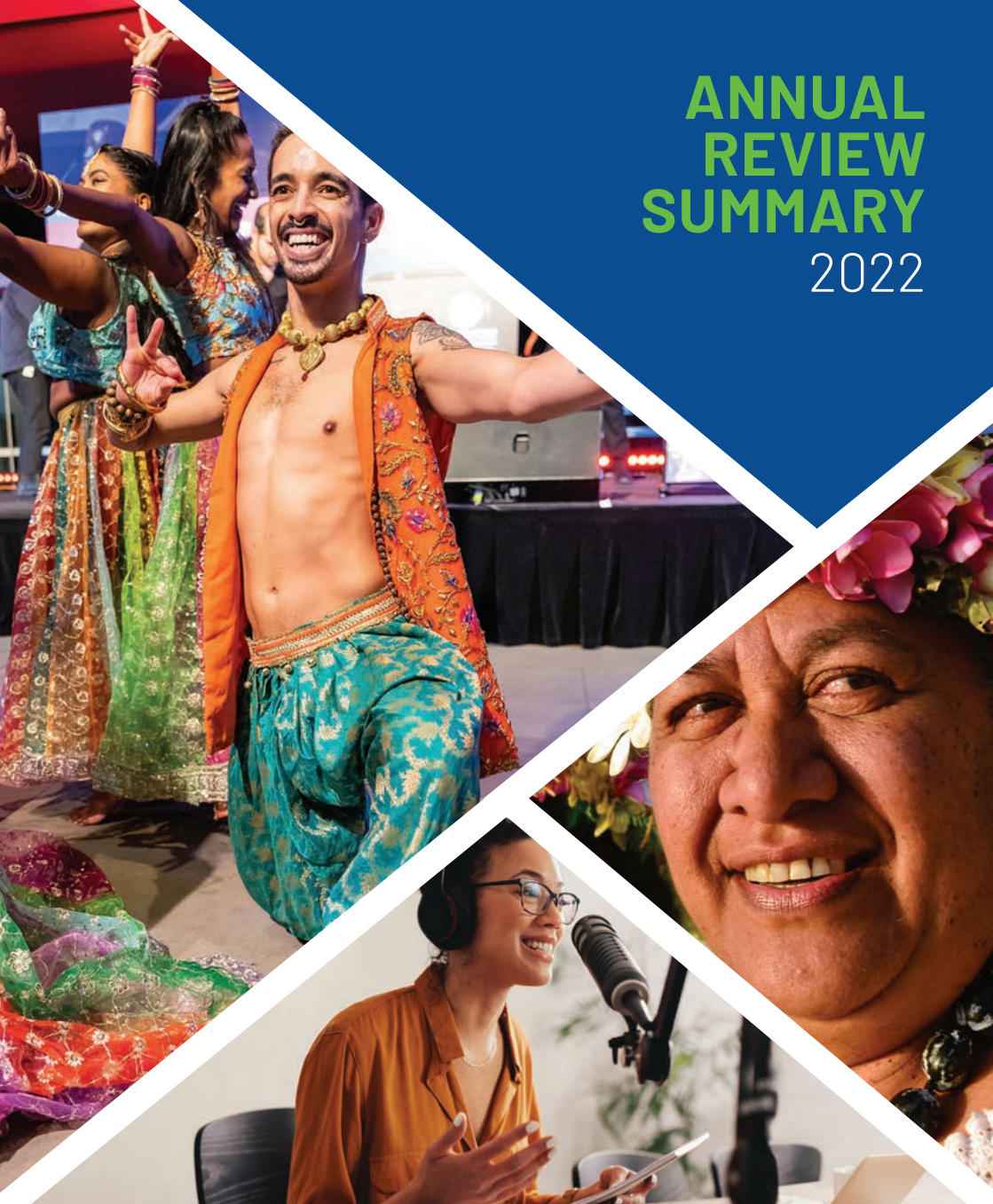




Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW
Representing All Communities

ANNUAL REVIEW SUMMARY

2022





Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW

Representing All Communities

221 Cope Street Waterloo NSW 2017
ABN: 66 291 586 945

- ▶ Tel: (02) 9319 0288
- ▶ Email: admin@eccnsw.org.au
- ▶ www.eccnsw.org.au

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Messages of Support



For more than 45 years, the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW has helped the many communities of our state share their own cultural heritage with others, and experience the rich cultural diversity of the people of NSW.

The past two years have been tough, but through an extraordinary community effort we have been able to protect our people against the worst effects of the virus through high vaccination rates and a range of other safety measures. As the peak multicultural body in NSW, your relationships with communities and ability to work with government and NGOs has been invaluable in that effort.

With your support, vital information about vaccinations, public health orders, and testing requirements was distributed in multiple languages; Rapid Antigen Tests were made available to vulnerable communities across Sydney; and more than 20 bilingual staff provided training in how to use RATs to a further 200 community members in a variety of languages – all of which helped to keep people in multicultural communities across NSW healthy and safe.

Beyond these efforts, your ongoing programs and projects in areas such as aged care, education, and domestic violence, are a shining example of a compassion and service to those most in need, strengthening the fabric of our entire state.

