

Tjilku Walykumunu

Ngaanyatjarra Lands
Child Health Study

APPENDIX THREE:
POLICY TIMELINE



Ngaanyatjarra
Health Service

NGAANYATJARRA LANDS CHILD HEALTH STUDY – POLICY TIMELINE: Pre-1934 to 2023

	Pre-1934	1934-1960s	1970s-1980s	1990s	2000-2009	2010-2014	2015-2016	2017-2019	2020-2023
KEY POLICIES	Predictable life Authority of <i>tjukurrpa</i> and elders	1959 amendments to <i>Commonwealth Social Services Act</i> — child endowment and pension available for people under care of missions 1954 > <i>Native Welfare Act</i> (WA) 1950s-60s Assimilation era	1972 > Federal Labor gov. self-determination policy > Comm. Dept of Aboriginal Affairs (DAA). 1979 Ab'l Communities Act WA > By-Laws	1990 - 2005 ATSIC 1996 mutual obligation begins	2005 > CDEP eroded 2009 > participants shifted to Centrelink	2010 Mainstreaming of services starts 2013 RJCP starts	2015 CDP replaces RJCP 2015-2017 CDP 8 week No Payment Penalties surge	2017 Cashless Welfare card introduced 2019 CDP reforms > less penalties	2020-2021 Coronavirus Supplement 2022 No Jab, No Pay vaccination policy
Family and dwelling	Hunter-gather life for millenia Small family groups 10 > 20	1934 Arrival of United Aborigines Mission at Warburton Ranges > some children in school and dormitory 1961 Dormitory closes at Warburton 1962 electricity comes to the mission	Outstation movement > Ngaanyatjarra communities Housing: <i>wiltja</i> or tin shed houses 1981 Ng Council incorpor'd	Brick houses built with kitchens and bathrooms	2008 Census identified Shire as lowest per capita incomes on mainland	2010 Public housing tenancy > payment of rent and power cards	2016 Quarter of average Centrelink payment for rent alone	Grandparents starting to take on more caregiving roles	Consumption of quick and easy foods. Shift to sleeping and cooking inside houses
Income and cost of living	All needs met by resources off the land Wide kinship network	1934 > Trading of dingo scalps in exchange for rations; meagre food resources from mission; hunting and gathering continues 1959 > First access to cash as 'pocket money'	1972 > Unemployment Benefits introduced 1977 > 2005 CDEP in four (then all) Ngaanyatjarra communities	Stability of CDEP— income not a lot but sufficient	Ng. Council estimates a p.a. reduction in income of some \$1,267,875	CDEP community support programs dismantled	2016 Aust. Gov. announces 12.5% p.a. increase n tobacco excise	Cost of living increases esp. food, fuel and smokes, fines enforcement	2021 > income approx. \$46 p.d Cost of living high > \$\$ ganja, tobacco, phones
Food and nutrition	Mobility Bush food but also feast or famine diet	1934 > Meagre food from mission; still hunting and gathering 1961 > Food from mission store replaced bush food diet; hungry parents 'begging' from children fed in school dining room	Simple diet: bush foods and tea, flour, tin-a-meat No refrigeration of food at home, fires for cooking	Diet changes > processed, salty or sugary foods	Families still tend to cook and eat together	Stores and roadhouses > more take away food and snacks high in fat, sugar, salt	Less money for food due to CDP penalties > children starving	Diet high in fatty foods and sugar sweetened food & drinks	Food insecurity Reliance on service providers for food for children
Learning and socialisation	Disciplined childrearing Learning by observation	Mission schooling Last remaining bush-dwellers enter Warburton Mission by the mid-60s Authority of elders over children	1980s-1990s , Alcohol, petrol sniffing-related violence Government schooling Some teenagers schooling in Goldfields	Schools in all communities	Ngaanyatjarra Education Area starts > Ngaanyatjarra Lands Schools	2008-2013 Mobile phone towers erected in Lands. <i>Mobile phone usage</i> increases	2016 Centrelink payments accessed in urban centres via ATMs using <i>Keycards</i>	1995-2019 Playgroup inconsistent and sporadic	Low school attendance Children > less discipline Social media > less sleep
Child health	Good diet Bush medicines and traditional healing	Access to secure water source, food and medical care 1954 First hospital at Warburton Ranges Mission	Late 1970s New hospital at Warburton managed by WA Health Department 1985- NHS formed	CDEP stabilises health and well-being Swimming pool opens at Warburton	Clinics in all communities 2007 new clinic in Warburton now under NHS	NHS: Nurses, GPs, visiting paediatricians. Childhood immunisations	More urban mobility, less family stability 2019 Annual trachoma screening starts	Generational changes in dietary practices > childhood obesity, dental caries, anaemia, lowered resistance to infection and diabetes	