

# GUMALA NEWSLETTER

December 2022



*Celebrating  
25 Years*

## CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF GUMALA



Photo courtesy of Ngaarda Media

When reading this publication and sharing it with family and friends,  
please be mindful that it may contain images and/or names of people  
who have since passed away.



# EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT



**Thannarru,**

Seasons greetings to you all, we hope this newsletter finds you and your family well.

I would like to start off by saying thank you to our Members for walking alongside us this year. As of the time of this newsletter being published our Membership has grown to over 2,000. To our new Members, welcome to the family – it is a privilege to be in service to you all.

## **Let's look at a few numbers**

- We welcomed in 109 new Members in 2022
- 26,000 applications were processed
- 50% of received applications were submitted via the Gumala online portal
- The average application turnaround was 2 business days compared to 5 business days last year
- 1,100 people visited our Tom Price Office
- 800 people visited our Perth office
- We spent \$22Million on our Gumala programs
- We held 12 GAC board meetings
- We held 12 committee meetings
- We welcomed 17 new staff into Gumala (6 of which are Traditional Owners)
- We're supporting 52 Children across 7 3A Early Learning Centres
- We have 58 employees – 40% of whom are Traditional Owners

2022 has been a big year us, when we take a minute to reflect, we can see how much growth we have achieved as a business and these numbers demonstrate this.

This year, we celebrated the 25-year anniversary of the Yandi Land Use Agreement. I know in recent years, we have not had the opportunity to come together due to COVID, so I am grateful that to mark the momentous occasion we were able to come together in Port Hedland to celebrate.

Our 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) was also an opportunity for us to come together and with the addition of electronic voting. Previously when we have done manual voting it has taken around 2 hours for us to complete; however, with electronic voting we have decreased this time significantly. This means, more time to consult with you and hold discussions around what you want to see from us going forward, raise questions and provide feedback. We took on your feedback about same day payments for the AGM and this year, we set up our finance team onsite and get those processed for you in real time. This really does demonstrate the innovative way our business is moving forward. I'd like to extend my thanks to the Members that attended and contributed on the day, and to the Gumala team.

We were also able to support the work Banjima Charitable Trust (BCT) do and help them deliver their Healthy Living program. I am proud of my team for being able to mobilise on relatively short notice and understand what benefits this has for our Banjima members. Thank you to BCT for trusting us to deliver this for Members. This collaborative approach is a testament to the strong relationships we have across our Aboriginal Corporation partners and how we can work in ways that benefit our Member experiences.

The Perth office has relocated to level 2 at Adelaide Terrace and the space feels really good. We have been up there previously, so returning to new facilities and a new way to engage with Members feels really positive.

Looking to the future, we're continuing to build and make improvements to the ways we serve Members. We're working collaboratively with our stakeholders both in Perth and in the Pilbara to ensure we align our support for Members. It's been a big year and the work won't stop here, so thanks for coming along with us on this journey.

# TAKING WESTERN AUSTRALIA TALENT TO SINGAPORE



It's not often that you make the journey over to Singapore to play soccer. But Georgia Willock, from Newman, did just that, alongside her proud Mum. Her Mum, Karen Lockyer applied for Member Sponsorship for her daughter to play in the 2022 SingaCup Championship in early November. This saw Georgia, along with 11 other talented soccer players, forming the 14 and under, Goldfields Football West team and making their way to Singapore. They played teams from Australia, the Phillipines and Singapore. Georgia is a keen sports player and has been selected in various representative teams over the years including tee ball, netball and soccer.

Karen shared that the SingaCup bought some new challenges for Georgia and her team

"Each day was a challenge with weather conditions and injury management along with some huge defeats. In the final day the Goldfields Football West team played against another WA team for 3rd and 4th place. By this game, players were familiar and hungry for a win. With some brilliant team work the WA Goldfields team won 3-2 Against Fremantle Football Club."

**"Thank you to Gumala Aboriginal Corporation for their sponsorship! Not only were they supportive financially, the service given by the Gumala team was amazing!"**

Well done Georgia, for seizing a once in a life opportunity and we're glad we were able to support you.

If you would like more information on how to apply for the Member Sponsorship program, please visit the GAC website or contact the office and ask to speak with Carol. Applications can be sent to: [applications@gumala.com.au](mailto:applications@gumala.com.au)





## 2022 GUMALA AGM

The 2022 Gumala Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in Port Hedland and hosted around 700 Members this year. As we have done in recent years, we were able to register people online, which meant less time spent on administration for the Gumala team. We held a consultation session providing an opportunity for Gumala and Members to engage, provide feedback and raise concerns. This year was the first year we undertook online voting for the Gumala Aboriginal Corporation board - this saves time compared to the manual voting process. Thanks to those who were able to join us.

