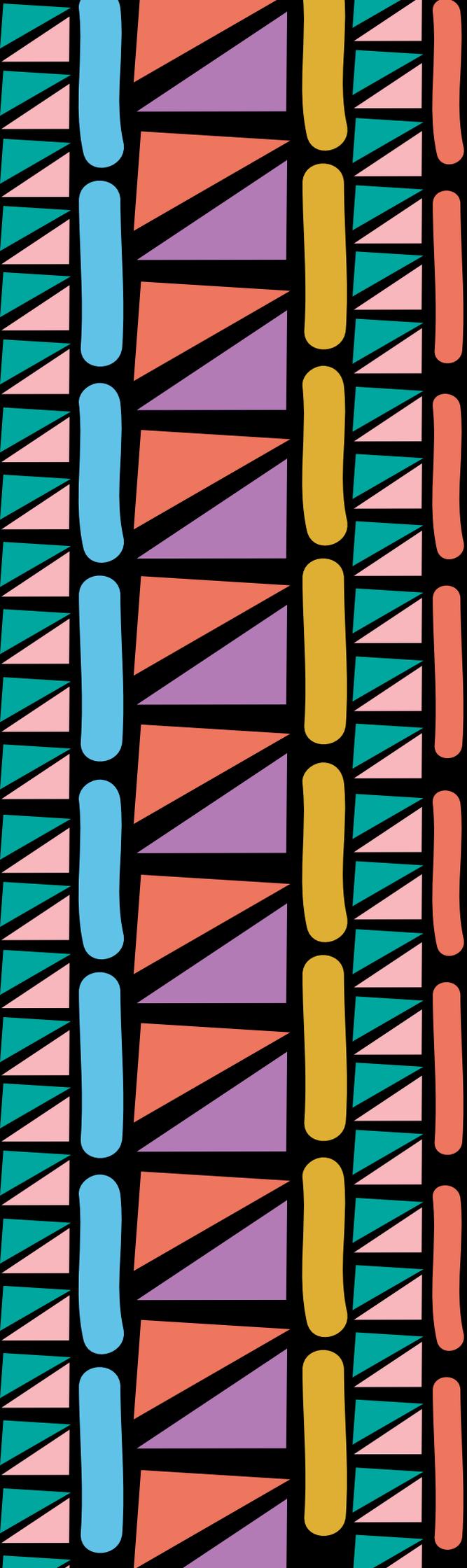


# AFRICAN AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITIES AND HIV:

Mapping HIV health promotion programs and resources



## INTRODUCTION

HIV is an emerging issue for African communities in Australia. As with other migrants from regions with a high prevalence of HIV, African Australian communities can experience higher rates of HIV than the Australian population as a whole.

While the actual number of African-born people in Australia who have been diagnosed with HIV is low, they may face a number of challenges that affect their quality of life, such as late and unexpected diagnosis; immigration issues; and difficulty accessing treatment while on temporary visas.

African Australian communities are also adversely affected by the stigmatisation of HIV and the racist association of HIV with their communities. People in African communities may be more vulnerable to HIV due to myths and misconceptions around HIV transmission and illness, gender inequity, cultural sensitivities around talking about sex, and issues related to settlement in a culture very different to those of their countries of origin.

## WHY THE MAPPING?

A range of programs and resources have been developed by NGOs and government agencies to address these issues - both for African communities and for other culturally and linguistically diverse CALD communities facing similar challenges. However because most of this work has been done at state/territory level, many service providers and health promotion agencies are not aware of valuable programs that have been implemented in jurisdictions other than their own.

Cover photo: Members of Perth African communities participated in the WA AIDS Council's '1 Community' campaign against HIV related stigma. Photo reproduced with permission of the Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre. More information about WA programs on p45.

Other images: Images in this resource are reproduced with kind permission from the organisations that are listed. They include program staff and participants as well as community members whose photographs have been taken for inclusion in other published resources. Their presence in this booklet does not imply positive HIV status.

The purpose of this mapping resource is to identify effective projects and resources and share information about these programs so that NGOs and other agencies can draw on the experience and expertise of other services, and not have to 'reinvent the wheel' when developing programs and resources.

Programs and resources are listed by state/territory and then by the following colour-coded categories:

## WHOLE COMMUNITY

## PEOPLE WITH HIV

## WOMEN

## MEN

## YOUTH

## RELIGIOUS LEADERS

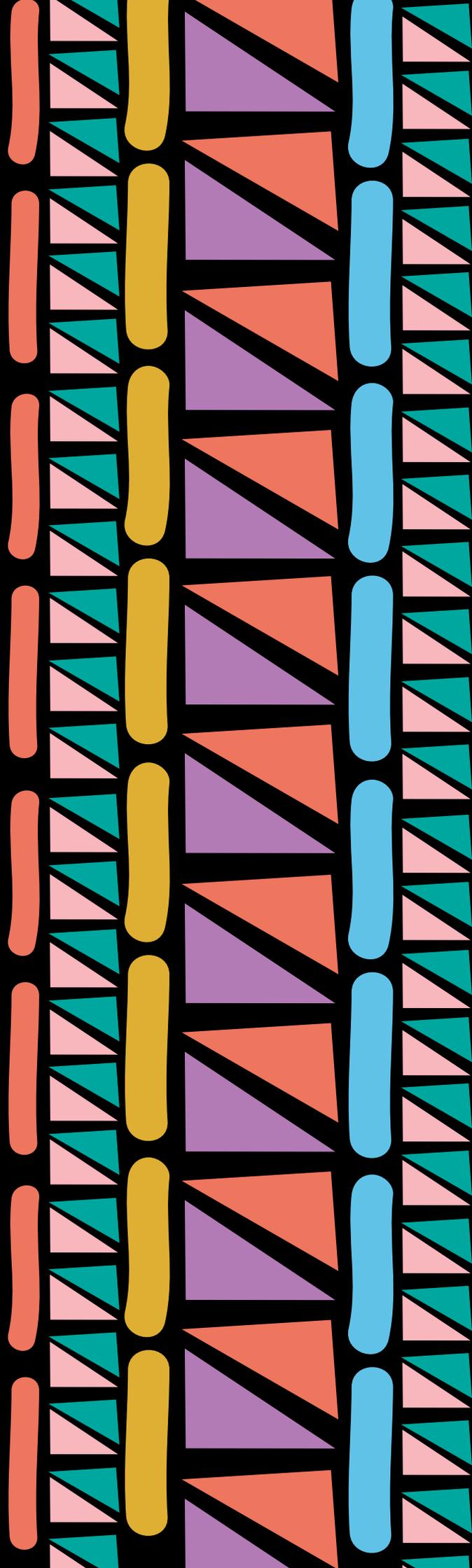
More than 30 projects are listed, dating from 2002 – 2013. Please note that some are no longer running, but you can request further information about them using the contact details supplied on their listing.

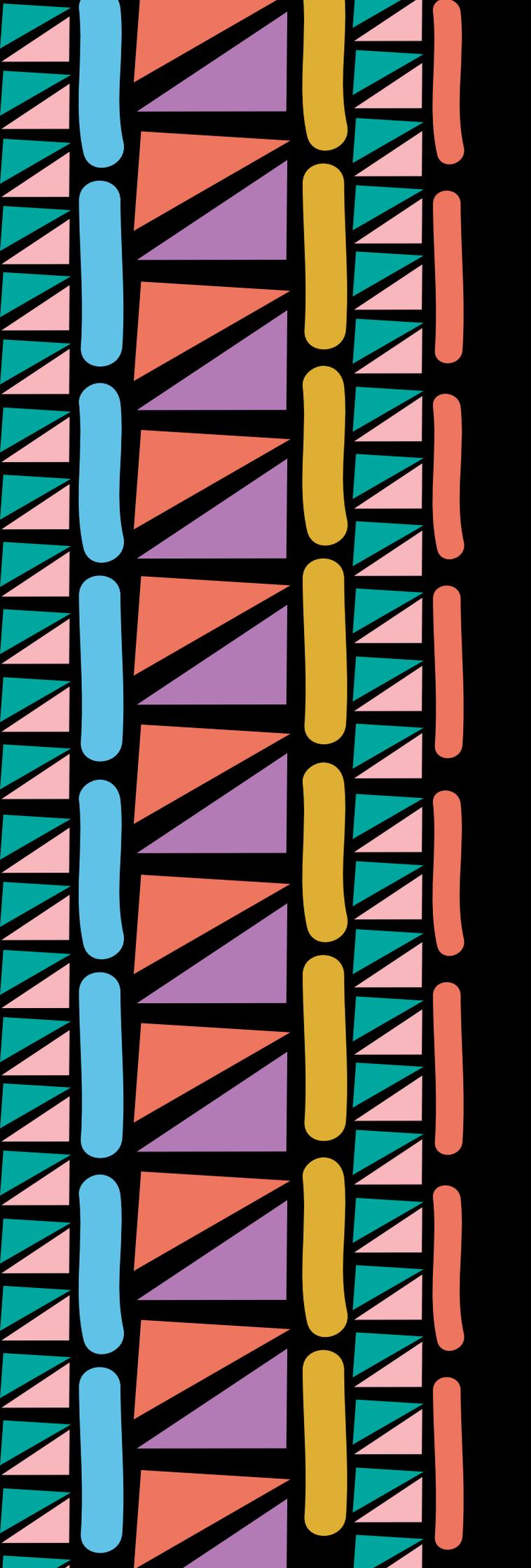
This mapping resource is available both in print and online at [www.afao.org.au/library/resources](http://www.afao.org.au/library/resources). It will be updated on a regular basis. Please contact Jill Sergeant at AFAO if you wish to add or amend the listing.

**Jill Sergeant**

**Email: [jsergeant@afao.org.au](mailto:jsergeant@afao.org.au)**

**Ph: (02) 8568 1106**





# CONTENTS

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Services listing 5

### YOUTH

Sex education 6

## NEW SOUTH WALES

### WHOLE COMMUNITY

African community development project 8

Late HIV presentation project:  
African communities component 10

Reproductive and Sexual Health Action  
Project for African Communities (RAP4AC) 11

### PEOPLE WITH HIV

African HIV-positive Women's Group 12

Women and HIV factsheets 14

### WOMEN

CALD women and HIV project:  
African communities component 15

### MEN

African-Australian soccer tournament 16

### YOUTH

African communities development  
HIV project 17

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

Services listing 20

## QUEENSLAND

### WHOLE COMMUNITY

HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis  
and Sexual Health Program 22

Community education 24

HIV Forum 24

Training 24

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### WHOLE COMMUNITY

|   |    |
|---|----|
| African Reference Group for HIV Prevention                              | 26 |
| Certificate IV Community Services<br>(Information, Advice and Referral) | 27 |
| African Communities HIV Conference                                      | 28 |

### WOMEN

|                                    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| World AIDS Day Celebration 2011    | 30 |
| Empowering African Women's Project | 31 |

### YOUTH

|  |    |
|--|----|
| African Youth Drama Drive                        | 32 |
| African Youth Peer Education<br>Learning Program | 34 |
| Young African Interns Program                    | 36 |

## TASMANIA

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Services listing | 38 |
|------------------|----|

## VICTORIA

### WHOLE COMMUNITY

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Cultures of care:<br>African communities in regional Victoria | 40 |
|---|----|

### WOMEN

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| SWAB project 2013 | 41 |
|-------------------|----|

