

April, 2024

ECCWA.ORG.AU

NEWSLETTER



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Ethnic Community Council of WA acknowledges and pays tribute to the Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation and their Elders past and present as the Traditional Custodians of the Country (Boodja) on which we work.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Western Australia and recognise their continuing and cultural connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to them, their cultures, and to Elders both past and present.

**Ethnic
Communities
Council of
Western
Australia**

President's Address

KAYA. WANJU.

The Noongar season of Djeran (April – May) is underway, and it brings with it a slight nip in the morning air and promise of cooler days. As we all know, Western Australia's demography is changing rapidly and with it the way we live, work and socialise is also changing. To quote John F Kennedy, "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future". I was drawn to ECCWA because of the challenges these changes of a rapidly growing CaLD population in WA bring- in terms of diverse and unmet need in health, education, employment and social care (to list a few); challenges of new and emerging communities from Africa, South America and Eastern Europe; Challenges of survival faced by many vulnerable asylum seekers and refugee families. Yet, this is welcome change for it demonstrates the safe haven that Australia is for many people from around the world.

When change happens at the right time, for the right reasons, it opens up opportunities and possibilities. As a member of the new ECCWA board, I am excited about the opportunities and waiting in anticipation of the progress we will make collectively, continuing to improve the way we connect, communicate and create a n inclusive society. The incoming board has had two very busy months and a major output has been the focus on identifying and establishing key priorities for 2024 whilst ensuring a successful completion of the 2023 work plan. As we move forward, I seek your expression of interest towards various subcommittees in the pipeline for 2024-2025. These subcommittees will help work out what can be done to eliminate or mitigate the many disparities that either persist or have not been addressed sufficiently enough for our first nation people and other culturally and linguistically diverse communities in WA.

This board is here to serve and the keys to effective service are accessibility and accountability. Towards this, every newsletter will endeavour to shine the spotlight on one member of the board. The April edition has Emem Udo sharing why she chose to join ECCWA and what drives her to give back to the community. It is my hope that revival of the newsletters will enhance the ECCWA's communication and engagement with our member organisations and other stakeholders. Does this mean that challenges have disappeared? On the contrary, I am acutely aware of the pressures that ECCWA faces. My vision for EECWA include: A strong, cohesive, "Can do" Board that works towards ECCWA vision; Financial transparency and enhanced prosperity within ECCWA; Initiatives fostering the community's sense of belonging; Collaborations that empower our most vulnerable ethnic communities to be able to participate in WA's thriving economy and society. Be this youth, refugee and asylum seekers, emerging migrant communities, international students, families, women and elderly.

For successful collaborations, positive relationships and teamwork are two "must haves". Towards this, I wish to express my gratitude to all ECCWA staff and volunteers for working with enthusiasm and great commitment at ensuring a smooth delivery of ECCWA operations and functions whilst the organisation was undergoing change in board and the accompanying issues. I cannot over-emphasize the immense contribution made by Baily Fernandez (Executive Officer).

President's Address

I am looking forward to working closely with our board of directors and ECCWA Executive Office to ensure ECCWA is well led and comes across as a thriving, forward looking organisation which is appropriately, effectively and efficiently addressing the important issues facing WA's ethnic communities. The beautiful and unique tapestry of Australian multiculturalism can only be created with love and compassion from all individuals and organisations that believe in having a stake in creating a thriving, vibrant, culturally diverse yet socially cohesive, inclusive and equitable Australia. This was an invaluable personal realisation that I have understood from The First Nation's welcome of new migrants like myself.

In keeping with the organisation's strategic objectives, the incoming board will continue to highlight the unjustifiable inequalities that persist and continue to challenge societal inequalities which directly impact on the health and wellbeing of WA's CaLD communities. Towards this, I seek your support to work together through partnerships so we can help people of various CaLD backgrounds achieve their potential. One where there is equal opportunity for everyone living in WA. Such collaborations are also an opportunity to better understand our communities and how we can work together for a more level playing ground, as I discovered when I attended the tenth anniversary of the Chin Community of WA last month. Always available to connect and communicate, you are welcome to email me on president@eccwa.org.au. Alternately, I am very keen to see and hear about the fantastic work that you or your organisation is doing in the CaLD space.

