

# Media Release



**Attention:** news editors, ethnic media, social affairs, community writers

**May 4, 2011**

## **A welcome investment for regional and rural multicultural youth**

The Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) welcomes the Victorian Government's budget announcement to provide funding to enhance work with multicultural young people in regional and rural Victoria.

"CMY has a long history of providing support where it is most needed, typically high settlement areas. This announcement acknowledges that extra support is needed in regional and rural Victoria." said Carmel Guerra, CEO.

Ms Guerra went on to say "We are pleased that the state government has answered the call of communities requesting support and this investment will go some way to providing isolated young people with opportunities to settle and thrive in Victoria."

The government has committed to investing \$1.8 million over four years for the establishment of two regional CMY offices and employment of two bi-cultural workers. This initiative will provide a one stop shop to support disadvantaged young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds living in regional areas, to actively participate in their communities.

CMY also welcomes the government's budget commitments to Victoria's multicultural communities, including:

- Funding to increase support for multicultural language services to meet the increasing demand for interpreting and translating.
- Funding to continue the International Student Care Service, which provides a 24 hour contact point where all international students in need can obtain advice, support and assistance.
- Funding for Multicultural Arts Victoria to support and encourage new and emerging cultural and linguistically diverse artists.

**Media Enquiries:** Stephen Torsi | **M**| 0406 960 042 **T**|03 9340 3741 **E**| [storsi@cmynet.au](mailto:storsi@cmynet.au)

**The Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY)** is a state-wide community based organisation that provides services to and advocates for the needs of young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds Visit: [www.cmy.net.au](http://www.cmy.net.au)