

FECCA

e-News



WELCOME TO THE APRIL EDITION OF FECCA E-NEWS, ISSUE 4, 2020

Message from FECCA Chairperson, Ms Mary Patetsos

Welcome to the fourth issue of FECCA e-News for 2020. As we enter the second month of self-isolation around Australia, I hope everyone is adhering to the laws and guidelines set out by the Government. It is essential that we all work together to overcome this virus so we may return to our normal lifestyle as soon as possible. It is also essential that we remain up to date on credible and reliable information about COVID-19. FECCA has created an online COVID-19 portal on its website that has gathered a range of factual information translated into different languages. You can access the portal [here](#) and share it with your family and friends.

FECCA is actively working with the Government to ensure we prioritise our migrant and CALD communities throughout the crisis. Along with ensuring the translations of health information, we are also advocating for the security of temporary visa holders. Temporary visa holders in Australia have worked hard and contributed to our economy just like our citizens and permanent residents. We call on the Government to extend welfare supplements and access to healthcare for everyone in Australia, regardless of visa status during this unprecedented crisis.

I also want to pass my congratulations to the various State Governments that have committed to supporting temporary visa holders. The Tasmanian Government recently announced its support package for temporary visa holders, including international students. The ACT Government announced this week the introduction of a support package for asylum seekers and international students. Similarly, the Victorian Government announced a \$45 million emergency relief fund for

international students. We call on all states and the Federal Government to include these vulnerable cohorts in emergency and stimulus packages.

If you are on a temporary visa, or know anyone who is, we want to hear your story on how COVID-19 has impacted you. This can include incidences of racism or lack of government support. You can complete our short survey [here](#) and help to inform our advocacy around COVID-19.

This month, FECCA has been accepting submissions for the upcoming edition of the Australian Mosaic magazine. The theme for this edition will be racism and social cohesion, if you wish to contribute, send an email to shahnoor@fecca.org.au. I want to thank all the contributors who have written to us so far and I look forward to reading the final version in June.

Make sure you are following our social media pages on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to remain up to date with our projects and news from the multicultural sector.

Together with the FECCA Board and Secretariat, I wish you a happy reading of our fourth e-news of the year. We thoroughly appreciate your continued support as we all work to ensure Australia remains a harmonious, inclusive and prosperous multi-cultural society.

Mary Patetsos
Chairperson
Federation of Ethnic Communities'
Councils of Australia (FECCA)



In April FECCA made the following media release

Temporary visa holders must not be left behind

FECCA, along with many other advocacy groups, has for weeks been calling on the Federal Government to provide support for temporary visa holders who have been financially affected by coronavirus are unable to return home.

We welcomed the Government's JobKeeper payment package, particularly the announcement that the scheme would cover New Zealanders working in Australia on temporary visas, however we urgently called for the Government to extend this support to other classes of temporary visa holders.

FECCA welcomes the Minister's support for victims of coronavirus-related racism

FECCA has welcomed the statement by Acting Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs the Hon. Alan Tudge in support of Asian Australians who have experienced racist attacks in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. FECCA has been made aware of a big spike in racist attacks through its member organisations and via social media since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak. FECCA has been made aware of a big spike in racist attacks through its member organisations and via social media since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak.

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

In April FECCA is promoting the following surveys:



Over the years, FECCA has produced Access and Equity reports for the Government based on consultations and surveys across Australia. The aim has been to find out about the experiences of people from CALD backgrounds accessing—finding and using—Government services. This helps FECCA to provide feedback to Government on what is and what is not working.

The survey is designed to get insights and opinions from people from CALD backgrounds. It will take about 10-15 minutes to complete. You can choose to just tick the boxes or to supply additional information.

[Take the survey here](#)



The Embrace Multicultural Mental Health Project provides a national focus on mental health and suicide prevention for people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

We would like to hear from you about your experiences, knowledge, understanding and how you would like to receive information about mental health, mental illness, and wellbeing.

The information you give will help us to develop or identify resources for CALD communities.

[Take the survey here](#)



SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITIES: CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Live @ Lunch - Every Tuesday @ 12noon to chat and connect.

It is Time to come together, online, and chat. So much is happening out the world right now, we all need connection and support.

Lets talk, share, find ways and ideas of how we can best support each other, our communities and our neighbours, in this new world we now live in. We are in this together. Stronger together. Connected.

Register here today for the whole series!

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/successful-communities-connected-communities-live-lunch-tickets-101504364286>

(Download ZOOM and register to Join the meeting. The meeting code will be sent to registered participants and into the facebook event)

Topic: SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITIES: CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Every week on Tuesday until May 5, 2020.

STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Click here to sign up to The Communities' Council on Ethnic Issues (CCOEI) e-newsletter to stay informed about events and activities multicultural communities in Eastern Melbourne.

If you wish to provide content for the next edition please read the Editor's Notes at the end of the newsletter. Content should be sent to enews.ccoei@gmail.com by the Friday before the next edition

If you are not currently receiving the newsletter and wish to be on the mailing list please contact Cynthia Shaw on chair.msc@gmail.com who will place you on the list.

Sweatshop: Western Sydney Literacy Movement

has released a new publication which showcases the stories of culturally diverse women from Western Sydney.

In the second volume of the urgent new series, over twenty writers share their stories of culture, sovereignty and diaspora.

Sweatshop Women: Volume Two is out now and can be purchased directly from the Sweatshop website: www.sweatshop.ws





Getting a job in Australia can be difficult when moving from overseas. One major problem is that employers may not be aware of immigrants' skills and hire Australian applicants simply because they have local references and they are 'less of an unknown'.

Reputationaire is providing a new way for migrant job seekers to put their best foot forward with employers by helping people without local references show employers their skills and value.

Better communication between employers and immigrant job seekers will lead to more job offers and visas for migrant workers in Australia. When employers know the value of international applicants, the most talented workers get hired at Australian businesses.

Individuals can make sure their talent is noticed by applying for an account [here](#).

Employers can get more information how to find the best talent regardless of background [here](#).



SBS has launched a multilingual online portal, featuring 63 languages, to provide information on the COVID-19 outbreak for Australia's diverse communities.

By working together and following these simple steps, we can beat coronavirus, visit the portal [here](#).



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 if you wish to advertise an employment opportunity in our monthly newsletter.



FECCA is currently hiring! We are looking for a Communications and Media Officer to join our team in Canberra. Find the full position description and apply here: <http://fecca.org.au/employment-post/policy-office-or-senior-policy-officer/>



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

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

FECCA e-News aims to keep our readers updated on grant opportunities in the multicultural sector. Please contact shahnoor@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



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.