On behalf of the NSW Government I commend and thank you for your work in service of the people of NSW over the past 12 months, and I look forward to working with you as you continue your efforts in the year ahead.

Dominic Perrottet MP
Premier



I congratulate the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW (ECCNSW) on another successful year of achievement and valued service to the people of our State.

The ECCNSW has worked diligently to be an effective advocate for our multicultural communities and has continued to ensure each community member remains supported and informed.

Earlier this year, more than 20 ECCNSW bilingual and multicultural staff were trained to administer the more than 3,000 Rapid Antigen Tests provided by the NSW Government. In turn, the ECCNSW trained more than 200 community members of their correct use in a variety of languages.

I commend the ECCNSW for this great outcome and for working with the NSW Government to provide culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate assistance. Your work has provided the social inclusion and collaboration that we pride ourselves on in NSW.

The ECCNSW also delivered many successful programs and projects across various sectors including health, education, aged-care, environment sustainability, disability, and domestic and family violence.

The NSW Government is proud to work with the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW and I look forward to continuing such collaborative work with your organisation over the next year.

The Hon. Mark Coure MP
Minister for Multiculturalism
Minister for Seniors



On behalf of the NSW Labor Party, I congratulate the Ethnic Communities Council of NSW on another successful year.

New South Wales' ethnic communities enrich all our lives by sharing their

vibrant and diverse culture and traditions. Your advocacy on their behalf is to be commended.

The celebration of your 47th year is a testament to the advocacy of the Council in supporting multicultural communities and promoting cultural diversity.

The success of Australian multiculturalism owes much to the work of organisations like yours, and the work you do fighting for the betterment of the lives of culturally and linguistically diverse people.

I look forward to seeing the council continue to go from strength to strength.

Chris Minns MP
NSW Labor Leader



Joseph La Posta



Nick Kaldas APM

The Ethnic Community Council of NSW (ECCNSW) is a proud and long-standing partner of Multicultural NSW. Multicultural NSW recognises and supports the special role of the ECCNSW as our State's multicultural peak body representing a wide and diverse range of cultural community organisations across NSW. Our strategic partnership supports the ECCNSW membership through capacity building, effective representation, and systemic advocacy. Through this important work, the ECCNSW helps lay the foundation for community development and supports communities to address a wide range of issues through effective organisation and representation.

The last year has been challenging, with the COVID-19 pandemic having a major impact on our communities. Multicultural NSW values the leadership and collaboration of the Chair, Peter Doukas OAM, and the CEO, Mary Karras and the entire team of ECCNSW in your advocacy on behalf of community during this difficult time.

We are stronger together when we work in partnership with and for communities in NSW, and we look forward to strengthening our partnership into the future.

Joseph La Posta
Chief Executive Officer
Multicultural NSW

Nick Kaldas APM
Chair
Multicultural NSW
Advisory Board

Chair's Message



Peter Doukas OAM,
Chair

*Dear Friends of the
Ethnic Communities'
Council of NSW.*

I write this report after a tumultuous year both from the perspective of the organisation and from a global perspective. In this time, the entire fabric of our society has been

tested not only by the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath, but also by the reconstruction required as part of the post-COVID restructuring of both the economy and society in general.

Multiculturalism in Australia has had some serious challenges not only stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic but also from the impacts of international events on community harmony at home. The impact of the Ukraine conflict as well as of the growth in Anti-Semitic and Islamophobic behaviour, galvanises all of us for the role that our organisation has to play in moving into the future.

Separately, from an operational perspective I wish to congratulate the CEO, Ms Mary Karras and the ECCNSW staff, not only for the very successful projects that they have delivered this past year, but more importantly for their flexibility in transitioning from an internalised proactive working from home model to a more flexible hybrid work practice.

The organisation has successfully secured significant projects both on a national stage and in the domestic front, and I acknowledge work of the staff for their actions in enabling the organisation to remain a relevant NGO.

I would also like to commend the contributions of our Board of Management who as volunteers have graciously given

their time throughout the pandemic and its aftermath to this organisation. We did not miss one Board meeting from the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, through to today. It is their commitment and dedication that has steered the organisation during turbulent times, and I am humbled and grateful for their support.

On that basis I wish to thank each Board member, in particular the Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Youth Chair, and the members of the Members' Forum for their ongoing contribution to Australian multiculturalism through their various roles in the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW.

We are not without our challenges. There are dark times looming and the work of the Ethnic Communities Council of NSW has never been more important. This is not only in maintaining its role as a peak body representing multiculturalism in NSW, but also in ensuring that we stand in solidarity against the threats of further antisocial behaviour and anti-community sentiment... We are, as they say, 'one crisis away' from significantly damaging community cohesion on a national and on a local level.

I am confident that we can work together and harness the opportunities the new year brings, and I thank you, the members of the ECCNSW, for your steadfast support this past year.

I look forward to meeting many of you face to face in 2023, and I wish you all the best for the upcoming holiday period.

