

MRC Migrant Resource Centre
North West Region Inc



24th Annual Report
2014

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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT



It is with great a sense of accomplishment that I provide my Chairperson's report for 2013-2014. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and appreciation to all our clients, funding partners and loyal supporters over the years, and to acknowledge the substantial contribution and hard work of the Committee, staff members and volunteers.

The MRCNW has a history where old, new, diverse and emerging communities can come together to enjoy their life in Australia, while they are free to maintain their individual culture and heritage. I am pleased to report we continue to be successful in the planning and delivery of all MRCNW programs and achieve positive levels of client satisfaction. The organisation continues to exceed its service delivery obligations to our funding partners and are aligned to the organisation's strategic planning priorities.

In February 2014, we bid farewell to our Executive Officer Anthony Abate and would like to thank him for his significant contribution to our organisation, Anthony moved on to a senior position at Victoria Police. The MRCNW was fortunate to have Stephanie Lagos who is very well known in the sector in the role of EO. During her time here, Stephanie was instrumental in implementing new staffing models in the MRCNW's administration & program service delivery. In May 2014, the MRCNW's Client Services Manager, Gulden Metin appointed into the role of acting EO, bringing her strong networks and connections in the western region community. Gulden has been effective in identifying new service delivery areas and has promoted a culture of continuous improvement within the organisation.

On another note, I would like to inform all members that the Committee of Management has been required to make changes to its constitution, to include the new regulations which are in the Associations Incorporation Reform Act, 2012 legislation that was passed in 2013. The amendments will be presented at the Annual General Meeting 2014.

The year ahead is an exciting and enterprising one, as the MRCNW will be celebrating its 25th birthday, relocating to a new office building in the central hub of St Albans and planning to establish the operation of its own Registered Training Organisation. Finally, I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to the Department of Social Services, Department of Health & Human Services, Department of Immigration and Citizenship. I would also like to thank all members of the committee, staff and volunteers who continue to show their commitment and dedication and we look forward to more successful and productive achievements in 2015.

Hakki Suleyman
Chairperson

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



I am pleased to present the MRC North West Region Annual Report for 2013-2014 and hope that you find the report interesting and informative. I wish to acknowledge both the Committee and the dedicated staff for their warm welcome and support since my commencement as Acting Executive Officer in mid May 2014.

As this report deals with 2013-2014, I congratulate my predecessors, for all their leadership and vision in contributing to the many achievements detailed in the pages that follow. The Committee and the staff also have much to be happy and proud of following their own significant efforts during this period.

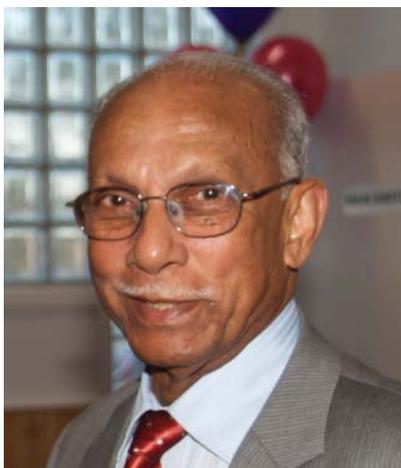
The past year has been a challenging, yet rewarding and successful one. The MRC's greatest achievements has included its ongoing efficient ability to deliver services across a range of locations for a diverse range of communities. At the same time, this has been undertaken by developing projects which focus on innovative service delivery through a number of community based group projects.

The MRC maintains its strong focus on providing Settlement Support services, Aged and Disability services and community based projects to the North West metropolitan regions of Melbourne with excellence. The success of these programs is based on the funding and support provided by Government agencies, gratitude is extended to the Department of Social Services, Department of Human Services and Department of Health. We also acknowledge the contribution of other funding sources such as Victorian Multicultural Commission, Communities for Children, and VicRoads.

I would like to end by acknowledging and thanking Committee of Management for their vision, dedication and support. It has been an enriching experience for me. I would like to thank the dedicated staff, I am truly grateful for the endless hours spent in the last year on the development and delivery of the MRCNWR programs. I would like to thank all funding bodies, local Councils and community partners and look forward to an absolutely outstanding year of achievements for the MRC North West, and I wish you all the very best!

Gulden Metin
Acting Executive Officer

TREASURER'S REPORT



The Migrant Resource Centre North West Inc has significantly improved its financial position for the year 2014 by increasing its net operating surplus to \$242,134 an increase of \$197,575 on 2013. In 2014, the MRCNW's overall income grew to \$2,101,765, up by \$296,196 in 2014 an increase of 6.8%, and operating costs increased by 5.6% to \$1,859,631. The financial results were exceptional and reflect the organisation's strong record of fiscal management.

Underpinning the organisation's positive results for 2014 was the reversal of provisions totalling \$144,001 for minor capital works and PAG activities that had been set aside in 2013 which are offset by the purchase of a new Community Bus. Whilst management had directed funds to capital works in 2014 and PAG activity funding had been fully applied, there were no further grounds to retain the provisions that had been established in the prior year. The operating entity costs grew to \$1,859,631 an increase on the previous year by \$98,621.

During the year the Committee of Management commenced an administrative review to fine-tune its organisation's structure. This prudent decision resulted in adopting a new staffing model. This sadly meant some of the positions were earmarked for redundancy. Staff remuneration and related costs were \$1,291,252 and remained in line with 2013, increasing by only \$1,669. The increase in costs were cushioned in part by the increase in funding revenue the organisation was able to secure throughout the year.

After allowing for purchase of a new community bus at the end of the fiscal year, the organisation's cash reserves grew to \$1,973,971 up \$104,931, this was aided by an increase in project funding and interest from the funds held in term deposits received throughout the financial year. The entity's net assets position has improved to \$1,267,265 up \$242,134 and is well positioned for 2015.

The organisation's financial position remains sound and healthy and it will continue to deliver and expand its valuable service to the community without compromise. We thank the respective agencies for their ongoing funding support, the committee of management for their strategic vision, direction and management, and the staff that make the delivery of our services possible. I commend our auditors report ending 30 June 2014, and look back on this last year with much satisfaction.

Dan Wallace

Treasurer

Our Vision

The MRC North West, supports an environment where people from diverse cultural backgrounds are able to participate to their full potential in the life of the Australian Community while they are free to maintain their individual culture and heritage.

Our Mission

The MRC North West, within its scope and capacity will pursue equality of opportunity for all people in our community and challenge discrimination through direct services, systemic advocacy, information provision and community development projects which further the capacity for migrants and refugees to achieve and maintain a safe and healthy life in Australia.

Our Values

The MRCNW values are;

- Diversity,
- Equality for all,
- Trust, Integrity and Professionalism,
- Collaboration for the benefit of our client group,
- and treating all people with respect.

Positive, Active & Strong - Health & Wellbeing

Focus program development towards healthy lifestyle outcomes, which embrace person—centred approaches.

Streamline referral processes and strengthen partnerships that assure all new arrivals have access to the best possible health—care, advice and services.

Develop targeted, evidence based approach in addressing immediate health concerns facing newly arrived communities.

Access to every Opportunity—Education, Training and Employment

Implement programs that prepare newly arrived communities to access local and sustainable employment opportunities.

Work with accredited training providers to ensure positive transitions into quality measured and approved training opportunities.

Continue to refine and replicate programs and partnerships that deliver family centred and lifelong learning approaches.

My Place—Engagement and Contribution to community

Facilitates youth engagement opportunities that encourage positive engagement and civic leadership opportunities.

Ensure student placement opportunities are made available to local refugee and migrant background young people to mentor and provide experience in this area of community development.

Support school communities in engaging parents and families in education and local support services.

Continue to work with a range of stakeholders to facilitate community connection/induction programs for newly arrived groups.

Further expand e-technology opportunities that focus on information sharing and program delivery.

Growing and Sharing—Partnerships

Continue to develop the whole of family approach to English Language acquisition, engagement with the Australian Education System and the Training and Employment sector.

Foster partnerships that refine cross referral processes ensuring clients have timely access to appropriate services.

Fact, Evidence and Anecdote—Being a Voice

Facilitate opportunities for newly arrived individuals, groups and communities to share culture, language, experiences and expertise with the broader community.

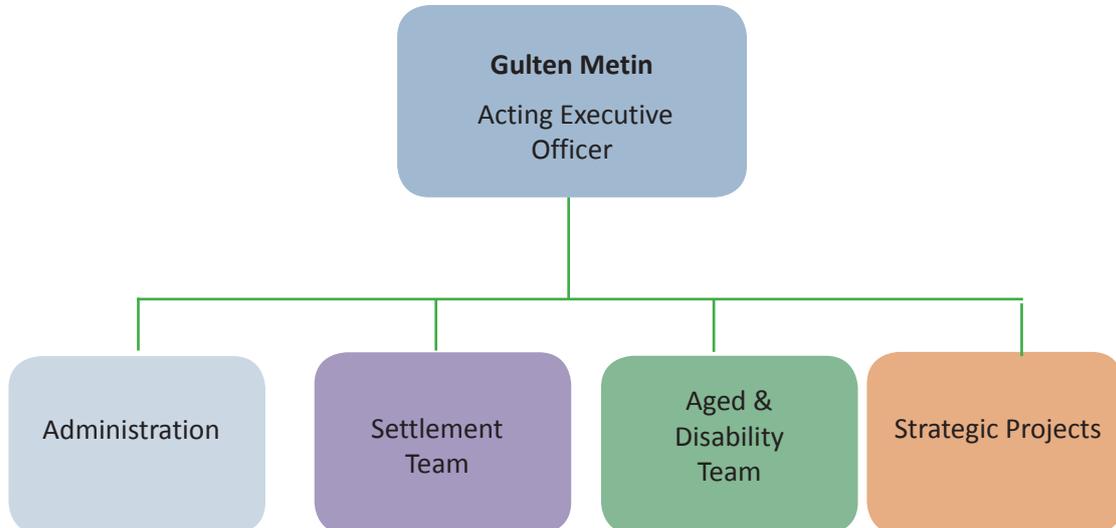
Develop an information strategy that is responsive to the work of the organisation and empowers language based communities to share their culture, experiences and aspirations.