To conclude, efforts of many decades has led to many doors opening for ethnically diverse individuals in WA but there is plenty of scope in how there can be a fairer, more inclusive landscape in sectors of education, employment, health, neighbourhoods and more. Open doors become attractive when one feels wanted, included and valued. By doing so, we could ensure lasting impact on hundreds of thousands of WA residents over the next 30 years. For it is my belief that, though every life is finite, it can have infinite impact if used for the greater good.

Have an enjoyable read!



Dr Sadhana Bose

Know your Board

President



Sadhana Bose

Vice President



Divya-Jyoti Sharma

Secretary



Seren Ulusoy

Treasurer



Theresa Ng

Elected Board Members



Emem Udo



Meggie Collie



Syed Muzaffar Ahmed



Neelam Wadhvani

Welcome New Board

Welcome Our New Board Members!

We are thrilled to announce the induction of new members to the Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia's Board following our recent elections. Our new board members bring a wealth of experience, fresh perspectives, and a deep commitment to the advancement of ethnic communities across Western Australia.

These dynamic individuals were officially welcomed at our recent induction ceremony, where they engaged in comprehensive orientation sessions. The sessions were designed to familiarise them with ECCWA's strategic goals, ongoing projects, and operational protocols, ensuring a smooth transition and immediate impact.

As we move forward, our new board members are excited to contribute to ECCWA's mission of promoting multiculturalism and advocating for the rights and interests of our diverse communities. They are eager to listen to your thoughts and integrate your valuable feedback into our initiatives.

Join us in welcoming our new board members! We look forward to achieving great things together.

Stay tuned for updates on our projects and initiatives, and learn how our new board is steering ECCWA towards an even more inclusive and effective future.

Board spotlight



Emem Udo
LLB GDLP

Emem was born and raised in Kuwait, with Nigerian-Indian heritage, later immigrating to Australia. Her passion lies in fostering true inclusivity beyond surface cultural expressions. Emem practices as an immigration lawyer and has guided clients through navigating the complex world of visas. She volunteers her time her time to pro bono migration advice and has actively volunteered with her state member of Parliament in Mirrabooka.

As a board member of the Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia, Emem will grow the network of professionals and community leaders. Emem will advocate for those who have been overlooked by our system and will seek solutions for vulnerable members of our communities. Emem wants to address the disconnect between diversity and inclusion, between the Australian Government's policies and the reality of multiculturalism and integration. She is passionate about collaborating and building partnerships, being part of the consultative process and keeping the communication flowing between our members.

Since being elected to the board, Emem has already taken part in advisory forums with Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN), the Social Policy Group and the Australian Electoral Commission, FECCA National Anti-Racism Framework consultation and sought out several organisations that align with our values

What has been happening

RESPECT RISING WORKSHOP | 01/03/2024

ECCWA took part in the Respect Rising Workshop co-hosted by Reconciliation WA and Western Australian Council of Social Services (WACOSS). The workshop centred on how Peak Bodies can implement reconciliation effort (particularly post-referendum) within their communities through community engagement, solidarity, truth telling, service design, collaboration and voice.

We joined in on the yarns



HARMONY WEEK 2024

As a member of Social Inclusion Mirrabooka and Sounds Group, ECCWA participated as part of the Harmony Week Committee. We set up a stall in Mirrabooka to interact with community members on all matters regarding diversity and social services. We also assisted the Town of Victoria Park at the Harmony Week Picnic with asking people to fill out surveys on the event.



MEETINGS WITH OMI

We met with the Executive Director of the Office of Multicultural Interests (OMI), James Jegasothy, to discuss ECCWA's vision and contributions to supporting CaLD communities, and how to enhance our impact as a peak body.