Yours in multiculturalism

**Peter Doukas OAM
Chair**

Chief Executive Officer's Message



Mary Karras, CEO

When we look back over these past few years we see the resilience and determination demonstrated by our multicultural communities during the darkest hours of the COVID pandemic.

Government and non-government support has enabled communities to move forward, and we are now living in a post pandemic world where a sense of hope and renewal for the future is beginning to permeate throughout our communities.

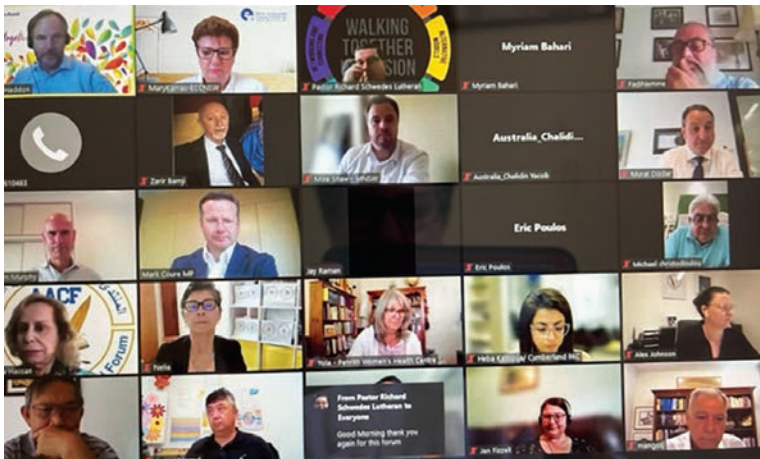
However, the international events including the war in Ukraine and the unsettled sentiment across the world, are threatening our stability and security, making it a challenge for our communities to rebuild and thrive.

The Ethnic Communities' Council has worked tirelessly over this past year, both virtually and face to face, to implement its core business of community development, education and advocacy.

This year's Annual Review book may look small in size, but as a summary of the year gone by, there is an abundance of information in it.

The dedicated ECCNSW Staff, including project coordinators, program officers and the invaluable bilingual /bicultural educators, have all delivered outstanding work throughout the year. Much of this work was aimed at strengthening the knowledge base and the capacity building of our communities to have equitable access to services and support.

Over this past year as a state-wide peak body, we have submitted to Parliamentary Inquiries into coercive control, embedded networks, homelessness, coronial jurisdiction and to the Disability Royal Commission.



On line community forum with Minister Course

We have engaged in high level roundtables to discuss key issues across sectors including women's safety, gambling, mental health and wellbeing, domestic and family violence and sexual assault, sustainable and renewable energy, aged care reforms and disability.

Consultations with government departments and weekly online Community Forums with the NSW Minister for Multiculturalism, the Hon. Mark Coure MP (and predecessor the Hon. Natalie Ward MLC) ensured an ongoing and streamlined level of support to address the impacts of COVID 19 across our communities.

As the CEO, I represent the organisation on various advisory boards and committees at both the state and national levels. This representation is vital in safeguarding that the multicultural voice is understood, and that a multicultural lens is present in all government strategies and policies.

The end of this year marks the conclusion of our 4 year Strategic Plan, and all our Annual Reviews books over these past four years are a testament of the achievements of the Board of Management, Members Forum, staff and volunteers.

Without the support of our members, stakeholders, partners and collaborators, these Reports would not be living documents.

I wish to acknowledge and thank the Chair, Mr Peter Doukas OAM, the Deputy Chair, Mrs Fiona Mouhtaridis and the entire ECCNSW Board of Management for their steadfast support and diligence during these difficult COVID years and the forces of change that they adapted to so readily.

I would also like to recognise and thank the staff who despite the hybrid approach to their work regime, maintained their diligence and focus. They are the backbone to our day-to-day operations, and I admire and respect their professionalism and commitment.

We look forward to working with our members and stakeholders on our post COVID planning during 2023 and for ECCNSW to remain an agile, relevant and representative NGO in the multicultural space.

Mary Karras
CEO

Our Purpose

The Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW is the only state wide peak body representing multicultural communities across New South Wales.

Our Vision

An inclusive Australian society that actively upholds the principles of multiculturalism.

Our Results

Our key areas are:

▶ ENGAGE AND EMPOWER

Engage, involve, and empower CALD communities to contribute to, and participate in, all aspects of public life.

▶ COLLABORATE AND PARTNER

Collaborate and form partnerships to generate collective action on issues of importance to CALD communities.

▶ LEAD AND REPRESENT

Take a leadership role as an advocate for multiculturalism and represent issues of importance to CALD communities to governments and businesses.

▶ STRENGTHEN AND BUILD CAPACITY

Strengthen our processes and build organisational capacity to achieve strategic objectives.



