



VICTORIAN
ARABIC
SOCIAL SERVICES

الخدمات الاجتماعية العربية في فكتوريا

24th ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Serving a Diverse
Arabic Community

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Mission Vision Values

VASS Mission

The Victorian Arabic Social Services (VASS) is dedicated to addressing the social, cultural and welfare needs of the Arabic Speaking Background (ASB) communities in Victoria.

Our Vision

Our vision is for a more inclusive Victorian community that values the strengths of Victoria's vibrant and diverse ASB communities.

Organisational Values

- VASS is committed to serving ASB communities by remaining non-political, non-religious, non-sectarian and inclusive of all ASB community groups.
- VASS recognises the cultural, religious and regional diversity of ASB communities.
- VASS acknowledges the common threads that bind members of the 22 Arabic speaking countries located in the world.
- VASS's work is underpinned by community development principles which aim to develop the citizenship status of ASB communities through improved access to services, decision making and civic participation.
- VASS supports and adheres to the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

مهمتنا

إنَّ الخدمات الاجتماعية العربية في فيكتوريا تُكرِّس نفسها لمُعالجة الاحتياجات الثقافية والاجتماعية و الإنعاش الاجتماعي للجاليات الناطقة بالعربية في فيكتوريا.

رؤيتنا

نسعى لإيجاد مجتمع أكثر شمولية يقدر نقاط قوة المجتمعات الناطقة بالعربية في فيكتوريا وتنوعها وحيويتها.

قيمتنا

- إننا لا ننتمي إلى أي دين أو حزب سياسي معين أو طائفة بعينها. بل نسعى لخدمة جميع أفراد الجاليات الناطقة بالعربية في فيكتوريا على اختلاف مللهم ومشاربهم.
- نعترف بالتنوع الإقليمي والديني والثقافي للجاليات ذات الأصول العربية.
- نعترف بالخيط المشترك التي تربط بين أفراد الدول الـ 22 الناطقة باللغة العربية.
- إن عملنا يستند إلى مبادئ تنمية المجتمع التي تهدف إلى تطوّر منزلة مواطنة الجاليات الناطقة بالعربية من خلال تحسين الوصول إلى الخدمات والمساهمة بالقرارات والمشاركة المدنية.
- إننا ندعم ونلتزم بالدستور الفيكتوري لحقوق ومسؤوليات الإنسان.

Family Services

- Intake, Assessment and Referral.
- Mediation and conflict resolution.
- Play groups and parenting support programs.
- Centre based support for families and individuals.
- Support and educational services to help those dealing with problem gambling and other addictive behaviours, domestic violence.
- A range of support groups that are gender appropriate and culturally relevant.

Refugee and Settlement Services

- Provide cultural and linguistic orientation to cultivate self-reliance and accelerated integration into wider Australian society.
- Referral of individuals to mainstream service providers.
- Develop and implement promotional plans to raise awareness of funded projects.
- Develop and strengthen networks with mainstream service providers, such as Adult
- Assist and educate the broader community to create a greater understanding of new arrivals and their needs.
- Complex Case Support (CCS) for refugee and Special Humanitarian Program Entrants who fit CCS eligibility criteria.

Aged Care Services

- Home and Community Care Program (HACC) to assist older persons to live and be supported in the home and community setting.
- Community Partners Program (CPP) to increase access of Arabic Speaking Communities to Aged Care Facilities.
- Volunteer Social Support Program (VSSP) to provide social support and respite to older persons.

Youth Services

- Programs and activities aimed at improving young people's employment prospects and in advancing their educational aspirations.
- A range of recreational, mentoring, personal and skill development activities aimed at promoting civic participation and a sense of inclusion.
- Activities engaging young people in crime prevention and community safety, leadership development and media training.
- Positive body image and healthy life style activities and programs for young men and women.
- Anti Racism Action Band (A.R.A.B): A community development, youth performing arts project.
- 3 Al Hawa and Shabab Sawa community radio

Other Services and Activities

- Cross-Cultural training
- Research
- Advocacy
- Arabic Community Directory
- Participation and contribution to projects and events concerning ASB communities in partnership with a range of service providers, government, and businesses.
- Volunteer recruitment and student work placements.



Welcome to the 2009-2010 VASS Annual Report.

The past financial year has seen the Victorian Arabic Social Services, face a number of changes, challenges and successes. Each of these, in their own way, have worked to improve the operation of VASS as an organisation. Throughout the past year it has become clear that diversity is the key theme evident in each of the changes, challenges and successes VASS has experienced.



This year VASS has continued to work with the Arabic, Assyrian, Chaldean, Kurdish, Armenian, Somali and Eritrean populations of Victoria. These communities compose the majority of our Settlement, Family, Youth and Aged Care services. In addition to these communities we have planned talks with Reverend Father Iskandar Aphram of the Syrian Orthodox Church in order to expand our services to support other Arabic and Assyrian speaking communities, such as those of Syrian backgrounds in the coming financial year. These discussions highlight the importance of diversity within the VASS clientele and our aim to make VASS accessible to all people from Arabic speaking backgrounds.

VASS has also been working with a number of other culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities through a variety of community initiatives and activities, including members of the Greek, Spanish, Maltese, Chinese, Sudanese and Korean communities. Whether through partnerships, joint initiatives, or participation in community events, this sharing of culture, knowledge and experience has resulted in not only an increased understanding of ASB communities within other cultural groups and the wider mainstream community, but has also given VASS workers and the organisation as a whole a set of new skills and knowledge which has been used, and will continue to be used, to enhance the work of VASS this year and in the future. VASS recognises that the knowledge different CALD communities can learn from each other is essential to empowering these various communities to be active in mainstream Australian society.

VASS also recognises the diversity within our volunteers, students and staff and the knowledge and skills these diverse people bring to the organisation. With volunteers, students and staff coming from Iraq, Sri Lanka, Syria, Jordan, India, Lebanon, Australia, Pakistan, Sudan and New Zealand, and speaking a plethora of languages, VASS represents the diversity of Victoria within its very own walls.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many agencies who have provided funding to VASS in the 2009-2010 financial year and enabled us to continue to deliver much needed programs. These agencies included:

ANZ Trustees Program: Felton Bequest
Arts Victoria
Attorney General's Department
Australian Council of the Arts
Australian Multicultural Foundation

Bennelong Foundation
 City of Melbourne
 Council on the Aging
 Darebin City Council
 Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
 Department of Health
 Department of Immigration and Citizenship
 Department of Human Services
 Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
 Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development
 Department of Planning and Community Development
 Department of Justice
 Dubai Duty Free Foundation
 Eastweb Foundation
 Flora and Frank Leith Charitable Fund
 Foundation 4 Young Australians
 George Castan Family Trust
 Helen Macpherson Smith Trust
 Hobsons Bay City Council
 Hume City Council
 Ian Potter Foundation
 Inner Northern Foundation
 Lord Mayors Charitable Foundation
 Moreland City Council
 Newsboys Foundation
 Salter Foundation
 The Ian Potter Foundation
 The Panel Christmas Wrap
 The R.E Ross Trust
 Vic Health
 Victorian Multicultural Commission
 Whittlesea City Council

This list is by no means exhaustive and there are many organisations, groups and agencies that we have not been able to list. VASS is however continually grateful to all those organisations and institutions that have provided us with donations; in-kind support; worked in partnership with us; and sought our expertise and involvement in activities that concerned ASB and non-ASB communities. This support has helped make another successful year for the organisation and for the ASB community as a whole.

Finally, I would like to say a special thank you to all the VASS staff both past and present, for their professionalism, dedication and commitment to the organisation and the community that we serve. I would also like to say thank you to the VASS Board and volunteers, without your support the organisation could not continue to change and grow.



Mohamed Alman

It is my pleasure to provide this letter of support for the Victorian Arabic Social Services' Annual Report. The Victorian Arabic Social Services provides many valuable services and support for the Hume community. We are proud that VASS is based in Broadmeadows and I welcome the opportunity to say thank you to them for their vital work in Hume.

Through their programs and services, VASS is an integral organisation for the many diverse communities of Hume, bringing people together from many different backgrounds to experience and celebrate what it means to be one community with diverse cultures.

I would like to thank VASS in particular for their support and role in the following programs over the past financial year:

- Assyrian/Chaldean and Arabic Women's Support Groups
- A number of youth initiatives
- The tax help scheme
- Settlement workshops
- Stay Safe in Traffic project

I commend VASS for their excellent work in our community and look forward to many years of cooperation and collaboration on projects that make a difference for the people of Hume City.

Kind Regards,

Hume Mayor, Cr Geoff Porter



It is my pleasure to submit this message of support for the 2009/2010 annual report of Victorian Arabic Social Services (VASS).

For many years, Hobsons Bay has proudly been home to a large multicultural community.

The historically strong representation from Middle Eastern communities has more recently been augmented by a significant increase in the number of new arrivals from the Horn of Africa choosing to settle in Hobsons Bay.