### YOUTH

|   |    |
|---|----|
| African community education and health<br>promotion (men & young men) | 42 |
| Hip Hop & Health (H3)   | 43 |
| Sister2sister   | 44 |

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### WHOLE COMMUNITY

|   |    |
|---|----|
| World Aids Day Family Fun Night             | 46 |
| HIV Community Educator Training             | 47 |
| Ethiopian radio program                     | 48 |
| HIV community<br>awareness raising sessions | 49 |

### PEOPLE WITH HIV

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Disclosing your HIV status (WA)                      | 50 |
| HIV & immigration<br>(training for migration agents) | 51 |

### WOMEN

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| HIV Drama Project | 52 |
| Uthando Project   | 53 |

### YOUTH

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Sharing stories | 54 |
|-----------------|----|

## NATIONAL

### PEOPLE WITH HIV

|                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Top Tips for Living Well with HIV | 56 |
|-----------------------------------|----|

### RELIGIOUS LEADERS

|  |    |
|--|----|
| HIV & Stigma in Australia -<br>A Guide for Religious Leaders | 57 |
| Add/amend your program/resource                              | 59 |
| About AFAO   | 61 |



AUSTRALIAN  
CAPITAL  
TERRITORY

There have been few health promotion campaigns or projects targeting African communities in the ACT. The following listing relates to HIV and CALD service provision.

| SERVICE/GROUP  | ROLE  | CONTACT   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>AIDS ACTION COUNCIL OF THE ACT (AAC)</b>            | The AIDS Action Council provides services to the ACT community, aimed at eliminating further transmission of HIV and minimising the personal and social impacts of HIV and AIDS. Includes the Westlund House Community Legal and Migration Service.   | <b>Ph: (02) 6257 2855</b><br><b>Web: <a href="http://www.aidsaction.org.au">www.aidsaction.org.au</a></b>   |
| <b>COMPANION HOUSE</b>                                 | Companion House works with people who have sought refuge in Australia from persecution, torture and war-related trauma. The organisation works with people who are newly arrived and longer term settlers.  | <b>Ph: (02) 6251 4550</b><br><b>Email: <a href="mailto:info@companionhouse.org.au">info@companionhouse.org.au</a></b><br><b>Web: <a href="http://www.companionhouse.org.au">www.companionhouse.org.au</a></b> |
| <b>MIGRANT AND REFUGEE SETTLEMENT SERVICES (MARSS)</b> | MARSS' mission is to be a leader in provision of settlement and related services for migrants, refugees and humanitarian entrants in the ACT and region, in a caring, supporting and enabling way.  | <b>Ph: (02) 6248 8577</b><br><b>Email: <a href="mailto:marss@marss.org.au">marss@marss.org.au</a></b><br><b>Web: <a href="http://marss.org.au">http://marss.org.au</a></b>                                    |
| <b>MULTICULTURAL YOUTH SERVICES (MYS)</b>              | MYS is an outreach and drop in service assisting young people aged 12 to 25 years who have a culturally and linguistically diverse background (migrants and refugees) to overcome barriers to obtaining work, accommodation, education or training. MYS includes sexual health information in their programs for young women. | <b>Ph: (02) 6100 4611</b><br><b>Email: <a href="mailto:info@mys.org.au">info@mys.org.au</a></b><br><b>Web: <a href="http://www.mys.org.au">www.mys.org.au</a></b>   |

# YOUTH

## Sex Education

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

Recently arrived migrant and refugee background young people (high school age students)

### TYPE:

Sex education (including sexual health and HIV prevention)

### DURATION:

2 x 1.5 hour classes (separate boys and girls classes) 4 times a year

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **Companion House**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
ACT Health

Ph: (02) 6251 4550  
Email: [info@companionhouse.org.au](mailto:info@companionhouse.org.au)

### PARTNER ORGANISATION:

- Dickson College Secondary Introductory English Centre

### AIM:

Health promotion with young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds

### ACTIVITIES:

Information sessions



NEW  
SOUTH  
WALES



# WHOLE COMMUNITY

## African Community Development Project

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

All Africans with emphasis on the Zimbabwean community

### TYPE:

Community program (NSW wide)

### DURATION:

2010-2013 (one-off program)

### RESOURCES:

Hard copies available on request

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **Multicultural HIV & Hepatitis Service (MHAHS)**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: NSW Health

**Contact:** Wa'el Sabri  
**Ph:** (02) 9515 1234  
**Email:** [sabriw@email.cs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sabriw@email.cs.nsw.gov.au)  
**Web:** [www.mhahs.org.au](http://www.mhahs.org.au)

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Auburn Diversity Services
- SydWest Multicultural Services Inc.
- Western Sydney Local Health District
- Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District
- Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS)

### AIMS:

- Increase the African communities' capacity to deal with HIV/AIDS issues
- Increase HIV awareness and knowledge,

testing and prevention

- Increase community access to HIV services
- Reduce stigma and discrimination.

### ACTIVITIES:

- Community consultation
- The establishment of an African Communities Advisory Group
- The delivery of HIV/AIDS workshops to different community workers and leaders
- The delivery of HIV/AIDS workshops to different community members in partnership with community organisations such as Migrant Resource Centres, the Edmund Rice Centre and African community organisations representing communities such as the Ghanaian community, Ethiopian community, Zimbabwean men, Church groups and soccer teams
- Engaged HIV-positive person of African background to talk about her personal experience in living with HIV to different community groups and during major community gatherings such as the annual Women's Dinner Dance event, two major African church gatherings and at a Zimbabwean community fundraising dinner
- The distribution of safe sex packs and HIV information during the African soccer tournaments
- Participation in the African communities' festivals such as the Africultures Festival (around 5,000 community members attended in 2012, and between 7,000 and 9,000 attended in 2013)
- Development of African wall calendars in 2012 and 2013 with African themes, photos of local African people and HIV messages. The calendars were developed in partnership with African community organisations. In total, 6,000 calendars were distributed each year to African communities via partner organisations and during communities' festivals and events.

## EVALUATION:

Ongoing: To date, two program elements have been evaluated and were found to be very effective (2012 African HIV Calendar; HIV-positive speaker program).





## Late HIV presentation project: African communities component

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

All African communities, including people with HIV

### TYPE:

Community program (NSW wide)

### DURATION:

February 2002-June 2003 (one-off program)

### RESOURCES:

Hard copies available on request

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **Multicultural HIV & Hepatitis Service (MHAHS)**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: NSW Health

Contact: **Wa'el Sabri**  
Ph: (02) 9515 1234  
Email: [sabriw@email.cs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sabriw@email.cs.nsw.gov.au)  
Web: [www.mhahs.org.au](http://www.mhahs.org.au)

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Auburn Diversity Services
- SydWest Multicultural Services

### AIMS:

To increase HIV awareness, testing and access to services.

### ACTIVITIES:

- Community consultations
- Establishment of a Community Advisory Group
- Delivery of HIV/AIDS workshop for African community workers from the health, welfare, refugee and settlement sectors
- Development and distribution of a poster with HIV prevention messages in English and some African languages
- A one-day soccer tournament for young people from African communities in NSW in 2002 and 2003 and the distribution of HIV information.

### EVALUATION:

The program was externally evaluated and found to be moderately successful.

# Reproductive and Sexual Health Action Project for African Communities (RAP4AC)

---

## PRIORITY GROUP/S:

Refugee African communities in Sydney south-west.

## TYPE:

Consultation and professional education for service providers

## DURATION:

July 2006-June 2007

## OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

### **Family Planning NSW**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: NSW Health

**Contact:** Kath Bennett  
**Ph:** (02) 4749 0504  
**Email:** katherineb@fpnsw.org.au  
**Web:** www.fpnsw.org.au

## PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

- African Workers Network
- Auburn Diversity Services Inc.
- Blacktown Community Health Centre
- Centrelink – Mt Druitt
- Fairfield Migrant Resource Centre
- Leichhardt Women's Health Centre
- Mission Australia
- Multicultural HIV & Hepatitis C Service
- NSW Refugee Health Service

## AIMS:

- To increase the knowledge of service providers working with African communities including new-arrival refugee communities, about reproductive and sexual health (R&SH) issues and services
- To provide basic information on R&SH
- To increase awareness of service providers working with African communities of relevant R&SH services available, with particular focus on Family Planning NSW Multicultural Services
- To identify culturally appropriate ways of disseminating information on R&SH to African communities
- To identify factors that may facilitate or impede the dissemination of this information to African communities.

## ACTIVITIES:

- Consult with all key stakeholders i.e. family planning organisations, service providers and African community leaders
- Form a RAP4AC project Advisory Committee and/or Working Party and develop the Terms of Reference
- Develop or source professional education curriculum for the 2 day training/workshop ('Let's Get Talking Forum-Reproductive and Sexual Health Information for people who work with African Communities')
- Promote and conduct professional education for workers and service providers working with African refugee communities
- Review and evaluate the professional education session/s
- Disseminate RAP4AC project report to stakeholders.

## EVALUATION:

Process, impact and outcome evaluation completed with moderate/good results

# PEOPLE WITH HIV:

## African HIV-Positive Women's Group

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

African HIV-positive women

### TYPE:

Education sessions and social support group (meets monthly in western Sydney)

### DURATION:

Ongoing (began 2009)

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **HIV/AIDS and Related Programs (HARP) Unit, Nepean Blue Mountains and Western Sydney Local Health Districts**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: A large drug company that does work in Africa, through the Sisters of Mercy

**Contact:** Elizabeth Mlambo  
**Ph:** (02) 4734 3877  
**Email:** elizabeth.mlambo@swahs.health.nsw.gov.au

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Heterosexual HIV/AIDS Service (HHAS)
- The Sisters of Mercy at Mamre House.

### AIMS:

The aims and objectives are formulated to address the NSW HIV/AIDS Strategies:

- To meet the needs of African women coping with their HIV diagnosis
- To provide advice, guidance, teaching and information sharing about living positively with HIV
- To facilitate opportunities for sharing experiences of living with HIV and offer peer support
- To provide information about HIV-positive support services available within Sydney.

### ACTIVITIES:

The group meets monthly during the week, then on weekends four times a year, so that African HIV-positive men and family members can attend the group after an education session is held.

A program of guest speakers is developed in conjunction with the women.

#### **Topics covered include:**

- Living with HIV – an overview of what it means to live positively with HIV in Australia
- Antiretroviral medications and the new approach to HIV

- Pregnancy and HIV
- Disclosure
- Stigma and discrimination
- HIV services
- Refugee health – services offered
- Immigration issues
- Women's health issues.

### **EVALUATION:**

Due to differing levels of written language skills in the group evaluation occurs through regular facilitated discussions. Since the group began in 2009 the women have gained:

- more understanding of the effectiveness of HIV treatment and care in Australia
- a sense of belonging, feeling less stigmatised and more comfortable talking about their HIV status and sharing their experiences
- a better understanding of how to engage with the Australian help system and support services.

The women are now meeting socially outside the group.

