

Impact Report

FY 2024/25



AMRRIC acknowledges all First Nations People of the beautiful lands on which we live and celebrate their enduring knowledge and connections to Country. We honour the wisdom of and pay respect to Elders past and present.



AMRRIC respectfully uses the terms Indigenous, First Nations, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander interchangeably across our communications. We acknowledge that individuals and communities hold diverse preferences for how they identify, and we strive wherever possible to use community-preferred language in local contexts.

Our Impact Highlights

135

unique communities reached through on-ground and beyond-on-ground support

1195

animals surgically desexed

720

education and training participants



144

on-ground vet, ed or census services delivered

7.5K+

animals seen by our veterinary teams

2037

households engaged in vet, ed or census services

1284

volunteer hours contributed





Message from our Chair

AMRRIC through focusing on its core values of Connect, Respect, and Impact has deepened its One Health impact across remote communities during the year. I wish to recognise the communities we work with, Indigenous partners, staff, volunteers, funders, councils, and veterinary teams for their contributions.

Our performance this year sets the tone to deliver the five goals of our 2030 Strategy: expand animal management services; build capacity through learning; advance One Health evidence; grow the business—including appropriate opportunities in remote Pacific nations; and strengthen an engaged workplace culture. As a national not-for-profit, our One Health approach integrates animal health, community wellbeing, and environmental outcomes.



International recognition of our approach underscores years of engagement and success—and we gratefully share that recognition with everyone who has lent their expertise and knowledge to AMRRIC.

Key improvements this year include governance strengthening through policy refreshes and enhanced risk oversight, and continual improvement in program coherence via standardised remote service delivery protocols. We are investing in tools to improve data evaluation, and in workforce and safety oversight. Strengthening our systems for efficiency, we have been able to establish a new office location in Perth to support delivery in Western Australia, and we continue to explore national training pipelines.

An important function of the Board is to identify and manage organisational risk. During this year risks addressed include remote travel safety, workforce capacity, delivery costs, and funding sustainability. There were no changes to Board membership in 2024-25, which strengthened institutional memory and maintained strategic momentum.

The AMRRIC board remains committed to embedding Indigenous leadership across governance, programs and workforce pathways. Progress this year includes community-led planning forums, advisory groups, and MOUs for co-design and decision-making; mentoring, and on-Country learning; procurement partnerships with Indigenous-led organisations; and implementation of cultural governance protocols including welcoming practices, data sovereignty principles, and Indigenous indicators of success in evaluation.

Looking forward 12-24 months, priorities include increasing Indigenous board/committee representation, exploring AMRRIC supported scholarships and clear progression pathways for building capacity and qualifications to support and deliver companion animal management programs from our volunteers to contractors, and community residents and local animal management liaisons to coordinator roles.

In closing, I wish to thank the communities we partner with, their Elders, leaders, our staff, volunteers, partners, donors and government agencies for their continued partnership

and investment in Indigenous-led pathways and One Health-driven animal health and management service continuity. I particularly wish to thank our CEO, Brooke Rankmore, and the AMRRIC leadership team for their ongoing commitment and delivery of quality, impactful programs in remote Indigenous Communities. AMRRIC remains committed to delivering culturally responsive, community-driven animal health services that improve wellbeing across animals, people, Country, and culture.

Prof Steve Rogers

“
The AMRRIC Board remains committed to embedding Indigenous leadership across governance, programs and workforce pathways.