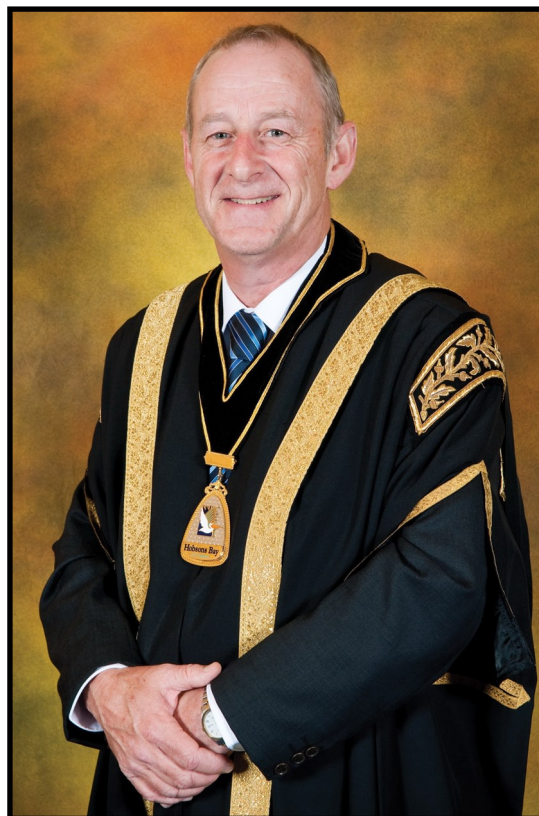
Many of our residents' first language is Arabic, which means it is imperative that adequate, relevant services are provided to support and engage members of these communities. VASS has shown a remarkable capacity to adapt its services to meet ever-changing client needs.

VASS can rightly claim a proud record as a key provider of vital services to many Arabic-speaking communities.

In the last year, Hobsons Bay residents have benefitted from many VASS initiatives for people of all ages; including settlement workshops, a homework club, a holiday program, a senior Arabic women's support group, and a young women's mentoring group.

To VASS and its supporters, I commend you for all your hard work. It is greatly valued and I look forward to seeing Hobsons Bay residents benefitting from VASS programs for many years to come.

Cr Bill Tehan
Mayor of Hobsons Bay





Once again it has been a busy, innovative year at the Victorian Arabic Social Services and on behalf of VASS Staff, Board, Volunteers and Students, I would like to thank you all for your support during the 2009-2010 financial year.

VASS is a not for profit, community based organisation with heavy demands on its services from individual clients, community groups, the ASB community, research institutes and other organisations. Thus we rely heavily on financial and practical support from a variety of sources to sustain our current programs and to allow us to continue to expand and develop new initiatives that will benefit the ASB and wider community. The support of the community, our members, mainstream

service providers, philanthropy, and all levels of government is essential to the existence of VASS and without this support VASS would not be able to support capacity building, individuals and families and empower clients to participate effectively in the social and economic life of the wider Australian community.

During the 2009-2010 financial year VASS has continued a range of innovative programs, including;

- We Are One Project
- Family Strengthening Project
- Over 15 support groups that provide support, education and engagement for over 500 people every year
- Well For Life Project
- Youth Radio program, Shabab Sawa and 3Al Hawa
- And other programs that strengthen the ASB community

To addition to these ongoing initiatives, a number of new, exciting projects have been implemented at VASS, including;

- Kalam TV on Channel 31
- Newport Homework Club
- Victoriaworks for Jobseekers with Employment Challenges (VWJEC)
- Pathways to Employment
- Free Arabic classes for service providers
- Conjure A.R.A.B performance

These initiatives address the needs of every age group, from infants to young people and senior citizens. Each initiative stemmed from the VASS mission to address the social, cultural and welfare needs of the ASB population in Victoria, but to also increase awareness throughout the non-ASB community of Victoria of issues facing this population.

I am also pleased to announce the VASS Anti Racist Action Bands' A.R.A.B. upcoming performance for the October 2010 Melbourne Festival. Northern Trax is a series of random performance installations around Flinders St Station that are based on the performers' experiences of living in Melbourne's Zone 2. Northern Trax will feature some of Melbourne most talented young people from a wide range of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. VASS and A.R.A.B. are thrilled to be able to bring this original, creative piece of work to all Melburnians.



I hope that you enjoy reading the VASS 2009-2010 Annual Report and hope that you will continue to support us in 2010-2011 towards the growth of Australia through the growth of ASB communities.

Thank You,

Leila Alloush



Mr Mohamed Alman
Chairperson



Mr Mohammad Shaker
Vice- Chairperson



Mr Mustafa Ashkar
Secretary



Mr Mohamad Tabiaat
Treasurer



Ms Leila Alloush
Public officer



Mr Majeed Abonajem
Member



Ms Zahra Baho
Member



Mr Mohamad E. Elturabi
Member



Ms Samira Zfeno
Member



Ms Mona Abdallah
Member



Mr Ali Mustapha
Member

Broadmeadows

Manager

Leila Alloush

Senior Project Coordinator, Settlement Services

Mouna Fouda

Family Services Coordinator

Lina Mekaoui

Aged Care Coordinator

Eva Wakim

Youth Services Coordinator

Anthony Grace

Finance Officer

Chandima Balasuriya

Finance Assistant

Gothami Balasuriya

Senior Aged Care Worker

Bella Odicho

Aged Care and Refugee Support Worker

Lina Hassan

Project Worker

Lisa Tribuzio

Aged Care and

Chaldean – Assyrian Refugees Support Worker

Mesko Ayouz

Family Services Worker

Shireen Francis

Settlement Worker

Joanne Hall

Family Services Worker

Kimberley Reynolds

Project Worker

Ninawa Younan

Project Worker

Sofie Mekaoui

Youth Worker

Reta Ando

Youth Worker

Jasmine Ouaida

Newport

Aged care and Arabic Families Support worker

Leila Houli

Settlement & Youth Support Worker

Osama Alnaimi

Youth Worker

Yasmine Nasser

Youth Worker

Raad Almajidy

Dandenong

Family Support Worker

Maisaa Olabi

Aged Care, Family Services and

VASS South East Office Coordinator

Iman Allaf

Family Support Worker

Ehab Khalifa

Family Support Worker Playgroup Facilitator

Nadia Abu-Duhou

Family Support Worker

Manahel Hurmez

Project Worker

Claudia Trujillo



VASS Youth Radio

Connie Tira

Zeinab Alloush

Khadija Alnoufali

Sahar Elmobayed

VASS Kalam TV, Channel 31

Executive producer-Kalam TV

Jim Selim

Anti Racism Action Band (A.R.A.B)

Media Design/Artistic Co Director

Jeremy Angerson

Creative Producer/Artistic Co Director

Kate Gillick

Program/Production Manager

Marline Zaibak

Research and Evaluation Officer

Florencia Rodriguez

Accounts and Project Support

Natalie Zaibak

Cultural Liaison Worker

Hala Saba

Community Cultural Development and
Partnership Worker

Jessica Wraight

Project Administration

Stephanie Kukula

Tawasal Worker

Ewan Macloud

Artistic and Production Team:

Deon Nuku, John Gray, Melissa Cristina,
Irine Vela, Cat Sweeny, Nishant Mathur,
Emily O'Brien, Patrick Dunn, Ming Lang,
David Butterworth, Kelly Ryall,
Marg Horwell, Richard Varbre,
Nadja Kostich, Casey Hill, Channel Laban,
Orion Laban, Phil Pandongan,
Kevin Nugara, Michael Carmody.

Students at VASS 2009-2010

Lina Narsa, Noor Fahd, Gladys Karroum,
Suehayla Abou-Eid, Tony Nammour,
Amar Kerbatieh, Abeer Hakki, Hiam
Elrafihi, Hacer Demirkaya, Tatiana Zoghbi,
Zeinab Mourad, Dana Fayad, Hanan Khalil,
Bushra Himeidan, Wafa Taha,
Gurbinder Uppal, Zulfiqar Ali Naz,
Mohammed Kaleemuddin,
Mazharuddin Sabri Shaik.

Social Support Program Volunteers

VASS would like to thank and acknowledge
the contribution made by:

Asmary Polis, Alber Ayouz,
Yazi Bodagh, Nazy Toma,
Traizia Zora, Berlanti (Lidia) Gorges,
Nana Hassan, Raafat El Kashef,
Laila Mohammad, Wadad Hassoun,
Wafa Karime.



VASS would like to express its special thanks
to **Michael D'Ascenzo**, the Commissioner
of the Australian Taxation Office for the
Outreach Tax Advice and Support provided by
Adibah Abdo-Attia from the Marketing and
Communication Line.



Intake, Assessment and Referral Services Funded by the Department of Human Services.

Intake, Assessment and Referral Services are funded by the Department of Human Services (DHS). This service aims to meet the needs of the Arabic Speaking Background (ASB) population through a formal intake process, which involves assessing the clients' needs and finding relevant local services for possible referral. Through social support groups, short-term casework, relevant and culturally appropriate referrals and community information programs VASS aims to address a number of the issues facing the ASB community including; financial, relationship, employment, health, social isolation and parenting issues.

Family Strengthening Project Funded by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services & Indigenous Affairs

The Family Strengthening Project was first implemented in 2006 and is funded by the Department of Families, and Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA). The project aims to improve the skills of families from ASB communities in areas such as parenting, overcoming health concerns, employment, public safety issues, and encouraging physical activity for women. Primarily focused on ASB communities in Melbourne's South East (Dandenong) and the North-West (Newport and Broadmeadows), the program endeavours to strengthen the existing skills of migrant women and men, and empower them to participate in the wider Australian community. This is done through workshops, information sessions and general support.



