2026
ANNUAL REPORT

Bringing Them Home WA Inc.



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Our Strategic Objectives

Bringing Them Home WA Inc has two broad strategic objectives.

1. To advocate for the Stolen Generations and their families
2. To ensure that the stories of the Stolen Generations are remembered and retold.

The Objects in our Constitution are as follows:

- To encourage Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal West Australians to work together for recognition and justice for the Stolen Generations and their families.
- To monitor and lobby for the implementation of the recommendations set out in "Bringing Them Home: Report of the National Inquiry into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families (1997)
- To organize appropriate events to mark the anniversary of National Sorry Day (May 26th, 1988) and to encourage other such events throughout WA.

Our Key Activities:

1.Advocacy

a) High level advocacy in relation to the need for education about the Stolen Generationsto be included in school curriculum material.
b) High level advocacy in relation to the need for Aboriginal culture and language to betaught in schools.
c) Promote and facilitate the sharing of stories about the Stolen Generations in the broadercommunity.
d) Maintaining a versatile media strategy (including social media) to engage theMainstream media and the community about the Stolen Generations
e) High level advocacy in relation to the need for all governments to implement the recommendations of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families (known as the Bringing Them Home Report)

2.National Sorry Day (NSD) Commemoration

a) Have undertaken the role as lead organisation of events to commemorate Sorry Day in Perth. Due to our sustained two-decade input through volunteer and philanthropic inputsalone NSD in Perth is now the largest repetitive Aboriginal commemorative event in Australia.
b) Facilitated the involvement of a wide range of partner organisations in Sorry daycommemoration events.
c) Coordinated funding for Sorry Day events.
d) Ensured evaluation and continuous improvement of Sorry Day event planning and eventmanagement.

Our Vision

Bringing Them Home WA works collaboratively with the West Australian Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation through a joint initiative called "Yokai: Healing our Spirit" and the Vision for that initiative is for Stolen Generations Survivors and their families to heal their spirit.

Our History

Bringing Them Home WA is a reconciliation-based, not-for-profit Stolen Generations advocacy organisation, that was established over 20 years ago to monitor the 54 recommendations made in the National Enquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from Their

Families, which resulted in the tabling of the Bringing Them Home Report in Parliament in 1997.
From 2015, Bringing Them Home WA receives the majority of its funding from the Commonwealth Government, through its Indigenous Advancement Strategy, Lotterywest and the Healing Foundation.
This funding has helped to resource events such as the National Sorry Day commemorations in WA and the establishment of a joint initiative, “Yokai: Healing our Spirit” with the WA Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation. Yokai was initiated to provide a holistic, integrated approach to dealing with the effects of ongoing trauma suffered by the WA Stolen Generations and their families.
BTHWA also remains a state-wide advocacy organisation focused on truth, justice and healing for WA Stolen Generations and their families.

Yokai
Healing our Spirit

BRINGING THEM HOME





SECTION 1 AN OVERVIEW OF BRINGING THEM HOME WA INC.

ABOUT US

Bringing Them Home WA is a reconciliation-based, not-for-profit Stolen Generations advocacy organisation, that arose over 20 years ago to monitor the 54 recommendations made in the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from Their Families, which resulted in the tabling of the Bringing Them Home Report in Parliament in 1997. Bringing Them Home WA receives the majority of its funding from the Commonwealth Government, through the National Indigenous Australians Agency, Lotterywest and the Healing Foundation. This funding has helped to resource events such as the National Sorry Day commemorations in WA and continued work on a joint initiative, “Yokai: Healing our Spirit” with the WA Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation. Yokai was initiated to provide a holistic, integrated approach to dealing with the effects of ongoing trauma suffered by the WA Stolen Generations and their families. BTHWA also remains a state-wide advocacy organisation focused on truth, justice and healing for WA Stolen Generations and their families.

