Cultural Stories

GMC provides cultural briefing sessions for schools, local services and community organisations such as Rotary, Country Women’s Assoc and the Men’s Shed. In a recent session, Alphonoso Karbul spoke to over 100 Goulburn High School students about his life story & journey as a refugee. Alphonoso’s presentation took both students and teachers alike on an emotional journey of their own and provided a greater understanding of refugee experiences.

Careers Expo Excursion

GMC recently organised a bus to take Goulburn students to the Canberra Careers EXPO. Dr Sean Perera from the ANU organised volunteer mentors to chat with each student about their goals and to assist them discuss career options with relevant career information stalls. The excursion was part of the Ready, Able, Work (RAW) program organised by Daniel Brankovic NSW Dept of Education and coordinated by Anja Livingston SE BEC for new arrival/humanitarian students from Goulburn High School. The program included a local Goulburn careers information session with presentations on employment opportunities with Council, health services, community & welfare services, police, hospitality services, as well as guidance on getting a job.

Youth Group

The GMC Youth Group and their friends meet every Friday evening for a range of activities including dancing, fitness sports and information sessions. Heni Jones and the group run a variety of interesting activities including forums in Canberra and Sydney as well as visits by outside groups. Questacon’s Science Circus visited the youth group recently and featured some amazing and magical acts and experiments. Any local young people are welcome to join the youth group.
**Mums and Bubs**

GMC Mums and Bubs Group meets every Friday morning at GMC for a chat and activities. Recent themes have included parenting, health, wellbeing and beauty treatments, as well as a visit to Crookwell to experience life on a farm with sheep, horses, chickens and ducks. The group’s activities have included making children’s clothes and children’s story time.

**Information Sessions**

Judee Ross who is well known to many GMC clients has recently joined GMC and is running a series of valuable information sessions including job ready/employment, finance, legal information, health and wellbeing, education and personal safety. Contact GMC 4803 9042 for more information.

**Holiday Program**

There is a lot happening in the GMC holiday programs including excursions, movies and fun activities in addition to the regular GMC Youth Group activities of Hip Hop dance nights and sports. Understanding Democracy was the theme of a recent holiday program with GMC clients hearing stories of democracy at Old Parliament House, National Museum and the Aboriginal Tent Embassy. A soccer tournament was also held during the last holidays with the Goulburn team winning the championship trophy. The next GMC Holiday Program will feature drama workshops with the aim of exploring material for a local production.

**Volunteers**

GMC welcomes volunteers to assist with delivery of its settlement services. Volunteers receive a full induction program and are matched with clients and preferred activities. Currently volunteers are engaged with driving lessons, the school readiness program, employment mentoring and assisting with family sponsorship applications. Volunteers are also involved with the Mums & Bubs and Youth Groups. People interested in volunteering are welcome to contact GMC.

**GMC Settlement Services**

GMC provides support & referral services for people who have arrived in Australia within the last five years (Dept of Immigration and Citizenship Settlement Grants Program). GMC also has multicultural youth services and aged-care information programs. Contact GMC (02) 4803 9042 for more information.