Samuel Miller, Ngayuku Ngura

Acrylic on linen, 72” x 72”

Samuel Miller lives in Kalka, a community located in the North-Western corner of Australia, in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) lands. He grew up in Amata and Pipalyatjara. He is a committed member of Ninuku Arts, a prospering Art Centre that services not only Kalka, but also the neighbouring community of Pipalyatjara some 14 kilometres away. Samuel's paintings depict the traditional iconography of his land that lies to the east of Pipalyatjara. Rockholes, creeks and hills feature in his paintings.

Image courtesy of Ninuku

Ninuku Arts is a wholly Aboriginal owned Art Centre that supports artists from two communities – Pipalyatjara and Kalka. Both communities are located in the far north-western corner of South Australia, near the borders with Western Australia and the Northern Territory. The name of the Art Centre derives from ‘Ninuku Tjukurpa’ meaning Bilby Dreaming, which is the main Dreaming story for the country surrounding the Kalka Community. The art centre prides itself on its inclusivity (providing opportunities for all generations) and embracing individuality in artists.
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The 2014/15 Financial Year has seen ANTaR’s advocacy and campaign work in solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ fight for rights, respect and better health/wellbeing outcomes face, and meet, the challenges of a difficult political environment.

A great positive for the year was the launch of the National Justice Coalition’s Change the Record Campaign in April and building awareness amongst the public, the politicians, and policy makers that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander incarceration and community safety was at crisis point and required a new approach.

While there have been some gains in terms of engagement with government on health inequality through our participation in the Close the Gap Campaign, the approach of the current Federal Government has left many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations in a state of (what seems like) perpetual uncertainty and, on many occasions, demoralised.

The Budget cuts of 2014, the poor implementation of the Federal Government’s Indigenous Advancement Strategy Program, the threats to funding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander legal services, the threat of remote community closures and the stop-start vagaries of the process of proposed constitutional reform have impacted negatively on First Peoples.

ANTaR has worked closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak organisations to challenge these policy hurdles with some success, but there is still a long way to go. Advocacy by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and NGOs like ANTaR saw the 2015 Budget improve with proposed 2014 cuts to legal services reversed, but little in terms of a reversal of most of the funding cuts of the previous year, and, through our participation in the Change the Record Campaign, an acknowledgement that incarceration and community safety needed to become a COAG concern.

At an organisational level ANTaR has bedded down the governance changes of the previous year with an effective Board and Campaigns/Advocacy Council (CAC), completed a Strategic Plan for 2015-17 and achieved a level of financial stability. More importantly, our means of operation – that of working in solidarity and partnership alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ organisations and leaders – has remained strong due to our staff and our state/territory ANTaR member networks.

We have been extremely well served by excellent staff, led by our National Director Andrew Meehan. On behalf of the Board, I want to thank Andrew and all the staff for all their work in making our relatively small outfit such an effective one in the cause of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rights and national reconciliation.

I also want to thank all our supporters – whether it is through volunteer work, donations, or responding to our call outs for action – for your commitment to our solidarity work.

As the coming year is the 25th anniversary of the tabling in Federal Parliament of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody Report, it is important to reflect on what we still need to do if we are to successfully address all of the issues the Report raised and recommendations made concerning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander disadvantage, including that all policy and program delivery for Aboriginal people should be framed by the principle of self-determination. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations know what the issues are and how they can be addressed. That’s why working in solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and communities is the essence of all our work.

And while we may get dispirited at times, it is essential that we stay focussed on our vision for a just Australia in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ rights as First Peoples are recognised, respected and enjoyed.

Dr Peter Lewis
National President
This has been a challenging year for justice, rights and respect for Australia’s First Peoples. Indigenous Affairs saw significant policy and program upheaval, a withdrawal of funding from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, programs and services, and no clear policy framework for advancing justice.

We saw foundational rights including racial non-discrimination, and rights to basic services come under threat, and little progress towards closing the disadvantage gap. The year has left many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities reeling and deeply sceptical of government commitments to address Indigenous disadvantage and rights.

