



MULTICULTURAL  
CENTRE FOR  
WOMEN'S HEALTH

# ANNUAL REPORT

Experts in migrant and refugee women's health





## Acknowledgement of Country

Multicultural Centre for Women's Health (MCWH) acknowledges and pays respect to the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation, on whose land this Annual Report was written. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their ancestors and Elders both past and present, and acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded. As migrants to this country, we benefit from the colonisation of the land now called Australia. We have a shared responsibility to acknowledge the harm done to its first peoples and work towards respect and recognition.

## Who we represent

MCWH is proud to advocate for the rights to health and safety of all migrant and refugee women, non-binary and gender diverse people living in Australia. We include temporary migrants, permanent residents, asylum seekers, undocumented migrants, migrants with citizenship and people who identify generationally as part of a migrant community, and who are subjected to intersecting forms of discrimination. We stand beside all people who face health inequity and seek a world free from all forms of discrimination.



## About Multicultural Centre for Women's Health

MCWH is a national, community-based organisation, led by and for women and gender diverse people from migrant and refugee backgrounds.

## Our Vision

Migrant and refugee women are free from all forms of discrimination, have autonomy over their lives, and experience health equity, wellbeing, and safety in society.

## Our Purpose

We advocate and educate to strengthen the health, wellbeing, safety and leadership of migrant and refugee women in Australia.

## Our Approach



### Intersectional feminist

We see the many ways in which women's lives, health and decisions are impacted by overlapping social and institutional forces.



### Evidence-based

We build a clearly communicated evidence-base and dispel assumptions around migrant women's health. This is central to increasing all women's opportunities for better health and access to better services.



### Women-led

Since 1978, we have worked for the recognition of migrant and refugee women as leaders, experts, agents for change, decision makers and active participants in their health and wellbeing.



### Collaborative

Together we are stronger. We build relationships with partner organisations to add value to existing work and open more doors for migrant women. We are proud to be part of the Victorian Women's Health Services Network.



## From the Chair of the Board, Dr Nisha Khot

This year was my first as Chair of the Board for the Multicultural Centre for Women's Health and what a year it has been. I was proud to represent the organisation at the Women's Health Summit at Parliament House Canberra and advocate our position on important health topics such as migrant and refugee women's sexual and reproductive health, as well as make contributions to regular national health articles on MCWH's priority advocacy areas for SBS and The Guardian.

This year MCWH continued to drive much needed representation for migrant and refugee women at national level, demonstrated in our invitation to speak on the intersecting health and wellbeing challenges that migrant women face, at the Federal Government's public hearing for the Senate Inquiry on Issues Related to Menopause and Perimenopause.

We were increasingly called upon to deliver more flagship national programs such as our new multi-year Supporting Workers in FGM/C Training (SWIFT) program to bring a human rights approach to female genital mutilation / cutting in Australia, following the success of our three-year National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness (NETFA) program.

The strong groundwork that we laid in building a national workforce over the past two years meant that our Health in My Language program was perfectly positioned to evolve into an important new phase, which saw us return to our roots, with a focus on sexual and reproductive health. This delivered on the 2023 Senate Committee recommendation made in the 'Ending postcode lottery' in response to the Inquiry into Universal Access to Reproductive Healthcare which identified the Health in My Language Program as an important national platform for advancing sexual and reproductive health equity.

## STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD & CEO

This year, more organisations sought our evidence-based, intersectional feminist expertise through the engagement of our bilingual health educators for research and health education, and training and capacity building fee-for-service work. We truly value our 15-year partnership with the Dame Phillis Frost Centre (DPFC) women's prison, who welcomed our health education program again this year. We were also recognised as one of the inaugural winners of the Women of the West Awards which we were thrilled to receive from our valued partner; The Western Bulldog Community Foundation.

Our fee-for-service programs continued to grow over 2023 and 2024. Looking to the future, we are excited to expand our fee-for-service business model as we approach the third year of our Strategic Plan and beyond.

These ongoing successes were due to the sustained leadership of Dr Adele Murdolo, MCWH Chief Executive Officer, MCWH staff, and the dedication of my fellow Board members including outgoing 2022 - 2023 Chair Dr Tamara Kwarteng. Together we remained passionate and committed to the MCWH vision to secure health equity, autonomy, wellbeing and safety for migrant and refugee women in Australia and I look forward to another busy year ahead.