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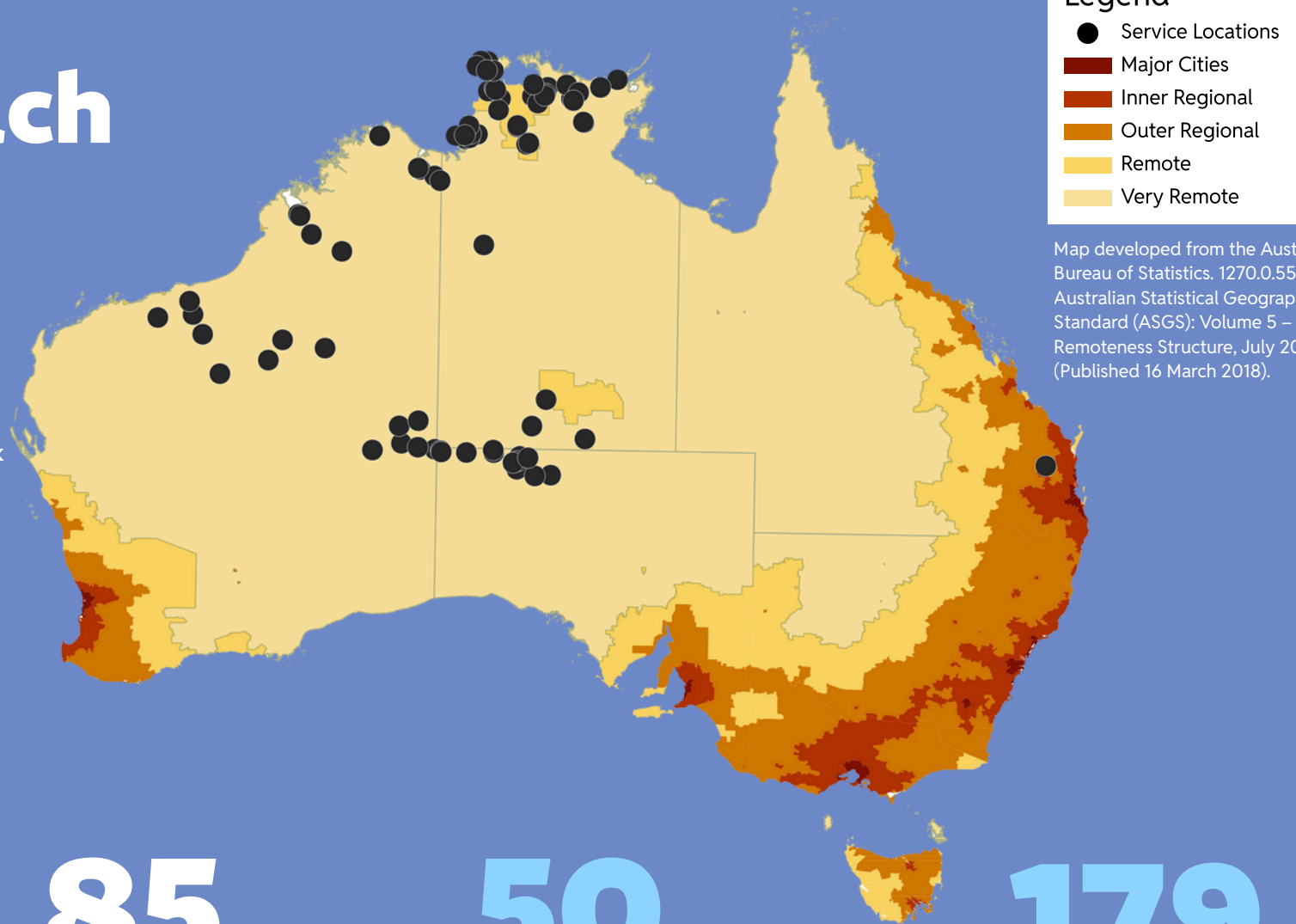
Our Reach

Each year, AMRRIC partners with remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to strengthen animal health and community wellbeing. In 2024–2025, our teams delivered 144 on-ground veterinary, education and training services across 85 unique communities—work guided by local priorities and our One Health approach connecting the wellbeing of people, animals, Country and culture. Beyond our on-ground programs, we also provided support to community organisations through strategic initiatives such as pro bono access to the AMRRIC App, animal health product supply and online training. Behind the scenes, AMRRIC continued to receive and respond to hundreds of community and stakeholder requests for assistance—helping us identify, monitor and respond to emerging needs across remote Australia.

85
Remote communities reached through on-ground services

50
Additional communities supported via remote assistance initiatives

179
Requests for assistance received nationally



Message from the CEO

Reflecting on the year that has passed, I'm reminded how quickly time moves when meaningful work is underway. For AMRRIC, the past year has been one of continued growth, learning, and deep collaboration with communities, partners, and supporters across Australia, and now, beyond our shores. Each year brings its own rhythm of challenges and achievements, and this one has been no exception.

While our reach and impact have expanded, so too has the demand for AMRRIC's assistance. Requests for support continue to grow, a clear reflection of the ongoing need for equitable access to animal health and management services in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Meeting that need sustainably remains at the heart of our work.

In this changing landscape, we are mindful of the growing pressures of the financial climate. AMRRIC continues to be deeply grateful for the enduring support of the Australian Government, which underpins our principal operations and advocacy work.

Yet, like many organisations, we face a widening gap between available funding and the rising costs of delivering essential services to remote regions. Our focus is firmly on ensuring our programs remain sustainably resourced, not just for today, but for the years ahead.

To do this, AMRRIC is actively exploring innovative approaches to extend our reach and resilience. Building the capacity of community members to take local ownership of animal management activities is key, as is the development of telehealth options that allow us to provide ongoing veterinary support remotely. These approaches strengthen our connection with communities and help ensure that local capacity endures long after our teams have departed.

Our expansion into Nauru has been a particularly exciting milestone. It provided a rare opportunity to apply AMRRIC's model of companion animal management, developed over decades in partnership with First Nations communities, in an international context.

The Nauru program has demonstrated the strength of our One Health approach through integrated veterinary services, education, training, and public health engagement. It has also opened valuable avenues for cultural exchange, shared learning, and knowledge-building in animal and land management practices.

Advocacy continues to be a cornerstone of AMRRIC's mission. By raising awareness of both the challenges and opportunities within the companion animal management sector, we are able to influence policy, strengthen collaboration, and build partnerships across government, research, and industry. This work is only possible through the commitment and trust of our partners and supporters, who share our belief that healthy animals mean healthy communities.

The impact reflected throughout this report is a direct result of the dedication and passion of our people, staff, board, committee members, contractors, and volunteers, and the communities and partners who walk alongside us. I extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your contributions, commitment, and belief in AMRRIC's mission. Together, we are building a stronger, more sustainable future for communities and their animals.

Dr Brooke Rankmore



“
Together, we are building a stronger, more sustainable future for communities and their animals.”



Strategic Pillars

Veterinary Programs

AMRRIC works to mitigate geographic and socio-economic barriers, and assist remote communities to access vital veterinary services. Our companion animal management centres around veterinary programs that provide desexing, antiparasitic medications and animal welfare focused treatments, aiming to improve dog and cat population health and control and in turn, improve community health, safety and wellbeing.