This year, we welcomed in 3 new Directors and re-appointed 4 Directors across the 3 language groups.





# 25-YEAR CELEBRATION EVENT

This year we celebrated the 25 Year anniversary of the Yandi Land Use Agreement in Port Hedland. It was an evening filled with good food, music and fireworks. Thank you to those who were able to join us the event. Our friends at Ngaarda Media were able to capture some great photos of the event - thank you!







# GUMALA INVESTMENTS PTY LTD (GIPL)

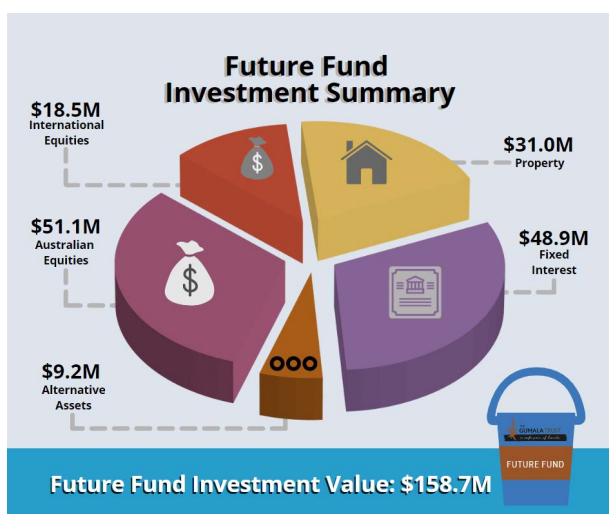
## GGF Financial Overview

The General Gumala Foundation Trust would like to advise the Beneficiaries that as at 30 September 2022, the assets held under investment totalled \$181.7M, with \$158.7M of those investments held within the Future Fund. The net Future Fund, after factoring in liabilities, totalled \$157.8M.

The September Quarter's investment returns continued to demonstrate the volatility in financial markets,

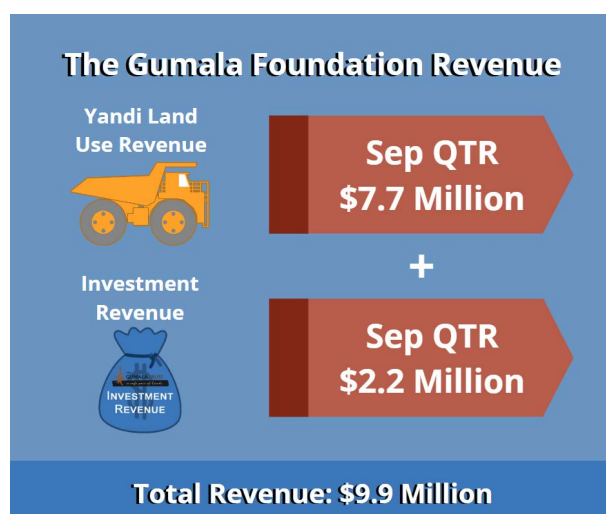
range set in the Investment policy, with the allocation reaching 19% in the September Quarter. The addition of new properties for the Gumala Housing program will see this percentage brought into the allocated range in the future.

Additionally, Alternative Assets was slightly above range, at 6% with the range set at 0-5%. However, this will be brought into line across future quarters.



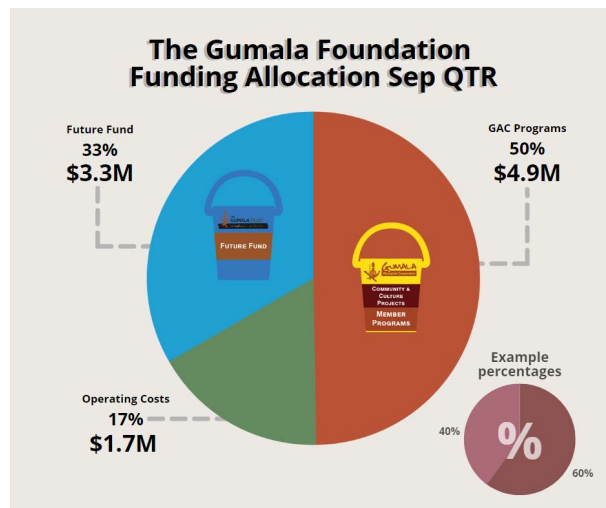
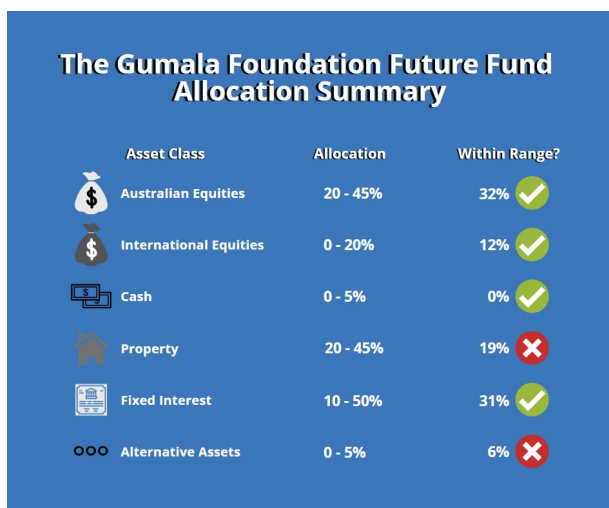
with positive growth in July and August, followed by negative impacts in September. Despite this, from an income point of view, the financial investments are performing ahead of expectation, particularly with the recent increases in interest rates.