Systemically advocate on behalf of individuals and communities where major policy decisions impact on the life outcomes of refugees and migrants.

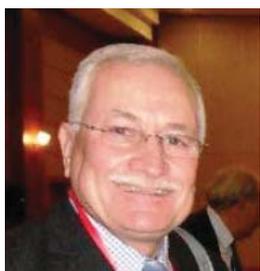
ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Committee of Management

- Hakki Suleyman—Chairperson
- Troy Atanasovski—Deputy-Chairperson
- Dan Wallace—Treasurer
- Alicia Matene—Assistant Treasurer
- Sydney Vas—Secretary
- Imad Hirmiz—Assistant Secretary
- Joe Caf—Committee Member
- Godefa G’her—Committee Member
- Cuc Lam—Committee Member
- Bawi Lian Thang—Committee Member
- Grace Elikana—Committee Member



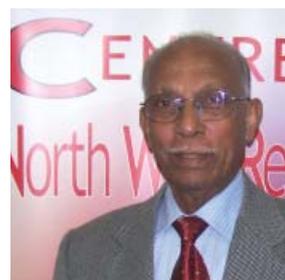
COMMITTEE 2013—2014



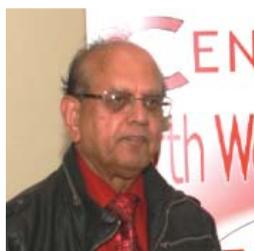
Hakki Suleyman
Chairperson



Troy Atanasovski
Vice Chairperson



Dan Wallace
Treasurer



Sydney Vas
Secretary



Alicia Matene
Assistant Treasurer



Imad Hirmiz
Assistant Secretary



Joe Caf
Committee Member



Godefa G'her
Committee Member



Cuc Lam
Committee Member



Bawi Lian Thang
Committee Member



Grace Elikana
Committee Member

MINUTES

Migrant Resource Centre North West Region Inc.

Minutes of The Annual General Meeting Held on 29th October 2013 At Errington Community Centre, Princess Street, St. Albans At 6.00 P.M.

CHAIR: Hakki Suleyman, Chairperson declared the meeting open and welcomed all present. Hakki thanked the chief guest George Zangalis for accepting his invitation and also other distinguished guests; Maria Vamvamikou M.P and George Seitz amongst others.

Anthony Abate, Executive Officer then took over as M.C. All the Committee members present were individually introduced by name to the gathering.

APOLOGIES: The names of all apologies were read out. Milan Pualic (Serbian Social Support); Odette Waanders (Palliative Care Victoria); Sarah Wallace (FKA Children's Services); Councillors & Mayor (Maribyrnong City Council); Jill Hennessy MP; Dough McLaughlin (ECCV Board Member); Bernie Finn MP; Cr George Portor (Mayor Hume City Council); Ms Marlene Kairouz MP; Ken Lay (Chief Commissioner); Emma King (VCOSS); Dr Graham Dettrick (Chairperson GECC); Ms Hutch Hussein (Senior Manager EMC); Sky De Jersey (EO Settlement Council of Australia); Nicholas Kotsiras MP; Sen Fierravanti-Wells; Marsha Thompson MP; Bill Shorten MP; Brimbank City Council Administrators, Shire of Melton Mayor & Councillors; Don Nardella of Melton; Tony Abbot MP; Jenny Semple (Southern MRC) Senator Conroy; Hon. Teresa Gambaro MP; Chin Tan (Chairperson VMC); Hon. Scott Morrison MP; Senior Rights Victoria at Council the Ageing; CS Srinivasan (Commissioner VMC); Michael Jaklina (District Nursing Service RNDS Koonung); Ms Sandra Prouse (CEO FKA Children's Services); Mark Birrell (Vic Health) Frank McGuire MP; Felix Neighbor (Office of Disability);

ATTENDANCE: A signed list of those present is on file. Approximately 150 members and guests were in attendance.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: Hakki read out his report which was contained in the Annual Report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dan Wallace - Treasurer, read out the salient features of the Audited Annual Report and Accounts. He asked if there were any questions. There were none. The report was moved for acceptance, Hakki Suleyman, Sec. Joe Caf.....carried.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR: Our current auditors Accum Business Services whose name has been changed to Chand & Naylor were proposed for re-appointment, by Imad Hirmiz, Sec. Sydney Vas.....carried.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT: Anthony Abate read out his report which was contained in the Annual Report. He asked if anyone had any questions. There were none. Moved for acceptance, George Korytsky, Sec. Troy Atanasovski.....carried.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT: Mr. Simon Harvest, who very kindly consented to Anthony's request, was appointed as the Returning Officer. He read out all the Nominations which were received by the Secretary. All current Committee members stood down. The following names of the Nominees were announced by the Returning Officer; Dan Wallace, Hakki Suleyman, Grace Elikana, Sydney Vas, Cuc Lam, Imad Hirmiz, Joe Caf, Troy Atanasovski, Bawi L. Thang, Godefau G'her and Alicia Matene. Since the number of Nominations were equal to the number of vacancies, all were declared elected for the next two years.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER. Hakki invited Mr. George Zangalis to address the gathering. Mr. Zangalis is a well known identity in St. Albans. George spoke on the subject of Multiculturalism. He said that he was involved in the community for many years. He applauded the magnificent work being done by the Migrant Resource Centre, North West in St. Albans in helping newly arrived migrants and spoke at length of the need for strengthening multiculturalism. Hakki thanked George and then invited Ms. Maria Vamvamikou M.P. to give a short address to the gathering. She was thanked by Hakki and he then asked Mr. George Seitz a seasoned parliamentarian and local identity in St. Albans to say a few words on Multiculturalism.

George spoke of his long involvement with the Community in the Western suburbs and the MRCNW among other community organisations and his early beginnings as a migrant himself. Hakki thanked him and a few presentations were made. Hakki then thanked all present and wished them heartiest greeting for the X'Mas and the New Year. He invited all to partake of food and refreshments provided. A variety of dishes were offered.

Entertainment was provided by a group of female dancers who went by the name "Legacy Sisters"

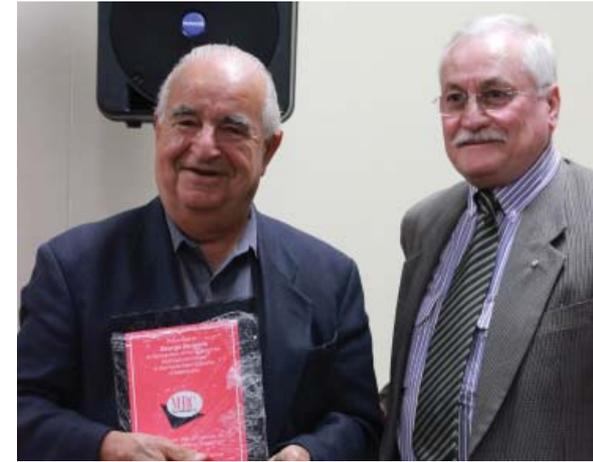
The meeting was declared closed and was followed by photographs of Staff and Committee members and guests.

In the meanwhile the Committee members retreated to separate room to conduct the election of Office bearers. A suggestion by Godefa G'her to retain the same Committee as there was no change, was accepted by all. Therefore all existing Committee members retained their old portfolios. This was moved by Godefa G'her and Seconded by Troy Atanasovski....carried.

SECRETARY

Sydney Vas.

OUR WORK, OUR COMMUNITY







SETTLEMENT

Client Settlement Services Team

The Client Settlement services team have yet again exceeded targets for 2013-2014 providing settlement assistance to newly arrived refugees and migrants (0-5years) in Western Melbourne's key settlement areas of Brimbank, Maribyrnong and Hobsons Bay and is funded by (DSS) under the Settlement Grants Program (SGP).

The team's performance through out the year was beyond reproach, with credit to all of the team members. The team is comprised of a group of highly skilled and experienced dedicated professionals, committed to facilitating settlement casework and referrals, group work(including men's and women's settlement groups) housing support, immigration advice assistance and refugee youth activities.

The delivery of direct service is the keystone of the day-to-day activities of the team, providing newly arrived individuals and their family's information, support, referral and advocacy. During the year, various community members and groups in Brimbank, Melton and Hobson Bay areas attended information sessions on a range of topics which included updates to Refugee and Humanitarian program, Family Stream Migration information(for the purpose of proposing family members), Medicare, Aged Caree home services, Crime stoppers, tenancy information, consumer affairs, and life skills.

Importantly, the team worked in partnership with many local, state wide agencies and government departments to facilitate and advocate positive settlement outcomes for the newly arrived. It is also crucial to acknowledge the co located agencies through our offices, which include Centrelink, Federation of Chinese Associations, Consumer Affairs, and the African Women's Senior Program also offer invaluable services that continue to meet the specific needs of the communities within the catchment areas. We look forward to another successful year of working together with all these stakeholders.