365

Community Organisations



47 years since we were **founded by multicultural communities** at a Town Hall rally



\$114,000 the **funding** we received for 2021-22 from the NSW Government through **Multicultural NSW**



85% **ethnic community** organisations
18% other **non-profit** organisations
9% **multicultural** service providers



12 **staff** engaged in advocacy, policy and sector **development**
1 specialising in **energy reduction** and **climate change**
6 generalists working on **state-wide issues**
2 specialising in **community care**
5 specialising in capacity building in **ageing** and in **disability**
4 engaged in **media** and **communications**

67

Community Representatives



31 **ethnicities**



81% **born overseas**



24 **language groups** that speak all of the most **commonly spoken** languages in NSW



10% **refugees**



10 **belief systems**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



EDUCATION



ADVOCACY



Bin Trim Program

Bin Trim Round 4 Program is funded through the NSW EPA (NSW Environment Protection Authority) and aims to provide free help to NSW businesses to maximise recycling and minimise waste sent to landfill. Businesses can save time and money, while caring for the environment.

A total number of 160 hard to reach ethnic businesses that speak Chinese, Arabic, Vietnamese, Korean, Indian, and Thai were recruited to be part of the Bin Trim 4 Program with the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW (ECC NSW).

It is expected that a total of 670 tonnes will be diverted from landfill per annum from the 160 participating businesses.



Arabic speaking Bin Trim assessor working with small businesses

Community Litter – Sydney Olympic Park

Close to 10 million people visit the Sydney Olympic Park each year from all over Sydney and beyond and littering by a small fraction of people can add up to a lot of rubbish. This is bad news for the Park's wildlife as they may die from eating litter or becoming entangled in it.

Community Litter Grants Round 5 was funded to the ECCNSW by NSW EPA (NSW Environment Protection Authority) in partnership with the Sydney Olympic Park Authority (SOPA) to address the issue and to raise awareness and to educate action on reducing litter in the Park.

Through community engagements and education in language, the development of durable and interactive signage around the Park and the development of informative website, ECC NSW was able to change behaviours that resulted in the Park becoming less littered by 30% reduction in the total volume of litter.



Sydney Olympic Park - Community Litter Program

Community Building – Community Garden

Community Building Partnership Grant is funded by the Department of Communities and Justice which will build a community garden at the Vietnamese Buddhist Youth Association of NSW. The community garden will play a significant role in creating a peaceful environment for the members while they are on-site meditating, chanting, and practising Buddhism. This will also help to enhance members’ mental health.

It is pivotal for the Association to continue to hold community events each year to help to preserve the Vietnamese culture, language, and to provide the younger generations with significant insights into the Vietnamese traditions and culture.

A beautiful garden and a peaceful environment will attract more people in the community to come and participate in these meaningful events and activities.

It will also increase family bonding, social relationship and connection, and networking.

Household Chemicals Problem Waste

ECCNSW has been funded by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to deliver Household Chemicals Problem Waste for the CALD communities across Sydney metropolitan area.

Through the ECCNSW bilingual and bicultural staff the Household Chemicals project directly assisted community members from various ethnic groups speaking Arabic ,Assyrian, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Korean, Hindi, Tamil, Bengali, Punjabi, Nepalese, Spanish, and Greek.



Household chemical waste

The project engaged CALD communities through various channels to ensure the messaging of safe disposal of chemical waste and the use of community recycling centres reached the broader multicultural communities.

In this round, ECCNSW facilitated over 25 face to face workshops, and collaborated with 23 ethnic media including radio, and social media, websites, and apps such as WeChat and ran two stalls at two large community events.

In addition, various local Councils across Sydney hosted 26 Workshops reaching 255 members of their local CALD communities

These workshops targeted the key objectives of raising awareness when safely disposing chemicals; increasing knowledge of environmental impacts of chemicals in landfill; and effective utilisation of cleanout services and community recycling centres.

The notable strength of the project was being able to connect with participants in their own language who otherwise would have missed out on the information due to language barriers.

Community Engagement – Focus Groups

COVID Sentiment

ECCNSW facilitated in-language focus groups with CALD community members from Western and South-Western Sydney on the impacts of the NSW Government's response to COVID-19.

The feedback was to:

- ▶ Identify what support people feel they need, in particular as restrictions ease;
- ▶ Explore views on vaccine and booster shots;
- ▶ Examine whether participants feel they have all of the information that they need and whether there are knowledge gaps and/or gaps in understanding information (i.e. restrictions or vaccines);
- ▶ Seek recommendations on how communications could be improved; and
- ▶ Assess the level of confidence people have in "returning to normal".



Covid sentiment – Greek group



Conducting COVID-19 surveys

We acknowledge funding was provided by Multicultural NSW and this enabled grass roots feedback from the community.

AER (Australian Energy Regulator)

ECC NSW has collaborated with the AER (Australian Energy Regulator) for a Better Bills Guideline Behavioural and Consumer Research by delivering in language focus groups for NSW electricity and gas consumers that speak a language other than English at home, who do not have a good grasp of English and who struggle to understand their energy bill.

Findings from the focus group were used to assist developing and implementing a Billing Guideline in accordance with the new section 25A of the National Energy Retail Rules.

Ausgrid

Part of Ausgrid's community engagement plan is to engage CALD audience across the Ausgrid network area.

