

# FECCAe-NEWS

The Newsletter of the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia

## WELCOME TO THE APRIL EDITION OF FECCA E-NEWS

### Message from FECCA Chairperson, Ms Mary Patetsos

Welcome to the fourth issue of FECCA e-News for 2019.

With the 2019 Federal Election fast approaching, FECCA calls for all parties to outline their specific commitments to ensure Australia continues its legacy of successful multiculturalism. Our policy platform outlines several areas identified by Australia's diverse community where current policies must improve in order to deliver access and equity for all Australians. FECCA and its constituents have created the policy platform with the shared goal of fostering social cohesion whilst securing and enhancing the benefits of migration and multiculturalism in Australia. The policy platform can be read in full [here](#).

This month, FECCA has submitted a draft of an engagement toolkit to the Royal Commission into Aged Care. The toolkit is designed to assist organisations, such as CALD social, community and aged care organisations, to have conversations with CALD people about the Royal Commission and encourage them to participate.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the FECCA Conference will be held on the 9 – 11 of October in Hobart this year. We will be celebrating 40 years of FECCA. I invite everyone to submit their abstracts [here](#). Submissions will close on Friday 7 June.



Together with the FECCA Board and Secretariat, I wish you an insightful reading of the fourth FECCA e-news for 2019. We thoroughly enjoy your continued support and hard work as we all work to ensure Australia remains a harmonious and successful multicultural society.

**Mary Patetsos**  
Chairperson

**Federation of Ethnic Communities'  
Councils of Australia (FECCA)**

# FECCA NEWS

## Royal Commission into Aged Care



## Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety

FECCA approached the Royal Commission about the importance of hearing CALD voices in their inquiry. As a result the Royal Commission agreed to accept submissions in languages other than English: in writing, by telephone, or by audio/video recording. The Royal Commission will pay for any interpreting or translation services required.

We think this is ground-breaking, and hope that as many CALD older Australians and their families as possible will share their experiences of aged care. We recognise that many CALD people may be reluctant to take part in what may seem a complex and intimidating process.

We have developed a toolkit to assist organisations, such as CALD social, community and aged care organisations, to have conversations with CALD people about the Royal Commission and encourage them to participate.

The toolkit provides suggested talking points to explain:

- What the Royal Commission on Aged Care Quality and Safety is.
- Why it is important that the Royal Commission hears from CALD people about their experience of aged care services.
- How to tell the Royal Commission about their experience in their own language (if that is their preference).

The talking points have been written in plain English. They could also be used as prompts for conversations in other languages, using bilingual workers, volunteers, family members or friends.

A draft of the toolkit is currently with the Royal Commission to check that our advice about the submission process is accurate. We hope that the toolkit will be available in early June 2019.

# FECCA NEWS

## Events attended by FECCA staff:

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FECCA staff attended the Welcoming Cities Symposium on 3 April. British academic, Kenan Malik, acted as keynote speaker.



FECCA staff attended English classes for intermediate students at Multilink Community Services Logan, Queensland. FECCA also met with Multilink Manager, Michael Zgryza, and staff.



FECCA Policy Officers, Janecke Wille and Lauren Stark attended Canberra's annual Africa Party in the Park on 7 April. Kofi Osei Bonsu (pictured) organised the event.



# FECCA NEWS

## Events attended by FECCA staff:

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FECCA staff met with Nora Amath from the Islamic Women Association of Australia (IWAA) in Logan, Queensland.



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FECCA staff held general consultations with the Toowoomba African Women's Alliance (TAWA) to discuss challenges and opportunities faced by the group.



# FECCA NEWS



**FECCA 2019 Conference, Hobart TAS**



**FECCA 2019**  
10 - 11 October 2019 | Tasmania  
**Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart**  
Purpose. Leadership. Progress.  
FECCA: 40 years and beyond

Join us in scenic Hobart for FECCA 2019.

