

South Australian Multicultural Highlights



Government of
South Australia

October 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER



South Australia has always been a proudly multicultural state.

The 2021 Census revealed our great state is now home to people

from about 200 countries, speaking almost 250 languages, and practising more than 125 different religions.

New migrants and refugees of all ages continue to be welcomed to our shores, and we all benefit from the richly diverse languages, cultures, and traditions they bring with them.

The state government is keenly aware our established and emerging multicultural communities make a profound contribution to the economic, social and cultural life of our state.

That is why at the 2022-23 State Budget, we committed an additional \$16 million over four years for grants and other programs that will enrich our multicultural sector and strengthen our communities.

This document captures some of our early achievements in delivering on that significant investment.

As you will see, our additional funding is already improving how we showcase and celebrate our state's cultural and linguistic diversity. We are creating opportunities for our multicultural communities to contribute to our state's economy, and we are engaging with government, business, and the community to help us make South Australia a more inclusive, culturally aware place to live, study, work and thrive.

My sincere thanks to the Multicultural Affairs team in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet for their commitment and support on these important pieces of work for our state.

As you read these project highlights, I hope you will be encouraged by the progress we have made, and as optimistic as I am for what lies ahead.

I look forward to sharing more updates with you soon.

**Hon Zoe Bettison MP
Minister for Multicultural Affairs**



We acknowledge this land. The Dreaming is still living.
From the past, in the present, into the future, forever.



MULTICULTURAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA AT A GLANCE

South Australia is a truly multicultural state.

We are a proud multicultural society. It's who we are and who we have always been.

Ours is an ancient story of First Nations peoples and a modern story of migrants and refugees.

Our multicultural diversity is reflective of our countries of birth, ancestries, religions and languages spoken at home.

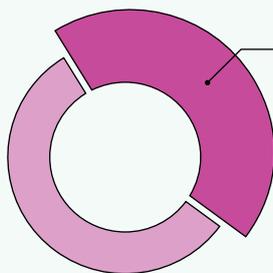
This snapshot of our diversity is based on data from the 2021 Census.

Ancestries

'Ancestry can be related to the place a person or their parents or grandparents were born or the cultural group they most identify with'.

(Australian Bureau of Statistics 2021)

South Australia has a long and proud tradition of welcoming migrants and refugees to our shores. Ancestry data helps us better understand our state's multicultural story.



44% of South Australians have at least one parent born overseas.

(compared to 48% of Australians who have at least one parent born overseas)

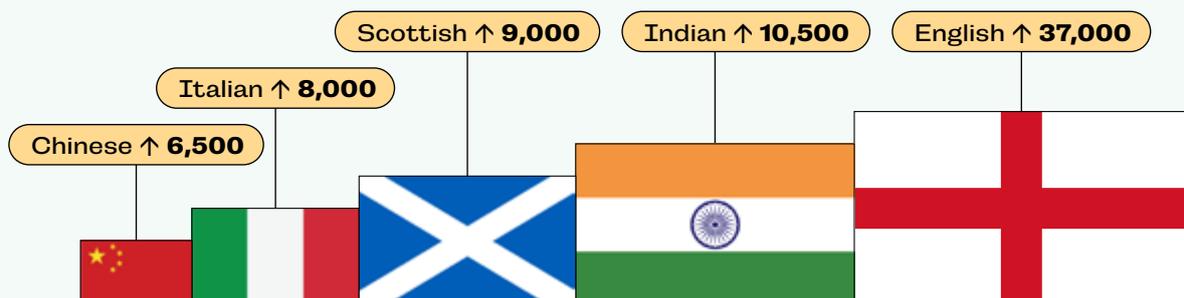
South Australia's TOP 10 ANCESTRIES

- 1 English **676,500**
- 2 Scottish **149,449**
- 3 Irish **136,035**
- 4 German **135,225**
- 5 Italian **103,914**
- 6 Chinese **58,955**
- 7 Indian **43,958**
- 8 Greek **40,704**
- 9 Dutch **29,585**
- 10 Vietnamese **22,897**



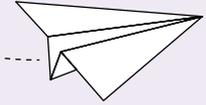
THERE WAS SIGNIFICANT GROWTH

in the number of South Australians who claimed the following ancestries between 2016 and 2021.

