

CiCT Forum 2018

Refugee Communities in Cultural Transition



23rd & 24th



Day 1

23 August 2018

8:30am-9:30am Registration

Morning Session

Jasmina
Bajraktarevic-Hayward
Dr Munjed al Muderis
Mary Minns

Welcome

Wheel of Fortune
*Australian Government Department of
Social Services*

Morning Tea

Mid-Morning Session

Ernie Friedlander
Jude Simion

Rebuilding Lives
*Intentional integration policies can transform
the communities*

Najla Turk

*The art of belonging to diversity:
Identity and acceptance*

Marla Camacho
Om Dhungel

Smile and Sing: Anti-ageing elixir
Driving positive resettlement

Lunch

Early Afternoon Session

Jim Ife
Rita Rafooqa
Mohammed Dukuly

Communities, Cultures and Change
Hope: A journey to belonging
Navigating Community Conflict

Afternoon Break

Late Afternoon Session

Alice Clarke
Zelimir Matic

The power of a woman
*My experiences of coming to Australia as an
elderly refugee*

Ernest Kulauzovic

*Living between Millennial, Cultural and
21st Century Communities*

Closing Remarks

Day 2

24 August 2018

8:30am-9:30am Registration

Morning Session

Paul Power
Roza Germian

*CEO Refugee Council of Australia
The media and its need for branding*

Morning Tea

Mid-Morning Session

Panel Discussion

*Featuring: Paul Power, Dr. Asha Chand,
Roza Germian and Atem Yaak Atem
Facilitated by Philippa McDonald
The power of storytelling
Who am I?*

Dr Asha Chand
Htoo Rar Paw Tha Nya
Sofia Ihsan
Raefat Soryal

*Love of country is part of faith
Acceptance and belonging*

Lunch

Early Afternoon Session

RAHATT: Assyrian
Women's Choir - Fahema
Hrmz, Sehan Zora and
Hayat Georgi
Atem Yaak Atem

Come as you are, a journey to RAHATT

Hanin Al-Sayfee

*Perception and reality of being different:
The case of South Sudanese in Australia
New Hopes, NEW Life*

Afternoon Break

Late Afternoon Session

Natalie Martignago
Lydia Gitau

*The power of community
There are many things that are affecting
us: rethinking interventions for refugee
survivors of trauma
South Sudanese Services Connects*

Emmanuel Kondok

Closing Remarks

Day 1: Keynote Speakers

Jasmina Bajraktarevic-Hayward

Jasmina Bajraktarevic-Hayward is a Social Worker (Hon 1, University Medal) and the Community Services Coordinator at STARTTS. Her involvement in the refugee field dates back to 1991, when she became involved in work with Bosnian refugees in Croatia through a local implementing partner of the UNHCR. Jasmina's knowledge and expertise ranges from individual trauma counselling, through to group work and community development, to management and staff supervision. She is a highly experienced presenter and trainer on refugee issues, particularly in the field of community development.

Dr Munjed al Muderis



Dr Al Muderis is an Australian trained Orthopaedic Surgeon and a Squadron Leader in the Australian Air Force Reserve. He is also an Ambassador for the Australian Red Cross, a human rights activist and a refugee.

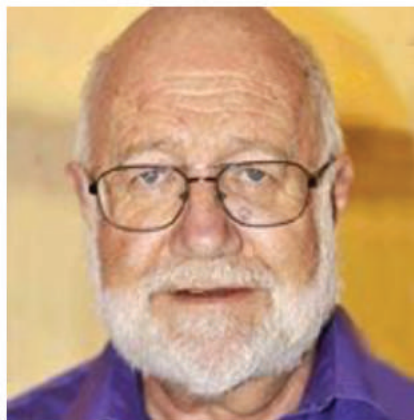
He teaches at Notre Dame and Macquarie Universities, trains local and international surgeons, and registrars.

