

FECCAe-NEWS

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

WELCOME TO THE AUGUST EDITION OF FECCA E-NEWS

Address by FECCA Chair, Ms Mary Patetsos

I am pleased to welcome you to this issue, the eighth of FECCA e-News for 2018, which will show you what the FECCA secretariat and board members have been doing during the very busy month of August.

In August we paid tribute to outgoing Race Discrimination Commissioner Dr Tim Soutphommasane. Dr Soutphommasane has been an outstanding advocate of Multicultural Australia and a fierce defender of human rights for all Australians in his role, which seeks to maintain and enhance the harmony and success of Australia's society. In congratulating Dr Soutphommasane, FECCA also endorsed his warnings about the emergence of 'race politics' and reminded the leaders of public debate in Australia to ensure that issues around immigration and population as well as other matters relating to multiculturalism in Australia are discussed in a climate of respect.

It was therefore disheartening to see race politics at the centre of the maiden speech by Queensland Senator Fraser Anning in Parliament just a short time after Dr Soutphommasane's warnings. FECCA again supported the Race Discrimination Commissioner in his call for immediate action by the Parliament with regards to this speech and encouraged all Australians to reject such views.



I was very pleased that the Senate rejected the deeply offensive and divisive statements made by the new Senator. In our media release on the matter, FECCA reminded the country's leaders that our long-standing bi-partisan policy of non-discrimination on immigration has been key to delivering Australia its successful multicultural society.

Continues on page 2

WELCOME TO THE AUGUST EDITION OF FECCA E-NEWS *continued*

This month we were reminded that a successful multicultural nation, as Australia is so often referred to, requires that the country's leaders, together with media, deal with community issues in a responsible manner. FECCA condemns sensational reporting and commentary around the recent so-called 'African gang crime' issue in Victoria. The temptation to sensationalise issues such as immigration, population and multiculturalism must be avoided. While there are common challenges all nations face, such as, for example, disengaged youth, we must never shirk responsibility where there is a problem but rather deal with it. Australia's leaders should never seek to gain political mileage by layering it further with racist innuendo. FECCA supports programs that enable Australians of Sudanese background to settle successfully. FECCA notes the efforts of African community representatives who are working closely with Victoria police and emphasise that we must allow our law enforcement agencies and community leaders to work as they have done best—without political context to their work.

Finally, this month FECCA also congratulated the new Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, on his elevation and expressed how we look forward to working constructively with his Government on matters relating to Australians of culturally and linguistically diverse background. FECCA also urged the new Prime Minister to reaffirm the nation's commitment to respectful debate.

FECCA continues to work with the Digital Health Agency in ensuring that all Australians of CALD backgrounds are informed about My Health Record (MHR). Working with PHN's and community groups, FECCA communicates the benefits of MHR including reduced hospital admissions, reduced duplication of tests, better coordinated care, and better informed decisions. MHR has many benefits for CALD consumers, particularly those who are older or who have lower levels of English proficiency and will support communication between CALD consumers and their health provider, leading to better outcomes. FECCA welcomed the Government decision to extend the 'opt out' period for the My Health Record system to 15 November 2018 as we encourage all CALD consumers to familiarise themselves with MHR, engage with the tools and know how to opt out if they wish—based on an informed decision.

I wish you a happy reading of this month's e-News and look forward to your continued support and hard work in ensuring Australia remains a harmonious and successful multicultural society.

Mary Patetsos
Chairperson

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

FECCA NEWS

Events attended by FECCA staff:

FECCA CEO, Dr Emma Campbell, attended the National Employment Services Association (NESA) National Conference where delegates had the opportunity to explore current issues, global trends and the broader policy environment shaping the employment sector. Dr Campbell gave a presentation addressing the needs of CALD Australians in the employment services sector.



