

16 August 2019 | For immediate release

Embrace Multicultural Mental Health project launches

Mental Health Australia in alliance with the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Council of Australia (FECCA) and the National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA) are proud to announce the launch of Embrace Multicultural Mental Health.

Embrace Multicultural Mental Health builds on the important work of previous national multicultural mental health projects. It provides a national platform for Australian mental health services and multicultural communities to access resources, services and information in a culturally accessible format.

“Embrace Multicultural Mental Health aims to engage people in CALD (culturally and linguistically diverse) communities in a conversation and provide information about what comprises good mental health and where to seek support if needed,” said Mental Health Australia CEO, Mr Frank Quinlan.

“Embrace Multicultural Mental Health also works with mental health services to ensure services provide assistance and support that is responsive to the cultural needs of individuals, families and communities.”

Mental Health Australia has partnered with the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Council of Australia (FECCA), and the National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA) to deliver the project.

"As in all parts of our society, mental health is a major issue in ethnically diverse communities that desperately need greater attention," says FECCA CEO, Mr Mohammad Al-Khafaji.

"That is why FECCA has partnered with Mental Health Australia and the National Ethnic Disability Alliance to deliver the Embrace Multicultural Mental Health project."

NEDA CEO Dwayne Cranfield says the Embrace Project is an important collaboration for many areas of the sector.

“Working together with Mental Health Australia and FECCA, the Embrace Project is an important addition to our core business of advocating for people with a disability, and their families, from culturally and linguistically diverse and non-English speaking backgrounds,” said Mr Cranfield.

Visit embracementalhealth.org.au to find out more.

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About Us

Embrace Multicultural Mental Health - www.embracementalhealth.org.au

Embrace Multicultural Mental Health (the Embrace Project) is run by Mental Health Australia and provides a national focus on mental health and suicide prevention for people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. It provides a national platform for Australian mental health services and multicultural communities to access resources, services and information in a culturally accessible format.

The Embrace Project builds on the important work of previous national multicultural mental health projects - including the MHiMA and the Multicultural Mental Health Australia project - and works towards an equitable mental health system which reflects and responds well to the needs of Australia's multicultural population. The key objectives of the project are to:

- Increase participation of consumers and carers from CALD backgrounds in mental health services,
- Improve outcomes for CALD mental health consumers, carers and their families,
- Increase mental health awareness, knowledge and capacity in CALD communities, and
- Improve cultural responsiveness and diversity of the mental health workforce.

Mental Health Australia – www.mhaustralia.org

Mental Health Australia is the peak, national non-government organisation representing and promoting the interests of the Australian mental health sector and committed to achieving better mental health for all Australians. It was established in 1997 as the first independent peak body in Australia to represent the full spectrum of mental health stakeholders and issues. Mental Health Australia members include national organisations representing consumers, carers, special needs groups, clinical service providers, public and private mental health service providers, researchers and state/territory community mental health peak bodies.

Federation of Ethnic Communities' Council of Australia (FECCA) – www.fecca.org.au

FECCA is the peak, national body representing Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. FECCA's role is to advocate and promote issues on behalf of its constituency to government, business and the broader community. FECCA strives to ensure that the needs and aspirations of Australians from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds are given proper recognition in public policy.

National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA) - www.neda.org.au

National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA) is a national Disabled People's Organisation (DPO) that advocates federally for the human rights of people with disability, and their families, from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) and non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB). They are a founding member of [Disabled People's Organisations Australia \(DPOA\)](#). They are a community based, non-government organisation funded by the Department of Social Services (DSS). We have a small secretariat and are governed by a council of state/territory and community representatives; as a DPO, the majority of our Councillors are required to be people with disability from migrant or refugee backgrounds.