OUR PEOPLE

General Committee

Name	Position	Dates acted (if not for whole year)
Anthony Hansen	Aboriginal Co-Convenor	
Alan Carter	Non-Aboriginal Co-Convenor	
Alison Atkinson-Phillips	Deputy Convenor	
Ross Elliot	Treasurer	
Geoffrey Bice	Secretary	
James Morrison	Committee Member	
Keith Bodman	Committee Member	
Mitchell Garlett	Committee Member	
Leone Cottam-Williams	Committee Member	
Steve Mickler	Committee Member	

Employees

Name	Position	Dates acted (if not for whole year)
No employees in 2025/6		

Volunteers

Name	Position	Dates acted (if not for whole year)
Keith Bodman	Board Member	
Ross Elliot	Treasurer	
Geoff Bice	Secretary	
Alan Carter	Co-Convenor	
Tony Hansen	Co-Convenor	
Steve Mickler	Board Member	
Jim Morrison	Board Member	
Alison Atkinson-Phillips	Deputy Convenor	
Leone Cottam-Williams	Board Member	
Mitchell Garlett	Board Member	

OUR SUPPORTERS

Major Funding Bodies		
Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	lotterywest	HealingFoundation Strong Spirit • Strong Culture • Strong People
Department of Prime Minister& Cabinet [National Indigenous Australians Agency funding for Yokai: Healing Our Spirit]	**Lotterywest** [Funding for Sorry Day Events, Yokai: Healing OurSpirit initiative and for Virtual Reality Truth-Telling]	**Healing Foundation** [Funding for Virtual Reality Truth-Telling, Healing Camps and Commemorative Events]
Other Funding Bodies		
	Curtin University	
	Curtin University Peppercorn Lease for Office at 57 Murray Street, Perth Media services and film through Noongar Dandjoo. Collaborative partnership in Missions Connect augmented reality programs and Virtual Reality Truth Telling Research Project	

SECTION 2 GOVERNANCE

STRUCTURE & MANAGEMENT

Bringing Them Home WA Incorporated is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) and under the Western Australian *Associations Incorporation Act 2015.*

Bringing Them Home WA has a General Committee, which is outlined earlier in this Report with a reconciliation-based structure which incorporates an Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Co-Convenor and a good mix of Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Office Bearers and General Committee Members.

The General Committee meets monthly to review issues relating to the governance and operations of the Incorporated Association as well as its Financial Reports. Minutes are recorded by the Secretary, Geoffrey Bice and circulated to General Committee members in advance of meetings along with Board Briefing Papers and Finance Reports. The Chief Executive of Yokai, Brett Ingram (who is employed by WASGAC), also provides a Monthly Report and talks to his report at the Committee Meeting.

The Co-Convenors meet regularly with the Chair of WASGAC to discuss strategic issues and where appropriate, they are joined by the Deputy Convenor, the Treasurer and the Secretary. These “Executive Meetings” have proved to be a useful means of providing timely advice to the Executive Director, particularly over the course of the past year as the *Yokai: Healing Our Spirit* initiative was developed.

Annual General Meetings of Members are usually held in November and provide an opportunity to brief Ordinary Members on the activities of the past year and to foreshadow future directions for the forthcoming year.

Co-Convenors Report


Tony Hansen (Aboriginal Co-Convenor)


Alan Carter (Non-Aboriginal Co-Convenor)

After the success of our campaign for Compensation for Stolen Generations Survivors, we have supported the rollout of the WA Government's Redress Package. With initial funding from Lotterywest followed by funding from the WA Government, WASGAC have employed Staff to support Stolen Generations Survivors in making their applications.
We believe that part of the success of our campaign for compensation was the release in April 2024 of a major Documentary about the Stolen Generations in Western Australia, "Genocide in the Wildflower State". This has hardened our resolve to continue our focus on Truth-Telling. Since the documentary premiere in April 2024, we have been asked to provide approximately 150 private screenings with Panel Discussions at a number of workplaces in the Public, Community and Private Sectors and in the broader community.
As reported previously, the bulk of the work to roll out *Yokai: Healing Our Spirit* has now been transferred to WASGAC although some funding continues to be auspiced by Bringing Them Home WA and managed under a Service Agreement with WASGAC. This agreement has enabled Bringing Them Home WA to focus on our core objectives of advocacy for the Stolen Generations and their families and ensuring that the stories of the Stolen Generations are remembered and retold.

