

FECCA

# e-News

## WELCOME TO THE NOVEMBER EDITION OF FECCA E-NEWS, ISSUE 11, 2019



### Message from FECCA Chairperson, Ms Mary Patetsos

Welcome to the eleventh and final issue of FECCA e-News for 2019. It has been a long and eventful year for FECCA.

FECCA This year marked 40 years of FECCA's advocacy on behalf of Australia's multicultural communities. We celebrated this milestone at Government House surrounded by FECCA members, our esteemed board, and many dignitaries.

It was an election year for our board, and for the first time in FECCA's history, we have three female chairs at the head of FECCA. Kris Pavlidis and Hina Durrani were elected as Senior Deputy Chairs.

We hosted our biennial conference in Hobart this year, with the theme: Purpose, Progress, Leadership. It was one of our biggest conferences to date, attracting over 500 delegates.

We launched many reports and publications throughout the year, including our **English Language Programs report** and our **Reconciliation Action Plan**.

Thanks to our advocacy, the Royal Commission into Aged Care will accept submissions in languages other than English for the first time. This decision has set a precedent and following Royal Commissions will provide the same translation and interpretation services.

Our goals for 2020 are to continue our advocacy work for Australia's multicultural communities and act as leaders in the Indigenous-Multicultural space.

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

Have a safe and joyful holiday.

**Mary Patetsos**  
Chairperson

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

## Events attended by FECCA staff

FECCA CEO, Mohammad Al-Khafaji, was invited as a guest speaker for the Settlement Council of Australia AGM. FECCA has worked closely with SCoA in the past for joint reports and submissions, and hopes to continue to do so next year.



FECCA staff were invited to African Australian Awards Fundraiser dinner in Canberra. They were delighted to meet with leaders from African communities based in the ACT.



FECCA Staff attended the ACOSS National Conference held in Canberra. The two day Conference provided a valuable opportunity for staff to learn new ideas and network with likeminded professionals.



FECCA staff were invited to the final Child Safety Leadership Group meeting of 2019, hosted by the National Child Safety Office. FECCA has continued to advocate for child safety policies to be inclusive of and sensitive to the needs of children from CALD and refugee backgrounds.



FECCA Staff were invited to present at the inaugural Donor Research Network meeting at the University of Queensland. This was to present findings from the national Donate Life project FECCA has completed this year.



FECCA staff ran community consultations in collaboration with MCNT, our Northern Territory member. We are grateful to MCNT for hosting us and sharing their networks and expertise.





**In November 2019 FECCA made the following press releases:**

**FECCA welcomes Refugee Settlement report and Government's response**

FECCA welcomes the Federal Government's commitment today to implement a range of recommendations designed to better support the successful settlement of refugees in Australia.

The commitments are in response to the independent Review into integration, employment and settlement outcomes for refugees and humanitarian entrants, carried out by Professor Peter Shergold AC, Kerrin Benson and Margaret Piper.

**Click here** to read all FECCA media releases.

# MEMBER UPDATES

## Victoria



ECCV's All One Together campaign seeks to highlight connections between Victorians regardless of where we come from and what we look like.

To launch the campaign and to celebrate International Human Rights Day, ECCV will host a panel conversation next Monday, 9 December 2019, 6–8pm at the Glen Eira Town Hall. Find more information on the ECCV website.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES, EVENTS AND SEMINARS



Hundreds of decision-makers, thought leaders, influencers, and practitioners from government, civil society and the private sector will gather at Western Sydney University for the 3rd Advancing Community Cohesion Conference – The Way Forward.

The Conference, from 10-13 February 2020, will provide leaders with the opportunity to discuss challenges confronting social cohesion and community resilience and explore ways to more effectively address them by considering social, economic, cultural, legal, religious, and sexual/gender identity dimensions and perspective

**[Register here](#)**

# STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Image: geelongadvertiser.com.au

**“**  
**We have to break the cycle of violence.**  
**To stand up together and say violence in the family unit is never ok.**

Aunty Annette Xibberas  
Wurundjeri Elder

- inTouch Collaborative Practice Forum 2019

inTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence is Standing with Survivors this holiday season to call for an end to violence against women and children from migrant and refugee backgrounds. Join this movement by signing the pledge to Stand With Survivors, gifting a donation to fund critical support programs, and following **inTouch on LinkedIn** to stay up to date with work being done to tackle family violence in these communities.

