

Progress Report

Outcome 1: COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS / REFERRAL TO SERVICES				Achievements
Milestone	Task	KPI	Completed by	
Training for Project Volunteers	To train volunteers who wish to be involved in the implementation of the project	Volunteers trained	30 Oct 2014	<p>Three information sessions held for Darebin residents interested in participating in DASSP as volunteers.</p> <p>40 DASSP volunteers are registered; with interest from 8 ESL teachers to run English classes; and a Roster for the Darebin Asylum Seeker Welcome Lounge is currently being developed to start before the end of February 2014.</p>
Darebin Community Passport	<p>To develop protocols with at least 10 stakeholders and service providers in Darebin to provide services and activities for asylum seekers;</p> <p>Print passports and provide each asylum seeker in Darebin (based on DIAC data)</p>	<p>Protocols developed</p> <p>Passports printed distributed</p>	<p>30 Dec 2013</p> <p>30 Dec 2013 and ongoing</p>	<p>Protocols have been developed; and agreement achieved with all Neighbourhood Houses in Darebin; with YMCA NAARC; with the Reservoir Leisure Centre <i>via Reservoir Neighbourhood House's (Disadvantaged Access Program)</i>; with Victoria Police and Community Police Liaison for New & Emerging Communities; with DIVRS; with NEAMI; with Darebin Community Health; with the Darebin Men's Shed program; with the Salvation Army & Shop; St Vincent de Paul & Vinnie's Store;</p> <p>plus support from service-providers:</p> <p>Red Cross; AMES; Spectrum MRC; and Baptcare Sanctuary;</p> <p>Plus agreement from:</p> <p>seven local places of worship;</p> <p>to participate in the Darebin Community Passport (DCP) – as listed agencies willing to support asylum seekers in Darebin.</p> <p>Sample DCP printed and distributed as initial guide for asylum seekers. Now in circulation to partners for refinement prior to final print-run.</p> <p>Distribution to asylum seekers at ceremony planned in March 2014.</p> <p>*The DASSP Project was launched by the Darebin Mayor Cr. Gaetano Greco at the public meeting: The Challenges of Our Time: Asylum Seekers and Our Response held on 28/11/13 at the Shire Hall.</p> <p>The event was facilitated by Ian Smith from the Victorian Council of Churches; with guest speakers.</p> <p>150 Darebin community people – residents and representatives of services and stakeholders and approximately 50 asylum seekers attended. (200 participants)</p>

Action Starts With Me	<p>To support asylum seekers to meaningfully engage with the community through the delivery of:</p> <p>-at least one local primary and secondary school in Darebin;</p> <p>To support asylum seekers to organise activities where they engage with the Darebin community; and particularly with disadvantaged groups</p> <p>-at least two CALD community clubs and associations;</p> <p>-at least one event with the wider Darebin community</p>	<p>Engagement plan prepared</p> <p>Action with school delivered</p> <p>Action with CALD groups and Darebin community delivered</p> <p>Engagement with CALD Clubs and a Council event through the participation of asylum seekers in the organization of Refugee Week 2014</p>	<p>28 March 2014</p> <p>April 2014</p> <p>April to Sept 2014</p> <p>June 2014</p>	<p>In progress.</p> <p>DASSP has a data base of more than 100 asylum seekers who have sought our support. Their contact details are in our mobile phone directory and they are sent regular sms messages relating to activities and events.</p> <p>In addition to DASSP activities, asylum seekers have been included in all DECC activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representatives attend DECC Steering Committee Meetings (3 persons); introductions to DECC Committee members and wider DECC membership. - DECC AGM (10 asylum seekers attended; and assisted with logistics of the event); - DECC Christmas Party (of the 80 persons present, approximately 40 were asylum seekers); - Two asylum seekers engaged as language aides for social research into asylum seeker stories; - 20 male asylum seekers have engaged with the Men's Shed program (for disadvantaged men) at Darebin Community Health; and have gone on 2 outings with this group. A reciprocal BBQ with Iranian food was prepared by the Iranian asylum seekers one week after the Men's Shed group had prepared an "Aussie BBQ". - 20 asylum seekers have received recycled bikes from the Bike Recycling Program undertaken through the Men's Shed; - Presentation made to 300 Parade College students and staff; Project Officer and 2 asylum seekers; - 3 year old playgroup and kindergarten arranged for one family; - 4 year old kindergarten arranged with one family; <p>Asylum Seekers are invited to participate in all activities held at the Darebin Intercultural Centre; and on occasion, individuals are engaged to assist with food serving.</p> <p>Asylum Seekers are also invited to engage in other Council run activities for community, eg. Ganesh Festival.</p> <p>All asylum seekers were invited to participate in Council's Christmas Lunch for disadvantaged residents; and to collect food from the Food Bank operated by Council at the Intercultural Centre over Christmas period.</p>
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Action Starts With Me Continued...	- Participation of asylum seekers in an Interfaith Tour organized by Council during 2014	Asylum seekers participating in interfaith tour	Interfaith Tour to be confirmed	Relationship developed with Darebin Council's Interfaith Development Officer. Information shared on the diversity of faiths in Darebin; and on locations of different places of worship. Raising awareness of respect and acceptance of diversity. Asylum seekers already accessing a diversity of faiths and places of worship in Darebin area.
Reciprocity: Me, You, together as human beings	Engagement with Darebin community through the organization of weekly community cooking sessions	Cooking sessions delivered	Weekly until Oct 2014	Weekly get-togethers over lunch continue on Mondays. Volunteer Story-Telling Co-ordinators (2 writers) have already seen and spoken with over 50 asylum seekers on Mondays. Due to limitations with facilities, cooking is currently not possible, so sandwich fillings and fruit are purchased for participants to make own toasted sandwiches in the Asylum Seeker Welcome Lounge.
Providing Light and Hope of Citizenship: Visiting a Regional Centre with a Settled and Integrated Refugee Community	To conduct a visit to a regional centre such as Shepparton to meet and learn of the settlement experiences of former asylum seekers and refugees now living in a regional Victoria community.	Visit to Shepparton organised	28 February 2014	Planning has started. 5 asylum seekers are actively involved in this process.