

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024

## The MYAN NSW Network

Multicultural Youth Affairs Network



**MYAN NSW**  
Multicultural Youth Affairs Network

# ***MESSAGE FROM ANNUKINA WARDA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER***

**The past 12 months have been a time of celebrating our wins and growing our reputation as an industry leader in multicultural youth affairs.**

It has also been a time of navigating the grief and loss felt by local communities bearing the impact of international conflict, crises and natural disaster.

At the heart of what we do at MYAN NSW, is welcome all young people from all walks of life. Our commitment to engaging with diverse ethnic, religious and faith communities, gender identities and young people with disability remains strong and continues to grow a more resilient youth network that is a safe place to belong and to be heard.

Please find the MYAN NSW annual report from 1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024.

Thank you for trusting me to lead this work,

**ANNUKINA WARDA**  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



## MYAN NSW

Our core vision at MYAN NSW is to work towards a society where all young people from refugee and migrant communities are connected, supported, influential and valued.

At MYAN NSW we engage, support and connect multicultural young people settling into Australia. We resource young people with new skills and broader networks of influence. We collaborate with young people across the state so that your needs are met and your voices are heard.

**At MYAN NSW advocacy is our purpose,  
collaboration is our passion.**



## PEER2PEER YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

MYAN NSW trained young people with lived experience of resettlement to deliver a peer-to-peer settlement initiative to newly arrived young people in NSW schools.

This was delivered on 22 March 2024 to 10 young people in Granville, NSW. Young peer facilitators are remunerated for their time and offered a skills reference to increase their employability.



## NEW BEGINNINGS SCHOOLS ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

MYAN NSW delivered peer-led workshops to newly arrived students in NSW high schools to assist with their settlement in Australia.

The MYAN NSW youth engagement team and 8 Peer facilitators delivered the New Beginnings program in April 2024 to 60 humanitarian arrival school students in Bankstown, NSW.

This program is set to grow in 2024-2027 and will be delivered in Liverpool, Fairfield and Armidale as well as in Bankstown.



## SCHOOLS ENGAGEMENT NSW

MYAN NSW attended the Bankstown Senior College Wellness Expo in August 2023 and June 2024. The event connects school students with community and government agencies that provide mental and general health, legal, welfare, cultural and social support.

A MYAN NSW Peer Facilitator hosted the MYAN NSW stall alongside the Youth Engagement Team and shared his experience of being a Peer Facilitator at MYAN NSW with the expo attendees.



## SKILLS WORKSHOPS

MYAN NSW delivered a skills-building and information program titled 'Youth Advisor Hub.' Six weeks of workshops equipped newly arrived young people with skills and training in public speaking, social policy and leadership skills to represent youth affairs to decision makers.

This was delivered over the course of 6 workshops from 19 July 2023 to 27 November 2023 to 10 young people in Granville, NSW at The Granville Centre.

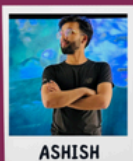
The Youth Advisor Hub co-delivered a policy brief titled 'Addressing the Rental Crisis on Young People Living in NSW'.

The Youth Advisor Hub launched this policy paper alongside MYAN NSW at the MYAN NSW Annual Youth Forum hosted online in November 2023 to 23 young people and service providers from Department of Home Affairs, TAFE NSW, NSW Police, Multicultural NSW, NSW Health, and Department of Communities and Justice.

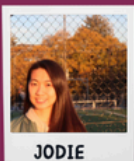
## Annual Youth Forum



JOANNA



ASHISH



JODIE



ANGELA



AILSA



ASMA



RAZIA

The **YA Hub** have been researching the rental crisis and its impacts on young people in NSW.

Join the launch of our policy briefing founded on the latest data conducted by the YA Hub.

