/Promoter/Graphic designer
I am on the Board of Umi Arts as Director (current),

¹ Mosby, V. P. (2013). Using metasynthesis to develop sentitising concepts to understand Torres Strait Islander migration. Retrieved from: <http://Jcu.edu.au>.

Former, Vice Chair of Umbrella Contemporary Studio in Townsville,
Former Vice Chair of Townsville Cultural Centre,
Former vice Chair of Kozan Housing,
Former Chair of Keriba Kazil

Tommy has eight years of educational experiences

Tommy has had numerous visual art exhibition in Cairns and elsewhere and had works sold and exhibited overseas.

Tommy recently won the, Works on Paper at the 2016 Telstra Art Award.

Tommy have experience in planning and executing public events and has developed a strong working relationship and partnership with Cairns Regional Council Indigenous section and other community organisations and business Cairns and surrounding areas.

Edith Pau

contact:

email:

Edith is currently employed as public servant.

Experience in organising public event (recent, 2016 Mabo Day at Lennon St. Park, Cairns)

Retail and Customer Service Skills

Previously employed in the Aged Care industry and Youth Care facilities

Current employed as a Public Servant in Defence customer relation at HMAS Cairns.

While Pau Enterprises is a fledging organization, our goals and experience in community led activities are matured with life experiences of community involvement and professional vocation.

Pau Enterprises' goals is to create social opportunities that alleviate social issues that are experienced by Indigenous people and work to solve those issues.

Pau Enterprises' philosophy is to act on community disparity and hold governments to account for their rhetoric.

Pau Enterprises work competently with relevant partners, namely Cairns Regional Council, Umi Arts, Keriba Yadyal, the Cairns Indigenous community and community organisations.

The Problem Statement: Stating the Purpose at Hand

Housing is a need in any community. While public housing caters for all Australian it does not address the internal migration of Torres Strait Islanders to the mainland, and Cairns is the first port of call that is experiencing a growing Islander internal migration².

This migration has be capitalized by business reforming their model to cater for this diaspora by providing short term, long term and transitional accommodation to this migration.

² Watkin, F. (2009). My island home: a study of identity across different generations f Torres Strait Islanders living outside the Torres Strait. Retrieved from: <http://Jcu.edu.au>

While trying to capture this revenue, businesses have created all the problem the Closing the Gap reports has identified as issues that contributes to Indigenous health risks. That is overcrowding in a small space, a lot of people living in a confined open communal space that has no guaranteed of security for children from strangers.

The problem statement (or needs assessment) is a key element of a proposal that makes a clear, concise, and well-supported statement of the problem to be addressed. The best way to collect information about the problem is to conduct and document both a formal and informal needs assessment for a program in the target or service area. The information provided should be both factual and directly related to the problem addressed by the proposal. Areas to document are:

The purpose for developing the proposal

Javian and Stewart (2011) found that,

a community engagement strategy based on sound community governance principles is the best option...because it is the community (not government) that possess the most significant knowledge of its problem and community engagement in solving those problems appears critically important³.

Our proposal is to purchase houses, units, apartments or complexes that can provide quality and secure living space for Islanders migrating to the mainland. Most Islanders migrate to the mainland are job ready and bring expert skills and capacity for specialize employment and create innovative enterprises that can contribute to the growth of Cairns.

Pau Enterprises is engaging this belief. Pau Enterprises have strong desire to engage narrative, give voice to and initiate strategies that are community creation based cultural concepts that are tailored to work in tandem with mainstream practices but are consciously imbedded with consideration to leverage concepts that advantage and favours Indigenous people.

The Torres Strait Islander community in Cairns and surrounding areas have increased since the early 1900⁴. This migration is unmonitored which happened and is happening under the radar and outside the scope of governments planning⁵. This migration resulted in accommodation providers in Cairns redesign their businesses to provide crisis care, short term and long term stays. While this efforts to address the increase migration of remote residency migrating to Cairns it does not meet Closing the Gaps recommendations or those identified by Health

³ Closing the Gap Clearinghouse, Engaging with Indigenous Australian – exploring the conditions for effective relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities (2013)

⁴ Watkin, F. (2009). My island home: a study of identity across different generations f Torres Strait Islanders living outside the Torres Strait. Retrieved from: <http://Jcu.edu.au>.

; Wahkin Lui, F. (2012). The politics of Divide: representation and the Torres Strait diaspora. In GSTF International Jurnal of Law and Social Sciences (JLSS), Vol. 1 Jan 2012. Retrieved from: <http://Jcu.edu.au>.

⁵ Mosby, V. P. (2013). Using metasynthesis to develop sentitising concepts to understand Torres Strait Islander migration. Retrieved from: <http://Jcu.edu.au>.

Mosby, V. P. (2015), Torres strait islanders' experiences of contemporary out-movement: A grounded theory of 'living in two worlds'. Retrieved from: <http://Jcu.edu.au>.

*InfoNet*⁶. Moreover, the World Health Organisation identify environments that are inappropriate to raise children are psychologically health risk for current and future generations. The Health *InfoNet*⁷ article identified crowding of dwellings, maintenance of property and ‘health hardware’.

The beneficiaries -- who are they and how will they benefit.

The Indigenous people of Cairns will be the beneficiaries of this project. However, the pilot program will target the Torres Strait migration.

The social and economic costs to be affected

Pau Enterprises do not want to only provide a housing solution to the Torres Strait Islander migration but a migration program to educate Islander migrants how to live in an urban setting, the services available, the opportunities, how their skills can be valuable to the Cairns community, be involve in the Cairns communities, understanding finance, budgeting, investment and social and civic responsibilities.

We will create employment for our tenants within our organisations social enterprises in Cairns and elsewhere to maintain our properties and run workshop on gardening in urban environment and beatification programs. Islander like to plant and these skill and interest will be used to help Islander find purpose and physical activities through the activities they did on their home communities in an urban environment.

Pau Enterprises have relatives living in crisis, transition, short term and long term accommodation. These relatives have more than one child and grandchildren living with them as well. There are also Islanders who have been bought down form the Torres Strait for health care that the Torres Strait does not have living in self containing holiday units, some for over five years, paid for by the health department or from their own income. Most are on disability income or pension. Some still pay rent to property on their own communities fearing losing them. This then chock housing availability in remote communities. People advised to come to Cairns for chronic treatment care have a slim chance of return to their communities. Our experience is we have seen people come to Cairns for chronic treatment care die in Cairns. Moreover, people coming to Cairns for treatment or other reasons have other family members move down as well to be close to or care for the sick member.

Pau Enterprises will work consciously to raise operational funds to ensure a self funding operation is created. We are confident that rent payments will gives us a strong position to be a self sustaining housing services. Moreover, we will create a partnership within the Torres Strait for wealth sharing. That is, we have native title lands and interests in the Torres Strait on Darnley Island. We will operate as a gateway for social enterprise on the island from fishing and aquaculture project. Social housing will also be build on the island to alleviate the housing issues on the island as well.

⁶ <http://www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/determinants/physical-environment/reviews/our-revie>

⁷ *ibid*