Property continues to be slightly under the 20-25%



The total Revenue for the 3 months to 30 September 2022 was \$9.9M, with \$1.7M spent on GAC and GIPL Operating costs.

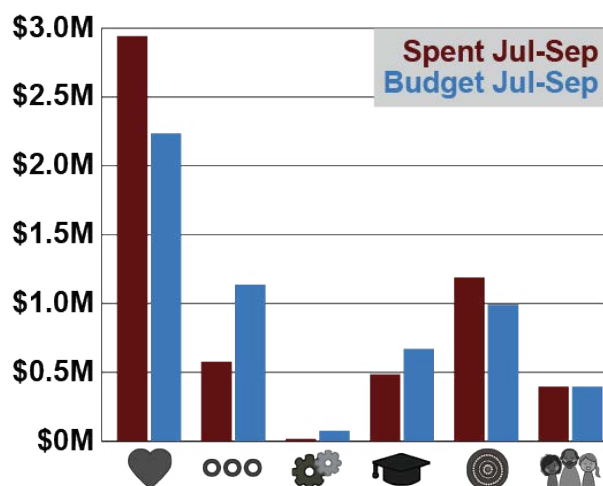
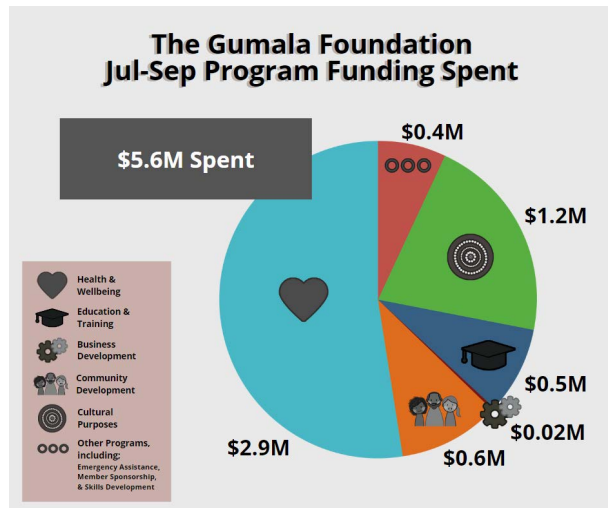
This allowed for \$8.3M, 83%, to be retained for the Benefit of Members and Beneficiaries through GAC Member Program Funding and the Future Fund.



# GUMALA INVESTMENTS PTY LTD (GIPL)



Program funding for the September Quarter totalled \$5.6M, with 52% of funding being spent on Health & Wellbeing programs.



Health & Wellbeing and Cultural Purpose program funding did exceed budget, however this reflects Members using their flexible program funding and is consistent with prior quarters.

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/GumalaTrust/](https://www.facebook.com/GumalaTrust/)

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## The GIPL Board

As announced at the GIPL AGM held in October 2022, Ian McPherson has been appointed Chair of the GIPL Board.



As your GIPL Chair, Ian and the GIPL Board strive to continue building the Future Fund so that it will always be able to support GAC's Member Programs and Gumala's Members and Beneficiaries.

Together with the other GIPL Directors, Ian commits to the mission of the GIPL Board to:

- Be a Safe Pair of Hands
- Learn from our history
- Plan positively for the future
- Protect our Members and Beneficiaries, particularly the elderly

And above all, he commits to uphold the GIPL Board to never lose sight that what they do is on behalf of the Banjima, Yinhawangka and Nyiyaparli peoples.





Happy  
holidays  
from

**GUMALA**

we would like to wish you and your  
loved ones safe and happy holidays

Our Gumala offices will re-open at  
9am on the 9th of January

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