

INFO SHEET ON

THE AUSTRALIAN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (AFPP) EVALUATION

WHAT IS THE AFPP?

The AFPP is a program where Nurses and Family Partnership Workers visit mums. They can support mum from when she is pregnant until her baby is 2 years old.

The AFPP focusses on mum's strengths and solutions. Mums who are in AFPP are seen as experts in their lives.

Over 3,600 women have been in the AFPP since 2009.

WHAT IS THE AFPP EVALUATION?

The government asked Cox Inall Ridgeway and Urbis to find out how the AFPP has been helping mums of First Nations babies.

Cox Inall Ridgeway and Urbis visited 13 AFPP sites across Australia in 2022 and 2023. We spoke with mums and staff to find out what was working well and what could be better. Mums and staff also did surveys to share their thoughts.

WE SPOKE WITH 106 MUMS

We spoke with **95** Indigenous mums and **11** non-Indigenous mums.

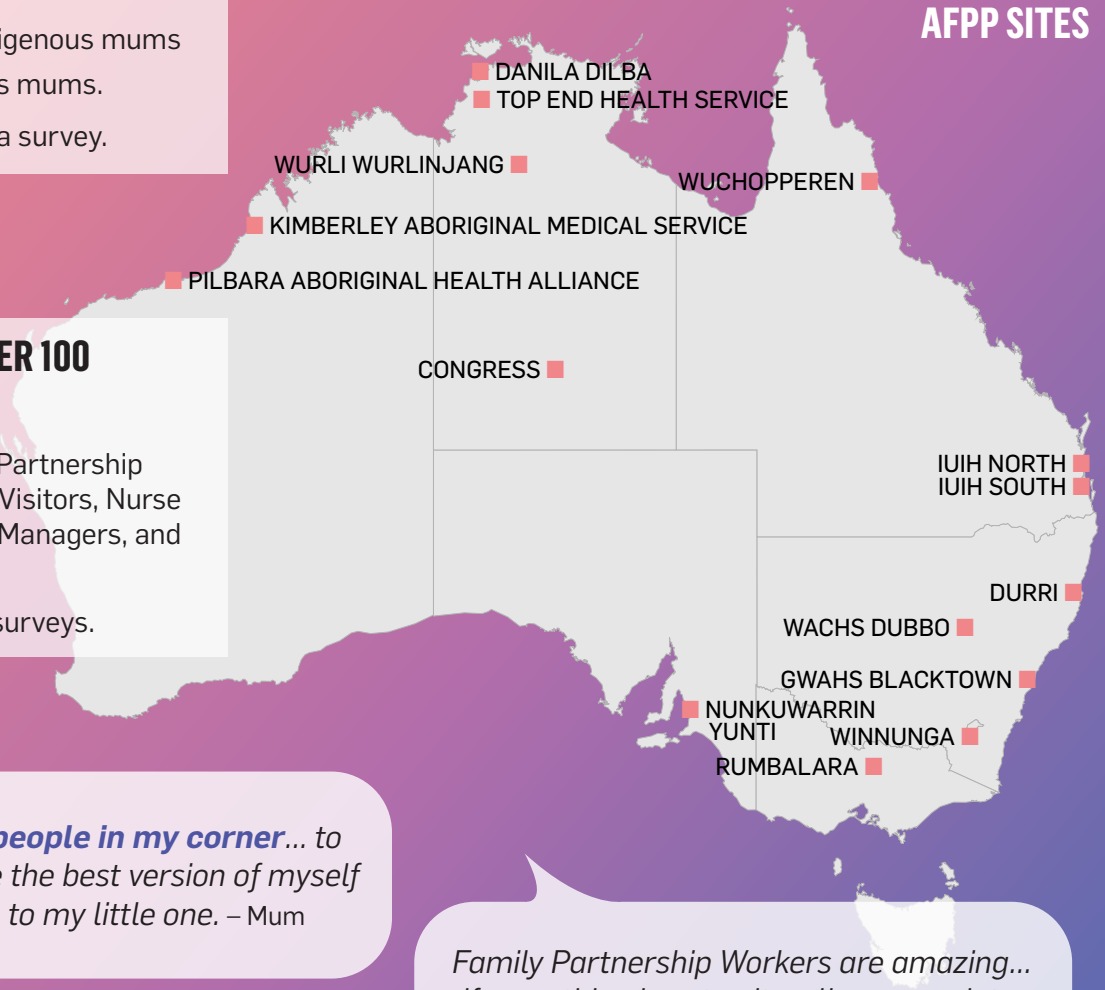
66 mums completed a survey.

WE SPOKE WITH OVER 100 AFPP STAFF

We spoke with Family Partnership Workers, Nurse Home Visitors, Nurse Supervisors, Program Managers, and other AFPP staff.

118 staff completed surveys.

MAP OF AFPP SITES



WHAT MUMS SAID...