## From the Chief Executive Officer, Dr Adele Murdolo

2023 - 2024 was an exceptional year for MCWH. Through our programs we reached over 13,000 community members and other stakeholders across Australia with much needed in-language health education, information, or capacity building activities. Through our advocacy and policy programs, we took part in important public debates and discussions, contributing our unique perspectives on the issues of our day.

There has never been more urgency to promote gender equality, racial justice, the prevention of gendered violence.

Over the past 12 months, there was renewed discussion about the effectiveness of primary prevention work, in the areas of both health and violence against women (PVAW). Despite the challenges and complexities of primary prevention work, MCWH has witnessed first-hand the remarkable impact of prevention programs that were specifically tailored for migrant and refugee communities in Australia.

MCWH was at the forefront of prevention programs and from July 2023 to June 2024 we led four major PVAW focussed programs. It is clear that primary prevention programs must be designed and led by organisations like ours, with specialist, feminist and intersectional expertise built over 45 years, together with powerful collaborations with relevant organisations, to ensure that our work remains culturally respectful and responsive to the need of migrant communities.

Migrant and refugee led leadership is at the core of all our initiatives. We modelled this in our delivery of respected Community of Practices for the Victorian Women's Health Services Network and our leadership through our national programs, Screening Saves Lives and Health in My Language. We were heartened that our unique and popular PACE Women's Leadership Program was recognised with renewed funding by the Victorian Office for Women. This year I was privileged to represent MCWH on government committees, including the National Women's Health Advisory Council and the National CALD Health Advisory Group, as well as their Victorian counterparts. These committees provided an excellent opportunity to bring migrant and refugee women's voices and expertise to the policy table.

The determined energy and commitment of our dynamic and highly skilled staff and board shines through this 2023 - 2024 annual report.

As an organisation we are privileged to belong to the thriving multicultural community in Australia. We could not do our work without the support of the many community groups and women leaders who participate in our programs and who make them a success. Our appreciation goes out to all who have generously contributed to MCWH's work over this last year.



# Year in Numbers 2023-2024

## Our expertise was valued



**We represented an important and growing demographic**

**More than 2.6 million women and girls in Australia were born in a non-main English-speaking country.**

\*Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2021)

## Training

This year we delivered fee-for-service training to the value of

**\$40,106**



### Fee-for-Service Training

155 individuals from 14 organisations valued our fee-for-service training on Intersectionality 101, Intersectionality in policy and practice, and Understanding culture, race and gender.

*"Please do this training if you want to learn how to look, listen and understand experiences of discrimination in a way which really gets to the heart of inequality. As a government policy officer, I will continue to benefit from having done this, and I hope it will come through in my work in the public service and with communities."*

(Department of Families, Fairness and Housing.)

## Multilingual resources

Our brand-new health education resource portal launched in July 2023 and has enjoyed a thriving first 12 months.

**1237**

We added 1237 new health resources

**194**

We received 194 information requests and responded by providing 202 health resources.

**2957**

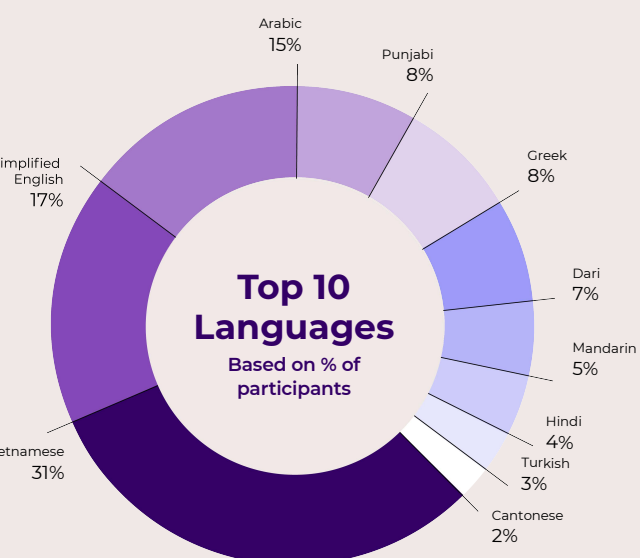
We distributed 2957 printed resources from expert organisations such as Stroke Foundation, Diabetes Victoria and Cancer Council Victoria, in **9 languages**.