FECCA's biennial conference will be held from 9 - 11 October 2019. Save the date and register your interest in attending via the button below. FECCA 2019 will bring together an array of community leaders, advocates, stakeholders and service providers along with CALD Australians from across the country.

FECCA 2019 will include rich variety of panels, workshops, speakers and debates to discuss the experiences of women, older people, communities living in rural and regional areas, people with disability, and new and emerging communities.

The theme for 2019 is

**Purpose. Leadership. Progress.**

**FECCA: 40 years and beyond**

We are currently seeking applications for the Scholarship Program to attend, and actively participate in the Conference.

Successful recipients will receive complimentary registration to attend the Conference. They will have access to all Conference sessions (excluding the Conference Dinner), explore issues of interest, discuss their emerging ideas with experienced actors in the sector, network, and establish connections for the future.

[Apply for Scholarship](#)

[Submit Abstract](#)

[FECCA Conference 2019](#)

# FECCA NEWS

## In April 2019 FECCA made the following press releases:

### **FECCA calls on all parties to preference One Nation last**

*26 April 2019*

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) has called on all political parties to preference One Nation last in the upcoming Federal Election.

FECCA Chair Ms Mary Patetsos said there are still a number of parties that are yet to clarify how they will preference One Nation on their how to vote cards.

### **FECCA welcomes funding to support older CALD Australians**

*11 April 2019*

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) welcomes the Federal Government's announcement today that it will provide \$290,000 in funding to FECCA so it can continue to represent and advocate for culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) older Australians in the aged care sector.

FECCA Chairperson Ms Mary Patetsos said the funding was critical in helping overcome the barriers older CALD Australians face in accessing aged care services.

### **FECCA welcomes disability royal commission**

*5 April 2019*

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) welcomes Prime Minister Scott Morrison's announcement on the formation of a three-year royal commission into the abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disability.

FECCA Chairperson Ms Mary Patetsos said the National Ethnic Disability Alliance has done a great job as the peak body representing people with disability from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

Click [here](#) to read all FECCA media releases.

# STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS



Proudly hosted by LOGOS Australian Centre for Language and Culture, Flinders University, Ageing in a Foreign Land delivers a unique Conference program that appeals to a broad range of audiences from policy, research, clinical, government and community sectors,

focused on older CALD people and communities. Themed 'Ageing Well Through Communities, Capacity and Innovation', the 2019 Ageing in a Foreign Land Conference will build capacity through sharing knowledge and showcasing research innovation with broad range of application for services, co-designing practices and evidence for ageing policy led approaches.

FECCA Chairperson, Mary Patetsos, will be featured as one of the keynote speakers.

Early bird registration is now open, [click here!](#)



The 2019 South Australian Gerontology (SAGe) Conference will be held on Friday 21st June (the day after the Ageing in a Foreign Land conference) and the AAG SA division are kindly offering a discounted registration rate to all AIFL delegates.

Presented by the Australian Association of Gerontology SA Division, the 2019 South Australian Gerontology (SAGe) Conference brings together a wide range of people with an interest in issues of ageing – service

providers, health professionals, policy makers, advocates, researchers, students, and older people themselves. It offers a day of thought-provoking keynote, concurrent and pitch presentation sessions addressing a wide range of topics focusing on Connections: People, Place, Policy.

Hear from leading experts:

- Ngaire Hobbins, Dietitian specialising in ageing and brain health, aged care consultant, author and clinical practitioner (TAS)
- Matiu Bush, Social innovator, Bolton Clarke (VIC)
- Daryl Kroschel, National Medical Director & Co-Director Clinical Operations Acute Care, Silver Chain (WA)

The call for abstracts is now open. All abstracts must be submitted by COB Thursday 11th April 2019 [here](#).

# STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



When psychiatrist and mother of three Emma Adams travelled to Darwin as an observer of conditions for mothers and babies in the immigration detention centres there, she expected the trip to be confronting. What she doesn't expect is to return to her home in Canberra consumed by the idea that she must help a sixteen-year-old unaccompanied Hazara boy from Afghanistan - Abdul.

Emma and Abdul's connection, and her fight to get him out and provide him with an Australian home, a family and a future, forms an important testimony to the goodness in our neighbourhoods, to bring our new neighbours home safely. The story of Emma and Abdul is one of hope and connection, which asks us to consider the question: what would you be willing to do for your new neighbour?

Both Emma and Abdul will be sharing their stories as part of a series being developed by Amnesty International and FECCA titled "Sum of Us", launching on World Refugee Day by Kumi Naidoo in Sydney Town Hall library, and rolling out across libraries in Australia.

If you know of similar stories or would like to host a 'community conversation' at your local library, please contact Amnesty International Campaigner, Shankar Kasynathan via: [shankar.kasynathan@amnesty.org.au](mailto:shankar.kasynathan@amnesty.org.au)



UNSW Sydney and the University of Technology Sydney are embarking on a nationwide survey of international students. Launched today, the survey asks international students what help they need to avoid exploitation by unscrupulous employers and accommodation providers.

The survey follows the final report of the Migrant Workers' Taskforce, released on 7 March 2019. The taskforce, headed by Allan Fels, called on education providers to play a greater role in assisting international students to get the information and help they need to address exploitation.

In 2017 UTS Faculty of Law academic, Dr Laurie Berg and UNSW Faculty of Law academic, Bassina Farbenblum,

published Wage Theft in Australia. It found that a quarter of international students were earning \$12/hr or less, and 43% of students earned \$15/hr or less – well below minimum wage.

"Our research demonstrated that many international students are substantially underpaid at work and exploited by unscrupulous accommodation providers," Ms Farbenblum said.

Independent research by the UNSW Human Rights Clinic has found that international students are also commonly exploited in the Sydney housing market.

"We are not only asking students what information they lack, but what would most empower them to make different choices or to come forward when they are mistreated," Dr Berg said.

The survey is available in English, Mandarin, Spanish and Portuguese at:

<https://www.mwji.org/internationalstudentsurvey>.

# STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



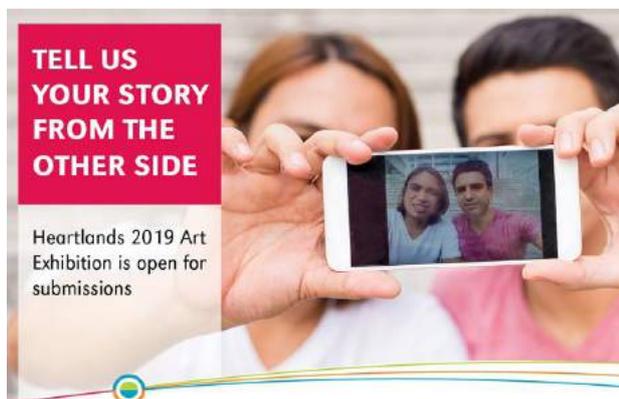
Do you see patients or clients from CALD backgrounds and/or who are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people?

The Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine's (ASHM) ALL GOOD website focuses on key health information on HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and sexually transmissible infections (STIs), providing tools and referral pathways to testing and treatment. Launched in 2018, this website resource is especially useful for

those with low levels of English language reading literacy, as information is available to read in simple-language text or listen to in spoken-word recordings. This includes health information provided in 22 languages. The ALL GOOD website allows you to:

- Choose a language in which to read and/or hear health information on HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and STIs
- Find a service: Search for a doctor or a testing centre in your Australian suburb (or closest to). You can also find out if there is a doctor that can speak your language.
- Get support from community: Search for community organisations where you can talk to someone who knows about living with HIV or hepatitis.
- Access and download resources: Search the database with listings on hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV or STIs. A range of resources exist for specific community groups and in different languages.

