



## **ACT Multicultural Community E-News**

**Edition 24**

**29 November 2018**

**We hope you enjoy this fortnight's edition of the ACT Multicultural Community E- News.**

**For urgent and short notice updates and requests, a special edition E-News can be issued.**

**Contact The ACT Office for Multicultural Affairs via [CommunityParticipation@act.gov.au](mailto:CommunityParticipation@act.gov.au)**

**Thank you.**

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# Grants and Awards

## The 2018 Multicultural Awards

### Hurry – nominations close at midnight tonight

Nominations for the ACT Government's Multicultural Awards are now open. The Awards shine a light on individuals and organisations which actively support and promote multiculturalism in Canberra and recognise the valuable contributions and efforts of Canberrans who support and promote a united, harmonious and inclusive community, and those who are committed to increasing community awareness of the benefits of multiculturalism in the ACT.

There are five categories: Outstanding Volunteer Award for Services to the Community, Organisational Excellence Award for Services to the Community through Social Enterprise, Business, the Public Sector or Education; ACT Multicultural Champion of the Year Award; ACT Multicultural Honour Roll Award; and Outstanding Excellence Award in the area of Creative Services and Experiences for the Community through Art, Media or Culture.

Winners will receive their prizes at a special Multicultural Awards 2018 celebration at Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre on 13 December 2018.

Nominations close on **Thursday 29 November 2018**. Nominations forms can be accessed at [http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/multicultural/multicultural\\_awards/2018-awards](http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/multicultural/multicultural_awards/2018-awards)

For more information, contact Office of Multicultural Affairs on 02 6205 2249 or visit [www.communityservices.act.gov.au](http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au) or email [MulticulturalCentre@act.gov.au](mailto:MulticulturalCentre@act.gov.au)

## What is the Women's Return to Work Grants Program?

The Program provides practical financial support to women returning to the workforce by providing funding for them to attend short courses, pay for childcare to attend interviews, as well as undertake more formal training or education.

It may also provide support for the purchase of equipment or clothing directly related to women who are on low incomes including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, women with disabilities, younger women and older women requiring assistance in returning to paid work following caring for a child/ family member or community member for more than 12 months in the period of their lives.

Each grant provides up to \$1,000 (GST exclusive) in assistance for women enrolling in training or other employment associated costs that will improve their workforce skills or capacities.

For more info:

[http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/women/grants\\_and\\_awards/return-to-work/return-to-work-grants-program-guidelines](http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/women/grants_and_awards/return-to-work/return-to-work-grants-program-guidelines)

## Youth InterACT Scholarship

The Youth InterACT Scholarships provide funding of up to \$500 for individual young people aged 12 to 25 who wish to attend an activity of a learning capacity, sporting, conferences, personal or career development through participation in various activities, events or courses.

Applications are assessed by a scholarship committee on the last Friday of every month.

Applications will need to be received into the office 14 days prior to the committee's meeting dates otherwise they will not be considered.

For further information telephone: 6205 3064

<http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/ocyfs/youth/youth-interact/grants-and-scholarships#yischolarship>

## Forthcoming Events

### Building Stronger Futures for Diverse Women in the ACT

Initiatives for Women in Need (IWIn) is bringing together a diverse range of individuals, organisations, businesses, government and community leaders to brainstorm how we can collectively empower and support women's advancement in the ACT, and we need your voice at the table!

Please join us (and bring your friends!) for a cuppa and a chat on Saturday, 1 December 2018 from 1-4pm at the Yowani Country Club of Canberra. We would love to hear your ideas on what needs to happen to build stronger futures for women in the ACT.

**Date:** Saturday 1 December 2018  
**Time:** 1:00pm-4:00pm  
**Where:** Yowani Country Club of Canberra, 455 Northbourne Av, Lyneham  
**Cost:** This event is free.

Please register at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/leaders-workshop-building-stronger-futures-for-diverse-women-in-the-act-tickets-51999033509>

**More Info:** Please contact Suhasini at [suhasini.sumithra@gmail.com](mailto:suhasini.sumithra@gmail.com)

### Bilingual Trivia from Das Zentrum, Australian-German Institute Inc.

Come and join us for our fun-filled, annual fundraising bilingual Trivia Night. Everybody is welcome and there is no need to speak German, as questions will be read in English and German. We thank the Swiss, Austrian and German embassies for providing the main prizes for the Trivia Night. The preferred group size is a table of six, and we can help you find a table on the night, if you rsvp with fewer people or on your own. Dinner is optional at your own cost from 6 pm onwards in the auditorium. Pork knuckles need to be pre-ordered with the restaurant.