ECC NSW has delivered in language focus groups to provide a clear understanding of the CALD representation across the Ausgrid network area, propose key stakeholder influencers and guide priority activation campaigns based on public safety incident data.

We wish to thank Ausgrid for their generous donation of 100 refurbished iPads. These are being used to build the digital skills of South Sudanese women, and several vulnerable members in our CALD communities, who have no access to digital devices.



Focus groups

Endeavour Energy

Engagement and Research 2024-2029 Revenue Reset

ECCNSW engaged with communities through in-language focus group to find out CALD network users' awareness, value and priorities of the services Endeavour Energy currently provides and participant views of affordability, reliability and safety.

Sydney Water

ECCNSW bilingual educators, in collaboration with Sydney Water, delivered community information sessions on the proposed Upper South Creek Advanced Water Recycling Centre.

Sydney Water will be displaying the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for formal feedback from the wider community including CALD community on the proposed design to minimise impacts.

Department of Education

The NSW Department of Education had conducted a review of selective schools' education, and findings from this review indicated that there were some cultural groups that are under-represented in opportunity classes and selective high schools.

ECCNSW was approached to facilitate four parent focus groups in Arabic, Assyrian, Turkish and Dinka language, and to write a report that provides a snapshot of their responses.

ECCNSW's Report to the Department was well received. The level of openness and trust during these focus groups was appreciated and acknowledged.

The Department recognizes that high potential and gifted students come from all walks of life, and that sometimes high potential can be masked or hidden. The insights gained from the ECCNSW Report will assist



Parents and carers participating in an on line focus group – Mandarin session

the Department to meet the needs of high potential children from CALD communities.

ECCNSW also delivered in-language focus groups for parents and carers who have children in NSW public education to understand what parents know about consent education, and what sorts of resources parents would like to help them to speak

about consent with their children and young people at home.

The NSW Department of Education is committed to enhancing student and parent experience, and have invited the ECCNSW to be involved with the Student and Parent Experience External Stakeholder Advisory Group.

Energy Advocacy

ECCNSW work in energy advocacy over more than a decade has now seen CALD in-language engagement start to become a 'business as usual' undertaking for energy businesses. In NSW the consumer and stakeholder consultations for the 'poles and wires' businesses (the distribution networks) that happen every five years for their revenue allocation have been in earnest, with ECCNSW bilingual facilitators undertaking ground

breaking work in the first deep in-language engagement for both Ausgrid and Endeavour. The facilitators have also provided essential advice, guidance and in-language support to the Australian Energy Regulator in their research efforts to establish a better format for energy bills.

Rapid Antigen Tests & CALD Communities

Free Rapid Antigen Tests to vulnerable people in the community from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Through the efforts of the NSW Minister for Multiculturalism the Hon Mark Coure MP, Multicultural NSW was able to provide ECCNSW with a supply of free Rapid Antigen Tests to disseminate to CALD communities

This program aimed to make the Rapid Antigen Test available to vulnerable CALD communities who might not have access to a PCR testing clinic.

The ECCNSW bilingual team was trained on how to administer the Rapid Antigen Test correctly, prior to going into the communities

and demonstrating how to use and make the test accessible for the vulnerable members in their communities.

During this time 3000 RATs were distributed to the CALD communities through existing ECCNSW programs, networks, and member organisations. Areas covered included: the City of Blacktown, Penrith, Liverpool, Cabramatta, Fairfield, Parramatta, Cumberland, City of Canterbury – Bankstown, Inner West, City of Ryde, Canada Bay, Municipality of Strathfield, Ashfield and Hornsby.

There were 65 Community Training sessions on how to administer the test correctly in the following languages:

Arabic, Assyrian, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Korean, Hindi, Tamil, Nepalese, Turkish, Spanish, Greek, Italian and Dinka across the Sydney metropolitan area.



Launch of RAT Program with Minister Coure

Speak My Language (Disability) Program

Speak My Language (Disability) Program – culturally diverse communities talking about living well with a disability

The Speak My Language (Disability) Program is a nationally funded project by the Commonwealth Department of Social Services.

The program is being led by ECCNSW and is proudly delivered via an historic partnership between all State and Territory Ethnic and Multicultural Communities' Councils across Australia.

This ambitious program is considered ECCNSW's flagship. It has produced hundreds of interviews in over 20 languages other than English, where stories are shared about living well with a disability.

Our engaging interviews deliver personal stories, opinions, and advice of 150 culturally and linguistically diverse people with disabilities.

The ECCNSW acknowledges that more than 500 guest speakers were engaged in this program and thanks them for sharing information about mainstream services, venues and activities that embrace diversity and disability inclusion.

The learnings and the material produced will continue to positively impact the sector beyond the completion of this project.



Stories shared about living well with disabilities

Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)

Inner West Sector Support Development and Training

The Inner West Sector Support Development and Training Officer has continued to work closely with the Inner West Commonwealth Home Support Program service providers and the broader aged care system to support the sector transitioning towards the new Support at Home Aged Care system.

The Inner West Sector Support Development and Training Officer has been working with 45 CHSP funded organizations across the Inner West region.