OUR OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Sorry Day 2026:

We have continued our tradition of holding a commemorative event for Stolen Generations on Sorry Day (26th May) at the Stolen Generations Memorial at Moort-ak Waadiny / Wellington Square in East Perth. This year we changed the format of the day and began with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony at the Stolen Generations Memorial and then moved to the Lecture Theatre in the Health Department Building across the road from the Memorial.
We were honoured to have the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Don Punch, in attendance and he was invited to speak. We also had presentations from WASGAC Chair, Jim Morrison, Bringing Them Home WA, Aboriginal Co-Chair, Tony Hansen, WASGAC Chief Executive, Brett Ingram, and Professor Reena Tiwari from Curtin University who provided an overview of our Virtual Reality Truth-Telling Tools and formally launched them in conjunction with Jim Morrison. After these presentations we showed a Trailer for our next Documentary, "The Legacy of Genocide". Guests were then invited to stay for a light lunch and a yarn with old friends and new in the adjoining Café or to view the Virtual Reality Tools using laptops and VR Headsets in an adjoining Seminar Room.
Approximately 250 people attended the event and we received financial and in-kind support from Lotterywest, The Healing Foundation and the City of Perth. Brett Ingram (WASGAC Chief Executive) and his Team were also instrumental to the success of the day and we thank them for their hard work.

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Genocide
Justice


Genocide
Justice

Stolen Generations Redress Scheme

As indicated earlier, the WA Premier, Roger Cook, announced a Redress Scheme for Stolen Generations Survivors on 27th May 2025 and WASGAC has received funding to provide support services for Stolen Generations Survivors as they submit their applications. We will work with Yokai to continue to advocate for Survivors who have missed out on Redress under the Scheme due to the parameters set by the Government. In particular, we are determined to advocate on behalf on behalf of the many Survivors who were removed after July 1972, which is currently the cut-off date under the Redress Scheme.

Virtual Reality Truth-Telling Research Project

Our joint research project with Curtin University commenced in early 2023 and was completed in December 2025 and formally launched at our Sorry Day 2026 event. This Project addresses the identified need for truth-telling about the Stolen Generations by developing three tools that can be used for trauma-informed truth-telling in cultural healing, education, and professional development settings. It aims to continue the work of Bringing Them Home WA and Curtin University to educate the community about the history and impact of past Government policies to remove Aboriginal children from their families (the Stolen Generations) and the ongoing trauma associated with the impact of those policies.

Yokai: Healing Our Spirit - Key highlights:

The West Australian Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation's (WASGAC) service delivery name (trading name) is Yokai Healing our Spirit. The bulk of work done through Yokai programs is supported by the National Healing Foundation, the National Indigenous Australian's Agency (NIAA) through its Indigenous Advancement Strategy Safety and Wellbeing program (although the funding is auspiced by Bringing Them Home WA). This funding acknowledges the impact of past trauma, dispossession, separation of families, ongoing social disadvantage, racism and other historical, social and cultural issues that impact the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, families and communities. Yokai programs are intended to assist in the process of healing for the 58% of WA Aboriginal people affected by past and current removal policies and who have particular issues and unique needs (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation 2018 and 2021). These people represent the "gap within the gap" of Aboriginal disadvantage and are the least socially engaged people in Australia, the hardest to establish communications with despite their acute need for support and the most in need of trauma informed and culturally safe interactions.

Yokai works to strengthen social and emotional wellbeing wherever possible by enabling and supporting community collective and cultural healing programs, providing advocacy, counselling and/or other supports for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, prioritising the needs of the Stolen Generations and their families. It supports strong, healthy and resilient individuals, families and communities, which in turn may enhance pathways to education and employment and reduce substance abuse, violence and contact with the criminal justice system. In partnership with Bringing Them Home WA, Yokai is a strong advocate for the return of Stolen Wages, Redress for peoples sexually abused as children in institutions and against the rates of incarceration, suicide and current child removal policies. There will an ongoing need for Yokai's work until there is no longer a gap in Aboriginal life expectancy.