# SAVE A LIFE – JOIN THE BONE MARROW REGISTRY!

## WHAT IS THE AUSTRALIAN BONE MARROW DONOR REGISTRY & WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- Many people who have a blood cancer or other type of blood disorder rely on having a bone marrow transplant, also known as a stem cell transplant as their chance for a cure. This means they need to find a stem cell match.
- The Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry (ABMDR or “The Registry”) is a register that people voluntarily join, so doctors can search for lifesaving stem cell matches for cancer patients.

**70% of patients searching for a match will not find one in their family**  
They rely on finding a match on the bone marrow registry

- Only 30% of patients find their match with a family member, the other 70% rely on finding their match on the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry or on the worldwide bone marrow registries.



## WHY IS MATCHING AND ETHNICITY IMPORTANT?

- A patient is more likely to find their match with someone who shares a similar ethnic or indigenous heritage as them.
- It is extremely difficult for a patient with an ethnic or indigenous heritage find their lifesaving match.
- It's difficult because 81% of people on the ABMDR are of North Caucasian background and the rest of the ethnic groups are split across tiny percentages.

### Percentage of ethnic backgrounds represented on the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry

- 0.5% ABORIGINAL
- 0.6% MIDDLE EASTERN
- 0.7% UNKNOWN
- 1.3% MIXED
- 1.8% JEWISH
- 2.3% ASIAN
- 3.3% AFRICAN
- 3.8% SOUTH EUROPEAN
- 4.9% PACIFIC ISLANDER
- 80.8% NORTH CAUCASIAN**

[www.urthecure.com.au](http://www.urthecure.com.au)

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UR the Cure Inc 2015

ABN 77 318 048 582

In partnership with the ABMDR and  
Strength to Give



strength to give.

Ur the Cure is important because people from an ethnic background who have a blood disorder such as blood cancer, have less chance of finding a life-saving bone marrow donor match to undergo a stem cell transplant and cure their disease. Finding a match is more likely to be found in someone who shares a similar ethnic background to you. The chances of someone from an ethnic background finding a match is significantly lower than a North Caucasian person because they are under-represented on the registry. Find more information on U R the Cure website.

## Free Domestic and Family Violence app with a focus on financial abuse: Key information now in 5 languages



**Penda** is a national, free and simple to use app combining financial tips, safety and legal information and referrals for women who have experienced domestic and family violence.

### **User safety**

The safety of Penda users is paramount. Safety features include warnings prior to and after download, a lock screen game function and optional passcode access settings.

### **How to download**

Penda can now be downloaded free from the App Store and Google Play Store. For more information visit <https://penda-app.com/>.

### **We need feedback**

We welcome feedback to better understand Penda users' needs and experiences. It would be of huge assistance helping us to optimise Penda if you and members of your organisation could complete a quick online survey. Feedback may be submitted in the app or emailed to: [penda@wlsq.org.au](mailto:penda@wlsq.org.au).

### **Funding**

Penda was developed by Women's Legal Service Queensland in collaboration with Financial Rights Legal Centre with funding from Financial Literacy Australia. The translation was made possible by funding from the Australian Office for Women.

# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MULTICULTURAL SECTOR

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



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



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

# GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

FECCA e-News aims to keep our readers updated on grant opportunities in the multicultural sector. Please contact [janecke@fecca.org.au](mailto:janecke@fecca.org.au) if you wish to promote local, state and federal grants.



The Grant Opportunity List contains all current federal grant opportunities from a range of Departments that are open for application.

[Click here](#) to view the list.



## 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.

If you wish to have your community's or organisation's news included in FECCA's e-news, please send a short paragraph of 50 – 100 words, including links and a logo or related image to Shahnoor Shah on [shahnoor@fecca.org.au](mailto:shahnoor@fecca.org.au)



## Advertise in Australian Mosaic

FECCA publishes its national magazine, *Australian Mosaic*, three times a year. *Australian Mosaic* is a plain English magazine, which presents a wide range of contemporary issues associated with multiculturalism, social justice, community harmony, and cultural and faith pluralism in Australia. *Australian Mosaic* is intended to be of interest to a wide readership and publishes a range of perspectives on selected themes. By advertising in the *Australian Mosaic* your organisation or business will reach a large and diverse migrant community in Australia as well as stakeholders and organisations in the sector. Contact Dr Janecke Wille on [janecke@fecca.org.au](mailto:janecke@fecca.org.au) to discuss opportunities and pricing.



## Stay informed about FECCA's news and activities

FECCA encourages you to sign up on our mailing list to stay informed about FECCA's work as well as other events, developments and activities in the sector. Contact Dr Janecke Wille on [janecke@fecca.org.au](mailto:janecke@fecca.org.au) or find the [link](#) at our website to be added to FECCA's mailing list.