**Date:** Saturday 1 December 2018  
**Time:** Registration from 6pm onwards  
**Where:** Auditorium of the Harmonie German Club, Narrabundah  
**Cost:** \$10 members of Das Zentrum - \$20 non-members (to be paid in cash on the night)  
**RSVP:** [das.zentrum@iinet.net.au](mailto:das.zentrum@iinet.net.au) or call Doris +61431691679 by 28.11.2018

### Christmas Festival at the Philippine Embassy

The Filipino Council of the ACT and the Philippine Embassy cordially invite everyone to this year's **Christmas Festival at the Philippine Embassy Grounds on 2 December 2018.**

There will be plenty of food stalls where you can choose delicious Filipino savouries/desserts and/or other international food. Carols, games and a Santa parade will again delight both children and adults. The Philippine Embassy is at 1 Moonah Place, Yarralumla.

Email [paskosecretariat@hotmail.com](mailto:paskosecretariat@hotmail.com) to register.

## Vempati Narthanam: South Indian Classical Dance performance

This captivating classical Indian dance performance features never before seen choreography from the genius of the late Vempati Ravishankar who sadly passed away earlier this year brought to you by several acclaimed Kuchipudi dancers including Sadhanalaya School of Arts own Smt Vanaja Dasika.

Vempati Narthanam explores the evolution of Kuchipudi, a classical Indian dance form with an ancient history, through a lineage of masterful choreographers.

It pays tribute to the nuanced and graceful dance of Vempati Chinna Satyam, father of Vempati Ravishankar, and the dynamic and flowing energy of Vempati Ravishankar. Lose yourself in an evening of mythology and storytelling set to lyrical melodies from the maestros of classical Indian music.

**Date:** Sunday 2 December 2018

**Time:** 3pm

**Where:** Belconnen Community Theatre, 23 Swanson Ct, Belconnen

**Cost:** \$20 pp

<https://www.kalabharathiperformingarts.com/#/canberra-contact-for-tickets/>

**More Info:** Contact Suhasini at [suhasini.sumithra@gmail.com](mailto:suhasini.sumithra@gmail.com)

## Have Your Say on the Future of Cemeteries and Crematoria in the ACT

*(New)* The ACT Government is looking to hear from the Canberra community as part of a review of the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003*.

On Tuesday 4 December 2018 an information session will be held to share what we are doing and what we are looking to hear from you.

Specifically, we are looking to understand what your needs are in relation to cemeteries and crematoria and whether you feel those needs are being met.

Please come along and feel free to ask questions, have your say or just listen in on what is a highly important topic for everyone here in the ACT.

**Date:** Tuesday 4 December 2018

**Time:** 3:45pm to 4:45pm

**Where:** Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre, 180 London Circuit, Canberra city

**Cost:** Free, All are welcome – no registration required.

**More Info:** Please contact the Business Development Unit, Transport Canberra and City Services at [BDU.TCCS@act.gov.au](mailto:BDU.TCCS@act.gov.au)

# Notices

## Bilingual Story Times with Libraries ACT

Do you speak Mandarin, Vietnamese, Farsi or Hindi to your children? Do you want to expose your children to languages other than English? Join us for Bilingual Story Times on the following dates:

Date	Venue	Time	Language
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Gungahlin Library	10.30-11.30am	Arabic
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Gungahlin Library	10.30-11.30am	Indonesian
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Gungahlin Library	10.30-11.30am	Mandarin
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Woden Library	10.30-11.30am	Farsi
10 <sup>th</sup> January	Gungahlin Library	10.30-11.30am	Mandarin
12 <sup>th</sup> January	Belconnen Library	10.30-11.30am	Vietnamese
19 <sup>th</sup> January	Woden Library	10.30-11.30am	Cantonese

**Cost:** Free

**More Info:** Joanna Bragg at [joanna.bragg@act.gov.au](mailto:joanna.bragg@act.gov.au)

## Interfaith Lecture - The Astonishing Story of the Prophet of Islam

*(New)* This year the ACT chapter of the Ahmadiyya Women's Association is organising their annual Interfaith Lecture highlighting the life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

Women's Auxiliary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association strives to raise awareness amongst women of their important status and their great responsibilities in the religious organisation, while focusing on their duties towards mankind as well as their contributions to the society in which they live and raise their future generation.

