



<b>Regular Sections</b>	<b>Page</b>
Letter from SCOA Chair – Cedric Manen	1
Letter from SCOA EO – Sky de Jersey	2
News from DSS	3-4
What is happening at SCOA	5-6
<b>Featured Articles</b>	<b>Page</b>
MYAN Releases Youth CALD Census Report	7
Supporting Education – Roads to Refuge	7
Education and Support Services – Supporting Refugee and Migrant Families in Logan	8
Strengthening Communities – early intervention workshops for migrant and refugee communities	9
Experiences with education and refugees	10
ESL Programs Under Threat	10
Multicultural Council of the NT's Passport to Drive Program	13
Double loss felt by homeless refugee youth	14
NEMBC support new and emerging community radio	15
Butler Falcons All Girls Aussie Rules Team	16
Community Organisations to get savvy with IT	19
The 2014 Human Rights Awards Nominations are now open!	20
Options – replacement of the ACNC	20
Competition Policy Review Threatens NFPs	21
#MigrationMeans campaign seeks global discourse	22
<b>Research</b>	<b>Page</b>
The People of Australia: Statistics from the 2011 Census Report	3
Youth CALD Census Report	7
Research Participants Needed	20
<b>Events</b>	<b>Page</b>
Save the Date – SCOA 2014 AGM	2
Policy Practice Forum Teleconference	5
HSS Provider's Forum Teleconference	5
Navigating Government Masterclass – Darwin	6
Celebration of African Australians Awards	13
FUSE Multicultural Youth Summit	15
Regional Migration Perspectives Conference	20
Human Rights Awards	20
<b>SCOA Members</b>	<b>Page</b>
SCOA Member Profile – Navitas	11-12
SCOA Member Profile - NMIT	17-18
New Member – Australian Red Cross	19
SCOA contact details	23

## Message from SCOA Chair- Cedric Manen



I hope we are all well recovered from the DSS funding round! I wish you all good luck in your applications. I know from speaking with many of you that the short window to prepare applications presented challenges for some agencies. We have provided feedback on the sector's experiences preparing applications for the funding round to DSS.

Many of you have been notified of SCOA's AGM on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November. I am sure all of our SCOA members would have seen the call for nominations for the SCOA Executive Committee. I encourage any member interested in representing their state to put themselves forward, feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

The next SCOA conference will be held next year in September in Canberra. This will provide the settlement sector with an excellent opportunity to engage with decision makers in the nation's capital. More information on themes and a call for papers will be coming out shortly.

I also wanted to let members know of some meetings which may be of interest. SCOA focusses on developing strong relationships with all our key stakeholders. To that end I went to Canberra on 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> August to meet with Parliamentary Secretary Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, Department Secretary Finn Pratt, Shadow Parliamentarians and key officials from DSS. The meetings provided a good opportunity to share the sector's perspective on the recent funding round and the progress of the settlement sector. We covered a range of issues in the discussions, including the national settlement framework, the sector's capacity to support an increased humanitarian program and the Second National Action Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children. It was a productive two days.

Cedric Manen – SCOA Chair



## Message from SCOA Executive Officer- Sky de Jersey

It has been a busy time for us here in the office, which I can tell has been echoed by many of our members. I have been working on consolidating the outcomes of the National Settlement Standards workshops. (for more info please see page 5).

I was pleased SCOA was able to offer members the Navigating Government workshops. I attended the training in Sydney and found it most useful. I learnt some new skills and tips, and had a good reminder of the *hows and whys* of engaging successfully with government. I am pleased we will be able to offer this training to members in Darwin too (for more info please see page 6).

I attended the Australian Institute of Family Studies 13<sup>th</sup> National Conference earlier this month, giving a presentation on supporting families through their settlement journey. It was good to hear at the conference of the breadth work and research being done to strengthen support to families.

SCOA completed a submission to the recent review on Welfare Reform. The submission highlighted the importance of ensuring that support structures are accessible to all within the community, including recently arrived migrants and refugees. It also covered issues such as the importance of the welfare support system in addressing structural inequality within the community.

SCOA participates in the Centrelink National Multicultural Advisory Group, which was held in Canberra last month. The meeting covers efforts undertaken by Centrelink to support refugees and clients from diverse backgrounds. At this meeting we discussed the communications strategy, including the range of languages for translated materials, the use of apps and IT technology and the progress of Centrelink in implementing their Agency Multicultural Plan. We also heard from Multicultural Services Officers about their work in their communities, highlighting some innovative programs they are supporting.

I also had the opportunity to attend the Parliamentary Launch of the *Second National Action Plan for the Prevention of Violence Against Women and Children*. It was heartening to see the focussed effort being taken at the highest levels in Australia to address this issue. The Second Plan includes as its second priority "*Understanding Diverse Experiences of Violence*", specifically mentioning CALD women. Clear inclusion of cultural diversity in the plan will provide greater impetus and support to policy and program development to address family violence and is welcomed by SCOA.



## Save the Date

# SCOA 2014 AGM

The Settlement Council of Australia invites you to *Save the Date* for our 2014 Annual General Meeting. A full AGM notice will be sent to all members shortly.

