



Multicultural Communities Council of South Australia

MCCSA stands
for an equitable,
harmonious,
prosperous and
truly **multicultural**
South Australia

*Celebrating 20 years of service working with
and for CALD Communities in SA*

2014 / 2015 Annual Report

President's report



This year has been an incredibly busy year for Staff and Management, and one which has been extremely fulfilling for all. The organisation has undergone enormous transformations with the modernisation of our building and offices and with new additional programs commencing. The MCCSA has stepped up to the challenge of being a more relevant and responsive organization.

Last year we embarked on a Strategic Review. This was finalised and presented to the Management Committee in May of this year. We thank Dr Fiona Kerr for her work but most importantly on behalf of the Management Committee I thank all of the community representatives who generously gave their time and spoke with Dr Kerr providing her with valuable data and feedback on the role and work of the MCCSA. Also, thank you to all the Government Representatives and community agencies who contributed to the review. The Management Committee has commenced implementing the recommendations, and we will continue to update our members through Community Voices on the progress.

As an organisation we continue to support the most vulnerable within our communities assisting them to achieve full participation as Australian citizens. I am pleased that our most longstanding programs such as the Community Visitors Scheme, Reconnect, Carer Retreat and Transport programs continue to provide a valuable service to our members. These programs are for many individuals and communities a life line to support and to family and social connectedness. My sincere thanks to all those involved with these programs; not just to the staff, but to the long serving volunteers who are the backbone of these programs.

This year we have participated on many new collaborative initiatives on key issues such as Donate Life, Palliative Care, Mental Health, NDIS, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Economic Development, Commonwealth Home Support Program other Aged Care Reforms and Consumer Directed Care. We have also contributed to various networks and committees across South Australia and Australia, with some of our key inputs including;

SA Water Consumer Committee; Governor's Multicultural Awards; CALD Ageing Alliance; FECCA Healthy Ageing Reference Committee; Dignity in Care; Red Cross; Australian Refugee Association; Department of Health Safety and Quality group; Alzheimer's Australia, Dementia Friendly Working Group; Parkinson's Australia; Anti-Racism Roundtable and many more. As an organisation we are committed to working in partnership with our communities both locally, nationally and internationally and also with other stakeholders ensuring that our ethnic communities achieve full participation as Australian citizens.

It is wonderful to see communities and agencies; in particular those without their own premises, utilise our facilities. Our door is always open to our ethnic communities and we will continue to assist them. This year we hosted our first SALA Art Exhibition. The aim of SALA is to celebrate and promote the talents of South Australian Living Artists, this was a wonderful experience for us and our members and we look forward to next year's exhibition!

2015 is a milestone year for the MCCSA. This year we celebrate 20 years of service to multicultural communities. The Management Committee saw fit to recognise this occasion by commissioning historian Bernard O'Neill to undertake the research and prepare a report for us. The final piece of work will be placed on the website later next year, and more information will be available in our quarterly magazine Community Voices.

I thank both State and Federal Governments and other stakeholders for their ongoing commitment to our organisation, and most importantly I sincerely thank the communities for their continued support throughout this year.

My sincere thanks to all the Management Committee particularly the Executive, who have supported me this past year, also to all the staff, it has been a busy year, but one which has been rewarding at many levels.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Helena".

Helena Kyriazopoulos

Our programs

ORGANISATIONAL MANAGEMENT



33

CALD COMMUNITY MEMBERS
AND POTENTIAL LEADERS

**COMPLETED AN
ORGANISATIONAL
MANAGEMENT
TRAINING COURSE**

MCCSA collaborated with Arunga Project Solutions to deliver an organisational training program to New and Emerging Community Organisations.

Nine weekly sessions covered a range of topics such as strategic thinking and planning, risk analysis, governance, implementing plans and strategies, sourcing and securing funds, project management and event management. Participants that have completed the training will be moving on to the next stage in the New Year.



26

**VOLUNTEER
VISITORS**

COMMUNITY VISITOR SCHEME

At present MCCSA's program has a range of people from different countries and speaking different languages as volunteers including: Italian, Greek, Portuguese, Polish, Croatian, Serbian, Bosnian, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean, Spanish, Filipino, Arabic, Hindi, Sinhalese(Sri Lanka Language), Malaysian, Indonesian, Vietnamese, French, Nepali, Japanese, Thai, Kirundi, Swahili and Chichewa.

For people who rarely get visitors or a chance to speak their own language, the volunteers are treasured by the people that they visit. Knowing that they are valued life companions of these elderly people as they walk with them on their final journey has also improved the self-esteem of our volunteer visitors. MCCSA is very grateful to all volunteers who participate in this program, particularly to the long standing ones who have been with the program for over 10 years.

INFORMED AGEING



47 + **23**
SESSIONS WORKSHOPS

ON A RANGE OF INFORMED AGEING ISSUES

This year the program addressed ageing issues in the Vietnamese and Korean communities, with additional multicultural sessions for the Muslim community. A range of topics were covered, including State Government concession and payments, Commonwealth pensions and Federal Government payments, housing options, home support programs, advanced care directives, palliative care, wills and Enduring Power of Attorney, healthy lifestyles and heart health, elder rights, the Aged Rights Advocacy Service, and dementia. The feedback from these sessions was extremely positive, with lively question and answer sessions at many of the sessions. Overall 75% of respondents said that they knew more after the sessions and 61% said that they would like more information on a variety of topics touched during these meetings.