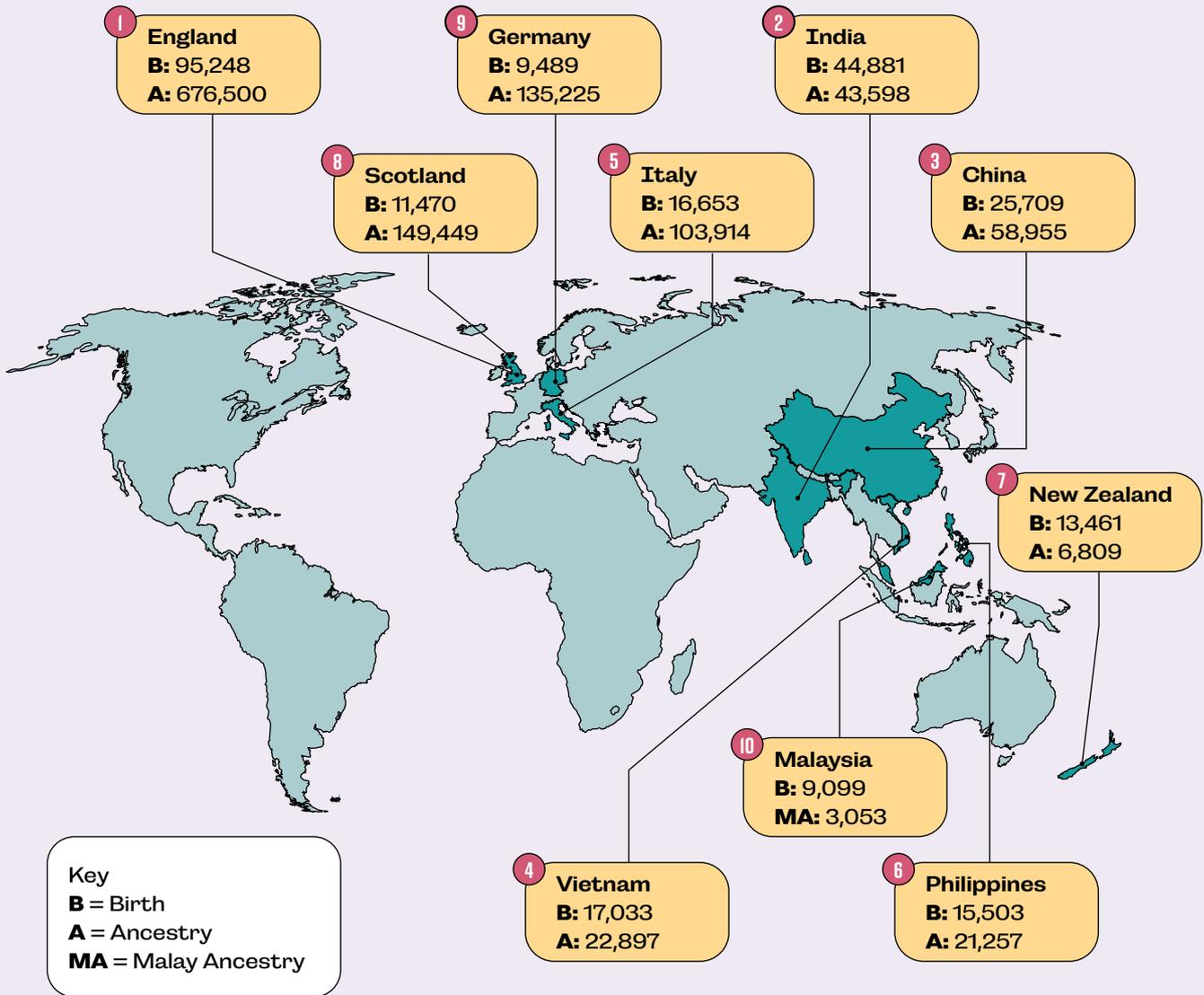


430,000

South Australians were born overseas



TOP 10 COUNTRIES OF BIRTH



South Australians come from more than 214 countries 🌍 speak 248 languages 🗣️ and practice 128 religions 🙏