**When: Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**Time: 11.00am – 1.00pm**

**Where: Parliament House – Senate Alcove, Canberra**

*Please ensure your membership is renewed by 29<sup>th</sup> September to enable your organisation to participate.*

## News from the Department of Social Services (DSS)

### ***THE PEOPLE OF AUSTRALIA: STATISTICS FROM THE 2011 CENSUS***



*The People of Australia: Statistics from the 2011 Census* (national) report draws upon publicly available data from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing to provide detailed information on the diversity and characteristics of the Australian population. The report was recently released by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

#### What can the report tell you?

- How many overseas places of birth are represented in the Australian population
- Which are the fastest growing overseas born populations in Australia
- Which Local Government Areas have the highest proportion of overseas born residents
- What are the most commonly spoken languages (excluding English and Indigenous languages)

Further features of the publication include: age-gender profiles for the most common birthplaces, language and ancestry groups, detailed ancestry data by birthplace of parents, and English language competency by age and language groups.

For selected birthplaces data is also provided on: educational obtainment, employment and unemployment rates, occupation and industry, and income statistics.

The report provides useful information to assist governments, service providers and others to respond to the challenges of providing services in a diverse cultural environment. For example, it can help identify which groups are most in need of English language services, show the extent of ageing amongst established migrant groups, and indicate emerging birthplaces and languages across Australia.

The national report is complemented by eight equivalent reports, one for each state and territory.

The national report is available at: <http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/index.htm>



News from DSS continued....

***SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE GRANTED SUBCLASS 499, 786 OR 785 VISAS.***

The 2014-15 Budget included a measure to provide some support services to people who are granted one of the following temporary visas:

- Humanitarian Stay (temporary) visas (subclass 449)
- Temporary Humanitarian Concern visas (subclass 786)
- Temporary Protection visas (subclass 785).

DSS support for the above visa holders includes limited access to the following settlement services:

- Complex Case Support
- Free Translating Services
- Free Interpreting Services.

DSS also provides some assistance to the above visa holders through:

- Special Benefit and related ancillary payments and benefits (namely, Family Tax Benefit; Health Care Card; Rent Assistance)
- Access to Disability Employment Services.

Further information on these programmes can be found on DSS website at:

<http://www.dss.gov.au/our-responsibilities/settlement-and-multicultural-affairs/programs-policy/settlement-services/complex-case-support-programme>

<http://www.dss.gov.au/free-translating>

<http://www.dss.gov.au/free-interpreting>

<http://www.dss.gov.au/about-the-department/benefits-payments/special-benefit>

<http://www.dss.gov.au/our-responsibilities/disability-and-carers/program-services/for-people-with-disability/employment-for-people-with-disability>

**PLEASE NOTE:** 449, 786 and 785 visa holders are not permanent residents and therefore do not have access to HSS or settlement services programs.

*A FACT SHEET ON THESE CHANGES WITH FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE*

**Exposure Draft of the Purchasing Arrangements for Employment Services 2015-2020**

The Department of Employment released an [Exposure Draft](#) of the purchasing arrangements for the Australian Government's employment services to operate from 1 July 2015.

For further information please contact the Employment Services Purchasing Hotline on 1300 733 514 or email [espurchasing@employment.gov.au](mailto:espurchasing@employment.gov.au).





## What is happening at SCOA...

### Submissions

SCOA prepared a submission to the Interim Report on Welfare Reform. To view the submission visit: [SCOA's website](#).

### Conferences

At the end of July SCOA's Executive Officer spoke at the Australian Institute of Family Studies Conference which focused on families in a rapidly changing world.

## Policy Practice Forum

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September

NSW, ACT, VIC, TAS, QLD: 2.00-3.00pm

SA, NT: 1.30-2.30pm

WA: 12.00-1.00pm

*The Policy Practice Forum brings together SCOA members and stakeholders to discuss emerging policy research and issues*

**Focus: Multidimensional Loss Scale**

**Guest Speaker: Dr Lynette Vromans**

*The Multidimensional Loss Scale (MLS) represents the first instrument designed to measure loss in refugee populations.*

For more information visit: [SCOA's website](#)

*SCOA invites all Humanitarian Settlement Service providers to the first...*

## HSS Provider's Forum Teleconference

Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> September

NSW, ACT, VIC, TAS, QLD: 2.00-3.30pm

SA, NT: 1.30-3.00pm

WA: 12.00-1.30pm

*This forum brings together HSS Service Providers across the country to meet on a regular basis and discuss HSS service provider issues outside the existing government forums.*

For more information visit: [SCOA's website](#)

## Update – SCOA's National Settlement Standards Project

SCOA recently held consultations on the National Settlement Service Standards. It was a great opportunity to discuss the principles informing successful settlement and explore in depth potential standards. Two of the consultations (in Melbourne and Sydney) were face to face, followed by a national teleconference.

From the consultations it is clear support for standards remains high within the sector. As we discussed the detail it became evident that it will be important to ensure standards or benchmarks do not burden agencies with additional regulation or red tape, or duplicate existing KPIs within contracts.

The National Settlement Service Standards Steering Committee is currently considering the outcomes from the workshops, working through the recommendations and ideas generated in what were fruitful discussions.

The principles underpinning settlement service delivery were clarified, refined and agreed upon during the workshop discussions. They have been shared with the sector and can be accessed [here](#).

If you have any further questions or comments on the development of the national standards please contact Sky at the National Office on (02) 8065 5225.





## What is happening at SCOA...

### DSS Quarterly Meeting

SCOA met with senior DSS and DIBP staff this month as part of its regular quarterly meeting. A number of issues were discussed including the increase in SHP program, proposer issues and the DSS Grant Funding round process.

### **SCOA's Sector Training – Outcomes of SCOA's Navigating Government Masterclass**

Last month SCOA held its first series of Navigating Government Masterclasses in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. Feedback from participants who attended the all-day workshops was overwhelming positive.

The training sessions focus on *Why, How and When* to engage with Federal Government. A pre-workshop survey ensures the sessions are tailored to the participant's level of knowledge, experience and desired knowledge.

