

2023/2024

A year of transformation, impact and growth





Our 2023/24 review again demonstrates the vital impact of our work in remote Aboriginal communities.

EON continues to help Close the Gap in remote Aboriginal communities in WA and NT through its Thriving Communities Program, tackling chronic diseases and food insecurity through local food production, health education, practical skills development, training and job opportunities. The grassroots, community-led, intensive approach we have always taken continues to impact health and education outcomes in the 24 communities we partnered with during the year.

Achievements of which we are especially proud include:

Evidence the EON program is reducing type 2 Diabetes

An independent report on EON's work demonstrates our program is achieving its aim – reducing type 2 diabetes in communities who participate fully in our program and, by extension, reducing other chronic diseases caused by poor nutrition.

Becoming an Aboriginal Controlled Organisation

We became EON Aboriginal Foundation. Our community-led partnership has been at the heart of how we operate since inception in 2005, but this year we officially and proudly became an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO).

Reaching more communities

EON added a further six new communities from our waiting list – Rangeway in the Mid-West of Western Australia, Frog Hollow, Wyndham and Warmun in the East Kimberley of Western Australia, and Ampilatwatja and Yipirinya (in Alice Springs) in the Northern Territory. These communities have embraced EON's programs with enthusiasm, ownership and engagement with bountiful harvests within months of our arrival and plenty of cooking and delicious healthy eating lessons embedded in the school programs.

We still have over 40 communities on our waiting list and we are working hard to reach them as soon as we can.

Evidence of Cost Benefits

EON's Cost Benefit analysis demonstrates that through our program, Aboriginal communities can turn high rates of diabetes around. This means more Aboriginal people living longer, healthier lives and communities being freer of the personal and financial burdens of long-term disease. It also means less expenditure on health and welfare costs.

Providing job-ready learning

Working closely with schools, we have developed high school learning modules and materials which have been enthusiastically embraced by students and by the NT School of Distance Education, with achievement counting towards students HEAL, a program that focuses on building the literacy, numeracy and IT skills of students.

Our year in numbers



24

community
partnerships



183

community visits



550

days in community



726

edible garden
classes



745

healthy eating
classes



60%

Aboriginal employment



13,400

nutritious meals prepared

Now they [the children] can relate vegetables to being healthy and what's not so healthy. They're now more open to trying out what they do not know.

TEACHER

It's a benefit for all the community.

COMMUNITY MEMBER

The EON program is changing things.

COMMUNITY MEMBER

It's wonderful. They now know which foods are the best ones to cook.

COMMUNITY MEMBER

Great program. Such a positive approach to better health for Indigenous communities.

DONOR

Through their hands-on lessons and creative approach, EON empowers children and community members alike with the knowledge and skills to make healthier choices for life.

TEACHER

We've incorporated the garden in everything.

TEACHER



Thank you

On behalf of all our community and school partners, the thousands of students and their families, thank you for helping us make all this possible.

Together, we're improving the health and wellbeing of remote Aboriginal communities, improving food security and decreasing the burden of debilitating but preventable diseases.