Building Knowledge & Capacity

Local engagement, knowledge and skills are critical to the sustainability and effectiveness of remote community companion animal health and management programs. To enhance animal health and management outcomes, AMRRIC has developed a variety of animal-related educational resources, activities and programs, which operate on their own or ideally in delivery alongside regular veterinary services. AMRRIC is finalising accredited and non-accredited skills-based training which will provide local community members with the opportunity to participate in and contribute to their animal management program outcomes.

Research & Advocacy

AMRRIC works collaboratively with researchers and communities to support research projects that promote advocacy for One Health principles, address existing knowledge gaps and support appropriate outcomes in public health and safety for people and animals in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The outputs of AMRRIC's work and research collaborations help to facilitate evidence-based practice, inform public policy and direct resources to areas of most need, resulting in tangible benefits for both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, their people, and their companion animals.

Innovation & Sustainability

Community dog and cat population management impacts upon a large variety of realms including biosecurity and public health. Through multi-disciplinary collaboration, AMRRIC designs innovative projects that work to evidence the need, as well as the impacts that AMRRIC and our partners are achieving. By monitoring our progress over time, we're able to reflect upon challenges and opportunities, and adapt our programs to ensure sustained community benefit.

Veterinary Programs



AMRRIC's veterinary teams once again spent much of the year on the road—travelling more than 35,000 kilometres to deliver 33 programs delivering veterinary service across 79 unique communities. In total, over 7,500 animals received care, including the surgical desexing of 868 dogs and 327 cats. These programs reached some of the most remote parts of Australia, from the tropical north to the vast Pilbara and the central deserts—communities that would otherwise have little or no access to veterinary services.

Behind every program lies weeks of coordination and careful planning. Every item needed for a functioning veterinary clinic—surgical equipment, medicines, diagnostic tools, and education resources—is packed and transported across vast distances.

33

trips delivering veterinary care to 79 unique communities

Teams navigate unpredictable weather, challenging roads, and the rhythm of cultural and community events, working alongside local stakeholders to ensure services are delivered safely, respectfully, and with lasting impact. To strengthen logistical efficiency and program reach across Western and South Australia, this year, in addition to our Darwin office, AMRRIC was excited to establish a new base in Perth this year. This base lays the foundations for more regular, cost-efficient and sustained veterinary service coverage throughout WA and SA.

“Behind every program lies weeks of coordination and careful planning.”

Consistent, community-requested veterinary visits remain the cornerstone of humane, effective animal population management. Of the 79 communities reached by our vet teams this year, 21 received multiple visits within the year, and 43 were supported across two consecutive years—ensuring continuity of care. Sustained programs focused on desexing and preventative treatments translate to healthier animals and reduced risks to human health, while also easing pressures on communities' environmental health systems. However, securing the ongoing funding needed to maintain this continuity remains a persistent challenge. Long-term investment is essential to move from reactive responses to proactive, planned programs that deliver enduring animal health, biosecurity, and community wellbeing outcomes.



Beyond our on-ground programs, the AMRRIC team is kept busy responding to the many requests for assistance we continue to receive—from helping owners with individual animal health advice to supporting community partners in securing resources for sustainable service delivery.

Each veterinary program is as unique as the community it serves, but all share a common goal: to improve the health and wellbeing of animals and people alike.

Services include

- surgical desexing,
- first aid and emergency care,
- humane euthanasia,
- door-to-door animal health checks,
- antiparasitic treatments,
- and practical, empathetic conversations that support informed decision-making by animal owners.

Our achievements are extended through the generosity of our volunteer veterinarians and veterinary nurses, who collectively contributed 168 volunteer days—more than 1,250 hours—valued at over \$114,000. Their expertise, compassion, and commitment multiply AMRRIC’s impact, helping us deliver tangible benefits for animals, communities, Country, and culture.

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AMRRIC’s veterinary teams are kept busy responding to the many requests for assistance.

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Building Knowledge & Capacity

EDUCATION

Over the past year, we developed 14 new educational resources, and 654 people - including 573 students and 117 adults - have engaged with AMRRIC's school-based educational programs across 18 communities.



14

New educational resources

- **Extending our footprint;** School education was introduced to South Australia's APY Lands (Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara), strengthening AMRRIC's long-standing veterinary program delivery in the region. Welcomed by schools, students, and the wider community, this new initiative is helping to build knowledge and awareness that will support better health outcomes for both pets and people in the years ahead.
- **Science Week August 2024!** With support from Inspiring Australia's Science Week funding, AMRRIC brought a hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) experience to Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic Primary School in Wadeye, NT. Over 95 enthusiastic students and 25 teachers took part in the interactive lessons, exploring the science behind animal health and care.
- **Pilbara Desert Program:** Across Western Australia's Pilbara region, AMRRIC's education team delivered an expansive program spanning more than 850 kilometres. Designed to build understanding of animal care and the benefits of desexing, the education sessions were delivered ahead of veterinary services—helping communities make informed decisions and ensuring the program's impact was lasting and meaningful.
- **AMRRIC visits all schools on the Tiwi Islands:** With support from Inspiring Australia and The Fouress Foundation, AMRRIC delivered three education programs across the Tiwi Islands—reaching every school throughout 2024–2025. Through these visits, students learned about caring for animals, understanding their health needs, and the important connections between animal wellbeing, community health, and Country.