Our work in solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people was particularly important in this environment, as we sought to sustain and build coalitions to campaign for justice, responded to emerging issues, and supported Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders partners in their struggles for rights.

We played a central role in launching a new national campaign called Change the Record, focused on reducing the extraordinary rates of incarceration and violence experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We have an ongoing role in the campaign supporting our Aboriginal partners and housing the secretariat of the campaign to develop the campaign infrastructure and solutions for change.

We continued our work on health through the Close the Gap Campaign for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Equality, lifting the profile of the issue, and working with the campaign to engage with the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition at a parliamentary event to deliver the Campaign’s progress and priorities report.

We also continued to make the case for Constitutional Recognition while engaging the broader Australian community on the need for change. We appeared before a senate committee, made numerous submissions, developed a student education and outreach program on campuses around the country called Students for Recognition, and worked to engage the broader community on the issue through our Rock for Recognition project.

Alongside our major campaign areas, we undertook significant advocacy, campaigning and education on the proposed winding back of protections under the Racial Discrimination Act, the open tender process introduced as part of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy, and defunding of essential municipal and essential services in remote Aboriginal communities in Western Australia.

As a result of this work, our campaign, advocacy and educational activity grew as we trained 269 committed activists, and engaged 11,385 aware and active supporters. 26,794 supporters engaged with us more broadly, and 1.5 million Australians heard our message through the media.

In all of our work, our Sea of Hands continued as a powerful symbol of who we are, and provided the basis for many organisations and individuals to show their support for reconciliation and rights for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The year also saw significant effort in ensuring our sustainability into the future, by operationalising our governance changes and employing a Development Manager to increase and expand our supporter base and income, and by extension, our impact.

There are many people who support and contribute to the work of ANTaR. Firstly, my sincere thanks to the many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations for the trust, openness and partnership we have been afforded – this is at the heart of our work in solidarity with First Peoples.

Thank you also to our donors and supporters for your commitment and support. To the exceptional (and small) team of staff at ANTaR – our National Campaigns Manager Jane Powles, National Development Manager Michael Andersen, Donor Support Officer Adrian Rigg, Finance Officer Anne Wiseman, Program Officer Warren Roberts, our long-term consultant Stephen Garrett; and to the long-term committed volunteers Jean Murphy, Allan West, and Alex Gardner-Marlin — my heartfelt thanks. Thank you to the National President, Executive and the Board for their support and excellent stewardship of the organisation.

This year, more than most, has served as a reminder for how important it is to support and work in solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in their struggle for justice, rights and respect. I look forward to building on this work in the coming year.

Andrew Meehan
National Director
ABOUT ANTaR

ANTaR is a national movement of Australians in support of justice, rights and respect for Australia’s First Peoples.

We are an independent and non-partisan organisation, affiliated with a national network of state and territory ANTaR groups.

OUR VISION

A just Australia in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ rights as First Peoples are recognised, respected and enjoyed.

OUR PURPOSE

To engage, educate and mobilise a broad community movement to advocate for justice, rights and respect for Australia’s First Peoples.

OUR PRINCIPLES

We actively support the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to self-determination.

We are committed to social justice and the full realisation of human rights, including those expressed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

We believe in empowerment and community development.

We believe in speaking up about injustice and inequality.

We believe that all Australians have a role to play in achieving a just Australia in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ rights as First Peoples are recognised, respected and enjoyed.

THE WAY WE WORK

We are guided by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and leaders in setting our campaign priorities and direction.

We partner with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and people.

We seek to build alliances across sectors in support of common goals.

We hold governments to account and advocate for alternative policy solutions based on evidence.

We seek to educate the broader community about justice, rights and respect for Australia’s First Peoples.
CAMPAIGNING AND ADVOCACY

Throughout the year we have worked closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partners, and have focussed our campaign activity on our three key campaigns: Justice and Safe Communities, Constitutional Recognition of Australia’s First Peoples and Close the Gap.

Justice and Safe Communities

Our efforts as a founding member of the National Justice Coalition came to fruition with the launch of the Change the Record campaign in April 2015.