One of the many positive results for the settlement team during the year was when a Chin community member from Sunshine who needed assistance and advice on proposing a family of 5 young children on Special Humanitarian Program visa. The Chin community member was thrilled when his family were granted their visas "I can't believe how quickly the visas were granted, your assistance is appreciated"

"I can't believe how quickly the visas were granted, your assistance is appreciated"



Community Development Activities

During the year, the team have been involved in many community development activities with newly arrived refugee and migrant communities conducting information workshops and events. The following community groups were supported and encouraged to participate in these activities:

- Caring Liberian Women of Australia Inc. (CLWA)
- Matu Community
- Liberian Community of Victoria
- Sierra Leone Australia Community of Victoria
- Aniel Golbek Family Association in Victoria (a Sudanese community)
- Afar Community Association Inc. Vic
- Eastern African Community Services
- Somalian Community North West
- Ethiopian Community Association In Victoria
- Language Teachers Association of Victoria





The Road Safety Awareness project for New and Emerging Communities in Brimbank

The road safety project has made a significant difference to individuals living in Brimbank who aspire to become safe and better drivers. The Migrant Resource Centre North West and VicRoads continue their program through Victorian Community Road Safety Partnership Program (VCRPP), and are supported by a steering group, represented by Victoria Police, Brimbank City Council, Brimbank L2P, Melton City Council, Westgate Roads Safety Group, and the Department of Social Services. The project has focused on providing new and emerging communities with information that goes beyond simple driving principles. Many of the issues addressed have included legal obligations when driving, child restraints, pedestrian safety, road rules & safety, consumer rights and responsibilities.

Key achievements for the project included:

- Eight driver-safety workshops aimed at providing participants a solid understanding of road rules and road safety approaches.
- Professional driving lessons were provided to sixteen participants from driving school instructors to build driver confidence and experience before taking their road test.
- Six of these participants were successful in getting their drivers licenses after taking part in this program, a testament that the project has been a great success.
- As part of the evaluation phase, the feedback received from all participants indicated an increase in understanding of road safety rules, the project generated a sense of client participation in Australian society.





Youth Settlement

Youth Settlement work is undertaken as part of the Settlement Grants Program which the MRC North West provides across the Western Metropolitan region of Melbourne. The program provides information, support and referrals via a range of unique initiatives. This is a joint initiative, with Good Shepherd Youth and Family Services to facilitate a range of creative activities with focus on refugee youth being mentored to channel their artistic talents and engage within the broader community.

The MRC North West Youth Program continues to reach out to young people and provide pathways for their creative talents. The RAP 3021 groups were out and about across the festive period performing at a range of venues showcasing their artistic style and educating audiences about their settlement experiences. Such events included the Emerge Brimbank Festival, Limbs to Rhythms performance at the Phoenix Youth Centre, and the Western United Revolutionary Hip Hop Front in Melton. One of the participants, Fostin, has even launched his own single, “Wrong Adoption”, thus providing the kind of role model that many of the local youth may respect and aspire to emulate. The positive and real outcomes associated with this work are linked with the casework which the MRC North West conducts on a regular basis.

During the year, Father Bob Founder of Father Bob McGuire Foundation met with the leaders of RAP 3021, a local rap youth group supported by the Migrant Resource Centre North West in partnership with Good Shepherd Youth & Family Services.

Fr Bob having rapped with Kanye West met with the founders of RAP 3021, Fostin and Prince brothers born in Burundi in Africa. The two teenagers reminisced with Father Bob on their journey to Australia and challenges they have successfully overcome as young refugees trying to settle in St Albans. As founders of their own RAP youth group they have been able to help themselves and other young African and recent arrived refugee young people find constructive ways to express themselves through Rap song writing performance and dance. Recently, the group performed at Federation Square as part of cultural diversity week.

“This is what it’s all about”, Fr Bob said, as he recalled about some of the work he has done with the youth groups in South Melbourne. Fr Bob was shown their video on you tube performing.

“RAP 3021’s video on You Tube makes St Albans look awesome” Father Bob Said after viewing RAP 3021 performance of their song titled “RAP 3021”.





HUME - Settlement & Community Projects Team

It has continued to be very productive, busy and exciting year at the Migrant Resource Centre North West Region Hume Office in Broadmeadows. The programs facilitated by the dedicated Hume team for 2013-2014 included settlement support service (casework and referral, group work); refugee youth work activities, migration advice and assistance and Community based project(s).

The Settlement Grants Program (SGP) funded through the Department of Social Services (DSS) has been instrumental in building the capacity of grassroots community organisations and community members in addressing their settlement needs through targeted community development activities. The Team have been involved in delivering a high level of service through casework provision to a range of newly arrived ethnic communities from Iraq, (including Chaldean /Assyrian), Bhutan, Nepal, Somali, Persia, Turkey and Sudan.

The Youth Settlement Support Program funded through the Settlement Grants Program assists young refugees and humanitarian entrants 16-24 years, to settle into the Australian way of life through the provision of information, support and referrals via a range of initiatives. The program has had a successful year working closely with young people, community groups, parents, schools, and mainstream youth services in building the confidence in newly arrived refugee young people.

Migration Advice and Assistance funded under the Settlement Grants Program provides assistance to eligible refugee and humanitarian entrants and disadvantaged community members who are trying to propose to bring their family members to Australia by qualified registered Migration Agents. The service also included information sessions delivered to both community groups and service providers who want to increase their awareness and understanding of the processes of particular migration visa applications such as Australian Citizenship, and proposing family members under family and refugee applications.

KIND Cultural Harmony Project, funded by Lentara Uniting Care through the Department of Social Services – Communities for Children program was delivered across three primary schools in the Hume region. Program delivery was overseen by a Steering Committee involving the three school principals, representatives from Catholic Education Office, program partners Kids Thrive and the Migrant Resource Centre North West Region. The children participating in KIND project created original songs in their own class group, then showcased their talents through performances at the end of each school term, combined with the three schools for a Community Concert. The program included singing, song writing, movement, mindfulness practice, performance; facilitated reflective activities and conversations; end of term community concerts; and professional development workshops for artists, educators and multicultural agency professionals.

Education, Training and Employment

The MRCNW Hume office has again exceeded in the delivery of information sessions and workshops through regular community consultations and worked closely with the newly arrived community groups and mainstream service providers in the Hume region.

Information sessions were held to better orientate clients with settlement and mainstream services in the local government area. Information sessions held a high level of interest and participation, which replicates the overwhelming demand for casework provision. Sessions were held on prominent issues relating to financial counseling, schooling/education/training, Australian citizenship, mental health and well being, road rules/



laws and safety (Vic Police), Centrelink, housing, health/ wellbeing services, legal aid cultural competency, and pathways to tertiary education, employment rights. A total of 32 information sessions were held with 716 participants.

Partnerships

The MRCNW Hume office continues to facilitate the Hume Multicultural Workers Network meetings. The network includes representatives from key service agencies working for refugees and new arrivals settling in the Hume LGA.

The network has regular attendance of over 30 participants every six weeks. The Network representatives come together to participate in planning, advocating, networking, facilitating and providing resources, enabling more awareness through information sharing to respond to the needs of the new and emerging refugee, humanitarian and migrant communities.

5 Ways to Well Being

The MRC North West Region, during the year in partnership with North West Area Mental Health Services Unit, government and other local health and wellbeing service providers delivered workshops on 5 Ways to Well Being and promoted this unique campaign to prevent mental health and promote community wellbeing amongst Culturally Diverse Communities.

The community engagement and education workshop sessions provided an opportunity for participants to connect as a community, to feel empowered and be valued for their contributions. A short film was developed as a result of the many workshops delivered during the year and was launched on 10th October 2013 at the HGLC, which coincided with World Mental Health Day with a very huge attendance.

Refugee Week

The Refugee Week celebrations have marked its 8th year in the Hume region, with the initial initiative from the MRCNW Hume office. The event was very successful with positive outcomes and has encouraged more such events to be delivered in partnership with local service providers, Council and the communities.

The event was held on 20th June 2014 at Hume Global Learning Centre in Broadmeadows. Guest speakers from government and non-government as well as refugee community representatives were invited to share their stories/journey, with music, entertainment and dancing. The theme adopted for this year's celebration was Restoring Hope.

The MRCNW would like to thank and acknowledge Hume City Council, distinguished guests, guest speakers and all attendees for their support, efforts and participation during staging of the celebrations.



MRCNW Multicultural Men's Shed @ Brimbank

What Groups were targeted?

The groups targeted during the year were people of cultural and linguistic diverse backgrounds, who have settled in the local general area of Brimbank within the last 5 years. The Australian Men's Shed is a concept in the Western Melbourne SSD which focuses on providing men a space, where they can socialise and take part in a range of practical activities. The Men's Shed gives group members a chance to share experiences with fellow peers, access information and support about a range of social family and health-based issues.

Partnership:

The Multicultural Men's Shed has a local partnership with the Brimbank Men's Shed.

Activities & key achievements:

- The group has been successful in organising activities to engage participants and ensure their retainment.
- The groups visited local places of interest such as Scienceworks and the Botanical gardens.
- Computer Training was organised at a local community Centre.
- Information sessions on Family Relationships, Life Skills, Financial Counselling, Australian Law and Society with the assistance of an interpreter were presented, the sessions were informative, and provided participants a chance for question and answer time.
- The exchange of different cultures & traditions were always topics of discussion with food being a popular talking point.
- Music has been a building bridge for the group, as different members play different types of music during the sessions. Sometimes the group may play a particular song to signal the end of the groups time together and all the men get up and dance together. It's much harder to get the Aussie blokes to get up and dance, but they do so with some encouragement.

Learning together

- Men who attend the Men's Shed have had the chance to take part in free evening of computer training at the local Community centre. All men were encouraged to enrol in the group and then practise what they had learnt.

English Language and Conversation Learning

- The group focused on learning English language skills and the sessions were always interactive. Activities generated an abundance of fun and group members took part in dictation, learning new songs and new words that promoted laughter, friendly chit chat and learning.



