

Facility: Fulham Correctional Centre
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Money for basketballers

THE NAIDOC Week Elders and Family Day celebration at Fulham Correctional Centre was the venue for acknowledging a \$500 donation to assist a group of young indigenous basketball players.

Following a request for financial assistance from Regional Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee executive officer Nicole LeSage, the girls from Bairnsdale are well on their way to fielding a team in the Bairnsdale Victorian Basketball Association competition.

Ms LeSage approached Fulham Correctional Centre and explained the girls, the majority from low income families and some no longer able to live at home, were being coached by May Pearce, a highly motivated mum who has been working with young girls at high risk of entering the justice system.

Concerned these girls might lose interest because they were not able to play in the competition because of the costs involved, Ms Pearce sought assistance in procuring the funding from various networks.



Pictured from left, Fulham Correctional Centre health services manager Jan Te Maru, Regional Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee executive officer Nicole LeSage and dedicated volunteer May Pearce.

Over the years Ms Pearce has volunteered her time coaching and mentoring many groups of girls, having recognised the importance of engaging and encouraging them to focus on their talents and skills, and involving them in positive activities and interactions.

Through the delivery of Better Corrections, Fulham Correctional Centre aspires to contribute to a safer community and a key emphasis of this aspiration is providing support towards disadvantaged groups in the area.