In collaboration with various other regional Sector Support Development Officers and experts, the Inner West SSDO&T has facilitated 30 specialised training sessions with 585 attendees, developed online resources, and engaged with Senior Management and Boards to further assist the sector with the implementation of these new aged care reform.



Accessing the aged care system



Promoting the aged care system

NSW State Wide Multicultural Access Program (MAP)

NSW State-Wide Multicultural Access Program (MAP) auspiced by the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW has continued its delivery this year that involved various activities across the state, with a focus on culturally responsive care and aged care reforms.

Officers who deliver on the eleven MAP Programs, and the leadership provided by the ECCNSW State-wide MAP Officer has resulted in several collaborative projects, shared resources, skills, training and development and a spirit of collaboration and unity across the NSW MAP Network.

Tech Savvy Program for CALD Seniors

ECCNSW delivers the Tech Savvy CALD Seniors program in partnership with the State Library of NSW, the NSW Communities and Justice and Telstra.

The program is aimed at building the skills set of CALD seniors on how to use computer and equip them with the digital knowledge needed for daily tasks.

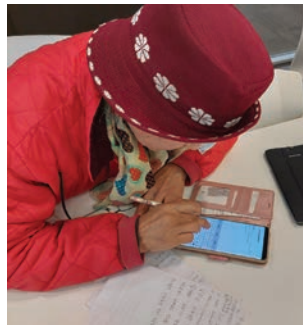
The program is facilitated by the ECCNSW's bilingual educators in local libraries across Sydney and delivered in Arabic, Assyrian, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Korean, Hindi, Tamil, Nepalese, Bengali, Italian, Spanish, Greek, and English.

Due to COVID concerns, this program was facilitated both face to face and online in languages and in a culturally appropriate manner. This year there were 259 sessions, with the majority delivered face to face, across 34 libraries reaching 1500 seniors.

By attending the Tech Savvy Program, the CALD seniors not only improve their digital skills but also their mental well-being, through the social interaction this program offers.



Tech Savvy Seniors - Mandarin session, Riverwood



Korean Tech Savvy Seniors,
Chatswood Library

ECCNSW is very proud to deliver this program in language to seniors as it is well understood that knowledge of Apps and social media can help to prevent loneliness, whilst the internet can help make it easier to shop, to manage paying the bills and maintain communication with family across Australia and abroad.

Be Connected Program

Be Connected Program is funded by the Good Things Foundation through eSafety Commission which aims to train CALD community organisation and group coordinators, leaders, workers, and volunteers to become a Be Connected Digital Mentor so that they can assist their community members who are over 50 with digital illiteracy and language barriers.

ECC NSW's bilingual educators have trained 60+ CALD community works to become digital mentors who speak Mandarin, Hindi, Thai, Vietnamese and Korean by the end of 2022.

This project helps to support the wellbeing of older CALD Australians by ensuring they meet their basic needs and stay socially connected.

Men Against Violence (MAV) Project

ECCNSW was successfully funded by the Department of Social Services (DSS) to implement the Men Against Violence (MAV) Project.

The MAV project works with men from Arabic, Assyrian, Dinka, Sudanese, Tamil and Punjabi backgrounds in Auburn, Bankstown, Blacktown, Fairfield, Parramatta, and Liverpool LGAs.

This project applies the model of a Wellbeing Connector to engage in meaningful conversations with men at informal gatherings about domestic and family violence. These conversations empower men to become the pipeline for change as they challenge current perception towards domestic and family violence in their own culture.

By building the capacity and resilience from one's own community, the ECCNSW's Wellbeing Connectors undertook to deliver 344 sessions at local coffee shops, parks and places of worship.



Above and below: The MAV Wellbeing Connectors undertake training with Police

Over 1774 men from CALD backgrounds participated in these conversations, and each of these pledged their support to eradicate domestic and family violence by speaking to another five men in their communities.



Vote Talk Program

The Vote Talk Program was funded by the Australian Election Commission with an aim to assist CALD Australians to better understand the voting process, so they can actively participate and make informed decisions during the Federal elections held on March 2022 across Australia.

Delivering this program amidst a pandemic was a huge challenge but the ECCNSW's experienced bilingual facilitators quickly adapted to the remote community engagement strategies.

As a result, the Vote Talk team was able to successfully record podcasts via the Zoom platform and meet its deliverables. The program successfully delivered podcasts and radio interviews in 8 languages namely Arabic, Gujarati, Nepalese, Mandarin, Spanish, Tamil, Vietnamese, and Urdu.

Early this year the AEC approached the ECCNSW to assist them with embarking on a large CALD recruitment campaign. The Australian Election Commission wanted



Understanding the voting process

to broaden its reach by recruiting people from CALD communities to work during elections so that CALD communities had access to assistance on election day.

The ECCNSW is very proud of the Vote Talk Program as it informs and empowers CALD communities to enact their right to vote, in Australian government elections, a privilege not necessarily afforded to people in other parts of the world.



Recruiting CALD workers on Election Day

Media and Communications – website and social media

ECCNSW has been consistently updating and promoting its social media platforms and website upgrade.