Featured resource



One of two new animations developed this year, our **Informed Consent Animation** explains what informed consent means when it comes to dog and cat desexing. Developed in partnership with Indigenous creative agency Blackfish, and supported by AMRRIC's generous donors, the short video is designed for accessibility and cultural safety, helping community members understand:

- what desexing involves,
- risks and benefits of desexing
- why consent matters, and
- how to make informed choices for their animals' health & wellbeing.

Watch the AMRRIC Informed Consent animation:



<https://www.amrric.org/topic/reproductionanddesexing/view/informed-consent/>

TRAINING

Accredited training resource development

For several years, AMRRIC has been leading efforts to develop nationally recognised training tailored to the unique context of remote Indigenous communities. In 2024–2025, this work reached a major milestone with the finalisation of the Animal Management Worker Skill Set – ACMSS00031 Promote Animal Health in Remote Communities. Developed with input from community partners, training providers, and industry stakeholders, the skill set fills a long-standing gap in contextually appropriate education.

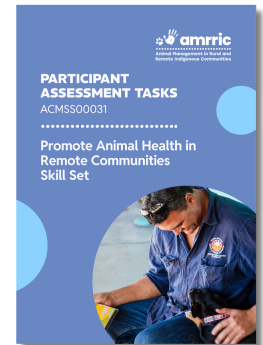
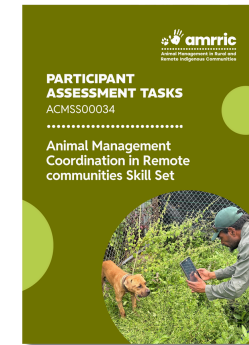
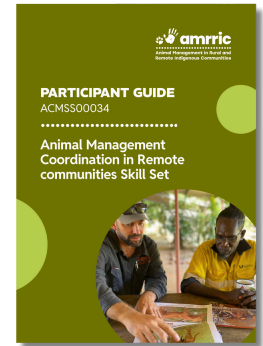
A second skill set—ACMSS00034 Animal Management Coordination in Remote Communities—aimed at supporting Local Government program managers, is now nearing finalisation. The next step for AMRRIC is to establish a formal delivery

partnership with a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), with pilot delivery expected to commence next year. Together, these skill sets mark an important step toward building recognised qualifications and meaningful employment pathways that strengthen animal health, community wellbeing, and local capacity across remote Australia.

Non-accredited training

In addition to accredited pathways, AMRRIC continues to deliver a range of non-accredited training programs that build practical skills and confidence for those working with animals in remote communities, with 30 individuals from ten organisations participating this year, including:

- Training MacDonnell Regional Council staff to support the Animal Management Coordinator in conducting animal censuses and administering anti-parasitic treatments.
- Training Tiwi teachers in Wurrumiyanga on AMRRIC resources and the One Health approach.
- Training Pilbara environmental health staff on the role of community dogs and cats, and how to respond to animal health issues encountered in their work.
- Delivering biosecurity, animal census, and preventative health training to 22 participants through AMRRIC’s Biosecurity Pilot Project.



22

Participants trained in biosecurity, animal census and preventative health

Research & Advocacy

At AMRRIC, our One Health focus reflects an understanding long held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples—that the health of animals, people, Country, and culture are deeply connected. When animals are healthy and well cared for, communities are safer, stronger, and more resilient. Our research and advocacy work builds on this holistic worldview, creating evidence and partnerships that strengthen wellbeing across animals, people, and environments.

AMRRIC is proud to have secured secured funding for three research studies this year, including a new investigation into ticks and tick-borne diseases that affect companion animals in remote communities. Three additional grant applications and one expression of interest were also submitted to expand this work.

Each of our research collaborations is designed to explore priorities identified by community members and animal management stakeholders, ensuring that findings are practical, relevant, and culturally grounded. Beyond these studies, AMRRIC is engaged in 22 active research collaborations with universities, government agencies, and industry partners—collectively building knowledge that supports healthier animals and communities.

Through 24 presentations at 21 conferences and events, AMRRIC's team reached more than 1,500 professionals from fields spanning veterinary science, public health, and environmental conservation. Our advocacy also extended beyond the podium, with AMRRIC contributing to the development of six peak body policies helping align national frameworks with One Health principles and community-informed perspectives.

Supporting the next generation of One Health professionals remains a key focus. This year, AMRRIC hosted seven individual university placements and 24 group placements from the University of Sydney and Macquarie University. These students investigated diverse One Health topics while learning to apply transdisciplinary and community-centred approaches in their future careers.

AMRRIC staff also contributed to the global evidence base as co-authors on three peer-reviewed publications addressing zoonotic diseases—those that spread between animals and people. Together, these studies identified important knowledge gaps, emerging threats, and priorities for achieving health equity through culturally appropriate, community-led One Health strategies.