Councils with the highest percentage of their population born overseas



METROPOLITAN

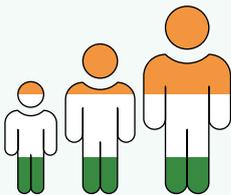
Adelaide **45%**
 Campbelltown **36%**
 Port Adelaide Enfield **36%**
 Salisbury **34%**
 Burnside **33%**
 West Torrens **32%**
 Norwood Payneham & St Peters **31%**
 Walkerville **30%**



REGIONAL

Alexandrina **22%**
 Adelaide Hills **21%**
 Victor Harbor **19%**
 Whyalla **18%**
 Port Augusta **17%**
 Mount Barker **15%**
 Naracoorte Lucindale **15%**

Significant changes between the 2016 and 2021 Census



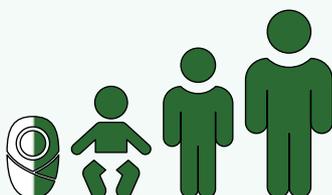
Our Indian born population experienced the largest growth of any migrant group

INCREASING BY 63%
 (more than 17,000 people)



Our Nepalese born community more than doubled in size

from almost **3,000** to more than **7,000**



In our growing Pakistan born community

1 IN 5 PEOPLE are aged between 0–14 years

Religions

The top religion nominated by South Australians was **Christianity 40%**.



The **top three religions with the biggest growth** from 2016 to 2021 were:



1 **Sikhism** ↑ **95%**
(8,800 to 17,200)



2 **Hinduism** ↑ **62%**
(22,900 to 38,100)



3 **Islam** ↑ **41%**
(28,500 to 40,300)

The **percentage** of South Australia's population:

1%

2.2%

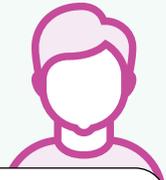
2.3%



45% of South Australians nominated no religion compared to 36% in 2016.

Languages

ALMOST 18% of South Australians spoke a language other than English at home.



THE TOP TEN LANGUAGES
other than English spoken at home were
(in descending order)

Mandarin, Italian, Greek, Vietnamese, Punjabi, Filipino/Tagalog, Arabic, Cantonese, Hindi and Nepali.

The largest increases in languages other than English spoken at home were



NEPALI

with more than 5,000, followed by

HAZARAGHI, MANDARIN AND GUJARATI

with more than 3,000 each (compared to 2016)

SUPPORTING MULTICULTURALISM

We are committed to supporting multiculturalism in South Australia.

Multicultural Affairs

Multicultural Affairs in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet is responsible for developing multicultural policies and programs, and promoting the value and importance of cultural and linguistic diversity in South Australia.

We report to the Minister for Multicultural Affairs and consult across state government on policy matters related to multicultural affairs at the Commonwealth, state, and community levels.

Multicultural Affairs delivers a range of projects, grant programs, and events that strengthen our multicultural community organisations and showcase who are as proud multicultural South Australians.

Our **Policy and Community Relations team** provides support and advice to the Premier, our Minister, and their parliamentary colleagues on multicultural affairs matters through our policy development, briefings, speeches, reports, and other submissions. We maintain strong relationships with our state's multicultural peak organisations and service providers, and we provide executive support to the South Australian Multicultural Commission.

Our **Grants team** administers a competitive grants program to assist multicultural organisations to celebrate South Australia's diversity through their festivals, education and capacity building events, and intercultural projects. Our grants program includes the Celebrate Together, Expand Together, Stronger Together, Multicultural Media, Community Language School Infrastructure and Multicultural Festival funding streams.

Our **Events team** delivers South Australia's Multicultural Festival, our flagship family-friendly event. We administer the Governor's Multicultural Awards nomination process and work closely with Government House each year to deliver the Awards ceremony. We also assist our multicultural community organisations to participate in South Australia's major festive events, including the Christmas Pageant and Australia Day celebrations.



South Australian Multicultural Commission

The South Australian Multicultural Commission is a statutory body established under the *South Australian Multicultural Act 2021* that reports to the Minister for Multicultural Affairs.

The Multicultural Commission provides independent advice on multiculturalism generally, and on the operation of the Act, including the development and promotion of the South Australian Multicultural Charter.

Commission members play an important role in raising awareness and understanding of multiculturalism and interculturalism in the South Australian community.

They champion our many multicultural organisations throughout the year by attending community events, citizenship ceremonies, and other celebrations to help promote a more inclusive, culturally aware South Australia.

