

Whittlesea CALD Women's Groups Grants 2013-14 – Grant Guidelines

Research tells us that the connections and empowerment women gain through group participation is vital to increasing women's confidence to seek and obtain support and enabling access to information about rights and services. Networks of support are especially significant in reducing the isolation experienced by women from migrant and refugee backgrounds (CALD¹ women) who for many reasons are often at greater risk of social isolation.

The Whittlesea CALD Communities Family Violence Project Steering Group (WCFV) have received funding from the Scanlon Foundation and the Victorian Women's Trust to support migrant and refugee women in the City of Whittlesea to either (a) join existing women's groups or (b) form new ones.

A small grants program offering up to \$4,000 is available to women's groups who currently support or wish to involve and engage CALD women in the City of Whittlesea. Grants can also be used to start new women's groups. *Local Government Authorities, community organisations, and community groups are all encouraged to apply.*

Through these grants we want to invest in supporting groups to promote and advance the engagement of women from CALD backgrounds living in the City of Whittlesea.

This is one element of a range of strategies the WCFV Steering Group is taking to reduce the impact of family violence on CALD women in the municipality.

What is the aim of Whittlesea CALD Women's Grants Program?

The Whittlesea CALD Women's Grant Program aims to provide "one-off" funding to support women's groups to:

- Increase connections with CALD women who for reasons of language, culture, visa status or recent resettlement may face isolation in our community.
- Generate opportunities to empower CALD women through increased knowledge about their rights and
- Build capacity of CALD women to support other CALD women to prevent family violence at both an individual and community level.

¹ Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD)

Objectives of the grants

Provide financial support for women's groups to:

1. Develop opportunities for groups to expand the participation rates of women from CALD backgrounds in their activities, thereby building the social connection and increasing inclusion of CALD women.
2. Develop opportunities for groups to extend their knowledge and understanding ***of family violence, women's legal rights and the services available to support them.***
3. Develop trust and co-operation between CALD women, the broader community and the service sector.
4. Increase the ability and confidence of individual women, groups and organisations to identify and address violence against women and children.

What will these grants fund?

- Funding is available for (a) existing women's groups or for (b) the establishment of new women's groups that seek to include CALD women.
- Applicants for funding must demonstrate that funds will be used for the benefit of City of Whittlesea residents from migrant and refugee backgrounds. This can include those who are from established as well as newly arrived communities.
- Community groups, agencies and Local Government Authorities are eligible to apply (applicants must be incorporated, have an ABN or have their application supported by a suitable auspice organisation that will be responsible for administering and acquitting the project funds.)

What these grants will not fund:

Funding **cannot** be provided:

- to individuals
- for the promotion of religious or political beliefs
- for activities that promote gambling or are held in gaming venues
- for activities already completed.

What funds can be used for

Grants can be used for:

- Venue costs
- Fees for trainers, speakers, artists or facilitators
- Child-care provision
- Group transport
- Resource materials, including promotional material
- Other reasonable costs by agreement.

Grant Conditions

All grant recipients are required to sign a deed of grant and

- Nominate two group members, who must be City of Whittlesea residents, to attend both a group leadership and a family violence workshop.
- Agree for their group to be provided with two information sessions on family violence and legal rights.
- Participate in one evaluation meeting to discuss the outcomes of the project.

How will funding decisions be made?

For an application to be successful it must be:

- meet the grant objectives as stated above
- primarily for the benefit of City of Whittlesea residents
- value for money – have a realistic budget and can show *how many* CALD women will benefit and *how* they will benefit.

How to apply:

An application form must be completed and signed by an authorised person and (if applicable) by an authorised person of the auspicing agency.

If you need any help or advice, please contact Abi on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays between 9.30am to 6pm on (03) 9217 2524, or at Thiyagerajah.Abarajitha@whittlesea.vic.gov.au to discuss your application or idea.

Submit your application by:

Email: Admin@Whittleseacommunityconnections.org.au

Fax: 9401 6677 (for attention of Jemal Ahmet)

Emailed applications should include a scanned PDF of the declaration page showing the signature of the authorised representative or, if this is not possible, the signed declaration should be posted within five days of the application.

Post: WCFV – Women’s Support Grants

C/o Whittlesea Community Connections

Shop 111 Epping Plaza

Epping, Vic 3076

Application forms can be downloaded from www.whittleseacommunityconnections.org.au or by telephoning Kim on 9401 6659