



Indigenous Youth Mobility Program

Case Study



Joyce Ralph (Rivers)

For 24-year-old Joyce Ralph, a love of learning and a passionate desire to teach saw her enrol in a Bachelor of Education at Charles Darwin University in 2006.

Home town:
Broome, WA

IYMP Location:
Darwin, NT

Studies:
Bachelor of Education
(Pre-service)

IYMP Provider:
Aboriginal Hostels
Limited

While living with her cousin in Karama and facing a lengthy commute to and from uni, she heard about the Australian Government's Indigenous Youth Mobility Program, a program that helps young Indigenous people with accommodation and other assistance to complete their studies.

With the help of the IYMP Joyce was able to complete her studies and is now a primary school teacher. She now has a job as a Teacher Tutor at a primary school in Darwin, and also works casually at After School Care as well.

"I've wanted to be a primary school teacher for a long time," Joyce said. "I had really good teachers in primary school and they made teaching look like so much fun that I wanted to do what they did."

Joyce was born in Darwin and grew up in Broome, Western Australia. Growing up, Joyce loved going to school and learning new things, and now wants to inspire that same love of learning in her own students.

"If you want to teach, you need to love teaching," Joyce says. "You need to be passionate about working with kids and being around them."

The IYMP helped Joyce with things like accommodation close to the university and meals so she could focus on her studies. She has just received her teaching degree and is now teaching at a primary school, fulfilling her dream of working with Indigenous students and being a positive role model for kids who might be struggling to complete their education.

Joyce says the IYMP helped her to get where she is today by "providing a safe and happy environment, allowing me the freedom to do things independently and to make friends with people from different places."

The IYMP helps Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 16 to 24 move away from home to gain the skills they need to get a job in their community or elsewhere. IYMP provides costs with accommodation, education and training and focuses on assisting participants to obtain Certificate III qualifications and above. Participants can choose from 16 IYMP host locations.

To apply and find out more visit
www.deewr.gov.au/IYMP.