The aim of our Interfaith lecture is to take our guests on a journey into the life of this holy personage who championed the rights of women at a time when they were non-existent. To also provide an opportunity to find out from actual Muslims about his true characteristics instead sensationalist news which seek to defame him. It's an opportunity to learn what true Islam actually stands for.

This is a ladies only event

**Date:** Saturday 1 December 2018

**Time:** 5.00-7.00 pm

**Where:** Ahmadiyya Prayer Centre, U 9, 90 Barrier Street, Fyshwick

**Cost:** The event is Free

**RSVP:** <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/muhammad-sa-the-astonishing-story-of-the-prophet-tickets-52350952107>

**More Info:** [ahmadiyyawomenact@gmail.com](mailto:ahmadiyyawomenact@gmail.com)

## Canberra Youth Theatre is looking for Tutors

CYT are currently seeking creative, committed and passionate tutors to deliver our high quality workshop programs at our Gorman Arts Centre and Drama in Primary School Programs in 2019! CYT's Workshop Program is focused on process. Tutors work collaboratively with our young artists in weekly performance workshops, actively developing and supporting fundamental performance skills. Over time the young actors will learn to successfully navigate the demands of short performances through to full-length productions.

Working in collaboration with the Artistic Director, tutors are required to develop an inspiring program for their workshop group designed to incorporate strong fundamentals in acting, personal development, theatre making and how to make strong artistic decisions. These skills will be showcased at the end of each semester with a short performance for the CYT community.

If this sounds like you send your CV and an expression of interest to [info@cytc.net](mailto:info@cytc.net)

**Date:** Applications close 30 November 2018

**Where:** Gorman Arts Centre

**More Info:** For more information contact [info@cytc.net](mailto:info@cytc.net)

## Red Cross Community Visiting Social Support Program

Red Cross Community Visiting Social Support program offers a friendly volunteer (with a current WWVP card) to visit a socially isolated older person living in an Aged Care Facility OR in their own home, purely for the purpose of friendship and companionship. Have a cup of coffee, read a book or letters, reminisce over some photos, talk about old times and newer times, go out for a coffee ...If you feel you could spend an hour each week with a new friend just look at the Red Cross website [redcross.org.au](http://redcross.org.au) and look for 'volunteer' and simply fill in an application. It's that easy

**Date:** Ongoing

**Time:** 8.00am - 4.00pm

**Where:** 3 Dann Close, Garran

**More Info:** CVS Coordinator on 62347623 or [bvann@redcross.org.au](mailto:bvann@redcross.org.au)  
Social Support Coordinator on 62347628 or [mhudson@redcross.org.au](mailto:mhudson@redcross.org.au)

## Fitness Courses available at Weston Creek Community Centre

Choose from a wide variety of fitness classes such as: Mature Fitness, Fit ball Class, Yoga, Zumba and Belly Dance. Visit our website for a comprehensive list of activities happening weekly in our centre.

**Date:** Various classes held every day

**Time:** Various times

**Where:** Weston Creek Community Centre

**Cost:** Price for all classes available from front office | phone 6288 1144

**More Info:** Email: [info@westoncccentre.org.au](mailto:info@westoncccentre.org.au) Web: <https://www.westoncccentre.org.au/>

## The Meaning of 'Paid Work' for Pakistani and Bangladeshi Muslim Women - Participants Needed

We would like to hear from you, if you:

- identify as a Muslim woman;
- are aged 25 to 44;
- were born in Pakistan and Bangladesh; and
- migrated to Australia as skilled migrant or a dependent of a skilled migrant

For more information about the study or being a volunteer for an interview, please contact Kubra Yuce on 0404 583 661 or via [Kubra.Yuce@anu.edu.au](mailto:Kubra.Yuce@anu.edu.au)

## Little Athletics ACT Registrations

Let your kids learn how to run, jump and throw in a fun and friendly environment. With so many options on offer there is an event for everybody! Our centres provide opportunities for children aged between five and sixteen to make friends outside of school in a positive environment focused on the philosophy of family, fun and fitness. Parents and carers can make new friends at Little A's too. Volunteering to help rake the long jump pit or time-keep running events is a great ice-breaker that can help create long lasting friendships for you and your family. The 2018/2019 season runs from October to March and registrations are now open.

