

The Northern News

"THE BEST OF
PEOPLE ARE
THOSE THAT
BRING MOST
BENEFIT TO
OTHERS"

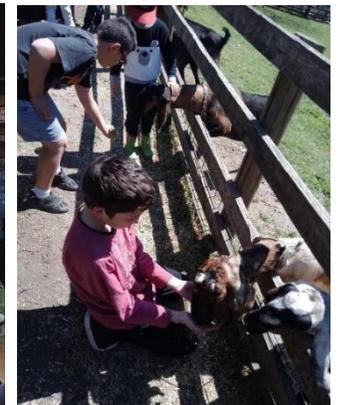
Northern CSG Launches Quarterly Newsletter

The Northern Community Support Group is excited to launch its quarterly newsletter, The Northern News. The newsletter will showcase the programs and activities organised by the two project sites, MyCentre and Preston Mosque.

The Northern CSG is a pilot project auspiced by the Australian Multicultural Foundation (AMF) in partnership with MyCentre, Preston Mosque and the Victorian Government. The project involves working with the Muslim community in the Northern suburbs of Melbourne. The aim is to provide young people and the broader community, with the support and opportunities they need to achieve their full potential and develop a sense of belonging in Australia.

For more information please contact remzi.unal@amf.net.au

MyCentre Trip To Collingwood Children's Farm



Children learning about and playing with farm animals. Photos courtesy of MyCentre.

On Wednesday 26th of September, the MyCentre women's committee organised a daytrip to Collingwood Children's Farm in Abbotsford, for children with special needs. The fun filled excursion allowed the children and their carer's the opportunity to get outdoors, experience nature and interact with various farm animals such as goats, sheep, chicken and horses.

Activities such as this are vital in reducing social isolation for children and mothers. Engaging in meaningful social activities improves overall health and wellbeing, and helps participants develop a sense of belonging to the community.

If you would like further information about MyCentre's program for children with special needs, or you would like to get involved please email contactus@mycentre.org.au.

Preston Mosque Women's Committee organises 'Fun Day' for children.

On Thursday the 4th of October, the Preston Mosque celebrated the end of the school holidays with a 'Kids Fun Day' program.

A jumping castle, sumo suits and face painting were just some of the activities available on the day. Popular Sesame Street characters Elmo and the Cookie Monster also made an appearance.



There were plenty of fun activities and characters. Photos courtesy of Preston Mosque.

The occasion gave some mothers respite, whilst others joined in on the fun with their kids. During the development phase of the Northern CSG, feedback from young girls and women revealed a sense of social isolation and boredom, and lack of opportunities to engage with community.

With this in mind, opportunities to engage in social and community activities will be prioritised by the Northern CSG.



31 Kraft court Broadmeadows. (Main Office)

MyCentre Homework Club

- *Starting on Monday 15th October.
- *Running twice a week on Monday and Thursday *4:00- 6:00 pm
- *For all Primary school levels & subjects.
- *High-school year 7-9 Registration is essential
- *Call or text 0490098652 for more information or to register

Volunteer positions Available

Free

MyCentre Homework Club

MyCentre is calling out for volunteers for its homework club program, to commence in semester 4. The sessions will take place on Monday's and Thursday's between 4pm and 6pm. The program will target both primary and high school students (to year 9), with subjects such as English, Maths, Arabic and Science being covered.

The MyCentre homework club program is a free service which will help young Muslims feel more confident and have positive attitude towards their studies. This will in turn improve their performance and assist them in achieving their potential.

mpower Muslim Youth (EMY) **ICV** ISLAMIC COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

ICV WILL BE LAUNCHING ITS **EMPOWER MUSLIM YOUTH (EMY)**

THE EMY PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO MEET THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF YOUNG MUSLIMS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 - 25. IT TAKES A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO CAREER DEVELOPMENT, EXPLORING THE FOUR KEY AREAS OF:

HEALTH AND WELLBEING | EDUCATION AND TRAINING
SOCIAL PARTICIPATION | EMPLOYMENT ACCESS

IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING BUILDING A SUCCESSFUL CAREER AND ARE INTERESTED IN TAKING PART IN THE EMPOWER MUSLIM YOUTH CAREER DEVELOPMENT COURSE, PLEASE CONTACT SELCAN KURNALI AT 0403 801 029 OR SALIM MOHAMED AT 0403 801 035.