**1730**

We received 1730 resource downloads.

## We reached communities through health education

We delivered **580 sessions** and reached **12,908 people** from **55 cultural backgrounds**



**126**

Mental health sessions



**2945 participants**

**55**

COVID-19 sessions



**2608 participants**

**29**

Occupational health and safety sessions



**548 participants**

**156**

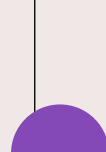
Healthy living sessions



**3786 participants**

**89**

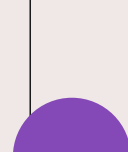
Prevention of violence sessions



**1367 participants**

**125**

Sexual and reproductive health sessions



**1654 participants**

## We raised awareness



**10 national media features**

**20%**

1791 newsletter subscribers, an increase of 20% in 12 months

**11,859 32,000**

social followers, including 1169 new followers

MCWH website visitors, including 31,000 new visitors

**11,897**

downloads from the MCWH website

**54**

new health videos in **21 languages** added to our YouTube channel

**x2** Double the previous year

**223,905 views** of our YouTube video content in 12 months.  
**4,670 YouTube subscribers**, including adding 2,584 new subscribers in 12 months.

## The most popular resources downloaded from [www.mcwh.com.au](http://www.mcwh.com.au)

### 351 downloads

of our advocacy briefs on sexual and reproductive health, mental health, prevention of violence, COVID-19 recovery and workplace safety.

### 336 downloads

of our Building Bridges mental health and wellbeing report.

### 274 downloads

of our Connecting Community brief guides on violence prevention.

### 259 downloads

of our Intersectionality Matters guide

### 98 downloads

of our Set the PACE best practice to leadership program design.



## MCWH Submission to the Senate Inquiry on Issues Related to Menopause and Perimenopause

In March 2024, MCWH published a submission to the Federal Senate Inquiry on issues related to menopause and perimenopause. The submission has been downloaded from our website 128 times in 4 months.

In our submission, we highlighted issues relating to perimenopause and menopause for migrant and refugee women, non-binary and gender diverse people and the role of social structures in contributing to menopause-related inequalities across migrant and refugee peoples' lives. We put forward 19 recommendations to the Federal Government aimed at creating equitable health systems, strengthening social services, and fostering supportive workplaces that empower migrant and refugee people to navigate menopause and perimenopause with dignity.

MCWH was invited by the Federal Government to provide further evidence at a public hearing in June 2024 on how to respond to the intersecting health and wellbeing challenges associated with perimenopause and menopause faced by migrant and refugee women, non-binary and gender diverse people. We were proud to present on a panel alongside our colleagues from the Victorian Women's Health Network led by Women's Health Victoria, Women's Health in the North and Women's Health in the South East.



Multicultural Centre for Women's Health

**19**  
recommendations

## Growing a national workforce

Our bilingual health educators and seven national partner organisations were at the heart of our two flagship national programs, Health in My Language and Screening Saves Lives.

The foundations that we built over the past two years meant that our Health in My Language program was perfectly positioned to evolve into an important new phase, with a focus on Sexual and Reproductive Health. This delivered on the 2023 Senate Committee recommendation made in the 'Ending postcode lottery' in response to the Inquiry into Universal Access to Reproductive Healthcare which identified the Health in My Language Program as an important national platform for advancing sexual and reproductive health equity.



**1338**

We delivered 1338 Health in My Language health education sessions nationally from July 2023 to June 2024

**18924**

We engaged 18924 Health in My Language participants nationally.

**60+**

Almost a quarter of the participants were in the age group of 60+ highlighting the importance of engaging seniors/elderly and sharing critical COVID-19 information with them.

Our Screening Saves Lives cancer screening campaign also utilised the strong relationships we hold with our seven Health in My Language national partners, Red Cross South Australia, Red Cross Tasmania, Red Cross Northern Territory, True Relationships and Reproductive Health QLD, Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Centre WA, STARTTS NSW, and Women's Health Matters ACT.

The Screening Saves Lives campaign was aimed at improving awareness of breast, cervical and bowel cancer in over 65-year-olds from culturally and linguistically diverse communities. We saw a high demand for information from community. One Arabic language session was attended by 60 people, several participants said that the session prompted them to immediately request an appointment with the GP to discuss access to screening.