To registrar: [www.actlaa.org.au](http://www.actlaa.org.au) or (02) 6247 1296

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/LittleAthleticsACT/>

## ACT Diversity Register

The ACT Diversity Register is an online platform that enables ACT Government and non-government Boards and Committees to advertise vacancies and provide connections to training opportunities. Individuals will be able to view and apply for board and committee vacancies directly through the system and to seek information on upcoming events and training. The Diversity Register is available at [www.diversityregister.act.gov.au](http://www.diversityregister.act.gov.au)

The Register is open to everyone but it is an important resource to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, people with disabilities, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer (LGBTIQ).

It is important that this diversity is reflected in appointments to boards and committees and in leadership roles, to ensure the voices of women and people with diverse experiences are heard. The ACT Government set a 50% target for female representation on ACT Government boards and committees, and by 2020 triennially funding sporting associations will be required to meet 40% female representation. The Diversity Register is designed to support these targets and to support all boards and committees across the ACT to have a membership that reflects the community they serve. **For more information or any inquiries please contact Office for Women on 6205 0515.**

## Gain Qualifications to Become Accredited Driving Instructors

Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services of the ACT Inc (MARSS) is seeking interested participants (female and male) wishing to gain qualifications to become an Accredited Driving Instructor in the ACT. We are looking for candidates who are able to meeting the following eligibility criteria:

- be at least 21 years of age;
- hold a current full Australian car licence or full Australian licence of a higher class;
- hold a current working with vulnerable people registration;
- hold a National Police Certificate or police check results report;
- be medically fit;
- have no prior convictions for a disqualifying offence within the last five years; and
- complete a certificate IV in driving instruction.

If you would like to volunteer for this training, or for further information please contact Andrew Kazar at [cdp@marss.org.au](mailto:cdp@marss.org.au) or 6248 8577.

## Saver Plus

Saver Plus assists individuals and families on lower incomes to build assets and improve financial capability, and has supported thousands of lower income earners to develop a lasting savings habit.

Saver Plus offers:

- up to \$500 in matched savings for education costs;
- fun, free and informal financial education workshops; and
- assistance and support to establish a savings goal and develop savings habit.

Participants make regular deposits towards a savings goal over a 10-month period and attend workshops to build their financial management skills. When participants reach their savings goal, ANZ matches the amount – up to \$500 – towards education costs including uniforms, text books, laptops, sports equipment, music tuition, TAFE or apprenticeship costs, and much more.

**Date:** Ongoing  
**Where:** Throughout ACT and Queanbeyan  
**Cost:** Free  
**More Info:** Contact on 0448 730 305 Email: [kathleen.watson@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:kathleen.watson@thesmithfamily.com.au)

## University of New South Wales Sydney Research Project

A research team led by Professor Julian Trollor at the Department of Developmental Disability Neuropsychiatry, UNSW Sydney, aims to improve access to mental health care for people with an intellectual disability and co-occurring mental ill health.

The team would like to hear from people who support a person with an intellectual disability and co-occurring mental ill health. To facilitate wider engagement with the community, the team is seeking participants who would like to complete the survey in Arabic, Chinese or Vietnamese. Participation in the study involves responding to a survey that takes approximately 15 minutes to complete.

If you would like more information in Arabic, [please click here](#)

If you would like more information in Chinese, [please click here](#)

If you would like information in Vietnamese, [please click here](#)

If you need more details, please contact Claire Eagleson, project officer, at [IDMHWorkforce@unsw.edu.au](mailto:IDMHWorkforce@unsw.edu.au) or Andrew Kazar, MARSS at [cdp@marss.org.au](mailto:cdp@marss.org.au) or on 6248 8577.

## Men's Outreach Workshops

Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services (MARSS) run a series of Men's Outreach Workshops (MOW) which focus on working with men from culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Canberra to focus on educational and community awareness measures to prevent and combat domestic and family violence.