This national campaign is calling on the government to

- Close the gap in rates of imprisonment by 2040; and
- Cut the disproportionate rates of violence to at least close the gap by 2040 with priority strategies for women and children.

We have strongly promoted the campaign’s message, engaging the media and encouraging our supporters and the broader Australian community to pledge support to Change the Record on incarceration and rates of violence.

We provided extensive support and advice on the establishment of the campaign, and supported the development of policy, an evidence base for our asks, as well as a longer-term strategic plan.

We conducted lobbying at both a Federal and State level on the key goals of the campaign. The issue was placed on the Council of Australian Government’s (COAG) meeting agenda in April.

We produced and released three powerful video stories of resilience and success through social media which remain an important tool for raising awareness and support for new approaches to address the over-incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Constitutional Recognition

It has been a difficult year for progress on Constitutional Recognition, as the Federal Government allowed the issue to drift with no clear process or timeframes for engagement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the broader community. ANTaR joined the calls from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representative bodies and leaders for a clear pathway and process for Constitutional Recognition. We reiterated our position that any proposal to be put to a referendum must first have the support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We coordinated a media statement with members from the NGO Network and launched an online petition calling for political leadership and a process to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on progressing towards a referendum.
Rock for Recognition has continued to build with the support of artists and the music industry. We attended a national music conference to raise awareness and invite artists to become a champion of Rock for Recognition.

We listened to our supporters who were concerned about the relationship between sovereignty and Constitutional Recognition. We developed tools to provide information on the issue, including three short videos highlighting the importance of both discussions and linking people to the legal advice clarifying that the current proposals being considered for Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples do not cede sovereignty.

Close the Gap

The 2014/2015 year was a significant year for the Close the Gap Campaign. The campaign took the opportunity to reflect, re-energise and build, starting with the development of an ambitious strategic plan.

We worked with campaign partners on the development of the Close the Gap Progress and Priorities report and again played a key role in co-ordination of the Close the Gap Parliamentary Breakfast which included addresses from the Prime Minister, the Opposition Leader and the Leader of the Greens, all re-committing to health equality remaining an important national priority for each of their parties.

We held a significant National Close the Gap Day Picnic partnering with National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples and Oxfam Australia to hold an event at Redfern Park. Community members, organisations, politicians and supporters heard from Kirstie Parker, Co-chair of the Close the Gap Campaign and Co-Chair of the National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples speak and were entertained by dance and music performances. The South Sydney Rabbitohs attended, expressing their support for health equality.

Federal Budget Response

We were again invited by our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partners to join and support them in Canberra for the Federal Budget to analyse and respond to what was handed down. We joined them in the press conference held the following day at Parliament, expressing our concern that the Budget had done little to address the uncertainty and cuts of the 2014 Budget, or the confusion resulting from the open competitive tendering process of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy.

WA Community Closures

This year the Federal Government withdrew funding for the provision of municipal and essential services in remote Aboriginal communities. While many of the states agreed to take over that funding, the Western Australian Government refused to provide services that other communities take for granted. We launched a quick response campaign against the removal of funding, and joined a national network of organisations campaigning against these measures, and participated in public campaign activity talking place around the country.

Racial Discrimination Act

We continued our campaigning against the proposed watering down of the Racial Discrimination Act, engaging in significant media, public awareness raising, and engagement of our supporters on the issue. During the year the Federal Government withdrew its proposed amendments to the Act.
The Sea of Hands installations remain our signature symbol and engagement tool, and an expression of the commitment of non-Indigenous Australians to the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

In 2015 over 40,000 hands were planted around the country during National Reconciliation Week. Schools, businesses, local councils and community groups used the hands to engage their communities, provide information, and engage in discussions about the practical tasks needed to progress rights and reconciliation.

We spoke at Sydney University, University of NSW, and Sydney Church of England Grammar School to speak to students on the key issues faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people regarding rights, equality and reconciliation, and our campaigning to address these issues.