November 9  
via Zoom

### Policy Brief:

## Addressing the NSW Housing Crisis on Young people Living in NSW

9 NOVEMBER 2024



[READ HERE](#)

## COFFEE CONNECT: BUILDING YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIAL NETWORKS

MYAN NSW delivered an informal peer networking event for young people to connect and socialise over a free beverage.

MYAN NSW delivered this program in January and June 2024 to 25 young people in Parramatta, NSW at San Churros Cafe in Parramatta.



## SUMMER WRAP

MYAN NSW delivered a peer- network building event that provided a safe space for young people to network, socialise and engage with other young people, the MYAN NSW team and other relevant sector stakeholders. The event consisted of social activities that included the participation of young people, MYAN NSW staff and key stakeholders.

This was delivered on 8 December 2023 to 20 young people at the PHIVE Parramatta NSW.



## YOUTH RETREAT

MYAN NSW delivered a youth retreat event in June 2024 to 37 students at Bankstown Senior College in Bankstown, NSW.

This event was facilitated by the specialist MYAN NSW team, Clinical Supervisor and Social Worker, Michelle Lin, and MYAN NSW youth Peer Facilitators.



This event addressed the growing social

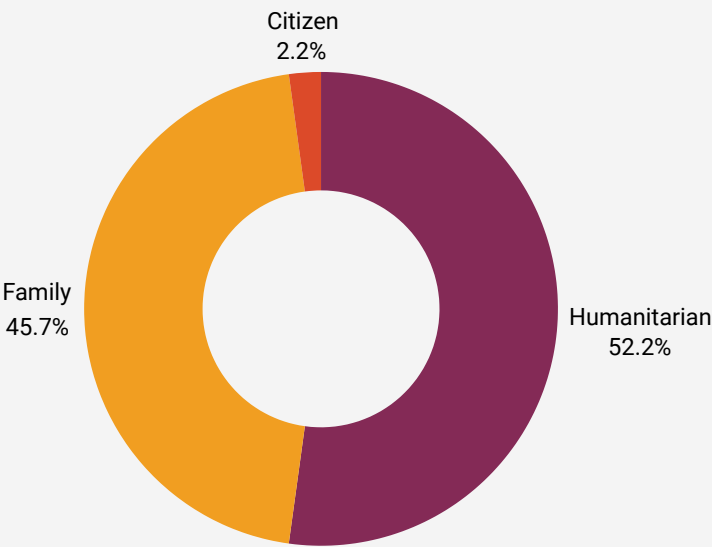
# Supporting Individual Young People 07

MYAN NSW has supported 46 young individuals in the year 2023-24 to achieve Active Citizenship Indicators as per the National Youth Settlement Framework by facilitating their access to employment, education and social services.