Apart from his academic and clinical roles, Munjed is heavily involved in humanitarian work volunteering his time as a surgeon and as a human rights advocate. He has affiliations with Amnesty International and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Day 1: Keynote Speakers

Jim Ife

Jim Ife is a Professor of Social Work at Western Sydney University. He has written extensively on community development, human rights and social work, and his book 'Community Development in an Uncertain World' has been used extensively as a text-book. He is a former President of Amnesty International Australia, and former convenor of the Human Rights Commission of the International Federation of Social Workers. He has a long-standing commitment to community development based on cultural diversity and decolonising practice.



Mary Minns

Mary Minns is the acting State Manager NSW/ACT for the Department of Social Services (DSS). Previously Mary held the position of DSS NSW/ACT Director for Settlement and Multicultural Affairs. Mary has worked with the Departments of Human Services and Health and for the NSW State Government.

She has experience leading a service providing Disability Employment Services



Day 2: Keynote Speakers/ Panel Members



Paul Power

Paul Power is the Chief Executive Officer of the Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA), the national peak body for 200 agencies working with refugees and asylum seekers. Since 2006, Paul has led the organisation's policy development and public education on refugee issues and its advocacy with the Australian Government, and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Prior to joining RCOA, Paul worked in the NGO sector as a media officer, trainer, researcher and manager. Through his NGO work, Paul has been involved with projects in international aid, community development, mental health support, volunteer training, social research and advocacy.

Day 2: Keynote Speakers/ Panel Members

Dr Asha Chand



Dr Asha Chand is Associate Dean International for South Asia in the School of Humanities and Communication Arts at Western Sydney University. She is also a senior lecturer and journalism area convenor. Asha migrated to Australia in 1998 from Fiji under conditions of crisis. Asha believes in the power of story-telling and the hope journalism lends to voiceless people, especially migrants and refugees. She endeavours to help inspire more people to tell their stories so that they can build capacity for change and improvement in attitudes and views on refugees and migrants.

Roza Germian

Roza was born in the second year of the eight year-long Iran-Iraq war, in 1981, in the city of Kirkuk north of Iraq which had a Kurdish majority.

Eventually, her family along with four million Kurdish people became refugees in Iran and Turkey. Her family then spent two years in Turkey as refugees before reaching the safety of Australia in 1996.

After learning English, she started High School from grade 10, and then went on to study a Bachelor of Communication-Journalism, at UWS and graduated in 2004. In 2006 Roza completed a double Masters degrees in International Relations and International Communication Macquarie University. Roza started working at SBS Radio in 2013, as a producer for the Kurdish Program, and is now the Executive Producer there.



Day 2: Keynote & Panel Speakers

Philippa McDonald



Philippa McDonald is a senior reporter at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. She has been responsible for reporting many of the biggest news stories in Australia and overseas for ABC News for the past 27 years. Philippa has covered politics, elections, terrorism, earthquakes, coups, human rights, aviation disasters, a lot of crime, an array of important social issues and the arts. Her work has taken her all over Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, the Solomon Islands, Indonesia, China, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, the Philippines, South Korea, Britain and India.

Most recently Philippa has been the face of the ABC's coverage of the Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse. Philippa is also the recipient of a United Nations Association Media Peace Prize for her and her team's investigation into the plight of Myanmar's refugees.

Atem Yaak Atem

During Sudan's war of 1983-2005, Atem took part in peace talks to end the armed conflict between the insurgents and the Government of Sudan. Following this role, he served as a counterpart relief worker for the United Nations humanitarian programme, Operation Lifeline Sudan.

In 2000, Atem became a permanent resident of Australia. At the end of 2009, he returned to Sudan to participate in the independence referendum. Since then, Atem has trained as a journalist in Sudan, Germany and the UK (master's degree from the University of Wales, UK). He also has worked as an editor of several newspapers and magazines in both Sudan and Kenya.