Outcomes for Family Services for the 2009-2010 financial year include:

- Over 350 individuals and families supported through Intake, Assessment and Referral Services.
- Continuation of the majority of VASS' groups, including:
 - Assyrian- Chaldean Women's Groups (2)
 - Arabic Women's Groups (2)
 - Senior Arabic Women's Groups (3)
 - Senior Arabic Men's Groups (2)
 - Playgroups (2)
 - 'Women for Education' Group (1)
- Workshops on a number of issues, including:
 - Parenting
 - Nutrition
 - Physical Health
 - Mental Health
 - Continence
 - Computer Skills
 - Safe Use of Medicines

Aged Care Services provided by VASS

VASS provides a number services and programs under Aged Care Services in the Northern and Western regions of Melbourne. These include:

- Planned Activity Group (PAG)
- Supported Access Pilot Project (SAPP)
- Volunteer Social Support Program (VSSP)
- Community Partners Program (CPP)
- CALD Senior Surfers Program
- Well for Life Program

Planned Activity Group (PAG)

Funded by the Department of Human Services

The Department of Human Services (DHS) has funded PAG in the Western region since 2003. The group of 14 women holds weekly meetings every Tuesday at the VASS Newport office. This program assists aged, frail and disabled Arabic Speaking clients and their carers by:

- Helping participants to maintain independence, thereby preventing admission to long term residential care and hospitals
- Encouraging participation in broader community life
- Promoting physical and mental health, and enhancing quality of life
- Providing respite and support for carers



Berlenti Gorgees (Lidia)

I am very happy being a volunteer for the Volunteer Social Support Program; I have been a volunteer for many years. Being a volunteer allows the client to meet other nationalities and would benefit them in terms of education, recreation and socialization and especially benefit those people who need the services

Supported Access Pilot Project (SAPP)

Funded by the Department of Health

SAPP is a three year program running from January 2008 until December 2010. It aims to explore and develop supported access for people from Arabic speaking backgrounds into and through the Home and Community Care program (HACC). A significant number of people from Arabic speaking backgrounds in Victoria require extra support, especially those that are not proficient in English and refugees with torture and trauma issues. This pilot project encourages and supports participation and access to local aged care services and the uptake of mainstream services.

HACC eligible individuals, carers and families from Arabic speaking backgrounds are assisted in:

- Understanding and negotiating the HACC service system
- The provision of specialist cultural knowledge, information and advice to mainstream agencies to assist in the development of culturally appropriate services.

SAPP key deliverables for the 2009-2010 financial period include:

- Improved access to a range of services for Arabic and Assyrian/Chaldean speaking people, who are eligible for HACC services.
- Improved HACC assessment and HACC service responses for people from Arabic speaking backgrounds who require extra support to access and negotiate HACC and other related services.
- Improved mainstream agency understanding of Arabic speaking background communities, their support needs and pathways into services.
- Strengthen the capacity of VASS in responding to the needs presented to their agency and to participate in the wider service system.



home and community care

A JOINT COMMONWEALTH AND STATE/TERRITORY PROGRAM
PROVIDING FUNDING AND ASSISTANCE FOR AUSTRALIANS IN NEED

Volunteer Social Support Program (VSSP) Funded by the Department of Human Services

VSSP provides respite for carers and social support to frail, isolated and disabled Arabic and Assyrian/Chaldean speakers residing in the Northern Metropolitan region of Melbourne. In this financial year, the friendly visiting service provided in excess of 6,000 hours of voluntary support to approximately 100 persons. Since its inception the program has been pivotal in providing an entry point into the broader aged and disability services system and in maintaining independent living within the community. This program complies with the HACC National Service Standards and is of quality in terms of service delivery, staffing profile and volunteer visitors participating in this program.



Community Partners Program (CPP) Funded by the Department of Health and Ageing

The Community Partners Program has been funded since 2006.. CPP aims to promote and facilitate increased and sustained access to aged care information and services by culturally and linguistically diverse communities with significant aged care needs.

The project is designed to support the provision of more culturally specific aged care services; increase access to aged care services for elderly people from Arabic speaking communities and assist the target group to access information to support informed decision making in relation to aged care services. The geographical coverage in Victoria includes: North West Metro, Southern Metro, Baron-South Western, and Hume.

CPP key deliverables for the 2009-2010 financial period include:

- The development of a 'Community Partners Program Resource Kit' which was distributed to over 60 residential care facilities, Aged Care Assessment Teams and wider communities.
- Provision of cultural briefings to many different aged care providers to enable them to deliver more culturally appropriate services.
- 60 members of the community attended six tours of residential facilities.
- Surveys were conducted with 53 residential aged care facilities to ascertain if multicultural facilities have Arabic speaking staff or residents. This information provided community members with enhanced ability to make an informed decision on aged care services.



CALD Senior Surfers Program Funded by the Department of Planning and Community Development

CALD Senior Surfers is a Victorian Government initiative, designed to help CALD seniors learn how to access and use the internet in their own language, in a supportive community environment. This program was launched on 16th of May 2008 at the VASS Newport office. This ongoing, sustainable program has been highly successful in both the Northern and Western regions and continues to run for both volunteers and clients, with training conducted by three staff and three volunteers.

30 clients and 16 volunteers have been trained and empowered to access information in their own language online to assist them in making informed decisions on their health and wellbeing.

Well for Life Program Funded by the Department of Human Services

The Well for Life program aims to improve the health and wellbeing of older people in aged care settings by improving nutrition and increasing levels of physical activity.

Well for Life successfully supported the capacity of Planned Activity Groups to encourage improved physical activity and nutrition amongst participants. There is alignment between the objectives and principles of Well for Life and the proposed quality enhancement in Home and Community Care (HACC) service delivery known as the Active Service Model.

Over 50 women from different Arabic speaking backgrounds participated, with 100 percent of the target group participating in all of the activities and information sessions.



Established and ongoing Aged Care partnerships in 2009-2010:

- Community Health Service & Community Health professionals.
- Local Government services
- Council on the Ageing
- City of Hobsons Bay
- National Prescribing Service
- Continence Australia
- Deakin University
- Bayfit Alona
- Victorian State Library
- Iraqi elderly from the Chaldean, Assyrian and Islamic communities that mostly reside in the northern region who are an emerging elderly group.



VASS is proud to support the following community groups. These groups regularly support over 200 participants, as well as over 400 participants who attend special events throughout the year.

VASS Hume Assyrian Chaldean Women's Group

Providing support and activities to disadvantaged, isolated and/or refugee/migrant women

Time: Thursday 10am- 1pm

Venue: Lynda Blundell Community Centre
185-225 Blair Street, Dallas

VASS Darebin Arabic Women's Group

Providing support and activities to disadvantaged, isolated and/or refugee/migrant women

Time: Thursday 10am-2pm

Venue: Reservoir Civic Centre
23 Edwards St, Reservoir

VASS Hume Senior Men's Group

Providing support and activities to disadvantaged, isolated and/or refugee/migrant men

Time: Thursday 9:30am-2pm

Venue: Lynda Blundell Community Centre
185-225 Blair Street, Dallas

VASS Arabic Women

Seniors of Moreland Group

Providing support and activities to disadvantaged, isolated and/or refugee/migrant women

Time: Monday 10am-12pm

Venue: Coburg Library Meeting Room
Cnr Victoria & Louisa St, Coburg

VASS Dandenong Arabic

Women's Support Group

Providing support and activities to disadvantaged, isolated and/or refugee/migrant women

Time: Wednesday 10:30am-1:30pm

Venue: Dandenong Netball Club
Bennet St, Dandenong

VASS Dandenong Assyrian Chaldean

Women's Support Group

Providing support and activities to disadvantaged, isolated and/or refugee/migrant women

Time: Thursday 10:30am-2pm

Venue: Dandenong Netball Club, Bennet St, Dandenong

Wafa Karime.

"I have been involved with the Volunteer Social Support Program and a member of the VASS Northern Arabic Women Group for 4 years. I am really enjoying it. I love visiting the group member's houses and chatting to them, taking them shopping and attending information sessions. I have learnt a lot about different cultures, we all learn from each other and we have good times together. Being a volunteer makes me feel happy, and forget my problems because by being at home I get depressed. By going out and being active, we learn a lot and we meet different people. I would encourage all women and men to become a volunteer for the above reasons for mutual benefits".



VASS South-Eastern Arabic Senior Women's Group

Providing support and activities to senior members of the community
 Time: Friday 9:30am-11:30am
 Venue: Jan Wilson Community Centre
 Halton Rd, Noble Park North

VASS Dandenong Arabic Senior Men's Group

Providing support and activities to disadvantaged, isolated and/or refugee/migrant men
 Time: Tuesday 10am-12pm
 Venue: Keysmain Shed
 Keysborough Learning Centre
 Keysborough

VASS Dandenong Parenting Playgroup

Providing parenting support
 Time: Tuesday 1pm- 3pm
 Venue: Mc Fees Rd Child & Maternal Centre
 Mc Fees Rd, Dandenong North

VASS Dandenong Parenting Playgroup

Providing parenting support
 Time: Thursday 10am- 12pm
 Venue: Dandenong Netball Club
 Greaves Reserve
 Bennet St, Dandenong

VASS Young Women's Fitness Group

Providing a safe environment for young women to exercise and socialise
 Time: Wednesday 5-10pm
 Venue: VASS Newport
 16 Oxford Street, Newport

VASS Young Men's Activity Group

Providing information sessions and activities for male youth
 Time: Variable
 Venue: VASS Head Office
 178 Dallas Drive, Broadmeadows



VASS 'Women for Education' Group

Providing information and support for Arabic Speaking women, and parenting support

Time: Tuesday 10am-12pm

Venue: 21-27 Hudson Crt, Meadow Heights

VASS Elderly Women's Group

Providing information and support for elderly Arabic Speaking women

Time: Tuesday 10am-12pm

Venue: VASS Newport, 16 Oxford St, Newport

For more information please contact:

Northern & Western Regions:

Leila Alloush 9309 0055

mail@vass.org.au

Southeastern Region:

Iman Allaf 9706 8933

imanaziz6@hotmail.com



VASS Media & Performance Initiatives:

VASS is proud to support a number of media and performance initiatives that provide young ASB men and women with the opportunity to express themselves creatively and to have their voices heard.

