



Australian Government

Department of Immigration and Citizenship

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

Community Projects 2007-08

Organisation: Australian Multicultural Foundation
Project Name: Leadership Australia – A New Generation
State: VIC
Amount: \$48,000

Project Summary: This project delivers a leadership and mentoring skills program to 16 young Muslim Australians drawn from each state and territory. The program commences with a two day intensive training programme held in Melbourne and then participants return home to work on individual projects with the support of a local mentor. These individual projects include public presentations and mentoring other local young Muslims. In addition, the project participants compile an internet based leadership and mentoring resource kit for broader community use.

About the Organisation: The Australian Multicultural Foundation was established in 1988 as part of Australia's Bicentennial Year. The Foundation aims to cultivate in all Australians a strong commitment to Australia as one people drawn from many cultures and by doing so advance social and economic well-being. It also promotes awareness of Australia's cultural diversity and the contribution of people from all cultures to Australia's development as well as encouraging understanding and respect between all cultural groups.

Organisation: Beyond Empathy
Project Name: Across My Bridge
State: NSW
Amount: \$48,000

Project Summary: This project conducts arts based workshops to engage at risk Muslim youth in the Canterbury, Auburn and Marrickville areas. These workshops are designed to build skills to enable the participants to engage with local support services such as schools, youth services and TAFE. Workshops include visual arts, dance, music, digital media, performance as well as leadership and writing skills development. Two camps help to further leadership development prior to participants delivering projects in their community and guiding future "apprentices".

About the Organisation: Beyond Empathy uses art based projects to build relationships between young people, support agency staff and the community. It connects young people with relevant support services so that they are able to participate in society and realise vocational and life goals.

Organisation: Forum on Australia's Islamic Relations
Project Name: Art-SLAM21
State: NSW
Amount: \$48,000

Project Summary: This project focuses on marginalised Muslim Australian youth aged 15-26 through a series of arts projects. The young people are equipped with skills in leadership, assertiveness, communication and decision making to build a stronger sense of identity and self-esteem, enabling them to cope with negative stereotypes and discrimination, and to become positive role models involved in the activities of the wider communities. The project includes: Stand up Islam (comedy workshops), Cursive Connections (Arabic calligraphy classes), the Green Roomi (celebrating the poetry of Rumi through workshops), the Art of Leadership (mentors, rappers, and performers come together with selected youth in two day leadership and mentoring workshops), Faith ways (eight inter-temple/church/mosque/art gallery walks) and Art-Slam (a major art event showcasing Muslim youth art to be held at the Museum for Contemporary Art).

About the Organisation: The Forum on Australia's Islamic Relations (FAIR) is a community organisation 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: Greater Shepparton City Council
Project Name: Word and Mouth NAP Programme
State: VIC
Amount: \$48,000

Project Summary: This project includes a leadership program, a camp, a discussion forum, production of a film, a fashion parade and a cultural display for young Muslim Australians and other young people in the Shepparton region from late 2007 to April 2008. The project develops leadership and mentoring skills and provides opportunities for exchange of ideas and positive interaction between Muslims and non-Muslims, including diverse community groups and leaders.

About the Organisation: The Greater Shepparton City Council's Word and Mouth programme is aimed more broadly at providing opportunities for young people to engage with each other, lead community conversations, develop their leadership skills and contribute to building friendly youth environments. Shepparton is a regional city in Victoria with a population of about 60,400 and is located 180km north of Melbourne.

Organisation: Horn of Africa Relief and Development Agency
Project Name: Mulgoa Getaway
State: NSW
Amount: \$18,500

Project Summary: This Sydney based project consists of a one week camp followed by community work linked with a volunteer organisation for 30 young African boys from different religious backgrounds aged 15-18. After the camp and community work, participants share their experiences in group discussions, and are supported and monitored by community workers to enhance their individual development. The aims of the project include developing leadership skills, as well as understanding and promotion of Australia values and cross cultural and interfaith issues.

About the Organisation: The Horn of Africa Relief and Development Agency is a not-for-profit volunteer organisation which assists families recently arrived in Australia from the Horn of Africa countries (Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea, D'Jabuti, Kenya and Uganda).