Did You Know?

The 2011 Census figures for school completion rates and university qualifications – do not mirror Muslim employment numbers across Australia.

Muslim females had a 42 per cent Year 12 completion rate compared to 40 per cent of the general population. While Muslim males had a 45 per cent Year 12 completion rate compared to 37 per cent of the general population and a 17.9 per cent university qualification rate compared to 13.9 per cent for all Australians.

Despite higher education averages, only 54 per cent of 25–44 year-old Muslim Australians were employed, compared to 78.4 per cent of the general population.

Empowering Muslim Youth in the North

The Islamic Council of Victoria managed Empower Muslim Youth (EMY) program is an innovative project that aims to service young Muslims aged 18-25 years who live, engage or are associated with the City of Hume. Funded by the Victorian Government Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS), the EMY program aims to help young people achieve their employment, education and aspiration goals.

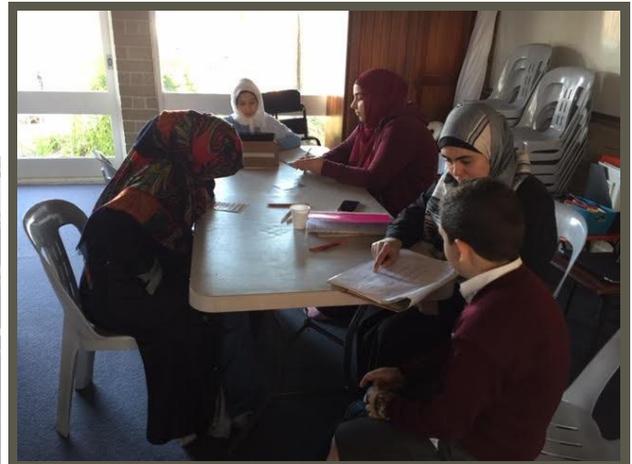
In the months ahead, EMY will facilitate employment and career development presentations, as part of the Northern CSG's broader objective to support young Muslim Australians in the northern suburbs of Melbourne, in achieving their educational and career aspirations.

If you know of any young people who would benefit from such a program, please feel free to refer them to Selcan Kurnali (selcan.kurnali@icv.org.au) or Salim Mohamed (salim.mohamed@icv.org.au).

MyCentre Kids Fun Day



Children conducting science experiments. Photos courtesy of MyCentre.



Students hard at work. Photo courtesy of Preston Mosque.

Homework Club at Preston Mosque

The Preston Mosque homework club program has now commenced. The program provides a study space and support/guidance to students looking to improve their academic performance.

Tutors are mainly tertiary students with some retired teachers also volunteering their services. Plans are in place for the volunteer tutors to receive ongoing training and professional development provided by the Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY).

The Preston Mosque homework club sessions take place Wednesday and Thursday afternoons (4pm to 6.30pm) and cater for school children from Grade Prep through to Year 10.

If you or anyone you know would like to attend this free community initiative, please contact 0420 970 566.

It's school holidays and MyCentre women's committee has used the opportunity to host a Kids Fun Day, for children aged between 4 and 9. The event which took place on Monday 24th September involved a range of fun activities including jumping castles, arts and crafts, face painting and science experiments.

The eager participants were provided with complimentary showbags and a delicious lunch. The event also gave mothers the opportunity to relax, unwind, and focus on themselves for the day. If you would like further information regarding MyCentre playgroups, please contact 0490098652.

ask the experts >>>

Q: *I am in need of urgent housing, who can I contact?*

A: If you are in urgent need of somewhere to stay, you should call the Victorian Government Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) 24-hour statewide toll free number to get help.