The workshops are led by Allison Henry from Millwood Consulting who has firsthand experience working in as an advisor to the Prime Minister, Minister for Immigration and the Australian Human Rights Commission and the Refugee Review Tribunal. Participants found the training "very relevant, Allison's experience is very helpful because she has been on the inside."

Sessions include: functions of Federal Parliament, who to contact for your purpose, effectively influencing policy and framing issues, when to put in submissions, new bureaucratic structures affecting settlement services, the potential of utilising electorate or community data to influence particular MPs and more.

SCOA hopes to continue to conduct the Navigating Government Masterclasses. If you are interested in holding the workshops in your areas please contact the SCOA office on (02) 8065 5225.

### ***Navigating Government Masterclass***

*"Very informative, useful and transferrable"*

*"Practical throughout"*

SCOA and Millwood Consulting are offering workshops on *Navigating Government* more effectively.

**Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September**  
**9.00am-5.00pm**

**Melaleuca Refugee Centre, 24 McLachlan St, Darwin**

Cost: \$275 (SCOA Members), \$325 (Non-SCOA Members), plus \$15  
Workbook, lunch provided

To register or for more information visit: [Darwin Navigating Government Masterclass](#)

**REGISTRATION CLOSES COB Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> September**

### **SCOA's Upcoming Member Surveys**



#### *Social Media Survey*

SCOA is surveying its members to understand how they use social media. We want to know what types of social media you use for work, why you are using it and how.

#### *SCOA Membership Satisfaction Survey*

SCOA is inviting members to complete its annual member satisfaction survey. It will evaluate our activities over the last year.

Member delegates will be contacted to complete the surveys shortly.

## MYAN Releases Landmark CALD Youth Census Report



Senator Fierravanti-Wells, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Social Services, recently launched the [CALD Youth Census Report 2014](#) at MYSA in Adelaide.

Using the latest Australian Census data, this report provides data and comparative analysis that has never before been captured to shine a light on key issues for the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) youth population in Australia and where those issues are most likely to be felt. The report focuses on the education, employment and living arrangements of young people at both the state and national levels. Through its baseline data and analysis, the report highlights some of the gaps and barriers facing young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds and points to the importance of a targeted approach to ensuring their active and sustained participation in the economic, social and civic life of Australia.

The *CALD Youth Census Report 2014* was commissioned by the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN) Australia and authored by a team of researchers led by Professor Graeme Hugo at the Australian Population and Migration Research Centre (APMRC), University of Adelaide.

## Supporting Education – Roads to Refuge



*The NSW Department of Education and Communities and UNSW Centre for Refugee Research have teamed up to develop an informational website designed to give students, teachers and the community access to relevant, factual and current information about refugees.*

*Roads to Refuge aims to increase awareness of refugees in schools and provide teacher resources to include refugee awareness in curriculum, and provides schools with ideas to help refugee students feel welcome.*

Information and facts on, Who is a refugee?, Refugee Journeys, Refugee Settlement and Refugees in Australia can all be found on the website.

The website also shares information on what schools, other organisations and communities across the state are doing and how communities can make refugees feel welcome.

*Roads to Refuge* resources, case studies and information will be updated on a regular basis.

You can visit *Roads to Refuge* here: [www.roads-to-refuge.com.au](http://www.roads-to-refuge.com.au)



**RACISM. IT STOPS WITH ME**

## Education and Support Services – Supporting Refugee and Migrant Families in Logan

Access Community Services in Logan is supporting refugee and migrant families through facilitation of the Community Hubs Program pilot. The pilot is a national program linking refugee and migrant families and their pre-school children to learning opportunities and the wider community.



*Participants of ACCESS Community Services' Community Hub*

The Community Hubs program is funded by DSS in partnership with the Scanlon Foundation and the MCA until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015. There are five hubs in the Logan LGA located Woodridge North State School, Woodridge State School, Mabel Park State School, St Francis Catholic College and St Pauls Catholic College Hubs.

Each Community Hub employs a Community Hub Leader to coordinate activities. The hubs offers activities for pre-school aged children tailored to advance their learning, development and wellbeing. Mothers, fathers and carers can connect at their local Hub with volunteer, education and training pathways that can lead to employment.

Each Community Hub in Logan provides specific activities and programs tailored to support vulnerable families in their community. Logan Community Hubs offer opportunities for families to access English classes,

conversational classes, family support services, playgroups, literacy and numeracy groups, homework clubs teaching parents how to assist their children, gardening groups, sewing groups, cooking classes, computer classes, housing and budgeting sessions and other education and developmental opportunities.

Community Hubs brings local education, health, community and settlement services into a familiar, welcoming and friendly place to make it easier for families to access the services and assistance they need. They provide families with a sense of belonging and creates friendships and support networks. Community Hubs supports migrant and refugee children to enjoy and succeed in school and achieve optimal health, development and wellbeing.

If you are interested in finding out more about ACCESS Community Service's Community Hubs please contact Grainne Taia on E: [grainnet@acsl.org.au](mailto:grainnet@acsl.org.au) or (07)3412 9974.



*Participants of ACCESS Community Services' Community Hub*

*Article and photos courtesy of ACCESS Community Services*



# Strengthening COMMUNITIES

## ***Early intervention workshops for migrant and refugee communities***

*Strengthening Communities* is a series of modules developed for early intervention workshops to assist migrant and refugee communities settling in Queensland.