The current Commission members were appointed through an expression of interest process, to serve a three-year term, to 30 June 2024.

Photographer: Megan Crabb



OUR APPROACH TO MULTICULTURALISM

South Australia's approach to multiculturalism and interculturalism is shaped by our diverse communities, their past and future contributions, and the policy directions we have in place to support and advance our vibrant multicultural state.

Photographer: Frankie The Creative



South Australian Multicultural Act 2021

The *South Australian Multicultural Act 2021* seeks to advance multiculturalism and interculturalism.

It is the state's sole piece of multicultural legislation. It is the foundation for new multicultural policy directions for South Australia by providing for the South Australian Multicultural Charter.

The Act also establishes the South Australian Multicultural Commission, which replaced the former South Australian and Multicultural Ethnic Affairs Commission.

The legislation repealed the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980*.



South Australian Multicultural Charter

The South Australian Multicultural Charter was launched in March 2023 and is a key part of bringing the *South Australian Multicultural Act 2021* to life.

The Charter belongs to all South Australians. It recognises where we have come from, where we are now, and where we want to go as an inclusive, multicultural society.

The Charter includes six principles to help promote a unified and harmonious South Australian community that values, respects and supports diversity.

It has now been translated into more than 30 community languages and is available on the Multicultural Affairs website.

All South Australians are encouraged to actively consider ways to include the Charter's principles in everyday life in their clubs, organisations and workplaces.

A comprehensive guide is available to help South Australians understand and apply the Charter by providing practical ideas and examples to help bring the Charter and its principles to life.



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND COMMITMENTS

Language



Community Language Schools

We know how important it is that children and young people in South Australia stay connected to their community and culture and are encouraged to celebrate and proudly share their heritage, language, and traditions with others.

That is why we will invest \$4 million over the next four years to strengthen our community language schools in South Australia. We are working closely with Community Language Schools SA and the Department for Education to deliver on this commitment.

Our funding will ensure students have a safe, stable environment in which to learn and grow. We want to offer pathways to encourage more secondary students to study a language at a community language school. And we will also invest in our community language school leaders, so they are supported to set up and sustain accredited community language schools to nurture the next generation of multilingual leaders in South Australia.

To complement these activities, we also launched a Community Language School Infrastructure Grants program in 2023–24. Grants of up to \$100,000 were available to eligible community language schools to develop or upgrade their community-owned facilities.

A total of eight multicultural organisations received up to \$100,000 in grants funding through this program.



Photographer: Grant Hancock

Economic



Monitor and report on diversity in the South Australian public sector

The South Australian public sector is the state's largest employer, and we want to make sure it represents and reflects the diverse and vibrant community it serves.

To ensure diversity in the public sector, we have asked the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment to lead a project to monitor and report on the number of people who work for state government who were born overseas, or who speak another language at home. Staff surveys will also capture ancestry data, so we get a better sense of just how diverse our public sector really is.

Employees are not currently required to disclose their diversity identity, meaning existing data probably under-reports diversity in the public sector.

This diversity reporting project will more accurately measure the diversity of our public sector so it can be a more productive, culturally capable and diverse workforce, reflective of our state's multicultural make-up.

Multicultural Chambers of Commerce

Our diverse migrant community is rich with global connections, ideas, interests and skills that can grow and add value to our state's economy and multicultural communities.

By recognising the opportunities this presents, we established the Multicultural Chambers of Commerce Group, bringing them together for a series of information sharing and networking forums.

Since June 2022, membership of the Chambers of Commerce has more than doubled, with 25 multicultural Chambers now involved.

Bringing the Multicultural Chambers of Commerce together invites them to build on and strengthen relationships, collaborate and exchange ideas, and maximise business opportunities.

Three networking events have been held so far, with guest speakers sharing information on the state government's hydrogen plan and renewable energy investments; our tourism opportunities; and the commercial success and growth of South Australia's space sector.

Review of migrant community skills, qualifications and professional experiences

We want to make the most of the extraordinary pool of talent in our state.

We have committed to undertake a review to understand how to maximise the value, to South Australia's economy, of the diverse range of skills, qualifications, and professional experiences of our migrant community, including international students.

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu will work with us on the review between now and December 2023.