3CR- VASS 3 Al Hawa Community Radio

Providing youth with the opportunity to voice their opinions on radio.

Time: Sunday 6pm-7pm

Venue: 21 Smith Street, Fitzroy

3ZZZ Shabab Sawa VASS Youth Radio

Providing youth with the opportunity to discuss Arabic youth culture on radio.

Time: vFriday 1pm

Venue: 144 George Street, Fitzroy

VASS Kalam TV

Providing youth the opportunity to research, design and partake in production of a Channel 31 youth program.

Time: Variable

Venue: Variable

For more information please contact:

Radio Programs, Connie Lux Tira
connietira@gmail.com

Kalam TV: Jim Selim
0421 967 011
jim_selim@yahoo.com.au

A.R.A.B: Kate Gillick on 9359 3670



Settlement Services is funded by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) under the Settlement Grants Program (SGP) to provide services to migrants and refugees who have been in Australia for less than five years. During the 2009-2010 financial year, VASS has provided services to over 220 clients. The Orientation, Developing Communities and Integration program services Arabic speaking clients in the North and West Metropolitan region of Melbourne. The project enhances community participation and self-reliance amongst eligible Arabic speaking clients. It consists of casework and referral services, information sessions, advocating for the community with mainstream service providers and mentoring.

VASS Settlement Services has implemented a number of effective strategies to assist new arrivals to interact, understand and connect with the broader community. It also assists the broader community to be responsive to new arrivals and their needs.

Outcomes for Settlement Services for the 2009-2010 year include:

- 91 eligible clients accessed casework services, with a total of 353 client contacts being made.
- Six information sessions were provided for newly arrived migrants and refugees, in which 83 people participated. Topics included settlement issues, general migration information, safe driving and license attainment, library and community centre resources and local services.
- 432 formal and informal referrals were made to mainstream and other service providers during the funding period.
- 11 young people were mentored, resulting in more independent youth with increased capacity for social participation and skill development.
- Effective networks were built with more than 20 mainstream service providers and community organisations.

VASS Complex Case Support Funded by Department of Immigration and Citizenship

VASS is one of 12 organizations across Victoria funded by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) to provide Complex Case Support services. The program provides funding to offer intensive case management support for eligible clients who have special or complex needs. Clients must be a refugee, a Special Humanitarian Program Entrant with an approved visa sub-class of 200, 201, 202, 203 or 204, or protection visa holders. This service is available to those who have been in Australia for less than five years.

To be eligible for Complex Case Support Services, a client must have needs that cannot be adequately addressed through Settlement Grants Program services or other casework programs, and have special needs such as:

- Behavioural concerns
- Lack of social support networks
- Family violence/abuse
- Mental health
- Suffering affects of torture and trauma
- Substance abuse
- Intellectual or physical disability
- Victim of crime
- Victim of racism
- Physical health
- Emotional wellbeing concerns (i.e. high levels of stress, anxiety)
- Limited life skills

Referral to this service can be made directly to DIAC from any source. The referral form is available for download on the DIAC website.



Over the 2009-2010 financial year Youth Services has focused on preventative strategies that promote resilience and social inclusion for youth through mentoring, leadership programs, social engagement, sport, performing arts, and media. The diverse range of programs and activities for young people have included activities that focus on improving life skills, employment prospects, education, self development, creativity, fostering positive body image and healthy lifestyles, as well as community engagement. A number of these activities are outlined in more detail below. Activities for the financial year have included:

- Kalam TV,
- Youth Radio,
- Youth Soccer,
- Newport Homework Club,
- Young Women's Camp,
- Peace building through Art,
- Victoriaworks - Pathways to Employment,
- Stay Safe in Traffic,
- We Are One initiative

Almousawat: A Fair Go

Funded by;

- **The Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund**
- **Youth Participation & Access (YPA) Program from the Office for Youth & Department of Planning & Community Development**

Almousawat is a youth capacity building initiative designed to strengthen young people's engagement and contribution to the wider community, so that they may have a 'A Fair Go.' It focused on ASB young people who were; at risk of disengagement from education, from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds, from families with complex needs, or experiencing marginalisation and racism as result of the negative stereotyping of ASB young people. Approximately 200 to 400 young ASB people have benefited directly from Almousawat over the three year funding period, and there have been further benefits throughout the community. The initiative encompassed a number of programs and activities focused on priorities such as professional and personal development, case work and mediation, fitness and healthy living, leadership, and peer mentoring.

Outcomes for the financial year include:

Professional & Personal Development:

- 10 young people were linked into media training with 3CR and 3ZZZ.
- 3 young people received training on how to use a professional camera and Adobe Illustrator (a graphic design package).
- 2 young men are in training with a graphic designer to learn how to create flyers.
- 2 young men complete Certificate in Soccer Coaching
- 4 Young people obtain Level 1 First Aid: with aim to educate them on how to help an alcohol or drug affected friend
- 1 young woman is linked to a Senior First Aid and Pool Lifeguard Course
- 7 young men attend a young men's leadership and basketball camp with Initiatives of Change
- 10 young people are linked to Arab youth Television program on Channel 31 and trained to be TV presenters.

Counselling, Case Work & Mediation:

- 100 ASB young people received counselling, case work and/or mediation services.
- 10 young people referred from correctional services have received intense weekly mentoring and support.
- 300 parents of ASB young people have received counselling, case work and/or mediation services.
- 50 young people engaged in community safety activities



Stay Cool: Think Before You Drink

Funded by the Department of Health and Ageing

Stay Cool: Think Before you Drink is a two year program funded by the Department of Health and Ageing through the National Binge Drinking Strategy. The program commenced in November 2008 and will run through until November 2010. It aims to address binge drinking and drug and alcohol related behaviour amongst young people and their families through a number of initiatives. Stay Cool: Think Before You Drink targets youth aged 12 - 18 years with the aim of boosting their resilience and protective factors in order to prevent binge drinking and associated drug and alcohol behaviours. The project uses a range of strategies to address and reduce binge drinking in our community.

Outcomes for the financial year include:

Drug and Alcohol Prevention for Young People

- 18 young women attended a young women's fitness camp involving education about alcohol and drugs, including diet pills and steroids

Drug and Alcohol Education for Young People

- 1 young person worked with designers to create a flyer which promoted the binge drinking project. The flyer was delivered to young people and the wider community in a 500-1000 print run publication.
- 15 participants of VASS's leadership course with Drummond Street Relationship Centre took part in drug and alcohol training delivered by Moreland Hall.

Drug and Alcohol Education for Families

- 9 parents and community leaders took part in a two day training course run by Focus on the Family on How to Drug Proof Your Kids.
- A training manual in Arabic was developed for participants of the How to Drug Proof Your Kids training.
- A graduate from the Focus on the Family How to Drug Proof Your Kids training gained employment at Drummond Street Relationship centre and delivered a 6 week drug and alcohol program to 10 mothers.

Case Management for Young People at Risk

- 20 young people at risk of criminal activity and drug and excessive alcohol usage received case management.

Case Management for Families

- Case management was conducted with 40 parents of young people at risk of criminal activity and drug and excessive alcohol usage.



Kalam TV

Kalam TV premiered on Channel 31 in early June 2010. Kalam TV is a variety show that showcases and promotes various aspects of Arabic Australian youth culture to the wider Australian community. It has included guest interviews, live performances, vox pops, a traditional Arabic cooking segment, news stories relevant to Arabic-Australian youth, segments highlighting specific Arabic countries and sport. Kalam TV is a ground-breaking program, designed to challenge stereotypes of Arabic-Australians, through providing ASB youth a voice through the Australian media. This is crucial to combat cultural disharmony in Australia, perpetuated by misrepresentations and widespread negative coverage of the Arabic diaspora within the mainstream media.

Kalam TV has recently been screened at the National Multicultural and Indigenous Youth Media Conference 2010, as well as at a number of secondary schools. There has been positive feedback on the internet and elsewhere. Over 50 people have been involved in this innovative project.

Are U Brave

Funded by Dep. of Immigration and Citizenship

Are U Brave was supported by The Australian Government's National Action Plan funding program and was a part of Almousawat. The initiative aimed to push participants to challenge their own, and the wider community's, preconceived ideas about Islam. The project ran as a series of six workshops focusing on topics such as counter- terrorism laws, the diversity of Islam and the experience of racism, and social exclusion and productive ways to combat these issues through the use of non-violent techniques and the media. Are U Brave was facilitated by youth Peer Leaders, and participants were given the opportunity to work in conjunction with Executive Members of the Islamic Council of Victoria, Walleed Aly, Multicultural Liaison Officers from the Victoria Police, the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, religious leaders from the community and the Hume City Council. This project offered opportunities for networking with community leaders, youth empowerment, and employment and volunteer opportunities.



Youth Leadership Workshops

in partnership with

Drummond Street Relationship Centre.

The Youth Leadership Workshops, run in partnership with Drummond Street Relationship Centre, engaged 15 young ASB men and women. The aim of the workshops was to empower young people by increasing their knowledge around a number of topical issues facing young people today. Workshops were held over a number of weeks on topics such as drugs and alcohol, safe driving, legal issues, racism, human rights, identity, career pathways, peacebuilding, conflict resolution and public speaking.