To speak with a housing and support worker, if you are homeless, at risk of homelessness or escaping family violence, call 1800 825 955 - 24 hour, statewide, toll free number.

This number will direct your call to a service closest to you, or if the call is outside business hours, it will be directed to Salvation Army Crisis Services.



Meet the Heroes of the North

This section of the newsletter is dedicated to the acknowledgement and appreciation of members of the community, who continue to make great contributions to the northern suburbs of Melbourne.



Selcan Kurnali – Youth Engagement Officer
Islamic Council of Victoria – Empower Muslim Youth

Mother of two, Selcan has lived and worked in the northern suburbs of Melbourne her entire life. In her current role at the Islamic Council of Victoria, she is a coach and mentor for young Muslim jobseekers. Prior to this, Selcan was a manager at one of the big 4 banks, where she led teams and ran training and development programs.

Selcan is also the co-founder of Nisa United Inc., a female non for profit organisation, which aims to promote social, recreational and educational services to children, youth and women in the local community.

Her passion is to empower others and build their self-confidence, in order to achieve a happier and more resilient community/country.



Rukaya Taleb – Project Officer
Preston Mosque – Northern Community Support Group

Rukaya Taleb was born in Australia and has lived in Coburg, Melbourne her entire life. She is currently one of two Northern CSG Project Officers at Preston Mosque.

Despite her young age, for several years now, Rukaya has been organising youth and educational programs at Preston Mosque. Furthermore, since 2016 she has been involved with the Islamic Museum of Australia.

Her cultural background and focus on community collaboration has led her to a number of volunteer opportunities and community leadership roles. Rukaya has completed a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Neuroscience, at the University of Melbourne. She is currently studying Masters in Islamic studies and Speech Pathology.

The Muslim Youth, Adult & Families (MYAF) program is a service delivered to the community free of cost and is based at **MyCentre Support Services** at 831 Pascoe Vale Road, Glenroy VIC. 3046.

The MYAF program was established to support individuals and families from the Islamic Community who are experiencing alcohol and drug related issues. MYAF offers help with counselling, youth support, education programs, support groups and referrals to other support services. This partnership is strengthened by significant Islamic community MYAF partners, principally **MyCentre Multicultural Youth Centre** with endorsement by the **Islamic Council of Victoria**.

MYAF is a federally-funded AOD initiative supporting the Islamic population of north-west metropolitan Melbourne to access drug treatment services. MYAF is funded through the North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network (NWMPHN), and comprises a partnership of Alcohol and Drug providers - Odyssey House Victoria (OHV), The Salvation Army, Self Help Addiction Resource Centre (SHARC) and Youth Support and Advocacy Service (YSAS).

Drug & Alcohol Support for -Families -Youth -Adults

We are only a phone call away.
831 Pascoe Vale Rd, Glenroy VIC. 3046
PH. 9078 3840
mysupport@mycentre.org.au

We're here to help...
Supporting individuals and families from the Islamic Community who are experiencing alcohol and drug related issues.

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In the month of November, MYAF will facilitate community awareness presentations around drug and alcohol dependence, as part of the Northern CSG.

The MYAF program is a service delivered to the community free of cost and is based at MyCentre Support Services at 831 Pascoe Vale Rd, Glenroy 3046. For further information or assistance, please contact 9078 3840.

PRESTON MOSQUE EXCEL PROGRAM
For Students in Grade Prep - Year 10

Wednesday & Thursday at 4PM - 6:30 PM
At Preston Mosque, 90 Cramer Street, Preston, Vic. 3072

Contact Us: 0420 970 566

Snacks and Refreshments Provided

FREE EVENT

FREE Join in the fun!
THIS IS A NORTHERN COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP INITIATIVE
For further information call 0420970566

PRESTON MOSQUE PLAYGROUP
Every Tuesdays 10am-12pm
90 CRAMER STREET, PRESTON

Where kids meet kids and mums meet mums
Newborns to 5 years- all are welcome
Coordinator & parent run playgroup with toys, free play, crafts, puzzles and stories.

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