Community Presenters



Hanin Al-Sayfee

I have a Bachelor of Social Science in Social Welfare, Bachelor of Arts and Diploma in Community Service. I was born in Iraq, Baghdad and arrived to Australia in July 2004. My religion is one of the oldest religions that exists today. I am Mandaean which is a minority group in Iraq. I have worked with refugees and asylum seekers and I am currently work with children in the out of home care system

Marla Camacho

Marla Camacho has been working at STARTTS since 1998 in various administration roles. Marla has been working with the Spanish-speaking community for over 2 years. She is currently facilitating the Spanish Speaking Community Choir, Liverpool Mosaic Group and GRUMAS. She was born in Uruguay and came to Australia in 1970.



Alice Clarke

My name is Alice Clarke and I am an aged care nurse in the community and I have four children. I arrived in Australia in August 2002 from West Africa because I had to leave my home in Liberia because of the civil war. I became very involved in my community and am currently the Chairlady of the African Women of Faith Organisation which was started in February 2008.

Community Presenters



Om Dhungel

Om Dhungel is a consultant, trainer and a mentor and a practitioner of Strength-Based Approach to refugee settlement and community engagement. He is currently a Director on the Board of the Asylum Seeker Centre. He has served on the Boards of Settlement Services International, SydWest Multicultural Services and MTC Australia in the recent past. Om is the founding President and currently a senior member of the Association of Bhutanese in Australia (ABA) Sydney.

Mohammed Dukuly

My name is Mohamed Salia Dukuly. National Leader of the Liberian community in Australia, a small and emerging African community in Australia. We are spread around the different states and mostly concentrated within the Western Sydney areas of Sydney. The community is very diverse on many levels. Religiously, there are approximately about 92% Christians and 5% Muslims and 2% other faiths. Most of the community subgroups are tribal or region based.



Ernie Friedlander

I was born in Vienna, Austria. I am a Holocaust survivor, alive probably due to the humanity of a German soldier, who gave my mother and me the opportunity to sneak away. I am a member of the B'nai B'rith Alfred Dreyfus Anti Defamation Unit, a Worldwide Jewish service organisation, which instigated the Moving Forward Together Association, of which I am the President. I arrived in Australia in December 1950.

Community Presenters



Lydia Gitau

Lydia Gitau is a graduate of the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Sydney. She is currently working as a Training Officer at STARTTS and as a part-time lecturer. Lydia is passionate about examining the post-conflict interventions that have the potential to support long-lasting peace for survivors of conflict and mass violence.

Sofia Ihsan

My name is Sofia Ihsan. I am 18 years old. I am studying Bachelor of Social Science at Macquarie University. I belong to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. My community is widely persecuted in countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh, Malaysia and the Middle East due to a slight difference of beliefs of my community with other Muslims. Due to this persecution my mother sought refuge in Australia in 2010. My father and I came 2 years after her. Since then my family has been leading a safe and happy life here in Australia. I have always had the passion to work in the welfare sector and make a positive difference in the society.



Emmanuel Kondok

My name is Emmanuel Kondok and I was born in South Sudan. I was forced to leave Ethiopia and I arrived in Kenya in 1992. I was one of the founders of the Kakuma Refugee Camp. In 2005 I was granted permanent residency and I came to Australia with my family and NSW became my home. Ever since, I have been consistently working in different community development roles and am currently the Chair of the Community of South Sudanese and Other Marginalised Areas in NSW (CSSOMA).

Community Presenters

Ernest Kulauzovic



Ernest Kulauzović, is a school chaplain and community relations officer at NSW Department of Education & Communities. He is involved in community collaboration with local service providers and schools across Sydney, co-facilitating programs for young people and educators. He work with the Bosnian community, Iraqi, Rohingya and Syrian refugees across NSW. Ernest is a member of the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW. Occasionally he is a guest speaker at universities, actively advocating for education, interfaith and intercultural dialogue. He has won an award by Universal Peace Foundation 'Living for Humanity' (2015) together with Fr. Chris Riley.

Natalie Martignago

Natalie Martignago is a community organiser with Sydney Alliance; a coalition of faith groups, unions and community organisations.