FECCA CEO, Dr Emma Campbell, plus members of FECCA's board, including the Chair, Ms Mary Patetsos, the Honorary Secretary, Mr Mohammad Al-Khafaji and the New and Emerging Communities Chair, Mr Parsu Sharma-Luitl JP, attended the National Multicultural Advisory Group (NMAG) event. NMAG includes members from peak bodies representing communities from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds (CALD). The Group provides advice and feedback about the quality and effectiveness of service delivery to customers from CALD backgrounds. Meetings are held face to face annually.



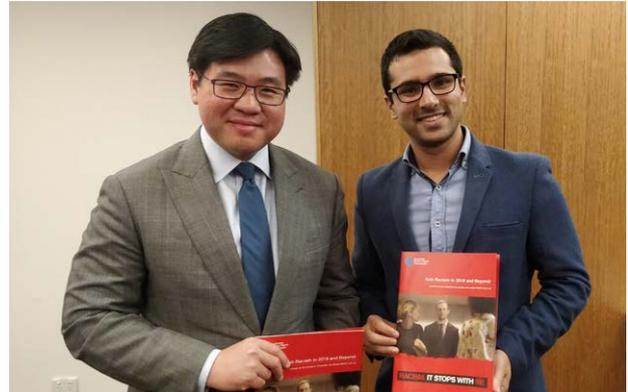
In late August FECCA staff attended the launch of the latest book by FECCA's long-time friend, Dr James Jupp. The book, *An Immigrant Nation Seeks Cohesion*, attempts to get a little bit closer to the truth of two hundred years of creating a liveable society in what was a remote and unknown part of the world. You can order the book [here](#).



FECCA NEWS

In August, FECCA's Honorary Secretary, Mohammad Al-Khafaji attended an event by the Human Rights Commission on the 'Racism It Sops With Me' campaign involving all partner organisations. The event was hosted by the then Race Discrimination Commissioner, Dr Tim Soutphommasane. The even also included the launch of the report on the activities on the National Anti-Racism Strategy (2015-2018).

You can read the full report [here](#).



In August, FECCA's Honorary Secretary, Mohammad Al-Khafaji, wrote an article for CNN news as a response to Senator Anning's speech in Parliament. You can read the full article [here](#).



In August FECCA put out a number of press releases:

FECCA welcomes security changes to My Health Record

FECCA salutes Dr Tim Soutphommasane

FECCA welcomes extension to health record opt out period

FECCA calls for mature and considered response from leaders

FECCA calls for Parliament to reaffirm non-discriminatory immigration

FECCA applauds commitment to non-discriminatory immigration

FECCA urges Government to Support Law Council justice report

On election of new Prime Minister FECCA calls for respect in immigration debate

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

FECCA NEWS

In August FECCA made the following submissions:

Data Sharing and Release Legislation

FECCA's submission argued that Data Sharing and Release legislation should guarantee a consumer-centric approach, underpinned by meaningful and informed consent including legislation that protects the interests of vulnerable minorities.

Consumer Safeguards Review

FECCA's submission argued that the current Consumer Safeguards Review model provides fair, accessible and timely access to complaints handling, particularly for vulnerable consumers including culturally and linguistically diverse Australians.

Telecommunication Consumer Practice Code

FECCA's submission welcomed the changes to the Draft Telecommunications Consumer Protection Code that strengthen the protection of consumers, particularly vulnerable culturally and linguistically diverse consumers. FECCA did however, note that a few gaps in consumer protection remain.

Employment Services Discussion Paper

FECCA's submission addressed several issues relating to employment services, online employment services, meeting the needs of employers, job seekers assessment, and regional and local approaches—particularly related to culturally and linguistically diverse Australians as they are facing additional barriers to obtaining employment.

The National Redress Scheme

FECCA's submission emphasised the need for a culturally and linguistically diverse specific element to the National Redress Scheme, free translating and interpreting services, multicultural and ethno-specific redress support services, and that the Government allocate adequate resourcing and funding towards a concentrated effort to reach culturally and linguistically diverse survivors that may have been missed in the Royal Commission.