*I felt like **I had people in my corner**... to support me to be the best version of myself as a parent... to my little one. – Mum*

*Family Partnership Workers are amazing... if something is not culturally appropriate, **they're there to support** that mum... – Mum*

I've got no mob up here but the AFPP made me **feel like part of their mob** and connected to them... they treated me like family which is really important. – Mum

From my mum or his mum, we get two different opinions... **sometimes it's good to have another opinion** that's not inside our little family circle. – Mum

I reckon this program is **good for Indigenous women because they can speak up** and they can talk and ask questions. – Mum

WHAT DID MUMS SAY ABOUT THE AFPP?

- **Most mums were happy with AFPP.** They felt safe and liked the information, support, activities and cultural connection.
- **Mums said that Family Partnership Workers were important.** They helped build trust with mums by breaking down information, making connections to culture, and by helping the program to be culturally safe.
- Some mums said it can be hard when staff leave, and that the program **could be better if more people knew about it.** Mums also said more group and social activities would help families connect with the community.

HOW DID THE AFPP SUPPORT MUMS?

- Mums said the AFPP **helped them be strong and confident parents.** Mums said they know how to help their babies grow strong.
- Mums said their baby's health was better **because their own health was better.** AFPP also gave them more information about things like breastfeeding and safe sleeping.
- Mums said AFPP **helped dads and partners to access supports and services,** find work and improve their social and emotional wellbeing.

WHAT MUMS SAID...

I honestly love this program.
It's helped me to confidently navigate my journey into motherhood. – Mum

I had poor pre-natal care before joining the program. When AFPP became aware of this, **they linked me to more appropriate care** which I felt was much better. – Mum

I think it was **crucial AFPP supported me** because if I walked into child protection meetings without them, my son would have been taken. – Mum

When I first became a mum, I learned the bush tucker and the bush medicine. And then when having a second child I could do my own...
[AFPP] has **helped me deliver this bush medicine,** bush food, healthy food in both ways.
– Mum

AFPP **helped me learn more and listen more** to baby... it's helped me grow closer to my baby and understand him more... – Mum

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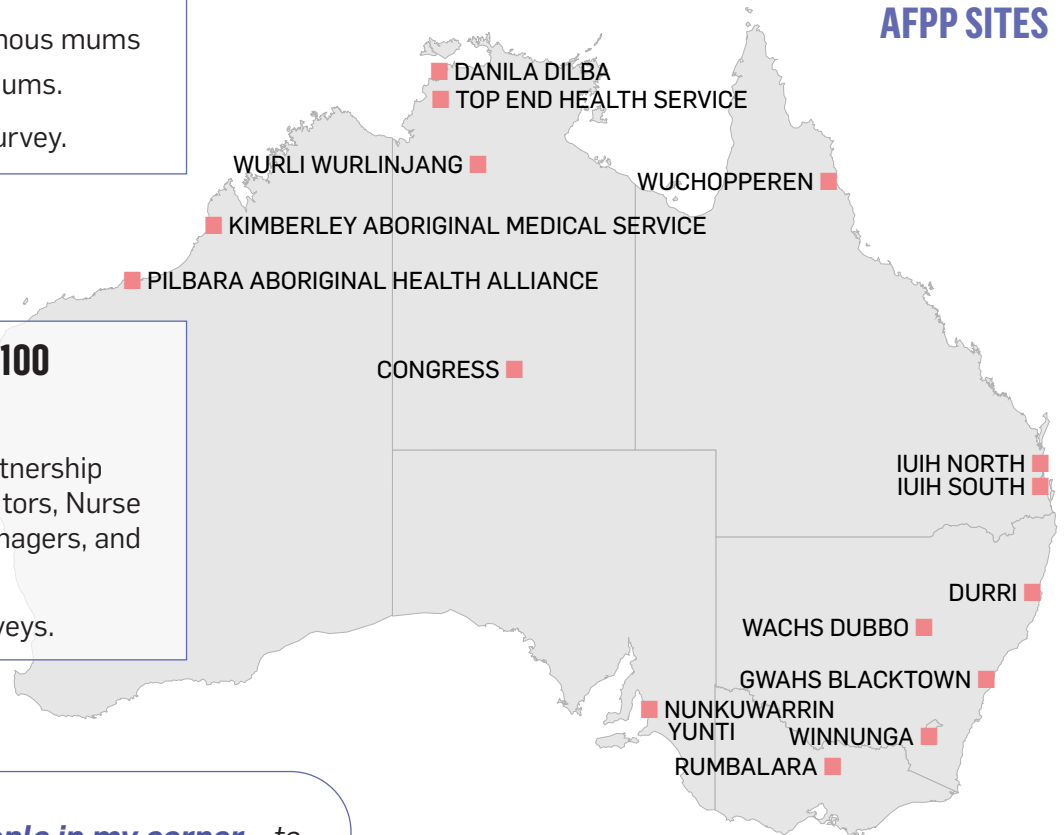
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