They have commented that:

*'The information and education sessions from various organisations have been very helpful.'*

*'I have learnt through talking to the group members that I am not alone; this has helped me gain my inner strength.'*

*'What I like most about the support group is that everybody is very friendly and supportive and I feel confident that should I be sick one day, someone will be there with me to hold my hand.'*

# Women and HIV Factsheets

---

## PRIORITY GROUP/S:

CALD Women living with HIV

## TYPE:

Factsheets

## DURATION:

October 2009 – March 2010

## RESOURCES:

Factsheets available at:

[http://www.fpnsw.org.au/304330\\_8.html](http://www.fpnsw.org.au/304330_8.html)

## OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

### **Family Planning NSW**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: NSW Health

**Contact:** Katherine Bennett

**Ph:** (02) 4749 0504

**email:** [katherineb@fpnsw.org.au](mailto:katherineb@fpnsw.org.au)

**Web:** [www.fpnsw.org.au](http://www.fpnsw.org.au)



## PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service (MHAHS)
- The Heterosexual HIV/AIDS Service (HHAS)
- ACON Women and Families Affected by HIV Project.

## AIMS:

- Review of the HIV factsheets and updating as necessary
- Translation of factsheets into four languages, including Swahili
- Promoting the factsheets amongst service providers who were in contact with HIV-positive women and women at risk of HIV.

## ACTIVITIES:

- Consultation with relevant stakeholders
- Reviewing and updating of six factsheets on issues relevant to HIV-positive women and women at risk of HIV infection
- Design of factsheets
- Focus testing of fact sheets
- Dissemination and promotion of the factsheets.

The topics were decided in consultation with a range of stakeholders and included:

- Testing for HIV
- Recently Diagnosed
- Health Maintenance (Looking after yourself)
- Treatments: The basics
- Pregnancy (Pregnancy and me)
- NSW Services and Websites.

## EVALUATION:

Partnership Evaluation completed, Outcome evaluation not complete.

# WOMEN:

## **CALD women and HIV project: African communities component**

### **PRIORITY GROUP/S:**

African women

### **TYPE:**

Community program, NSW-wide (one-off) and print resources

### **DURATION:**

2005–2006 (12 months)

### **RESOURCES:**

Hard copies of print resource & CDs available on request

### **OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

#### **Multicultural HIV & Hepatitis Service (MHAHS)**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: NSW Health

**Contact:** Wa'el Sabri  
**Ph:** (02) 9515 1234  
**Email:** [sabriw@email.cs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sabriw@email.cs.nsw.gov.au)  
**Web:** [www.mhahs.org.au](http://www.mhahs.org.au)

### **PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:**

- Family Planning NSW
- Auburn Diversity Services Inc.
- Liverpool Migrant Resource Centre.

### **AIMS:**

The project was designed to:

- Increase HIV awareness and knowledge

- Encourage testing
- Reduce stigma.

### **ACTIVITIES:**

This project was set up to respond to the increasing number of HIV notifications among CALD women from 2000 to 2004, largely through engaging with antenatal services in NSW.

It aimed to build upon previous interventions done with target CALD groups, including African communities. This project was an important one for MHAHS, as this was the first strategy that focused exclusively on the health literacy and information needs of CALD women and HIV in NSW.

African women were chosen as one of the key target groups for the CALD women and HIV project.

Key activities included:

- Community consultations and the establishment of an African Women's Advisory Group.
- HIV/AIDS workshops with African workers and women's groups
- The development of an audio CD that encouraged antenatal testing and promoted HIV awareness among African women. Produced in Plain English, Arabic and Dinka
- Marketing and distribution of the resource primarily through ethnic media and the mail out of an order form
- Community development activities culminating in an African Women's Health Festival in December 2006 highlighting HIV/AIDS issues.

### **EVALUATION:**

The program was externally evaluated with positive outcomes.

# MEN:

## African-Australian soccer tournament

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

African men (the focus was on soccer players and spectators of soccer tournaments)

### TYPE:

Community program

### DURATION:

2004 -2009

### LOCATION:

NSW state-wide

### RESOURCES:

Hard copies of resources available on request

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **Multicultural HIV & Hepatitis Service (MHAHS)**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: NSW Health

**Contact:** Wa'el Sabri  
**Ph:** (02) 9515 1234  
**Email:** [sabriw@email.cs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sabriw@email.cs.nsw.gov.au)  
**Web:** [www.mhahs.org.au](http://www.mhahs.org.au)

### PARTNER ORGANISATION:

- African Australian Youth Social Club

### AIM:

- To increase HIV awareness, testing and access to services.

### ACTIVITIES:

- Community consultation
- A partnership was formed with the African Australian Youth Social Club to promote HIV/AIDS awareness through their annual soccer tournament
- The establishment of an African Communities Advisory Group
- The delivery of HIV/AIDS workshops to soccer teams
- Distribution of safe sex packs and HIV information to spectators
- The development and distribution of African soccer wall calendars with HIV prevention messages for the years 2006–2009.

### EVALUATION:

The program was externally evaluated with positive outcomes.

# YOUTH:

## **African communities development HIV project**

### **PRIORITY GROUP/S:**

African communities with specific focus on young men and women

### **TYPE:**

Community program (one-off)

### **DURATION:**

2007–2008

### **LOCATION:**

NSW state-wide

### **RESOURCES:**

Hard copies of DVD resource available on request

### **OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

#### **Multicultural HIV & Hepatitis Service (MHAHS)**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: NSW Health

**Contact:** Wa'el Sabri  
**Ph:** (02) 9515 1234  
**Email:** [sabriw@email.cs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sabriw@email.cs.nsw.gov.au)  
**Web:** [www.mhahs.org.au](http://www.mhahs.org.au)

### **PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:**

- Family Planning NSW
- Auburn Diversity Services Inc.
- Auburn Council
- Auburn Community Development Network
- Western Sydney Area Local Health District.

### **AIMS:**

The project was designed to:

- Increase African communities' capacity to deal with HIV/AIDS issues
- Increase HIV awareness and knowledge, testing and prevention
- Increase community access to HIV services
- Reduce stigma and discrimination.

### **ACTIVITIES:**

- Community consultation
- The establishment of an African Communities Advisory Group
- The delivery of HIV/AIDS workshops to different community workers and leaders
- The delivery of HIV/AIDS workshops to different community members
- Recruitment and training of young African men and women to produce theatre plays around HIV/AIDS issues
- Two theatre plays (available on DVD) one for women and the other for youth were launched at Auburn Town Hall, with strong attendance by the African communities.

### **EVALUATION:**

Action and process evaluation with positive outcomes.





NORTHERN  
TERRITORY



There have not been any health promotion campaigns or projects targeting African communities in the Northern Territory. The following listing relates to HIV and CALD service provision.

| SERVICE/GROUP  | ROLE  | CONTACT  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>ANGLICARE – REFUGEE AND MIGRANT SETTLEMENT SERVICES (RAMSS)</b> | RAMSS provides services to people who have lived in Darwin less than five years. Provides settlement information, referrals and support around issues such as accommodation, income concerns and health.  | Ph: (08) 8985 0000<br>Email: <a href="mailto:anglicare@anglicare-nt.org.au">anglicare@anglicare-nt.org.au</a><br>Web: <a href="http://www.anglicare-nt.org.au">www.anglicare-nt.org.au</a> |
| <b>EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS</b>  | Everybody's Business is a subcommittee of the Northern Territory Refugee Health Network, made up of government and non-government agencies which have a role to play in supporting migrant and refugee communities. This sub-committee is working to identify sexual and reproductive needs of migrant and refugee communities. | Megan Howitt<br>Ph: (08) 8985 8018   |
| <b>MELALEUCA REFUGEE CENTRE (MRC)</b>                              | MRC Provides ethical, client focused services and referrals to refugee survivors, their family and communities.   | Ph: (08) 8985 3311<br>Email: <a href="mailto:admin@melaleuca.org.au">admin@melaleuca.org.au</a><br>Web: <a href="http://www.melaleuca.org.au/">www.melaleuca.org.au/</a>                   |
| <b>NT AIDS AND HEPATITIS COUNCIL (NTAHC)</b>                       | NTAHC is the key non-government organisation working in the area of blood-borne viruses, education and support in the Northern Territory that is recognised as a source of informed and professional advice.  | Ph: (08) 8944 7777<br>Email: <a href="mailto:info@ntahc.org.au">info@ntahc.org.au</a><br>Web: <a href="http://ntahc.org.au">http://ntahc.org.au</a>  |



QUEENSLAND



# WHOLE COMMUNITY:

## HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis and Sexual Health Program

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

People from high HIV prevalence countries including males, females, youth and adults. Eg. refugees from Africa and Asia; Papua New Guinea; other communities from a high HIV prevalence country. Due to limited resources not all priority communities can be well targeted.

### TYPE:

Multi-strategy health promotion, focusing on peer education (state-wide)

### DURATION:

Ongoing (began in 1990)

### RESOURCES:

Various HIV resources (see over)

Not all resources can be accessed through the website.

Please contact [resources@eccq.com.au](mailto:resources@eccq.com.au) for hard copies of resources

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

**Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland (ECCQ)**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: Queensland Health

**Contact:** Zhihong Gu  
**Ph:** (07) 3844 9166  
**Email:** [health@eccq.com.au](mailto:health@eccq.com.au)  
**Web:** [www.eccq.com.au/health](http://www.eccq.com.au/health)

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

The program works directly with targeted community members and with a range of multicultural agencies, including settlement agencies and relevant HIV services, such as Queensland Positive Speaker's Bureau, to deliver workshops, training and resources to maximise its reach and effects.

### AIMS:

- Raise awareness
- Increase knowledge
- Dispel myths and misunderstandings
- Encourage testing
- Reduce stigma
- Promote HIV services and treatment.

### ACTIVITIES:

- Face to face workshops/information sessions: delivered mainly in community languages to gender and age specific groups of community members, and schools with a high number of students from CALD backgrounds
- Support groups
- Presentations
- Training for
  - › Community leaders/members, focusing on HIV awareness and knowledge
  - › Multicultural service providers, focusing on HIV knowledge and relevant community issues
  - › HIV service providers and school based health nurses, focusing on cultural issues

- Use of ethnic media
- Information stalls at multicultural festivals
- Events (forums etc)
- Resource distribution
- Distribution of condom packs (including three sizes of condoms, lubricant and an information sheet).
- Web information
- Printed resources (brochures, calendar, articles)
- HIV-specific resources:
  - › Translated resources:  
*Information about HIV & AIDS (2006)* in Amharic (Ethiopian), Arabic, Bosnian, Chinese, Dari (Afghanistan), Filipino, Italian, Somali, Spanish, Thai, Tigrinya (Eritrean), Vietnamese. Some languages are out of print
  - › PEP (2004 – translated resources):  
Japanese
  - › HIV flip chart.
- Resources that include HIV/AIDS information:
  - › Booklet: *What you need to know ... Important health information for people from other countries (2009)* in Chinese, Vietnamese and English
  - › *It's time to talk* DVD (2012) in Karen, Burmese, Juba Arabic, Kirundi, Swahili, Dinka and English. The DVD features a real story about an African man who is living with HIV
  - › Posters.

## **EVALUATION:**

Ongoing evaluation for all program activities including process and impact evaluation.

Evaluation indicates increased awareness and knowledge among participants. A number of participants indicated they wanted to get tested and wanted more workshops/resources.

## Community Education

---

### AIMS:

- Increase awareness and knowledge of HIV/AIDS
- Improve safe sex skills
- Encourage safe sex behaviours
- Openly discuss sensitive health issues
- Promote HIV testing, treatment and relevant services.

### ACTIVITIES:

- Gender and language specific workshops organised and delivered by trained bilingual health workers in community languages
- Presentations to groups such as youth, women, students.