Ya Jamila! Let's Get Active

Ya Jamila! Let's Get Active was a young women's camp that took place in April 2010 and engaged 12 young women in a fitness and healthy eating camp. The young women travelled to Melbourne's CBD and participated in a cinema screening of Supersize Me, a trip to Port Melbourne Beach to undertake a fitness program with Lifesaving Victoria, aerobics class with a personal trainer, a nutritional workshop, a trip to Victorian Market and a meditation class at the Botanic Gardens



Youth Soccer

Youth Services has supported three youth soccer groups throughout the past financial year; the VASS Young Women's Futsal Team, Albatat Soccer Group and the Multicultural Soccer Group of Victoria. Each of these groups has had a number of achievements, including;

- 13 young members of the VASS Young Women's Futsal Team participated in the All Nations Young Women's Soccer Tournament at the State Netball and Hockey Centre,
- Ridha Salman, organiser of the Multicultural Soccer Group of Victoria engaged 40 young men from refugee backgrounds and received the Refugee Recognition Award from Mr James Merlino, the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs.
- Albatat Soccer Team engaged 15 young men from Arabic speaking backgrounds, formed three teams and played weekly tournaments.



Arabic Youth Community Radio Programs

The Arabic Youth Community Radio Programs are an ongoing initiative that aim to engage Arabic youth. The programs, 3Al Hawa and Shabab Sawa provide Arabic youth with a public forum to voice their opinions and ideas.

3Al Hawa aims to engage Arab youth including those who are disadvantaged or marginalised and raise awareness of current issues through community talk-back. Presenters are encouraged to research areas relating to youth that they are interested in and to discuss the issues and solutions during the show. They also discuss current news and events and advertise other VASS events. On the second Sunday of every month a special hip hop program is hosted by Phillip Pandongan from the youth band A.R.A.B. Over the past financial period five volunteers were recruited and trained. The volunteers conducted various interviews on-air, and put much effort into researching their topics of interest for discussion on the shows. The June Radiothon was huge success and highlighted the strength of the team. Some of the volunteers subsequently went on to participate in Kalam TV.

Shabab Sawa features material relating to Arabic youth culture. The program includes interviews and the latest in popular Arab music. It not only provides a public forum for Arab youth to speak out, but also gives them the opportunity to volunteer on air. VASS offers potential volunteers a free training program in order to encourage youth to be a part of this program and develop new skills.

Other VASS Youth Initiatives:

Peace building through Art Funded by EastWeb

Peace building through Art ran as a series of workshops overseen by an art therapist over a series of weeks. The project provided an opportunity for Arabic youth adversely affected by the conflict in Palestine to express themselves creatively through stencil art. The pieces produced during the project by the 10 participants were then displayed across Victoria, including the Melbourne Immigration Museum and Phoenix Youth Centre Gallery Space in Footscray.

Newport Homework Club

The Newport Homework Club was held for males and females from years seven, eight and nine weekly on Tuesday evenings at the VASS Newport office. The program assisted participating youth with academic concerns they were facing at school. The program was implemented with the assistance of Hobson's Bay City Council. People within the community worked together with the young to improve their academic abilities.

Young Women's Empowerment Group Funded by the Department of Families, Housing Community Services, Indigenous Affairs

The Young Women's Empowerment Group initiative assisted young ASB women and other ASB girls in schools in learning how to empower themselves, and have their voices heard throughout the community. Participants developed team work and problem-solving skills; learnt more about themselves and others; developed good communication skills; made friends; were encouraged to express themselves in creative ways; and much more. The Young Women's Empowerment Group provided a safe environment for the young girls to articulate issues that concern them, and offered support to them in culturally sensitive ways.

Junior Youth Empowerment Holiday Program

The Junior Youth Empowerment Holiday Program engaged nine ASB young people between the ages of 12 and 15 years old with the goal of increasing the skills of the participants both individually and as a group. A number of workshops and activities were held on topics such as photography, stencilling and karate.



Victoriaworks for Jobseekers with Employment Challenges (VWJEC) - Pathways to Employment

Funded by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development

VWJEC is an initiative of VASS, funded by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development. The project aims to assist young people aged 18 – 30 years old into long term employment, training or educational opportunities. This is done through mentoring, resume building and providing a bridge between the unemployed and industry representatives and educational institutions.

A Victorian
Government
initiative



Stay Safe in Traffic

Funded by the Transport Accident Commission (TAC)

Stay Safe in Traffic was designed to support and assist young, disadvantaged migrants aged between 21 and 25 years to attain theoretical knowledge as well as practice in safe driving. The project aimed to reduce unlawful driving practice and road collisions, as well as to give disadvantaged participants from Arabic speaking backgrounds an opportunity to develop the skill of safe driving. The project targeted youth from Arabic speaking backgrounds who reside in the North West region of Melbourne, who lacked the resources to learn or become proficient enough to legally drive.

Ten young people participated in the project which included workshops relating to safe driving practice, drivers license attainment, Australian law and the role of the police. Participants each undertook five driving lessons with a qualified driving instructor. The project resulted in three of the participants obtaining a P1 license within three months of completion of the project.

We Are One
Funded by the Department of
Immigration & Citizenship

We Are One is a two year initiative funded by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship through the Diverse Australia Program. Commenced in October 2009, the initiative will run until December 2011.

WeAreOne addresses the negative contributions of disempowerment, anger, helplessness and frustration within the Muslim Arabic Speaking Background (ASB) community within schools and within the broader community. The project also addresses problems around anti-social behaviour, racism, violence in the community and the home, crime, gang-related behaviour and susceptibility to radical and extreme attitudes.



Outcomes for this financial year included:

- Consultations with 19 schools, with 10 schools agreeing to be involved in the initiative,
- 15 key stakeholders from local government, law enforcement agencies and community organisations were involved in the project in various capacities.
- A Harmony Day celebration and introduction of the We Are One project was held in March 2010 at Hume Central Blair Street Campus to 150 Year 8 students, 5 teachers and 1 welfare worker. The celebration involved discussions about culture and identity, the promotion of cultural diversity and tackling bullying and identity through performing arts, rapping and hip hop performances and a trading places activity whereby young people asked questions about culture to a student they had not talked to before.
- Cross cultural training and teacher consultation was held with 30 teachers at Bayside Secondary College.
- A number of youth consultations took place at Roxburgh College in February-March 2010. Issues identified were bullying, racism and violence.
- Young people were linked to Brunswick Women's Theatre and trained to educate their peers and teachers about the key issues through scenes depicting their stories in the school ground. The scenes were showcased at the Human Rights Conference in April 2010 at Roxburgh College organised by VASS in partnership with Roxburgh College and involving 150 Year Nine students.
- A Model UN Conference was held at Roxburgh Park Secondary College. Students were trained in public speaking, leadership, diplomacy, debate and negotiation around the topic of racism and peace building through an international relations framework.
- Teachers and service providers graduated from the 10 week beginners Arabic language course offered at VASS. For this initiative, VASS gained a Recognition Award at a Cultural Ambassadors ceremony.



ANTI-RACISM ACTION BAND

www.arab-vass.com

The Anti Racism Action Band (A.R.A.B) is VASS' culturally and artistically eclectic community-based youth performing arts program for Melbourne's northern suburbs. It currently works with 240 young people aged between 13 and 25 from 50 different cultural backgrounds and has performed at over 300 public and community events from the Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre to the Gotham Comedy Club New York. A.R.A.B's audience averages 15,000 people per annum.

The past year has seen the A.R.A.B Program grow in youth participation and project scope with non-stop performances, gigging events, employment and training opportunities and special projects. The main artistic work of 2009 'Conjure' was a hit in the Melbourne Fringe Festival with a sell out season over three nights at the Northcote Town Hall. Over 1100 audience members experienced 200 young people fusing spoken word, hip-hop, belly dance, grind core, instrumental composition, roots and acoustic, Bollywood, krump and video in an inspiring narrative about a girl from the Northern suburbs becoming a writer.

The ongoing Sound and Music Hub Special Project saw over thirty young musicians collaborating with professional artists, co-creating original music for 'Conjure'. A 12 track CD was recorded following the 'Conjure' performances.

Other highlights included performing at the 2009 Moreland Youth Summit, the screening of documentary 'It's a Blind Chick Thing' at ACMI, a performance at the Footscray Community Arts Festival and a regional tour to the 'Loud and Proud' Festival in Culcairn, NSW.

The A.R.A.B Program was recognised for its community health development work and was invited to present its model at the Diversity in Health 2010 Conference to an audience of national and international health professionals and took part in a series of community arts discussion at Melbourne's Malthouse Theatre.

Congratulations to A.R.A.B assistant young dance tutors 'Randi' and 'Ina'.

Special thanks to our teacher, local council and community partner team:

Kris Nelson, Mark Hynes, Jackie Bonis, Simon Harvey, Kristen Versteegebrown, Delwyn Castellano, Liesel Marshall, Tamara Macanovic Heather Wilson, Liam Walsh and Alexandra Douglas.

School/Community Partners:

Glenroy Specialist School, Glenroy Secondary College, Hume Secondary College (Dimboola Rd and Blair St Campuses), Glenroy Secondary College, Ruthven Secondary College, Reservoir District Secondary College, Brunswick Secondary College Language Centre, Kangan Batman TAFE Koori Education Unit, John Fawkner Secondary College, and Macleod Secondary College.

A.R.A.B funding Partners:

VicHealth, Australia Council of the Arts, City of Melbourne, Arts Victoria, Moreland City Council, Hume City Council, City of Whittlesea, City of Darebin, The R.E Ross Trust, The Ian Potter Foundation, Bennelong Foundation, Dubai Duty Free, Newsboys Foundation, Inner North Foundation, Salter Foundation, Pilotlight, Castan Family Foundation, The Panel Christmas Wrap.