Throughout the year we also had the opportunity to present to a number of local community and reconciliation groups as well as build our stall presence at community events, including Yabun, National Centre of Indigenous Excellence NAIDOC Week Fair, and Redfern Community Centre Family and Culture Day.

Throughout the year, with the assistance of 269 committed activists, we enabled 11,385 to become people to actively support our campaigns. A further 26,794 supporters engaged with us more broadly, and 1.5 million Australians heard our message through the media.

We have continued to expand our impact by ensuring our supporters are kept informed of current issues, what can be done about them, and campaign actions they can take in support of change.
Our website has remained a primary online tool for the delivery of our goal to educate and engage the broader community about the history, cultures, lived experiences, languages and human rights of Australia’s First Peoples. The ANTaR website is a useful portal for supporters to access detailed campaign resources and take actions, submissions and media releases across each of our campaigns, along with more immediate time sensitive updates through news items.

Throughout 2015 our supporter engagement via Facebook grew significantly and it continues to be a fundamental tool through which we communicate and engage our supporters in our work.

We have three Facebook pages, our main page, and two specific campaign pages through which we promote our events and advocacy work and contribute to current debates surrounding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs.

At the end of the 2014-2015 financial year, the ANTaR facebook page had 6799 likes which is an increase of around 57% since the end of the previous financial year.

Throughout the 2015 year ANTaR’s Twitter audience continued to rise with a 25% increase in followers since the end of the 2013-2014 financial year.

Twitter remains an essential element to our online communications with our supporters and ensures rapid access to audiences to promote our campaigns, respond to key developments, keeps the public up-to-date, and contributes to current policy and media debates.

Over the last financial year, ANTaR has continued to increase our capacity to engage, educate, inspire and mobilise people through the distribution of regular supporter communications. Our supporters are regularly encouraged to engage with our campaigns and take action through letter writing to state and federal political leaders and by signing petitions and taking pledges. They are also made aware of our Appeals and encouraged to support them.
SUSTAINING OUR ORGANISATION

The ongoing generosity of ANTaR’s community of supporters along with major donors, institutional funders and partners funds all of our work.

During the year, our four appeals focussed donors support on:

- The unfair, flawed and opaque Indigenous Advancement funding round, now under review by the Senate.
- Closing the gap to end Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health inequality.
- Establishing a process of engagement on Constitutional Recognition.
- The national crisis in the imprisonment of First People.

The kindness and loyalty of our community supporters and major donors has allowed ANTaR to maintain its funding base this year. However, a priority of the Board is to grow and sustain income to increase our impact with louder and stronger advocacy and more community education and engagement.

In February, Michael Andersen was appointed as National Development Manager to support: growing our supporter base, diversify our income streams, and contribute to building the public profile of the organisation. While we saw an increase in income this year, much of this was through grants, and there remains significant work to do to increase our main source of support – individual donors through appeals and regular giving.

Key Facts about our Development Program

- Our appeals this year raised $270,606 boosted by monthly donations from the Sea of Hands Partnership (regular donors) of $205,370. Expenses for these activities was at just 9.2% of the income. This is 0.8% less than the previous financial year.
- 1,583 donors supported our Annual Appeals together with 743 Sea of Hands Partners.
- We received $185,000 in grants which supported Justice Campaign work through video production and public engagement on Constitutional Recognition.
- Our fundraising program is administered by one part time officer and in February 2015 ANTaR appointed a Development Manager to support the development of ANTaR’s income streams and enhance financial sustainability.

Sources of Income

- Annual Appeal 38%
- Sea of Hands Partnership 29%
- Events 1%
- Grants 27%
- Fees 2%
- Merchandise 3%
## Finance Report

### Profit & Loss - July 2014 through June 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>This Year</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
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<td>COS - Merchandise</td>
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<td><strong>Total Cost of Sales</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Gross Profit</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net Profit/(Loss)</strong></td>
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### Balance Sheet - June 2015

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<tr>
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<th>This Year</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
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<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
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<td>Inter-State Office Amounts due</td>
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<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
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</table>
NSW

ANTaR NSW continues to lobby decision makers in NSW on issues of Aboriginal justice and empowerment. Throughout the year we connected with Aboriginal peoples and other supporters of reconciliation to identify needs and opportunities for change.