### EVALUATION:

- Feedback forms
- Knowledge tests (before and after workshops)
- Number of people indicated for tests after workshops
- Number of participants

In general there has been very positive feedback on the workshops/presentations. Some people said they would get tested after the workshops.

## HIV Forum

---

### AIMS:

- Increase awareness of HIV/AIDS
- Reduce stigma
- Link HIV services with target communities.

### ACTIVITIES:

- The forum was held at different locations each year that had high targeted populations. Positive people from similar backgrounds, community and religious leaders, and HIV service providers were given the opportunity to speak.

### EVALUATION:

- Feedback forms after events

Most people who attended the forum said the forum improved their awareness and changed their negative attitudes towards HIV-positive people. They would like to share the information and their experiences with their family and friends.

## Training

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### AIMS:

- Increase awareness of HIV/AIDS among service providers who work with targeted communities
- Reduce stigma and discrimination
- Improve referral pathways for HIV.

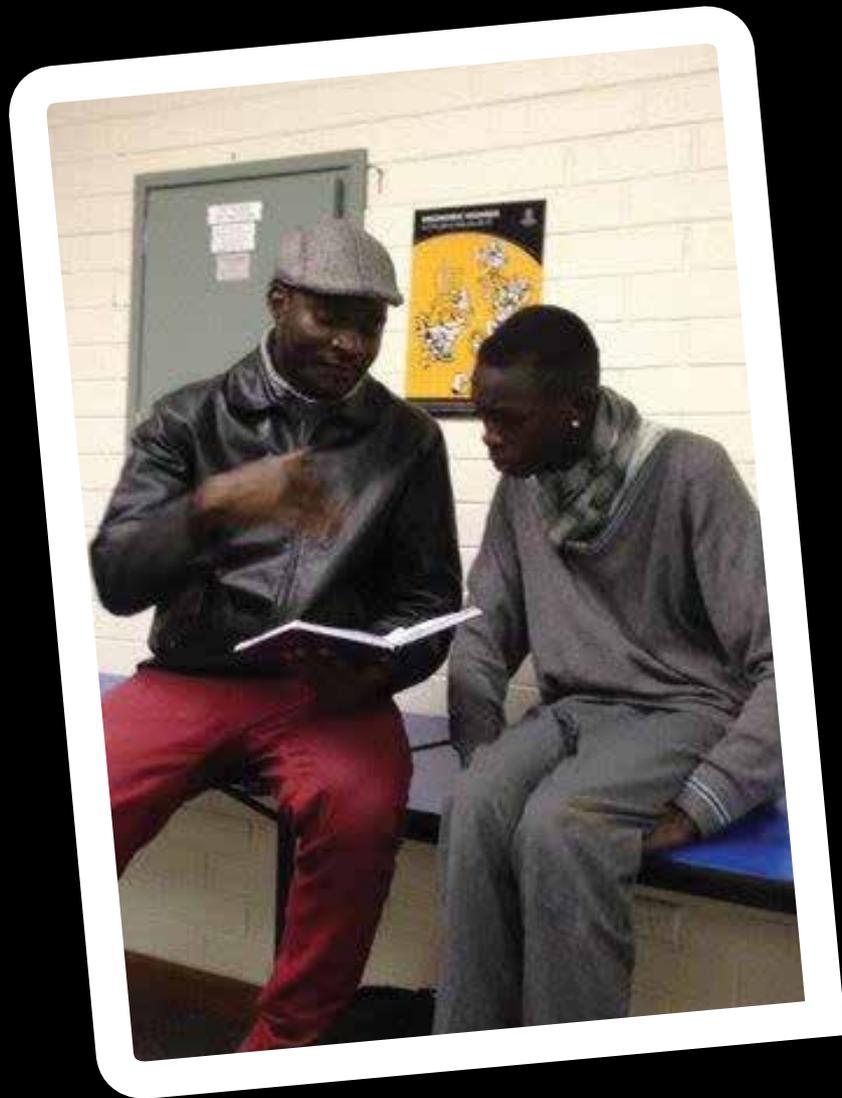
### ACTIVITIES:

Provided training on HIV/AIDS for service providers working in settlement areas, as part of broad training which included other blood borne viruses (BBVs) and STIs.

### EVALUATION:

- Feedback forms

Participants were satisfied with information received and were more confident to refer their clients to relevant services.



SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA



# WHOLE COMMUNITY:

## African Reference Group for HIV Prevention

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

African Communities in South Australia

### DURATION:

2012-ongoing

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### African Reference Group for HIV Prevention

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: AIDS Council of South Australia (ACSA)

ACSA has since been defunded.

**Contact:** Sharna Ciotti  
**Ph:** (08) 8245 8100  
**Email:** s.ciotti@rasa.org.au

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Personal Empowerment and Community Education (PEACE) Multicultural Services
- Sexual Health Information, Education and Networking South Australia (SHine SA)
- African Communities Council of SA (ACCSA).

### AIMS:

- To identify current priorities and challenges for addressing HIV transmission amongst African communities in South Australia.
- To develop, implement and evaluate culturally appropriate prevention strategies aimed at reducing HIV transmission within African communities in South Australia.
- To ensure that HIV prevention responses are based on data and evidence, and to identify where there is a lack of evidence and advocate for research to occur.

### ACTIVITIES:

- Reference group meetings
- Other activities as they arise and as agreed to by the reference group.

### EVALUATION:

Not yet evaluated.

We have had a good response from all partners and community representatives. There is a lot of enthusiasm in the group to develop new resources and strategies for local African communities.

# Certificate IV Community Services (Information, Advice and Referral)

---

## **PRIORITY GROUP/S:**

African community members (particularly those who are influential or are well connected with the wider community)

## **TYPE:**

Capacity building program

## **DURATION:**

2002 – present

## **OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

### **PEACE Multicultural Services,**

A program of Relationships Australia South Australia (RASA)

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: SA Health, the STI and BBV Section

**Contact:** Sharna Ciotti  
**Ph:** (08) 8245 8100  
**Email:** s.ciotti@rasa.org.au

## **PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:**

- Relationships Australia (SA) - Institute of Social Relations (registered training organisation)
- African Communities Council (2011 and 2012)
- South Sudanese Association

## **AIMS:**

- To take a holistic approach to health promotion by providing information on HIV and other health issues, so that they relate meaningfully to the lives of participants

- To normalise HIV and challenge stigma within African communities
- To empower participants in disseminating HIV-specific information to their respective communities
- To establish relationships with participants' respective communities and create future collaborative working opportunities
- To build the capacity of participants to have culturally appropriate discussions around health promotion and HIV with their families and communities

## **ACTIVITIES:**

- The course takes place over 8 months and participants have face-to-face sessions every Saturday
- Final assessments and community activities also take place at various times.

## **EVALUATION:**

A recent evaluation was conducted, spanning the 10 years that the course has been running. 26 previous participants from South Sudanese, Liberian, Somali and Burundian backgrounds took part in three focus groups facilitated by PEACE. The evaluation found that:

- The majority of participants indicated that the training provided skills and knowledge that increased professional, volunteer, advocacy and scholastic opportunities
- The training provided vital information on how to engage fellow community members in discussions on taboo subjects such as HIV
- Participants underwent significant changes in their perceptions, attitudes, and values, enabling them to become more tolerant and less judgemental around HIV
- The training built participants confidence and capacity around challenging the stigma and discrimination evident in their communities, towards those living with and/or affected by HIV.

# African Communities HIV Conference

---

## PRIORITY GROUP/S:

South Australian African community, religious and youth leaders, key stakeholders and service providers

## TYPE:

Conference and discussion forum

## DURATION:

One day event on 17 May 2013

## OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

### **PEACE Multicultural Services**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: SA Health, the STI and BBV Section

**Contact:** Sharna Ciotti  
**Ph:** (08) 8245 8100  
**Email:** s.ciotti@rasa.org.au

## PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- AIDS Council of South Australia (ACSA)
- African Communities Leaders Advisory Forum (ACLAF)

## AIMS:

- To engage key African community members and workers in understanding the importance of acknowledging, normalising and de-stigmatising HIV within their respective communities
- To disseminate valuable HIV information in order to increase awareness, encourage testing, prevent transmissions, promote adherence to treatment, increase access to

services and highlight safe practices

- To assess the efficacy of the current strategies as outlined in the CALD HIV Interagency Committee (CHIC) strategic document, specifically around prevention, testing and quality of life
- To assist the sector in highlighting the current challenges around community engagement and accessing health and support services
- To address stigma and discrimination through inviting along African HIV-positive speakers to share their stories
- To ascertain grass roots recommendations, strategies and ideas about how to move forward in partnership with African communities and address the current epidemic.

## ACTIVITIES:

- Recruitment of attendees was done through PEACE workers' existing networks, contacting various African community leaders and associations and emailing other relevant multicultural service providers
- The conference was held from 9:30am–4:30pm on a Friday (to suit the availability of attendees)
- Keynote speakers from clinical and health promotion services presented on topics relating to current statistics, the relevance to African communities, transmission, prevention, testing and quality of life. Time was allocated after each presentation for questions and discussion
- Two African HIV-positive speakers were invited from interstate to present their personal stories
- Workshops and small group activities were facilitated around testing campaign ideas, normalising HIV and challenging stigma, and ways forward.

## EVALUATION:

- Pre and post testing indicates that participants gained new knowledge on HIV transmission, prevention and testing
- Feedback forms indicated that participants rated the conference as 'excellent' and found it very beneficial, especially in regards to networking, new learning and hearing about real life experiences from HIV-positive speakers
- Verbal feedback suggested that participants gained valuable insight into the stigma and discrimination surrounding HIV and felt inspired to invite HIV-positive speakers into their communities
- Participants enjoyed engaging in lively discussion and debate
- Strategies and recommendations were made regarding partnership projects, testing campaigns, ways forward and tackling stigma.

# WOMEN:

## World AIDS Day Celebration 2011

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

CALD women

### TYPE:

World AIDS Day community event

### DURATION:

2011

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **PEACE Multicultural Services BBV and STI program in collaboration with the African Communities Leaders Advisory Forum (ACLAF)**

PEACE is a program of Relationships Australia South Australia (RASA)

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: SA Health through the Communicable Disease Control Branch

**Contact: Enaam Oudih**  
**Ph: (08) 8245 8100**  
**Web: <http://www.rasa.org.au/whatwedo/peace-multicultural.aspx>**

### AIMS:

- To honour and celebrate women on World AIDS Day and impart health promotion information.
- Specific goals:
  - › To raise awareness of issues that affect women who live with HIV both globally and locally

- › To focus on universal access and promotion of female condoms as a strategy to empower women and support HIV prevention
- › To build links and encourage supportive HIV-positive peer relationships, across all cultures
- › To reduce isolation and stigma for women who live with HIV.

### ACTIVITIES:

120 women attended this event (including 40 African women) comprised of:

- HIV-positive women and HIV-affected women
- PEACE community educators
- CALD community members
- Bilingual workers
- Other service providers.

### EVALUATION:

The evaluation survey indicated that the large majority of participants were pleased with the event; had increased their knowledge about women and HIV and about the female condom in particular; and had gained a sense of empowerment from their attendance.

In relation to empowerment, a review of individual comments in the evaluation sheets highlights that the women felt empowered to take action against prejudice and to share their new knowledge.

