

Growing Bush Babies – Listening to community

Programs the community wants to see

- ✓ Flexible: long days, short days, parents there or not
- ✓ Strong on culture and pride
- ✓ Supports kids whose families are struggling
- ✓ Mobile and outreach service, but also want a home base
- ✓ Like family day care, but in a centre, not isolated in own homes
- ✓ Support kids learning and interests

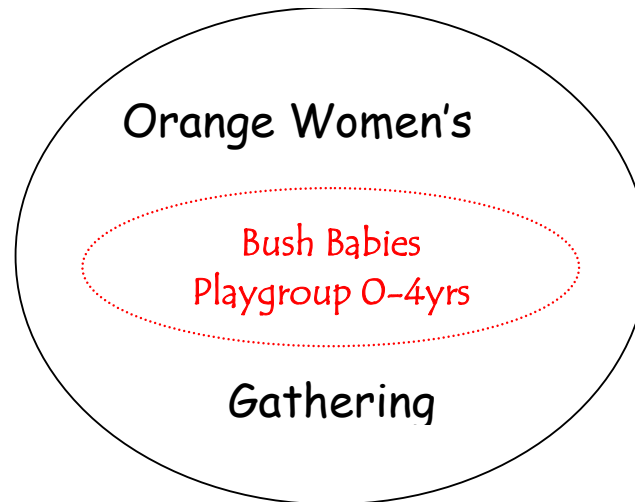
Links to Mainstream Services

- ✓ Some pre-schools and long day care centres taking more indigenous kids
- ✓ School transition programs
- ✓ Kids being referred for early assessment and help



Partnerships

- ✓ Community, CWP, community organisations
- ✓ Orange City Council, Community College
- ✓ NSW government agencies: Department of Community Services, Greater Western Area Health Service, Department of Education and Training, Department of Housing
- ✓ Funding: DEST Adult Literacy Innovative Projects, Aboriginal Child Youth and Family Strategy



Community takes the lead

- ✓ Orange Women's Gathering has plans for a playgroup
- ✓ Community members trained to consult with community about what they want to see
- ✓ Bush Babies mums meeting with managers and asking for support to extend Bush Babies
- ✓ Visits to other Aboriginal children's services to see how they run

Training & Worker Development

- ✓ Traineeships and work experience in early childhood services
- ✓ Engaging young mums back into formal education
- ✓ Certificate 111 in Children's Services pilot – units reflect Aboriginal cultural values and ways of learning, written in Orange and Lake Cargelligo



Messages for community

- ✓ Yalmambiladhaany: women's health peer education program of Aboriginal Maternal & Infant Health Strategy
- ✓ Arts projects in Murrin Bridge preventing violence and abuse
- ✓ Skills for home and the workplace
- ✓ Making learning easy
- ✓ Keeping our children SAFE

Lead program: NSW Aboriginal Child, Youth and Family Strategy

Presenters : Pam Boney, Glenroi Heights Public School and Liz MacRaild, Communities Division DOCS Orange NSW