Celebrating Women

WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME | 07/03/2024



ECCWA attended the WA Women's Hall of Fame Induction. Thank you, Anbumoly, for representing the organisation, especially at a last minute notice!

Congratulations to all the inductees for 2024:

- Kankawa Nagarra, Artist and Teacher
- Esme Bowen, Deputy Chair, Chamber of Commerce, and Industry WA
- Jessica Gethin, Conductor, Educator, Presenter & Ambassador
- Libby Lyons, Non-Executive Director
- Dr. Sandy Chong PhD, Leader, Educator, Businesswoman, Founder, Changemaker
- Rachael Hain, Co-founder Dress for Success Western Australia
- Di Ryder OAM, Respected Noongar Elder
- Sandy Dann, Radio Broadcaster
- Rebecca Prince Ruiz OAM, Founder, Executive Director Plastic Free July
- Associate Professor Lorraine Hammond AM, Teacher Literacy
- Emeritus Professor Elizabeth Rakoczy PhD, Molecular Biologist
- Sue Morey OAM, Nurse Practitioner Respiratory Medicine
- Celia Waugh, Life Member Surf Lifesaving WA
- Colleen Kluwen, Aerobics and Calisthenics Pioneer
- Captain Carol Dooley, Foreign-Going Unlimited Ship Master, Pilot and Marine Manager
- Emeritus Professor Carolyn Oldham, Teacher Environmental Engineering

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



We celebrated International Women's Day, alongside Multicultural Services Centre WA. We were lucky enough to have the Hon Dr Anne Aly MP present a speech where she shared her perspectives on ensuring equality for all women, particularly those from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities. Furthermore, we were blessed to have Disability Services Manager at MSC, Linda Vetoor, speak about gender equity in the workplace and fostering inclusive work environments.

National Anti-Racism Framework Consultation

07/03/2024

The Ethnic Communities Council of WA facilitated a consultation on 7th March 2024 to inform FECCA's submission to Australia's National Anti-Racism Framework, specifically focusing on the experiences of culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) individuals with disabilities. This initiative aimed to capture firsthand accounts of racism faced by these communities, particularly those with disabilities, to refine anti-racism policies and ensure they address real-world challenges.

Participants included people living with a disability, their support workers, and interpreters, employing a discussion-based methodology. Information was gathered through written records, digital forms, and observations, ensuring a comprehensive compilation of insights.

Key findings highlighted systemic barriers across healthcare, employment, housing, and community services. Significant issues included language and communication barriers in aged care and disability services, discrimination in employment practices, and challenges in accessing healthcare due to inadequate interpreter services. These factors contribute to the compounded discrimination faced by CaLD individuals with disabilities.

Recommendations focus on a multi-sectoral approach to address these disparities:

1. Implementing language support policies in aged and disability care
2. Expanding professional interpreter services, particularly for underrepresented dialects.
3. Providing cultural competency training to reduce discriminatory practices.
4. Encouraging inclusive hiring practices and promoting diversity in workplaces.
5. Enhancing healthcare accessibility with better support for non-English speakers.
6. Tackling discriminatory practices in housing and improving access to services for non-English speaking women with disabilities.

The consultation underscores the need for targeted policy reforms and practical measures to address the intersectional nature of racism and discrimination, ensuring that CaLD communities with disabilities receive adequate support and recognition in anti-racism efforts

ECCWA is grateful to those that took part and we thank you for your contributions and sharing your story.

SURVEY

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils (FECCA) is conducting nationwide multicultural community consultations to contribute to the National Racism Framework, commissioned by the Australian Human Rights Commission. ECCWA hosted a consultation in March. Please complete the [survey](#) to contribute to improving the wellbeing of our CaLD community.