POSITIVE AGEING



**POSITIVE AGEING
SENIORS' ART, MUSIC
AND MOVEMENT
GROUPS FORMED**



2015 saw the start of an innovative Positive Ageing Art and Movement program. Buena Astid (Beautiful friendships) is funded by the Office for the Ageing. Five communities are participating in this program. A Spanish speaking group is participating in pottery classes to create a mural depicting their links to South America, Spain and Australia, an Indonesian seniors group is purchasing traditional Indonesian instruments to play music for their community and others, a Russian speaking art class is learning the art of collage and other art techniques, a Multicultural Muslim group is learning art and Arabic calligraphy and a Lebanese Maronite seniors exercise group is being formed.

CONSULTING - OUR DIRECTIONS FOR LIVING IN A CALD AGE FRIENDLY SA

Mid 2015 saw the commencement of an exciting consultancy project. Building on the work of the World Health Organisation work on Age Friendly Cities and Active Ageing and the work of Thinker in Residence Alexandre Kalache, MCCSA will consult with a broad range of South Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse communities. This project will assist in developing key messages and resources for the broader CALD community sector and raise awareness of principles for active ageing and age-friendly priorities for South Australia's diverse ageing population.

RECONNECT



INDIVIDUALLY SUPPORTED TO
STAY AT HOME
AND CONNECT BETTER
WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Our Reconnect program works with young CALD people and their families to prevent homelessness. We have three bilingual youth workers who provide individual case management to vulnerable clients. During the last period, we worked with young people from 15 different cultural backgrounds.

The reconnect program ran a range of group and community activities throughout the year, which include:

- 2 night youth camp
- Conducted ongoing outreach programs at 7 different schools
- Conducted a one day forum around future pathways
- Supported two basketball teams to participate in local competitions
- Initiated and maintained a Northern youth group
- Worked in partnership with local government to manage a youth week event for 800 young people during April.

CARER RETREAT



438
CALD CARERS BENEFITTED FROM ACTIVITIES

THAT ALLOWED THEM TO TEMPORARILY RETREAT FROM THE CONSTANT PRESSURE OF THEIR CARING ROLE.

This year we funded nineteen different carer retreat activities from eleven different community organisations. As always, we receive lovely feedback from carers that really enjoy these rare opportunities to take time out for themselves and enjoy a day or two of being surrounded by other carers with similar experiences to their own.

Just a few examples of where these well deserving carers were able to experience include Langhorne Creek, Monarto Zoo, Barossa Valley, Wallaroo, Loxton, Mt Gambier and Kangaroo Island.

MCCSA CHSP TRANSPORT



508
BOOKINGS



44,900
KMS TRAVELLED

ACCESSED BY
SA CALD
COMMUNITIES

40068
TIMES

This financial year, MCCSA has continued to deliver affordable transport services to South Australia's ageing Multicultural Communities, including people from new and emerging communities, and for people with disabilities. We endeavoured to promote well - being, integration and enablement for people who can't, or have difficulty, accessing other forms of transport.

Through our service, Community groups were able to take members for sightseeing, lunch or picnics to Hahndorf, Victor Harbour, Murray Bridge, Mitcham Reserve, Monarto Zoo and other destinations and to local social community clubs across Adelaide.

The MCCSA would also like to thank our volunteer drivers for their valuable contribution and we appreciate the positive feedback and suggestions from our Transport User Group (TUG).

Finances and Governance

REVENUE

- Grants **81%**
- Operating income **14%**
- Bank interest **1%**
- Hire fees & miscellaneous income **1%**



For full audited results provided by Randolph Alwis & Co Pty Ltd visit www.mccsa.org.au

EXPENDITURE

- Project expenditure **67%**
- Employee Remuneration **23%**
- Administration costs **5%**
- Building operating costs **4%**
- Depreciation **1%**



Our team

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE

HELENA KYRIAZOPOULOS

President / CEO

MIRIAM COCKING

1st Vice President

DR. IAN HARMSTORF OAM

2nd Vice President

MAHJABEEN AHMAD

Secretary

SILVIO IADAROLA

Treasurer

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cathy Chong

Daniela Costa

Jeff Fiebig

Joseph Masika OAM

Mary Patetsos

Margota Pukitis

Patricia Rios
(June 2014 - January 2015)

Gosia Skalban OAM

Petar Zdravkovski

STAFF

MARIA GIGOS JP

Office Manager

KRISTIN JOHANSSON

Manager Strategy and Projects

MEGAN HILL

Manager Programs

SIDIQUE BAH

Transport & Communication

SAVRY OUK

Cambodian Reconnect

HEE YOUNG LIM

Community Visitor Scheme

MEGS LAMB

Successful Communities

LJUBO ALYMPIC

Transport Support

New members 2014-2015

INDIVIDUAL

Emiko Mayer

Mariloy Reyes

COMMUNITY

The Society of St. Hilarion

German Speaking Welfare

Kapamilya Seniors Club

South Australian Benevolent Inc

Council for Women of Diverse Cultural Background

The Filipino Welfare Service

Arabic Language & Cultural Assoc.SA

The School for the German Language

Bund der Bayern Inc.

Oromo Community Association of SA Inc

Welcome to Australia



Multicultural Communities Council of South Australia

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