



Children, Migration and the Right to Health

Developing advocacy skills in young people from refugee backgrounds

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25th June 2019

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MYAN (Australia)

National peak body representing the rights and interests of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds

Promote the rights and interests of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds and support a targeted approach in policy and service delivery

Policy and advocacy, sector capacity building, youth leadership/capacity building – supporting young people as important actors in creating change (local, state, national, international levels)

National Youth Settlement Framework developed to support and measure good practice in youth-focussed integration

Organisation model – Policy + Sector Capacity Building + Youth Leadership

Our Vision – all young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds can access support and opportunities to be active participants in and contributors to Australian society

Youth leadership & capacity building – why?

- Capabilities as young leaders & mentors - important actors in social change/social cohesion/anti-racism initiatives; civic engagement & proactive agents of change
- Lived experience – both marginalisation and capability; experts in own lives; critical perspectives to influence policy and programming
- Human rights (CRC) & youth work frameworks
- Addressing barriers to participation/having voices heard:
 - Limited social capital in Australian context
 - Organisational structures/policies
 - Cultural assumptions, language
 - Racism & discrimination
 - Community expectations, values, views about youth leadership/decision-making
 - Gender
 - Agency diminished through the refugee and migration experience

Youth leadership & capacity building – MYAN’s approach

- Facilitator role – providing capacity building (young people & sector) & platforms
- Dedicated resources to support/facilitate youth leadership & advocacy
- Youth work/youth participation frameworks
- Consultations with young people (various platforms) to inform our work
- *FUSE* – national multicultural youth leadership summit
- State/territory partners – structures for building youth leadership
- National Youth Ambassador’s Network:
 - National representation (direct link to partner organisations – structural support)
 - Capacity building training – e.g. facilitation, project management
 - Providing platforms for advocacy (national & international) – conferences, meetings with government/decision-makers, online campaigns, planning/facilitating *FUSE*

NOT JUST "TICKING A BOX"

Youth participation with young people
from refugee and migrant backgrounds



In order for young people to make change we need support from organisations, and also from individuals with power and authority that can help us - tapping into their knowledge and having access and opportunities to lead.....this includes those with power and authority being prepared to share this and allow us to lead....to walk alongside us....

Young person, MyQ Youth Council, QLD

MYAN Short Film Series Trailer

*Life in Australia: Celebrating young people from
refugee and migrant backgrounds*

FUSE 2019 – short clip

Contacts

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