Dowry Abuse Inquiry

FECCA's submission called for more research to be funded to understand the nature and prevalence of dowry and dowry related abuse in the Australian context in order to inform future policies.

Feedback to Standards Australia regarding Australian Contact Centres

FECCA's submission highlighted the importance of ensuring Australian Contact Centre are competent in meeting the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse Australians if they are to meet Australian Standards.

National Disability Agreement

FECCA emphasised the importance of the National Disability Agreement in supporting culturally and linguistically diverse Australians living with disability who are not eligible for the NDIS or who cannot access the NDIS because of the barriers faced by culturally and linguistically diverse Australians.

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The My Health Record Opt Out Period continues



FECCA is pleased to note that the opt-out period for My Health Record has been extended to 15 November 2018. Individuals who don't want a My Health Record created for them will be able to opt out during the 3-month period that started on Monday July 16 and will now end on November 15 2018. It is important that CALD Australians receive all the relevant information so that they can make an informed choice whether they want to opt out or not.

During the opt out period individuals who do not want a record will be able to opt out by visiting the My Health Record [website](http://www.myhealthrecord.gov.au) or by calling 1800 723 471 for phone based assistance. Consumers who wish to opt out or would like to know more about My Health Record and require interpreting services are advised to contact TIS on 131 450 and ask to be connected to the Digital Health Agency. The cost of the call will be borne by the Agency. To learn more about the benefits of the system visit: www.myhealthrecord.gov.au. Information translated into 17 languages can be accessed [here](#).



UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS



The 9th International Conference on Human Rights Education (9th ICHRE) will be held at WSU Parramatta South Campus on 26-28 November 2018. This year conference is entitled '*Unleashing the Full Potential of Civil Society*', the Conference will cover a range of HRE issues such as national and international curricula, pedagogy and best practices, including in the context

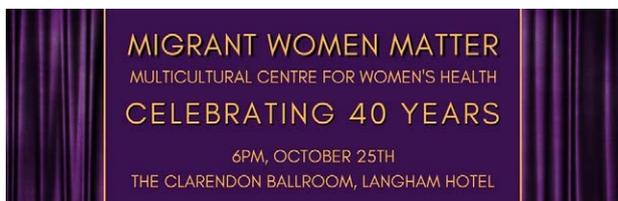
of discrimination faced by the First Nations, women, persons with disabilities, the LGBTIQ communities and those of refugee and minority cultural and religious backgrounds. Contemporary challenges to Human Rights Education and how to address them will also be a major focus. For more information, visit the conference website [here](#).

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



The Australian Migrant Resource Centre (AMRC) invites you to the Youth Symposium: 'Leading for our Future' on Friday 12 October 2018, from 9:30am to 3:30pm

at the Adelaide Festival Centre. The symposium will focus on education, training, employment and intersecting issues that affect access pathways for young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds. You should attend if you are a young person from migrant or refugee background, from an industry and employer group, from educational and training institutions or a policy maker. [Click here](#) to register and for more information.



The Multicultural Centre for Women's Health is holding its 40th Anniversary Gala, Migrant Women Matter on 25 October 2018! Come along for a beautiful three-course dinner and to see Michelle Law and [thando](#) perform. More exciting artists will be announced soon! Show your Support and keep migrant women's health in migrant women's hands.

Details of the event:

Date: 25 October 2018

Time: 6pm - 11:30pm

Venue: Clarendon Ballroom, Langham Hotel, Southgate Avenue, Southbank

Dress code: Formal

Cost: General admission: \$220

Book a table for 10 guests to receive 10% off (\$200) and an opportunity to display your logo on the table. Buy your ticket [here](#). All proceeds from ticket sales and prizes will go to continuing our legacy of keeping migrant women's health in migrant women's hands. MCWH thanks Official Major Sponsor Costa Group for supporting this event.



