



Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Citizenship

A National Action Plan to Build on Social Cohesion, Harmony and Security

DIAC Community Projects 2006-07

Organisation: **Affinity Intercultural Foundation**
Project Name: **Home Encounters Network**
Suburb: **Auburn** State: **New South Wales**
Amount: **\$5,500**

Project Summary: The Home Encounters Network aims to expand an established network of people interested in continuing their interfaith experience through home meetings. The Network will develop innovative projects as well as activities for members to maintain and increase their interfaith dialogue. A website will be developed to administer membership and activities and deliver responses to issues arising from interfaith dialogue.

About the Organisation: Affinity Intercultural Foundation was established by a group of young Australian Muslims in early 2001 to meet the needs of Muslim communities to interact with the wider society and the needs of non-Muslims to increase their awareness of Muslim communities and their religion and culture.

Organisation: **Al-Nisa's Youth Group**
Project Name: **Building Positive Relations between the Muslim Community and the Queensland Police Service**
Suburb: **Sunnybank** State: **Queensland**
Amount: **\$32,000**

Project Summary: This project aims to enhance relations between senior women officers in the Queensland Police Service and Muslim communities. It will educate the Queensland Police Service, particularly senior women officers, about Islam and develop resources and strategies to incorporate information on Islam into areas of police training.

About the Organisation: Al Nisa's Youth Group was established to provide Muslim youth and in particular women, in Queensland with support and opportunities to build leadership capacity, advocacy skills, provide access to social, civic and sporting activities. The Group also promotes positive images of Islam and Muslim youth.

Organisation: **Canberra Islamic Centre**
Project Name: **Sawt: Voices of Women – The National Conference of Australian Muslim Women**
Suburb: **Monash** State: **ACT**
Amount: **\$18,000**

Project Summary: This project will facilitate the planning for the second annual National Conference of Australian Muslim Women. The Conference will bring together Muslim women from around Australia to promote their positive participation, representation and well-being both in their own communities and in the wider Australian society. Planning will include consultation with internal and external stakeholders, service providers and decision makers. A national database of Muslim women's organisations, service providers and individual mentors as well as web facilities to identify issues to be addressed at the forum will be developed.

About the Organisation: The Canberra Islamic Centre (CIC) aims to raise the profile of Muslims amongst Muslims in Canberra, promotes and celebrates the culturally and socially diverse identity of Canberra Muslims, maintains an educational centre and fosters co-operation and communication between different ethnic groups of Muslims through newsletters, social functions and festivals.

Organisation: **Canberra Muslim Community**
Project Name: **Youth Development Program**
Suburb: State: **ACT**
Amount: **\$43,000**

Project Summary: A series of activities to help Muslim youth in Canberra counter extremist media influence and increase their sense of belonging and identity with the wider Australian society, without forsaking their own culture and religion. The project will comprise of a series of activities in leadership and management skills, communication and conflict resolution and Islamic principles and understanding and its application to Australian society.

Organisation: **Forum on Australia's Islamic Relations (FAIR)**
Project Name: **Campus Conversations**
Suburb: **Strawberry Hills** State: **New South Wales**
Amount: **\$18,000**

Project Summary: This project will involve lectures in universities in New South Wales and Victoria for tertiary students and the general public. The lectures aim to break down misunderstanding and stereotypes generated by the media, and to make accessible "Australian Muslims". They will focus on current issues facing the community and promote critical understanding of Islam and Australian Muslims.

About the Organisation: FAIR is a community organisation made up of young Australians working to enhance the position of Muslims and to promote a positive image of the grassroots Islamic community in Australia through advocacy, public relations and by engaging the media.

Organisation: **Islamic Council of Victoria**
Project Name: **My Dress, My Image, My Choice**
Suburb: **Melbourne** State: **Victoria**
Amount: **\$49,000**

Project Summary: This interfaith community event is designed to bring together Muslim and non-Muslim women in a relaxed environment. It will initiate person-to-person contacts and friendships between women of different faiths and cultures and break down stereotypes of Muslims. The project aims to build capacity within local communities to conduct similar events and build interfaith bridges.

About the Organisation: The Islamic Council of Victoria (ICV) is the peak body for Muslim organisations in Victoria. The ICV represents Victoria's more than 90,000 Muslims through its 26 member organisations located throughout metropolitan Melbourne and rural Victoria. The ICV vision is to build a better community for all Australians through the empowerment of Muslims in Victoria.

Organisation: **Islamic Council of Victoria**
Project Name: **Young Australian Muslim of the Year Project and Award**
Suburb: **Melbourne** State: **Victoria**
Amount: **\$43,000**

Project Summary: The Young Australian Muslim of the Year Project and Award aims to recognise the efforts of young people in contributing to the Australian community. This project targets young Muslims aged 14 -19. The Young Australian Muslim of the Year project supports the development of positive role models for Muslim Youth and recognises and celebrates existing role models. This project will also highlight the importance of contributing to the Australian community through personal achievement and community service.

About the Organisation: The Islamic Council of Victoria (ICV) is the peak body for Muslim organisations in Victoria. The ICV represents Victoria's more than 90,000 Muslims through its 26 member organisations located throughout metropolitan Melbourne and rural Victoria. The ICV vision is to build a better community for all Australians through the empowerment of Muslims in Victoria.

Organisation: **Islamic Women's Welfare Council of Victoria**
Project Name: **Self-esteem, Identity, Leadership and Community (SILC) – for Women Workshops**
Suburb: **Northcote** State: **Victoria**
Amount: **\$66,000**

Project Summary: This project aims to increase participation by Muslim women in their own communities and the broader Australian community through workshops which provide information and training in leadership, study skills, parenting and family issues. Workshops will be run in Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia and New South Wales.

About the Organisation: The Islamic Women's Welfare Council of Victoria is a community welfare organisation established and managed by Muslim women for Muslim women. The Council was established in 1991, as a non-religious organisation reflecting the ethnic, cultural, linguistic and sectarian diversity of Muslim women living in the state of Victoria. It aims to facilitate Muslim women's full participation and integration into Australian society.

Organisation: **Muslim Women's National Network of Australia**
Project Name: **Did you Know? The Role, Position and Rights of Australian Muslim Women'**
Suburb: **Auburn** State: **New South Wales**
Amount: **\$21,000**

Project Summary: This project will develop a book to address misinterpretation and misapplication of Islam which affects the role, position and rights of Australian Muslim women. The project recognises the responsibility women have in the family structure and in the transfer of beliefs and practices to youth.

About the Organisation: The Muslim Women's National Network of Australia (MWNNA) is a peak body representing a network of Muslim women's organisations and individuals throughout Australia. The MWNNA is a multicultural Muslim women's organization that welcomes Muslim women of all ages, occupations and ethnicities.