Advocacy and Campaigns

During 2015, ANTaR NSW advocated for Constitutional Recognition as a priority area in an election policy platform launched prior to the 2015 State Election. The publication was a key lobbying tool pre election calling on all political parties to take specific actions to support Aboriginal rights in NSW.

ANTaR NSW continues to play an active role in Just Reinvest NSW, an organisation campaigning for the implementation of Justice Reinvestment in NSW. The organisation engaged directly with parliamentarians delivering briefing materials and a video produced from the 2014 Reconciliation in Parliament forum, highlighting the value of a Justice Reinvestment approach for NSW.

The ANTaR NSW Election Policy Platform included a call for all political parties to commit to a multi-partisan approach to develop and implement a Justice Reinvestment Plan for NSW. Leading up to the NSW election in March 2015, the organisation briefed a number of NSW Parliamentarians on Justice Reinvestment and the issues surrounding Aboriginal peoples overrepresentation in the criminal justice system. Both the Greens and Labor Party committed to a justice reinvestment approach that included the funding of pilot sites in NSW.

In the ANTaR NSW Election Policy Platform, we also called for the incoming NSW government to play a leading role on the Councils of Australian Governments (COAG) to ensure that closing the life expectancy gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and other Australians remain a national priority.

ANTaR NSW has continued to advocate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage protection, keeping a watching brief on the NSW reform process. The organisation has also worked with other organisations in NSW to continue to highlight concerns about the Crown lands review, raising particular concerns that changes to the way Crown land is owned and managed will affect both native title and land rights in NSW. Most recently ANTaR NSW has worked with Aboriginal rights organisations, environmental groups, farmers and other peak bodies who use and manage Crown land to develop a statement of best practice. This year ANTaR NSW continued to make representations to both the Education and Aboriginal Affairs Ministers to discuss Gonski funding, community hubs in NSW (linking students with school completion), TAFE and employment opportunities as well as the protection of Aboriginal student funds being redirected at schools’ discretion for other use. ANTaR NSW has recommended accountability processes related to funding which would include consultation with local communities as well as recommending other actions such as ensuring that educators have undertaken cultural awareness training.

Education and Engagement

ANTaR NSW continues to support organisations and groups accessing the Sea of Hands for events. This year over 15,000 hands were planted at events during National Reconciliation Week as a sign of the people of NSW standing in solidarity with the First Peoples of the state.

Throughout the year we actively engaged in online communications with our supporters through an emailed newsletter distributed to over 570 supporters and 323 Facebook supporters.
ANTaR ACT continues to support the national campaigns, particularly Constitutional Recognition and Justice, provide support to local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, and organise events to inform the public in the ACT.

**Advocacy and Campaigns**

ANTaR ACT had a valuable discussion with the Chair of the ACT Indigenous Elected Body in May to discuss how it was considering issues around Constitutional Recognition in the ACT and to explore collaboration as the issues become clearer. In the meantime ANTaR ACT continues to hold stalls at suitable community events where it displays large boomerang shaped signs with the message “Cut racism from the Constitution” and distributes the information sheets on Constitutional Recognition published by ANTaR. Events where stalls were held included NAIDOC at the Peninsula, Woden Valley Festival, the Canberra Country Blues and Roots Festival, the ‘Eco Elves’ pre-Christmas market and the Harvest Festival.

ANTaR ACT has also written to Territory and Federal politicians encouraging action to progress the implementation of Justice Re-investment, hasten the establishment of the proposed Indigenous-run ‘Bush Healing Farm’, and has sought meetings to discuss Federal budget cuts impacting services important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the ACT, in particular the closure of the ACT Aboriginal Justice Centre. The ACT Government is moving towards a Justice Reinvestment trial in the ACT.

ANTaR ACT has supported local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and people, including lodging a complaint regarding unprofessional treatment by some Australian Federal Police officers of ‘Frontier Wars’ marchers and Indigenous veterans of recognised wars at the 2015 National ANZAC Day ceremony in Canberra.