The modules were produced by Toowoomba's Agencies CALD Action Group (ACAG) who came together under the auspices of the Mercy Community Services Toowoomba CAMS program. *Strengthening Communities* represents the combined efforts of regional agency workers and CALD community leaders. Over five years, agency workers and community representatives came together to collaborate as members of ACAG.



ACAG Development Teams were organised to design the workshop modules, facilitation methods and resources for delivering workshops in regional community venues and schools to new arrivals in migrant and refugee communities.

The workshops aims are to help migrant and refugee communities to understand how aspects of life in Australia would affect them and their families and how to manage this change.

Each module was piloted and evaluated before being delivered, using interpreters, to community groups within an annual calendar of training. Participants came from communities settling here under Australia's immigration programs from Africa, the Middle East and South-East Asia.

Each module in *Strengthening Communities* has a short-form syllabus for use in conjunction with the facilitators' notes, handouts and evaluation instruments that agencies may choose to use. There are six modules: Introduction to the Australian Workplace; New Australian Rules; Transition into Australian Schooling; Bringing up Teenagers in Australia; Bringing up Children in Australia and Talking Together for CALD Youth.

*Strengthening Communities* was launched by The Hon Glen Elmes MP, Queensland's Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs in 2014 and the publication is available in both pdf and hard copy from: [david.barton@mercy.org.au](mailto:david.barton@mercy.org.au)



*Article and photos courtesy of Mercy Community Services*



## Experiences with Education and Refugees

Mount Druitt Ethnic Agency (MECA) is a multicultural organisation working with refugees and migrants in Sydney's western suburbs of Mount Druitt.

MECA reports one of the most significant issues for their clients, especially young people, is access to education. Youth workers, volunteers and other MECA staff report that many young clients of refugee backgrounds have had their education disrupted as a result of their experiences prior to arriving in Australia. As a consequence, these young people may have limited formal education, be unable to read or write in their native language or have other physical or psychological issues that present as barriers to learning.

MECA suggests that the public school system may require specialised support to manage the needs of refugee youth. The placement of young people in classes according to their age not their skill level can be detrimental to their educational outcomes. Although, young people receive intensive English language training before their placement in mainstream educational institutions, MECA suggests this is not enough to develop their client's skills to the level required to participate in classroom activities with native speakers. As a result, these young people can become disenchanted with education, disruptive or simply stop attending classes. Placing students in classes according to ability rather than age may be a possible solution.

Refugee youth often require intensive support outside of the formalised classroom environment. MECA, in addition to a large number of not for profit organisations, offers homework support classes for those between 12-24 years. These classes aim to provide support to anyone requiring additional assistance with their education. MECA also seeks to link refugee students requiring more intensive support with mentors that can provide focused.

For more information on MECA's homework support classes visit their website: [MECA](http://www.meca.org.au).

*Article courtesy of MECA*

## ESL programs under threat in NSW



Funding for ESL (English as a Second Language) programs is under threat in New South Wales with 32 multicultural officers cut from the Department of Education and Communities.

University of Sydney education researcher Dr Ken Cruickshank told a recent teaching forum that some public schools still did not know those support positions had been axed. He said he was worried that ESL teachers would disappear altogether.

*"ESL teachers are being taken off class because they have to help the latest refugee families that have come into the school,"* he said. *"I'm sounding the alarm bells. I don't know if they're being heard,"* Dr Cruickshank said.

Under the NSW Government's funding model for schools there was no tied funding for ESL services. Principals have been given control over their budgets to make decisions about where money should be spent.

Dr Michael Michell from the University of New South Wales said that the state was failing refugees and failing ESL students, *"NSW is rapidly becoming a failing multicultural state."*

*"The Government has got a lot to answer for here. It's not paying attention to its own legislation when it comes to access and equity."*

Dr Michell and Dr Cruickshank head the NSW ESL and Refugee Education Working Party. It has recommended the 32 axed consultants be incorporated into the new model of support to schools.

Meanwhile, the NSW Teachers Federation is stepping up its campaign to protect ESL programs as they compete with other funding priorities in school budgets.

Dr Cruickshank said evidence from the UK and the US highlighted the failure of school-based management to meet the challenge of growing linguistic diversity.

*Article adapted from AMES iMPACT eNewsletter Edition 8*



## SCOA Member Profile...

### Navitas

Navitas is an Australian company that is a leading education provider around the globe. In Australia Navitas offers an extensive range of educational services from settlement services and English language education to university pathway programs, creative media education, health, community, justice and business-linked education and training.

In the words of one of our clients arriving from Iraq in 2013 where she worked as a journalist;

*"The AMEP Orientation to Employment class was very helpful and informative. I learned how to respect other cultures, speak to employers and work in a team and improve my communication skills."*

The client was placed in work experience with a newspaper and now writes a column in the newspaper. This is a very much what we are about – providing settlement focused English language learning that works for our clients.

Navitas English actively engages with migrant and refugees settling in Australia through a range of programs in assisting them to build new lives in Australia. We provide client focused, flexible and relevant settlement support and English language teaching to assist them to participate fully in life in Australia and achieve their goals and aspirations. The two main language programs we deliver under contract to the Department of Industry are the Adult Migrant Education Program (AMEP) and the Skills for Education and Employment program (SEE).

### **Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP)**

Navitas English is one of the largest AMEP providers of settlement English. We have a proud history working since 1998 to assist newly arrived migrants and refugees settle in Australia. Last year Navitas English provided AMEP programs and courses to over 21,000 enrolled clients. The AMEP has been one of the foundations for the successful settlement of people in Australia for more than 60 years.





