

1970s:

Migrant Resource Centres (MRCs) first established as a result of the Fraser government's multicultural policy and recommendations made in the Galbally Report

2008:

NCMRSA successfully secured funding from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Officially changed its name to the Settlement Council of Australia (SCOA) to reflect a broader spectrum of settlement agencies. Constitutional change of name adopted at 2008 Annual General Meeting and SCOA registered with Consumer Affairs Victoria.

First Strategic Plan (2008-2011) developed.



2009:

Andrew Cummings appointed as SCOA's first Executive Officer

First National Settlement Conference held in Canberra 28th & 29th May with theme "Settlement Service – Building the Future for Social Inclusion". Over 180 delegates from nearly 80 different organisations attended. This conference cemented credibility and increased membership by nearly 100%

SCOA first represented at UNHCR Annual Consultations, by Gail Ker at the NGO Convention, and Ricci Bartels at the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement

First teleconference on Young People and Education held in November in collaboration with RCOA

2015:

Secured additional three years of funding from Department of Social Services

National Settlement Standards finalised

1990s:

Loose network of MRCs established across New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia

2004-2007:

NCMRSA functioned under an entirely volunteer-led Executive Committee composed of member representatives from each state to ensure national equity.

Important and ongoing partnerships with FECCA and the Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) were formed and solidified.



SCOA HISTORY

2010:

Conrad Gershevitch appointed as Executive Officer

Steering committee established for the development of National Settlement Standards



2011:

Cedric Manen appointed Chairperson

Sky de Jersey appointed as Executive Officer

Member Services Officer position created and Laura Anderson appointed

SCOA intern program established

Participated in Parliamentary Inquiry into Multiculturalism

2014:

Dewani Bakkum appointed Chairperson

EARLY 2000s:

Changes to migration policies, including outsourced funding, changes to humanitarian programme and increased number and diversity of entrants, signified large shifts for the settlement sector.



2003:

Review of Settlement Services for Migrant and Humanitarian Entrants published which raised concerns for ongoing viability of MRCs. This precipitated the need for a unified body to represent the sector.

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Council of Australia (FECCA) facilitated the first forum of the National Council of Migrant Resource and Service Agencies (NCMRSA), held back-to-back with their national conference.

NCMRSA's first constitution written and interim committee established. Approximately 29 member organisations formed the early council. It was officially incorporated under the *Associations Incorporated Act 1981 (Vic)*.

First Annual General Meeting held in Melbourne. Jenny Semple appointed as NCMRSA's first chair and was succeeded by Gail Ker.

2012:

Second National Settlement Conference held in June with theme "Creating our Future"

Joined SBS Community Advisory Committee



2013:

Kat O'Neill appointed as Member Services Officer

Awarded a Friends of Africa Award for Outstanding Service and Support to the African Australian Communities at Celebrate African Australian Awards in Canberra