*"An empowered and skilled workforce will communicate empowerment in our multicultural communities. That is how we create a long-lasting rippling effect in advancing better health outcomes for migrant and refugee communities."*

Eman Al-Dasuqi, MCWH Health Educator Support Office and speaker at 2024 Women's Health Summit.

## We ran thriving Communities of Practice for the women's health sector

MCWH managed a capacity building platform to provide continuous professional development and knowledge exchange opportunities to a growing national team of 50 bilingual health educators (BHEs).

Our Health Educator Support Program team led a thriving regular Community of Practice to build BHE capacity on leadership, media and advocacy messaging, and effective public speaking techniques.

- We provided more than **600 support activities** to bilingual health educators and health promotion officers across all states and territories in Australia.

- We organised and hosted **11 professional development sessions** in collaboration with Australian Red Cross SA, Australian Red Cross Melbourne, LiverWELL – Incorporating Hepatitis Victoria, Legal Aid Victoria, Anti-Slavery Australia, Bridge Darebin and Cancer Council Victoria.

## National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness (NETFA)

NETFA was a three-year long national program which brought together partners across Australia to share best practice recommendations, support, and resources to better support women who have experienced Female Genital Mutilation / Cutting.

In the final year of the program, MCWH engaged 11 NETFA leaders from six different states and territories to co-design and deliver a NETFA peer exchange event, a celebration of the proud achievements.

- We launched **6 podcasts episodes**, created and led by NETFA leaders, which were listened to 466 times since their launch in February 2023.
- Leaders supported the design of a 'Nurses for Nurses' training

resource which was **accessed by 63 registered nurses** as a professional development tool and had a current average rating of good/excellent in evaluation data.

- NETFA leaders delivered FGM/C education to a group of **15 midwives** in the Northern Territory and delivered a series of four sessions to **28 General Practitioners** as part of True Relationships three-day certificate on FGM/C for doctors.
- We launched FGM/C Journeys – The impact of the NETFA Program which gained over **2000 views on social media** within a fortnight of launching.



*"It was important for True Relationships and Reproductive Health to be a partner of MCWH and the NETFA program. It connected us to other organisations and services that work in the area of FGM/C all around the country."*

Gianna Parma, True Relationships and Reproductive Health.



## Working Together: Safe and Healthy Families

Funded by Family Safe Victoria, MCWH designed and led capacity building training sessions together with Safe and Equal and InTouch for over 30 grantee organisations. It focused on how organisations could integrate and implement bilingual health education when delivering family violence prevention activities with multicultural and faith-based communities, and how to embed an intersectional feminist lens in their work.

Working together with local community organisations in Hume, Casey, and Wyndham Local Government Areas, including cultural groups, maternal and child health facilities, community centres and school hubs, we delivered 50 in-language health education sessions to 246 women and 2 non-binary people on gender equality, healthy relationships and preventing family violence in Arabic, Dari, Karen, Hindi, Turkish and Simplified English.

**84%** of participants who attended a session on gender equality said they felt able to talk with family, friends or community members about the impact of gender inequality on the health and wellbeing of women and non-binary people.

**80%** increased their confidence in understanding and being able to discuss the different types of family violence.

**96%** said that they were very likely or likely to recommend MCWH's sessions to other people in their community.

## Making the Links: Building Safer Pathways for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Women in Regional Victoria

This project aimed to understand and address the intersecting challenges faced by migrant and refugee women in regional and rural areas when seeking safety. Based on comprehensive research and interviews with 29 workers from PVAW, sexual assault services, and multicultural organisations, we developed:

- The Making the Links Best Practice Guide which was **downloaded 94 times** in the first week of launch and has gained the attention of the Ethnic Communities Violence Prevention program, part of the New Zealand Ministry of Social Development.
- A Best Practice Guide video resource with accompanying video guide which enabled practitioners to embed messages from the guide into their work and professional development.