22

Active research collaborations

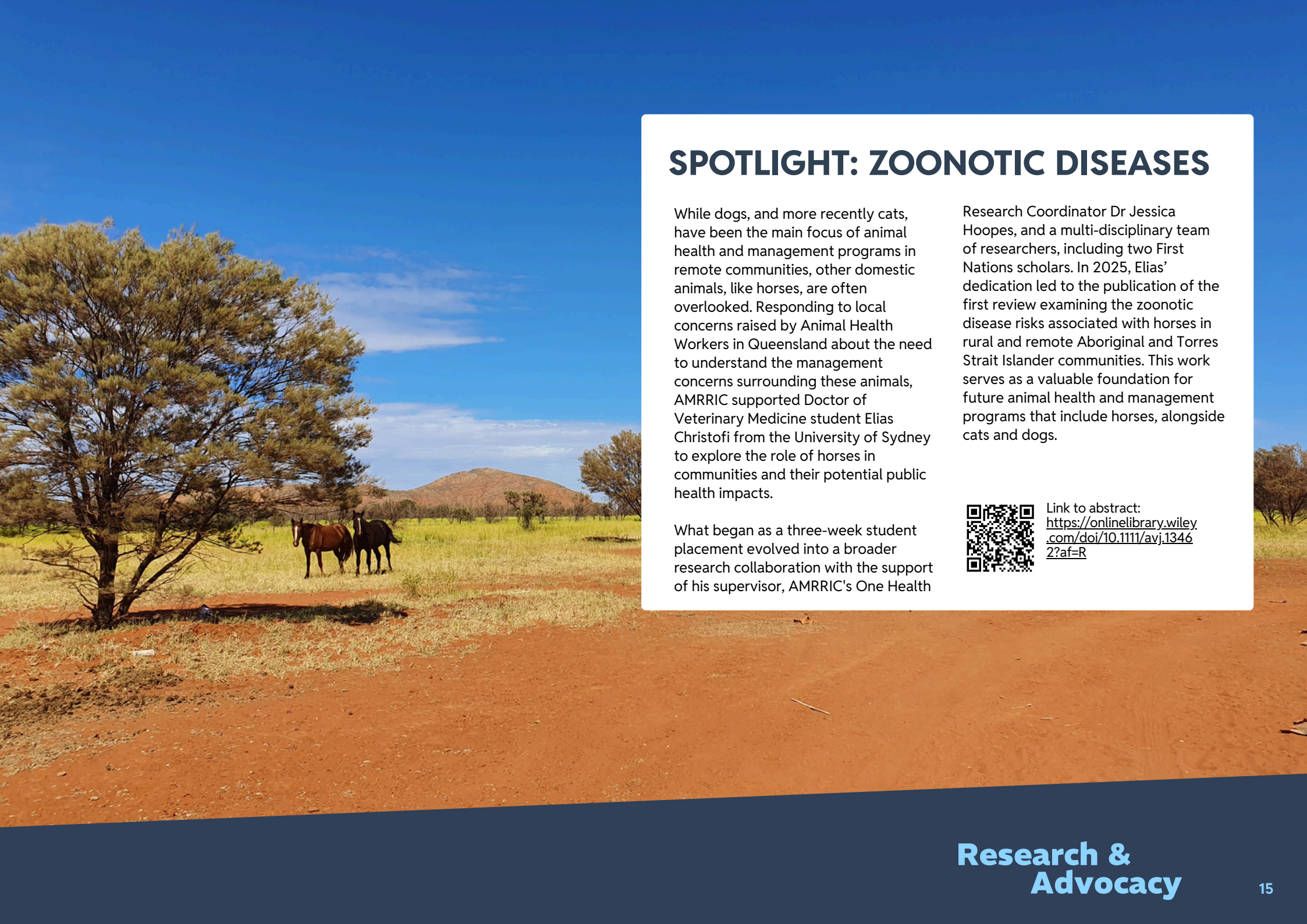
1.5k+

People reached through advocacy presentations

3

Peer-reviewed publications published





SPOTLIGHT: ZONOTIC DISEASES

While dogs, and more recently cats, have been the main focus of animal health and management programs in remote communities, other domestic animals, like horses, are often overlooked. Responding to local concerns raised by Animal Health Workers in Queensland about the need to understand the management concerns surrounding these animals, AMRRIC supported Doctor of Veterinary Medicine student Elias Christofi from the University of Sydney to explore the role of horses in communities and their potential public health impacts.

What began as a three-week student placement evolved into a broader research collaboration with the support of his supervisor, AMRRIC's One Health

Research Coordinator Dr Jessica Hoopes, and a multi-disciplinary team of researchers, including two First Nations scholars. In 2025, Elias' dedication led to the publication of the first review examining the zoonotic disease risks associated with horses in rural and remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. This work serves as a valuable foundation for future animal health and management programs that include horses, alongside cats and dogs.



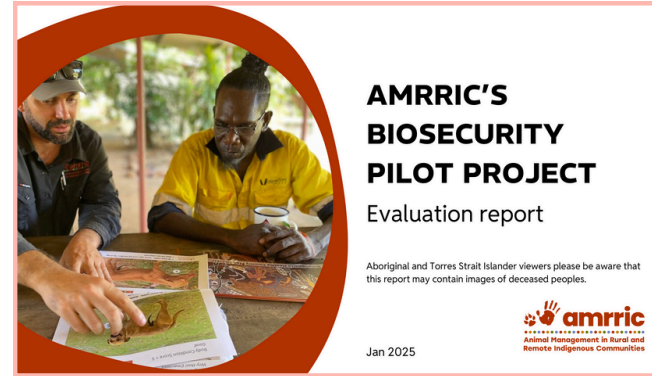
Link to abstract:
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/avj.13462?af=R>

Innovation & Sustainability

This year, AMRRIC reached an important milestone with the completion of its **Biosecurity Pilot Project**, and the release of our new **Emergency Management Resources for Local Governments**—two initiatives that together strengthen community resilience, preparedness, and animal health across remote Australia.