The MOW program will help participants to develop knowledge and awareness on the issue to build the conversation within their own communities and within the mainstream community.

The communities include: Sudan, Sierra Leone, Karen, Afghan, Iraqi, Iran, Mon, Indian, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

Community leaders have been asked to invite 10 to 15 men aged 18 and over from each of their communities to attend agency presentations.

Each session will run on Saturday from 10am to 4pm and includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

Participants will be required to attend a full day workshop. There will be five topics and specialist presenters will speak on each topic. At the end of the day the participants will be required to complete a questionnaire. MARSS will provide interpreters, if required.

If you need more details, please contact MARSS reception on 6248 8577 or email Andrew Kazar at [cdp@marss.org.au](mailto:cdp@marss.org.au)

## The Women's Health Nursing and Medical Service

The Women's Health Service offers free nursing and medical services to vulnerable women in the ACT and surrounding region for 30 years. The service is for women only and is provided by women.

**Date:** Monday - Friday excluding Public Holidays

**Time:** 8.45am to 4.45pm

**Where:** Level 1 ACT Health Building, 1 Moore Street, Canberra City

Outreach well women's clinics are also in the following locations:

Belconnen Health Centre

West Belconnen Child and Family Centre

Phillip Health Centre

Tuggeranong Health Centre

**Cost:** Free

**More Info:** Phone: 6205 1078

Email: [womenshealthservice@act.gov.au](mailto:womenshealthservice@act.gov.au)

## ParentLink – Informing, Supporting, Connecting

ParentLink is a universally targeted parenting education program from birth to teenage years. ParentLink provides parents (carers and teachers) with information which aims to increase confidence and skills, while also providing links to local resources and services.

The ParentLink website provides links to a suite of parenting guides and useful local information. The guides cover a variety of topics: including, *Starting School*, *More than Reading and Writing*, *Optimism* and *Cyber Safety*.

The ParentLink suite of resources has recently been rebranded. This includes new guides specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, and access to resources for diverse cultural groups.

ParentLink guides are available to view and order via the ParentLink website at

<https://www.parentlink.act.gov.au/> or the email [Parentlink@act.gov.au](mailto:Parentlink@act.gov.au)

## World Dance Classes for Young People

World folk dance classes give children a taste of cultural traditions through the joy of dancing together. The classes improve fitness and co-ordination in a relaxed atmosphere with no competitions or dress-code.

**Date and time:** 4.15pm to 5pm and 5.15pm to 6pm on Fridays

**Where:** Folk Dance Canberra Hall, 114 Maitland Street, Hackett

**Cost:** \$8 per class (discount for term payment)

**More info:** Rebecca on 0420 524 412 or Website: <http://www.folkdancecanberra.org.au/>

## Beginners World Dance Class

Learn the Gypsy Polka, Russian 'Ya Da Kalinushku', Peruvian 'Chilli', Albanian 'Valle Pogonishte', Turkish 'Hastayim', Romanian 'Sarba de la Eninsala' and many more wonderful dances to inspiring music from countries around the world. Folk Dance Canberra is a community club promoting fitness and wellbeing through world dance. No partner necessary. All welcome.

**Date and time:** 7:30pm on Thursdays

**Where:** Folk Dance Canberra Hall, Hackett Community Centre, 114 Maitland Street, Hackett

**Cost:** \$10.50

**More info:** Rebecca on telephone: 0420 524 412 Email: [folkdancecanberra@gmail.com](mailto:folkdancecanberra@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.folkdancecanberra.org.au/>

## ACT Children and Young People Death Review Committee

### Call for Expression of Interest

#### To be eligible for appointment to the Death Review Committee:

- you must meet the relevant suitability criteria of the *Children and Young People Act 2008* (Chapter 19 A);

- appointment will be on the basis of individual expertise and suitability as required under the legislation;
- appointments are for a period of up to three years; and remuneration is determined by the *ACT Remuneration Tribunal and the current Part-time Public Office Holder Determination* can be found at [www.remunerationtribunal.act.gov.au/determinations](http://www.remunerationtribunal.act.gov.au/determinations)

#### How to apply:

Applicants are invited to submit an expression of interest (maximum four A4 pages) detailing their qualifications, experience and expertise against the selection criteria, a current Curriculum Vitae and one current written reference.