Access the website at [www.allgood.org.au](http://www.allgood.org.au)



Heartlands 2019 is now open for submissions. You may be a previous participant and would like to enter again or know someone who would be interested in entering, we encourage you to forward this e-mail to them.

AMES is looking for unique stories from migrant and refugee youth.

For Heartlands 2019, AMES Australia invites young people from migrant or refugee backgrounds to submit digital stories reflecting their experiences, challenges, achievements and aspirations.

Much of what we see in the media about refugees, migrants and emerging communities is portrayed through the prism of mainstream society.

Heartlands 2019 is an opportunity for culturally and linguistically diverse youth to tell their own authentic stories using accessible digital tools; and to have a voice in the public conversation around migration and multiculturalism.

Short-listed emerging artists will be exhibited at The Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, Dandenong from the 4th - 27th of July 2019 and awarded enrolment in a digital arts short course.

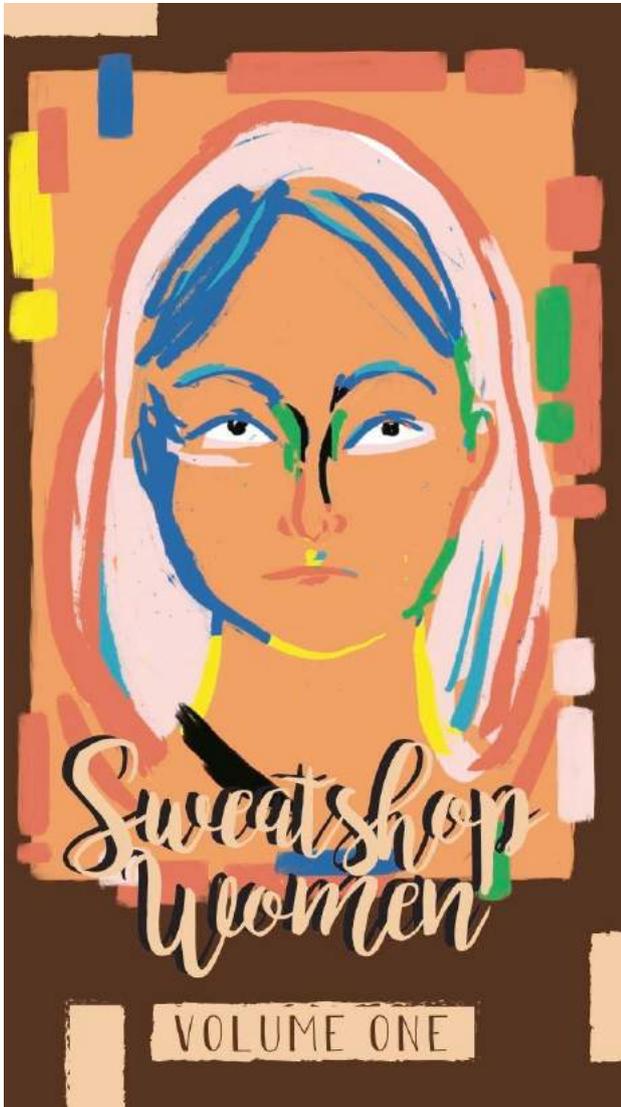
#### How to enter:

Using your smartphone or other digital device, create a digital story which can be either a short video (up to three minutes), or a series of still photographs, or a graphic design that responds coherently to the theme: 'Exploring the challenges, achievements and aspirations of refugee and migrant youth'.

Enter [here](#).

**Entries close 31st of May 2019.**

# STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Sweatshop: Western Sydney Literacy Movement has released a new publication which showcases the stories of culturally diverse women from Western Sydney. In the first volume of the urgent new series, over twenty writers share their stories of love, faith, home and history.

