Good practice with young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds

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The MYAN

National peak body representing multicultural youth issues

Works in partnership with young people, government and non-government agencies at the state/territory and national levels

State/territory networks – MYAN QLD, MYAN NSW, MYAN WA, MYAN TAS, MYAN ACT
The MYAN

Promote the unique needs and issues facing young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds

Support a coherent and consistent approach to addressing these needs in policy and service delivery – policy and sector development

Support young people to develop leadership and advocacy skills – FUSE event, national Youth Advisory Group
Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY)

Victorian not-for-profit organisation

Supports young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds to build better lives in Australia

Works to ensure that young people have every opportunity to succeed

Specialist support services, training and consultancy, knowledge sharing and advocacy work
Young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds

25% of Australia’s young people (aged 12-24) are from a CALD background

20% of all migrants between 2008 and 2014

Approximately one-third of Humanitarian entrants between 2008 – 2014

Particular needs and circumstances - sub-group within the broader mainstream youth population and/or the multicultural population
National Youth Settlement Framework - rationale

Young people experience settlement in ways distinct from adults - age, developmental stage and position within the family

Often ‘fall through gaps’ - broader settlement or mainstream youth service system

Importance of a targeted approach - address needs & support sustained participation and engagement Australian society
National Youth Settlement Framework – key principles

Particular settlement needs of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds – adolescence, refugee/migration experience, settlement

Good settlement outcomes - targeted approach in service planning and delivery to ensure that barriers are overcome and needs are met

Good settlement outcomes for young people - responsibility of all services
National Youth Settlement Framework
– purpose & scope

Conceptual framework for those developing policy and services

Guidance on good practice – supported by practical resources

Inform policy/program development & service delivery across government and the non-government sectors

All areas of young people’s engagement with services to support their settlement in Australia
National Youth Settlement Framework
– good settlement outcomes

Active citizenship

Dimensions – Social, Economic, Civic Participation & Personal Well-Being

Set of indicators in each dimension

Good practice principles – service delivery level
National Youth Settlement Framework – good practice principles

Cultural competency
Youth centred and strengths-based
Youth development and participation
Trauma informed
Family-aware
Flexibility and responsiveness
Collaboration
Advocacy
Recognising strengths

Despite the immense challenges of the refugee & asylum seeking experience, young people settle in Australia with a range of resources and strengths. They have survived, adapted, been strong, resourceful, responsible, and resilient. They often have broad international knowledge, multilingual skills, an awareness of many cultures and communities and often a strong desire to achieve educationally and/or work.

Adapted from CMY
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