Referee reports are not required for current members seeking reappointment.

A copy of the selection documentation is available at <https://www.childdeathcommittee.act.gov.au>

Expressions of interest are to be sent to: Email: [ChildDeathCommittee@act.gov.au](mailto:ChildDeathCommittee@act.gov.au)

Further information can be obtained from contacting Vicky Saunders on 6205 2949.

### Yoga with Mallika (Medical Yoga | Fitness Yoga)

Yoga with Mallika is personalised, one on one medical yoga classes. Yoga with Mallika offers three types of services, medical yoga, fitness yoga and anti-aging. Our primary service, medical yoga is a combination of Ayurveda and yoga therapies, Ayer-medical yoga. The postures are medically designed by Ayurvedic doctors and yogic gurus, which restore homeostasis throughout our bodies. What makes yoga with Mallika different is we target a specific region of your body, assist in healing and which promotes a healthy glow and energy throughout your body with the use of Medical Yoga props.

**Time:** Open from 7am to 7pm (Every day)

**Where:** 5 Mary Gillespie Avenue, Gungahlin

**Cost:** \$25 per session (20% discount for 10 sessions)

**More info:** Tel: 0427 466 667 or Email: [yogawithmallika@gmail.com](mailto:yogawithmallika@gmail.com)

### Multicultural Employment Service ACT

Multicultural Employment Service (MES) has experienced employment consultants who actively seek out jobs in local businesses, services and agencies. MES has worked closely with migrants and refugees in the ACT for over three years matching job seekers with employers directly. Job seekers (of any age - not limited to youth) can register on-line at [www.mes.org.au](http://www.mes.org.au)

**More Info:** Multicultural Employment Service (MES) is located at Multicultural Youth Services Level 2, The Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre, 180 London Circuit, Civic

**Website:** [www.mes.org.au](http://www.mes.org.au)

**Contact:** Email: [info@mes.org.au](mailto:info@mes.org.au) or Telephone: 6100 4611

## Multicultural Community Leaders: We Need Your Help

The Inclusion and Participation Division Online Directory was created to promote social participation and connection by providing an easy to access location for information and contacts of community associations. We are always looking for new additions.

To add a new community group to the Inclusion and Participation Division Online Directory, community leaders are invited to perform the following tasks:

1. Visit the “Add Entry” form of the Inclusion and Participation Division Directory by clicking on this link:  
<http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/multicultural/services/act-community-group-directory/add-entry>
2. Fill in the relevant information in the application form and when completed hit the SUBMIT button at the bottom of the form.

Once your application form is submitted, an automated email will be sent to your email address to inform you that your application to join the directory has been received by the Inclusion and Participation Division and is currently awaiting approval.

The approval process may take up to two weeks. If your community has already submitted an application, please click on the following link to check if your community is included in the Online Directory:

<http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/multicultural/services/act-community-group-directory/a-z-listing>

Our team is happy to assist with the submission process. Please contact the Inclusion and Participation Division on Email: [CommunityParticipation@act.gov.au](mailto:CommunityParticipation@act.gov.au) or on Telephone: 6207 0555 for assistance.

## Calvary Health Care Bruce - Refugee Mentoring Program

Calvary Health Care Bruce has a Refugee Mentoring Program for refugees and asylum seekers in the ACT to assist with understanding the Australian workplace environment and culture, communication and workplace skills development. It is a voluntary observation and study work experience program for the participants who are mentored by volunteer Calvary Bruce staff.

More info: <http://www.calvary-act.com.au/refugee-mentoring-program.html>

## Can You Help Promote Careers as a Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) National Interpreter?

Do your clients speak an emerging language and have good English skills? Do you know someone who is multilingual and seeking a new career direction? The Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) is currently recruiting to meet growing demand for interpreting services in Australia.

For more information, visit the interpreter recruitment page at:

<https://www.tisnational.gov.au/interpreters/interpreter-recruitment>

## Consider hosting an international student

The Education and Training Directorate International Education Program invites Canberra families to open their homes to international students and provide them a safe and nurturing place to live during their stay in Canberra.