Barriers

- As language skills were a barrier, the group found activities like UNO, table tennis and solitaire required less conversation and were more successful as well as BBQ's and English Conversation classes that were organised.
- Some of the men found it difficult to commit to the weekly meetings due to family and community obligations, so the program recruited more group members to ensure high participation and this was a great success.

Inclusive Environment

- The Men's Shed is an informal space for men. It is a place where men can talk, learn new skills and develop mutual respect. This positive attitude is reflected by the group's facilitator and is conveyed to new attendees so the atmosphere is both friendly and generous in spirit.
- During the year the men were consulted and invited to make suggestions or express their needs. Their ideas were taken on board and information sessions and activities were organised to address their individual requirements.
- The men had the opportunity to dance and sing together and as a result, the men have learnt to relax with one another and are much more confident to participate in activities together. The group members tried to use and remember each other's name even though that can be difficult to manage at times, however we did use interpreters at information sessions.

One shed many cultures.....



“My participation at MRCNW - Multicultural Men's Shed gave me an opportunity to share similar values in a common culture of caring and sharing; we shared free information and knowledge through the trusted relationships, so together we are able to move to where the opportunities and ideas are plentiful”. Rallian from Matu Community



The following is a verbatim anecdote from one of our participant:

“

My name's Tesfay from Ethiopia, I came to Australia with my family as refugees after settled in St Albans area, I enrolled my children at St Albans Primary school, and being a parent at school I have been involved at fathers group activities with other fathers from CALD communities were I have learnt a lot from them as well as from our guest speakers. I didn't have much understanding about Victorian Essential Learning Curriculum Standards and Frameworks (VELCSF), and even my wrights and obligation as member of school.

Through sessions I have obtained more skills of which could connect me with my children at home. The Relationship Australia in Victoria, psychologist and others from school were very helpful and supportive, thanks to MRCNW & St Albans Primary School for giving me this opportunity.

”

MRC NW's School Based Fathers' Activity Group

This project is aimed at supporting the needs of fathers of newly arrived refugees and migrants from CALD backgrounds in the western suburbs. The program is funded by the Department of Social Services (DSS), and in partnership between the Migrant Resource Centre North West Region and St Albans Primary School. The project has strengthened the emotional capacity of fathers and has given them the tools to further connect and be involved with their children.

The keys achievements:

- A series of successful workshops sessions were conducted by a team, which included a child psychologist, representatives from St Albans Primary School and Relationships Australia Victoria. Participants of the workshop sessions were given an induction on: Victorian Essential Learning; Curriculum Standards & Frameworks; Values at School; and family relationships with particular emphasis on the special bond between fathers and their children.
- As part of the feedback received from the workshop session, all participants agreed that change had to come. Participant's expressed a need to be accepted by society so they could in turn build and develop good relationships with their children. It was noted that fathers needed to spend time with their kids, return to enjoying the simple pleasures of life, listen to their children and give children a chance to explain what they meant before interrupting or correcting them. At the end of the workshops, fathers were given 30 suggestions on ways to boost their children's confidence and to build positive relationships with their children.



AGED & DISABILITY

Turkish Speaking Support Program

The HACC Turkish Speaking program, is funded by the Department of Health and includes the Turkish Speaking Planned Activity Groups, as well as Volunteer coordination. The Turkish Speaking PAG is made up of three groups of participants, two groups are made up of ladies and the other is mixture of men and women.

The Turkish Speaking programs provides an opportunity for Turkish people who are elderly, or younger people with a disability and or carers to get together to engage in social interaction, physical activities, and outings and to participate in a range of health related activities and information sessions.

One of the most successful information sessions “Life!” focused on helping clients get information on healthy eating habits to prevent diabetes and other heart related diseases. Guzide who suffers from heart disease said “If I had known all this information about healthy eating that I learnt about in the forum Life, it would have prevented me from having open heart surgery. Now I have the knowledge, I am very careful about reading labels on food items I buy and the portion I eat”.

The program is based on the Active Service Model approach, and group members enjoy activities which support social inclusion, community participation and which assist clients to build life skills to increase their independence in the community. During the year, the group visited the Orchard Farm, near Geelong, and then enjoyed a lovely lunch in Port Arlington. Many group members took the opportunity to buy orchids and enjoy the beautiful surroundings.

The Turkish Speaking Volunteer Coordination Program continues to support frail, elderly and those with a disability through the friendly visiting program. The program has since recruited nine volunteers, who have been trained and matched to suitable isolated clients.

“If I had known all this information about healthy eating that I learnt about in the forum Life, it would have prevented me from having open heart surgery. Now I have the knowledge, I am very careful about reading labels on food items I buy and the portion I eat”.





German Speaking Support Program

The German Speaking Support Program in the City of Moonee Valley & the City of Brimbank, meet every week and clients have the opportunity to take part in a range of activities. The group's activities vary from brain teasers, gentle exercise, games, information sessions, art & craft activities and excursions.

All sessions comply with the Active Service model, a requirement of the Department of Health who fund the program. The German Speaking Support Program can be accessed by elderly clients over the age of 65 or younger ones who may have a disability and/or carers. Clients have the chance to engage socially and just have fun.

Many excursions were organized during the year, the group went out to Heritage Hill Museum, the Dandenong Gardens and other more local destinations. The groups enjoyed various buffet lunches to Laverton and Lyndbrook. They even tried their hand at 10 pin bowling, just proof you are never too young to have some funand not to forget morning melodies, a chance for members to remember their beloved old tunes.

Many of the group had a unique opportunity to reminisce the past by visiting the Antiques Bazaar in Glen Waverley.

A big thank you goes out to volunteer Mary Wright for all her contributions and helpers Ilse Draper and Brigitte Hass for their continued support in the running of these groups.

On the excursion to Geelong one of the group members said " I love being on the boat, it feels like I am on a holiday....."

Exchange Museum in Hawthorn is run by enthusiastic likeminded volunteers dedicated to the preservation of our country's telecommunications infrastructure and history the volunteers provided a detailed navigation of the museum for the group when they visited.

" I love being on the boat, it feels like I am on a holiday....."





Indian and Sri Lankan Elderly group

The Indian and Sri Lankan support program is designed to support elderly people so they can keep on living in their home and to participate in the local community. The program enhances the group client's capacity to engage socially and to promote their independence. Younger Indians and Sri Lankans with a disability can join the planned activity group as well. The program organizes group activities, information sessions and excursions.

Engaging Communities

The group organizes a variety of activities throughout the year. Members participate in gentle exercise, yoga, strength training, laughter sessions, ball games, bingo, darts, card games, sequence, letters and numbers Sudoku and memory and mind games. The St. Albans group ventured on an outing to Geelong where a lovely boat trip was organised and the Point Cook group enjoyed a visit to the National Wool Museum in Geelong.

Yoga Practicing

Prem is a group member who leads the Yoga Practice group that meets every week. Prem said, "I love to share my experiences with the other group members during our yoga classes....I benefit from practicing yoga everyday and I want to share this positive experience with everyone".

Diwali Festival of Lights celebrations

The group enjoyed the Diwali Festival of Lights celebrations held during the past year, sharing sweets, decorating their houses, making flower rangoli and welcoming relatives and friends during the festivities.

Education

Information sessions were organized on the various topics including Healthy eating, Diabetes, and Be Active in your way. A Centrelink representative conducted an information session addressing various topics such as carer allowance, rent assistance, eligibility of health care card etc.

Advocacy

The program provided support to clients in many instances on various issues which included sending referrals to ACAT team for CAPS packages, and being present at home visits during client assessments. The MRCNW provided community transport for clients, taking them to and from group meetings. Advocacy was also available for clients who needed assistance in regards to Centrelink or consumer related issues.

Celebrations

The Indian and Sri Lankan elderly group (StAlbans) turned 11 in June 2014 and celebrated this significant milestone with the group members and staff from the Migrant Resource Centre. The group members celebrated by cutting a cake and went out for lunch in their tradition outfits.

I love to share my experiences with the other group members during our yoga classes....I benefit from practicing yoga everyday and I want to share this positive experience with everyone"





Laos Elderly Support Group

The Laos Elderly Support Group resumed its operation in 2014 with a new coordinator, Ka Salyphod. The group meets every week and members take part in a variety of social activities that are planned in consultation with group members

The Laotian elderly people have responded enthusiastically to the group activities and enjoy the opportunity to get together and socialise with other members in the community. Some of the social activities have included excursions to Bendigo and a visit to the Chinese Jade Buddha temple where clients enjoyed the exchange of culture and tradition. Members had a chance to take part in activities which focused on improving their physical health and general well being. Other outings the group undertook included shopping trips, a picnic, and swimming.

Members have also enjoyed the group's organised indoor activities, such as card playing, interesting group discussions, Laos dancing (Lum Vong Lao), Laotian food and making Lao's Mak Bieng (using green paper making Pha Kuan). Other activities included, fruit carving, knitting scarfs, jigsaw puzzles and indoors exercise suitable for the elderly and meditation. The group members also celebrated their birthdays and special days like Father's day, Mother's day and Lao's New Year .

On a last note, I would like to thank all the volunteers who have dedicated their time and enthusiastically assisted in the planning and organisation of the group. The program could not have been such a great success without the invaluable contribution of the volunteers.





Bosnian Speaking Support Program

The Bosnian Speaking Support Program is funded by the Department of Health and falls under HACC services. It is aimed at people who are elderly people who have a disability and their carers. The program helps support clients to interact socially and to promote their independence in the community.