# Empowering African Women's Project

---

## **PRIORITY GROUP/S:**

Sexually active African women; women from families affected by HIV; women with husbands/partners living in Africa

## **TYPE:**

Community education program (pilot program)

## **DURATION:**

April-June 2012

## **OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

### **PEACE Multicultural BBV and STI services**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: SA Health through the Communicable Disease Control Branch

**Contact:** Enaam Oudih  
**Ph:** (08) 8245 8100  
**Web:** <http://www.rasa.org.au/whatwedo/peace-multicultural.aspx>

## **PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:**

- HIV Women's Program, Women's Health Statewide (Women's and Children's Health Network)

## **AIMS:**

- To increase women's knowledge about sexual health
- To empower women to take control of their sexual health

### **Specific objectives:**

- To increase skills and knowledge about BBV and STIs
- To increase awareness of socially conditioned gender roles
- To increase skills and knowledge in how to negotiate safe sex

- To educate women about the use of the female condom.

## **ACTIVITIES:**

The project design consisted of three stages:

1. Engage community networks to enact a tailored promotion of the project
2. Recruit participants from countries with high HIV prevalence
3. Deliver a series of six education sessions promoting the use of the female condom and providing skills in its use.

Participants learnt about safe sex, helpfully explored gender issues that relate to sexual agency and decision-making and gained understanding and familiarity with use of the female condom. All participants shared information about the female condom with someone within their family or community.

## **EVALUATION:**

Evaluations indicated that participants were highly satisfied with the training.

- 80.7% of participants rated the course as excellent
- 72.3% rated the course as being extremely responsive to their needs
- 72.3% rated the course as extremely relevant to them.

Responses to the verbal evaluation survey suggested that participants would not have engaged with the training if we had only discussed the female condom in isolation without exploring the cultural conditions and issues surrounding safe sex, gender and condom use. This aspect of the course is fundamental to the empowerment of women.

# YOUTH:

## **African Youth Drama Drive**

### **PRIORITY GROUP/S:**

At risk/highly vulnerable African youth

### **TYPE:**

Capacity building program

### **DURATION:**

Nov 2012 - Present

### **OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

#### **PEACE Multicultural Services**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
SA Health The STI and BBV Section

**Contact:** Sharna Ciotti  
**Ph:** (08) 8245 8100  
**Email:** s.ciotti@rasa.org.au

### **PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:**

- The success of the program has meant that the participating youth have been mentored by PEACE and supported to form their own incorporated body – ‘The African Youth Drive’.

### **AIMS:**

The African Youth Drive aims to address the wider context of sexual health through addressing some of its social determinants: racism, self-esteem, settlement challenges, intergenerational conflict, identity and belonging and health literacy.

The project creatively engages with African youth who are disconnected from sexual health providers and ‘mainstream’ provision models, through the mediums of music, performance and dance. A safe space and a sense of belonging have been created, where the youth are provided with life skills and sexual health information relevant to their own personal, community and cultural experiences.

The core foundation of this project is based on the collaboration of diverse artists, parents, multicultural service providers and African youth leaders. To ensure the sustainability of this project, participants formed an executive committee who are now the office-bearers of the newly created African Youth Drive incorporated association.

### **ACTIVITIES:**

The group, consisting of 30 young people from 8 different African countries, have produced a range of original performances such as songs written about unsafe sex and the experiences of being a young African person living in Australia, an HIV role play, and expressive dance routines. These works will be recorded and distributed to community members as a way of creating awareness, and building health literacy and contextual understanding.

The group meets once a week on Friday afternoons in a CBD location that is easily accessible via public transport.

The PEACE worker coordinating the program also provides transport for those youth who live too far away to access public transport.

## **EVALUATION:**

Evaluation will be conducted 30 June 2013.

Verbal feedback so far has indicated that:

- The youth are very passionate about music, performance and dance, and look forward to attending each week
- Participants see it as an opportunity to showcase their creative talents
- Participants are able to freely express their hardships and feelings around life challenges
- The youth feel as though they are provided with a voice
- The parents of youth support their involvement and encourage them to attend as they believe it 'keeps them out of trouble'.



# African Youth Peer Education Learning Program

---

## **PRIORITY GROUP/S:**

African youth leaders and/or influential young people

## **TYPE:**

Capacity building program

## **DURATION:**

Aug 2011 – June 2012

## **OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

### **PEACE Multicultural Services**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
SA Health The STI and BBV Section

**Contact:** Sharna Ciotti  
**Ph:** (08) 8245 8100  
**Email:** s.ciotti@rasa.org.au

## **PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:**

- African Communities Council (SA)

## **AIMS:**

- To build the capacity and skills of youth leaders to work with the young people in their own communities
- To empower youth in taking control of their own health and well-being
- To contextualise HIV information so that it was applicable to the young people's lives and so they felt passionately about the awareness and prevention cause
- To increase HIV information dissemination among young African people
- To create referral pathways for African youth requiring assistance, support and/or information related to HIV.

## **ACTIVITIES:**

This group of young leaders and influential members of their respective communities were engaged to participate in a seven week peer education program addressing HIV and social health determinants.



Intensive education and training was provided around these issues, so that the youth were able to conduct their own projects in their respective communities.

As part of this program the participants conducted a survey of their peers regarding attitudes, values and knowledge of safe sex practices and HIV. After analysing and interpreting the results of the survey, they were assisted in designing a youth workshop.

This workshop was delivered to 50 of their peers at the African Communities Council office.

### **EVALUATION:**

- 50% of youth rated the program as 'excellent' and 50% as 'very good'
- 82% believed the program responded to their needs
- 78.7% believed the content was relevant to them.

Participants also noted that they had learnt:

- What safe sex is
- The importance of safe sex
- HIV is here in Australia
- People with HIV can live a normal and healthy life on treatment
- How to help my community
- How you can prevent HIV from spreading.

# Young African Interns Program

---

## PRIORITY GROUP/S:

African youth (under 30)

## TYPE:

Internship Program

## DURATION:

2012-2013

## OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

### **AIDS Council of South Australia**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: AIDS Council of South Australia (ACSA)

ACSA has since been defunded.

**Contact:** Sharna Ciotti  
**Ph:** (08) 8245 8100  
**Email:** [s.ciotti@rasa.org.au](mailto:s.ciotti@rasa.org.au)  
**Web:** [www.acsa.org.au](http://www.acsa.org.au)

## PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- PEACE Multicultural Services

## AIMS:

- To support four young African South Australians to complete an internship program with a view to building their knowledge around HIV and STIs.
- For the young interns to participate in the development of African youth-specific resources and strategies to increase HIV/STI testing, knowledge and safe sex behaviours.

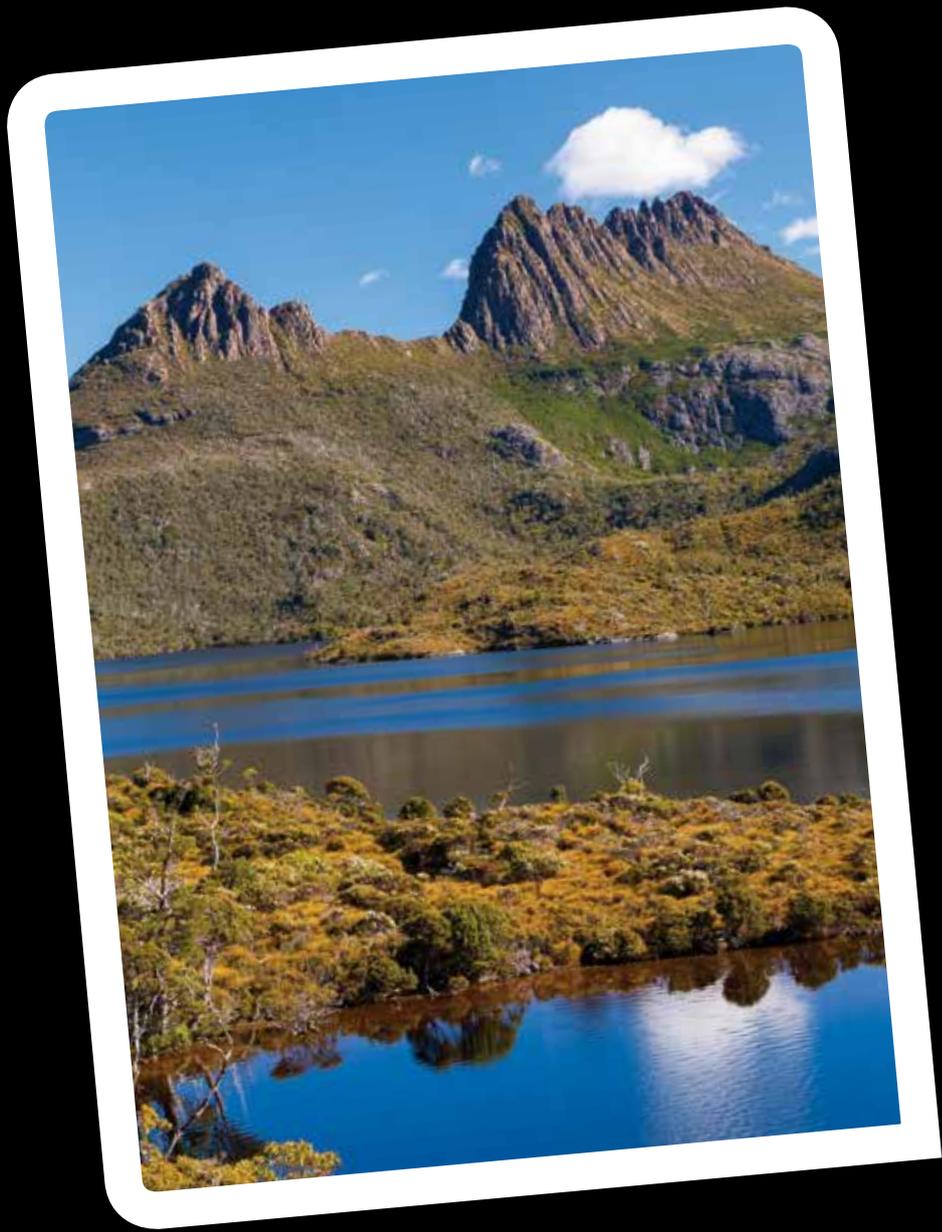
## ACTIVITIES:

Two young men and two young women were recruited to represent South Australia at the AFAO African Communities Forum in Melbourne (September 2012), then continued to work with ACSA on developing resources and strategies to engage with other young African people living in SA.

## EVALUATION:

The project will be formally evaluated at a later date.

Due to the CALD Project Officer leaving and a gap in the role the progress with the interns has been slow. However, it is being revitalised and all four interns remain engaged and committed to participating in the project. A collaborative approach with PEACE and their African interns has helped to progress the project.