WA Multicultural Awards

The WA Multicultural Awards stands as a prestigious celebration honouring the remarkable contributions of individuals, communities, and organisations towards multiculturalism in Western Australia. These awards shine a spotlight on those who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to promoting diversity, inclusion, and the cultural richness of the region. Congratulations to the 2024 award winners:

- Premier's Public Sector Award: Department of Health — Older Person Health Network
- Outstanding Individual Achievement Award: Mr Joe Tuazama Youth Award: Ms Syeda Maisara Muzaffar
- Arts Award: Mr Jay Emmanuel
- Sportsperson of the Year Award: Ms Minjee Lee
- Community Service and Support Awards:
 - CaLD Community Association: Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc
 - CaLD Community Association: Indian Society of Western Australia (ISWA)
 - CaLD Community Service Organisation: Multicultural Services Centre of Western Australia Inc
 - General Community Service Organisation: Mission Australia
- Local Government Award: City of Swan
- Sir Ronald Wilson Leadership Award: Mrs Kerry Palmer
- Laksiri Jayasuriya Lifetime Community Service Award: Ms Jennifer Au Yeong



What has been happening

DIVERSE VOICES, COMMON CAUSE | 30/04/2024

ECCWA hosted a workshop titled, "Diverse Voices, Common Cause", an interactive forum to discuss experiences of racism within CaLD and Aboriginal communities. We offer a big thanks to Senior Noongar man, Jim Morrison, and Emeritus Professor of Sociology, Andrew Jakubowicz, from the University of Technology Sydney, for offering extremely valuable insights and commentary on the existing issues our diverse communities face. Capacity building, led by Sharan Kraemer, was had amongst our attendees, to discuss concerns in the workplace regarding racism, and the barriers faced by those in CaLD and Aboriginal communities. Our attendees enjoyed networking afterwards to continue enriching discussions on how to combat racism and work together with the CaLD and Aboriginal communities, not only in Western Australia, but also Australia.



ECCWA Representation in Community Events



ECCWA Representation

PERCEPTIONS OF ELDER ABUSE IN CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

ECCWA is taking part in the CaLD Elder Rights project, "Perceptions of Elder Abuse in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities" announced by Minister for Seniors and Ageing Hon Don Punch MLA today. The project is in conjunction with Umbrella Multicultural Community Care Services Inc, Legal Aid WA, and funded by the Department of Communities. We have participated in information sessions with other community representatives from CaLD backgrounds to discuss elder rights and elder abuse.



AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Understanding Community Education and Support for CALD Communities in Australia

On 4 April 2024, representatives from the Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia (ECCWA) joined a crucial roundtable discussion with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) and 11 community leaders to address the challenges of low voter turnout and high vote informality among culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities. The session provided a platform to evaluate the current awareness of the electoral process and the AEC's role within these communities. Participants openly discussed the barriers that impede community understanding and engagement with the electoral system. The dialogue also explored effective strategies through which the AEC can enhance community members' comprehension of electoral mechanisms and encourage active democratic participation. This meeting highlighted the need for tailored approaches to break down the complexities of the electoral process, ensuring all community members can contribute to Australia's democratic landscape.

ECCWA Representation

ACCAN CONSUMER ADVISORY COUNCIL | 27/03/2024

March 2024, representatives from the Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia (ECCWA) participated in the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network's (ACCAN) Member's Advisory Forum. The forum serves as a platform to inform ACCAN members about ongoing initiatives and gather input to shape future policy directions.

Universal Service Obligation Reform

A key topic was the Australian Government's reform of the Universal Service Obligation (USO), which ensures access to standard fixed landline phone services and public payphones across Australia. ACCAN highlighted the shift in consumer expectations, emphasizing the necessity of both voice and data services in modern life. Concerns discussed included delays in fault rectification, especially in remote areas, and the need for improved communication regarding Telstra's maintenance visits. For more information and to participate in the consultation, visit ACCAN's website.

3G Network Shutdown

The impending shutdown of Telstra and Optus's 3G networks was also a major discussion point. Set for mid and late 2024, this shift aims to make room for more advanced technologies but raises concerns about the accessibility of emergency services. With certain older 4G devices potentially unable to connect to emergency services, the forum stressed the importance of public awareness and support for low-income consumers needing device upgrades. For further details, contact your service provider.

