

Listen to the Students

We've been visiting our students all around Australia to hear what they have to say about how the Follow the Dream/Partnerships for Success Program helps them achieve their dreams. To see and hear more from our students go to our website www.pff.com.au.



"I dream of being a mermaid or a dolphin." – *Justina Charlie, year 4, Martu Education Centre.*



"I'm not really sure yet, but I think I'd like to be a lawyer or a doctor."

– *Samantha Hawkins, year 9, Newman Senior High School.*



"Follow the Dream helps Aboriginal students reach their maximum potential and their goals." – *Andrew Yarran, year 12, Sevenoaks.*



"Give it a go, it's a good place and it does help you."

– *Ethan Hicks, year 9, Tom Price Senior High School.*



"My dream is to go to Uni and study, to become something successful."

– *Wendy Torres, year 12, St Mary's College, Broome.*



"At home I couldn't get my homework done so I go to school and Follow the Dream helps me."

– *Sina Dau, year 10, Broome Senior High School*

Our Partners

The Foundation is a very small not for profit. We do not, and can not, generate money, but instead run a tight ship ensuring the money we receive is spent on running our programs which help Aboriginal kids.



Our biggest government supporter is the Western Australian Department of Education, which shares with the private sponsors the cost of employing the Project Co-ordinators and the tutors and often provides venues for our Enrichment Centres.

Support from the private sector is essential for the ongoing delivery of our programs. Our longest term supporters are Rio Tinto, BHP Billiton, Woodside and the North West Shelf Project.



Several Foundations have also supported us for many years including the AMP Foundation, Centrecorp Foundation and the Sara Halvedene Foundation.



In addition, we have a number of other supporters whose contributions are valued and integral to our ongoing provision of programs.



Thank you to all our supporters:

- Alinta Energy
- Alinta Servco
- AMP Foundation
- Anglo Gold Ashanti
- Ant and Mary Lou Simpson
- BHP Billiton Olympic Dam
- BHP Billiton Iron Ore
- BHP Billiton Mt Arthur Coal
- BHP Billiton Nickel West
- Department of Education and Child Development – Government of South Australia
- Department of Further Education, Employment, Science, and Technology – Government of South Australia
- Department for Manufacturing, Innovation, Trade, Resources and Energy – Government of South Australia
- Centrecorp Foundation
- Western Australian Department of Education
- Mallesons Stephen Jaques
- Dr Gary Bentel
- Genesse & Wyoming
- Goldfields Australia Foundation
- Gumala Aboriginal Corporation
- Hunt Family Foundation
- Northwest Shelf Joint Venture
- Lotterywest
- Rio Tinto Argyle Diamonds
- Rio Tinto Coal & Allied
- Rio Tinto Dampier Salt
- Rio Tinto Iron Ore
- SA Power Networks
- Sara Halvedene Foundation
- Wesfarmers
- Woodside Energy



Enriching • Educating • Empowering • Encouraging

Creating Tomorrow's Indigenous Leaders

Graham (Polly) Farmer was an outstanding athlete who changed the game of Australian Rules Football forever. He also had a game changing vision for the education of Aboriginal youth that resulted in the establishment of **The Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation**. The Foundation is a not for profit organisation that works with Aboriginal communities, governments and the private sector to assist Aboriginal students to reach their educational potential and enjoy rewarding, fulfilling lives. The Follow the Dream/Partnerships for Success program provides after school tuition and individual mentoring support and case management in cooperation with schools. It enables Aboriginal secondary school students who apply and are selected to participate to complete Year 12, enter tertiary studies or undertake other post school training or employment.



Governance

The Foundation itself is overseen by a governing Board that remains committed to Graham Farmer's vision. Just as Graham Farmer and I have remained Patrons of the Foundation since its inception, the Board includes significant Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians, including the Hon Fred Chaney AO and Dr Ron Edwards, who were both inaugural members of the Foundation and remain champions of it today.

Partnerships for Success

The first project, known as Gumala Mirnuwarni (Coming Together to Learn) was established at Roebourne/Karratha in 1997. Now there are 30 programs being run in 26 communities across Australia and more than 4,800 students have graduated so far.

In 2013, around 1000 Aboriginal students from Western Australia, New South Wales, the Northern Territory and South Australia were participating in the Foundation's programs.



