Refugee Health e-News
September 2011

Refugee health news

- **NSW Refugee Health Plan - update**
  An initial meeting has been held by NSW Health to draft Terms of Reference for the Implementation Group that will oversee the above plan at state level. A full meeting is planned for next month. RHS is collating refugee settlement data based on the new Local Health District (LHD) boundaries, which will assist LHD’s with local planning. An additional meeting was held with the Health Advancement section of NSW Health to begin discussion on Health Promotion aspects of the Refugee Plan.

- **Optimising Health and Learning in Refugee Students**, a collaborative project between Sydney Children’s Hospital (SCH); NSW Refugee Health Service (RHS); St George Hospital and the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District Multicultural Health Service (MHS), has won **Sydney Children’s Hospital Health Award** and has been selected as a Sydney Children’s Hospital Network finalist for the NSW Health Awards 2011.

- **WentWest (Western Sydney Medicare Local)** is encouraging GPs and other primary health care professionals to register interest in the upcoming **Local Primary Health Care Networks (LPHCN)**. LPHCN will be responsible for planning Medicare Local activities based on community needs. The focus for each will be on supporting the integration, coordination, accessibility, safety and effectiveness of local primary health care services. See the events column for more details on LPHCN launches in your area. To find out more email: medicarelocal@wentwest.com.au. In addition, there are currently another three Medicare Locals in NSW: Hunter Urban, New England and Murrumbidgee. For more information on Medicare Locals view the site.

- **Refugee Health Improvement Network (RHIN)**, a forum which brings together health, settlement and community services to discuss refugee health issues and identify multi-sectoral strategies to improve the health of refugees and people from a refugee-like background in NSW, is holding its next meeting on Tuesday 4th of October at Anglicare, Training room, Level 3, 16 Parkes Street, Parramatta. For more information contact NSW Refugee Health Service on 8778 0770 or refugeehealth@sswhs.nsw.gov.au

New resources

- **NSW Refugee Health Service has translated its Health Information Booklet in another two languages, Tamil and Nepali.** For further information, contact HIP Program Coordinator Lidija Sestakova at lidija.sestakova@sswhs.nsw.gov.au

- **Refugee Health Presentations at the 2011 Refugee Conference now available.** This year’s conference, held in NSW in June, marked the 60th anniversary of the Refugee Convention. Presentations covered a range of topics including primary health care delivery, settlement, mental health and disability within an Australia context. Click here to view conference aims, outcomes, and available presentations.
Links to abstracts are provided where full texts are not available for free.

- **Report on the Status of Refugee Children in Victoria.** This report includes multiple systematic reviews of the health and mental health literature, an analysis of 2006 Census data, data from DIAC and the Refugee Minor Program, analyses of multiple Government datasets (including communicable diseases, CAMHS, Perinatal, Education Department, ESL Unit, Student Wellbeing Unit, NAPLAN, Family Services, Catholic Education data, as well as detailed service mapping, and information from 37 direct consults, and a survey of over 90 providers. [Click here](#) to download a copy of the report.

- **Correa-Velez I, Gifford S. SettleMEN: Health and settlement among men from refugee backgrounds living in South East Queensland.** La Trobe Refugee Research Centre, La Trobe University. [View](#) the report.


Sneesby L, Satchell R, Good P, Van Der Riet P. **Death and dying in Australia: perceptions of a Sudanese community.** *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. [View](#) the article.


- **'Out of the darkness, into the light: Australia’s Program of Assistance for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (PASTT).** [The Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT)]. [View](#) the report.

• **26 September 2011**: *Working effectively with refugee families and children*, 1 pm - 4 pm, Cabramale Leisure Centre, 30 Broomfield Street, Cabramatta. To register contact Paula Frivola at the Families NSW Facilitation Project Pfrivola@fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au

• **28 Sept 2011**: *Clinical Master Class Evening, Clinical Implications of Ethnic Cleansing and Genocide*, STARTTS, Carramar Office. For more details see www.startts.org.au or call (02) 9794 1900.

• **18-19 Oct 2011**: *Violence against Women in Refugee Communities*, Wagga Wagga. 2-day workshop presented by the NSW Refugee Health Service and ECAV. [For more details](#) or to register, contact ECAV 9840-3737.

• **20 Oct 2011**: *Jungle Tracks: A Therapeutic Storytelling Program for Children and Adolescents*, STARTTS, Carramar Office. $149/99. For more details see www.startts.org.au or call (02) 9794 1900.


• **30 September 2011**: *National Conference- People of African Descent: Recognition, Social Inclusion and Capacity Building*, the Sebel Hotel, 350 Church Street, Parramatta. For more information contact Dativah Murungi on (02) 9687 9901 or [info@africanwomenaustralia.org](mailto:info@africanwomenaustralia.org)

• **27 Oct 2011**: *Core Concepts in Working with Children and Adolescents from Refugee Backgrounds*, STARTTS, Carramar Office. $149/99. For more details see www.startts.org.au or call (02) 9794 1900.


Refugee Health e-News is produced bi-monthly. If you have a refugee health-related item for the next Refugee Health e-news please contact: [refugeehealth@sswhs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:refugeehealth@sswhs.nsw.gov.au)