The group meets weekly, at Cairnlea Community Hub and a variety of activities, excursions, healthy lifestyle activities and information sessions on a wide range of topics are organised for the group,

The group activities and games are based on the interests and abilities of the group members and promotes all aspects of emotional and physical well being. Activities include art & crafts, guided tours, information sessions, advocating healthy shopping and eating to increase mental awareness and general physical well being.

The group was also lucky to have guest speakers from ISIS Primary Care, Brimbank City Council, Care Connect, and Alzheimers Australia.

As part of the Brimbank Council Seniors week, the Carneilia Community Hub hosted “Nurture”, an event for seniors where a range of activities were organised on the physical and mental well being. The majority of participants embraced the dietician’s presentation and dietary recommendations and all chose to eat salad and fruit based meals at the afternoon tea that was provided.

Some of the excursions included trips to Werribee Rose Garden, Scienceworks, shopping trips to Watergardens Shopping Centre in Taylors Lakes, Cairnlea, and the Botanical Garden. However, without a doubt the highlight for the year for the group was the celebration of Harmony Day to embrace our multicultural society.





Social Support Program for Coptic Elderly, People with Disabilities and Carers

The Coptic Social support program has been very successful in promoting “wellness” and “active ageing,” while emphasizing optimal physical and mental health for its group members. Some of the information sessions have addressed educational and health related themes such as:

- Diabetes 2 and Healthy Life Style.
- Stroke Early Signs.
- Breast Health Information.
- A New approach to the Home Share Program in the Northern Western Region.
- How to set up an email address by using an iPad.
- How to watch movies on an iPad
- How to search the internet on an iPad and how to access Arabic websites

One of the recreational activities and outings that were organised during the year included the group’s monthly outings to St. Anthony Monastery in Heathcoat. Some shopping trips to locations such as the IKEA Family Centre and Harbortown were well received however the highlight of the year was the groups excursion to the Trout farm.

The program has made a positive impact in improving group member’s social participation and encouraging them to live as independently as possible. More recently a member of the group, whose husband passed away, developed a heart condition and had to undergo a number tests and medical appointments. As usual, she did not want anyone to help her but the staff in the Coptic support program noticed she was struggling to keep up with her appointments. A meeting was organized with Aged Care services, and the services available to her were explained in more detail, it soon became apparent to her that these services could improve her quality of her life and increase her independence level.



“

Jane became interested in volunteering for the MFVP program and said, “Sometimes we take the community we live in for granted, there are people from different cultural backgrounds who may feel isolated and lonely and by volunteering I can help improve on a person’s well being.”

Jane shared with us “I have a son with a disability and I am committed to making a positive and meaningful impact in the community I have grown up in...I want to give back to the community who has supported me through my times of need and make a difference to other people’s lives. By volunteering, I will be able to see the impact of my efforts on other vulnerable people.”

Jane has been given clear guidelines about her role and her responsibilities as a volunteer and told us “ I was given training by the MFVP Coordinator, Arzu Kayhan, she gave an induction on being a good listener, accepting others and information on ensuring my safety, so I really feel appreciated and supported.”

On a last note, Jane was happy to share with the community “ It may be true that no one person can solve the world’s problems, but what we can do is make that little corner of the community we live in just a little better.

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Multi-Cultural Friendly Visiting Program

The Multi-cultural Friendly Visiting Program (MFVP) is a newly established program funded by the Department of Health. The program is aimed at recruiting volunteers who can provide social companionship and support to elderly or disabled clients and their carers from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

The Multi-cultural Volunteer coordinator has been very busy identifying clients from old and new emerging ethnic communities in the region who may feel lonely and isolated. The program aims to assist clients to access local council services and to get involved in the community. The coordinator can link volunteers to clients with similar interests and backgrounds, clients can engage in a variety of activities and maximise their well being by being provided with friendship and support.

Why become Volunteers?

Volunteers can contribute to the social, economical and cultural well being of the community by:

- Taking part in the community and give back by providing social support to community members.
- Expand the ability of the local community as a whole, to respond to the needs of the linguistically, culturally diverse members in the Western Northern region.
- Help encourage understanding and acceptance of culture, diversity and difference in the community.

The MFVP Coordinator has been overwhelmed with enthusiasm and interest from people who would like to become volunteers. Arzu Kayhan has already recruited over 10 volunteers in such a short period of time; volunteers have received training and induction on their role and responsibilities. One of these volunteers is Jane Hauth who is ready to embark into the community and dedicate her time, support and friendship to people who need social support.



DISABILITY ADVOCACY

Disability Advocacy

The Disability Advocacy Program provides support to people with a disability, their carers and families, who have difficulty accessing information and services or may have been discriminated against with support and advocacy. The program's Disability Advocacy worker Sophie Siegel has been with the MRCNW for 12 months.

Could you give us some of the examples of the advocacy and support the program provides?

Support is provided to parents who are in the process of getting a diagnosis for their child who has a disability, assistance can be given to the family so they can access funding and support services which are relevant to them. Culturally sensitive education about disabilities can also be provided to parents as well as secondary consultation on cultural issues to other organisations and support services. For example, some cultures do not want their child to be labelled with a disability or feel they need to hide their child from the community.

Clients can be referred to other relevant organisations and the program provides support during the referral process, as it is sometimes difficult for clients to engage with new service providers due to their own diversity or cultural barriers.

Other support commonly provided includes accessing modified housing, access to affordable housing, landlord and tenancy issues. Some clients may need support when dealing with legal or consumer related issues and need to get the right advice.

What clients are eligible for Disability Advocacy support?

Carers and people with a disability whether diagnosed or not, who are from a CALD background, and live in the north west suburbs, and have an issue they need support with.

Can you give us an example of how the program supported and improved the life of an individual or family?

A refugee family who had recently settled in the community encountered difficulties in accessing services for one of the members who had a physical disability. The family were living in a house that was not wheelchair modified. The program worker was successful in advocating for the family and was able to organise modified social housing.

What other activities do you organise to promote Disability Advocacy?

Some of the other key activities organised during the year have included a series of presentations to organisations in the disability sector to equip them knowledge on disability advocacy services. Some of the presentations included:

- Occupational Therapist and Physiotherapist staff at Everyday Independent in Derrimut.
- Scope Glenroy.
- Brimbank Family & Children's Expo.
- Early Childhood Intervention Service (ECIS) team in Footscray.



Access support help *assistance*

Access and Support

Access and Support is a program which is relatively new to the Home and Community Care program, and sits under the banner of HACC diversity planning and practice. Diversity planning and practice addresses the five HACC special needs groups and specific characteristics within these groups. The Access and Support program targets any issues that may present as a barrier for individuals who need assistance. Individuals can access services which can improve or assist in maintaining their independence despite their age, socioeconomic status, gender, faith and spirituality.

The MRCNW Access and Support Program can support HACC eligible individuals, who may lack the knowledge or have the confidence to access HACC and other services or may have concerns that services available may not meet the diversity of their specific needs. The Access and Support program staff aim to increase client confidence and assists clients in communicating their needs, so better outcomes can be achieved. This Active Service Model (ASM) approach underpins the assessment and practices of the Access and Support Workers.

The program has been very successful in reaching out to members of the community and providing for them much needed information about services, for instance, the program was successful in linking seniors to HACC services for the first time in their lives. The Access and Support program staff strive to deliver a benchmark services and are continuously seeking to reach out to vulnerable individuals or groups within the community. Staff have a proactive approach in gathering information on potential barriers and increasing their own local knowledge on emerging and existing communities and their issues.

The Access and Support program staff also pass on knowledge about culturally sensitive issues to a diverse range of mainstream organisations. These organisations can then better equip themselves to meet the needs of their respective clients. The Access and Support Program would like express its gratitude to all stakeholders and service providers who have work in collaboration with the program for the benefit of all clients and the community at large.



Diversity and Disability “Be the changes you want”

The Diversity and Disability (DnD) program has been operating now for more than 9 years, and every year we have been able to increase the number of services we provide and the number of clients we support. In the last financial year, we provided support to clients both on a one to one basis and in a group setting . The program was able to assist 143 new clients as well as 660 clients who are supported on an ongoing basis. In accordance to our mission and vision statement, we aim to support people with a disability from a CALD background so they can advocate for themselves so they can achieve their full potential and can be recognised valued citizens of the community.

Our program is committed to our two year strategic plan which is also aligned to the MRCNW’s strategic plan and the Victorian State Disability Plan. Our values are in accordance with the goals of the NDIS and embrace the objectives of empowerment, control and independence for people with a disability. We are also happy to announce that a new member has joined the DnD steering committee which made up of 9 people with a disability and all from CALD background.

The support groups have been a great opportunity for people to come together to overcome their isolation, to become more empowered and to gain more control over their own lives. People involved in the support group have had a chance to develop new skills, share their experiences information and ideas. In terms of developing new skills, they have been involved in a new weekly Theatre and Acting group facilitated by Sandra Long. The group was set up thanks to a community grant from the Brimbank City Council. The group will also be running a live theatre performance on the Internation Day of Persons with Disabilities..