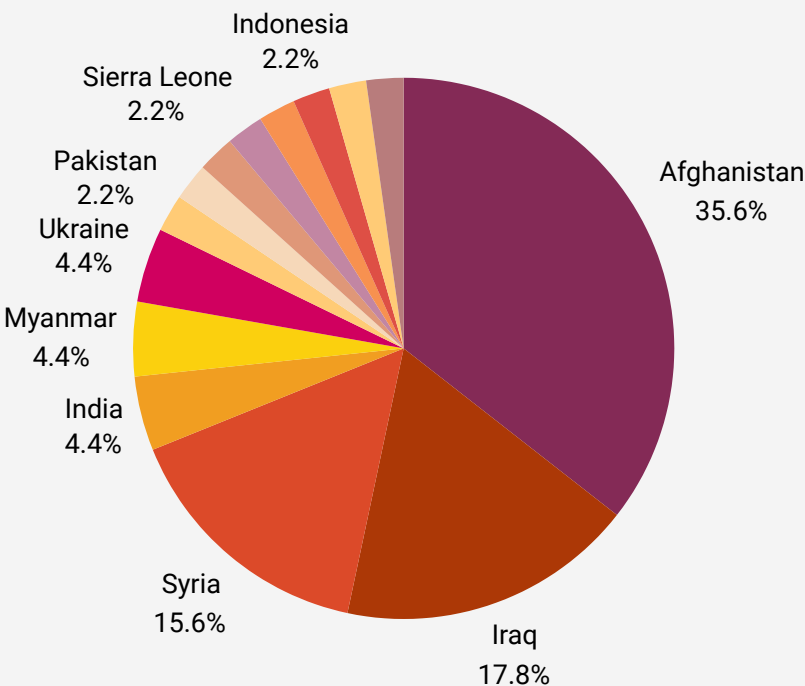
## Gender



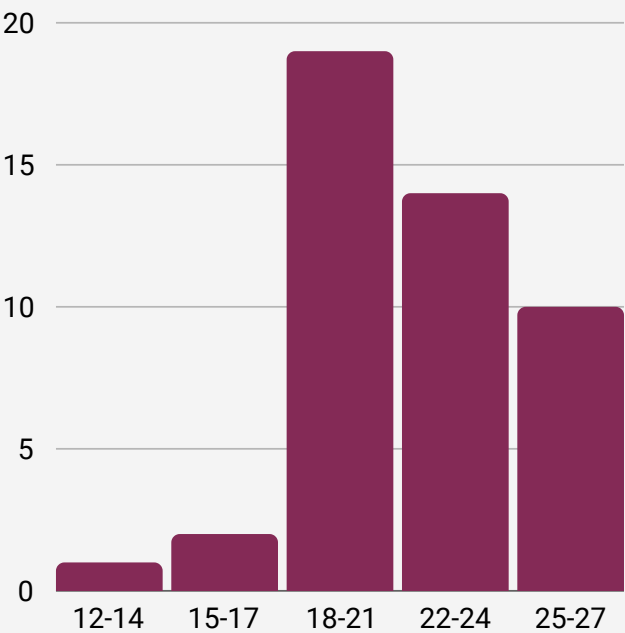
## Visa status



## Country of Birth



## Age





# NSW COMPACT ALLIANCE: KAIROS

MYAN NSW celebrates, supports and affirms young people identifying from cultural and LGBTIQ+ communities. In 2022 MYAN NSW launched KAIROS - an 18-month program co-designed by young people aiming to address and support young women and gendered diverse young people from cultural communities. KAIROS explores how to establish connections with local queer groups, and rediscover long standing community practices used to bring people together in times of crisis and joy and creating a resilient and cohesive society. MYAN NSW has engaged 35 young women and non binary people from cultural communities and those who identify as queer.

## MYAN NSW X ABC

MYAN NSW created a partnership with ABC News. Young people have told us they want to better understand how stories are made, framed and shape our understanding of our own communities.

We held workshops with women working as journalists at the ABC and those from cultural communities on how the media works.

We kindly thank Housnia Shams, Naeun Kim, Rhiannon Hobbins and Maryanne Taouk for joining us!

The Kairos program is proudly supported by Multicultural NSW and the NSW COMPACT Alliance.

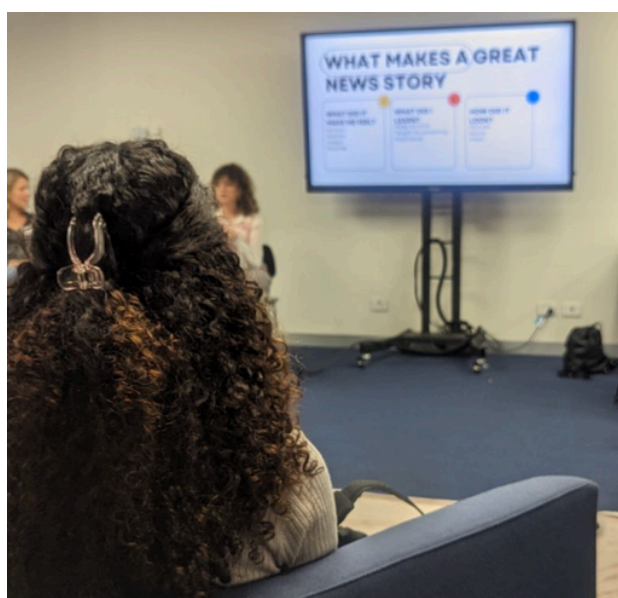
## MYAN NSW X YOUTH LED SERVICES

MYAN NSW hosts intercultural conversations in partnership with First Nations colleagues at Youth Led Services.