Placing international students with a home stay host family helps bridge the cultural and language gap, giving students the opportunity to experience the life with an Australian family. Home stay parents and their children gain a greater understanding of cultural diversity through the relationship that develops with their student. Many host families have been providing accommodation for international students for many years. The Directorate is currently experiencing a shortage of home stay host families throughout Canberra.

**More info:** Contact Nicole King, Manager, International Education Unit  
Telephone: 6205 6998 or Email: [Nicole.king@act.gov.au](mailto:Nicole.king@act.gov.au)

## Department of Social Services - Free Interpreting Service

The Free Interpreting Service aims to provide equitable access to key services for people with limited or no English language proficiency.

The Free Interpreting Service is delivered by [TIS National](#), on behalf of the Department of Social Services.

The following groups can access the Free Interpreting Service to provide services to anyone in Australia who is eligible for Medicare.

Medical Practitioners

Pharmacies

Non-government organisations

Real Estate Agencies

Local Government Authorities

Trade Unions

Parliamentarians

You can check your eligibility for the Free Interpreting Service using the eligibility calculator on the TIS National website, [www.tisnational.gov.au/FISeligibility](http://www.tisnational.gov.au/FISeligibility)

To register for a client code, eligible groups can complete the online registration form at [www.tisnational.gov.au/register](http://www.tisnational.gov.au/register), or allow a few extra minutes the first time they use the service. You can also register by contacting TIS National on 1300 575 847.

For more information: [www.dss.gov.au/free-interpreting](http://www.dss.gov.au/free-interpreting) or contact TIS National on the contact details above.

## Department of Social Services - Free Translating Service

The Free Translating Service is provided for people settling permanently in Australia, to support participation in employment, education and community engagement.

Permanent residents and selected temporary or provisional visa holders are able to have up to ten eligible documents translated, into English, within the first two years of their eligible visa grant date.

Applications for the Free Translating Service are made on the Free Translating Service website at <https://translating.dss.gov.au/en>

The website is easy to use and is available in English, Arabic, Farsi and Simplified Chinese.

**More Info:** [translating.dss.gov.au](https://translating.dss.gov.au)

The Free Translating Service Helpdesk can also be contacted:

By email: [fts@migrationtranslators.com.au](mailto:fts@migrationtranslators.com.au) or online: Using the 'Contact us' form via: <https://translating.dss.gov.au/en/contact-us/> or by phone on 1800 962 100

## Ethnic Interpreters and Translators

- Are you passionate about the language you speak?
- Do you enjoy helping others with language difficulties?
- Would you like to make a career out of the language you speak and earn extra \$\$\$?
- Do you want to become an Interpreter?

Ethnic Interpreters and Translators are currently recruiting people who speak the following dialects in the ACT: Korean| Vietnamese| Mandarin| Cantonese

Please visit the website ([www.ethnic.com.au](http://www.ethnic.com.au)) to apply online or telephone toll free Telephone: 1300 855 221 for further information.

## Hepatitis B Awareness Workshop

Organisations providing services for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are invited to contact Hepatitis ACT to arrange free and flexible workshops for staff and/or client groups.

People originating from hepatitis endemic countries and regions (especially Asia-Pacific, Africa, and the Mediterranean region; and in Australia rural and remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities) are disproportionately affected by Hepatitis B.

It is estimated that around half are unaware of their infection. Hepatitis ACT helps reduce the health and social impacts of Hepatitis B through information, education, training and health promotion.

**More info:** Email: [project@hepatitisACT.com.au](mailto:project@hepatitisACT.com.au) Telephone: 6230 6344 (Tue-Fri)

## Race Discrimination and Vilification

The ACT Human Rights Commission handles complaints of unlawful discrimination in the ACT.

An example of unlawful discrimination is when someone is refused service at a restaurant because of their race. The Commission also handles complaints of racial vilification, which occurs when someone publicly incites hatred, serious contempt or severe ridicule towards a group of people because of their race. For example, through an offensive t-shirt or a speech spreading racial hatred.

For more information: call on 6025 222 or email at [human.rights@act.gov.au](mailto:human.rights@act.gov.au)

## Return to Work for Women Course

The 'Return to Work for Women' Program is designed for women who are looking to re-enter the paid workforce after an extended absence.

If you've been out of the workforce for a while, this could be the right first step for you to help you regain your confidence, brush up on your professional skills and learn computing and digital literacy skills.

