

YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP (YAG)

Centre of Multicultural Youth

Terms of Reference 2019

Background:

The Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) seeks to recognise young people as 'experts' in our work to ensure that they are understood, accurately represented and influential in Australian society. CMY's intended outcomes for young people include having access to a range of opportunities to tell their stories and promote their own views and ideas on issues they care about. CMY seeks to provide channels of influence that enable them to occupy leadership positions and promote understanding, including the establishment of the Youth Advisory Group (YAG).

Purpose:

The Youth Advisory Group (YAG) aims to provide an opportunity for young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds to have input into the Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY)'s strategic direction and implementation. CMY seeks to work in partnership with young people to ensure that the work we do remains relevant. The views and ideas expressed by YAG members will influence the leadership group, management and board of CMY when decisions are being made. We aim to support YAG members to develop personal networks and have some fun along the way.

As a YAG member you will:

- Provide feedback to CMY on matters relating to strategic planning, program development, youth service provision and youth issues
- Encourage young people to get involved in CMY services and programs
- Help to identify the hopes and challenges faced by multicultural young people
- Work alongside CMY staff to facilitate key events and programs
- Read documents that are provided prior to meetings and contribute to discussions
- Contribute to CMY reports and publications including reporting to the Board
- Sign up to and contribute to regular updates for the CMY e Newsletter 'The Mix'

As a YAG Member you are expected to:

- Participate in YAG activities and co-operate with the team to achieve YAG objectives
- Demonstrate a commitment to the values of CMY which include human rights, diversity and participation
- Share responsibility for chairing and taking minutes of each meeting based on an established roster
- Contribute input into new ideas and projects
- Adhere to CMY's code of conduct on the CMY Facebook page as well as the YAG group page
- There is an expectation that YAG members attend all YAG meetings. In the event that you are unable to attend, you are to inform the Project Officer prior to the meeting



Recruitment:

To ensure a greater number of young people have the opportunity to participate in YAG, membership will be limited to 2 years. After this time new members will be recruited by promoting the position through CMY networks. Recruiting new members will occur at the beginning of each year so that the work of YAG remains consistent. This will also allow more experienced YAG members to mentor new members. The Project Officer and nominated YAG members will participate in the recruitment and induction process.

Key Selection Criteria:

- Refugee or migration experience including young people who's parents/carers have had a refugee/migrant experience.
- Ability to articulate issues of concern for CALD young people and communities
- Analytical and problem solving skills
- Demonstrated commitment to addressing issues faced by CALD young people
- Willingness to participate and a commitment to attend YAG meetings
- Availability to attend the YAG retreat from Friday 29th March – Sunday 31st March 2019.

Commitment Required:

- YAG membership is two years with a review of performance after the first year
- The YAG meets 10 times per year and there is a requirement to attend a minimum of 8 meetings per year
- Meetings take place at CMY's Carlton Office for approx. 2 hours on the first Wednesday of each month
- YAG members are expected to provide the Project Officer 24 hour notice if they are unable to attend meetings
- YAG members are encouraged to participate in optional extra activities that may include stakeholder meetings, state-wide forums and media opportunities

YAG Member Support:

While membership on the YAG is voluntary, CMY recognises the expertise and time commitment offered by members. In recognition and appreciation of this, members will:

- Have their Myki's topped up for travel to and from YAG meetings. Also cabs where needed
- Dinner provided at each meeting
- YAG orientation retreat fully covered including transport, all meals, activities ect.
- Administration support where needed
- End of Year celebration

Involvement in the additional activities beyond the regular monthly meetings is without payment, unless informed otherwise. Meetings run for 2 hours - 10 times per year.