

The Northern New South Wales town of Moree has one of the highest rates of youth crime in the state, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. PCYC Moree is encouraging young people off the streets and engaged in meaningful activities and mentorship in a safe space through the U-Nites program.

There have been 2,120 attendances at U-Nites between January and May 2025. 97% of participants identify as First Nations, aged between eight and 16.

The demand has recently seen U-Nites at PCYC Moree expanded to three nights Thursday to Saturday, 6pm to 10pm. Young people can participate in a variety of sporting, cultural, and educational activities after-hours, with supervision from PCYC staff and NSW Police.

One young participant said “I never thought I’d hang out with cops, but I actually look forward to it. It’s cool that they are not here to catch the bad guys but help me to figure out what I want to do with my life.”

The PCYC Moree Club also has an exciting new Digital Centre fitted out with a range of consoles and technology, allowing those who may not be interested in sports to engage in gaming instead.

A Moree parent said “This program is great for my child. I don’t have to stress about what they are up to or who they are with if they are walking the street getting into trouble, and it’s great that they get dinner and dropped home at the end of the night.”

Club Manager, Tayla Macey said “When young people experience the care, trust and mentorship of those who serve and work within the community, it can completely change the trajectory of their lives.”

“A simple meal shared with a NSW Police officer can turn into a conversation that changes perceptions, builds trust, and inspires futures.”

The program is also offered at several other PCYC NSW Clubs including Gunnedah, and it features in the youth charity’s latest Impact Report (attached), with 6,218 participants and 24,875 attendances in 2024.

To request an interview, local case study, or further imagery/assets to support your story – please contact PR and Communications Specialist, Amber Griffin.

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About PCYC NSW

PCYC is a leading Australian youth charity dedicated to empowering young people and building stronger, healthier communities. Established in 1937, PCYC provides a wide range of youth programs, including sports, recreation, education, and personal development opportunities, with a focus on creating safe spaces where young people can thrive.