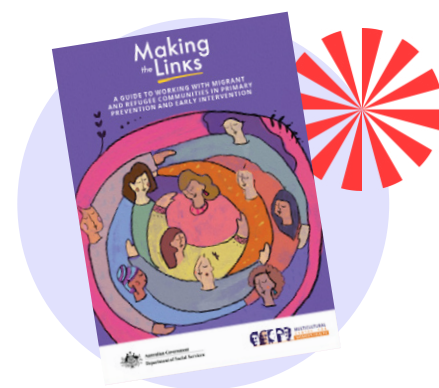
*"I used to think that men cannot control their anger, and women must be aware of this matter and always be vigilant of anything could trigger their temper. The session has changed my attitude as violence is never someone's fault."*

Participant quote.



*"I have learnt similar information when I lived in a refugee camp. However, information in the camp was delivered in English (by white people) with translation and this time information is delivered with Karen language, so it is clearer, and I can participate in the discussion more."*

Participant Quote.



*"I loved using the Best Practice Guide. I circulated it to my team, which consists of community development workers, lawyers and intake staff. The practical applications for working with multicultural communities have been helpful. I also used the guide as a tool in reflective practice with the team to promote reflection and consideration of what we could be doing better in this space."*

Cherry Skinner Tarlo, Integration Program Coordinator at the Northern Community Legal Centre and a convenor of the Hume Domestic and Family Violence Network.

## Inquiry into Women's Pain Submission

In **March 2024**, the Victorian Government called an Inquiry into Women's Pain to address the challenges faced by girls and women when seeking help for their pain.

In **June 2024** MCWH published our Women's Pain Submission: Leading the Conversation on Migrant and Refugee and Gender Diverse People's Experience of Pain.

*"We found that medical gender bias, compounded by racism, often caused people of migrant and refugee background to endure years of pain without adequate relief and treatment. Experiences of pain were also bolstered by inequities in Australia's discriminatory migration system, which further marginalised migrant and refugee people from accessing necessary healthcare and support services to manage their pain."*

The submission makes 20 key recommendations and presents the voices of migrant and refugee women, non-binary and gender diverse people and their experiences of pain related to their sexual and reproductive health, mental health and wellbeing, chronic pain and workplace safety.



**Leading the conversation on migrant and refugee women and gender diverse people's experiences of pain**

A submission to the Victorian Government Inquiry into Women's Pain by the **Multicultural Centre for Women's Health**

**20**  
recommendations



## The INVEST Project (International students' sexual & intimate partner violence experiences study)

In April 2024 we published an academic paper on Help-Seeking After Intimate Partner or Sexual Violence: Exploring

the Experiences of International Student Women in Australia as a research collaboration between MCWH, The University of Melbourne, Monash University, and Deakin University.

From July 2021 to February 2024, MCWH led a qualitative component of this project which included data collection, data analysis and publication. We listened to 30 international students from 16 countries who experienced sexual and/or intimate partner violence while studying in Australia.

The paper offered recommendations on stronger policy action to support international student women such as reviewing the eligibility criteria for Government family violence support payments and Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) and Medicare service eligibility criteria.

The findings of the research were:

Published in the reputable **Violence Against Women Academic Journal**



Presented on multiple prevention of violence panels organised by Sexual Assault Services Victoria (SASVic), Safe and Equal and No to Violence (NTV)



Awarded the Spotlight presentation at the 2024 Reproductive Rights and Abortion Conference by Children by Choice





## Let's Talk Mental Health

Through the Let's Talk Mental Health Project, MCWH designed and delivered four professional development modules on mental health and wellbeing and delivered a 2-day mental health community education program to 38 bilingual health educators (BHEs) from the Victorian Women's Health Services Network.

BHEs were presented with a Mental Health Map that documents mental health support provider contact details and options in Victoria in 10 languages: Amharic, Arabic, Dari, Filipino, Hindi, Karen, Nepali, simplified Chinese, Swahili, Vietnamese.

**27**  
mental health sessions

MCWH conducted 27 mental health sessions to 637 women in Vietnamese, Dari, Mandarin Turkish and Simplified English. In our evaluation, 100% of participants reported increased confidence in understanding the mental health information provided to them. Additionally, many expressed intentions to take action on their mental health, including requesting a mental health care plan from a GP.

## The mental health and disaster planning report (MIDiRR Report)

The Migrant Inclusive Disaster Response and Recovery (MiDiRR) project aimed to increase support for migrant and refugee women experiencing disasters through research, resource development and distribution and training.

