

Barkly Aboriginal Alliance

The Barkly Aboriginal Alliance (the **Alliance**) is an emerging, stand alone, independent Aboriginal representative body, with membership of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal peoples living on the community homelands throughout the Barkly Region. The Alliance has been formed to provide a **Voice** of the **Aboriginal Communities, Outstations and Homelands** in the Barkly Region in the Northern Territory. **The Alliance involves all indigenous community members, including the youth and elders who gives us our guidance.**

The primary aim of the Alliance is to stand to advocate on behalf of Alliance members in the Barkly Region, to improve outcomes in services, housing access, employment health and wellbeing. Our aim is to be recognised by all levels of Government as the Voice of the Aboriginal Communities, Outstations and Homelands in the Barkly Region.

The Alliance walks forwards in the steps of our ancestors and elders past and present to better the future of this and future generations, respecting the diversity and cultural knowledge, beliefs, and practice of all families and language groups throughout the region, Australia and Torres Strait Islands.



The Alliance has representation on the Barkly Regional Deal Governance Table which includes representation of the Commonwealth, Territory and Local Governments, as well as other organisations and Traditional Owners from the Barkly region. The Barkly Backbone team based in Tennant Creek provides administrative support to the Governance Table.

Key Priorities; June 2023

1. Incorporation of the Alliance

- Establish the Incorporation of the Alliance.
- Establish the "Barkly Homelands Affordable Housing Pty Ltd ".

For the Federal and Northern Territory Government in equal partnership with the Barkly Aboriginal Alliance to establish an Emergency Task Force which will:

- Initiate an urgent audit and assessment of the repairs and maintenance and upgrades requirements on all homelands, outstations, and communities in the Barkly region.
- During this audit, identify existing and future growth housing and infrastructure needs and estimates.
- To identify cost estimates, and for Government to identify and release immediate and emergency funding to support an emergency response.
- Initiate an immediate urgent repairs and maintenance action plan, which includes all levels of government in Australia releasing and providing all available resources and funding for an immediate and prompt action.

The Barkly Aboriginal Alliance must be an equal coordinating partner with the strategy and be fully involve with the delivery of this mission, which includes employing and training residents in the affected areas.

This emergency response strategy must be able to draw on all required expertise in all areas of civil and housing construction to revise and bring all communities to acceptable standards of Australia which meet the Human Rights obligations of Australia, which are appropriate to indigenous people.

Residents of the homelands must be fully involved and must give full approval of any work before they are carried out.

2. Service Provisions

a. Health.

- Ensure Aboriginal Communities, Outstations and Homelands from the Barkly Region receive proper and appropriate health care and services.
- Develop and establish local clinics which are supported by NT health services and local members are trained in primary health

care, which is delivered by members on their country, particularly in the very remote areas.

b. Employment and Training

- Strategies must be developed and initiated to create sustainable long-term employment and training opportunities. This must be related to the community development plans of each of its members.
- c. Housing and Infrastructure, including power, water, road, telecommunication etc
- Government policies, guidelines, programs and services must reflect the true and real lifestyles of Aboriginal Communities, Outstations and Homelands from the Barkly Region in the Northern Territory, and to ensure that they are not restrictive and is accessible.
- There needs a regional strategy to ensure the sustainability and continuous living and returning to country of Aboriginal Communities, Outstations and Homelands members/families within the Barkly Region in the Northern Territory.

d. Education

- Ensure Aboriginal Communities, Outstations and Homelands from the Barkly Region in the Northern Territory receive proper and appropriate education services, including bi-lingual teachings.
- Develop and establish local remote schools where desired,
 which are fully supported by the NT Department of Education

and members are formally trained and mentored to deliver the education.

3. Economic Development

- Aboriginal Communities, Outstations and Homelands are fully supported and mentored to create, build, and run Economic ventures and activities on their lands. This is to include having full support from the Government or private sector business hubs.
- To foster and connect Alliance members with business partners and philanthropic providers.

End.