Health and Ageing Seminars

Funded by the National Prescribing Service (NPS)

The National Prescribing Services funded VASS to run eight information sessions relating to health and ageing. Four sessions were run on two topics; Safe and Wise Use of Medicine, and Sleep and Ageing. The sessions targeted those in the Arabic speaking community aged 50 and above and were delivered in the Arabic language by health professionals. Sessions were held across regions in Hobsons Bay, Hume and Dandenong. A total of 140 participants attended the sessions, which sought to identify myths and misconceptions surrounding medicine and ageing and encouraged participants to seek advice from a health professional.



No Excuse for Family Violence

Funded by the National Community Crime Prevention Programme (NCCPP)

No Excuse for Family Violence was an initiative of the Victorian Arabic Social Services (VASS) which was funded by the National Community Crime Prevention Programme (NCCPP) and concluded in late 2009. The project aimed to inform, assist and support families of an ASB to understand, avoid and resolve family violence using a culturally appropriate framework. The project aimed to establish partnership arrangement with other key service providers to ensure on-going benefits to the community. The project covered ASB communities residing in the municipality of Hume, Darebin, Greater Dandenong and Hobson's Bay.

Outcomes:

- Design, translation and distribution of over 2000 brochures to clients, service providers, community leaders, local governments, members of the ASB communities and the wider community.
- Support, assistance and referral was provided to 150-200 clients that were either affected primarily by family violence or where it was acknowledged as one of the issues among family violence risk factors such as unemployment, drug and alcohol abuse and gambling.
- More than 100 people trained in family violence awareness, some of whom were accredited with certificates after intense training. Participants then become a strong mechanism in spreading the message that violence in and outside the household is not okay and is a crime in Australia.
- Assisted over 50 young and middle aged men on community correction orders who have anger management issues and have perpetrated violence towards members of their families especially their wives and children.
- Over 3000 people living in and around metropolitan Melbourne especially in the municipality of Hume, South Eastern and Western Melbourne were informed about the project through the distribution of resources, media awareness in community radio stations, the VASS Annual General Meeting, community events and festivals and word of mouth which is a very popular way to increase awareness of an issue, project and/or available services.

Arabic Classes

From May to July 2010, VASS offered a beginners Arabic language course to service providers and community members over a ten week period. The free classes covered a range of topics including Arabic script, basic greetings, counting, general vocabulary, basic sentence structure, and conversation. Ten students completed the course and were eager to use their new skills in working with their Arabic speaking clients.

Cross Cultural Training

VASS provides cross-cultural training to mainstream service organisations, local government and to groups from other ethnic communities. This training raised awareness and understanding of the 22 Arabic speaking countries and their cultural practices. The training sessions also highlighted the diversity within communities from the 22 Arabic speaking countries. Training also gave participants a chance to explore issues, barriers and generate open discussions through specific case studies. The sessions provided valuable information on the socio-cultural characteristics of the Arabic speaking community. Feedback from participants from different evaluations forms has been highly positive, indicating that the training has been greatly appreciated and valued by the participants. The training sessions have aided participants in gaining a greater:

- Understanding of clients' cultural and social contexts.
- Awareness of religion and the shaping of attitudes of these communities.

Over the past financial year VASS has conducted cross cultural training with;

- The Department of Justice
- Aged Care facilities and workers
- Churches
- Schools and teachers

Tax Help Scheme

The Australian Taxation Office's Tax Help Scheme has been in operation once again, with VASS involved in the initiative to assist members of the Arabic speaking community with their tax issues. Many people from ASB communities have difficulty accessing mainstream services such as those in place to assist with tax returns. VASS provided training for a selection of volunteers who have been available and will continue to be available to support clients in preparing their tax returns, in particular in accessing the Education Tax Benefit.

Mediation

VASS works closely with the Family Relationship Centre. VASS has qualified mediators representing the diversity of the Arabic community in terms of age, gender, and country of birth. These mediators are working closely with the Family Relationship Centre and are available to mediate any conflict within the Arabic and mainstream communities for free. Over the past financial year VASS has played a key role in arranging a multicultural reference group and provided ongoing cultural support to the Family Relationship Centres. Types of conflict range from neighbourhood mediations to family and school mediation as well as a range of other community issues.

Arabic Directory

In November 2009, VASS published the 15th Edition of the Arabic Directory. The directory acts as a guiding tool for the Arabic community by providing information about the services available in the region and contact details. Mainstream communities can also use the accessible information resource.

VASS Open Day

The annual VASS Newport Open Day was held on the 9th of October at the Newport office for service providers across the North-West of Melbourne. An extensive number of service providers attend the day, along with the Lebanese Consular General. There were presentations focusing on general information about VASS, youth services, family services, settlement services and aged care. Coordinators in each of these fields were present to answer any questions about the various areas of interest. An Arabic themed lunch was also provided.



Biemnhom Australia Association Training

VASS has worked with the Dinka language school, the Biemnhom Australia Association. The relationship involved VASS offering training in how to run community groups, as well as training in how to make flyers to promote the Dinka language school.

Muslim Foster Care Initiative

VASS has continued to support the strengthening of the Muslim foster care initiative, 'Daar Aasaya' between Anglicare Victoria and Mercy Mission. VASS believes that the sharing of identities and diverse cultures is important, but it is also most important to retain ties to one's own background and culture. VASS has played a role in advocating for children from Muslim backgrounds to be placed with Muslim foster parents and recognises the huge ongoing need for Muslim foster carers.

Training/Conferences/Forums attended by VASS Staff:

- Australian Institute of Criminology- Student Forum
- Settlement Grant Program- Parenting & Families Training
- Department of Human Services- Family Violence: Risk Assessment & Risk Management Training
- New Hope Foundation- Effective Casework with Refugee Clients
- Department of Immigration & Citizenship- Settlement Conference
- St Mary's Outreach- Housing Training
- Hume City Council- Broadmeadows Community Renewal
- Family Relationship Centre- Families and Migration
- Mental Health First Aid
- Focus on the Family- How to Drug Proof Your Kids
- Melbourne University Volunteer Expo



Northern Trax A.R.A.B

Northern Trax will showcase cultural tradition harmonising, colliding and fusing with contemporary youth culture in a series of random performance installations around Flinders St Station. Body percussion, belly dance, spoken word, krump, hip hop, jerk, dance hall, parkour, instrumental composition, vocal harmony and video morph and distort as the crew from Anti Racism Action Band (A.R.A.B.) deliver uplifting, confronting and interactive performances, based on their own lives in Melbourne's Zone 2, to city commuters. See this electrifying 200-strong ensemble from 50 cultural backgrounds let loose on the escalators, stairwells, platforms and underground subways of Flinders St Station.

NMIT Leadership Course

VASS in conjunction with NMIT will be offering an eight day leadership course for ASB youth. The purpose of the course is to provide competency based training in leadership, teamwork, effective communication, presentation and public speaking. The course will endeavour to give participants a sense of identity and an awareness of how communication across cultures is affected by attitudes, values and behaviours.

We Are One

Funded by The Department of Immigration & Citizenship

We Are One will address the negative contributions of disempowerment, anger, helplessness and frustration within the Muslim Arabic Speaking Background (ASB) community within schools and within the broader community. The project will address problems around anti-social behaviour, racism, violence in the community and the home, crime, gang-related behaviour and susceptibility to radical and extreme attitudes.

Victoriaworks for Jobseekers with Employment Challenges (VWJEC) - Pathways to Employment funded by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development

VWJEC is an ongoing initiative of the Victorian Arabic Social Services, funded by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development. In the 2010-2011 financial period VASS will be offering the Certificate IV in Workplace Training & Assessment for participants. This certificate will offer participants the opportunity to gain skills and knowledge in areas such as the design and development of learning programs, the development of assessment tools, facilitation for individual and group-based learning and how to assess competence. In addition to this mentoring, resume building and other activities providing a bridge between the unemployed and industry representatives and educational institutions will continue.

Supported Access Pilot Project (SAPP) funded by the Department of Health

SAPP is an ongoing three year program running from January 2008 until December 2010. It aims explore and develop supported access for people from Arabic speaking backgrounds into and through the Home and Community Care program (HACC). A significant number of people from Arabic speaking backgrounds in Victoria require extra support, especially those that are not proficient in English and refugees with torture and trauma issues. This pilot project encourages and supports participation and access to local aged care services and the uptake of mainstream services.

A Victorian
Government
initiative



CALD Senior Surfers Program Funded by the Department of Planning and Community Development

CALD Senior Surfers is a Victorian Government initiative, designed to help CALD seniors learn how to access and use the internet in their own language, in a supportive community environment. This program was launched on 16th of May 2008 at the VASS Newport office. The program has been highly successful and is sustained as an ongoing activity in both the Northern and Western regions, continuing as an activity for both volunteers and clients, with training conducted by three staff and three volunteers.

Community Planting Day Funded by Hobsons Bay Council

In September a Community Planting Day will be held at the VASS Newport office. The Planting Day will be run in conjunction with Hobsons Bay City Council and will involve young community members planting beautiful plants around the local vicinity. The aim of the day is to raise awareness of environment issues within the community and to encourage pride in the local community. Planting professionals will be on hand to support the initiative.