The DnD program has also been working with ADEC to organise a community forum that will address the issues of violence and abuse towards women and men with a disability. A strong partnership has been developed with the Self Advocacy Resource Unit and the program is working hard to establish the Victorian Self Advocacy Network. The DnD program has received funding to run the Dangerous Deeds project, which

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My Place - Engagement & Contribution to Community

On the 5th of August, 2014, the MRC’s disability advocate Sophie Siegel, DnD Program Manager Christian Astourian, several DnD Steering Committee members and I attended the Strengthening Disability Advocacy, ‘Champions of Change’, Conference at the Melbourne & Olympic Park Convention Centre. Hosted by the Disability Advocacy Resource Unit (DARU), the Conference was attended by advocates, stakeholders and agencies across the sector from all over Victoria. This was an exciting opportunity for us, as representatives of the MRC North West, to network with disability advocacy organisations and to talk about and debate the challenges, achievements and opportunities within the disability sector. It was a thoroughly motivating, thought-provoking and ultimately inspiring experience to discuss the challenges in the legal sector,



NDIS, schools and the workplace (to name a few) in a room with passionate people wanting to make a difference to the lives of people with a disability. The highlight of the day was hearing Christian, one of the panel members for the session Let's Talk about Sex, and other advocates talk about the importance of relationships for people with a disability, their right to be in a relationship and what to do if they are not able to fulfil their rights. This was a frank and interesting discussion about the ways people with a disability express their sexuality and needs within relationship. The panel, who also included Dr George Taleporos from the Youth Disability Advocacy Service (YDAS) and Dr Patsie Frawley from La Trobe University, imparted a wealth of wisdom and life experience to the audience. The endless stream of questions at the end of the discussion and rousing applause was indicative of the shared feeling of empowerment in the room. The day was a huge success and DnD looks forward to attending the next Strengthening Disability Advocacy Conference.

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is an exhibition on the disability movement in the past and present days in Victoria through use of different media.

On a final note, back on popular demand, we have continued to run the following groups:

- An Arts group called “The Power of Arts”, where people with a disability from non-English speaking background get the opportunity to explore and discover their own unique creative expression.
- The exhibition on “The International Day of people with a Disability (IDPD)” at the Granary Café in Sunshine was attended by 53 people and artwork was sold. This group is run in partnership with Scope Victoria on a fortnightly basis and facilitated by Tanya Arman and Erin Tappe.
- The Music therapy group called “The Power of Music”, in partnership with Scope allowed participants to learn and play musical instruments or simply follow the music with their body and dance. Facilitated by Imogen Rose the group performed on the IDPD in front of more than 300 people.
- A Creative Writing Support Group where participants learn about writing stories that can be either fictional or based on personal experiences. The group has already won an award through Scope Victoria for best writing group of the year for people with a disability. A Booklet of their stories has been developed and the group runs fortnightly in partnership with St John of God, which is facilitated by Martin Plowman.
- The Women Support group run by Effie Meehan and Julie Sciberras, two of our committee members, provide the opportunity to CALD women with a disability to come together, share information and experiences, empower all in attendance and talk about gender specific issues affecting their lives. The group runs monthly and in partnership with Scope Victoria.



"Given me hope! And confidence that I'm doing a good job for my son. I see that my feelings and fears are quite normal"

"I know where to seek help if I have a problem"

"The workshops allowed us to share experiences and feelings and know that I am not alone".

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Connecting Carers:

The MRCNW in partnership with SCOPE and St. Albans Connect, successfully established the Connecting Carers Project. The project's goals were to enhance the wellbeing of carers/parents of people with a disability from diverse cultural backgrounds in the St. Albans area and to organise a series of workshops and information sessions to address areas in life which they need support services.

The MRC North West is an organisation which is committed to the a "whole person-centred approach" and in consultation with parents of children who attended the SCOPE day program, Jackson School and Furlong Park School, organised specific workshops to address issues that were raised by parents. Three workshops for parents whose children attend SCOPE day program in St. Albans were organised and topics such as future planning, housing, guardianship and strategies for self care and were presented by Carers Victoria.

An additional five workshops were delivered to parents whose children attend Jackson Special School, presentations showcased services in Brimbank area, information on respite, money matters, routines and self care and were delivered by Brimbank Council, Mackillop Family Services and Carers Victoria. Connecting Carers also completed four workshops for parents at Furlong Park School for Deaf Children dealing who had concerns regarding future planning, self care and relaxation in conjunction with the Association for Children with a Disability & Carers Victoria.

Some of the biggest wins for the project have included the much needed social and emotional support for parents. Not only did the parents gain information on supports and services, but they also had an opportunity to connect with others, discuss their experiences and concerns openly and support each other. Participants have also developed strategies to manage their own stress and to care for themselves.

Below are some of comments from parents about what they found most valuable from the workshops:

"Given me hope! And confidence that I'm doing a good job for my son. I see that my feelings and fears are quite normal".

"I know where to seek help if I have a problem".

"The workshops allowed us to share experiences and feelings and know that I am not alone".

"Time out for myself without the guilt".

"Obtaining connections to resources and one on one discussion with service providers".

"Getting to know how others deal with their problems".

"Care for yourself will not only benefit yourself but for your family. For you to be well then you care for others around you".

"It's OK to take time out for yourself – Thank You!".



“I think that this was one of the most beneficial initiatives at school. It is such a great thing to see parents sharing stories and being empowered with knowledge and skills”

“Parents are now linking up with each other and planning more catch ups in school time and out of school”

Staff also commented on the workshops:

“I think that this was one of the most beneficial initiatives at school. It is such a great thing to see parents sharing stories and being empowered with knowledge and skills”

“Parents are now linking up with each other and planning more catch ups in school time and out of school”

“Over-all I feel these sessions were beneficial and highly successful. I was thrilled with the fact that some people came to all the sessions. It was also great that all sessions were well attended”

The project enabled service providers and schools to engage with parents and provide a space for parents to meet and connect, outside of the caring/parenting role. It also gave parents a chance to develop a stronger relationship with the school/organization where their children attend and learn about support services. The program has also allowed SCOPE and the schools to develop partnerships with organisations and plan workshops for parents at Furlong Park School with Carers Victoria. Inter-school connections were established as Jackson parents attended workshops held at Furlong Park School, creating wider community awareness for all parents involved.

It has been a highly successful project that consolidated the strategic goals of the MRC North West. The project has particularly supported strategic goal 1 (Positive, Active and Strong – Health and Wellbeing), strategic goal 3 (My Place – Engagement and Contribution to community) and strategic goal 4 (Growing and Sharing – Partnerships).

A big thank you to the following key partners and supporters:

Linda Mazziol:	Day Program Manager of SCOPE St. Albans
Lisa Frost:	Metro Access Worker at Brimbank Council
Kerri McCulloch:	Wellbeing Officer at Jackson School
Sue Willkinson:	Behaviour Support at Jackson School
Trish O’Louglin:	Family Liaison Officer at Furlong Park School
Pauline Parsons:	Parent to Parent Facilitator at Mackillop Family Services
Annalisa Cannizzaro:	Carer and Community Educator at Carers Victoria
Annie Keogh:	Carer and Community Educator at Carers Victoria
Christian Astourain:	Disability and Diversity Coordinator at MRC North West
Elizabeth Warnock:	Community Planning & Engagment Officer at St. Albans Connect
Haileluel Gebre-Selassie:	Community Participation Brimbank Area, DHS

“Over-all I feel these sessions were beneficial and highly successful. I was thrilled with the fact that some people came to all the sessions. It was also great that all sessions were well attended”



Horn of Africa Parents Support Group Program

The Horn of Africa Parent Support Group (HoAPSG) Program has been running with great success for four years and continues to provide parents from Horn of Africa communities (including Sudan and South Sudan) who care for a child with a disability valuable information and support and assisting them in their role as carers.

The weekly group sessions which run during school terms have provided a platform for parents and children to come together, socialize and share their experiences with others who come from the same or similar cultural and linguistic background.

Some of the highlights of this year's program have included:

- The participation of 15 parents and 16 children during the course of the year;
- Organised visits to local disability service providers and community agencies which increased parents confidence in being able to support their children's development and learning and access mainstream services;
- The provision of 20 information and education sessions ranging from first aid training, information on disability and Centrelink services, healthy eating for children with special needs, and tenants rights, to name a few;
- Leadership training to 10 parents which helped them gain a better understanding of their rights as carers (and their children's who have a disability) and how they can better advocate on behalf of their child;
- Linkages and referrals to services and activities for 8 parents;
- Information sessions to 27 Centrelink and allied health staff to increase their capacity in understanding some of the challenges and issues faced by HoA families with children who have a disability;
- A fun filled three day annual camp – this year held at Camp Manyung (YMCA) in Mt Eliza on the Mornington Peninsula in April.

Always popular with the group, the camp provided 11 parents and 27 children the opportunity to relax, spend quality time with their family, make new friends, share their stories and experiences. The new location provided a participant's a chance to try out new and exciting activities, some of which both parents and children had never experienced before such as the following:

- Archery
- Surfing



- Participation in Surf Life Saving Victoria's Open Water Learning program (water safety)
- Some mums and dads got the chance to ride a bike for the very first time!!!
- A special bike education program that catered for children with disabilities
- Family disco
- Beach carnival games
- African story telling and toasting marshmallows by a campfire

The MRCNW would like to take this opportunity to thank the following agencies and their staff for their continued support and commitment to the program: The Smith Family - Communities for Children (CfC) Brimbank program, Down Syndrome Victoria - My Time program, the Department of Social Services, and YMCA Camp Manyung for providing funding and Interchange Western, who in partnership with us, assist with the delivery of a such an invaluable program.

We look forward to continuing to support and work with the wonderful parents and families involved in this program, as well as ensuring some new ones get the right support and information in the coming year.

Some mums and dads got the chance to ride a bike for the very first time!!!





Kind Project CFC

The children of Corpus Chistie Primary School, Glenroy and St Dominic's Broadmeadows Holy Child, Dallas and St Dominic's, Broadmeadows are part of the MRCNW's Kind program Kind Program. The children have worked hard all year to craft songs that share a message of fairness and equality with their school community. The end of year concert which was their biggest performance yet and touched the hearts of all had the opportunity to attend.

On the night of the concert, the room was full of nervous energy as the students from the three schools played introduction games led by Andrea Rieniets from Kids Thrive, MRCNW's partner in the project.