## SCOA Member Profile...

### Navitas

We work with a broad range of partners including Mission Australia, KU Children's Services, Macquarie Community College and City East Community College. Together Navitas English and partners operate English language AMEP Colleges at Auburn, Bankstown, Burwood, Cabramatta, Campsie, Fairfield, Hurstville, Liverpool, Parramatta, Sydney City, Blacktown and Ermington (through Macquarie Community College) and Bondi Junction (through City East Community College).

Navitas English is a member of the AMEP Flexible Learning Network (AFLN), a Consortium including AMES Victoria and Charles Darwin University. This consortium is responsible for the delivery of the AMEP by Distance Learning throughout Australia, as well as the development of unique English language teaching resources and self-access e-learning resources. Clients have a one hour English lesson by phone or Skype every week tailored to their needs and are provided with online or paper based resources. Navitas English worked with almost 3,000 AMEP Distance Learning clients last year across NSW, ACT, SA, WA and QLD.

#### **The Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) Program**

In consortium with public and not-for-profit partners, Navitas English has delivered the SEE program in six New South Wales SEE contract regions since July 2010. Last year the Consortium provided training and support to more than 3,700 jobseekers. The Navitas English and Mission Australia Consortium delivers the SEE program in Ashfield, Auburn, Bankstown, Cabramatta, Campsie, Fairfield, Sydney City, Liverpool, Marrickville and Parramatta and in regional NSW at Deniliquin, Griffith and Leeton with Riverina TAFE and in Dubbo with Western College. The Navitas English City East Consortium started delivering the SEE program in Bondi Junction from July 2013.

#### **Humanitarian Settlement Services (HSS)**

On 4 April 2011, the Navitas English HSS Consortium began delivery of the Humanitarian Settlement Services (HSS) in the Hunter and Illawarra Regions of New South Wales.

The HSS program is the successor to the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy. It provides intensive settlement support through a coordinated case management approach to newly-arrived humanitarian clients on arrival and throughout their initial settlement period. The HSS is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Social Services.

Since 2005, Navitas English has settled almost 19,000 entrants through the IHSS and HSS programs and 705 people in the Hunter and Illawarra regions NSW in the last year.

For more information about Navitas programs go to: <http://www.navitas-english.com.au/>

## Multicultural Council of the NT's "Passport To Drive"

*A successful driver education program leading to settlement outcomes and social inclusion for recent arrivals.*



The Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory (MCNT) in Darwin offers migrants interpreter assisted driver education with qualified instructors. The "Passport to Drive" program is designed to assist participants to become safe and competent licensed drivers in a cost-effective and timely manner.

For recently arrived migrants public transport is not always a viable option. Having someone in the household holding a driver's licence can make a real difference. It enhances work and study opportunities, promotes self-reliance, increases mobility, and access to a wider range of recreational, cultural and social activities.

Migrants with English literacy challenges can have inherent difficulties navigating the current mainstream driver education system. The "Passport to Drive" interpreter assisted education provides the targeted support these migrants require to become confident and safe licensed drivers.

According to MCNT's project officer Nitesh Raj Pant who coordinates the popular program, "Since its inception in September 2010 "Passport to Drive" has mentored participants from more than 20 countries of origin to successfully obtain their driver's licenses."

The "Passport to Drive" program is funded by the Department of Social Services settlement services grants. The program's initial driving lessons are free. Participants can then continue through subsidised lessons with approved driving schools.

For more information please visit MCNT's website: <http://www.mcnt.org.au/>

*Article and photo courtesy of MCNT*


 ARBN: 155772759  
**Celebration of African Australians Inc.**

**Awards to most influential African Victorians; and  
Individuals and organisations that support  
the African Communities in Victoria.**

*Dinner and Festivities*

Date: 7 November 2014 Time: 6.00pm - 11.00pm Venue: Parliament House of Victoria

Contact Sisay Dinku: [sisay@celebrateafricanaustralians.org](mailto:sisay@celebrateafricanaustralians.org) | 0411367463 | [www.celebrateafricanaustraliansvic.org](http://www.celebrateafricanaustraliansvic.org)

## Double loss felt by homeless refugee youth

A short film developed by Settlement Services International (SSI) exploring the real life experience of homelessness faced by refugee youth living without their families was launched in Bankstown on International Youth Day, 12th August.



*Broken Time guests*

'Broken Time' is the story of Ali, an Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minor (UHM), who falls back on his survival instinct when he finds himself homeless on the streets of Sydney.

The film has been produced as an educational tool for high schools, TAFE and organisations working with young people from a refugee background and in the homelessness and housing sector.

Dilber Hussain played the role of Ali, and was all too familiar with the experience of his character in the film. Dilber is from Pakistan and arrived in Australia in 2012 as a UHM at the tender age of 17. When his circumstances rapidly deteriorated and he was faced with homelessness, Dilber said he was frightened.

An UHM is a young person under the age of 18 years without a parent or guardian who is a refugee under Australia's Offshore Humanitarian Program or has been granted a Protection Visa in Australia.

Research shows that youth from a refugee background are up to 10 times more likely to experience homelessness than Australian born youth.

SSI's reason for filming 'Broken Time' was to highlight the distinct challenges faced by young refugees who find themselves in this situation. The production of Broken Time was supported by Yfoundations, a peak body representing young people at risk of or experiencing homelessness, and funded by Australia Council for the Arts.

Broken Time also explores some of the commonality of youth homelessness through Ali's encounter with a young local girl he meets on the street. Director and producer of Broken Time Barry Gamba, developed the script through collaborations with refugees, UHM and homeless youth, who drew on their experiences to inform the narrative.