The organisation also met with Indigenous ACT Legislative Assembly Member Chris Burke about the impact of Federal Budget cuts on Aboriginal services in the ACT and has written to the ACT Government regarding issues affecting Aboriginal children in care.

ANTaR ACT members participated in the SOS Black Australia protests in the ACT against the closure of Aboriginal communities in Western Australia.

**Education and Engagement**

Sea of Hands installations have been a significant feature wherever ANTaR ACT has held stalls at community events. Throughout the year the hands have also been used by schools and community groups to build reconciliation and raise awareness of our work. Hand installations are accompanied by information about the history of the Sea of Hands and our campaigns.

ANTaR ACT’s major event each year is the David Hunter Memorial Lecture. In November 2014 this event featured four Indigenous authors. Poet, short story writer and novelist Tony Birch of Melbourne and three Canberra poets from “Us Mob Writing” – Michelle Bedford, Samantha Faulkner and Joyce Graham – shared their writing and insights from their research and motivations.

ANTaR ACT maintains an informative and attractive Facebook site to encourage community engagement and promote the many events it holds.

ANTaR ACT published one newsletter posted to over 2,000 homes and organisations and about ten emailed Bulletins drawing the attention of thousands of interested supporters to coming events they could participate in.
**Vic**

ANTaR Victoria has had an active year building our campaign reach and establishing coalition network to progress campaign objectives. Our focus has been on Justice Reinvestment, treaty, supporting our local groups and ensuring the financial sustainability of the organisation. We continue to look for ways to further develop our community education and advocacy.

**Advocacy and Campaigns**

ANTaR Victoria is a member of the Victorian Constitutional Recognition Coalition and has focussed campaign activity on keeping people informed of developments about Constitutional Recognition of Australia’s First Peoples.

This year ANTaR Victoria signed up as partner member of Victorian Smart Justice and has engaged with key players working to reduce the over-incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service, the Human Rights Law Centre and the Federation of Community Legal Centres.

In February a forum was hosted with our local groups networks where Federal Court Justice Whelan was a guest panelist. We are also developing partnerships with organisations such as Tarwirri, and have developed website content and an information sheet to raise awareness.

During the year ANTaR Victoria has continued contributing to The Victorian Coalition for Health Equality as the key network within the state contributing to closing the life expectancy gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians.

Our efforts included a social media strategy to share current campaign information and raise awareness of the ongoing need to close the life expectancy gap.

Locally, ANTaR Victoria has continued working with Reconciliation Victoria as partners on the Treaty and Agreements Working Group. This group has been exploring the issue of treaty, using the Treaty Framework developed by University of New South Wales. ANTaR Victoria provided a small grant to assist developmental work in this research area. In particular we wish to explore current forms of agreement and assess them against essential elements of treaty in order to identify areas of similarity and difference.

ANTaR Victoria continues to be a supporter of the Australian Research Council grant project exploring the issue of Stolen Wages in Victoria.

Advocacy work was undertaken calling on Victorian Ministers to preserve the former Ballerrt Mooroop College site in Glenroy as Aboriginal community land with spiritual significance.

ANTaR Victoria and many of our supporters joined the fight to stop WA Community Closures and attended Melbourne based rallies.

**Education and Engagement**

Throughout the year the ANTaR Sea of Hands has been used in schools, universities and community organisations across the state.

Raising awareness of the traditional ownership of the land by Wiradjuri people, we have continued to develop and promote our Acknowledgment plaque program. This year we have expanded products to include window transfers.

In 2015 we produced an edition of the ANTaR Victoria zine titled Treat. This edition explored the theme of identity and was distributed to ANTaR supporters and wider networks.
ANTaR SA Inc. has been working on several issues over the past year including increasing understanding of “Letters Patent”, educating people about the issues of instituting a Treaty for Aboriginal Peoples in SA, and assisting in establishing a Descendants’ workshop to begin examining Aboriginal Cultural Protocols in Adelaide.

**Advocacy and Campaigns**

ANTaR SA participated in the Joint Select Committee process for Constitutional Recognition, including written submissions and presenting at the South Australian hearing.