MCWH conducted a literature review on the impact of environmental disasters on migrant and refugee women, focusing on family violence and post-disaster settings.

We developed a Best Practice Guide for emergency service workers on emergency management through an intersectional and feminist lens to best respond to the needs of migrant and refugee women experiencing disasters.

**Natural disasters don't discriminate. But our responses to them can.**

**A best practice guide for migrant and refugee inclusive disaster preparedness, response and recovery**

Multicultural Centre for Women's Health

*"Congratulations MCWH on the inclusive disaster response guide. What an incredible and practical resource to drive an intersectional response!"*

Sally Hasler, Women's Health Victoria CEO.

This resource has been **downloaded 125 times** in the last 12 months and was distributed to 10 Victorian women's health services.



We developed a mental health and disaster services navigation tool (Help Guide) for migrant and refugee women and their families in the following languages: Arabic, Dari, simplified Chinese, Karen, Amharic, simple English, Filipino, Nepali and Vietnamese.

*"We ran two workplace training courses on equitable disaster management and used the excellent MCWH best practice guide as a resource and distributed it in our training pack."*

GenWest

## Victorian Women's Health Program Industry Visits

MCWH's annual industry visit program delivered health education in workplaces where most of the workforce were women from migrant and refugee backgrounds. Our dynamic program ran for six weeks to offer high-impact health information on a range of topics, timed to reach employees in their place of employment, during their shift breaks where our highly trained team offered vital in-language, quickly absorbed and actionable health messages.



*"I learnt many facts about breast cancer, cervical cancer, endometriosis, and menopause, and why women's health is important. I thought pap smear was for some kind of condition, never knew it was for cervical cancer prevention."*



We were also proud to work with the Dame Phillis Frost Centre (DPFC) women's prison, who welcomed our long-established health education program again last year. MCWH began visiting the Centre 15 years ago, with a strong commitment to return each year.

- We delivered health information on 7 topics to 8 Mandarin speaking women and on 7 topics to 15 Vietnamese speaking women.

**Here are three workplaces and events where we've made an impact.**

### Turosi process workers in the Golden Farm factory Geelong

We delivered health information to

**20** women in Simplified English    **15** Karen speaking women and    **15** Vietnamese speaking women.

*"Working night shifts leaves me worn out throughout the day, and since I have other responsibilities at home, the last thing on my mind is my health. My attitude has changed as a result of this session because I now realise that I must take care of my health and well-being in order to be able to care for my family."*

### Max Solution – Pathway for employment program students in Cranbourne and Hampton Park campuses

We delivered health information to

**20** people in simplified English and    **22** Dari and Hazaragi speaking people.

### SisterWorks 10th anniversary annual Cultural Festival at Abbotsford Convent.

We delivered health information to

**40** people in Simplified English, many of whom had never been employed in Australia.





## Partnership with Women with Disabilities Victoria (WDV)

WDV partnered with MCWH to amplify the voices and leadership of women, non-binary and gender diverse people with disabilities from migrant and refugee backgrounds in violence prevention and in research and advocacy. Through this partnership, we developed a series of resources for health practitioners and health organisations to understand the unique challenges that are often overlooked for migrant women with disability in violence prevention and support programs.

- **141 people attended** the launch of our video resource in June 2024
- The event recording was **watched 47 times online**
- An animated video resource was **watched 76 times** via the WDV YouTube channel

## Supporting workers in FGM/C Training (SWIFT Project)

This national project is a new multi-year program to support the Australian health workforce in addressing the health impacts of female genital mutilation / cutting.

We developed a preliminary FGM/C National Mapping Catalogue with over 300 entries, encompassing education and training programs, health professionals, clinics, health services, and multilingual resources to provided valuable insights into the availability and gaps in resources and training for health professionals, as well as the needs of individuals affected by FGM/C.

We recruited for a national advisory committee of 16 FGM/C prevention leaders from six states and territories, after receiving 35 quality expressions of interest from advocates across Australia.