Australian Council of Social Service

The ACOSS National Conference has been a key event for civil society in Australia for over six decades. The 2018 ACOSS National Conference will

be held at the SMC Conference and Function Centre in Sydney on Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 October. The keynote speaker is Professor Peter Dwyer and early bird [registrations](#) for the 2018 ACOSS National Conference are now open! Sponsorship and Exhibition space opportunities are also available. Please see the [Sponsorship Prospectus](#) for further details.

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



The AGMC Conference 'Living and Loving in Diversity conference: 10 years on' will take place on 21 – 32 September 2018. A conference for multicultural/multifaith and LGBTQIA+, and with a special focus on

youth, disability, and what is happening for our international brothers and sisters. The conference will specifically focus on current themes around social and political, wellbeing and older adults, youth, new and emerging communities and asylum seekers, multi-faith, community and lived experiences, local advocacy programs and strategies, and international research. TV screenwriter, journalist and newspaper columnist Benjamin Law is confirmed as one of the keynote speakers. [Click here](#) for more details.



The NEMBC National Conference will be held in Perth from 23 to the 25 November. The conference is hosted by 6EBA Perth's full time Ethnic community radio station. The NEMBC annual conference is a unique conference representing thousands of

ethnic community broadcasters. The event brings together government representatives, community leaders, academics, multicultural organisations, radio station managers and broadcasters from across Australia. This is an opportunity for ethnic community broadcasters to network, discuss and debate key issues that relate to community broadcasting, the media and multicultural policies. Make sure you are part of the discussion. [Click here](#) for more information.



On the 2nd & 3rd of April 2019, the 4th Welcoming Cities Symposium will convene in Brisbane at the redeveloped Howard Smith Wharves. The event will bring together

international, national and local practitioners, policy-makers, researchers, business innovators and civic leaders to share and discuss the challenges, benefits and opportunities of migration, settlement, cultural diversity and inclusion. Early-bird registration is available until 3 December 2018. [Click here](#) to learn more and to register.

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

INFORMATION FROM AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS



The development of the National Strategic Approach to Maternity Services (NSAMS) will soon begin round 2 of their consultations best practice in maternity services. The consultation will involve face to face workshops, an online survey and opportunity to submit online responses. In addition, there will be a series of webinars to enable greater access for those in rural and remote areas or those unable to attend face to face workshops.

Registrations will start on September 3rd and numbers for each consultation workshop are limited according to venue size. However, please save the date for workshops you are interested in attending until registrations open and distribute this information to others you feel may also be interested.

Dates and locations for the second round of face to face consultations areas follow:

Cairns 9 October

Ballarat 12 October

Perth 15 October

Sydney 17 October

Melbourne 18 October

Darwin 23 October

Brisbane 1 November

Bunbury 6 November

Canberra 13 November

Adelaide 14 November

Hobart 16 November

For more information, [click here](#).



The Fair work Ombudsman has provided training to the University of Tasmania (UTas) for students and community leaders on Australian workplace laws. The Train the Trainer program is now being offered in Victoria and New South Wales. To learn more about these programs, please contact community.engagement@fwo.gov.au. Following is an account of the success of the UTas program.

The Fair Work Ombudsman teaching our international students to 'fish'

The Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) are successfully building awareness of Australian workplace laws amongst international students at the University of Tasmania (UTas) by training and enabling students to present and promote workplace information and resources to their colleagues.

'What better way to educate our multicultural community than by teaching them to fish', says Lynda Dobson, a Community Engagement Officer with the FWO.

Continues on page 10

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

'We have been so pleased to enter this partnership with UTas. With their assistance and support, we have been able to identify students interested in learning more about their work rights'.

'I took the opportunity to join the Fair Work Ombudsman's training in workplace laws as I was really interested in the whole concept of it. The training gave me detailed, practical and legal information including about the minimum wage and being treated without discrimination. It was especially eye opening knowing that international students like me have the same rights as all workers in Australia. I presented to other students in this year's orientation session. It went exceptionally well and I hope that the students feel much safer and confident when they enter into the workforce.' Student

In December 2017, FWO initially trained four students studying second and third year law at UTas, in the use of a presentation package—Working in Australia, which FWO had developed for third party use. The training included how to look up the many useful resources on the FWO website such as pay rates and locating fact sheets in their respective languages.