As guests began to arrive at St Dominic's, students played the role of host, directing family and friends through the rain to the hall. In the weeks leading up to the concert, students perfected lyrics and dances, crafted posters and costumes, and helped devise the beautiful paper tree for the set, which was shaped like a hand extended in friendship.

With a full house before them, the students performed their songs with gusto, sharing messages of peace and kindness which included lyrics like:

Say no need to hurt or kill anything with a gun

Say you can be happy and as bright as the sun

We are all different

But if we were the same

It will be lame

It will be lame

The band brought an extra layer to the dance numbers, prompting one of the school Principals to break into his own version of hip hop dance to the delight of the students.

Over the course of the year, the program has been successfully in encouraging students to be more confident, to understand and share aspects of their cultural background, to recognise difference and unfairness, and through their performances, to take action to challenge unfairness.

After the wonderful performance, students passed around plates of food to their guests, children who had so nervously entered the program at the start of the year happily told me that the Kind program had made them feel more confident and able to express themselves. In coming year, the Kind program will continue to make changes in the community, one performance at a time changing the lives of children and the community involved.

The students performed their songs with gusto, sharing messages of peace and kindness.

When she stepped into the hall to see an enormous paper tree lit with fairy lights, and a full band tuning up, one student mumbled 'OMG OMG, I'm just going to keep saying OMG until this is finished!'

OUR PROGRAMS

Settlement Services	Funding Body
Settlement Grants Program provides casework for refugees and humanitarian entrants, group (including womens and mens social support, life skills and orientation, work readiness programs). Assisting community groups, communties and association with better access to services.	DSS
Youth Settlement Services provides casework and recreation activities for refugee youth. Work is undertaken with local schools and other youth agencies.	DSS
Migration Assistance and advice through registered migration agents. This service provides free assistance and advice to SGP eligible refugee and humanitarian entrants in the North West Region.	DSS
School Based Fathers' Activity Program focussing on connecting fathers with their children, developing activities which link them into the school environment and the broader community.	DSS
Men's Shed Program provides an oppporunity for men to undertake a range of practical activites, share experiences with peers, access information and support on a range of social, family, and health based issues.	DSS
Aged Care Services	
Home and Community Care (HACC) Community Development Program educates ethnic seniors about HACC services and supports the sustainability of seniors clubs.	DOH
Planned Activity Group provide centre based recreational activiites and meals for CALD clients for Turkish PAG, Indian/Sri Lankan (Brimbank & Point Cook PAG), German PAG, Bosnian PAG and Multicultural PAG.	DOH
Volunteer Coordination Program provides a friendly visiting program to visit elderly CALD clients to prevent social isolation.	DOH
Access & Support Program provides short term support to seniors to help them access culturally appropriate HACC services.	DOH
Disability Services	
Disability Advocate provides information, support and where necessary advocates on behalf of people with a disability, their carers and families.	DHS
Diversity n Disability is a self advocacy program that empowers people with a disability.	DHS
Community Projects	
Horn of Africa Parent Support Program provides parents from these communities who care for a child with a disability, valuable information and support through a range of activities, assisting them in their role as carers.	The Smith Family (CFC DSS)
KIND Harmony Project is a arts based community project with three primary schools in the Hume region.	Lentara Uniting Care (CFC DSS)
Road Safety Awareness Project	VicRoads
Connecting Carer's Project provides a series of workshops to enhance the wellbeing of carers/parents of people with disability from diverse CALD backgrounds.	St Albans Connect/ Brimbank City Council
Tax Help Program provides assistance for CALD communities in need of completing their taxation returns for the year.	ATO

PARNTERS & SUPPORTERS

- Department Of Social Services
- Department Of Health (HACC)—This Project Is Jointly Funded By The Australian And Victorian Governments.
- Victorian Department Of Human Services
- The Smith Family - Communities for Children (CFC) Brimbank program,
- Lentara, Uniting Care Communities for Children (CFC) Hume program
- Consumer Affairs Victoria
- City Of Melton
- Victorian Multicultural Commission
- VicRoads
- Victoria Police
- Westgate Roads Safety Group
- North West Mental Health Unit
- Diabetes Australia
- Cancer Council of Victoria
- Workskil
- Maribyrnong City Council
- Hume City Council
- Good Shepherd Youth And Family Services
- Brimbank City Council
- Moonee Valley City Council
- Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund
- Sacred Heart Primary School
- St Albans Connect
- City of Greater Geelong
- ANZ Trustees
- MyTime
- Interchange Western
- Break Thru (formerly Norwood Association)
- Australian Taxation Office
- DHS -Centrelink
- Federation Of Chinese Associations
- Horn Of Africa Senior Women's Program
- St John of God
- Scope Victoria
- ADEC
- Carers Victoria
- St Albans Connect
- Jackson School
- Furlong Park School for Deaf Children
- Down Syndrome Victoria
- My Time program
- YMCA Camp Manyung
- Interchange Western
- Kids Thrive
- St Dominics Primary School
- Holy Child Primary School
- Corpus Christi Primary School



STAFF LIST

Gulten Metin -
(Acting) Executive Officer

Administration

Mary Hatzioannou
Anh Nguyen
Chamila Fernando
Sue Armstrong
Vesna Bajic

Settlement

Aynur Canbolat - (Hume)
Ban Pitros - (Hume)
Betty Huang
Deng T Yong Deng
Nuray Canbolat (Maternity Leave)
Sevean Kakoz (Hume)
Yolande Jones

Aged & Disability

Arzu Kayhan
Atarjit Brar
Amal Sery
Brigitte Hass
Christian Astourian - Dnd
Illse Katethe Draper
Ismeta Huremovic
Ka Salyphod
Laura Reinwald - Dnd
Laurice Demian
Madeane Ghail
Nagla Anis
Regine Keys
Sevgi Vassilladis
Sophie Siegel
Stavroula Lagogiannis
Unal Mehmet
Zehra Mutluel
Zeinab Hussein

Community Projects

David Henry (Hume)
Suzi Juric
Zoe Smith

Students & Volunteers

Rallian Rengthlang
Lan Tu LUU
Debbie Poon
Laura Reinwald
Pam Mitchell

Turkish Groups

Aliye Hashim
Ayten Emin
Ayse Munir
Aysel Yusuf
Emine Orhan
Guler Talat
Hasan Kasim
Hayriye Sabri
Huriye Mehmet
Ilkay Suleyman
Latife Ahmet
Munufe Ali
Nilgun Akbelen
Pembe Sabri
Serpil Ari

German Groups

Brigitte Hass
Ilse Draper
Joe Caf
Mary Wright

Lao Elderly Support Group,

Bounna Luangphakdy
Khamphian Khammy
Manivone Prathamavong
Thep Sriboonmak

Tax Help

Anh Lieng
Duong Nguyen
Jocelyn Paras
Yen Nguyen

Farewell to

Anthony Abate (EO) to 21/2/14
Balsamona Odicho 14/08/13
George Paris 17/04/14
Hue Nguyen to 30/6/14
Jane Odgers 10/9/13
Luz Nelly Amezquita to 30/6/14
Pervin Orhan 19/8/13
Stephanie Lagos EO to 15/5/14

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Migrant Resource Centre North West Region Inc
ABN: 94 440 426 277

Financial Statements
for the year ended
For the year ended 30 June 2014

Chan & Naylor Moonee Ponds Operating Pty Ltd
ACN: 165 235 781 ABN: 96 327 208 780
Level 1, Suite 2, 38 Margaret Street
MOONEE PONDS VIC 3039
Ph: 9370 4800 Fax: 9370 4900
Email: infomp@chan-naylor.com.au



Caring for you, your family & business from generation to generation

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

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MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Committee's Report

For the year ended 30 June 2014

Your committee members submit the financial accounts of the MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION for the financial year ended 30 June 2014.

Committee Members

The names of committee members at the date of this report are:

Hakki Suleyman - Chairperson

Dan Wallace - Treasurer

Sydney Vas - Secretary

Alicia Matene - Assistant Treasurer

Imad Hirmiz - Assistant Secretary

Godefa G'her

Joe Caf

Cuc Lam

Bawi Lian Thang

Grace Elikana

Troy Atanasovski

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: the operations of a migrant resource and ethnic community welfare centre.

Significant Changes

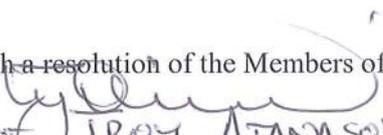
No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

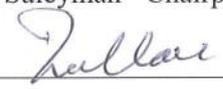
Operating Result

The surplus from ordinary activities amounted to

Year ended 30 June 2014	Year ended 30 June 2013
\$	\$
242,134	44,559

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on :


 VICE PRESIDENT TROY ATANASOVSKI
 Hakki Suleyman - Chairperson PER


 Dan Wallace - Treasurer

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Statement of Income & Expenditure

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
Revenues from ordinary activities	2	2,101,765	1,805,949
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	3	(21,292)	(23,983)
Other expenses from ordinary activities		(1,838,339)	(1,737,407)
Surplus from ordinary activities	2	242,134	44,559
Net surplus attributable to members of the association		242,134	44,559
Total changes in equity of the association		242,134	44,559
Opening retained surplus		1,025,031	980,472
Net surplus attributable to members of the association		242,134	44,559
Closing retained surplus		1,267,165	1,025,031

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION
ABN 94 440 426 277
Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2014