TASMANIA





There have not been any health promotion campaigns or projects targeting African communities in Tasmania. The following listing relates to HIV and CALD service provision.

| SERVICE  | ROLE  | CONTACT  |
|--|---|--|
| <p><b>TASMANIAN COUNCIL ON AIDS, HEPATITIS AND RELATED DISEASES (TasCAHRD)</b></p> | <p>TasCAHRD has been providing care and support for people with HIV for over 25 years. Support is also provided for the partners, family and cares of people living with HIV.</p>   | <p><b>Shaun Staunton</b><br/> <b>Ph: (03) 6234 1242</b><br/> <b>Email: ceo@tascahrd.org.au</b><br/> <b>Web: http://tascahrd.org.au</b></p> |
| <p><b>REFUGEE AND MIGRANT LIAISON OFFICER</b></p>                                  | <p>The Refugee and Migrant Liaison Officer is a part time position based at the Royal Hobart Hospital with the aim of assisting the acute care system to appropriately and confidently provide services to refugee and migrant patients accessing care.</p> | <p><b>Jenny Forward</b><br/> <b>Ph: (03) 6222 8126</b><br/> <b>Email: jenny.forward@dhhs.tas.gov.au</b></p>                                |
| <p><b>SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICE TASMANIA</b></p>                                       | <p>Sexual Health Service Tasmania is a state-wide service with offices in Hobart, Launceston, Burnie and Devonport. The service provides clinical, counselling and education services related to sexual health and HIV.</p>                                 | <p><b>Dr Louise Owen</b><br/> <b>Ph: (03) 6233 3557</b><br/> <b>Email: louise.owen@dhhs.tas.gov.au</b></p>                                 |



VICTORIA



# WHOLE COMMUNITY:

## Cultures of care: African communities in regional Victoria

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### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

African men and women in Regional Victoria (such as Geelong, Colac, Ballarat, LaTrobe Valley, and Shepparton)

### TYPE:

Community program  
(Regional areas of Victoria)

### DURATION:

2007–2008 and 2008–2009

### RESOURCES:

Hard copies of reports available on request

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

**Multicultural Health and Support Service (MHSS: a program of the Centre for Culture, Ethnicity & Health - CEH)**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: the State Government of Victoria, through the: Department of Health's Prevention and Population Health Branch, Sexual Health & Viral Hepatitis Team.

**Contact:** Alison Coelho  
**Ph:** (03) 9418 9909  
**Email:** [alisonc@ceh.org.au](mailto:alisonc@ceh.org.au)  
**Web:** (program summary):  
[www.ceh.org.au/about/projects/pages/africancommunities](http://www.ceh.org.au/about/projects/pages/africancommunities)

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Victorian Department of Health
- Local health and settlement services

### AIMS:

- Increase the local African communities' understanding of BBV and STI prevention and treatment options
- Create better pathways for members of local African communities to receive BBV/STI testing and treatment
- Work with African community leaders to develop skills in working with and responding to the Australian media
- Educate relevant health services to better respond to the needs of local African communities.

### ACTIVITIES:

- In 2007–2008, the project was implemented in Geelong, Colac and Ballarat.
- In 2008–2009, the African Communities in Regional Victoria Project formed part of a larger CEH initiative in the Latrobe City area in Gippsland.
- Focus groups and key informant interviews
- Culturally appropriate community education
- Liaison and consultation with service providers
- Training for service providers in culturally appropriate BBV and sexual health promotion.

### EVALUATION:

No formal evaluation has been done; however, the program has a good success rating.

# WOMEN:

## SWAB Project 2013

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

Vietnamese and African communities in metropolitan Melbourne

### TYPE:

Community project

### DURATION:

November 2012-June 2013

### RESOURCES:

Hard copies of report available on request

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **Multicultural Health and Support Service (MHSS) a program of CEH**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
Victorian Department of Health

**Contact:** Alison Coelho  
**Ph:** (03) 9418 9909  
**Email:** [alisonc@ceh.org.au](mailto:alisonc@ceh.org.au)  
**Web:** [www.ceh.org.au/mhss](http://www.ceh.org.au/mhss)  
**Also see CEH online newsletter**

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Health Works, Western Region Health Centre
- African and Vietnamese hair and beauty salons.

### AIMS:

To develop gender specific resources in-language and to conduct friendly outreach visits to raise awareness of the need for sterile practice and encourage the participants to share the message with any clients and colleagues in hair and beauty salons.

### ACTIVITIES:

- Consult/focus group/chat with hair salons' owners, hairdressers and their clients. Information gained from this process was used to inform the project
- Targeted health promotion messages for traders were developed in two languages: Vietnamese and English
- To further reinforce health messages, the project workers provided each participating salon with: medical swabs, clipper spray can, sharps container and handwashing chart
- An article was developed in Vietnamese with a poster and images. These were placed in Vietnamese newspapers for a month
- Free information sessions have been offered to salons and owners
- The 'Swab' project messages will be incorporated into MHSS' community education and publications in the future

### EVALUATION:

The project is spread over a large geographic area. Participants will be re-contacted to provide feedback on process, reach and outcome of campaign.

# YOUTH:

## African Community (men & young men) - Community Education and Health Promotion

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

African community in Victoria, particularly African men and young men

### TYPE:

Community program (VIC State-wide)

### DURATION:

Ongoing

### RESOURCES:

Hard copies of report available on request

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

The Multicultural Health and Support Service (MHSS), a program of the Centre for Culture Ethnicity and Health (CEH)

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
Victorian Department of Health

Contact: **Alison Coelho**  
Ph: **(03) 9418 9909**  
Email: **alisonc@ceh.org.au**  
Web: **www.ceh.org.au/mhss**

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

Local ethnic community associations, settlement services, and English language schools.

### AIMS:

Community education and capacity building to reduce risk of transmission of BBV/HIV and STIs among African men.

### ACTIVITIES:

- Community education sessions
- Community based care and support
- Community action projects
- Health promotion.

### EVALUATION:

Ongoing

# Hip Hop & Health (H3)

---

## **PRIORITY GROUP/S:**

African young people

## **TYPE:**

Community program (VIC state-wide)

## **DURATION:**

Began 2008, ongoing

## **RESOURCES:**

Hard copies of report available on request

## **OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

### **MHSS, a program of the Centre for Culture Ethnicity and Health (CEH)**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
Department of Health

**Contact:** Alison Coelho  
**Ph:** (03) 9418 9909  
**Email:** [alisonc@ceh.org.au](mailto:alisonc@ceh.org.au)  
**Web:** [www.ceh.org.au/mhss](http://www.ceh.org.au/mhss)  
**Also see CEH online newsletter**

## **PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:**

Young people who participated in the project.

## **AIMS:**

The project was designed to:

- Increase HIV awareness and knowledge
- Encourage testing
- Reduce stigma.

## **ACTIVITIES:**

The Hip Hop & Health Project utilised unique innovation leveraging on the popularity of hip hop and incorporating African influenced dance routines, music, street theatre and original rap lyrics to carry out community sexual health education and health promotion. Through this combination of music artistry and dance, the H3 arts-based model was able to reach far and wide empowering both the participants and audiences to encourage preventative

behaviours and simplify the process of appropriate community-based sexual health education.

## **Program elements:**

- Community-based workshops and rehearsals facilitated by MHSS community worker
- Musical, dance and street theatre performances at community events and festivals

The greatest strength of the H3 project is the building of capacity in participants to create original hip hop and rap lyrics with an African flavour, music arrangement and dance choreography to effectively carry out community sexual health education. The core group performs at community events, festivals, workshops and takes every opportunity to promote sexual health education targeting mainly young people.

## **EVALUATION:**

In progress. Previous calendar year was internally process evaluated and the outcomes were excellent. The project has become a successful arts-based model to engage African young people around issues of BBV/STI /HIV and positive relationships.

The H3 project has achieved good results in creating awareness among targeted participants and within the African communities. Plans are in place to diversify and carry out simultaneous programs throughout Victoria to extend the program's reach and engage in more partnerships with other related services.

The full evaluation report is available at:  
**<http://www.ceh.org.au/about/projects/h3.html>**

## Sister2sister

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

African and Arabic speaking young women

### TYPE:

Community program (Melbourne and Geelong)

### DURATION:

2009

### RESOURCES:

Hard copies of reports available on request

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **MHSS, a program of the Centre for Culture Ethnicity and Health (CEH)**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:

Victorian Department of Human Services (DHS)

**Contact: Alison Coelho**

**Ph: (03) 9418 9909**

**Email: [alisonc@ceh.org.au](mailto:alisonc@ceh.org.au)**

**Web: [www.ceh.org.au/mhss](http://www.ceh.org.au/mhss)**

**Also see CEH online newsletter**

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Refugee Minor Program at the Victorian Department of Health
- The Centre for Multicultural Youth.

### AIMS:

Improve sexual and reproductive health knowledge and STI prevention.

The project aimed to employ a traditional approach in African communities of women sharing information, advice and guidance with each other as a strategy to address low levels of awareness about sexual and reproductive health among young women from refugee and migrant backgrounds.

### ACTIVITIES:

Sister2sister group members took part in six after-school sessions that were approximately two hours each in duration. Each session encompassed relevant topics and hands-on activities, which included exploring the female reproductive system, negotiating sexual relationships and sexual rights, as well as learning about BBV/STI and visiting relevant health services.

### EVALUATION:

The program was evaluated and found to be extremely successful.

Running the program clearly showed how group work is an effective strategy that encourages culturally diverse young women to be part of a process that allows their voices to be heard. Evaluations also indicate that the group can be run with girls from different ethnicities and not necessarily based on one ethnic group.

The full evaluation report is available at:

**<http://www.ceh.org.au/about/projects/sister2sister.html>**



WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA

# WHOLE COMMUNITY:

## World AIDS Day Family Fun Night

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

Humanitarian entrants: families from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

### TYPE:

Community program (Perth metropolitan area)

### DURATION:

World AIDS day event 2011 & 2012

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

**Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
Dept. of Health WA, WA AIDS Council

**Contact:** Anne Sorenson  
**Ph:** 0417 775 340  
**Email:** [anne.sorenson@mmrcwa.org.au](mailto:anne.sorenson@mmrcwa.org.au)  
**Web:** [www.mmrcwa.org.au](http://www.mmrcwa.org.au)

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Department of Health
- WA Aids Council (WAAC)
- Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre
- Department of Communities (2011 only)

### AIMS:

To raise awareness of HIV in Australia, increase ability for CALD Parents (particularly African) to discuss sexual health with their families.

### ACTIVITIES:

Social gathering. Entertainment includes singing, dancing and drama

### EVALUATION:

No formal evaluation has been undertaken. Attendance by particular African communities is disproportionately high because the networks of the organisers are predominantly of African origin (Liberian, Sierra Leone).

# HIV Community Educator Training

---

## PRIORITY GROUP/S:

Humanitarian entrants/people from CALD backgrounds

## TYPE:

Train the trainer for CALD community members (Perth metropolitan area)

## DURATION:

2011 & 2012.

## OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

### **Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
Dept. of Health WA, WA AIDS Council

**Contact:** Anne Sorenson  
**Ph:** 0417 775 340  
**Email:** anne.sorenson@mmrcwa.org.au  
**Web:** www.mmrcwa.org.au

## PARTNER ORGANISATION:

- WA AIDS council
- MMRC.

## AIM:

- To skill up members of CALD communities to be able to educate others about HIV

## ACTIVITIES:

The training was delivered in 7 modules, of 3 hour duration. Topics were:

- Epidemiology, culture, gender, stigma & discrimination.
- HIV – the facts.
- Facilitation skills & model session planning.
- Participants practice session.
- HIV and immigration, and the law.
- Treatments and testing.
- Preparation of materials for use in community awareness raising.