The **Biosecurity Pilot Project**, funded by the Australian Government's Biosecurity Business Grants Program, explored how companion-animal programs can support ethical and practical biosecurity surveillance within remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Over three years, AMRRIC partnered with 25 communities across nine regions, delivering 41 community-wide censuses, training 126 Indigenous employment days. More than 7,900 animals were assessed and treated, with 65% of project expenditure directly benefitting communities.



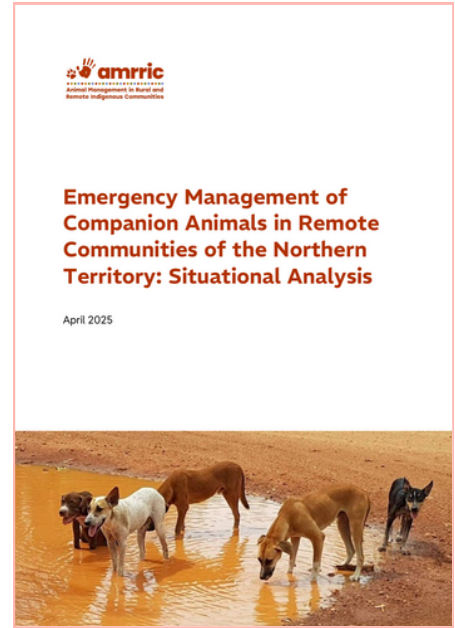
Read the project's evaluation here:
www.amrric.org/resource-type/monitoringandevaluation/view/amrrics-biosecurity-pilot-project-evaluation-report-2025

“
Demonstrating tangible improvements in animal health builds trust and engagement within the community.”

Biosecurity Pilot Project Partner



Drawing on years of experience supporting remote community councils during cyclones, floods, and disease events, AMRRIC's **Emergency Management Resources** assist local government in planning and responding to disasters that impact animals and communities. The resources include templates, guidance, and checklists for emergency preparedness, coordination, and recovery. While developed for the Northern Territory, the resources are readily adaptable across jurisdictions, promoting the inclusion of animals in emergency management plans as a core element of community wellbeing. Councils are encouraged to explore these resources in the lead-up to the high-risk weather season to strengthen preparedness and ensure animals are not left behind in times of crisis.



Visit AMRRIC's Emergency Management Resource Hub:
www.amrric.org/emergency-management

Our International Program



Whilst 4,200km from AMRRIC's headquarters in Darwin, companion animal management in Nauru shares many of the same challenges as our rural and remote communities in Australia, including a lack of access to services, overpopulation of dogs resulting in human and animal injuries and death, and an often-confronting history.

With technical expertise, community inclusion, government partnerships and One Health approach, AMRRIC were invited to support Nauru in the development of a 10-year Animal Management strategy in 2023.

Starting in 2024, the Nauru One Health Companion Animal Management Program has 4 components.:

1. Veterinary Services
2. School Education
3. One Health Research; and
4. Training and Community Engagement

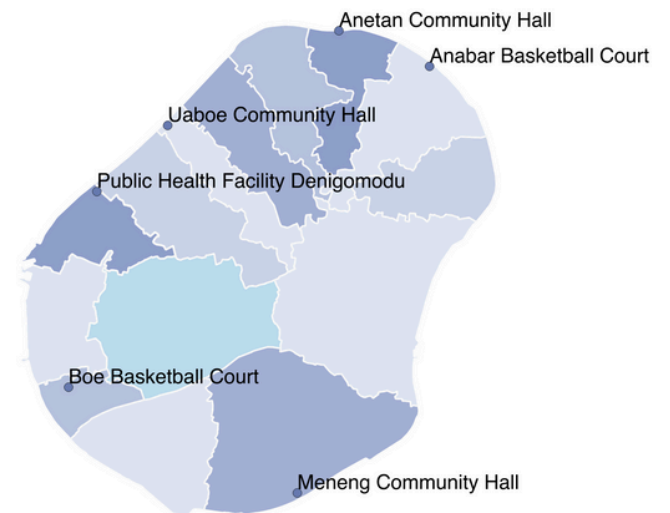
Each of these has been co-designed and delivered with our partners: the Departments of Justice and Border Control, Education, Health and Medical Services, and Environmental Management and Agriculture (DEMA), Nauru Airlines, Nauru Media and the communities of Nauru's 14 districts.

Over the past year of regular veterinary services to Nauru teams desexed on average, 110 animals and provided veterinary care to another 453 animals during each of 3 trips. Totaling 1,691 animal services provided.

The school education program has delivered lessons to 714 primary-aged school students and their teachers with students learning about: "Staying Safe Around Dogs" and "Animal's Needs and Feelings". Teachers have described classes as "...very engaging for the children. They really loved it. So educational and the presentation was well prepared. Thank you for a wonderful session."