The training gave the students the confidence to deliver FWO's *Working in Australia* presentation to over 700 new international students at their Orientation Day at the start of the academic year.



UTas students spreading the Fair Work message



UTas students in FWO training



Students presenting at UTas Orientation Session for new international students

UTas has provided a further incentive to the students by enabling them to have their volunteer hours recorded and recognised by the Vice Chancellor's Leadership Program.

This training program has been such a success that FWO have subsequently trained a further four students and all eight students are now spreading Fair Work messages around the university. They are also of working with the University Union to implement a 'Know your work rights campaign' and promoting and sharing Fair Work messages on social media.

Lynda says, 'The FWO is so happy to see these students sharing their knowledge and information with their peers as to their rights and responsibilities in the workplace.'

As this program has been so successful, we are looking at expanding the train the trainer program to other groups nationally, such other interested community groups and/or community leaders.'

If you have any queries about FWO's *Working in Australia* training package or would like your community group to be considered for training, please contact community.engagement@fwo.gov.au.

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Australian Government
National Data Commissioner

Invitation to Roundtables about new Commonwealth Data Sharing and Release Legislation

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet invites you to consultations over the coming months to talk about the reforms and their developing policy positions to inform their draft legislation.

Click on the links below for more information and to register:

- 11 September: Canberra**
- 13 September: Melbourne**
- 17 September: Sydney**
- 20 September: Brisbane**
- 25 September: Adelaide**
- 16 October: Canberra**
- 19 October: Sydney**
- 24 October: Melbourne**
- 31 October: Brisbane**

The Department welcomes your feedback throughout this process. You can email them directly at the datalegislation@pmc.gov.au inbox and you can sign up to their mailing list at <https://www.datacommissioner.gov.au/subscribe> to receive updates on the process.



Community Grants Hub
Improving your grant experience



The Australian Government is inviting applications via an open competitive process for the Redress Scheme – **Redress Support Services Funding round** across Australia.

Redress Support Services provide timely and seamless access to trauma-informed and culturally appropriate community-based support services to support people's engagement with the National Redress Scheme.

This grant opportunity aims to fill service gaps by providing funding opportunities for new and existing providers to respond to new and emerging client groups or broaden an existing service presence across a broader geographic area.

For further information about eligibility and how to apply, go to the **Funding Round Application page**.

Information about applying for this funding round can also be found on **GrantConnect**.

National Redress Scheme
For people who have experienced institutional child sexual abuse

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

GENERAL INFORMATION



The Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria (ECCV) presents its 7th annual Walter Lippmann Memorial Oration honouring their founding member, Walter

Lippmann. Together with their partners, VITS Language Loop, they are honoured to present a leading human rights advocate Julian Burnside QC. Julian Burnside QC is a respected Australian lawyer and human rights advocate best known for his condemnation of the Federal Government's off-shore processing regime of asylum seekers.

Date: Thursday 13 September, 2018

Time: 6pm – 8:30 pm

Where: Melbourne Town Hall, Swanston Hall.

[Click here](#) to book.



The Independent Mental Health Advocacy is committed to hearing from and acting on the views of people who have lived experience of the mental health system, in

particular compulsory treatment. They do this in their advocacy as well as when improving their services. Their Self-Advocacy & Information Project is aiming to co-produce self-advocacy resources. They hope that these resources will help you understand and exercise your rights. You can use these resources on your own, or with an advocate or support person. To do this they have had small focus groups in Melbourne, Geelong, and will also have sessions in Dandenong—4 September 2018—and and Bendigo—13 September 2018. To get involved, [click here](#) for more details.