Victorian Arabic Social Services (VASS)

with the support of

Hobsons Bay city council

invites you to join us in

Planting Day

Location: 16 Oxford street

Date: Tuesday 21st Sept 2010

Time: 12:00pm



Refreshments will be served

Please RSVP by Friday 17th Sept 2010

Tel. 9391 0195

Email: osama.alnaimi@vass.org.au

Victorian Arabic Social Services Financial Report for the year ended 30th June 2010

Victorian Arabic Social Services Inc. - Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2010**ASSETS****Current Assets****Current/Savings****CASH AT BANK-RESTRICTED**

1001 - Community Access Account MECU	105,403.29
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1002 - National Cheque Account	98,782.72
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1003 - NABAC-Anti Racism Action Band	272,259.68
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Total CASH AT BANK-RESTRICTED	476,445.69
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1100 - PETTY CASH

A.R.A.B. Project	-1,595.86
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Broadmeadows Office	16.08
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Dandenong Office	212.13
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Newport Office	191.52
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Total 1100 - PETTY CASH	-1,176.13
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1300 - SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS

1302 - MECU Term Deposit 1	54,394.07
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1303 - MECU Term Deposit 2	124,090.49
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1304 - MECU Term Deposit 3	90,475.95
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Total 1300 - SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS	268,960.51
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Total Current/Savings	744,230.07
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Total Current Assets	744,230.07
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Fixed Assets**1350 - LAND & BUILDING**

1351 - Land & Building	245,681.59
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Total 1350 - LAND & BUILDING	245,681.59
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1355 - EQUIPMENTS & OFFICE FURNITURE

1356 - Office Equipments & Furniture	123,272.38
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1357 - Office Equipment Acc Depn	-102,139.81
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Total 1355 - EQUIPMENTS & OFFICE FURN...	21,132.57
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1360 - MOTOR VEHICLES

1361 - Motor Vehicle at cost	85,062.32
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1362 - Motor Vehicles Acc Depn	-33,145.28
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Total 1360 - MOTOR VEHICLES	51,917.04
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Total Fixed Assets	318,731.20
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TOTAL ASSETS	1,062,961.27
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LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
2020 - GST Payable	19,580.04
2030 - PAYG Withholding Payable	660.50
2050 - EMPLOYEE PROVISIONS	
2051 - Provision for Annual Leave	24,876.49
2052 - Provision for Sick Leave	18,562.15
2053 - Provi for Long Service Leave	15,622.51
Total 2050 - EMPLOYEE PROVISIONS	59,061.15
2060 - Grants Received in Advance	
Dept Human Se- Family & Child P	55,000.00
Dept of Health & Ageing - Stay Co	60,000.00
Ian Potter Foundation	40,000.00
Vichealth - Building Briges	48,000.00
Vichealth - Arts Grant Project	33,000.00
Total 2060 - Grants Received in Advance	236,000.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	315,301.69
Total Current Liabilities	315,301.69
Long Term Liabilities	
2070 - MECU Limited	115,508.71
Total Long Term Liabilities	115,508.71
TOTAL LIABILITIES	430,810.40
NET ASSETS	632,150.87
EQUITY	
3000 - Opening Bal Equity	348,502.33
3003 - Retained Surplus	249,174.26
Net Income	34,474.28
TOTAL EQUITY	632,150.87

Victorian Arabic Social Services Inc. - Profit & Loss July 2009 through June 2010

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

4000 - GRANTS (COMMWEALTH) NO RECURREN

4005 - Attorney-General's Department
NCCPP

15,000.00

Total 4005 - Attorney-General's Department

15,000.00

4025 - Department of Edu Emp & Workpla

7,500.00

4030-Dept of Fam, Hou, Com Se & Ind

NorthWest

40,000.00

South East

40,000.00

Total 4030 - Dept of Fam,Hou,Com Se & Ind

80,000.00

4035 - Department of Health And Ageing

CPP

75,000.00

Stay Cool

30,000.00

Total 4035 - Department of Health And Ageing

105,000.00

4045 - DIAC-Dept. of Immig&Citizenship

Complex Case

14,129.74

Hume Brave

2,993.96

Settlement Grants

70,822.00

We Are One

80,000.00

Total 4045 - DIAC-Dept. of Immig&Citizenship

167,945.70

Total 4000 - GRANTS (COMMWEALTH) NO REC...

375,445.70

4050 - GRANTS (STATE) RECURRENT

4051 - Department of Human Services

HACC Program

147,643.90

Total 4051 - Department of Human Services

147,643.90

Total 4050 - GRANTS (STATE) RECURRENT

147,643.90

4100 - GRANTS (STATE) NO-RECURRENT

4105 - Arts Victoria

40,000.00

4115 - DHS-Dept. of Human Services

Family Services 2008/2009

29,000.00

Well For Life 2008/2009

25,000.00

Total 4115 - DHS-Dept. of Human Services

54,000.00

4125 - Department of Innovation, Indust

7,658.00

4135 - Department of Planning And Comm

A Fair Go

37,200.00

Social Support

5,000.00

Youth Week

2,000.00

Total 4135 - Department of Planning And Comm

44,200.00

4145 - Transport Accident Commission

19,935.00

4155 - VicHealth	
Building Bridges	40,000.00
Conference Support	10,000.00
4155 - VicHealth - Other	17,730.00
Total 4155 - VicHealth	67,730.00
4165 - Victorian Multicultural Commiss	9,900.00
Total 4100 - GRANTS (STATE) NO-RECURRENT	243,423.00
4175 - GRANTS (STATE) OTHER	3,098.00
4180 - GRANTS (LOCAL) OPERA NO-RECUR	
4410 - City of Melbourne	30,000.00
4411 - Moreland City Council	10,227.27
Total 4180 - GRANTS (LOCAL) OPERA NO-REC...	40,227.27
4185 - GRANTS (LOCAL) OTHER	5,561.36
4200 - GRANTS-OTHER	
4205 - Bennelong Foundation	25,000.00
4210 - Beyond Blue	10,000.00
4220 - Dubai Duty Free	24,990.00
4230 - Ian Potter Foundation	0.00
4240 - Inner North Community Foundation	15,000.00
4250 - Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundat	146,000.00
4260 - Matana Foundation-Income	10,000.00
4270 - Newsboys Foundation	30,000.00
4280 - R.E. Ross Trust	30,000.00
4290 - William Buckland Foundation	50,000.00
4300 - Grants from other Organisations	4,046.68
Total 4200 - GRANTS-OTHER	345,036.68
4500 - DONATIONS RECEIVED	
Dept. of Justice	8,033.00
Donations & Gifts (Other)	7,515.00
Total 4500 - DONATIONS RECEIVED	15,548.00
4600 - CONTRIBUTIONS (MEMBER)	
Membership fee 09/10	118.18
Total 4600 - CONTRIBUTIONS (MEMBER)	118.18
4700 - TRADING BY ANTI RACISM ACTION B	
Gigs	21,506.37
Presentations	110.64
Ticket Sales	2,375.00
Total 4700 - TRADING BY ANTI RACISM ACTION B	23,992.01
4750 - OTHER SALES	
Arabic Directory	1,940.92
Total 4750 - OTHER SALES	1,940.92
Total Income	1,202,035.02
Gross Profit	1,202,035.02

Expense

6000 - SALARIES & WAGES	
6001 - Salaries	549,522.18
6002 - Salary Sacrifice	125,376.69
6003 - Superannuation	69,656.90
6004 - Annual Leave Expenses	47,566.97
6005 - Sick Leave Expense	11,825.47
6006 - Long Service Leave Expense	267.96
6008 - Worker's Compensation	17,651.61
Total 6000 - SALARIES & WAGES	821,867.78
6010 - Training & Development (Staff)	12,027.36
6100 - VOLUNTEER COSTS	
6102 - Volunteer Allowances	41,801.68
6103 - Travel	4,596.30
Total 6100 - VOLUNTEER COSTS	46,397.98
6200 - CLIENT SUPPORT SERVICES	
6201 - Training & Education	7,829.77
6202 - Personal Development	5,742.62
6203 - Transport Assistance - Taxi Fare	5,523.01
6204 - Conference Support	3,850.00
6205 - Catering Expense	22,780.63
6207 - Publications	3,650.00
Total 6200 - CLIENT SUPPORT SERVICES	49,376.03
6300 - PROJECT EXPENSE	
6301 - Training Youth For Dance - ARAB	8,334.09
6302 - Expen for Dance Training - ARAB	31,100.50
6303 - Board Game Productions	859.09
6304 - Presenter Fees	896.09
6305 - Production Cost (TV)	669.09
6307 - Project Travel	13,897.27
6308 - Venue Hire	2,618.18
Total 6300 - PROJECT EXPENSE	58,374.31
6306 - Insurance General	5,507.69
6325 - Fees & Permits	762.56
6500 - TELEPHONE MOBILE FAX INTERNET	
6501 - Telephone	6,623.86
6502 - Mobile	13,802.66
6503 - Fax	884.02
6504 - Internet	2,470.36
Total 6500 - TELEPHONE MOBILE FAX INTERNET	23,780.90
6525 - Tolls	2,176.89
6526 - Computer Expenses	15,726.85
6527 - Advertising & Promotion	1,200.00
6528 - Meeting Expense	10,470.21
6529 - Postage & Delivery	2,058.64
6530 - Printing & Stationery	22,192.38
6531 - Audit Fees	2,516.72

