Patrick Kingham
Early Childhood Educator - Scallywags Child Care Centre
I’ve been working in outside school hours care and long day care as an assistant educator for the past six years. It has been, and continues to be, the most rewarding career choice I have made in my life. I enjoy the challenges, opportunities and experience I have gained. The other staff have taught me so much and there is always so much more to learn. I love following the children’s interests and where they lead us every day. It’s such a fascinating journey discovering the different things and how they work from the child’s perspective - I love seeing a child’s reaction as they achieve something new. I have built many positive relationships with the children, families and other educators throughout my early childhood career which helps me feel a part of the community.

Kieran Joyce
Area Manager - Outside School Care NT
After my Year 12 completion and Certificate IV in Community Recreation, I started working with Outside School Care NT as an educator. I have always had a passion for sport, particularly running clinics with children. This career has led me to do things such as interacting with children, facilitating sport clinics, day to day running of my own site at Outside School Care NT and now progressing on to be a manager. Since being in the child care industry, I have learned a lot about how important the role of an educator is and how rewarding the career can be. This industry needs more male educators and I would love to be an advocate to have more males choosing this industry as a career path. Being an educator has taught me to step up to any challenge; educators are required to adapt to their environment and the children in their care. Throughout my career, I hope to train new educators to become as passionate about this industry as I am.

Emily Hoult
Families as First Teachers Family Liaison Officer - Mimik-ga
Born and bred in Darwin, I’m a proud Larrakia and Anmatjere woman. Working as a school administrative officer and then in the school homework centre since the age of 15, I have grown my career and discovered my passion for working with young children. Today, I work in the Families as First Teachers program as a family liaison officer. I love my new job, especially hearing the ‘pitter-patter’ of feet that walk in through the door every day and the smiles and look of excitement on the children’s faces, it is so rewarding to see. An early childhood educator is being a part of a child’s daily achievements and watching them grow. That’s what I love most about my job, knowing that I’ve contributed to children’s learning is truly an amazing feeling and I wouldn’t trade it for the world. Every day is a learning experience and the most rewarding part of working with children is watching them grow and helping them learn.

Sarah Carmody
Indigenous Coordinator - Larapinta Child and Family Centre
At 17, I began an Indigenous traineeship in administration and from there I have had multiple training and development opportunities in the public sector. I have completed a number of certificate and diploma level qualifications and have experience within community services and in early childhood education. I have run playgroups, parent engagement and family support programs and worked in childcare. These experiences and also being a mother of two young children have all led me to my role at a child and family centre. I am lucky to have the opportunity to build relationships and work in a holistic way with families with young children. As an Indigenous mother, having the opportunities to engage and empower other Indigenous families and build on their strengths is truly inspiring and magical.