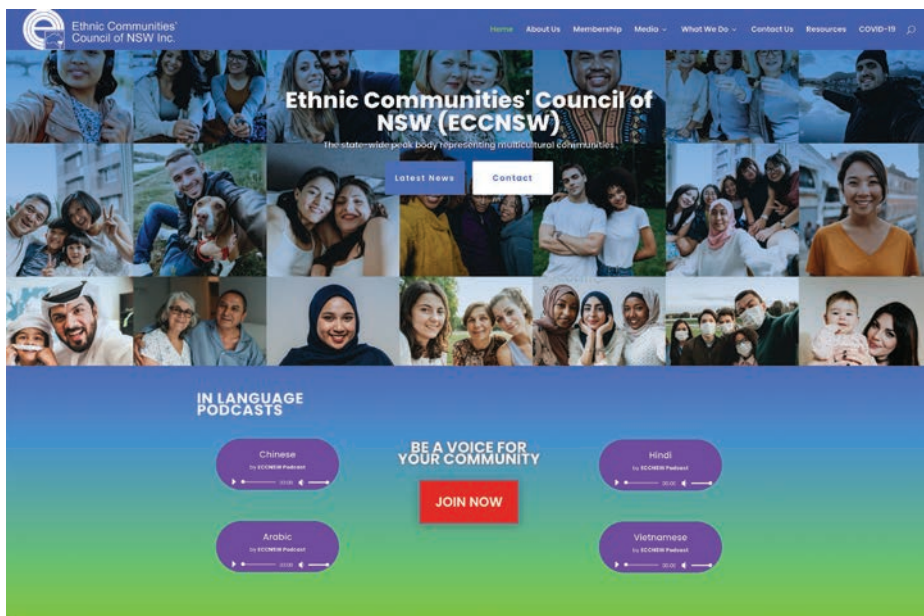
The ECCNSW website has continued to improve this year with enhanced mobile optimisation, updated resources, and the addition of four in-language podcasts now available in Chinese, Arabic, Hindi, and Vietnamese. These updates have allowed us to connect and share information with new members and growing cultural groups.

The dedicated COVID-19 webpage has proven to be an invaluable messaging tool for CALD communities with important information in language, about the vaccination roadmap and

the boosters program. Guidelines and fact sheets in different languages about being COVID safe during the winter months and how to manage the infection at home were continuously being updated.

ECCNSW used its digital reach to promote the roll out of the NSW Government's release of free RATs to vulnerable communities in which ECCNSW, along with the Multicultural Councils in the Hunter, the Illawarra and Wagga Wagga, were the first multicultural organisations to deliver the free RATs across the state.

The FECCA 2022 Conference, was the first opportunity to come together face-to-face after an enormously challenging period, and the ECCNSW Media and Communications team focused on promoting the event pre and post.



The new look ECCNSW website

Abridged Accounts

The abridged income statement and balance sheet for the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW Inc (ABN: 66 291 586 945) for the year ended 30 June 2022 have been prepared from the audited financial statement approved by the Management Committee, who are responsible for these financial statements as well as the information they contain. The unabridged accounts and audit report by Meagher Howard & Wright may be obtained from the Council.



Mr. Emanuel Valageorgiou, Treasurer

Income Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	FY 2022 \$	FY 2021 \$
INCOME		
Grants	2,500,989	2,425,763
Interest Received	9,708	9,838
Membership Fees	7,925	6,378
Rent Income	106,507	103,026
Unexpended Funds Rollover	(25,339)	(128,692)
Sundry Income & Service Fees	271,866	138,992
TOTAL INCOME	2,871,655	2,555,304
EXPENDITURE		
Administration	331,224	170,197
Audit Fees	3,800	3,700
Bank Charges	1,093	765
Building Expense	63,536	60,101
Computer, Support & Software	56,575	62,731
Insurance 13,929 10,090		
Media & Web Design	24,797	41,227
Employees & Contractors Expenses	2,443,532	2,135,598
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,938,486	2,484,408
Surplus (Deficit) before income tax	(66,831)	70,896
Surplus (Deficit) after income tax	(66,831)	70,896
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	1,368,950	1,298,054
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	1,302,119	1,368,950

Balance Sheet 30 June 2022

	FY 2022 \$	FY 2021 \$
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,712,341	2,394,817
Trade and Other Receivables	31,624	102,246
Prepayments	-	15,083
Total CURRENT ASSETS	2,743,965	2,512,146
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plants and equipment	2,300,000	2,300,000
Total NON-CURRENT ASSETS	2,300,000	2,300,000
TOTAL ASSETS	5,043,965	4,812,146
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and Other Payables	405,368	110,763
Provision for Employees	180,892	174,257
Unexpended Funds Rollover next year	1,343,516	1,318,177
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	1,929,776	1,603,197
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Building/Vehicle Improvement Reserve	22,070	50,000
Total NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	22,070	50,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,951,846	1,653,197
NET ASSETS	3,092,119	3,158,950
EQUITY		
Retained Earnings	1,302,119	1,368,950
Reserves	1,790,000	1,790,000
TOTAL EQUITY	3,092,119	3,158,950