6532 - Payroll Service Fee	3,535.67
6533 - Equipment Hire	834.81
6534 - Business Planing	330.00
6535 - Board/Governance Expenses	931.61
6536 - Membership Fees	1,604.54
6550 - MOTOR VEHICLE EXPENSES	
6551 - Registration	2,430.86
6552 - Insurance	5,339.60
6553 - Repairs & Maintanance	6,697.16
6554 - Fuel & Oil	3,180.00
Total 6550 - MOTOR VEHICLE EXPENSES	17,647.62
6575 - Interest Paid	7,346.87
6579 - Stamp Duty	243.56
6580 - Entertainment Cost	810.00
6600 - UTILITIES	
6601 - Gas	1,059.25
6602 - Electricity	2,063.87
6603 - Water	2,268.29
Total 6600 - UTILITIES	5,391.41
6605 - Rates	664.03
6625 - Repairs & Maintenance	2,699.31
6626 - Cleaning	1,953.75
6627 - Staff Amenities	458.62
6628 - Donations	1,838.60
6650 - DEPRECIATION	
6652 - Office Equipments & Furniture	25,198.19
6653 - Motor Vehicles	7,792.96
Total 6650 - DEPRECIATION	32,991.15
6700 - Write off Expenses	2,229.00
6701 - Miscellaneous	5,103.39
6800 - EXON INCOME GENERATING - ARAB	
6801 - Gigs - Anti Racism Action Band	30,943.14
Total 6800 - EXON INCOME GENERATING-AR...	30,943.14
Total Expense	1,191,963.65
Net Ordinary Income	10,071.37
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
4800 - OTHER/SUNDRY INCOME	
4801 - Adult Migration Employment Serv	2,272.73
4802 - Hany Boulous	10,000.00
Total 4800 - OTHER/SUNDRY INCOME	12,272.73
4803 - Interest Received	12,130.18
Total Other Income	24,402.91
Net Other Income	24,402.91
Net Income	34,474.28

VICTORIAN ARABIC SOCIAL SERVICES INC.**REG. NO: A00091730****STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the year ended 30th June 2009**

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from Grants etc.	1,378,578	1,314,753
Receipts from Interest	12,130	7,208
Payments to suppliers and employees	(1,168,560)	(1,158,570)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities (Note 2)	222,148	163,391
 CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from (payment for) property, plant, equipment and motor vehicles	(36,651)	217,100
Proceeds from (payment for) investments	(359,942)	(181,273)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(396,593)	35,827
 CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from (payment for) loans	(7,390)	(143,578)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(7,390)	(143,578)
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	(181,835)	55,640
Cash at beginning of year	384,845	329,205
	-----	-----
Cash at end of reporting period (Note 1)	203,010	384,845

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**NOTE 1. RECONCILIATION OF CASH**

For the purposes of the statement of the cash flows, cash included cash on hand and in at call deposits with banks or financial institutions, investments in money market instruments maturing within less than two months, net of bank overdrafts

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

Cash on Hand	-	1,598
Cash at Bank	203,010	383,247
	-----	-----
	203,010	384,845

**NOTE 2. RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH PROVIDED BY
OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO OPERATING PROFIT**

Operating Profit(Loss) after income tax	37,300	36,259
Profit on Sale of Property	-	(34,996)
Depreciation of Non-current Assets	32,991	36,106
Prior Year Adjustments	(59)	46,749
Changes in Net Assets and Liabilities:		
Increase/(decrease) in income in advance	164,270	71,730
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(4,855)	(38,923)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(7,499)	46,466
	-----	-----
	222,148	163,391
	-----	-----



J L COLLYER & PARTNERS
ACCOUNTANTS & AUDITORS

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187-189 Coleman Parade
Glen Waverley Vic 3150
PO Box 340
Glen Waverley Vic 3150
Phone: 03 9560 0211
Fax: 03 9561 5497
Email: bcollyer@collyerpartners.com.au

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of **VICTORIAN ARABIC SOCIAL SERVICES INC**

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a general purpose financial report, of which comprises the Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2010, and the Profit and Loss Statement, Statement of Changes in equity and Cash Flow Statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The management of **VICTORIAN ARABIC SOCIAL SERVICES INC** is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The management's responsibility also includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report on order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

DIRECTORS
JANET L. COLLYER FCPA
LIONEL R. ARNOLD CA B.BUS
RAELENE LAI CPA B.COM



Chartered Accountants

LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME APPROVED
UNDER PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS LEGISLATION

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Management's financial reporting requirement. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

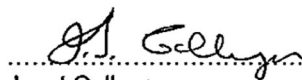
Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the relevant independence requirements.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of

- (a) gives a true and fair view of **VICTORIAN ARABIC SOCIAL SERVICES INC's** financial position as at 30th June 2010 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1.



Janet Collyer

J L COLLYER & PARTNERS

14th September 2010

Wednesday 18th November, 2009 (5.00-7.00pm)

Hume Global Learning Centre

1093 Pascoe Vale Road Broadmeadows, Vic 3047

1. Present: List is on file
2. Apologies: List is on file
3. Welcome Speech: Ms. Leila Alloush, Manager of the Victorian Arabic Social Services
4. Youth Services Report by means of Powerpoint Presentation: Mr. Anthony Grace, Youth Services Team
5. Keynote Address: Iman Riman, author of 'The impact of Arabic Satellite Television on the participation of Arab Migrant Communities in Mainstream Australian Society'.
6. Confirmation of 2008 AGM Minutes: Minutes as presented in the VASS 2009 Annual Report were confirmed.
Moved by: Ali Mustapha
Seconded by: Mohamad Tabiaat
7. Chairperson's Report: Mohamad Alman presented the Chairperson's Report, as tabled in the published 2009 VASS Annual Report.
8. Treasurer's Report: Mohamad Tabiaat presented the Treasurer's Report, as tabled in the published 2010 VASS Annual Report.
Moved by: Mustafa Ashkar
Seconded by: Mona Abdulla
9. Appointment of Auditor: Adibah Abdo-Attia was announced as the Auditor for 2009-2010.
10. Election of 2009-2010 VASS Board of Management which marked the end of the formal proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.
11. Performances: Anti-Racism Action Band, performers Phil Pandongan and Zain Mehrez. In addition to performances by the VASS Iraqi Women's Group and the VASS Assyrian Chaldean Women's Group performing traditional folklore.
14. Dinner and Refreshments.



Publication Order Form



178 Dallas Drive,
Broadmeadows VIC 3047

T (03) 9309 0055

F (03) 8307 6447

E mail@vass.org.au

W www.vass.org.au

ABN 19 633 403 991 INCORPORATION NO. A00091730

Quantity	Publication	Cost (GST incl.)
_____	Arab-Australians in Victoria: Needs Assessment and Capacity Building	\$31.00
_____	Arabic Communities and Well Being: Supports and Barriers to Social Connectedness	\$31.00
_____	Asylum Seekers in Howard's Australia: The Social and Economic Costs of Temporary Protection Visas	\$31.00
_____	Mediation and Conflict resolution - among the Arabic speaking community in Melbourne	\$31.00
_____	Arabic Community Directory 14th Edition	\$25.00
_____	Arabic Youth and Families Settlement Program: A Good Practice Example	\$11.00
_____	Anti Racism Action Band (A.R.A.B) - VASS Stage 1- Research and Evaluation Report	\$15.00
_____	Natural Health and Beauty Therapies	\$10.00
_____	Preventing and Responding to Problem Gambling in the Arabic Community	\$22.00
_____	Arabic Women's Cook Book Sharing Recipes and Stories	Colour \$20.00 Black and White \$15.00

☐ Please tick if receipt required

If paying by cheque or money order, please make payable to: 'Victorian Arabic Social Services'

Profession: _____ Organisation: _____

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms): _____

Name: _____ Surname: _____

Postal Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Mobile Number: _____ Email: _____

Date Of Order: _____ Order Taken By: _____

Date Publication sent/delivered: _____ Payment Method: _____

Any donations to VASS \$2 or more are Tax Deductible - your donation is highly appreciated



VASS Membership Application/Renewal Form for 2010-11



178 Dallas Drive,
Broadmeadows VIC 3047

T (03) 9309 0055

F (03) 8307 6447

E mail@vass.org.au

W www.vass.org.au

ABN 19 633 403 991 INCORPORATION NO. A00091730

I would like to be a member of the Victorian Arabic Social Services

Please find enclosed my annual membership fee of:

\$11.00 (GST inclusive). Individual membership ☐

\$22.00 (GST inclusive) organizational membership ☐

Name: _____

JobTitle: _____

Organisation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone:(BH) _____ (AH) _____

Fax: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Enclosed is membership fee for 2010-11:

Total: \$

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please make cheque payable to VASS and send it to the following address:

VASS, 178 Dallas Drive, Broadmeadows 3047.

Phone: (03)9309 0055 Fax: (03) 8307 6447

Email: mail@vass.org.au

Website: www.vass.org.au



**VICTORIAN
ARABIC
SOCIAL SERVICES**

الخدمات الاجتماعية العربية في فكتوريا

SERVING A DIVERSE
ARABIC COMMUNITY

178 Dallas Drive,
Broadmeadows VIC 3047

T (03) 9309 0055

F (03) 8307 6447

E mail@vass.org.au

W www.vass.org.au

ABN **19 633 403 991** INCORPORATION NO. **A00091730**

Countries which are members of the Arabic League of Nations:

Algeria

Bahrain

Comoros

Djibouti

Egypt

Iraq

Jordan

Kuwait

Lebanon

Libya

Mauritania

Morocco

Oman

Palestine

Qatar

Saudi Arabia

Somalia

Sudan

Syria

Tunisia

United Arab Emirates

Yemen



Head Office:

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Broadmeadows, Vic. 3047
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Fax: (03) 8307 6447
Email: mail@vass.org.au

Sub-office Newport:

16 Oxford Street
Newport, Vic. 3015
Tel: (03) 9391 0195
Fax: (03) 9391 0197

Sub-office Dandenong

South Eastern MRC:
Level 1, 314 Thomas Street
Dandenong, Vic. 3175
Postal Address:
PO Box 1139
Dandenong, Vic. 3175
Tel: (03) 9706 8933
Fax: (03) 9706 8830

VASS - A.R.A.B office

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Fawkner
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E-mail: a.r.a.b_vass@bigpond.com
www.arab-vass.com