ANTaR SA continues to campaign against the SA Correctional Services use of the ORNI –R Assessment, believing this to be racially biased against Aboriginal People and a primary factor in the high incarceration rate experienced in the state.

ANTaR SA has been undertaking activities to raise awareness about “Letters Patent”; how South Australia came to be excised out of New South Wales in 1836, with its once only dealing in the Proviso of the Letters Patent for all time in SA with the Native Title arising in NSW by an irrevocable grant of an Aboriginal Title in perpetuity to all SA Aboriginal Descendants. Throughout 2015 ANTaR SA has continued raising awareness about the issues of instituting a Treaty for Aboriginal Peoples in SA.

ANTaR SA have assisted in establishing a Descendants workshop to begin examining Aboriginal Cultural Protocols in Adelaide and then across the State. A working party of ANTaR SA Aboriginal members has been formed to progress this project.

ANTaR SA continued its annual support for undertaking an annual National Apology Day on 13 February and a Sorry Day for 26 May together with The South Australia Journey of Healing. This year’s Apology Day event was held in the South Parklands. The Sorry Day event was held on Tarndanyangga, at the place of the Red Kangaroo, a central City square used to launch the National Aboriginal Flag at 1971 NADOC (approximately 1600 people attended).

Grassroots ANTaR SA Aboriginal member activists in SA have maintained interest in researching other countries’ domestic governance relationships with First Nation peoples and have formed liaison networks overseas to advance extensions based on overseas experiences to the participation of Aboriginal people and communities in self-determination, participation and governance.

The resulting multi-media engagements and with SBS/NITV and SAFC involved the production and broadcast in NAIDOC Week on NITV by local SA Elders of an innovative mini-doco (6m30s) on the Letters Patent and the ANTaR SA aided emergence of Aboriginal Cultural Protocols.

ANTaR SA Inc. has been facilitating Aboriginal People, and including Pitjantjatjara from the APY Lands and elsewhere, to obtain welfare support in the City of Adelaide from local Aboriginal Alliance Coalition Movement (AACM) activities with the Aboriginal Liberation Movement (ALM) to provide assistance to search for accommodation and for Aboriginal children to obtain quality education.

**Education and Engagement**

During 2015 ANTaR SA held stalls at Survival Day at Semaphore Beach; at National Apology Day event (City); at the National Sorry Day (City); attended Reconciliation Week functions and NAIDOC; distributed over 300 Treaty and grassroots Calendars at the NAIDOC March and Family Fun Day Celebrations.

During Reconciliation Week 2015 ANTaR SA spoke and trained a large gathering of staff members of Department for Communities and Social Inclusion. The session included information on the local history of survival of Aboriginal people of SA, a framework agreement and the Treaty and Letters Patent. ANTaR SA Aboriginal member participants spoke at a DCSI forum on the SAFC Kings Seal on NITV/around mini-doco on NITV.
QLD

In 2015 ANTaR Queensland has instated a new leadership team supported by a part time office manager and two student intern placements. Attention has been given to strengthening office administration, finance, role clarity, and in particular updating website, membership database and associated electronic social media communications.

Advocacy and Campaigns

Throughout 2015 numerous schools and community groups installed the Sea of Hands as a key awareness raising and engagement activity.

ANTaR Queensland was represented on a political panel at Brisbane Powerhouse discussing Constitutional Recognition and has worked with other organisations on providing information about various aspects of the current discussion.

During 2015 ANTaR Queensland has been involved with a number of organisations on issues related to imprisonment and in particular youth justice. We welcomed recent initiatives of the current government in reinstating a number of programs and mechanisms such as the Murrri Courts. ANTaR Queensland has been particularly active on issues around the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons in adult and juvenile detention centres. The organisation will continue to work with the campaign on Balanced Justice Alliance for Youth Justice Advocacy.