Members' Forum 2021-2022

Abbas Alvi
Ada Cheng
Amir Salem OAM
Arbin Lal
Christine Lynch OAM
Con Pavlou
Emanuel Valageorgiou
Fiona Mouhtaris
Fotini Loukis
George Bouteris
Georgia Anastosopoulos
Glen Falkenstein
Indarjit Khuman
Irene Passaris
Jack Passaris OAM
Joshua Moses

Maria Georgiou
Maria Lillis
Maria Markos
Mary Karras
Patrice Laskas
Patty Markos
Paul Tsanis
Peter Doukas OAM
Peter Onisforou
Sajana Nand
Sam Pashalis
Siddique Panwala
Steve Mouhtaris
Suellyn Lin
Vasiliki Laskas

Life Membership Bestowed

George Wojak AO, MBE
Eddie Raiss
Ross Tzannes AM
Angela Chan
Jack Passaris OAM
Ian Lacey AM
Josie Lacey OAM
George Varughese
Anthony Pun OAM
Indarjit Khuman
Jon Soemarjono
Mahrukh Batliwalla

Board of Management

The ECCNSW Board of Management is a subset of the Members' Forum and includes all office bearers. The Board of Management's responsibility is to over-see the governance of the association in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and the ECCNSW Constitution on behalf of its members.

Some of the key activities of the Board include:

- ▶ Ensuring a strategic plan is developed to secure a sustainable future that enacts the objects of the ECCNSW Constitution
- ▶ Monitoring progress against the strategic plan
- ▶ Managing finances and resourcing the strategic plan
- ▶ Meeting all legal requirements
- ▶ Ensuring the organisation has policies and procedures in place
- ▶ Managing risk

Board of Management



Peter Doukas OAM
Chair



Fiona Mouhtaris
Deputy Chair



Emanuel Valageorgiou
Treasurer



Glen Falkenstein
Secretary



Joshua Moses
Youth Chair



George Bouteris
Board Member



Christine Lynch OAM
Assistant Secretary



Sam Pashalis
Assistant Secretary



Abbas Alvi
Board Member



Jack Passaris OAM
Board Member &
Founding Life Member



Ada Cheng
Board Member



Suellyn Lin
Board Member



Indarjit Khuman
Board Member &
Life Member



Siddique Panwala
Board Member



Amir Salem OAM
Board Member

Staff List

Mary Karras

Chief Executive Officer

Christine Ahn

Project Co ordinator

Marina Antonas

*Inner West Sector Support Development
and Training Co ordinator*

Jude Borromeo

*Speak My Language (Disability)
Training and Communications Officer*

Jenny Bray

*Speak My Language (Disability)
National Program Manager*

Teresa de Leon

*Speak My Language (Disability)
NSW/ACT Project Co ordinator*

Louise Easson

Media and Communications Officer

Terrie Leoleos

Project Manager, MAP Officer

Karen Li

Administration Officer

Esther Lozano

Digital Communications

Iain Maitland

Energy Advocate

Mariette Mikhael

Project Co ordinator

Fadi Nemme

*Men Against Violence (MAV) Project
Co ordinator*

Vanessa Papastavros

*Communications and Engagement Officer
Speak My Language (Disability)*

Natalie Phan

*Inner West Sector Support Development
and Training Support Officer*

Patricia Vaz

Vote Talk Program Officer

Patrick Wang

Financial Officer



Mary Karras



Christine Ahn



Marina Antonas



Jude Borromeo



Jenny Bray



Teresa de Leon



Louise Easson



Terrie Leoleos



Karen Li



Esther Lozano



Iain Maitland



Mariette Mikhael



Fadi Nemme



Vanessa Papastavros



Natalie Phan



Patricia Vaz



Patrick Wang

Bilingual Educators

Arabic

Anwar Yousif
Rageed Tater
George Georgees
Yasmin Ibrahim Mohamed
Munzer Emad

Cantonese/ Mandarin

Haiyan Li
Natalie Chau

Dinka/ Sudanese Arabic

Emmanuel Kondok
Mayuen Arop
Elnayal Abdelrahim

Greek

Antonios Ampatzis

Gujarati

Daksha Prasad

Hindi

Patricia Vaz

Italian

Francesca Cutrupi

Korean

John Kim
Insang Yu

Mandarin

Ye Lu
Jing Grace Lu
Wenying Han

Nepalese

Rishi Acharya

Punjabi

Arvind P Issar
Ashok Kumar

Spanish

Jimena Escobar

Tamil

Mani Ramasamy
Alex Balasanthiran
Kumar (Dharmarajah
Dharmakumar)

Thai

Kanyarat Tresise

Turkish

Adnan Alca
Asli Alca

Urdu

Marium Khan

Vietnamese

Phung Ngo
Le-Tam Tu
Thi Huong Phan
Ha Do

ECCNSW work placements

Due to COVID concerns, there were no intern or work placements for this period.

We thank the many volunteers who give of their time so graciously for the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW



Bilingual Educators with Mary Karras, CEO