The review will help us understand how we can better support migrants who are already here to access employment and training pathways, and make the most of the skills and experiences they bring to our state in the long term.

This is similar to a review Deloitte undertook for the Queensland Government in 2018.

Resources Directory

It is vital that people from multicultural communities have access to up-to-date and reliable information, advice, and support on local services that are available to them.

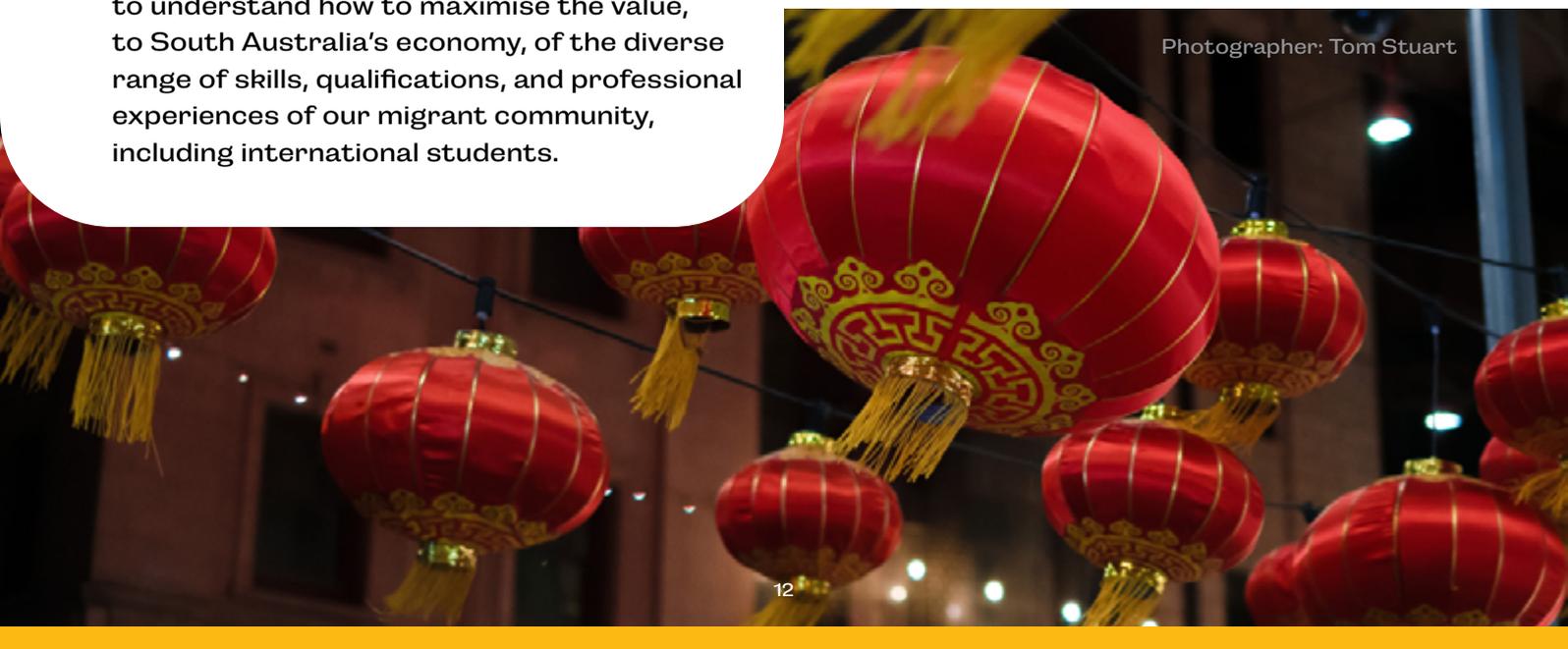
That is why we have committed to develop a Multicultural Resources Directory.

We have engaged the Australian Refugee Association (ARA) to expand its existing Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Adelaide (DARA) app to deliver this project, scheduled to be launched in March 2024.

The expanded DARA app will be a user-friendly, searchable directory of local services and resources on topics such as health and wellbeing, education, housing, and employment services.

It will include details for government, non-government and community organisations that offer information, advice, support and networking opportunities for our culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Photographer: Tom Stuart





Women's Micro Business Fund

We know that women in our multicultural communities are intelligent, capable business owners and entrepreneurs, with enormous creativity and terrific business ideas.