On Friday May 3, Sweatshop Women: Volume One will be officially launched at the 2019 Sydney Writers' Festival. The book is edited by Tongan-Australian writer and community arts worker from Mount Druitt, Winnie Dunn. As the general manager of Sweatshop, Ms Dunn has been a powerful advocate for women and people of colour throughout Australia. She believes that art and writing are important tools in the fight against sexism, racism and Islamophobia: 'In this current climate where we are seeing the horrendous rise of White supremacist and far right groups around the world, the stories and experiences of culturally diverse women can help challenge and transform people's negative opinions and prejudices. 'Sweatshop Women: Volume One features short stories and poems by twenty-two Australian writers who come from Indigenous, African, Arab, Asian and Pasifika backgrounds. There is also a foreword in the anthology by award-winning writer Michelle Law.

The new anthology is part of an ongoing push by Sweatshop to bring more stories from culturally and linguistically diverse communities to the forefront of Australian literature. This has been made possible through the support of I.C.E, Create NSW, Australia Council for the Arts, Western Sydney University and the Packer Foundation.

Sweatshop Women: Volume One is out now and can be purchased directly from the Sweatshop website:

[www.sweatshop.ws](http://www.sweatshop.ws)

For media enquiries please contact Winnie Dunn

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Phone: 0422 560 781

# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MULTICULTURAL SECTOR

FECCA e-News aims to keep our readers updated on career opportunities in the multicultural sector. Please contact [janecke@fecca.org.au](mailto:janecke@fecca.org.au) if you wish to advertise an employment opportunity in our monthly newsletter.



Settlement Services International has a range of job opportunities, [click here](#) for more information.



The National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters Council would like to help facilitate better access for ethnic community broadcasters to develop employment pathways to the ABC or mainstream media. The long-term goal is to improve media representation and diversity in Australian media. The NEMBC sees this as a long-term project and believe that ethnic community broadcasters need to be supported if they enter into a mainstream media position. To find out more visit [www.nembc.org.au](http://www.nembc.org.au).

## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES



The South Australian Government is committed to working together with multicultural organisations for a stronger South Australia. They are committed to ensuring our diverse multicultural communities are well supported through quality services and programs, along with being encouraged to organise and host activities and events that showcase their rich diverse cultures and customs with the wider South Australian community.

Applications are now open for the 2019-20 Multicultural Grants Program, which features four streams of funding to support multicultural communities.

Multicultural organisations are encouraged to apply.

For more information [click here](#).



## Publish in FECCA's e-News

FECCA's monthly electronic newsletter is produced to keep our members, constituents and interested parties up-to-date with FECCA's activities, to discuss key issues and to disseminate information about news, updates and events in the multicultural sector. FECCA's e-News reaches a large national network of followers

representing the many migrant communities in Australia. You can have your organisation's news included in FECCA's e-News and reach a large and diverse community in Australia as well as politicians, organisations in the field and other stakeholders. Please contact Shahnoor Shah on [shahnoor@fecca.org.au](mailto:shahnoor@fecca.org.au) for further details.



## Advertise in Australian Mosaic

FECCA publishes its national magazine, *Australian Mosaic*, three times a year. *Australian Mosaic* is a plain English magazine, which presents a wide range of contemporary issues associated with multiculturalism, social justice, community harmony, and cultural and faith pluralism in Australia. *Australian Mosaic* is intended to be of interest

to a wide readership and publishes a range of perspectives on selected themes. By advertising in the *Australian Mosaic* your organisation or business will reach a large and diverse migrant community in Australia as well as stakeholders and organisations in the sector. Contact Dr Janecke Wille on [janecke@fecca.org.au](mailto:janecke@fecca.org.au) to discuss opportunities and pricing.



## Stay informed about FECCA's news and activities

FECCA encourages you to sign up on our mailing list to stay informed about FECCA's work as well as other events, developments and activities in the sector.

Contact Dr Janecke Wille on [janecke@fecca.org.au](mailto:janecke@fecca.org.au) or find the [link](#) at our website to be added to FECCA's mailing list.