

MIRIMA DAWANG WOORLAB-GERRING

MIRIMA PLACE FOR TALKING

Preserving our language, building our future.

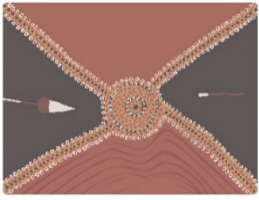
VISION

Together, we come to this place to keep Miriwoong alive by capturing, sharing and nurturing our language and culture.

“Why save Miriwoong? It’s a big thing to save your language. It’s how we understand each other. It’s how we save our country.”

Sylvia Simon, MDWg Language Worker

Together, we build a strong, proud and respectful community where our people have a sense of who they are and the land to which they belong.



MIRIMA DAWANG
WOORLAB-GERRING
LANGUAGE AND
CULTURE CENTRE

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Raise the profile of Miriwoong language and culture in the local community and connect Miriwoong people to their heritage.

Ongoing development of **Miriwoong words** for modern use

12 bilingual books with audio support published

Cultural events:
Welcome to Country and Mirima Dancers

Weekly Miriwoong radio segments aired on **Waringarri Radio**



“Speaking Miriwoong makes me feel proud. You know where you stand, where you come from. It’s your identity.”

Jimmy Paddy, MDWg Language Worker

COLLABORATION

Foster a welcoming and inclusive environment for people to talk about language and culture, and work in harmony with other local organisations.

We partner with:



- Local Aboriginal Organisations
- Member of Empowered Communities East Kimberley
- State and Federal Government agencies
- Universities including Macquarie University and Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- Jawun

“With secondees from corporate and government partners supporting MDWg on its journey to preserve Miriwoong language and culture, the Jawun model has been able to deliver the power of cross sector collaboration.”

Karyn Baylis, CEO, Jawun

EDUCATION

Create a safe, inclusive and engaging learning environment for Indigenous families to prepare children for life and employment.

400 children reached through **Miriwoong Language Nest** sessions per week



“Learning about the work of MDWg and the quest to preserve Miriwoong language is hugely inspiring. Seeing so many deeply committed to making it a reality is uplifting.”

Rupert and Annabel Myer, Aranday Foundation

PRESERVATION

Keep the Miriwoong language alive for future generations and revitalise it for modern day use.

- Bi-weekly sessions with **Miriwoong Elders** to understand and interpret language and to pass on Miriwoong to younger language workers through conversation
- Ongoing program of language documentation and archiving using voice and video recordings



OPPORTUNITY AND EMPOWERMENT

Provide Miriwoong people with opportunities to engage in meaningful, stable employment, develop new skills and achieve training qualifications.

INNOVATION

Embrace new technology to document, teach and share the Miriwoong language.

Online learning materials to support **Community Language Class**

Miriwoong Language App has over **1,215** downloads



Local Indigenous MDWg staff

8 MDWg employees completed their **Certificate III in Aboriginal Languages for Communities and Workplaces**

Indigenous Board of Directors

One MDWg employee currently enrolled in the **Aboriginal Languages Teacher Training** course, provided by the WA Department of Education



“Having the audio pen to support our children’s books is a good step for the preservation of the language. It’s more fun and interesting for them to hear one of our local voices.”

Glennis Galbat-Newry, author and MDWg Language Worker

“Us Language Workers make decisions. We are always craving more language, not just waiting to be told what to do.”

Bryan Gallagher, MDWg Language Worker