Work is undertaken in the locations of the Perth Metropolitan Area, the South-West Region of Western Australia, including Albany, Marribank/Carrolup, Gnowangerup, Moore River/Mogumber, Roelands, Wandering. We deliver culturally safe, and person-centred approaches including:

a. Commemorative and educational events
b. Mission Family reunions
c. Collective Healing events
d. Outreach support
e. Referral and liaison services
f. Trauma informed human services awareness and training
g. Collaborative design of trauma informed and culturally safe human services delivery to Stolen Generations and their families

h. Personal advocacy SEWB support including counselling and case management
i. Elder Care Support and Referral Program
j Truth-Telling about the Stolen Generations
k. Support for Stolen Generations Survivors to make a claim for Redress under the WA Government Scheme.

National Advocacy:

Our Aboriginal Co-Chair, Tony Hansen, has continued in 2026 in his role as a Member of the Healing Foundation's Stolen Generations Reference Group. This is a continuing acknowledgement of Tony's leadership and advocacy for the Stolen Generations in WA. Tony is also a member of the WA Governments Aboriginal Advisory Committee and he is the Chair of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee for the Department of Communities.

It is worth noting that through the work of Jim Morrison, and our Aboriginal Co-Convenor, Tony Hansen, Bringing Them Home WA has an outstanding reputation as a leader in developing innovative and culturally appropriate programs and initiatives to support Stolen Generations Survivors and their families and they have both presented at significant International, National and State Conferences and Forums about the work of Bringing Them Home WA, WA Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation and the Yokai: Healing Our Spirit Initiative.

Looking Forward:

Bringing Them Home WA will continue to focus on "political advocacy" on behalf of the Stolen Generations, the organisation of commemorative events such as Sorry Day and Apology Day and Truth-Telling about the Stolen Generations. Our campaign for Compensation for Stolen Generations Survivors was successful, but we will continue to work with WASGAC/Yokai in relation to the implementation of the WA Government's Redress Package.

We will continue to hold our Annual Sorry Day Event at the Stolen Generations Memorial in Wellington Square in collaboration with WASGAC. These important events continue to honour Stolen Generations Survivors and we encourage them to bring their families to the event.

Given the lack of understanding in the broader community about the impact of colonisation on our First Peoples we will continue to work with Yokai on a range of Truth-Telling initiatives, including a Truth-Telling Gathering in November 2026 as part of Albany 2026. This event is being jointly organised by Reconciliation WA, Reconciliation Australia, Murdoch University and the West Australian Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation.

Bringing Them Home WA will be actively lobbying for resources to enable us to deliver quality truth-telling sessions about the Stolen Generations to schools, Government Agencies, community groups and the Corporate Sector using the VR Truth-Telling materials and our two documentaries, "Genocide in the Wildflower State" and Yokai: Australia Day 2022.

We have completed a book (Why weren't we told: Genocide in the Wildflower State") about the issues raised in the "Genocide in the Wildflower State" Documentary and we are in the process of finalising our next Documentary ("The Legacy of Genocide"), which will focus on Intergenerational Trauma. Both the Book and the next Documentary will be released as part of the Truth-Telling Gathering in November as part of Albany 2026.

Acknowledgements:
The work of Bringing Them Home WA would not happen without financial support and we would like to thank the National Indigenous Australians Agency, Lotterywest and the Healing Foundation for their continued support

We would also like to acknowledge the tireless and inspirational work of WASGAC Chair, Jim Morrison, WASGAC Chief Executive, Brett Ingram and his Staff. The extensive voluntary work of our Board and many other professional and community volunteers in our office and at our events have also been critical to our success.



Tony Hansen
Aboriginal Co-Convenor



Alan Carter
Non-Aboriginal Co-Convenor

CONTACT DETAILS:

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