To support their aspirations, we have engaged Good Shepherd Australia and New Zealand to deliver our Multicultural Women's Micro Business Fund pilot program, from now to December 2023.

Good Shepherd will work with up to 10 culturally and linguistically diverse women in northern Adelaide to take their small enterprise ideas to the next level and set them on the path to success.

Participants will receive the individual support, practical advice, and skills development coaching they need to start, manage, and grow their businesses.

Engagement



Multicultural Grants Program

We believe in supporting events and initiatives that build the capacity and strengthen the wellbeing of South Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse community.

In 2022-23 our Multicultural Grants program featured five streams of funding to support multicultural organisations to celebrate diversity through festivals, education, capacity building events, and intercultural projects.

In addition to these regular streams of funding, we introduced a new Multicultural Media Grants program to support eligible multicultural organisations to strengthen their communication skills through training and the purchase of equipment.

A total of nine multicultural organisations received up to \$20,000 each in funding. Grants supported a mix of activities, including skills development in digital media and production, as well as some initiatives tailored for specific groups, such as young people and women.

It is anticipated the next round of Multicultural Media Grants will be open for applications in 2024–25.

We are also committed to ensuring there are necessary facilities and equipment for community members to come together, access the services and programs they need, and connect with the wider community network.

That is why in 2022–23, we delivered a second round of Expand Together Grants, to assist multicultural organisations to invest in security upgrades, community infrastructure, and community transport.

Across the two rounds of Expand Together Grants, a total of 83 multicultural organisations received up to \$100,000 in funding.

Ambassador Program

We want to inspire and encourage South Australian organisations to bring the Multicultural Charter to life.

In 2023, we will launch a Multicultural South Australia Ambassador Program to activate the Multicultural Charter.

We will pilot the program for the first six months, working closely with a small group from South Australia’s local government and business sectors to help them actively consider and embed the Charter’s principles in their operations.

As leaders and role models in our community, Ambassador organisations will help promote the Charter by demonstrating how they have applied its principles to make their workplaces and operations more culturally responsive and inclusive.

Feedback shared during the pilot phase will inform how we design the full Ambassador program that will be launched in late 2024.

Community Boards and Governance Program

We are committed to building the capacity of South Australia’s multicultural community organisations to strengthen their knowledge and understanding about the role of boards, and the need for good governance structures, practices, and procedures.

We have engaged the Multicultural Communities Council of South Australia to deliver our Community Boards and Governance Program over the next three years, to 2025–26.

The program will offer each participating organisation bespoke support and coaching to respond to the training and governance needs they have identified.

Through this program, our multicultural community organisations will gain the tools and confidence they need to forge even stronger connections, partnerships, and networks with their communities and key stakeholders, including government.





Women's Leadership Course

As a proudly multicultural state, it is important for us to support and encourage women from diverse cultural backgrounds to engage in learning opportunities and to further their leadership skills for work and community settings.

That is why we have reinstated the Women's Leadership Course at TAFE SA from 2023 to 2026.

This program is about giving culturally diverse women with leadership aspirations the chance to further their skills through a free training program. The Certificate IV program in Multicultural Women's Leadership incorporates the Certificate IV in Women's Advocacy, which is a nationally recognised qualification.

Twenty placements were offered for the Semester 1 class that got underway in February 2023.

Celebration



Multicultural Festival

We know the festivals, events and celebrations our multicultural communities hold dear are part of what makes South Australia such a great place to live.

That is why we have committed to deliver our Multicultural Festival every year from 2023, to showcase who we are as proud multicultural South Australians.

The Multicultural Festival is our flagship event for promoting multiculturalism in South Australia and it provides the opportunity for a wide range of our state's multicultural community groups to participate.

With grant funding support from Multicultural Affairs, more than 70 multicultural community groups representing over 50 cultures will participate in this year's festival. The program will feature music and dance performances, interactive demonstrations, unique intercultural activities, and a variety of stalls exhibiting cultural arts and crafts, and culinary delights.

Please join us for this free, family friendly event in Victoria Square/Tarntanyangga on Sunday 12 November 2023 from 11am till 5pm!

multicultural.sa.gov.au



Government
of South Australia