SSI has developed specialist training for its case managers to help them provide support for UHMs. Obviously, not having the support of their families, they have different support needs than other refugees who arrive as humanitarian entrants. Incredibly, this adversity highlights the resilience that many young refugees possess.

Dilber enjoyed his first acting experience, drawing on his knowledge from a Diploma in Communication he did when living in Islamabad. "I hope this story will help people understand and respect the journey that refugees make," he said.

UHM program operates in a changing environment and cohorts may change in line with changing international trends and government policy. As at June 2012 there were 865 UHM in Australia predominantly 16 to 17-year-old males with the majority coming from Afghanistan [2].

For organisations interested in getting a copy of the film, please email [hmuir@ssi.org.au](mailto:hmuir@ssi.org.au).



*CEO of Yfoundations Michael Coffey (left) and Broken Time main actor, Dilber Hussain (right)*

*Article and photos courtesy of SSI*



## NEMBC support new and emerging community radio

The National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council (NEMBC) has released Media Kits as a resource to support the participation of ethnic communities in community broadcasting, especially new and emerging communities, young people and women.

New and emerging communities may not be aware of the benefits that community radio stations can offer their community. Oftentimes radio stations are too busy to reach out and involve these communities. This Media Kit aims to bridge this gap, and assist new and emerging communities to start a radio program as well as gain key skills in leadership.

The kits are geared to assist:

- *Community radio stations* in reaching out to refugee and migrant communities with information on how to break down the barriers affecting participation, and support new communities to broadcast at your station.
- *Community organisations and service providers*, the kit will help you support the communities you work with to understand the media landscape in Australia, plan media campaigns, and participate in community media.

The Media Kit contains:

- A **DVD** to show people the inside of an ethnic community radio station.
- **Leadership Media Manual** a resource for people interested in the basics of leadership and the effective use of media.
- **A Handbook for Youth Empowerment Through Media Participation**: This booklet uses the NEMBC's Next Generation Media project as a practical example of how to train young people and get them involved in community radio.
- *For community organisations or service providers*, a green booklet titled **Value of Community Radio: Supporting New and Emerging Communities to Broadcast**. This booklet provides background information on community radio and how it works, how to get involved in radio and the importance of community radio for emerging communities and building community connections.
- *For community radio stations*, a blue booklet titled **Engaging Communities: Involving New and Emerging Communities at Your Radio Station**. This booklet includes information about refugee communities and the role community radio can play in breaking down barriers and how radio stations can reach out and engage with the communities and settlement service providers.

[The Media Kits are available for download at this link](#)



## Applications are now open!

FUSE, hosted by the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN) Australia will bring together the brightest young multicultural leaders from across Australia to build a national network of change makers.

Young people from multicultural backgrounds around Australia aged 18-25, are invited to apply.

For more information visit:

<http://www.myan.org.au/fuse/>.

## Butler Falcons All Girls Aussie Rules Team

Butler Falcons are a unique and enthusiastic team of AFL footballers who have travelled a long way to enjoy the game of AFL. The 25-player squad consists of young CALD (culturally and linguistically diverse) girls ranging in ages from 8 through to 18, made up of refugees from Sudan, Uganda and Mauritania. The team was born from an idea in 2012 from the Edmund Rice Centre who approached the West Perth Football District to help engage the Butler CALD youth and give them something active to do on a Friday night.

AFL quickly became a passion of the initial handful of girls and the sport became a tool for finding friends, becoming fit and engaging in their local community.

Training takes place every Friday nights at 7pm at the Butler Community Centre, and they want everyone to know that they are serious about their footy, and are making a real impact in their local community. The team is very passionate about establishing themselves as a dominant senior women's football team in the Women's AFL competition.

The Edmund Rice Centre coordinates the team's coaching, practice and games. The girls learn important valuable attitudes and values through the Butler Falcons leadership program, and this helps them to become valuable community members.



Since their inception, the team has gained some renowned acclaim including support from Majak Daw and Dennis Commetti, and they have made several appearances on national media stations, and were recently selected as ambassadors for Refugee Week from June 15 to 21. They were also recognized and applauded by WA Premier Colin Barnett and Wanneroo Mayor Tracey Roberts at Australia's biggest Citizenship Ceremony held at Wanneroo earlier this year.

2014 has also seen the emergence of the Young Butler Falcons, a team full of the younger girls aged from 8-13 years. This team has played separate matches to their older counterparts against other girls their age and are yet to have lost a match. The Butler Falcons senior team have played several matches against local schools and have held their own against some male teams.

*"The girl's skills and natural talent are that impressive that it's a very real prospect that we will be seeing a large number of the girls representing an AFL team in the near future"* said Scott Minchin, West Perth Football District Community Engagement Officer.

To find out more about the Butler Falcons contact Joe Moniodis from the Edmund Rice Centre on (08) 9440 0625.

*Article and photos courtesy of the Edmund Rice Centre*







## SCOA Member Profile...

### Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE (NMIT)

Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE (NMIT) is a leading Australian TAFE institute based in the northern region of Melbourne, with seven campuses stretching from the inner metropolitan suburbs to Ararat in western Victoria, and an additional five training centres for primary industry and English language studies.

In 2012 NMIT celebrated its centenary. It grew from early 20<sup>th</sup> century beginnings as technical schools in Collingwood and Preston, and the formal amalgamation of these in 1988 created NMIT as it is known today.

NMIT is the Lead Agent in the Northern AMEP Consortium offering Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) services to clients throughout the northern region of Melbourne. It delivers high quality training ranging from certificate level (VET) through to higher education degrees, across a range of disciplines. It offers approximately 550 nationally accredited and 410 institute-accredited vocational courses and in excess of 33 government accredited Higher Education programs.