Scams Reduction Initiative

ACCAN expressed ongoing concerns regarding the prevalence of scams via SMS and phone calls. An upcoming SMS ID registry, which ACCAN argues should be mandatory, aims to mitigate these risks by helping consumers identify fraudulent messages. Discussions also covered the challenges in assessing the impact of scams, especially within CALD communities, due to their evolving nature.

ECCWA Representation

EXTERNAL BREAST PROSTHESES REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM (EBPRP)

Content Warning

This article discusses topics related to breast cancer, which might be sensitive for some readers.

Breast cancer remains one of the most common cancers affecting women worldwide. As we explore the impacts, treatments, and personal stories associated with this condition, we also understand the emotional weight these discussions can carry. If you find the content distressing or if you are seeking support, we encourage reaching out to organisations such as Cancer Council Australia (contact them on 13 11 20) or Breast Cancer Network Australia (contact them on 1800 500 258) for guidance and assistance.

Verna Kanagarathnam, Baily Fernandez and Dr Sadhana Bose participated in an evaluation of the External Breast Protheses Reimbursement Program (EBPRP), which is an important program that reimburses women with breast cancer for the cost of their prosthesis after mastectomy. This evaluation was undertaken for the Cancer Policy and Projects Branch of the Department of Health and Aged Care. A key component of the evaluation was to understand the experience of those from CALD backgrounds, to ensure that the program meets the needs of this population, recognising that CALD women often face additional challenges in their management of breast cancer.

Our sincere gratitude to the Health and Human Services team at Ernst & Young.

GENESIS

Over the past few months, the Genesis Project has been engaging significantly with women from CaLD communities, running 5 women support groups in North Perth, Mirrabooka, Bentley, Ellenbrook and Gosnells. Workshops conducted were equally impactful, with the Bentley group engaging in a variety of sessions, from Zumba to job interview skills. In the Gosnells group, which is in its formative stage, essential support was provided focusing on local employment pathways and skill development, assisting 15 new participants. Furthermore, the project successfully conducted First Aid and CPR training, certifying 45 women and enhancing their employability and personal growth. The Mirrabooka sessions reached about 30 women weekly with over 10 different service providers contributing, while the newly inaugurated Ellenbrook group provided a secure environment for 20 weekly participants. In addition, 30 participants took part in the Digital Inclusion project, significantly boosting their digital literacy. Collectively, these focus groups exemplify the Genesis Project's dedication to empowering CaLD women by enhancing their skills, expanding their networks, and integrating them into the community through well-structured and culturally sensitive activities



SPEAK MY LANGUAGE

The Speak My Language project was a follow on from the first phase that had been undertaken by ECCWA in conjunction with ECCNSW relating to CaLD people with disability. This phase of the project was to arrange broadcasts with as many broadcasters as was possible of a series of programs that were designed specifically for CaLD people with disability. There have been 18 programs that have aired, focusing on a number of areas of involvement in community of this cohort of people.

ARABIC

1. Episode One: Libraries, a place of inclusion and curiosity
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B29/>
2. Episode Two: The Outdoors is for Everyone
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B30/>
3. Episode Three: Getting Active
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B31/>
4. Episode Four: The Power of Creativity
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B33/E>

SPANISH

1. Episode One: The Outdoors is for Everyone
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B34/E>
2. Episode Two: Discover More at Accessible Museums
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B35/E>
3. Episode Three: Keeping Active with a Disability
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B36/E>
4. Episode Four: Yoga and Meditation
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B37/E>
5. Episode Five: Maintaining Independence
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B38/E>
6. Episode Six: Let's Dance!
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B39/E>

TURKISH

1. Episode One: Creative Outlets Create Wellbeing
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B40/E>
2. Episode Two: Get Active!
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B41/E>
3. Episode Three: Realising Professional Goals
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B42/E>
4. Episode Four: Creating Inclusive Communities
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B43/E>