ANTI-POVERTY
14 - 20 October 2018 **WEEK**



The main aims of Anti-Poverty Week are to:

- strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and hardship around the world and in Australia
- encourage research, discussion and action to address these problems, including action by individuals, communities, organisations and governments.

Everyone is encouraged to help reduce poverty and hardship by **organising an activity** during the Week or **taking part in an activity organised by others**. Poverty and severe hardship affect more than a million Australians. Around the world, more than a billion people are desperately poor. In Anti-Poverty Week, YOU can help fight poverty and hardship!

To list your activities for Anti-Poverty week, [go here](#).

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



The Speak My Language program was launched by the Minister for Ageing and Indigenous Health, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP on Wednesday 22nd August 2018. The launch was held in Parliament House, Canberra



with over 120 guests in attendance representing aged care and ethnic radio programs across NSW, Victoria, Queensland and the ACT.

Minister for Ageing, the Honourable Ken Wyatt AM MP was the host of the event in collaboration with the ECCNSW and its partners ECCV, ECCQ Diversicare, SBS and NEMBC. Minister Ken Wyatt stated 'Talking about aged care and navigating the aged care system can be daunting for older Australians and their families, particularly those from diverse backgrounds. Innovative, community-based programs like this will undoubtedly make the journey easier for many of our most treasured citizens.' Photos and an update on the program and the launch have now been posted on the [Speak My language Facebook](#) with link to the recorded podcast of the event.

You can also watch a fabulous story by SBS News [here](#).



STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Multicultural Women's Living Stories Radio Project: CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

The NEMBC Women's Committee invites women to participate in the Living Stories Radio Project. This is a fantastic opportunity for women broadcasters to share their work and to share stories of women from all cultures and in all languages with the rest of Australia.

The project will gather your interviews as edited radio features, which will be available online through the NEMBC website.

The topics, reflections, memories, stories, experiences and perspectives you choose to discuss and feature are up to you!

The Women's Living Stories Radio Project is an opportunity for women broadcasters to share their work and stories of women from all walks of life, cultures and in all languages. The project is a way to facilitate sharing

and understanding as well as providing an opportunity to recognise the achievements, celebrations and various challenges faced by women in Australia. For more information, [click here](#).

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Do you interact with the Australian Public Service? We want to hear your thoughts on its future.

The Australian Public Service works on:

- laws that govern society
- policies that shape how organisations operate
- programs that help people
- services that let us all get things done

The world is changing, and we want to make sure the Australian Public Service is ready to respond to the challenges and opportunities in the decades ahead.

All Australians interact with the Australian Government at some point in their lives. Whether you are a small business owner, part of a community organisation, or someone who uses government services, the independent review wants to hear from you.

What are the challenges facing the public service in the future? What are your experiences and expectations of the public service?

In May 2018, the Australian Government commissioned a major review of the Australian Public Service (APS), led by an independent panel, to ensure that it is best placed to serve Australian governments and the Australian people into the future. You are invited to attend a workshop to have your say on:

THE FUTURE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Workshops are being held across Australia. The upcoming workshops are:

Melbourne

Tuesday 11 September
9:30 – 11:00am

Karstens, 123 Queen St, Melbourne
Morning tea provided.

[RSVP here](#)

Geelong

Wednesday 12 September
10:00 – 11:30am

Geelong Regional Library
Morning team provided.

[RSVP here](#)

Wangaratta

Thursday 13 September
10:30 – 12:00pm

Venue TBC - Participants will be notified of the venue after they have registered.

Morning team provided.

[RSVP here](#)

For more information on the review visit <https://www.apsreview.gov.au/about> or contact the APS Review team at apsreview@pmc.gov.au

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 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.



Metro Assist (formerly Metro MRC) is seeking an employment support facilitator and a finance officer. [Click here](#) for more information.



The Australian Red Cross is seeking a senior complex case manager for their Perth office. [Click here](#) for more information.



The Migrant Resource Centre in Tasmania is seeking case managers for their humanitarian settlement program. [Click here](#) for more information.



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