Young people at MYAN NSW are keen for opportunities to grow relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

One participant expressed “I learned that my culture has a lot in common with Aboriginal culture and we made a connection with each other by sharing our stories”.

We yarn and connect with each other on Darug land.





# SOCIAL MEDIA FOOTPRINT

In 2023 - 2024, MYAN NSW delivered 67 Instagram posts and 24 LinkedIn posts engaging young people and the sector.

MYAN NSW released two major campaigns on social media in 2024.

The Hello@ campaign strategically engaged youth from the five (5) top resettlement language communities in NSW.

METRICS DEMONSTRATED STRONG AUDIENCE INTERACTION, WITH OUR SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYTICS SHOWING A 54% INCREASE IN IMPRESSIONS, A 75% INCREASE IN ENGAGEMENT RATE AND 28.7% INCREASE IN ACCOUNTS REACHED FOLLOWING THE LAUNCH OF THIS CAMPAIGN.

## HELLO@ CAMPAIGN

At MYAN NSW we understand it is important to connect and celebrate each other in times of crisis and joy.



English

ٻه MYAN NSW (سڀني جي زندگي ۾ تبديلي آڻيندڙ آهي) جي ڄاڻ ۾ آهي ته  
ڪنهن به وقت ۽ ڪنهن به جڳهه تي ٻين سان  
ڳالهائڻ ۽ ڳالهائڻ ۾ مددگار آهي.



Assyrian

در MYAN NSW ما میدانیم که در مواقع بحران و شادی برقرار نمودن ارتباط با یکدیگر مهم است.



Arabic

Ми у MYAN NSW розуміємо, що важливо спілкуватися й цінувати одне одного у часи кризи та радості.



Ukrainian

Tại MYAN NSW, chúng tôi hiểu điều quan trọng là kết nối và tôn vinh lẫn nhau trong giai đoạn khủng hoảng và vui vẻ.



Vietnamese

في MYAN NSW ، ندرك أنه من المهم التواصل والاحتفاء ببعضنا البعض في أوقات الأزمات والفرح.



Dari

The KAIROS digital campaign was designed as a part of the COMPACT program.

METRICS DEMONSTRATED STRONG AUDIENCE INTERACTION, WITH OUR SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYTICS SHOWING 812 IMPRESSIONS ON INSTAGRAM ALONE.

## KAIROS CAMPAIGN



### SAFE SPACES

KAIROS

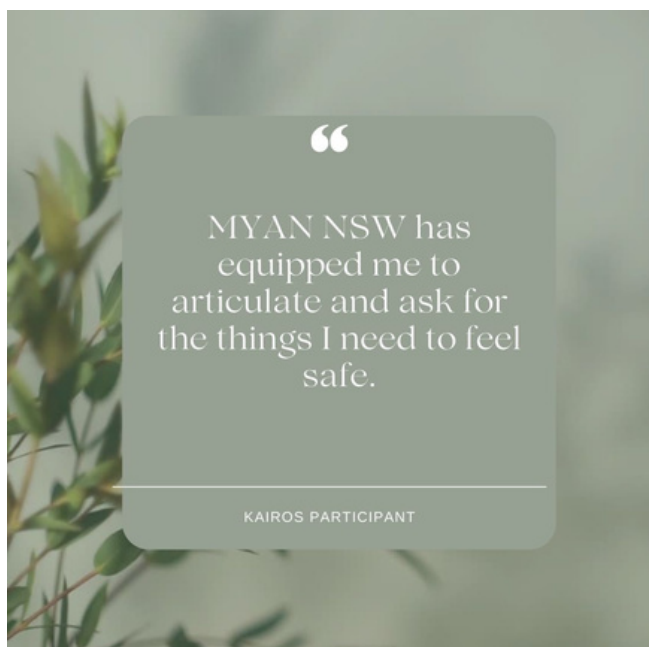
Safer spaces principles show young people alternative ways to build their own toolkits to become community champions of diversity and harmony.