Organisation: Islamic Council of Victoria
Project Name: My Dress My Image My Choice
State: QLD
Amount: \$28,250

Project Summary: This project conducts two full day cross-cultural educational workshops for around 400 women in Brisbane in early 2008. These women-only workshops incorporate a fashion show, panel discussion, speakers and entertainment in a relaxed setting. The project aims to challenge prevailing stereotypes about Islam and women, and encourages one on one interaction between Muslim and non-Muslim women. In addition, intensive event management training workshops are delivered to local Brisbane stakeholders. In 2007 events were held in Adelaide and Sydney through National Action Plan funding.

About the Organisation: The Islamic Council of Victoria (ICV) is the peak body for Muslim organisations in Victoria. The ICV represents 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: Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory
Project Name: Back Out: Journey to the Heart
State: NT
Amount: \$45,000

Project Summary: This project involves two camps in the Northern Territory (one in Darwin and one in Alice Springs) for 32 disadvantaged boys from Muslim, Indigenous and other minority communities. The participants develop skills in leadership and mentoring, as well as gain self-confidence and life skills through the five day camps.

About the Organisation: The Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory is the peak body dedicated to advocacy and representing the interests, concerns and aspirations of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in the Northern Territory.

Organisation: Mission Of Hope
Project Name: The Muslim Youth Leadership Challenge
State: NSW
Amount: \$5,800

Project Summary: This Sydney based project consists of 3 components: a weekend camp, a community participation day, and a youth presentation and award day. The project involves approximately 60 young Muslim boys aged 14-17 from various cultural backgrounds. The project includes sessions on Australian values, history and culture, providing role models and youth motivational speakers, as well as outdoor activities linking with community volunteer organisations. The project aims to develop leadership and communication skills, encourage community involvement and integration, and build personal confidence.

About the Organisation: The Mission of Hope is a not-for-profit, community organisation with a focus on health and community development.

Organisation: Muslim Women's National Network of Australia
Project Name: "Did You Know" Project
State: NSW
Amount: \$29,000

Project Summary: This project funds the printing and national distribution, as well as on-line publication, of the "Did You Know" book. This book aims to address the misinterpretation and misapplication of Islam as it affects the role, position and rights of Muslim Australian women. The book is for wide distribution across Australia through schools, universities, public libraries, migrant resource centres, government departments and federal, state and local politicians.

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 of all ages throughout Australia.

Organisation: Multicultural Youth South Australia
Project Name: Multicultural Young Women's Leadership Program
State: SA
Amount: \$38,450

Project Summary: This project in South Australia targets young culturally and religiously diverse women aged 14-30 years, with a particular focus on Muslim communities. The project provides 15 workshops for a minimum of 100 young women, as well as individualised support in addressing issues affecting their lives to help develop goals and future pathway plans. The project also delivers a minimum of 4 media opportunities to promote positive images of young women from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds; as well as an event to further inform the wider community of issues affecting young women. The young women are required to act as role models in their respective communities.

About the Organisation: Multicultural Youth South Australia is the state advisory, advocacy and service delivery body for young people aged 12-30 from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Organisation: Northern Migrant Resource Centre
Project Name: Good Sports for Diversity
State: VIC
Amount: \$48,000

Project Summary: This project aims to increase social cohesion amongst Muslim and non-Muslim youth in northern metropolitan Melbourne by utilising youth interest in sport to increase knowledge, awareness and understanding of Muslim culture; to reduce negative stereotypes; to foster leadership skills and increase the involvement of Muslim youth in local sports and mainstream organisations.

About the Organisation: The key purpose of the Northern Migrant Resource Centre is to cater for the immediate and longer term needs of migrants and refugees so that these people can successfully integrate into their local Australian community and are able to reach their full potential.

Organisation: South West Metro Basketball Association
Project Name: Understanding and Inclusion through Sport
State: QLD
Amount: \$38,000

Project Summary: This project operates in south west Brisbane to help break down barriers among local young people from Muslim, African, Maori and Indigenous communities through participation in sport. The grass roots activities of “come and try sports” sessions, youth skills development sessions and a community youth cup are supported by a competition access program and a formal accreditation program. These sporting activities are run in a way that helps foster tolerance and respect between people of all cultural backgrounds, through education, skills development and the use of youth culture, including the provision of positive community role models.

About the Organisation: South West Metro Basketball Association (SWMBI) runs basketball competitions and develops programs and activities for people of all ages and backgrounds. In conjunction with local charities, schools and community organisations, SWMBI undertakes a variety of education and participation programs and organises formal club and regional competitions for juniors and seniors from the diverse South West region of Brisbane.