ANTaR Queensland continues to be engaged in the Stolen Wages campaign noting that the new Queensland government is implementing their policy promise to have had consultations around the State regarding stolen wages repatriation. Queensland communities have formed an advisory group to assist with distributing the remaining $22million. ANTaR Queensland has continued to attend and support meetings, and assist with transportation and logistics.

ANTaR Queensland will commence a new campaign focusing on the high rates of removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families and communities. ANTaR Queensland played an important role in policy development in this area and will now be engaged with communities and government on the implementation of new government policy.

Education and Engagement

ANTaR Queensland has supported a number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups in the distribution of food and household goods, and has had a highly visible presence at National Sorry Day, Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC.

ANTaR Queensland held a number of educational events aimed at informing people about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues including working with local Elders and supporting local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations. ANTaR Queensland also had a presence at a number of community events including some held at various Universities.
ANTaR WA continues to steadily build public awareness. This year our focus has been on promoting the use of the Sea of Hands, Kaya — the Aboriginal language awareness project, SUN — the ANTaR WA Close the Gap food project, and expanding our communication capacity through social media and website redevelopment.

**Advocacy and Campaigns**

ANTaR WA campaign activity of Constitutional Recognition of Australia’s First Peoples, Close the Gap, and the Justice Campaign has involved regular online engagement through the ANTaR WA Facebook page.

ANTaR WA representatives have attended local events campaigning for the addressing of the over-incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, calling for justice in relation to deaths in custody, and rallying against the proposed closures to WA Communities.

**Education and Engagement**

Sea of Hands Installations have been used by 5 branches of the WA Museum, the City of Rockingham, Curtin University, Katanning Primary School, Murdoch University and their Kulbardi Aboriginal Centre.

Peak use of the hands took place during Sorry Day, where ANTaR WA addressed the gathering at the City of Rockingham’s Event and during NAIDOC Week.

ANTaR WA participated in Festival of Perth’s Hack the Festival event where a trial Kaya App was created.
NT

ANTaR NT had a busy year working on a range of issues that are intense and complex in the Territory, having the nation’s highest rates of Indigenous homelessness, youth detention, family and domestic violence, chronic diseases, and just shy of WA’s Indigenous Incarceration rates. In this backdrop ANTaR NT works in collaboration with Aboriginal led initiatives and campaigns, supporting groups, communities, families and individuals from the bush and in town.

Advocacy and Campaigns

ANTaR NT continued to collaborate with local Aboriginal and human rights campaigns this year, including Making Justice Work, Human Rights Education Council, Friends of Kahlin and Indigenous Social Justice Association regarding Deaths in Custody and their Inquests.

We assisted remote and town community campaign activities including:

- Anti-fracking in Arnhem Land
- Developments proposed on heritage sites
- Town Camps residents in development of community safety plans
- Transport services to the new prison

We also worked hard behind the scenes highlighting the racial impacts of the ‘tough on crime approach’, paperless arrests, incarceration, and deaths in custody and the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Early 2015 our focus was supporting an NT Aboriginal housing forum which resulted in establishing the first territory wide Aboriginal housing body. More recently we helped initiate a new homelessness response group in support of Darwin’s Long-grass Association

ANTaR NT continued as a key player working closely with Elders and Stolen Generation for recognition of KAHLIN Compound and keeping that history alive. We staged events in NAIDOC week; unveiled heritage designed history panels in Darwin Heritage Precinct; organised media and publicity with good coverage by ABC TV and Radio.

Education and Engagement

ANTaR NT also provided practical support to assist families in town and the bush attend Barunga Sports & Cultural Festival, the Bagot Festival, the National Indigenous Music Awards and travel to Alice Springs for the funeral of a stolen generation spokesperson. We assisted the first NT representative to attend the World Indigenous Tourism Conference in Canada.

We are pleased to be nominees again for a NT Human Rights Awards for our work with Friends of Kahlin.

ANTaR NT would like to honour those NT Stolen Generation members who passed away this year still fighting for justice and among them, the late Ray Jackson, one of our nation’s fiercest advocates against deaths in custody who fought for justice for almost three decades right across the nation. Vale our friend, and in his words, our Comrade.
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Kirsten Gray, Secretary  
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