VIETNAMESE

1. Episode One: Creative Outlets Create Wellbeing
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B44/E>
2. Episode Two: Building a strong social network
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B45/E>
3. Episode Three: Unlocking Professional Goals
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B46/E>
4. Episode Four: Practising Gratitude and Mindfulness
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au/podcasts/play/B47/E>

For further information on the podcast, visit:
<https://speakmylanguage.com.au>

Community

RESPECT RISING YARNS

Reconciliation WA is hosting a number of reconciliation workshops for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community members across WA to understand how to advance reconciliation and listen to the Aboriginal community. Please see their website for more information on how you can advance reconciliation efforts within your own organisation and community.

Click [here](#) to register for a yarn. For more information, check out their [flyer](#).

We joined in on the yarns



FECCA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024

Abstract [submissions](#) are now open for the FECCA 2024 Conference, to be held in partnership with the Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre on 16-17 October. We invite submissions from multicultural leaders, academics, policy makers, and community advocates to share insights and advance multiculturalism in Australia. Please submit your abstracts by 11:59 PM AEST on 28 June. For submission [guidelines](#) and more information, please visit our website. We look forward to your valuable contributions.



MULTILINGUAL AUSTRALIA

Roundtable Discussion: Bilingual Challenges for Youth, Families, and Educators

When: Saturday, 4th May 2024, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM (UTC+08)

Where: NAATI Western Australia, Level 1/49 Oxford Cl, West Leederville WA 6007

Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/CQMMK>

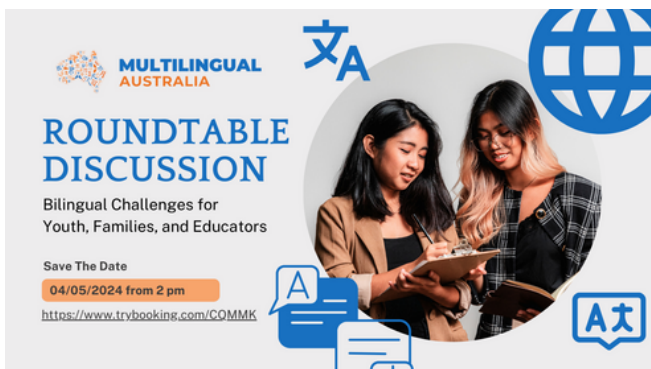
Workshops: Raising Children in More Than One Language

Dates & Times:

22nd June, 2 pm – 4 pm
24th August, 10 am – 12 pm

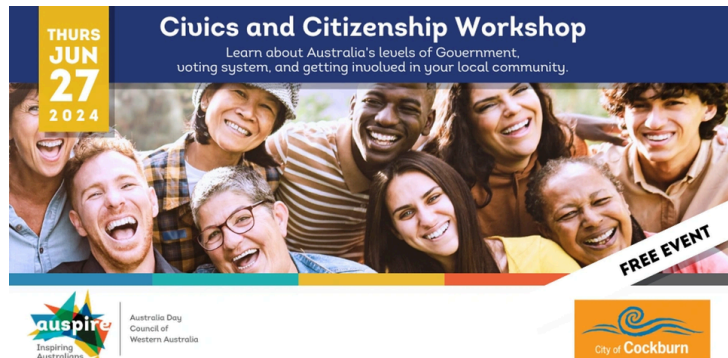
Where: Girrawheen Hub, 11 Patrick Ct, Girrawheen WA 6064

Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/CQHCD>



Community

Civics and Citizenship Workshop



New and current Australian citizens are invited to empower themselves to help shape their community's future at this enlightening and interactive free workshop in Cockburn. The session will include insights into Australian society and community engagement from The Constitutional Centre of Western Australia and the Western Australian Electoral Commission.

Date: 27 June 2024

Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm (AWST)

Location: Success Library 11 Wentworth Parade, Success, WA 6163

Tickets: Free

Book now: <https://events.humanitix.com/civicscockburn2024?c=enews>

Circle Green Community Legal

Circle Green Community Legal's Workplace Respect Project are looking for people with personal experiences of workplace sexual harassment to join our Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP).

