THE FOUNDATION HOUSE

OUR MISSION
To advance the health, wellbeing and human rights of people from refugee backgrounds who have experienced torture or other traumatic events.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Foundation House Professional Organisational Development program (POD) provides a range of opportunities for health, education and community services to develop their skills and knowledge in working with survivors of torture and trauma who are from refugee backgrounds, including those seeking asylum. Services include workshop facilitation, lectures and reflective practice group facilitation. Participants can attend one of our calendar events or request a service tailored for your organisation.

To make a tailored request please fill out the enquiry form here: learn.foundationhouse.org.au

A POD team member will then be in contact with you to discuss your learning objectives. We then design a program of professional development activities that meets the specific needs of your organisation.

MAKING A REFERRAL

To make a referral:

1. Visit our website and fill in our schools referral form here: http://www.foundationhouse.org.au/schools-support

or

2. If you have a general enquiry about a student of concern, please contact your closest Foundation House office to speak to a direct service coordinator.

www.foundationhouse.org.au
The Refugee Education Support Program (RESP) is a key component of the Foundation House School Support Program. RESP is delivered in partnership with the Department of Education and Training (DET), the Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) and Foundation House, and in collaboration with the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) and Independent Schools Victoria (ISV).

Participating schools work together in geographically based clusters across metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria. Clusters operate for two years and consist of 6-8 primary and secondary schools. RESP is jointly delivered with CMY, who focus on out-of-school-hours learning support.

RESP assists schools to identify and implement strategies to support students of refugee backgrounds and their families through:

- Provision of professional learning workshops
- Intensive support and secondary consultation
- Completion of an audit of school activity and development of an action plan
- Community engagement and participation strategies that support recently arrived families from refugee backgrounds
- Development of partnerships with community, business and government organisations

enquiries.schoolssupportprogram@foundationhouse.org.au

The Schools Support Program at Foundation House offers specialist services, including:

- participation in the Refugee Education Support Program (RESP)
- partnerships and collaborations with schools on school-led initiatives and priorities
- support to schools in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria
- secondary consultation
- resources for schools

The Schools Support Program at Foundation House offers professional learning for teachers, including:

- Schools In for Refugees (VFST 2016) professional learning supporting school staff in their work with refugee background students and families
- understanding the refugee and asylum seeker experience and the impact of trauma on learning and wellbeing
- developing a whole-school approach to supporting students and families of refugee backgrounds
- the role of teachers and schools in supporting recovery from trauma
- classroom strategies to support recovery from trauma
- supporting young people of refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds 16 years+
- schools and families working together

Child, Adolescent and Family counsellors at Foundation House provide the following services for refugee and asylum seeker students and families:

- Specialist trauma counselling to students and families
- Secondary consultation to teachers/school staff
- Psychosocial and therapeutic group work interventions in collaboration with school staff (including psychoeducation for students and parents, targeted therapeutic, and early interventions)

Our services are based on an integrated trauma recovery service model. Client work may include advocacy for client and family needs as part of therapy. Depending on individual needs and appropriateness, services can be provided in a school setting, at a regional Foundation House office or in the family’s home.

Services are free, confidential and voluntary. Professional interpreters are used as required.

For students and families to be eligible for counselling services, they must have:

- a refugee or asylum seeking background;
AND
- a history of torture and/or traumatic experiences prior to arrival in Australia, or be an immediate family member of such a person;
AND
- prior experience of psychological or psychosocial difficulties believed to be associated with their refugee or asylum seeking experience;
AND
- consent to receive our services