

Ilesha's Speech on behalf of WB2C

Good morning, Everyone

My name is Ilesha Hudson and as the spokesperson on behalf of all the ladies who are involved in the Real Futures Women's Business 2nd Chance program, I would like to acknowledge and pay our respects to Yinggarrda people and Elders whose land we gather on today to kick start our NAIDOC Week celebrations for 2022.

I would also like to thank the Carnarvon NAIDOC Working Group for allowing our Women's group to say a few words this morning.

The Women's Business 2nd Chance Hub is a program supported by the UN Women, NIAA, Gascoyne Aboriginal Women's Council and Real Futures.

This program is the only one being delivered outside of the original site in Sydney, so we are very lucky to have it here in Carnarvon.

Enrolment is free and open to all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander women in Carnarvon who are interested in gaining skills in employment, training, and small business development.

Our Hub is located at Real Futures office on Robinson Street and is run Tuesday to Thursday, 10am-1pm during school terms.

Tracey Tonga our program leader and mentor who manages the delivery of our program along with Samantha Drummond and other Real Futures team.

The women from the Gascoyne Aboriginal Women's Council: Kelly Capewell, Sharna Oakley, Helen Capewell, Kay Mongoo and Cherie Sibosado; and Naomi McMahon, Natalie Clarke and Nola Boddington are also mentors that support the program.

We also have the support from Saneemah Moncrieff and the Ngala team; and Harmony and the PCYC team.

We co-designed our program and identified activities that fit in with our Wellbeing, Personal Development and Professional Development.

For our first term we focused on coming together, supporting each other, and building our confidence to participate in the NAIDOC celebrations this year.

For some of us, this is our first time being involved in NAIDOC Week so we wanted to do a banner and share our program so other women can come and get involved.

We are all very proud to be a part of the Real Futures Women's Business 2nd Chance Hub and we hope you all support us as we begin to 'Get Up, Stand Up, Show Up!'.

Thank you and Happy NAIDOC Week everyone.