### RECOMMENDATION

Young people need access to free, safe, public spaces.

We need more investment in safe public spaces for young people. MYAN NSW echoes the call from Youth Action NSW for well resourced youth hubs across NSW.



## THE MYAN NSW NETWORK HIGHLIGHT

MYAN NSW receives over 100+ requests a year to provide research, training and other specialist expertise to the youth services and humanitarian settlement sector in youth specific approaches.

We lead a network of approximately 1400 services across NSW. Our industry leadership is supported by our trauma-informed, youth best-practice policy lens approach.

**We have continued to lead the Youth and Settlement Social Services Industries and have produced the following events:**

### In Times of Crisis and Joy: Network meeting 2023

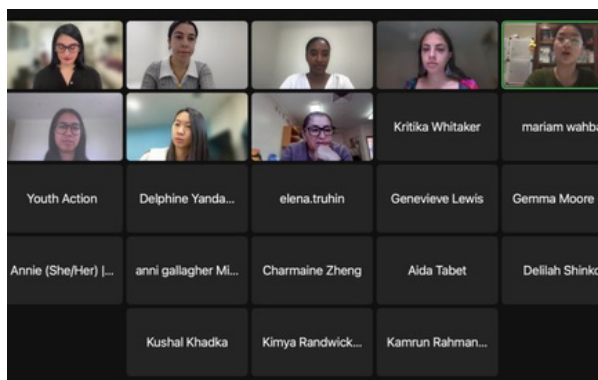
MYAN NSW collaborated with NSW Police's Counter Terrorism and Special Tactics Command Engagement and Hate Crime Unit to deliver a training session in June 2023 at the PHIVE in Parramatta, NSW.

Topics covered included what is a hate crime, how to report it and how to seek support when you have been a victim of or witness a hate crime or a hate incident. 60 people attended this free event, including 35 students.



### Addressing the Rental Crisis on Young People Living in NSW: Annual Youth Forum 2023

In November 2023 Youth Advisor Hub members delivered a youth forum and presented on the policy brief created in the Youth Advisor Hub program that addresses the impact of the rental crisis on young people living in NSW





## THE MYAN NSW NETWORK HIGHLIGHT

### **International Women's Day Youth Forum 2024**

In March 2024 MYAN NSW delivered a youth-led forum at ABC News head office in Ultimo, NSW.

5 young people participated in facilitated panel discussion, sharing their experience and learnings from the MYAN NSW COMPACT program: KAIROS

This forum was delivered to young people, Multicultural NSW, school representatives, and The ABC News.



### **NYSF Training 2024**

MYAN NSW in partnership with the Andrew Cummings Training and Consultancy facilitated a training session on 24 April and 8 May 2024 on the National Youth Settlement Framework in Parramatta, NSW.

Topics covered included how practitioners and key decision makers can implement the NYSF into their practice by using the NYSF Assessment Tools, the factors that contribute to good settlement outcomes for young people and how to facilitate active participation.

19 Practitioners and students attend this training.

### **NYSF Train the Trainer 2024**

MYAN NSW in partnership with the Andrew Cummings Training and Consultancy facilitated a NYSF Train the Trainer in Parramatta, NSW.

This training was delivered to the MYAN NSW team and colleague Rucy Rusera, Youth Community Educator at SSI Queensland.