Nauru clinic locations 2024/2025



Our International Program



“AMRRIC achieved excellent engagement and results in all aspects of the program.”

Stephen Close, (Deputy High Commissioner)

The One Health Research Program¹ includes testing blood, parasite and poo samples, dog count surveys to assess the dynamics of free-roaming dog populations, and online surveys to understand community knowledge, practices and attitudes. These will provide a baseline from which to monitor responses to various interventions. Sample collection and analysis are currently ongoing! Capacity strengthening for our partners in the Quarantine Division has resulted in; a better understanding of the regional complexities of dog management and improved ability to both recognise and prevent diseases in dogs and cats.

There has also been a visible improvement in the health of dogs viewed on Island-wide monitoring surveys.

[1] Supported by the University of Melbourne and Macquarie University

Stephen Close (Deputy High Commissioner) expressed that “AMRRIC did an excellent job delivering their One Health Program in Nauru. They were professional, highly skilled, and a pleasure to work with. They achieved excellent engagement and results in all aspects of the program: delivery of veterinary care to companion animals, the school visits to teach animal safety, consultation with the Government of Nauru on policy reform, and building Nauru’s technical capacity”. Discussions are currently underway to extend AMRRIC’s partnership in Nauru to 2027.

The Nauru One Health Companion Animal Program is supported by the Australian Government and implemented by AMRRIC in partnership with the Quarantine Division of Nauru’s Department of Justice and Border Control.

714
students reached through our programs

1.6K+
Animal services provided on Nauru

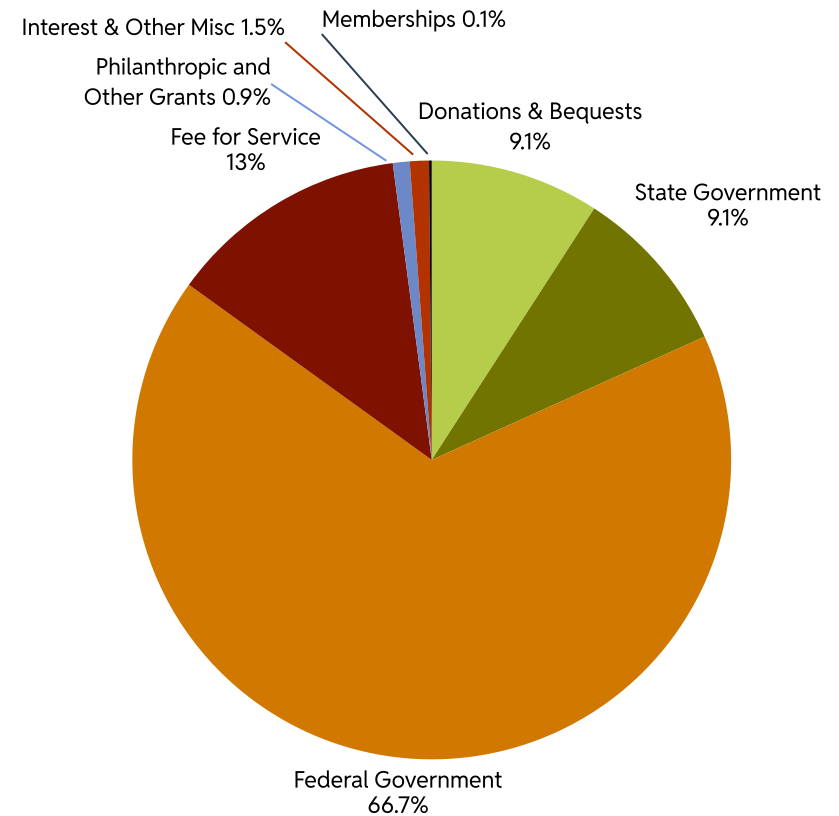


Funding & Financials

During 2024-2025, AMRRIC has delivered projects, gratefully supported by grants from the following funders:

- The Australian Government’s Indigenous Advancement Strategy “Companion Animal Program”
- The Australian Government’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade “Nauru One Health Companion Animal Program”
- The Australian Governments Biosecurity Business Grants “Biosecurity Pilot Project”
- Northern Territory Government’s Department Housing, Local Government and Community Development “Remote Communities and Homelands Veterinary Services”
- Commonwealth National Partnership Federation Funding Agreement “Tick Borne Bacteria Ehrlichia canis Pilot Project”
- Western Australian Animal Welfare Grant – “Kalumburu and Kununurra Outstations Veterinary Services”
- Northern Territory Government’s Risk Reduction Program “Filling gaps in information to inform animal welfare” response in emergency situations in West Arnhem Region
- QLD Biosecurity Grants Program – Education “Building biosecurity capacity on the Torres Strait Islands”
- National Science Week, Inspiring Australia and Inspired NT “Worms on the Inside: The Science of Parasites in Dogs”
- Inspiring Australia and Inspired NT “STEM Sleuths: Unravelling the Mystery of Tick Sickness in Dogs”

INCOME Where did our funds come from?



Total income - \$4,198,460

Funding & Financials

AMRRIC gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our major funders in 2024–25. Their investment enables sustained, community-led One Health outcomes across remote Australia. With consent to be named, we thank: Isaacson Davis Foundation, Lin Huddleston Charitable Foundation, The Sheehan-Birrell Foundation, LeMessurier Charitable Trust, and Nazife Bashar.