The training course can greatly improve your chance for successfully re-entering the workforce, with 80 per cent of our graduates going on to employment or further studies in an area of interest.

Students have found this course a valuable and fun experience as they hear from a range of guest speakers, learn practical skills, update their referees and professional knowledge through the work experience component and learn with each other in a supportive environment. Classes are held at CIT Tuggeranong, two days per week over 14 weeks during school hours.

To help ensure the course is a good fit for you before you begin, there is a short skills assessment and interview for applicants where your ability to commit to the course will be discussed.

**For more information**, please contact CIT on telephone: 6207 3188 or email [info@cit.edu.au](mailto:info@cit.edu.au)

## What is on for Women Calendar?

The online what's on for Women Calendar includes details on courses, events, information sessions, support groups, training, programs, workshops and activities for women in the ACT and region. The calendar can be accessed at: <http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/women/Womens-Information-Empower,-Respect,-Connect>

Contributions and amendments to the calendar can now be made at any time to ensure the most up to date information is available for women in the ACT. While we are trialling the calendar online we would greatly appreciate any feedback that can assist us to improve the calendar overtime, including any feedback on ways we can ensure women who don't have internet can access the information.

For further information on the calendar or to provide feedback on the new online format, contact Women's Information on telephone: 6205 1075, or by email at [wi@act.gov.au](mailto:wi@act.gov.au)

## Your Voice, Your Choice, the National Disability Insurance Scheme, and Multicultural Communities

Your Voice, Your Choice is a community education project designed to raise awareness about the NDIS, how to access it and how to benefit from the opportunities it provides. The information and supports are flexible and tailored to where people are at. The project aims to support people with a disability to:

- explore what a good life means to them;
- set life goals and plan for the future; and
- make informed decisions.

The Your Voice, Your Choice team is keen to reach out to multicultural individuals, families and communities, and engage with interpreters to enable this process.

To find out more information about the information and supports available through Your Voice, Your Choice, please contact Doris Kordes on telephone: 6246 7114 or email: [dkordes@mifellowship.org](mailto:dkordes@mifellowship.org)

## TPV and SHEV Guide – Translations are now available

The 'Australian Government Support for Temporary Humanitarian Stay (449), Temporary Humanitarian Concern (786), Temporary Protection (785) or Safe Haven Enterprise (790) visa holders' guide is now available.

For more information, visit <https://www.dss.gov.au/settlement-and-multicultural-affairs/programs-policy/australian-government-support>

## "A Conversation for everyone" - free presentation

Health Care Consumers' Association is providing 'A Conversation for everyone' and is now taking bookings from groups interested in hearing about advance health care planning (also known as Living Will, Enduring Power of Attorney, Statement of Health Choices, Advance Directive and Health Care Directive).

These conversations are relaxed and thought provoking and can be tailored to your clients or organisation. If you are interested in discussing the sessions or are interested in booking a session please contact: Christine Bowman on 6230 7800 or email: [christinebowman@hcca.org.au](mailto:christinebowman@hcca.org.au)

## Libraries ACT Free Resources and Programs

Libraries ACT have libraries at Gungahlin, Tuggeranong, Belconnen, Kippax, Dickson, Woden, Kingston, Erindale and Civic which is free for everyone to use.

- Free Wi-Fi
- Computers you can reserve and use for free
- English books you can read and borrow for all ages and interests
- Bilingual picture books in 36 languages
- EBooks (books that can be read on electronic devices) and audio books
- Magazines and newspapers in many languages
- Free activities and programs for all ages that are fun and good for learning
- Digital lessons - learn about social media, privacy, security and different topics as part of a group session or book a personal 30 minute lesson on a topic you choose, such as how to use email, eBooks, internet or electronic devices
- There are also many things you can access online from the Libraries ACT website:
  - Mango Languages. This is a language learning app which includes learning English as a second language, so you can practice English anywhere!
  - Online resources for kids, including Tumble Books and Story Box Library, where you can hear stories being read aloud. Great for pronunciation practice!
  - RB Digital Magazines and Free legal Music where you can download free digital magazines and music to keep and read or listen to at any time.

Joining the library is free and easy.

Web site [www.library.act.gov.au](http://www.library.act.gov.au) Tel.: 6205 9000