## EVALUATION:

No formal evaluation has been undertaken, however participants in the 2012 HIV course commented:

*'I really enjoyed this course and it has laid a strong foundation for my work ahead.'*

*'Great course. Very informative and enjoyable training.'*

*'This course is very educative and mind changing. Surely we need this in a larger community.'*

*'Please encourage more young people to attend the next training.'*

## Ethiopian radio program

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

Ethiopian community

### TYPE:

Community radio program

### DURATION:

2011

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **Perth Ethiopian Radio & WA AIDS Council**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:

WA Health,

Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)

**Contact:** Sally Rowell (WA AIDS Council)

**Ph:** (08) 9482 0000

**Email:** srowell@waaids.com

**Web:** www.waaids.com

**Girma Molla (Perth Ethiopian Radio)**

**Ph:** (08) 9275 5664

**Email:** girma.molla@gmail.com

### AIM:

- To provide up to date information related to HIV in Amharic over a 10 week period.

### ACTIVITIES:

The program involved 10 broadcasts over 10 weeks of 10 minutes duration each. Topics of interest were identified and the text translated into Amharic by the Perth Ethiopian Radio Service, and included HIV facts, pregnancy, testing & treatment, impact of culture, HIV & the law, immigration issues, stigma & discrimination, and some positive people's stories.

The Perth Ethiopian Radio Service also broadcast a number of issues included in the 'Top Tips' brochure produced by AFAO and translated into Amharic, and promoted the existence of the brochure (see page 56).



## **HIV community awareness raising sessions**

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### **PRIORITY GROUP/S:**

CALD community

### **TYPE:**

Community HIV awareness raising program

### **DURATION:**

2012

### **OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

**Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
WA Health,

**Contact:** Anne Sorenson  
**Ph:** 0417 775 340  
**Email:** [anne.sorenson@mrcwa.org.au](mailto:anne.sorenson@mrcwa.org.au)  
**Web:** [www.mrcwa.org.au](http://www.mrcwa.org.au)

### **PARTNER ORGANISATION:**

- WA AIDS Council

### **AIM:**

- To raise awareness with members of CALD communities about HIV.

### **ACTIVITIES:**

There were two courses, each delivered in four modules of three hours duration. Topics were:

- Epidemiology, culture, gender, stigma & discrimination
- HIV – the facts
- HIV, Immigration, and the law
- Treatments and testing.

# PEOPLE WITH HIV:

## Disclosing your HIV status (WA)

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

People from living with HIV from CALD backgrounds

### TYPE:

Print and Web resource in English.

### DURATION:

2012 (in production)

### RESOURCES:

Brochure available from  
<http://halc.org.au/publications/guides-to-hiv-and-the-law/>

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **WA AIDS Council**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
WA AIDS Council (WAAC)

**Contact:** Sally Rowell (WA AIDS Council)  
**Ph:** (08) 9482 0000  
**Email:** [srowell@waaid.com](mailto:srowell@waaid.com)  
**Web:** [www.waaid.com](http://www.waaid.com)

### PARTNER ORGANISATION:

- HIV/ AIDS Legal Centre (HALC)

### AIM:

- This guide will assist all people with HIV, including those born outside of Australia, to understand their rights and obligations in terms of disclosure in Western Australia.

### ACTIVITIES:

- Currently in production
- An introduction to the guide will be conducted for Community Legal Associations
- A Q&A session will be held for HIV-positive clients.

## **HIV & immigration (training for immigration agents)**

---

### **PRIORITY GROUP/S:**

Immigration agents in WA

### **TYPE:**

Professional development for immigration agents

### **DURATION:**

One day course in 2012

### **RESOURCES:**

Brochure

### **OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

#### **WA AIDS Council**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
WA AIDS Council (WAAC)

**Contact:** Sally Rowell  
**Ph:** (08) 9482 0000  
**Email:** srowell@waaid.com  
**Web:** www.waaid.com

### **PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:**

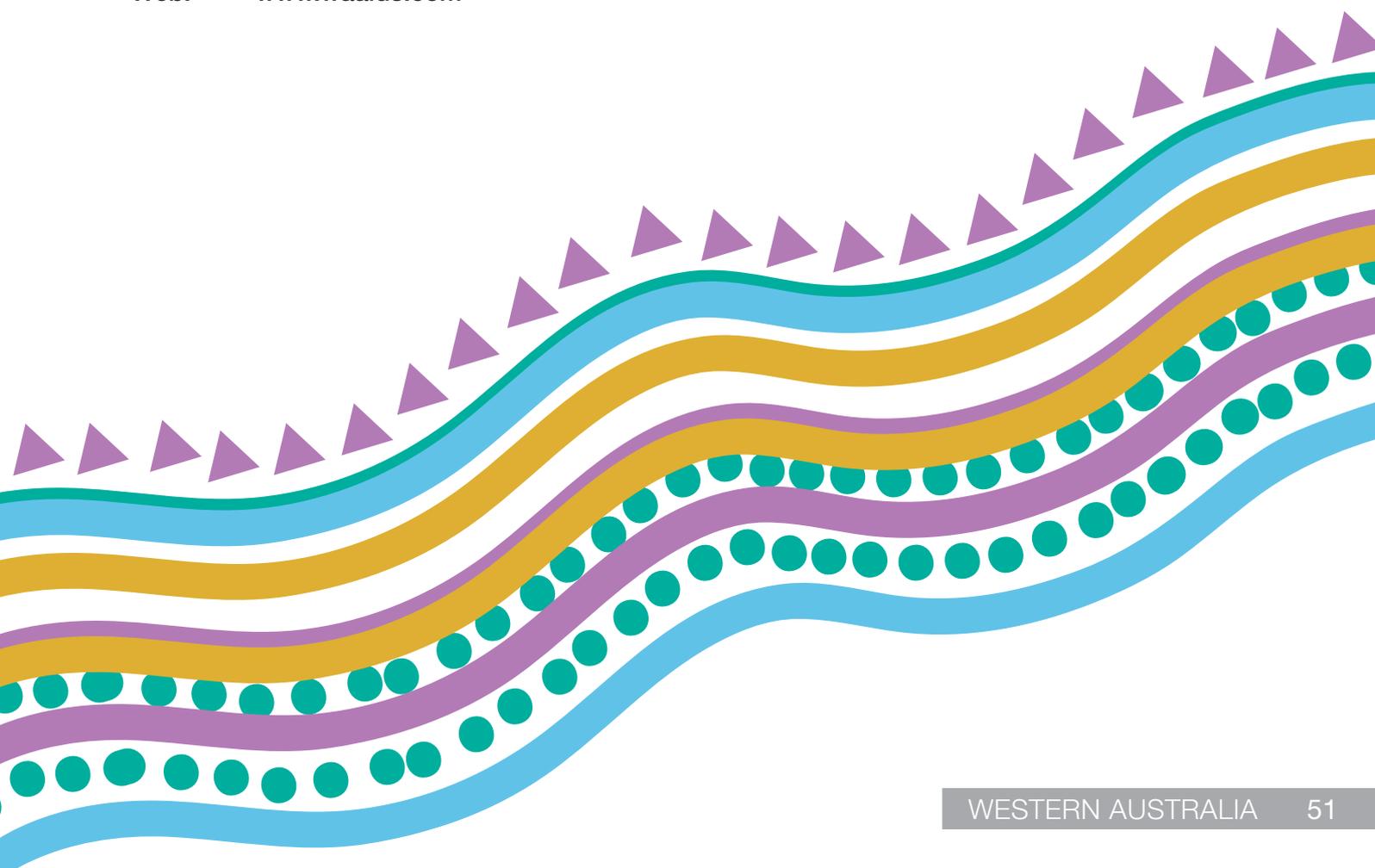
- HIV/ AIDS Legal Centre (HALC)

### **AIMS:**

- The aim of this program was to upskill immigration agents in WA regarding the health criteria as it relates to HIV-positive applicants.

### **ACTIVITIES:**

One day training course was conducted for 25 immigration agents, provided by HALC.



# WOMEN:

## HIV Drama Project

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

West African women

### TYPE:

Community program

### DURATION:

2011 - 2012

### LOCATION:

Mirrabooka, Perth

### RESOURCES:

DVD available

2013 calendar available

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: WA Health

**Contact:** Anne Sorenson

**Ph:** 0417 775 340

**Email:** [anne.sorenson@mmrcwa.org.au](mailto:anne.sorenson@mmrcwa.org.au)

**Web:** [www.mmrcwa.org.au](http://www.mmrcwa.org.au)

### ACTIVITIES:

Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre (MMRC) has been working with West African women to develop theatre and drama to communicate messages around HIV prevention and intergenerational conflict in immigrant communities in Australia.

Some members of the drama group have participated in the HIV Community Educators' Training facilitated by WA AIDS Council and MMRC. The drama pieces have been performed at community events, World AIDS Day, and during Sexual Health Week. This work is ongoing.

# Uthando Project

---

## PRIORITY GROUP/S:

Migrant and refugee women

## TYPE:

Community program (ongoing)

## DURATION:

5 weeks in 2011

## LOCATION:

Perth

## OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

### **Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: WA Health

**Contact:** Anne Sorenson  
**Ph:** 0417 775 340  
**Email:** [anne.sorenson@mmrcwa.org.au](mailto:anne.sorenson@mmrcwa.org.au)  
**Web:** [www.mmrcwa.org.au](http://www.mmrcwa.org.au)

## PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Uthando Project
- WA AIDS Council (WAAC).

## ACTIVITIES:

Workshops using the activity of doll-making as a vehicle to raise awareness of the risks of HIV in Australia.



# YOUTH:

## Sharing stories

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

Young humanitarian entrants, youth from CALD backgrounds, youth from African communities. The program is currently engaged with South Sudanese, Liberian, Congolese and Sierra Leone communities.

### TYPE:

Theatre-based peer education (Perth metropolitan area)

### DURATION:

Started in 2009  
Ongoing until 2014.

### RESOURCES:

DVD

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### **Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre (MMRC)**

PROGRAM FUNDED BY: WA Health

Contact: Anne Sorenson  
Ph: 0417 775 340  
Email: [anne.sorenson@mmrcwa.org.au](mailto:anne.sorenson@mmrcwa.org.au)  
Web: [www.mmrcwa.org.au](http://www.mmrcwa.org.au)

### PARTNER ORGANISATION:

- WA Health

### AIM:

To promote sexual health amongst youth and families from CALD backgrounds (particularly new and emerging communities in WA).