*"The information given to us by the Bilingual Health Educator today was invaluable. Never before have I been approached and given health information in my language"*

## Health Promotion Register

Our fee-for-service health education program brought important in-language, evidence-based information to migrant and refugee women. We were proud to have shared a memorandum of understanding with valued partners such as:

**Diabetes Victoria.** We reached 145 Arabic speaking participants, 30 Mandarin speaking participants, 15

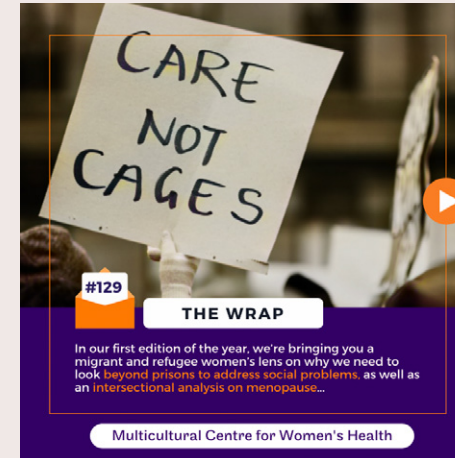
Cantonese speaking participants, 85 Greek speaking participants, 65 Hindi speaking participants and 117 Vietnamese speaking participants on the topic of diabetes prevention and how to navigate NDIS support.

**Red Nose Australia.** We facilitated three focus groups with women from Arabic speaking, African and Indian communities to co-design a multilingual guide and resource for women who have experienced pregnancy or child loss.

16  
leaders

*"The Advisory Committee is such a valuable initiative to connect me with other health workers in FGM/C prevention so I don't feel like working in a silo. It's like a community. I'm looking forward to meeting with other advisors, sharing my knowledge and learning from each other."*

Lynda Smith, Clinical Midwifery  
Consultant NSW Education Program  
on FGM/C, NSW government.



## The WRAP newsletter advocacy

MCWH's women's research advocacy and policy newsletter was established over a decade ago and has evolved into a flagship collection of two monthly powerful and nuanced short essays, which are highly regarded by key stakeholders in the women's health sector. In 2023 – 24 we consistently achieved an open rate around 25% higher than industry standard newsletters, from a loyal readership who appreciated our articles which included The Barbie movie: the power and the plastic, Why data is more than just numbers, Transforming the silence on Palestine, and Deeds not words: men's role in violence prevention.



We added **237 subscribers** in **12 months** which grew our readership to **1792 people**.

*"Yet another stunning, informative and important newsletter from MCWH. The statistics on Vietnamese women's incarceration rates is going to be so useful in supplementing my existing research and talking points for a public panel I am speaking on. This is such high-quality work and is honestly so rare!"*

Dr Ruth De Souza RN, PhD, FACN

## Western Bulldogs

MCWH delivered sessions on gender equality to 75 men including 30 Vietnamese speakers, 30 Hindi and Punjabi speakers and 15 Arabic speakers, over seven consecutive weeks as part of our Sons of the West program partnership with the Western Bulldogs.

*"I used to hold misconceptions about healthy relationships. This session helped me understand man's role in building and maintaining healthy relationships in the family. I feel more confident discussing this with my family members."*

Vietnamese speaking male participant



*The Western Bulldogs Community Foundation is proud to announce the Multicultural Center for Women's Health as one of the inaugural winners of the Women of the West Awards. These winners embody the essence of innovation, collaboration, and commitment to the betterment of their communities, setting a benchmark for future leaders and organisations to aspire to.*

Western Bulldog media release  
March 2024.

To hire the MCWH health education team or training team to deliver in your organisation or workplace, please contact [programs@mcwh.com.au](mailto:programs@mcwh.com.au).





## Statement of Profit or Loss

	2024 (\$)	2023 (\$)
Grant funding income	5,598,490	9,687,059
Interest income	66,143	7,336
Other income	95,808	136,572
<b>Total income</b>	<b>5,760,441</b>	<b>9,830,967</b>
Employee benefits expense	(4,992,847)	(4,754,878)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(131,526)	(134,324)
Program expenses	(388,994)	(3,409,442)
Finance expenses	(15,715)	(20,926)
Other operating costs	(178,600)	(163,950)
<b>Surplus before income tax</b>	<b>52,759</b>	<b>1,347,447</b>
Income tax expense	-	-
Surplus for the year	52,759	1,347,447
Other comprehensive surplus for the year, net of tax	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive surplus for the year</b>	<b>52,759</b>	<b>1,347,447</b>

MCWH prepares financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. The full Financial Statements for the Year Ending 30 June 2024, accompanying notes and Independent Auditor Report are available at [www.mcwh.com.au](http://www.mcwh.com.au).