Born and raised in South-West Sydney, Natalie learnt of the legacy of hard work from her migrant parents and grandparents. Now, she is working to ensure that Australia is built by and for all its people, not just a few.



Zelimir Matic

My name is Želimir Matić. I was born in Bosnia and Herzegovina. I worked as a bank manager there. I was 55 when the war in my country started in 1992 and I became a refugee. I came to Australia in 1995 with my wife to join our only daughter and her family here. I have been a member of the Bosnian group at STARTTS for the last 23 years. I was also a member of Liverpool Arts Society for more than ten years.

Community Presenters



Htoo Rar Paw Tha Nya

I am Htoo Rar Paw Tha Nya and I am a member of the Karen/Burmese community in Australia. Currently I am working as a care worker across NSW going into the community and providing care and support for those who are in need. This is my passion.

Rita Rafooqa

Rita Rafooqa is a year 10 student from the Iraqi community. She has been living in Australia with her family for 1 year and 7 months. Rita is focused on completing her education and aspires to become a medical doctor. Rita's dream is to help all people know that they are not alone.



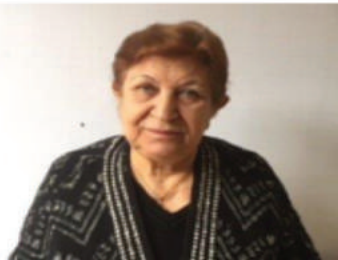
Jude Simion

I have been in Australia for the last ten years and am working for a faith based community organisation called PHILOI as the Chief Operating Officer. I have been involved in organizations based or working in over 25 countries including Syria, Iraq and South Sudan. I currently serve as the Global Facilitator of the Refugee Highway Partnership, an international network of churches, agencies and individuals serving forcibly displaced people.



Community Presenters

RAHATT: Assyrian Women's Choir



Fahema, Seham and Hayat are three women who are members of Reconnection And Healing after Trauma and Transition (RAHATT). RAHATT is a group of mature aged Arabic speaking refugee women in South West Sydney. Pearl Fernandes and Yvette Aiello are the co facilitators at STARTTS who have initiated this project. The women who belong to RAHATT are directly or indirectly victims of the violence and human rights violation following the conflicts in Iraq and more recently the offensive launched by militants of Islamic State (ISIS) and other Sunni insurgents in Iraq and Syria.

In the beginning, RAHATT performed clinical interventions to assist the women to reflect on their past, feel more settled in the present and find a new perspective for their future. The group then began to share cherished activities that they had engaged in in their homelands. Sharing food, stories and songs from their past and visiting places of worship have developed into a regular routine for RAHATT.

Community Presenters

Raefat Soryal



Raefat Soryal is the Director of Gateway International Pty Ltd and has many qualifications including English language, literature, translation and interpreting. Using these qualifications he has become a NAATI Accredited translator and can teach English as a second language classes.

As part of his role as Director, Raefat facilitates training through partnership with registered training organizations, runs workshops in soft skills, offers language tuition and study skills workshops, assists applicants to identify their future plans and the most suitable training pathways and assists in marketing different courses on behalf of Australian colleges and universities.

Najla Turk

Born to migrant parents, Najla Turk has over 20 years' experience as a highly skilled educator and facilitator of transformational change. Najla is also an author of a best-selling book: *The Art of Diversity: How to gain competitive advantage through Engagement* and a consultant and coach in the areas of Capacity Building and Community Development.

Najla works tirelessly to develop the right skills, knowledge and attitude to move young people forward, enabling them to positively contribute to the wider community both socially and economically.



STARTTS is a specialist, non-profit organisation that for 30 years has provided culturally relevant psychological treatment and support, and community interventions, to help people and communities heal the scars of torture and refugee trauma and rebuild their lives in Australia. STARTTS also fosters a positive recovery environment through the provision of training to services, advocacy and policy work.

The CiCT Program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. For more information please go to:
www.dss.gov.au

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