### ACTIVITIES:

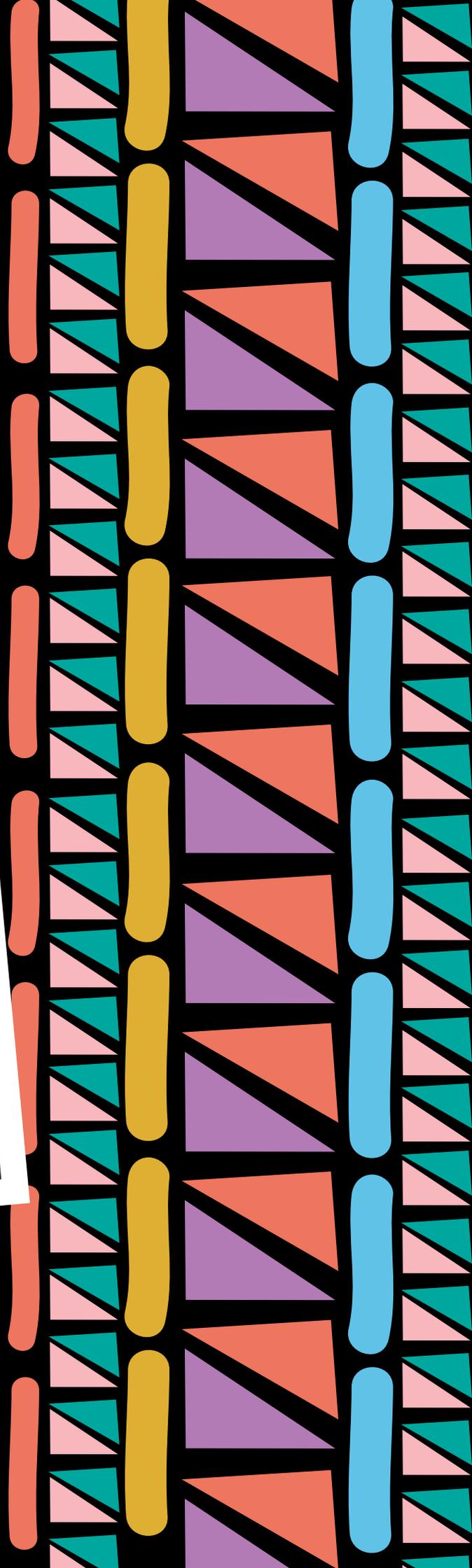
- Sharing Stories Youth Theatre Ensemble
- Sharing Stories Women's Drama Group
- Weekly drama workshops that culminated in an original drama performance that is interactive and encourages community engagement with sexual health awareness
- Production of an original drama by the Sharing Stories Youth Theatre Ensemble about a young woman living with HIV. (DVD resource *Miss Understood* can be ordered online or by request from the program coordinator).

### EVALUATION:

Ongoing evaluation



NATIONAL



# PEOPLE WITH HIV:

## Top Tips for Living Well with HIV

---

### PRIORITY GROUP/S:

Arabic-speaking, Ethiopian, Thai, and Vietnamese communities

### TYPE:

Booklet and online resource

### DURATION:

Published 2011–2012

### RESOURCES:

Hard copies available on request or online

[www.afao.org.au/news/new-resources-for-people-living-with-hiv-from-cald-backgrounds](http://www.afao.org.au/news/new-resources-for-people-living-with-hiv-from-cald-backgrounds)

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:  
Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA)

**Contact:** Ben Wilcock  
**Ph:** (02) 8568 1151  
**Email:** [bwilcock@afao.org.au](mailto:bwilcock@afao.org.au)  
**Web:** [www.afao.org.au](http://www.afao.org.au)

### AIMS:

- To provide people with HIV from CALD backgrounds with access to accurate information about HIV management and treatment in their own language.
- The booklets also serve as a tool to assist service providers to better meet the needs of an increasingly diverse client base.

### ACTIVITIES:

The *Top Tips* booklets are available in plain English and in four community languages: Arabic, Amharic, Thai, and Vietnamese. The booklets include tips for living with HIV and contact information for relevant organisations.

# RELIGIOUS LEADERS:

## HIV & Stigma in Australia - A Guide for Religious Leaders

---

### TYPE:

Booklet

### DURATION:

2013 - 2016

### OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

#### Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)

#### PROGRAM FUNDED BY:

Commonwealth Department of Health  
and Ageing

**Contact:** Simon Donohoe  
**Ph:** (02) 8568 1115  
**Email:** sdonohoe@afao.org.au  
**Web:** www.afao.org.au

### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

- Centre for Culture, Ethnicity & Health -Melbourne
- AFAO African Reference Group
- State and Territory AIDS Councils
- State and Territory PLHIV organisations
- National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA)

### AIMS:

#### Aims:

- to decrease HIV stigma expressed within (faith based) community settings

#### Objectives:

- to increase faith leaders' understanding of HIV in Australia, and sensitise them to the need for proactive engagement in reducing HIV-related stigma within their congregations and communities
- to address stereotypes about PLHIV and routes of HIV transmission in Australia
- to promote faith based settings as supportive environments for disclosure of HIV status
- to promote awareness of anti-discrimination legislation.

### ACTIVITIES:

The booklet for faith leaders will be distributed through national organisations such as the National Council of Churches, the Australian Partnerships of Religious Organisations, Church Resources (Catholic), the Islamic Association of Australia, the Federation of Australian Buddhist Councils, and the Hindu Council of Australia, as well as being promoted through the Religion and Ethics Report program on ABC Radio National. Additionally, the booklet will be promoted and distributed by community members with a specific interest in HIV issues to their spiritual leaders.

### EVALUATION:

- Initial consultation with African Communities Advisory Group
- Focus testing with identified religious leaders
- Further evaluation to be undertaken.



Share your culture! Share your colour!  
Share your smile & share your knowledge on HIV too!

2013  
AUGUST

| SUNDAY            | MONDAY        | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY                 | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-------------------|---------------|---------|---------------------------|----------|--------|----------|
| *Independence Day |               |         |                           | *Senegal | 1      | 2        |
| School Holidays   |               |         | *Ivory Coast              |          |        | 3        |
| 4                 | *Burkina Faso | 5       | 6                         | 7        | 8      | 9        |
| *Chad             |               |         | *Central African Republic | *Congo   | 15     | 16       |
| 11                | 12            | 13      | 14                        | 15       | 16     | 17       |
| 18                | 19            | 20      | 21                        | 22       | 23     | 24       |
| 25                | 26            | 27      | 28                        | 29       | 30     | 31       |



# ADD/AMEND YOUR PROGRAM/RESOURCE:

This resource will be updated in 2014. If you have a project that you think should be included, please provide the details here, or download this form as a Word document at [www.afao.org.au/what-we-do/health-promotion/cald](http://www.afao.org.au/what-we-do/health-promotion/cald)

**STATE/TERRITORY:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**IS THIS A CORRECTION TO AN EXISTING LISTING IN THE BOOKLET?**

YES/NO

If Yes, you only need to provide the name of the listing plus any changes. If the changes are minor you can just call or email AFAO instead (contact details below).

**NAME OF PROGRAM/RESOURCE:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**PRIORITY GROUP/S:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**TYPE:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**DURATION:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**RESOURCES (IF ANY, INCLUDING WEB ADDRESS IF AVAILABLE ONLINE):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

FUNDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT (FOR THE PROGRAM/RESOURCE):

\_\_\_\_\_

PH: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

WEB: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARTNER ORGANISATIONS (IF ANY):**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**AIMS:**

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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**ACTIVITIES:**

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**EVALUATION (OUTCOMES):**

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**CAN YOU PROVIDE PHOTOS FOR PUBLICATION?**

YES/NO

**YOUR DETAILS (FOR US TO CONTACT YOU WITH ANY QUESTIONS):**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANISATION: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please photocopy or scan and email, fax or post your completed form to:

**Email: [mapping@afao.org.au](mailto:mapping@afao.org.au)**

**Fax: 02 9557 9867**

**PO Box 51 Newtown NSW 2042**

## ABOUT AFAO

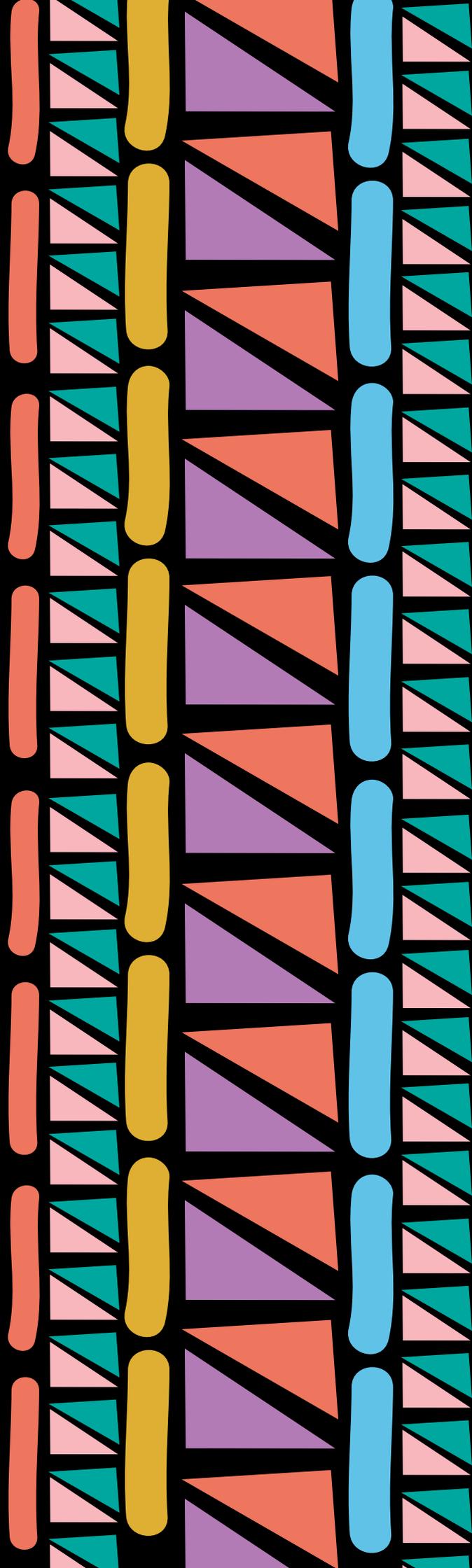
The Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) is the national federation for the HIV community response, providing leadership, coordination and support to Australia's policy, advocacy and health promotion response to HIV. AFAO also contributes to the development of effective policy and programmatic responses to HIV at the global level, particularly in South-East Asia and the Pacific.

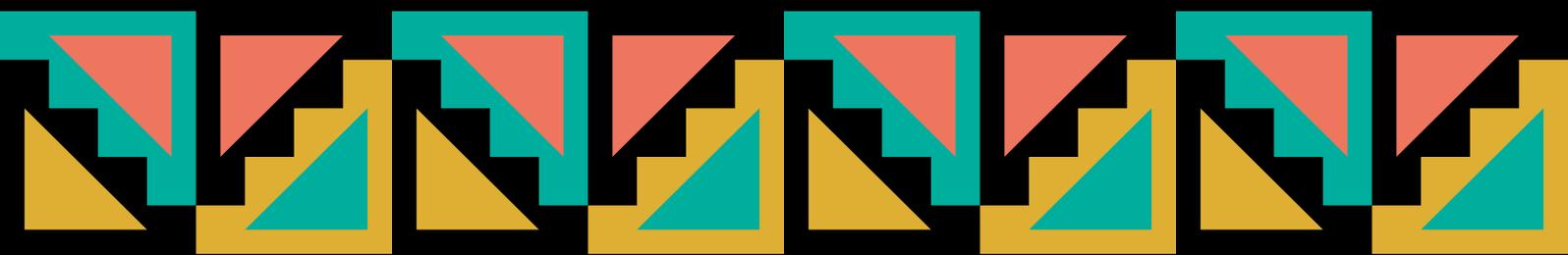
AFAO's members are the AIDS councils in each state and territory, the National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA), the Australian Injecting & Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL), the Anwernekenhe National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander HIV/AIDS Alliance (ANA), and Scarlet Alliance, the Australian Sex Workers Association.

## AFAO'S AFRICAN PROJECT

AFAO's African project was initiated in 2009 in response to increasing rates of HIV diagnoses among people born in sub-Saharan Africa, and concerns from service providers that these communities had specific needs in relation to HIV. The project activities include:

- Discussion paper 2010
- Community consultations 2009 – 2011
- National community forum May 2011
- National community forum September 2012
- Literature review summarising relevant social research in Australia and overseas 2013
- Discussion paper 2013.





**napwha**

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