



A 16-week education and
settlement program for
**young people of
refugee backgrounds**

FOUNDATION HOUSE

The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture Inc. (also known as Foundation House) provides services to advance the health, wellbeing and human rights of people of refugee backgrounds in Victoria who have experienced torture or other traumatic events in their country of origin or while fleeing those countries.

Foundation House services include counselling, advocacy, family support, group work, psycho-education, complementary therapies, capacity building within communities, research, schools support and professional and organisational development.

The organisation was established in Melbourne in 1987 and is non-denominational, politically neutral and non-aligned. It is constituted as a not-for-profit organisation managed by an elected Board of Management. Our work is funded by the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments, charitable organisations and donations from private individuals.

Ucan2

Ucan2 is an education and settlement program that facilitates and supports the social inclusion of newly arrived young people of refugee backgrounds between the ages of 16 and 25. The program assists with recovery from trauma and settlement in Australia, and builds on the young people's strengths, integrating their past and present experiences and supporting their future.

By fostering partnership between education providers, social support and training and employment services, Ucan2 provides participants with:

- access to and engagement in education, training and employment
- mental health and wellbeing support
- social connections and networks.

Ucan2 was developed through a partnership between Foundation House, AMES Australia and the Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY).

The Ucan2 program runs one day per week, over 16 weeks, in collaboration with education organisations. It has three core delivery components:

- › Contextualised and experiential learning focusing on work skills, with opportunities for part-time work or volunteering
- › Psychosocial support
- › Development of social connections and networks through contact with peer volunteers, work experience placements, increasing knowledge of support agencies, and group processes that create strong connections among the Ucan2 group

Planning and case coordination meetings of the delivery team develop the program at the local level, initiating and supporting referrals for those young people requiring extra support.

The Ucan2 program is delivered through collaboration between an education site, Foundation House and CMY.

BEYOND Ucan2

On completion of Ucan2, follow-up sessions support participants to transition into education, training and employment.

Ucan2 MENTORING

After completion of the Ucan2 program, some participants are linked with mentors to assist them in further developing their skills, confidence and social networks. This helps them build confidence and increases their chances of finding part-time and casual work while remaining in education.

Foundation House has established partnerships with a number of employers that provide mentors and opportunities for employment.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Gillian Kerr | Ucan2 Program Coordinator | Foundation House

03 9389 8993 | kerrg@foundationhouse.org.au



**Foundation
House**

The Victorian Foundation
for Survivors of Torture Inc.



**AMES
Australia**



Foundation House | 4 Gardiner Street Brunswick | VIC 3056 | Australia

03 9388 0022 | www.foundationhouse.org.au