The LEAP represents people who have a diverse range of experiences and backgrounds. We are particularly interested in hearing from young people (aged 18-24), LGBTQI+ people, people with disability, culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) people, and Aboriginal people. The role is focused on participating in meetings. Advisors are paid for their work preparing for and attending meetings, which are held every 2-3 months. These meetings help us to ensure that the voices of people with lived experiences of workplace sexual harassment inform our work. Visit the Workplace Respect Project's LEAP webpage to learn more about the panel: <https://circlegreen.org.au/projects/workplace-respect/leap/>.

If you are interested in applying for this role, we ask that you complete an application form and send it to Heidi.guldbaek@circlegreen.org.au as soon as possible.

Community

CCYP Belonging Across Borders Survey



Commissioner for Children and Young People WA has launched a new survey titled 'Belonging Across Borders'. The survey was created to explore the experiences of young people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds who have immigrated to Western Australia or have parents who did. Over 90,000 children and young people who live in WA were born outside of Australia, which is approximately 15% of this age group's population.

The survey will close on Monday 3rd June at 12pm, and the findings will be released publicly later in the year.

For further information, you can contact the Policy team on 08 6213 2297 or email policy@ccyp.wa.gov.au.
Website: <https://www.ccyp.wa.gov.au/our-work/belonging-across-borders-survey/>

Australian Red Cross: Safety Net

Australian Red Cross has funds to support people on temporary visa's in extreme financial hardship. For many, this is the last line of support after they have been turned away from other services due to eligibility criteria. The program is Safety Net. They also offer case work support

They offer case work support, or if you are already providing case work support, they can offer your client up to three financial assistance payments whilst you continue to support them.

How can Australian Red Cross help?

We can provide payments for urgent financial needs. We may also support with casework and ongoing financial payments for people in particularly difficult situations.

What are the eligibility requirements?

- Live in Australia.
- Be unable to access Commonwealth Government income support.
- Be seeking asylum, hold a temporary visa or have an uncertain visa status.
- Have no or very limited income, savings or community support.

For more information please contact wa_mit_msp@redcross.org.au or call the Perth Australian Red Cross Reception on 08 9225 8888.

Apply for this individualised support program with Australian Red Cross at redcross.org.au/migration/emergency-relief.



Membership

Keep Your Membership Active!

Dear Members,

As part of our ongoing efforts to ensure that all our services and communications are tailored to meet your needs, we kindly remind you to update your contact details if there have been any changes recently. Keeping your information current helps us serve you better! You will find the form to update your details [here](#).

Have You Renewed Your Membership? If you haven't yet paid your annual membership fee for 2023-2024, now is the perfect time to do so. Maintaining an active membership ensures uninterrupted access to all the benefits and resources ECCWA offers.

Easy Online Payment: You can quickly and securely renew your membership by clicking the "Pay Now with Paypal" button on <https://www.eccwa.org.au/membership>

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in ECCWA. Together, we are stronger!

Visit our website or contact us at admin@eccwa.org.au to learn more and become a member today.



Membership

Membership – New Members

Join the Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia Today!

Become a part of Western Australia's leading voice for ethnic communities. As a member of ECCWA, you will gain access to a range of benefits that can empower your organisation and enhance your impact:

Strong Advocacy: Leverage our robust advocacy efforts to ensure your community's voice is heard in key policy decisions.

Extensive Networking: Connect with a diverse network of organisations, enhancing collaboration and shared learning.

Professional Development: Benefit from our workshops and training designed to build your organisation's capacity and effectiveness.

Enhanced Visibility: Raise your profile within the community and among key stakeholders through our platforms and events.

Funding Opportunities: Access information on funding sources and receive guidance to support your funding applications.

Increased Credibility: Enhance your reputation through association with Western Australia's peak body for ethnic communities.