The Future

The Foundation and its partners established primary after school centres at Newman in 2010 and Tom Price in 2012 as well as Maths and Science Centres of Excellence for primary school students at Port Hedland and Wickham in the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

These innovative centres are the cornerstone of the Foundation's efforts to establish models for primary aged Aboriginal students that complement and enhance their participation in the school education system. These models will also accelerate the educational readiness of students to enter the secondary Follow the Dream/Partnerships for Success program.

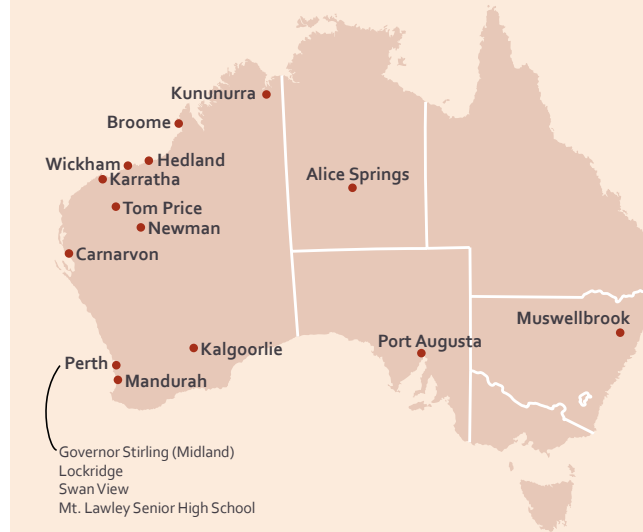
The Maths and Science Centres of Excellence, in particular, will enable Aboriginal young people to choose and succeed in the secondary school subjects that are prerequisites to tertiary training and employment in professional and managerial roles in the resources sector, construction and related engineering and science based vocations.

Dr Sue Gordon AM

President of The Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation



Across Australia Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation Program Locations



How we know it works Where are our students?

PROJECT	ALICE SPRINGS	BROOME	CARNARVON	GOVERNOR STIRLING	KALGOORLIE	KARRATHA	KUNUNURRA	LOCKRIDGE	MANDURAH	MUSWELLBROOK	NEWMAN	PORT AUGUSTA	HEDLAND	SWANVIEW	TOM PRICE	TOTAL
YEAR COMMENCED	2007	2010	2005	2008	2003	1997	2004	2008	2005	2010	2004	2007	2003	2008	2002	
UNIVERSITY DIRECT/BRIDGING	9	10	5	7	17	29	6	5	12	4	3	6	24	3	5	145
TAFE/OTHER COLLEGES*	1	8	2	1	1	1		1	5	6		1	1	5	1	34
TRAINEE/APPRENTICESHIP	10	15	9	8	17	32	12	1	10	2	13	10	31	6	14	190
DIRECT TO EMPLOYMENT	7	12	4	1	12	14	5	10	8	3	5	1	11	4	6	103
OTHER**		2	4		1	1				1						9
TOTAL	27	47	24	17	48	77	23	17	35	16	21	18	67	18	26	481

* Before 2010 these were included with Trainee/Apprenticeship

** These students were yet to decide on places or Employment

The Key to Success



Education of our country's children is not cheap. It is also not a short term proposition which we enter into and then walk away, leaving it to fend for itself. These are widely understood and accepted concepts in Australia. The same rules apply to education of Aboriginal students, however a wide range of circumstances make their journey much more difficult than most.

The programs **The Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation** has been providing for more than 15 years have proven to be highly successful helping young Aboriginal boys and girls. We are now seeing our students graduate from University, qualify as tradespeople and become successful business men and women. All tell us that they owe a large part of their success to the support of Follow the Dream/Partnerships for Success programs.

There is often talk about sustainability and organisations becoming self sufficient. In some areas this is possible, and often necessary, but in others, such as Aboriginal education, it is unrealistic. We recognise and acknowledge that without the ongoing contributions from our Partners and Supporters we would not be able to continue to help Aboriginal kids.

So to all who have helped us, and continue to help us, thank you from both the Foundation and the 980 Aboriginal students who dare to dream of a better and brighter future.

Neil Jarvis

CEO of The Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation



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