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
Current Assets			
Cash assets	4	1,976,921	1,871,390
Receivables		2,850	14,739
Other		300	300
Total Current Assets		1,980,071	1,886,429
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	5	92,295	61,270
Other		5,455	4,417
Total Non-Current Assets		97,750	65,687
Total Assets		2,077,821	1,952,116
Current Liabilities			
Payables	6	46,741	40,446
Current tax liabilities		40,231	48,711
Provisions	7	553,585	505,264
Other		-	192,564
Total Current Liabilities		640,557	786,985
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	7	170,000	140,000
Total Non-Current Liabilities		170,000	140,000
Total Liabilities		810,557	926,985
Net Assets		1,267,265	1,025,131
Equity			
Contributed equity		100	100
Retained surplus		1,267,165	1,025,031
Total Members' Funds		1,267,265	1,025,131

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
Cash Flow From Operating Activities		
Receipts from customers	2,018,279	1,747,577
Payments to Suppliers and employees	(1,985,812)	(1,476,903)
Interest received	73,064	52,095
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities (note 2)	<u>105,531</u>	<u>322,769</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	105,531	322,769
Cash at the beginning of the year	<u>1,871,390</u>	<u>1,548,621</u>
Cash at the end of the year (note 1)	<u><u>1,976,921</u></u>	<u><u>1,871,390</u></u>

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
Note 1. Reconciliation Of Cash		
For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.		
Cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:		
Cash At Bank	400,506	356,555
Term Deposits	1,557,766	1,496,886
Cash at Bank-Gift Fund	15,699	15,599
Petty Cash Imprest	2,950	2,350
	<u>1,976,921</u>	<u>1,871,390</u>

Note 2. Reconciliation Of Net Cash Provided By/Used In Operating Activities To Net Profit

Operating profit (loss) after tax	242,134	44,559
Depreciation	21,292	23,983
(Profit) / Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment	22,332	-
Changes in assets and liabilities net of effects of purchases and disposals of controlled entities:		
(Increase) decrease in trade and term debtors	11,889	(6,277)
(Increase) decrease in prepayments	-	(300)
Increase (decrease) in trade creditors and accruals	(261,957)	(87,648)
Increase (decrease) in other creditors	-	192,564
Increase (decrease) in employee entitlements	(61,679)	9,850
Increase (decrease) in sundry provisions	131,520	146,038
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>181,218</u>	<u>322,769</u>

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Notes to the Financial StatementsFor the year ended 30 June 2014

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act (Victoria).

The financial report covers MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION as an individual entity. MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION is an association incorporated in Victoria under the Association Incorporations Act 1984.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the economic entity in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

a) Property

Freehold land and buildings are measured on the fair value basis, being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction. It is a policy of MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION to have an independent valuation every three years, with annual appraisals being made by the committee.

As at 30 June 2014 the organisation did not hold Land & Property

b) Plant and equipment

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from those assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to present values in determining the recoverable amounts.

c) Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised leased assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a diminishing value basis based on pooled rates as determined by the Australian Tax Office pooling rates. Properties held for investment purposes are not subject to a depreciation charge. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Notes to the Financial Statements**For the year ended 30 June 2014**

Leases

Leases of fixed assets, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not legal ownership, are transferred to MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised recording an asset and a liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual value.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives where it is likely that ownership of the asset will be obtained or over the term of the lease. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Lease payments under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease incentives under operating leases are recognised as a liability. Lease payments received reduce the liability.

Employee entitlements

Provision is made for the liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at their nominal amount. Other employee entitlements payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash out flows to be made for those entitlements.

Contributions are made by MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

Cash

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in all call deposits with banks or financial institutions, investments in money market instruments maturing within less than two months, net of bank overdrafts.

Revenue

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

Change in Accounting Policy

There have been no changes in the accounting policies of the Association for the year.

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
Note 2: Revenue		
Operating Activities:		
General revenue	2,028,701	1,753,855
Interest revenue	73,064	52,095
	<u>2,101,765</u>	<u>1,805,949</u>
Note 3: Surplus from Ordinary Activities		
Surplus (deficit) from ordinary activities has been determined after:		
Charging as Expense:		
Amortisation of non-current assets:		
- Leased assets	(65,322)	7,557
Total amortisation expenses	<u>(65,322)</u>	<u>7,557</u>
Depreciation of non-current assets:		
- Other	21,292	23,983
Total depreciation expenses	<u>21,292</u>	<u>23,983</u>
Note 4: Cash assets		
Bank accounts:		
Cash At Bank	400,506	356,555
Term Deposits	1,557,766	1,496,886
Cash at Bank-Gift Fund	15,699	15,599
Petty Cash Imprest	2,950	2,350
	<u>1,976,921</u>	<u>1,871,390</u>

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
Note 5: Property, Plant and Equipment		
Leasehold improvements:		
- At cost	-	16,925
- Less: Accumulated depreciation	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>16,925</u>
Leased plant and equipment:		
- At cost	153,244	205,246
- Less: Accumulated amortisation	(123,187)	(188,509)
	<u>30,057</u>	<u>16,737</u>
Other plant and equipment:		
- At cost	3,600	12,046
- Less: Accumulated depreciation	(3,251)	(11,181)
	<u>349</u>	<u>865</u>
Motor vehicles:		
- At cost	147,253	103,399
- Less: Accumulated depreciation	(85,364)	(76,656)
	<u>61,890</u>	<u>26,743</u>
	<u>92,295</u>	<u>61,270</u>

Note 6: Payables

Unsecured:

- Trade creditors	46,741	40,446
	<u>46,741</u>	<u>40,446</u>
	<u>46,741</u>	<u>40,446</u>

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
Note 7: Provisions		
Current		
Employee entitlements*	308,585	370,264
Sundry provisions	245,000	135,000
	<u>553,585</u>	<u>505,264</u>
Non Current		
Sundry provisions	170,000	140,000
	<u>170,000</u>	<u>140,000</u>
* Aggregate employee entitlements liability	308,585	370,264

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Statement by Members of the Committee

For the year ended 30 June 2014

In the opinion of the Committee the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION as at 30 June 2014 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, mandatory professional reporting requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The Committee is responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the accounting records and the disclosure of all material and relevant information.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:


TROY ATANASOVSKI PER.
VICE PRESIDENT

Hakki Suleyman - Chairperson

President



Dan Wallace - Treasurer

Treasurer

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Independent Auditor Report

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION (the association), which comprises the Statement by Members of the Committee, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Changes In Equity, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes for the financial year ended 30 June 2014.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the , and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In Note 1, management also states in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 101: Presentation of Financial Statements, that the financial report complies with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Independent Auditor Report

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion:

- (i) The financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION as 30 June 2014, and of its performance and its cash flows for the year ended in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the;
- (ii) the financial report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in Note 1.

Signed on :

10/10/2014



Sandro L Bagnati, CPA FNTAA
Chan & Naylor Moonee Ponds Operating P/L
Level 1, Suite 2, 38 Margaret Street MOONEE PONDS

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Compilation Report to MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

We have compiled the accompanying general purpose financial statements of MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION, which comprise the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2014, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. These have been prepared in accordance with the financial reporting framework described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The Responsibility of the Committee of Management

The committee of management is solely responsible for the information contained in the general purpose financial statements and has determined that the financial reporting framework used is appropriate to meet the committee's needs and for the purpose that the financial statements were prepared.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of the information provided by the committee of management, we have compiled the accompanying general purpose financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting framework and APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information.

Our procedures use accounting expertise to collect, classify and summarise the financial information which the committee of management provided, in compiling the financial statements. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures. An audit has been performed and accordingly our assurance is subject to any auditor qualification.

To the extent permitted by law, we do not accept liability for any loss or damage which any person, other than the company, may suffer arising from any negligence on our part. No person should rely on the special purpose financial report without having an audit or review conducted.

The general purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the committee of management. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the general purpose financial statements.



Chan & Naylor Moonee Ponds Operating Pty Ltd
Level 1, Suite 2, 38 Margaret Street
MOONEE PONDS VIC.

11 September, 2014

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
Income			
DIAC Grants		892,574	807,112
DOH Grants		743,946	499,242
DHS Grants		184,160	173,553
Other Grants		193,665	260,454
Other Income		3,932	1,075
Recoveries		10,422	12,418
Interest received		73,064	52,095
Profit on sale of property, plant, equip		(22,332)	-
Total income		2,079,431	1,805,949
Expenses			
Accountancy		-	3,000
AGM Expenses		-	879
Audit fees		13,980	7,500
Communication Expenses		43,579	51,007
Community Activities		72,953	104,494
Depreciation Expenses		21,292	23,983
Equipment		17,050	5,375
Insurance		2,422	4,707
Legal & professional fees		12,735	46,125
Miscellaneous Expenses		972	431
M/V car - Other		17,324	16,292
Premises Expenses		173,870	133,349
Professional Resources		20,071	7,243
Staff amenities		9,797	7,420
Special Projects - Training Div Estab.		140,000	60,000
Payroll Costs		1,291,252	1,289,583
Total expenses		1,837,297	1,761,390
Surplus from ordinary activities	3	242,134	44,559
Net surplus attributable to the association		242,134	44,559
Total changes in equity of the association		242,134	44,559

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION

ABN 94 440 426 277

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
Opening retained surplus		1,025,031	980,472
Net surplus attributable to the association		<u>242,134</u>	<u>44,559</u>
Closing retained surplus		<u>1,267,165</u>	<u>1,025,031</u>



Incorporations No. A0021391E

St Albans Office

20 Victoria Crescent, ST ALBANS VIC 3021

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Ph: 9367 6044 Fax: 9367 4344

Hume Office

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Ph: 9351 1278 Fax: 9351 1210

Hobsons Bay Settlement Outreach

Laverton Community Hub

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Photos courtesy of MRC Staff, Students & Volunteers.

Edited by Gulden Metin & Mary Hatzis

Layout by Sue Armstrong