## ADVOCACY AND POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

**The work we do supporting young people to settle well, helps us shape narrative and influence policy making in the Australian landscape.**

**Our advocacy and political representations to elected ministers, parliamentarians, the legislature and the media have included:**

1. Representation to the NSW Department Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier (July 2023)
2. Representation on Legislative Ban on LGBTQ+ Conversion Practices – Education and Youth run by NSW Health- Stakeholder Roundtable - (Aug 2023)
3. Homes NSW Youth Consultation (Sept 2023)
4. Multicultural Framework Review Consultation (Aug 2023)
5. Submission on Section 93Z of the Crimes Act 1900 (NSW) in addressing serious racial and religious vilification in NSW submission (April 2024)
6. Minister Giles' 2024-25 Humanitarian Program community consultation (May 2024)

## **It was a year of big wins for MYAN NSW.**

In 2023, MYAN NSW won the award for Youth Service of the Year in NSW at the NSW Youth Worth Awards produced by Youth Action - the peak body for youth affairs in NSW.

We were also granted \$1.3 million in SETS funding from DHA, securing expectations of our service delivery to 2027.

MYAN NSW successfully launched our five year Strategic Plan (2023- 2028) and theory of change. We applied to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) to become a Publicly Benevolent Institution (PBI) and are awaiting a decision.

Our regional engagement is now officially in three settlement areas of Western Sydney - Fairfield, Liverpool and Bankstown and in Armidale, a regional settlement community in the New England region of NSW.

Access to specialist cultural support and clinical supervision continues to be provided to staff. MYAN NSW is an organisation that respects that team members possess lived experience and are at risk of vicarious trauma or being re-traumatised while supporting young people in highly vulnerable situations. Cultural support and clinical supervision is crucial to all MYAN NSW projects and has been added as a mitigation strategy in our risk assessments. The need for staff with lived experience to access culturally appropriate support is not currently covered by the parameters of existing programs such as the Employee Assistance program (EAP) which has now ceased to be extended to NGOs by the NSW Government.

Managing an entirely remote office continues to be a source of inspiration and challenge requiring courage, but has enabled our team to be more visible in community centres, schools, local libraries, local councils and spaces where young people thrive. Our partnerships continue to grow.

Please join me in congratulating the MYAN NSW team and Board for their tireless efforts in delivering this critical work.

Annukina Warda  
Executive Officer

MYAN NSW

## BOARD MEMBERS

**Annie Harvey**

Chair

**Lina Ishu**

Deputy Chair

**Valentina Angelovska**

Treasurer

**Matina Sarris**

Secretary

**Bei Wang**

Board Member

**Veronica Gordon**

Board Member



## AWARD NOMINATIONS

In 2023 we won the NSW Youth Work Award for Best Youth Service in NSW





# MYAN NSW TEAM



## ANNUKINA WARDA

Annukina joined MYAN NSW in April 2022. In her first year, Annukina doubled the revenue MYAN NSW receives attracting \$390,000 in NSW government support for refugee young people.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER



## AISHA MAHDI

MYAN NSW welcomed Aisha in 2022 and she is currently working as a Youth Engagement Specialist, leading the Peer2Peer and New Beginnings program.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT  
SPECIALIST



## SHAMIRAM MELODY YALDA

MYAN NSW welcomed Melody in 2023 and she is currently working as a Youth Engagement Support, supporting the Youth Advisor Hub program.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT  
SUPPORT



## IZABELLA ANTONIOU

MYAN NSW welcomed Izabella in 2020 and farwelled her in 2023. Izabella was the Policy and Communications Specialist. Izabella led MYAN NSW policy and advocacy work.

POLICY/  
COMMUNICATIONS  
SPECIALIST



## DOMINA AUGUSTINE

MYAN NSW welcomed Domina in 2022 and farwelled her in 2023. Domina was leading the Emergency Relief Support program. She is now completing her placement to become a social worker. Good Luck Domina!

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT  
SPECIALIST



CONTACT US



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<https://myannsw.org.au/>



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