Act now to empower your community and strengthen your services. [Join](#) ECCWA and be a part of a collective voice that makes a difference!

Visit our website or contact us at admin@eccwa.org.au to learn more and become a member today.



Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ALL IS WELL? ARE YOU AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD:
SHARE YOUR TAKE ON
MENTAL HEALTH

5-MIN ONLINE SURVEY



Help us gather unique insights on the mental health needs of international students.

ONLINE + IN-PERSON CONSULTATION

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
14 May

Join the consultation session & participate in directly shaping the mental health resources and support. Scan the QR code to register for the consultation..



Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia Inc

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS

CAIRE COMMUNITY ANTI-RACISM INITIATIVES & EMPOWERMENT EMPOWERING VOICES & LEGAL EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP

Putting the "I" in CARE. As a community leader, one needs to know how to look after themselves before they can teach their community. We invite all community leaders to come and learn about CAIRE.

Come join a **two part** session:
1. Empowering Voices
2. Legal Empowerment

28 MAY, 2024
5:30pm-7:30pm

SAVE THE DATE
More information will be provided closer to the date.

Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia

REGISTERED CHARITY

FECCA
Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia

Media Training

SAVE THE DATE

DATE: 4 JUNE, 2024 **TIME: 5:30PM-7:30PM**

MEDIA TRAINING IS A SPECIALISED FORM OF COMMUNICATION TRAINING THAT FOCUSES ON ENGAGING WITH THE MEDIA. THE PURPOSE OF THIS TRAINING IS TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND AND PREPARE FOR YOUR ROLE AS A REPRESENTATIVE OR A SPOKESPERSON FOR YOUR COMPANY OR ORGANISATION. YOU WILL LEARN HOW TO ANSWER DIFFICULT QUESTIONS, AVOID MISTAKES, AND STAY FOCUSED ON DELIVERING YOUR KEY MESSAGES, AND CONDUCT MEDIA INTERVIEWS. YOU WILL LEARN HOW TO DO PRESS RELEASES.

MEDIA TRAINING IS IMPORTANT, AND WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS AS WELL AS WHAT EXPRESSIONS TO AVOID AND WHAT NOT TO SAY. WE WILL SHOW YOU HOW TO KEEP TO YOUR SCRIPTS SO THAT YOU CAN INFLUENCE THE STORY IN THE DIRECTION YOU WANT IT TO GO AND HOW TO BRING IT BACK ON TRACK IF IT DEVIATES.

Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia Inc

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS

CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS WORKSHOP

11/06/2024

Time: 5:30pm-7:30pm

Facilitator: Dr Sharan Kraemer



Join us for an interactive session on Cultural Responsiveness. This engaging workshop will focus on the critical aspects of Representation, Engagement, Sensitivity, Policy Inclusion, Evaluation, Communication, and Training (RESPECT).

SAVE THE DATE
More information will be provided closer to the date.

Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia Inc

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS

Volunteer

Volunteer with Us – Make a Difference in Your Community!

Join the vibrant team at the Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia and play a pivotal role in shaping a more inclusive society. We are currently seeking passionate volunteers to assist us in various capacities. By volunteering with ECCWA, you will:

- **Contribute to Meaningful Projects:** Work on initiatives that support ethnic communities across Western Australia, helping to drive change and promote diversity.
- **Develop Skills and Experience:** Gain valuable experience in community service, advocacy, event management, and more. Our volunteering opportunities can help you build your CV and acquire new skills.
- **Meet New People:** Connect with a diverse group of people who share your passion for social justice and community welfare.
- **Make a Real Impact:** Your efforts will have a direct positive impact on the lives of individuals and communities throughout the region.

We offer flexible volunteering opportunities that can accommodate your schedule. Whether you can spare a few hours a week or can commit more time, your contribution will be immensely valued.

Interested in making a difference? Contact us at admin@eccwa.org.au to find out more about our current volunteering opportunities and how you can get involved!





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Local Government, Sport
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