Total income for the 2023/24 financial year was \$5,760,441 compared to \$9,830,967 in the prior year. The reduction of \$4M is largely due to the accounting treatment of 2022/23 financial year grant funding recognised when received during 22/23 financial year; and a reduction of program funding which did not extend into FY2324. Program expenses decreased by \$3M primarily due to the extension of the Health in My Language program, Screening Saves Lives program and the expenditure in respect to the extension will be incurred in 24/25 financial year. The balance sheet remains strong and MCWH is well positioned for future growth and continues to be focused on ensuring effective management of its funding income.

## Statement of Financial Position

	2024 (\$)	2023 (\$)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	4,454,110	5,707,767
Trade and other receivables	203,067	60,281
Other financial assets	1,722,959	-
Other assets	-	11,158
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>6,380,136</b>	<b>5,779,206</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	13,845	28,535
Right-of-use assets	243,407	360,243
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>257,252</b>	<b>388,778</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>6,637,388</b>	<b>6,167,984</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	509,357	322,782
Lease liabilities	131,628	121,867
Short-term provisions	634,336	612,720
Other financial liabilities	1,846,186	1,527,805
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>3,121,507</b>	<b>2,585,174</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Lease liabilities	154,107	285,735
Long-term provisions	15,456	3,516
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>169,563</b>	<b>289,251</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>3,291,070</b>	<b>2,874,425</b>
Net Assets	3,346,318	3,293,559
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated funds	3,346,318	3,293,559
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>3,346,318</b>	<b>3,293,559</b>

We would like to thank the following members of the MCWH board of management for their ongoing leadership and support: Dr Nisha Khot (Chair), Agata Bober, Mercedes Colla, Dr Tamara Kwarteng, Sandra Lordanic, Lucia Li (Treasurer), and Penny Underwood.

We would also like to thank our partners, supporters and the communities of migrant and refugee women and gender diverse people who make our work possible.

ACT Women's Health Service

African Family Services

African Women's Federation of South Australia

Anti-Slavery Australia

Asylum Seekers Resource Centre

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights

Australian Women's Health Alliance

Banksia Gardens Neighbourhood House

Bethal Primary School Community Hub

Bridge Darebin

Campbellfield Heights Primary School Community Hub

Cancer Council Victoria

Centre Against Sexual Assault Central

CoHealth Mothers Group

Cultura Greater Geelong Afghan and Syrian Groups

Dallas Community Hub Language Group

Deakin University

Family Safety Victoria

Fountain Gate Primary School Community Hub

Gender Equity Victoria

Hepatitis Victoria

Human Rights Law Centre

Immigrant Women's Support Service

IndianLink Radio

Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Services

Junubi Wyndham

La Trobe University

Leadership Victoria

LiverWELL

Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services

Max Solutions

Melaleuca Australia

Monash University

MSI Australia

Murdoch Children's Research Institute

Our Watch

Red Cross Australia

Refugee Health Service

Respect Victoria

Roxburgh Rise Primary School Community Hub

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

Safe and Equal

Safer Families Centre of Research Excellence

STARTTS

Stillbirth Centre of Research Excellence

Swinburne University

The Sexual Assault and Family Violence Centre

The University of Melbourne

The University of Wollongong

Transcend

True Relationships and Reproductive Health

University of Western Sydney

Victoria Sexual Assault Services Victoria

Victorian Legal Aid

Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council

Wellsprings for Women

Women's Health Services Network

Wyndham Park Primary School Community Hub



**Multicultural Centre for Women's Health**

Suite 207, Level 2, Carringbush Building,  
134 Cambridge Street, Collingwood, VIC 3066

**P:** +61 3 9418 0999

**E:** [info@mcwh.com.au](mailto:info@mcwh.com.au)

**W:** [www.mcwh.com.au](http://www.mcwh.com.au)

**f** [MulticulturalCentreforWomensHealth](https://www.facebook.com/MulticulturalCentreforWomensHealth)

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ABN: 48 188 616 970

ISBN: 978-1-7635829-0-3

Illustration and Design by [Ismawi Design](#)

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