In addition, NMIT provides a range of educational and consultancy services to students and clients in Australia and internationally; including customised training programs for industry and government clients, the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), and English language and vocational training to students at 25 partner universities, private institutes and colleges in China, Hong Kong and Korea.

#### **Northern AMEP Consortium Bilingual Volunteer training**

On a recent Saturday morning, 25 community members came together to participate in bilingual volunteer training at NMIT Preston. This training is designed for bilingual people volunteering in low-risk supervised settings, including within English as an Additional Language (EAL) classrooms and community EAL settings. The training materials, developed by NMIT, provide a framework within which bilingual volunteers can work effectively and safely, understanding their role and its scope and limitations. The training covers active listening, effective bilingual communication in both two-way and three-way communications, risk management and ethical issues. Some of the newly trained volunteers are implementing their skills volunteering within their communities and with community agencies such as Northern AMEP partner Spectrum MRC, the Hume Global Learning Centre and Library and local neighbourhood houses.



*Participants at the Bilingual training*



## SCOA Member Profile...

### Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE (NMIT)

#### **Northern AMEP Consortium Counselling Service Facebook page**

The Northern AMEP Counselling Service has developed a Facebook page to communicate information about community events, careers, employment opportunities and courses to clients. This is proving to be a popular and effective way to reach our numerous clients spread across eight different AMEP centres in the northern suburbs.

Feel free to 'like' NMIT Counselling Service at [Facebook.com/NAMEP Counselling](https://www.facebook.com/NAMEP-Counselling)

#### **Northern AMEP Home Tutors learn with an evening class**

Northern AMEP home tutors attending the current training on the Broadmeadows Campus have worked with low level AMEP evening students. Tutors have sat with students who speak their language and demonstrated how to access the Home Tutor Settlement Moodle Course. This course provides settlement information in the student's language which the tutors read to the students who were not literate in their first language. It also provides the opportunity for students who can't read and write to listen to the information in their first language. The Moodle course can be accessed in a library or on a home computer.



*Participants of Home Tutor Moodle Course*

For more information visit [www.nmit.edu.au](http://www.nmit.edu.au)



## SCOA Welcomes Its Newest Member!



**Australian Red Cross**  
THE POWER OF HUMANITY

## Community Organisations to get savvy with IT

The Australian Council of Social Service launched the Community Sector Digital Business Kit Project in partnership with Infochange and has released modules on a new website [www.improveIT.org](http://www.improveIT.org). This is part of the Australian Government's Digital Business Kit programme.

"Australia's community sector is facing great challenges but also great opportunities in this fast moving digital age. This project has the potential to revolutionise the way small and medium sized organisations do business and better serve low-income and vulnerable people in our community," said ACOSS Deputy CEO Rebecca Vassarotti.



The aim of project is to equip community groups with important IT skills, information and resources that will lead to more efficient and effective delivery of services. Smarter use of IT - through faster connections, better use of technology to manage information, and tools to measure the impact of programs are making in the community - will ensure organisations can better support their clients.

The project is specifically designed to target small and medium sized groups that may not have access to large IT budgets and in-house expertise. Improved IT performance is not about how much money you spend, but how you use the resources.

It will help organisations who are looking for resources and how-to guides, want to discuss IT problems, or are looking for events, conferences and IT training. This means that the Digital Business Kits will be supported by a range of complementary information and tools, and organisations accessing them will be connected to a community working through similar issues.

For more information visit: <http://www.improveit.org/>



## Regional Migration Perspectives Conference

*Highlighting the Importance of Regional Migration*

**Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> September  
Adelaide**

The conference will examine the importance of regional migration to Australia and its role in the development of South Australia and other regional areas.

Further information is available [here](#)



## The 2014 Human Rights Awards Nominations are now open!

There are ten different categories to choose from including the Human Rights Medal and the Young People's Medal. Other Award categories include Business, Law, Community Individual, Community Organisation, Print and Online, Literature, Radio and Television.

All finalists will be announced in the coming months with winners being awarded at the Awards Ceremony at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney.

So if you know of an individual or a group that should be acknowledged for their efforts, why not nominate them today! [Click here to nominate online.](#)

**Nominations close Friday, 12th September 2014.**

## Options – replacement of the ACNC

In July the Department of Social Services (DSS) released their Options Paper on proposed arrangements for the replacement of the charity regulator, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

The Options Paper proposes rather than reporting to a separate entity that charities be required to report on a public website their information, such as financial reports. The charities currently exempt from providing financial reports would retain that exemption.

Charities registered under the Corporations Act would see the reinstatement of their previous ASIC reporting obligations that were "switched off" when the ACNC was established.

This model of regulation is much like the Charity Evaluator Model used in the U.S.

The Options Paper also proposes that a dedicated function be established within the ATO with responsibility for determination of charitable status and eligibility for related tax concessions.

The submission period has now closed for the Options Paper.

For more information visit: [Options Paper](#)

## Research Participants Needed

The Refugee Trauma and Recovery Program (RTRP) is seeking people to take part in a research project that will help them to understand how refugees and asylum seekers cope after experiencing trauma.

RTRP is a research program located at the School of Psychology, University of New South Wales dedicated to understanding the psychological and neurobiological effects of refugee trauma and pathways to recovery.

People from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds are invited to participate and will be compensated for their time.

The research will take place in the Sydney region, either at Westmead Hospital, or the University of New South Wales in Randwick.