AMRRIC receives support through direct funding, and supply of appropriate health products for communities through our generous and highly valued Corporate Partners.

We also acknowledge the many funders who prefer to remain unnamed, and who give so generously through our campaigns and regular giving AMRRIC Allies program.

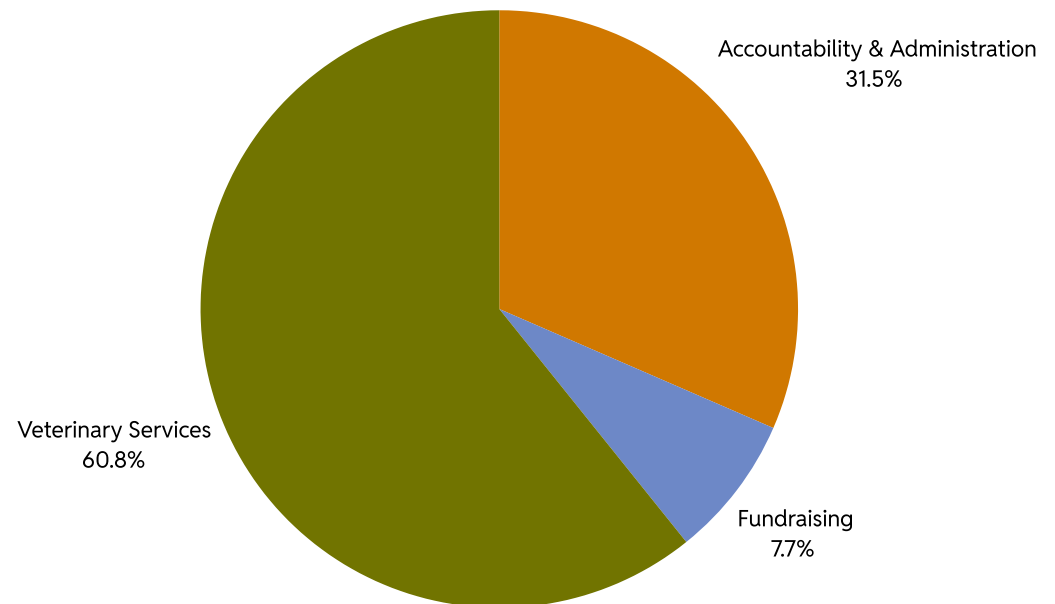
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To all of our supporters, your partnership is deeply valued, and your impact is evident in each program, through resources created, mobilising teams on ground and supporting ongoing provision of health products to communities.

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EXPENDITURE

Where did our funds go?



Total expenses - \$4,012,365

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Vet Nurse Caitlyn



Every year, volunteers play a vital role in helping AMRRIC reach remote communities—bringing skill, compassion and a shared belief that healthy animals make for healthy, proud communities. Their commitment ensures care reaches places where it's needed most, while strengthening the relationships and trust that underpin AMRRIC's work.

For veterinary nurse Caitlyn, joining an AMRRIC program in the West Kimberley was a chance to put her passion for animal care into action—and to see firsthand how teamwork, respect and community connection make all the difference.

I've loved animals for as long as I can remember. Growing up on a farm, I was surrounded by them every day and always knew I'd work with animals somehow. That path eventually led me to veterinary nursing – a career I've now been in for nearly 15 years.

Although I'd been aware of AMRRIC's work for a little while, the trip to the Shire of Derby and the West Kimberley this year was my first time volunteering. I was thrilled when a spot opened up on the program and I finally got the chance to be part of this important work.

Over the week, we conducted sterilisation surgeries, parasite control and consultations. I'd expected mostly dogs, but there were far more cats than I anticipated.

The days were long – on the first day alone we performed over 20 surgeries, compared to around six on a typical day in a regular clinic – but knowing we were providing exactly what the community needed was deeply rewarding.

What struck me most was how welcomed we were. Because AMRRIC has had a regular presence there, the trust had already been built. People in community knew about AMRRIC and appreciated the work they do.

One of the dogs we saw needed entropion surgery to ease a painful eye condition. The Shire staff drove two hours each way to bring him to us, then returned him home after his operation. Their efforts ensured every animal who needed care received it.

It's a place I might never have visited without this program. I'm always encouraging my veterinary nursing students to think about opportunities like this – it's not just about working in a general practice clinic. You can travel, volunteer and use your skills in so many ways.

Programs like AMRRIC's are vital. They're not just about delivering veterinary services but maintaining a consistent, trusted presence in communities that otherwise have little access to vital services. The dogs and cats we saw were well loved and cared

for – every dog had a name and a home – but access to services is limited. Supporting AMRRIC helps ensure these communities and their animals receive the same essential care as anywhere else in Australia.

I feel very lucky to have been part of this work. It was challenging, inspiring and incredibly worthwhile. I'd absolutely do it again and encourage anyone with veterinary skills to volunteer or support AMRRIC in whatever way they can. Together, we can continue to make a positive difference for animals and the people who care for them in remote communities.

“
For vet nurse Caitlyn, joining an AMRRIC program was a chance to put her passion for animal care into action.

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**For more information
or to support our work:**

www.amrric.org

info@amrric.org

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Search for “AMRRIC”