For more information:

Phone: 1300 130 700

Email: [refugee@unsw.edu.au](mailto:refugee@unsw.edu.au)

Web: [rtrp.psy.unsw.edu.au](http://rtrp.psy.unsw.edu.au)



## Competition Policy Review Threatens NFPs

The Australian Government is undertaking a review of its Competition Policy. The review is being conducted by an Independent Panel Chaired by Professor Ian Harper. According to Professor Ian Harper, the key focus of the review is how to introduce competition more broadly across all sectors of the Australian economy.

An Issues Paper released in April was open for submissions until June. Of the 297 submissions received only a handful are from Not for Profit organisations.

Executive Director of the Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL), Tony Nicholson, said “the implications of the current Harper Review into Competition Policy was drawing little attention from the NFP sector despite its implications being far reaching.”



“The review is looking at the application of competition policy to sectors of the economy with significant government participation. This includes the provision of community and welfare services and unfortunately this is getting little attention from the community welfare sector.”

BSL’s Tony Nicholson said much of his concern centred on the Government purporting to contract the community welfare sector for its mission - its ability to harness community contribution and facilitate the expression of virtue - but failed to reflect this in contracts.

In particular, he said, the so called “compositional” effects of competition, where more efficient organisations prosper at the expense of the less efficient. “For the community and welfare sector as a whole this is not a welcome prospect,” Nicholson said.

“Those parts of their activities that are subject to competitive pressures are unlikely to constitute the whole of their purpose, and yet their ability to contribute across all their activities may depend on the health of the whole. It seems most unlikely that a thinning of the CWS driven by economic competition would necessarily be a good outcome for social welfare.”

He said competition encouraged each organisation to weed out inefficiencies by cutting costs and reallocating internal resources to improve productivity.

“The search for efficiency in the CWS is of course not necessarily a bad thing. However, the focus of contracts (with government) and what gets measured from the point of view of efficiency may not capture the wider benefits that the CWS brings to their mission,” Nicholson said.

“What Governments may see as externalities are often central to the CWS mission. The narrower the contract the more the pressure for efficiency is likely to leave aside such wider benefits.”

For more information on the Competition Policy Review visit: [Competition Policy Review](#)

*Article adapted from Pro Bono Australia News (7 August edition)*

## # MigrationMeans campaign seeks global discourse

At a time when one in seven people around the world are migrants in one form or another, migration is still, paradoxically, viewed with suspicion, particularly in the developed world.

To dispel that suspicion and encourage positive dialogue, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has launched a social media campaign, #MigrationMeans, to raise awareness of migration in all its forms and to highlight the positive impact of migration from the perspective of the migrants themselves.

“Migrants bring a lot with them, new skills, cultural diversity and energy. But in crises, migration takes on new associations – shelter, warmth, access to health services, food, water, and so on,” said IOM Director General William Lacy Swing. “The campaign will communicate the meaning of migration across the broadest canvas.”

As millions of migrants are now using social media to network, to locate jobs, to figure out the best way to send remittances home or to assess the risks of irregular migration, IOM is inviting migrants to use the platforms like Facebook and Twitter to tell the world what migration means for them and how migration has changed their life.

The campaign kicked off in June with IOM staff around the world inviting migrants to say what migration means to them, using the #MigrationMeans hashtag with a photo and a short caption.

Each picture includes someone, or several people, holding up signs saying what migration means to them. While the signs can be in any language, IOM is requesting that the posts and captions be in English, French or Spanish.

For more information see: [#MigrationMeans](#)





## Want to contact SCOA? We'd love you to!

A good place to start is your state representative. Please see the details below.

You can also contact staff in the Sydney office:

Sky de Jersey SCOA EO <a href="mailto:eo@scoa.org.au">eo@scoa.org.au</a> phone: 02 8065 5225	Kat O'Neill Membership Services Officer <a href="mailto:mso@scoa.org.au">mso@scoa.org.au</a> phone: 02 8065 5225
Tasmania Cedric Manen - CHAIR <a href="mailto:CManen@mrchobart.org.au">CManen@mrchobart.org.au</a> 03 6221 0999	New South Wales Clement Meru <a href="mailto:cmeru@fmrc.net">cmeru@fmrc.net</a> 02 9727 0477
South Australia Eugenia Tsoulis – DEPUTY CHAIR <a href="mailto:Eugenia@mrca.com.au">Eugenia@mrca.com.au</a> 08 8217 9500	Victoria Rosemary Kelada <a href="mailto:rosemaryk@spectrumvic.org.au">rosemaryk@spectrumvic.org.au</a> 03 9496 0200
Western Australia Michael O'Hara - SECRETARY <a href="mailto:michael.ohara@mmrcwa.org.au">michael.ohara@mmrcwa.org.au</a> 08 9345 5755	Victoria Michael Martinez <a href="mailto:Michael.martinez@diversitat.org.au">Michael.martinez@diversitat.org.au</a> (03) 5221 6044
Australian Capital Territory Dewani Bakkum – TREASURER <a href="mailto:ceo@marss.org.au">ceo@marss.org.au</a> 02 6248 8577	Queensland Kerrin Benson <a href="mailto:kerrinb@mdabne.org.au">kerrinb@mdabne.org.au</a> 07 3337 5400
New South Wales Violet Roumeliotis – Deputy Secretary <a href="mailto:ceo@ssi.org.au">ceo@ssi.org.au</a> 02 8799 6702	Northern Territory Joe De Luca <a href="mailto:ceo@mcnt.org.au">ceo@mcnt.org.au</a> 08 8945 9122

If you would like to contribute to future editions of the Settlement News in 2013, please contact Kat O'Neill at [mso@scoa.org.au](mailto:mso@scoa.org.au), or call 02 8065 5225.